

## MEMBER PROFILE: Janet Sutter Member #34078428

Although Janet Sutter has been turning for a relatively short period of time, she has jumped in with both feet. She now owns nine lathes and her husband is moving her into her own shop. In addition, Janet, who teaches at an alternative high school, has started a woodturning club at the school, thanks to equipment purchased through an [AAW Educational Opportunity Grant](#). The students will be turning Freedom Pens and Beads of Courage boxes next school year. Congratulations to Janet and her students!



## AAW Explore! Staff Pick

"Show Your Colors," by Michael Allison, *American Woodturner*, Spring 2007 (6 pages). Applying color can enhance the properties of wood, make the impact of a piece more dramatic, and ultimately expand the artistic possibilities for turned wooden objects. Ready to give it a try? You are even encouraged to color outside the (grain) lines!

[Direct link to the article](#) (you must already be logged into the AAW website).

Here's how find this article quickly using EXPLORE!

- Login to the AAW website at [woodturner.org](http://woodturner.org).
- Hover over "Read" on



Janet with one of her nine lathes.

**Name:** Janet Sutter  
**Home Town:** Benton, KS  
**Turning Club:** [South Kansas Woodturners](#)  
**Years Turning:** 4

**What motivated you to join AAW?**

In the Spring of 2015, I was ill, unable to work or get out to the woodshop, and a customer of my husband's gave him an AAW flyer. I joined to read all the journals while stuck in bed. I enjoyed them so much, I read some two and three times and realized there was much more to AAW than just the journals.

**When you look at your turnings what do you see?**

There is so much room to learn and grow.

**Who, or what, was your greatest teacher/influence?**

I teach business and computer courses at an alternative high school in Wichita, KS, that lost its woodshop four years ago. Before that happened, the woodshop teacher was generous enough to invite me out to learn alongside the students. He was also kind enough to give me tips and help along the way.

the main toolbar.

- Click "**AAW EXPLORE!**" from the dropdown menu.
- In the white search box (beneath the Category and Keyword boxes), type in the words "*Show Your Colors*"



- Click the magnifying glass icon to the right of the search box.
- The results that match your criteria will be displayed (along with related articles).
- To open the article, click the "Globe" icon, which appears in the column labeled "Link."

[Explore the most extensive woodturning library in the world in seconds.](#)

Although that experience was foundational, I really find YouTube videos and the internet extremely helpful. I have learned so much from watching online videos and looking at turners' web pages. I truly appreciate everyone who displays their work and offers help online.

**What was your happiest turning moment?**

Having started the woodturning program at the high school where I teach last April 1, I was thrilled to see the students' proud faces six weeks later as they presented their projects at our woodturning open house.

**What is your favorite wood or tool?**

I know a lathe is really equipment, not a tool, but I'm fascinated with them. I now own nine. My husband is building another shed to move me out of his.

**Where do you see the field of woodturning going?**

I believe as more information gets out about the fun of woodturning, there will be more turners coming into the field, and there will be a wider variety of creative items being turned.

**In addition to woodturning, what other crafts/hobbies have you enjoyed?**

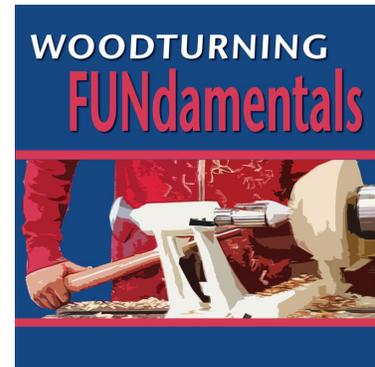
I'm nuts about sailing and I also enjoy golf.

**Has being a part of AAW affected your life and work? How?**

As I mentioned earlier, I teach in an alternative high school that lost its woodshop four years ago. The [Educational Opportunity Grant](#) has allowed me to bring woodturning to students who were excited to have it. These students have goals to make Freedom Pens and Beads of Courage bowls next year. Additionally, I have met many new women through the WIT Facebook page. It has been a great source of ideas, support, friendship, and camaraderie.

## Discover Woodturning

is an online learning experience that introduces the art and craft of woodturning to visitors. Discover Woodturning enables the general public to learn about woodturning, its origins, appeal, and how to get started. [Check out Discover Woodturning.](#)



## Woodturning FUNDamentals

is a members-only web-based learning portal for building strong woodturning skills and essential techniques. Designed for new turners, it complements the Woodturning FUNDamentals digital publication. [Visit Woodturning FUNDamentals online!](#)



Janet enjoys the challenge of planning and executing segmented bowls.

### What is your favorite project or piece?

I recently started making segmented bowls and like the challenge of figuring out how to make them work with the wood I have on hand.

### How has your local chapter helped you?

The [South Kansas Woodturners](#) are terrific! Several of the members have invited me to their shops and given me all kinds of tips. Along with that, I have received so much support from club members in getting the high school club started. They have donated wood, helped with tool handles, and been very encouraging. They are a great group of people!



This beautifully figured maple bowl is one of Janet's favorite.

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