



# Portneuf Valley Woodturners Association

August 2018

## News

We now have 19 members. We had a good meeting in August and look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting on September 12.

We have been notified by the IRS that our application to be a tax exempt public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code has been approved. This approval is retroactive to the club incorporation date of June 14, 2018. Any donations made to the club are thus tax deductible (does not include membership dues)

If you didn't make it to the August meeting, we have changed the meeting format to ensure more social time as well as a full hour for the demo. The wood raffle was modified so we don't take meeting time to do a drawing but rather list the "winners" on a board during the business portion and let them pick the wood they want during the break.

We have also instituted a monthly "club challenge" where Dick Anderson picks an object for everyone to turn for the next meeting. All those who participate in the challenge get a ticket for a special drawing that night as well as a chance at a year-end drawing for a large prize. Kelly Crompton was this month's winner of a pair of medallion inserts turned by Wes Pilley on his Rose Engine Lathe. Future challenge prizes will include gift certificates, nice pieces of wood, etc. Dick's Challenge for the next meeting is to turn a bowl – preferably with a base diameter 30-40% of the top. So, turn your bowls and bring them to the September meeting!

For the August meeting we put together a video system with three cameras for the demo – overhead and end views of the lathe and a general view of the demo. We had live video during the meeting so you could see the demo better and we recorded all three cameras to put together a demo video which is posted on youtube (see the e-mail this newsletter is attached to for the link). Feedback was very positive on the live video, so we will continue to do this at future meetings. Thanks to Jared Smith for editing the three separate video feeds into a single video for posting on youtube.

## Upcoming Events

The Sagebrush Arts Fest sponsored by the Pocatello Art Center is being held on August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Idaho State University Campus. Woodturners have been previous participants in this craft show. The artist's works are for sale, and this event is well worth attending.

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium  
Loveland, CO  
9/14/2018 - 9/16/2018

## Member Bio - Kelly Jensen



Kelly is a founding member of the PVWA and currently serves as the club Treasurer. We asked him to tell us a little about himself.

Born and raised in Preston Idaho, graduated from Preston High in 1971 and was active in athletics.

Served a 2 year mission for the LDS Church to the “Southwest Indian Mission” which was the four corners area of the United States and I tried to learn and speak Navajo.

Attended ISU from 1974 to 1977 and received a 3 year Certificate in Electronics.

Married Cindy Murray July 16<sup>th</sup> 1976, we have 4 daughters and 14 grandchildren.

My work career consisted of: paper carrier, bakery worker, ground worker for Utah Power and Light, truck driver, and then into electronics where I worked in a radio/TV shop, computer operator at AMI, worked at the site for 6 months. I worked for several computer companies: Prime computer, Digital Equipment Corporation, Compaq, and Hewlett Packard where I retired in 2012.

I’ve been an avid cyclist for many years and have rode thousands of miles, sometimes as much as 200 miles in one day. I also received a private pilot’s license and have enjoyed flying.

I started wood working after getting married and built very rough and primitive furniture. As time went on I increased my skills and equipment. I always like to watch any TV show about work working. I was intrigued by anyone who would turn wood and I thought that would be fun.

I bought a small lathe and started turning around 2008. I’m not very good but I have fun trying to create things on the lathe. Looking forward to learning from everyone in the club.

## August Demo Bob Smith



Bob’s demonstration was on bowl turning – where the bowl sits in the log, how its position influences the appearance of the bowl, rough versus final turning, and how to turn a natural edge bowl. Bob has been turning for about 2 ½ years and has primarily done bowls of all shapes and sizes. He primarily turns green wood and either leaves the bowl thick to dry or turns it green to final dimensions and lets it warp. He showed the results of each approach. For this demo he used a fairly dry piece of silver maple and turned a natural edge bowl with a bark edge.

This was his first turning demonstration and we used the new video system to record this demo. Bob said to be sure and watch his “quick eject” system (a catch that sent the bowl across the room). His advice to novice demonstrators is to not get too distracted by the audience and remember to focus on what you are doing right now rather than what is coming next.

## SEVEN FUNDAMENTALS OF WOODTURNING

Dick Anderson

Eighty years ago, woodturning was an occupation with woodturners producing building columns, balusters, spokes, tureen ware and other functional products. Some woodturners are still making these items for a living. In the early 1930's people began taken an interest in woodturning as a hobby for fun and creativity. As the interest grew, wood-turned art forms began appearing in art galleries and craft shows, and some turners began teaching woodturning. As a result of this growing interest the American Association of Woodturners was formed in 1986, by several woodturners who recognized the movement of woodturning towards the hobbyist. The growth has been phenomenal providing a multitude of books, professional instructors throughout the world, many yearly educational symposiums and local woodturning clubs featuring woodturning education and development.

Stuart Batty, a well known professional woodturner has listed seven fundamentals that every woodturners should know and utilize for safe and efficient woodturning. Here they are in order of his level of importance with some explanation I have included:

1. Grain Orientation; end grain that is parallel to the lathe ways (bed), face grain that oriented perpendicular to the lathe ways, and burls that have no distinct grain pattern. End grain is the problem ---this is where catches and tear-out occur are most likely to occur. All cutting, with sharp tools, needs to be made where the fiber being cut is supported by lower, longer fiber to be cut.
2. Chucking: there are a multitude of ways to attach wood to the lathe. The 4-jaw-self-centering chuck is the predominant favorite among woodturners. The wood must be properly and accurately seated in the chuck with a flat surface sitting on the top of the jaws and an accurate dovetail connection. Proper support is critical for strength and to prevent the piece from vibrating.
3. Sharp Tools make the cutting easier and safer. The angle and shape of the cutting edge may vary depending upon the intended use. Also, the length of the tool will depend on the leverage needed over the tool rest and the hardness of the wood.
4. Tool Rest: The tool rest must be clean, smooth and free of dents. Any dent will be reflected by the cutting tool into the wood. The height of the tool rest must be suited to the tool (scraper, gouge, skew chisel, etc.). For scraper use on the outside of the bowl or hollowform the tool must be at center or slightly below. While on the inside the scraper must be at center or slightly above.
5. Speed: The American Association of Woodturners guideline for lathe speed is a good starting point for balance wood. Generally, a faster speed within proper safety parameters that recognize the character of the wood will produce a better cut.
6. Stance (foot position): Many cuts are best made with the tool handle supported against the body with body movement guiding the cut whether a straight or curved cut. Balance throughout the cut becomes a matter of foot position.
7. Technique: The three forms of cuts are convex, concave and straight. Any cut involves each of the above fundamentals. Tool movement in making these cuts may be a push cut, pull cut, lifting or rolling the tool. Good efficient technique can be learned through frequent proper practice

Thanks to Tracy Casselman for providing the following photos from the August Meeting



