

October 2007 message from AAW Board Member – Larry Genender

I am the new Chapters and Membership Chairman of the AAW Board, and also the new chairman of the Nominating Committee. So guess what... my message this month concerns chapters, membership and the nomination process.

Chapters: We will make a greater effort to recognize Chapter activities at the Symposium Banquet and Auction. If your chapter is planning to produce a project for the **Chapter Collaborative Challenge**, please let me know so we can plan ahead. Complete rules for the Chapter Collaborative will be found on page 57 of the Fall 2007 issue of the American Woodturner, and also [on the Website](#). Please note a **change in the rules...** Chapters **may** now put their project into the Auction. The Chapter receives 50% of the realized price. The Chapter **may** establish a minimum bid price and there will be a Silent Auction Bid sheet placed with the displayed piece. The highest Silent Auction bid will be the starting bid at the open Live Auction, and if there are no higher bids, the Silent Auction bidder will get the piece. The winning Chapters in each category will be **called up to the podium** to receive recognition and a plaque. As in the past, the winning Chapters will be determined by a vote by all attendees. Your Board wants to make a “bigger deal” of the Chapter Collaborative, so please plan to enter and [let me know](#).

The competitions for the best Chapter **newsletters** and **websites** will be held again in 2008. The rules are unchanged from previous years, and will be detailed on the AAW website in early 2008. Again, we will make a much better effort in recognizing the winners who will be called up to the podium, recognized, and will be presented with a plaque. The judges for the newsletter will be Board Member and Publications Committee Chairwoman Jean LeGwin, who has great expertise in things published, assisted by me. Our Webmaster Ed Davidson will lead the judging for the Website competition. Please encourage your Chapter to enter one or both of these competitions.

Membership: We are having a Membership Challenge right now. Details can be found [by clicking here](#), but basically it's simple: anyone who signs up 5 new AAW members by the end of 2007 wins a free registration to the AAW Symposium in Richmond VA, June 20-22, 2008. Many chapters are combining their efforts here, and that's OK – 5 new AAW members = 1 free registration.

Nominating Committee: The members of the 2008 Nominating Committee for new AAW Board members are John Hill, Don Derry, and me. The rules for nomination and election to the AAW Board are set forth in great detail in the Bylaws which are printed in the Resource Directory, [and also located here](#). What we need from the membership is input about possible candidates for the AAW Board. We have 13,009 members in 275 Chapters at last count, and there is no way in which the leadership can discover all the members who are willing and able to serve on our Board. If there is anyone, including yourself who you consider “Board material”, please let one of us know – we will contact him/her and see if there is interest in running.

The AAW Board wants to come as close to the membership as it can, and that is my personal passion as a Board member. Please [feel free to contact me](#) about anything.

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