

From the Editor

Congratulations to John Hill, Honorary Lifetime Member, and to David Ellsworth, winner of the Professional Outreach Program's Merit Award! Both are highly deserving.

Last summer I attended the Emma Lake Collaborative event (written about on page 49). I found the theme of Unplugged especially conducive to my way of working and thinking. My career in woodworking began with learning how to use hand tools, and I generally work alone. At Emma Unplugged, the connection I made with other artists was uplifting and inspiring; it forced me outside of my usual aloneness. (If you look closely, you can find me in the background of one of the images.)

So I ask you all, What type of atmosphere is conducive to *your* way of working? Woodturning tends to be an individual activity, but what happens when we venture outside our shops (and comfort zones) to connect with other makers? Many local chapters provide the opportunity to work alongside fellow turners and with groups of students. The camaraderie is the glue that holds the group together, infusing excitement and energy into our lives.

Internet forums are also a great resource for connecting with turners anywhere. There are several, in addition to the AAW's. Search for these opportunities; you can learn a lot about techniques, meet new friends, and get feedback on the objects you make.

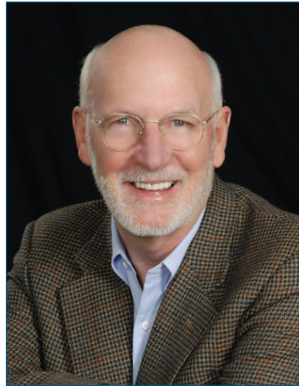
The back cover shows a turning made by Keith Holt, who writes, "The piece and its title were inspired by a weekend of fun and



jokes with other turners." Imagine how your world could expand, too!

—Betty Scarpino

President's Letter



Regional Woodturning Symposiums

If you haven't attended a regional woodturning symposium, what are you waiting for? My wife Melinda and I attended three regional symposiums last year, and we thoroughly enjoyed all of them.

Our most memorable was the Irish Woodturners' Guild Seminar held at the Armagh City Hotel in County Armagh in Northern Ireland. Our flight to Ireland had a

stopover in London, where we spent four days reacquainting ourselves with that grand city's many museums and historic buildings, shops, and restaurants. We had honeymooned in London, and it was nice to return.

Once in Dublin, we toured Trinity University, the Guinness Storehouse, and other points of historic interest. Glenn Lucas met us in Dublin. We met Clinton Biggs (Canada) at the Dublin Airport, and all of us drove to Armagh together. Along the way, we visited points of interest. The Irish countryside was green and beautiful.

The Irish Woodturners' Guild Seminar was quite an event. The demonstrator lineup included many excellent woodturners from Ireland, as well as several from England. Mike Mahoney (Utah, USA) was on the slate, as was Clinton Biggs. The event opened with a wonderful morning ceremony and closed with an evening gala banquet. The instant gallery included many beautiful woodturnings, and we browsed through the extensive tradeshow. Everyone had an absolutely wonderful time; the hospitality was exceptional.

Following the seminar, we took the train to Glenn Lucas's home in County Carlow, where Mike Mahoney taught a master class. We stayed in Glenn's home where his wife Cornelia and my wife cooked delicious meals and treats for us while we participated in Mike's class. Again, the Irish hospitality outdid itself.

As is always the case when we attend a regional symposium, we make new memories that we look back on fondly. We met interesting people, established some great new friendships, and watched excellent demonstrations. If you have not already done so, attend a regional symposium soon. I am sure you, too, will return home with your own fond memories.

With warm regards,

Tom