



Greetings!

Year-End Drawing Winner

Each year, the AAW draws a name from its membership roster to give away a Powermatic 3520B lathe. That winner names a local chapter to win either a JET 1642 or five JET mini-lathes, donated by Powermatic/JET. Free shipping in the continental USA or up to a \$500 allowance for international winners is included.



We are pleased to announce that the year-end drawing winner and recipient of a brand new Powermatic 3520B lathe is **Ken Skidmore** of Christianburg, VA. He designated **Blue Ridge Woodturners**, Roanoke, VA, as the chapter to receive either a JET 1642 or five JET mini-lathes.

[Check out 2015 monthly prize winners and sponsors.](#)

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Chapter Anniversary Profiles

Central Indiana Chapter, Founded - March 16, 1988

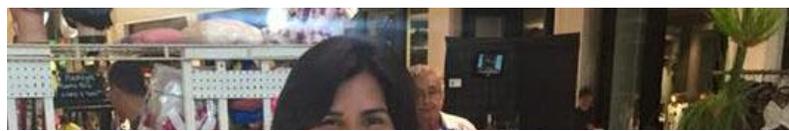
"The AAW was just established and our founder, Dick Gerard, was there at the start and was a member of the Board of Directors (Treasurer). He was motivated by Palmer Sharpless who originated the idea of local chapters as a way to 'sow the seeds' of woodturning everywhere." [Read complete chapter profile.](#)

Chicago Woodturners, Founded - March 28, 1988

"Initially, there was no organization available to give woodturners a chance to talk and discuss concepts. Two avid woodturners from the Chicago area, Tom Jesionowski and Dick Sing, attended the Utah symposium, which sparked interest. Subsequently, Dick attended the first AAW symposium in Lexington, Kentucky, which fueled more interest in forming a chapter." [Read complete chapter profile.](#)

Gulf Coast Woodturners Association - Founded: April 16, 1988

"The typical woodturner in the early years was slightly stocky, gray hair, wears glasses, and sometimes wears a cap. Sound familiar? It seems like it was only yesterday when Alan Lacer, one of the early AAW Presidents, was traveling around the country promoting woodturning." [Read complete chapter profile.](#)



2016



AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS
SYMPOSIUM

30 YEARS
1986-2016

Connections for a Lifetime

Enjoy interacting with others who share your passion for woodturning? AAW's symposium is an opportunity to step out of your shop and tap into the greater woodturning community. With a culture of cooperation, camaraderie, and sharing, you'll be able to gain knowledge and relationships that will last a lifetime, socialize with friends, establish and renew connections, and schmooze.

Registration is open for AAW's 30th Annual International Symposium at the Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart, Atlanta, Georgia, June 9-12, 2016.

[Click here to register online](#) or call AAW at 877-595-9094 (US toll-free) or 651-484-9094 M-F between 8am and 4:30 pm CST for registration by phone. For more information, [click here to visit our symposium website](#).

The connected **Atlanta Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel**, at 210 Peachtree St NW, Atlanta, GA 30303, will be our host hotel. The

reservation line is 800-937-8461 (US and Canada) or 404-659-1400 for general information. The code for the group rate is "American Association of Woodturners." [Click here to make your hotel reservations online](#).

AAW is Turning Thirty!

In the thirty weeks leading up to the symposium, we will be



WIT in PR

Natalia Cebollero Bertran representing Women in Turning (WIT) at an artisan fair at the most popular mall in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in January.



Turning Troopers

Members of the Southern Arizona Woodturners and Desert Woodcrafters clubs made and donated 3,160 pens for Woodcraft's

"Turn for the Troops" program in 2015. They've been top contributors in the U.S. for the past four years. Since 2002, the clubs have turned more than 17,000 pens for the program. Pictured above is Mike Phillips. Pictured below is James Pruett.



Symposium, we will be commemorating AAW's 30th anniversary by sharing the stories of members who joined in 1986 and are still members today.

[Click here to view their profiles online.](#)

Opportunities Knock

2016 POP Fellowship Grants Call for Applications - **Deadline: May 1, 2016**

The Professional Outreach Program (POP) is accepting applications for its 2016 Fellowship Grants. [Applications will be accepted online through May 1, 2016.](#)

Call for Demonstrators AAW Symposium 2017 - **Deadline: May 1, 2016**

The AAW's 31st Annual International Symposium will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, June 22-25, 2017. Applications will be accepted between May 1 and August 1, 2016. [Applications will be accepted online through May 1, 2016.](#)

AAW Board of Directors Call for Nominees - **Deadline: May 1, 2016**

Be a part of moving the AAW forward-run for a position on the AAW board of directors. The AAW elects a volunteer nine member board to represent the membership and move the organization forward. If you have been a member in good standing for the past three years, you are eligible. [More information](#)

[and to apply.](#)

Call to Glass Bead Artists: Fill Up the Truck" Challenge to Benefit Sick Children - **Deadline: March 11, 2016**

AAW & Beads Of Courage "Fill Up the Truck" Challenge to Benefit Sick Children: The AAW and Beads of Courage challenge glass bead artists to make and contribute enough beads to fill a handcrafted truck made by the Minnesota Association of Woodturners, an AAW chapter. Bead donations and the AAW's woodturned containers will be showcased at the AAW's 30st Annual International Symposium in Atlanta this June and, after the symposium, will be donated to Beads of Courage to support children and teens battling



New AAW Chapter: Maui Woodturners Association

Maui Woodturners Association held its first meeting in January and 12 of the 15 members were present for the launch. It's now an official AAW chapter, and Emiliano Achaval, the chapter's first president, said, "[There were] lots of ideas, energy, and enthusiasm. If you build it, they will come!" [Visit their Facebook page.](#)



New AAW Chapter: The Eureka Woodworking Association

Eureka Woodworking Association had their very first meeting in January at Humboldt Hardware in Old Town Eureka, CA. The local chapter of the AAW was started by Patrick Murphy, who owns the store. Murphy hopes that people of all skill ranges will come out and

serious illness. Deadline: March 11, 2016. [Learn more.](#)

learn to turn.

