



DAW

An Affiliate Chapter
of the
American Association of
Woodturners



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DAW Newsletter
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March 2007

Next Meeting: March 15

Gary Sanders will show how he makes those awesome boxes

President's Words of Wisdom

Our 3rd meeting this year is March 15th which is just around the corner and we're making some changes.... Be sure to check our web site for the latest changes and current news too.

Empty Bowls was a great success and the project raised \$90,000. WOW! All that was done in a 2 hour period. For those of you who came out and supported us, THANKS!! It's always nice to see a friendly face, and for those of you who help with making bowls THANKS again for supporting a good cause. Empty bowls is quite a project. The number of bowls, people and food is overwhelming. And did I mention the food...Soups, cookies, breads and other wonderful tidbits were all part of this affair. What fun....

At this month's meeting be sure to check out our **Mini Lathe area**. This will be before the meeting. We will have our grinder there too for sharpening questions. We will also have a questionnaire for everyone to fill out (separate posting from newsletter). Be sure to get one and fill it out and give us your thoughts. We are making changes and want your input. If you like what you see or even dislike some of it... Let Us Know.

At the first of the year the DAW board applied for an **Educational Opportunity Grant grant from AAW**. On March 1st I received a letter stating we had been approved and were awarded a \$1200 grant to be applied to enhancing our club demos. Look for more changes in the next few months. We are also looking to have another well know turner here sometime this spring... more details to come as they develop. If you would like to be a mentor then let John Searles know so he can put you on the list.

Randy and I ordered a couple extra set of color dye sets that Jimmy Clewes used during his demo. If you are interested in a set grab Randy or myself. If there is enough interest then we can make another order.

I'm still looking for folks who would like to do demos. Even if you don't think you're good enough it will be low key, you'll have a lot of fun and have a good time doing it. You also won't be by yourself, others will be there helping and playing too.

March will also mark the start up the "Open Shop" program which will be the Saturday after the club meetings. The location for this month's open shop will be announced at the March meeting.

jimmy c. Just a bit a skew....

March Program

Gary Sanders of Greenville will show how he makes his “flying saucer” boxes. See below:

	<h3>Schedule of Upcoming Events</h3> <p>March 15 – DAW Meeting April 5 - DAW Board Meeting April 19 - DAW Club Meeting May 3 - DAW Board Meeting May 17 - DAW Club Meeting June 7 - DAW Board Meeting June 21 - DAW Club Meeting June 29 thru July 1 AAW Symposium - Portland, OR</p>
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Empty Bowls Project

Empty Bowls was a great success with the Dallas event raising \$90,000 for the North Texas Food Bank! Thanks to all who turned bowls and helped in other ways. Ex-Prez Randy Rice stayed busy manning the upgrade tables and answering questions about woodturning. We got a very nice letter from John Williams. He said not one wooden bowl was left on the regular bowl tables. Only a couple of wooden bowls were not picked up from the upgrade tables. **Roger Smith** had a giant bowl that was on a special silent auction table (“Best of Show” was my interpretation). **Kevin Bassett** had his usual number of winners on the silent auction table. Several others also make a good showing on the silent auction tables. A great time was had by all.

Hopefully, by the time you read this I will have the Empty Bowls 2007 Page added to the DAW Website. Mark Montgomery got a lot of great pictures and has found software that makes it relatively easy to post an entire album on a Webpage.

DAW Receives AAW Educational Grant

In mid-January, DAW submitted an application for an AAW Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG) for a video projector and large (7' x 7') screen so that demonstrations and other activities can be viewed more easily and in more detail by our members. Apparently we found the right words and have just received word that the AAW will pay up to \$1,200 toward the cost of this equipment! We hope to have the system up and running by the May meeting. While the grant amount does not cover the entire amount of the optimal equipment for our meeting environment, the April meeting of the DAW Board of Directors will discuss appropriating some club funds to make the system the best possible for our needs. If you have some thoughts on this, let one of the officers know.

The AAW EOG program is available to clubs every other year. In 2005 we received a grant that went toward the purchase of more lathes and other turning equipment for training purposes. Just one more reason for our members to join and support the AAW!

Open Shop Saturday Lives Again!

We will have Open Shop at Dale Buchanan's shop Saturday mornin' after the club meeting from 9-12.. There will be mini-lathes available, help in turning, experienced turners to answer questions such as chucking, gouge technique, finishing, etc. A map to the shop and other information will be given out at the meeting .

