

From the Editor

When we attempt an unfamiliar technique or project for the first time, often there is risk involved. We wonder, will that texture actually enhance the surface of the bowl or vessel? Are balanced bowls of interest or are those something best left to others to try? Will all this time and effort be worth it? Why not find out? The possibility exists for new discovery and renewed interest in woodturning—you just have to be willing to take the risk.

I am confident I could now make a cryptex. I would not have been the least bit confident a few months ago. John Giem's step-by-step instructions make a complex project understandable. John is an engineer. Admittedly, I am not. With John's clear explanations, and after having edited the article, I believe that anyone who decides to can make a cryptex. Send me your photos!

For this issue, I particularly enjoyed working with a new author, Mark Knize. Not only was I delighted with his balanced bowls, but he was also a pleasure to work with. Mark retook all of the original process photos, with direction from Phil Gelbach of Albarella Design (the company which does layout for the journal). If that wasn't enough, Mark also took new beauty shots of his bowls. It was a risk on my part to be so demanding of a new author, but it paid off in



what I think is an informative article and a lovely cover photo. Thank you Mark and Phil.

—Betty Scarpino

President's Letter



New Benefits of Membership!

At the February Board meeting in Hartford, CT, we approved two exciting new benefits of AAW membership.

- All current AAW members now have **online access** through the AAW website **to every issue of *American Woodturner***. All twenty-five years! No more fruitless digging through dusty boxes to find that "certain article." To access the archives, go to

woodturner.org and click on Members Area. Log in with your membership number and password, click on Online Journals, and enjoy this wonderful new resource all at your fingertips. In addition to having access to every article ever published in *American Woodturner*, there is also a searchable index, providing the information needed to find articles of interest. Turners of all skill levels and interests will be able to find articles on techniques and new projects whenever inspiration strikes!

- **The AAW is now offering a full membership for \$38 per year to members who would prefer to read *American Woodturner* and the resource directory online, through the AAW website.** This membership

provides a major cost savings to anyone wishing full membership, and preferring to read the journal and access the resource directory online. It should also be especially attractive to AAW members who reside outside North America, who can now read publications instantly, avoiding postal costs and delays. The \$38 per year membership is available to all new and renewing members worldwide from now going forward.

As one member said, "Let the trees make bowls, not paper."

Good idea!

With warm regards,

Tom

New AAW Membership Benefit

We are pleased to announce that beginning in March 2010, there will be a monthly drawing for a variety of prizes, generously provided by our business members and supporters. Thereafter, at the end of each month, names will be randomly drawn from the current membership roster and all available prizes awarded.

There is an array of significant prizes already available and more will be added. Prizes, winners, and donors will be listed regularly in the journal and posted on the AAW website (woodturner.org).

Look for the prize list and winners in the Association News section in future journals. Because this announcement was added at the last minute, current prizes are listed on page 72.