

ARIZONA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- AUG. 2017

Greetings AWA members and guests. August is here and that was a good reason to get excited. That means it's time for our mini-symposium and garage sale (on the 19th). We will have a short meeting and get right into our demonstrations. We have six stations for you to visit this year:

1. Jim McCleary -- Using glue blocks and hollowing Christmas Ornaments.
2. Ken Northern -- Sharpening tools.
3. Gerard Merchant -- Small lidded boxes.
4. Lea Montaire -- Fine finish with Shellawax Friction Polish.
5. Jim Quarles -- Turning pens with easy woodworking tools.
6. Robin Moran -- Turning and hollowing a sphere.

There will be four rotations of each demonstration at 20 minutes each. So pick the ones that suit you the best.

We will have a table set up for members to bring tools and supplies to sell or trade at the meeting. You can bring in pictures of larger items with the information and prices on them.

Speaking of tools, Ken Northern has informed me that our Crown Tools order will be in by the August meeting. Please be prepared to pay for the tools that you ordered. I understand that if the tools come in before the meeting it is possible to go to Ken's house and pick them up.

I will be taking a survey to find out if we have enough interest in making a club buy of Anchor Seal. If there are enough people who need Anchor Seal we will purchase a 55-gallon drum. If so, you can bring your own containers and we will fill them from the 55-gallon drum.

Don't forget the State Fair is coming up October 6 through 29. Ken Northern is still looking for people to demonstrate and to staff our booth at the fair. Please contact Ken for information if you're interested. Demonstrating at the State Fair is a good way to get started turning in front of people. Most of the people that will be watching you have never seen woodturning before. I have always learned so much at demoing because of all the veteran woodturners that are usually there to help you.

Also please consider entering a piece of your work in one of the Fair exhibits. This is a good way to get your work out in front of the public to see what they think of it. Deadline for entries is 9/8/17. Go online to azstatefair.com. Go to home on the official site, then click on Participate, then on Competitive Exhibits, then on either Home Arts or Fine Arts. Fine Arts costs more, but you win more. From there you should be able to fill out the entry forms and get all the information you need. If you have any problems give Mary Ellen a call at 480-748-9108, and tell her you are from the AWA and she will help you out. You can also sell your pieces that you enter into the fair exhibit. We can also sell our items at our booth.

If you are a member of the AAW (American Association of Woodturners) please go to their home page so you can vote for the board members. It is important to be active and participate in their elections as well as ours. They have all the biographies for all the members who are running for the board.

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The 18th Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium will be held in Loveland, Colorado, September 15 through the 17th. For information go to rmwoodturningsymposium.com.

There will be no President Challenge for our August meeting, but we will still have our 50/50 raffle. So happy turning, stay cool, and see you at the meeting. Thanks and have a Great Day.

Jim McCleary
President, Arizona Woodturners Association