Interested In a Turning Competition for \$\$\$?

DAW has been asked to nominate one turner to participate in the “*Masters At Work*” woodturning competition to be held in early September in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. From the names submitted by all invited clubs, their jury will use biographies and photographic examples of work to choose only five individuals to compete for the \$1,900 in prizes being offered.

Since we’re sure there will be more than one DAW member wanting to get involved, we’ve set up our own “jury” process to select our nominee. A few members, not members of the Board, will look at the same information requested by the event’s organizers, except the information they see will be anonymous. Majority rules.

There is a fast approaching deadline for submitting our nomination, so if you’re interested, contact Bob Matern at 214-495-7493 ASAP.

You’re Invited to the Next DAW Board Meeting

DAW members are always welcome at the monthly meetings of your Board of Directors. All we ask is that you RSVP to the meeting’s host so we’ll know how many to expect. The April 5 meeting will be at Jon Lindgren’s home in Prosper. Contact Jon by getting his phone number on page 6.

DAW has Anchorseal Available

(For the benefit of newer turners, freshly cut logs have a real tendency to crack on the ends. This is caused by unequal evaporation of water from the end grain as opposed to the rest of the log. Anchorseal is waxy liquid applied to seal the end grain and retard this process. There are alternatives to Anchorseal but this is what’s used by the majority of turners.)

DAW periodically purchases 55 gallon drums of Anchorseal for sale to its members, resulting in a significant savings. We sell it for \$8 per gallon or \$10 per gallon if you use our supply of containers. Any container used for Anchorseal should have good, tight-fitting container. A couple members found out about this the hard way.

NEWS FROM SWAT

(For the benefit of our newer members, SWAT stands for Southwest Association of Turners, an organization of 22 woodturning clubs in Texas and Oklahoma. The purpose of SWAT is to put on a weekend-long turning symposium each October. Attendance grows each year and will probably exceed 600 this year.)

SWAT has a Brand New Web Site

SWAT has just rolled out its new, improved, completely redesigned web site, www.swaturners.org. The site now has biographies on all 6 lead demonstrators as well as on line registration and the latest SWAT newsletter has just been posted. Bookmark the site and check back frequently to stay up-to-date on plans for SWAT 2007.

SWAT is Looking for a Few Good Demonstrators

Craig Timmerman, who was the Texas lead demonstrator at SWAT 2005, is the Demonstration Committee Chairman for SWAT this year. As such he would like for all turners to consider applying to demonstrate at the SWAT symposium that will be held in Wichita Falls, TX on October 5-7. Not only do you get into SWAT for free, but there’s also an honorarium of \$150 per demonstration.

There are some great demonstrators in DAW and you should all be encouraged to apply. If you are interested, you can get the application form either from DAW's SWAT board member, Bob Matern, download it from the SWAT web site, www.swaturners.org, send Craig an email at swat@aramadillowoodworks.com or call him at 512-773-9976 and he'll send you a copy.

You will have to submit a description of what you will be turning, a list of your demonstration experience, a biography, and at least two pictures--one of what you will be demonstrating and one example of your other work. If you have any questions about the application process or need any help filling out the application, just let Bob know.

Lookin' forward to seeing you all in Wichita Falls!

SWAT is Looking for Pictures of SWAT 2006

Did you get some good pictures of the happenings at SWAT in Temple last year? If so, send them on to rdalebarrack@earthlink.net and see your photographic handiwork displayed for all to see.

New Feature at Club Meetings: "How To" Corner

There will be some turners available before the meeting beginning at 6:15 with tools, chucks, etc. and a mini-lathe to help with basic turning "How to" Also we will have an assortment of gouges, scrapers, chucks, etc. to show and give you a chance to turn. Come with your questions and try your hand on the lathe.

Woodturners of North Texas Hosting Stuart Batty

On Saturday, April 14, Woodturners of North Texas will host an all day demonstration by world class turner Stuart Batty from England. You can find a brief bio for Stuart on page 6 of the Ft. Worth club's February newsletter at <http://www.woodturnersofnorthtexas.org/newsletters/200702s.pdf>.

The event will be held at their normal meeting place, the R.D. Evans Community Center, 3242 Lackland Road, Ft. Worth. The cost will be \$20.