LAST Call for Videographers for AAW Symposium 2016 -
Deadline: February 28, 2016



The AAW seeks videographers for its 30th Annual International Symposium in Atlanta, GA, June 9-12, 2016. Applicants should have experience with video camera equipment, possess technical competence, and be able to make decisions regarding lighting, shooting angle, placement of microphone, etc. Deadline: February 28, 2016 (extended from January 15, 2016). [Apply here.](#)

American Woodturner

Check out the *American Woodturner* February 2015 issue, which includes beginner project entitled, "Turn a Simple Tray" by Richard Raffan. [View/download](#)



The issue also includes "Ten Principles of Clean Cutting" (article) by Kip Christensen, a handy shop resource. [Download six-page article.](#)



Member Publications & Services

Membership in the AAW is much more than just a subscription to the *American Woodturner* journal. We've developed a two-page list of



Chapter Challenge: Beads of Courage

During the past year, the AAW and several regional woodturning symposiums have partnered with the [Beads of Courage](#) program. (Pictured above are Steve Mellott and Jack Morse.)

Turning a Beads of Courage Box

Once you become familiar with Beads of Courage, it is easy to understand the amazing impact it can have on a child's life. All chapters and woodturners can support this program by making wooden boxes in which the children store their beads. [Box specifications](#)

Typically, the box design includes a ceramic Beads of Courage logo bead. To help support this program, my wife and I have decided to purchase 750 ceramic logo beads to decorate the boxes that woodturners in the southern region can make for the 2016 Atlanta AAW symposium. We are willing to mail these ceramic logo beads to your club free of charge per the following guidelines:



- 1. Identify the number of boxes your club will turn and deliver to the AAW symposium in Atlanta next June.
- 2. Contact us at this email address to order this number of beads.
- 3. Follow up to ensure this number of boxes is turned and delivered to the Atlanta symposium. If you fall short, you will reimburse us for the beads that are not used.

We would like to see at least 750 Beads of Courage boxes delivered to the AAW symposium in June. If you run out of beads, we are willing to provide more as long as you commit they will be used in boxes that are actually turned and delivered.

If you would like to place your order or have any questions, please contact us at this email address: srmellott@hotmail.com. Please

We've developed a two-page list of publications and services available to you as an AAW member, intended to help you make the most of your membership and stay plugged in to the worldwide woodturning community.
[View/download pdf](#)

Links & Deals

Links: Visit AAW's Woodturning Marketplace an online hub of current advertisers, symposium exhibitors, and corporate sponsors.
[Click here.](#)

Deals: Login and [click here for exclusive offers, discounts, and promotions](#) for AAW members from our valued advertisers and supporters.



See yourself and your club in Keep Turning!

Attend a great woodturning event? Receive recognition? Participate in an awesome project? Tell us how you and/or your club is spreading the art, craft, and love of woodturning! If you have a story and/or photos you would like to share in the Keep Turning newsletter, please submit the information to linda@woodturner.org

Contact us at linda@woodturner.org to help us to make this 750+ Beads of Courage box goal a reality. Thank you.

~ Steve Mellott
VP, Georgia Association of Woodturners
Member of Barnesville Woodturners and Gwinnett Woodworkers Association

Update: So far 18 chapters have responded to challenge, from 14 states with 445 boxes committed!

Letter from Des Moines Woodturners, Inc.

"In April of 2013, we were most fortunate, and grateful, to be the recipient of a \$1,500 Educational Opportunity Grant. It came at a difficult time as we were transitioning our 2001-formed AAW Chapter away from being a subset of the larger Des Moines Woodworkers Association, establishing ourselves as a separate woodturning entity.



Since receiving the grant, we've been able to acquire six used mini-lathes and trained 52 individuals as follows:

- One five-week training class for four primary-class instructors
- Two half-day hands-on Introduction to Pen Turning classes with four students per class
- Ten, four- to six-week Basic Woodturning hands-on classes with four students per class

Over the course of this 30-month period we've established a membership base and grown it to the current 157 members with an average of 70 members attending our monthly chapter demonstration meetings.

We've incorporated as an Iowa non-profit corporation and applied for and received our IRS Letter of Determination as a 501(c)(3) non-profit adult educational organization.

As a result of our non-profit status, we've had the ability to participate in local events that provide us a wide exposure to large numbers of the public, where we demonstrate woodturning and are allowed to recruit members and raise funds for our chapter activities. This year we also established our own web domain name.

I strongly attribute these accomplishments to the financial assistance provided by the EOG. First, it gave a tremendous boost of confidence to our board of directors and gave them the resources to invest in the needed equipment to conduct our training classes. The classes attract new members and provide the chapter an income stream to support other chapter activities. At the same time, we hope to enlist this increased pool of talent to provide future monthly demonstrations and participate in the operation of the chapter. In 2016 we plan to add one-day intermediate classes on specific woodturning techniques for those wishing to advance their skills.

Because of the strong impact we believe these grants have in helping chapters grow, at our last chapter board meeting we

approved a motion to donate to the EOG Program in three annual installments of \$500 in 2015, 2016, and 2017. We look at this as paying forward the grant we received. The 2015 check is enclosed.

Please pass on our sincere THANKS to the AAW member volunteers who manage the EOG program and keep it a strong, viable resource for chapters in need to draw upon."

Most Respectfully,
Dick Meuler, President

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