The AAW and the Southwest Region by Larry Genender

I was recently elected to the Board of the AAW, and while the election is national in scope and I represent all woodturners in the US and abroad, I know that my main base of support is Texas and the Southwest, and I feel that I am that region's unofficial voice at the AAW, which has grown to over 13,000 members and over 260 local chapters.

In late January I made a 5 day trip with the AAW Board. We first went to St. Paul MN, where the AAW headquarters is located. We saw the offices, saw the AAW Gallery and museum, toured the convention center (probable site of the 2011 Symposium), and had an all-day Board training session. We then went on to Portland OR, the site of the 2007 Symposium. We met with the local club liaison people, toured the convention center, toured the several museum locales where AAW exhibitions will be held as part of the 2007 Symposium, and had our first Board meeting. I came away from all this very invigorated with a greatly enhanced view of what the AAW represents, and it is this that I want to share with my fellow Texas and Oklahoma turners. The thoughts and opinions that follow are strictly my own, and do not represent the AAW, its Board or its staff.

The most significant event of the trip was the all-day Board training session. The AAW is just beginning a major overhaul of the way it operates administratively. We have a new Executive Director, Larry Sommer, who has joined with Mary Lacer, assistant Executive Director, to effectively double the administrative leadership of the AAW. Our session was led by Emil Angelica, a consultant with expertise in non-profit organizations, and his sessions were outstanding, both for new Board members like me and for others who had already served one or two years. The committee structure of the AAW will be divided between 1) policy and financial matters, which remain the responsibility of the elected Board and 2) administrative matters, which will now be run by the Executive Director and his staff. In addition, Butch and Pat Titus, who have served as Conference Coordinators for several years, have left and have been replaced by a conference coordinating company which will do many of the tasks previously done by Board members. These changes are important, because up to now the Board members did everything themselves, and the work load on them has become enormous as the AAW has grown in recent years. This represents a major culture shift for the Board, which will now be able to focus on the “big picture”, i.e., policy issues and serving the membership which it represents. Look for significant changes in the way things get done, although not overnight – all for the benefit of the membership of the AAW and for woodturning in general

I was impressed by how “pure” the AAW is. There are no politics – everyone is dedicated to the AAW mission of fostering the art and craft of lathe turning. Decisions are reached by consensus, with virtually no dissent.

The financial health of the AAW is sound. Preliminary thinking has already begun about the AAW purchasing its own building to house its offices, merchandise, permanent collection, and museum . I would like the AAW to have its own woodturning school in that building. There are a lot of big things on the horizon – all in the idea stage!!

I was appointed to the Educational Opportunity Grants (EOG) committee, chaired by Malcolm Tibbetts. We are reading 118 applications for EOG’s, and we will award money to the most worthy applicants. I encourage more of you to apply next year – I know there are many worthy projects that would receive an EOG in response to a well written application.

We have a new webmaster, Ed Davidson. Look for a bigger and better website. We are retraining the membership to renew memberships and to vote for Board members online. However, we will provide paper Ballots and registration for those luddites (Google that word!) who have resisted the digital age.

Membership growth is important. After my first Board weekend where I really saw the benefits of AAW membership (the American Woodturner magazine together with the insurance coverage is more than worth the annual dues!) I have changed from a so-so member to a very enthusiastic AAW member. Many of the attendees at club meetings are what I call wannabe turners – they sit and watch, but don’t really get into it. We want those members to take a class, meet up with an experienced turner, and then get “hooked” onto woodturning like all the more involved members have become. Then you’ll want to join the AAW and enjoy all it can do for you. Without the AAW you would all be in little groups with nothing to unite and advance the progress of woodturning. Look at how woodturning as an art form has progressed in the last decade!

One last thing – I bought one of the new design AAW woodturning smocks while I was in the office. This is the best one I have ever tried – it is light as a feather, zips completely up the front, has vented armpits, and a comfortably snug fit at the collar. Buy a biggish size, as they are longer. I got an XXL, and have turned in it – really comfortable. All for 35 bucks!

I hope this article will stimulate more interest in the AAW and will encourage more of you to become AAW members. I plan to travel about our region describing what the AAW does for you, and I welcome any questions you might have. If you'd like me to visit your club and talk about the AAW, please invite me – I'd love to come.

Larry Genender
AAW Board Member

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