



SLIGHTLY

SKEWED

Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild

Volume 33, Number 4 – April, 2025

NEXT MEETING

Second Sunday

April 13, 2025

HOW TO FIND US

SUNDAY MEETING

2:00 pm

We've started meetings again at our new site:***

American Legion Hall
4011 La Crescenta Ave.,
La Crescenta 91214

Corner of La Crescenta Ave and Manhattan Ave.
Parking lot is small, so if you can, park on the street so people that are unable to walk far can use the lot. ***You can also park in the Church lot next door (downhill side)***

Meetings consist of announcements, a feature presentation, a Challenge, Show & Tell and a wood raffle (except for December). We're slowly getting back to many of the pre-Covid activities.

Challenge: Weed Pot from Bill Haskell's Blank

**Presentation: Nutcracker Class
by John Fisher**

President's Message

We had a fantastic meeting on Sunday with **33 people in attendance**—but we can do better! If you've been hiding out in your shop, it's time to dust off those wood chips and **join us next month**. Let's get back up to **40 strong!**



Wear Your Name Badge (Or Get a "Custom" Temporary One!)

Sadly, our **laser-engraved name badge production is temporarily on hold** (insert dramatic pause). But don't worry—when you check in at the front, we'll have temporary name badges available... **right next to the donation bowl!** (Yes, that's a subtle hint.)

FLASHBACK – 30 Years Ago!

Back in **April 1995**, we had the honor of hosting **Stuart Mortimer from the UK**, an expert in spiral and twist turning. His visit was arranged by none other than **Fred Schmidt**. Hey, **Fred**, where are you today? And **Stuart**, if you're reading this, come back—we promise to still be impressed!

Bill Haskell & The Great Weed Pot Challenge!


Big thanks to **Bill Haskell**, who had a **great** handout and demo on weed pots, AND generously handed out **40 blanks**. That means no excuses! When I asked who would make a **weed pot for next month**, nearly **30 hands** shot up. That

means we better see 30 finished pieces at the next meeting!

Let's step up the challenge game. And remember, **Carey ALWAYS does a challenge piece. Be like Carey. But bigger.**

Speaking of challenges...

 **April Challenge – Weed Pots!**

 **May Challenge – Spinning Tops!** (*Always a crowd favorite. Let the friendly competition begin!*)

A Little Woodturning Wisdom...


A woodturner once found a gnarly, twisted log on the side of the road—a **true piece of FOG wood**. It looked like nothing but firewood. But with patience, skill, and a little faith, it became a **stunning piece of art. Remember, every piece of wood has something special inside—it just takes the right hands to bring it out.**


 **Moral of the story: Go fire up your lathe!** 


AAW Symposium – June 13-15 in Minne-so-ta

GWG is going to **represent** at the AAW Symposium in **Minnesota!** **20 hands** went up when we asked who's attending. If you haven't booked yet, **what are you waiting for?** Let's show them what **GWG is all about!**


Shoutouts & Thank-Yous!


 **Mike Toth** – Keeping us hydrated with drinks & coolers! **Say thanks!**

 **Chris Dodson** – Handling AV equipment **every. single. time.** Let's give the guy a break! **We NEED someone to take over AV duties!**

 **We also need new AV equipment**—cameras, projectors, the works. **Got input? Speak up!**

Next Month – April 13 Meeting

 **John Fisher** will be demonstrating **how to turn a Nutcracker!** (And no, not the ballet.) John always steps up for the club—please show him your appreciation!

 **Bring your finished weed pot** for judging! **Bill Haskell** is generously offering some of his **own finished weed pots** as prizes. **EVERYONE wants to own something made by Bill!**

See you April 13! Let's make it another great one! - Thomas

Other Items

Rockler store closing! Word is that the closest to us Rockler store in Ontario will be closing in May. This will leave the Orange County store the only one within striking distance.

Welcome to newcomer **Robert Hasdell**

Adam's Forge, which teaches blacksmithing and other metal arts, has found new, nicer digs in Simi Valley (they were east of downtown LA before) Adamsforge.org

Cathy Pearman urges everyone to participate in her pet project - donate blood!

L.A. Grinding, who are actually in Burbank, will make band saw blades to size in addition to their various sharpening services. 305 N Victory Blvd, Burbank, CA 91502

Member Spotlight: A Heartfelt Farewell to Henry

2025 AAW Symposium Discount Offer

The 2025 AAW Symposium will be held in St Paul, Minnesota from June 12 to 15, 2025.

They are once again offering a **\$40/person discount for 5 or more members from a club.** I have received the discount code for our group, if you are planning on attending, please contact me for that code which you will use during the registration process My email is durnredbaron@cs.com.- John Fisher (newsletter editor)

Challenge

The March Challenge was to use a parting tool for decoration. We had a handful of entries, **Klaus Schmitt** was the winner with his plate of walnut, lacquer finish. 5 sets of concentric circles on the back side, one larger set intersecting them from the front.



Mike Toth had a piece that blew up, he brought in part of the remains.



John Fisher had a cherry piece that was an attempt to make a shadow profile, and an English walnut piece decorated with parting cuts done on three separate axes.



Show & Tell

Dale Gertsch had a very nice trivet from walnut, maple and purple heart, walnut oil finish.



And as usual, making us break out the magnifying lens, **Carey Caires** presented a bowl and weed pot - pink ivory, holly, Aussie Oil, Butcher Block Oil



I'm guessing that the one on the left is the bowl finished with Aussie Oil, since it's upside down - editor)

Judges were: **Annalee**, **Zane**, and **Susan**.

Several very nice items:

Larry Margules had a lamp fashioned from redwood and "fog" wood, Amnesia finish (he couldn't remember), Thrift store glass shade.



Mike Toth had an as yet un-hollow hollow form, no information on wood type, although it might be ash.



Klaus Schmitt had a camphor vase, and a bowl with a yellow cedar top, both lacquer finish.



Carl Christensen had a segmented small vase of various scraps, Mahoney oil finish.



PRESENTATION



Bill Haskell did a live presentation on making a weed pot. **John Fisher** brought in his midi lathe to use, since our larger club lathe was a victim of the Eaton fire.

He had a two page color hand-out of the process - basically put a piece between centers to cut a tenon, then into a four jaw chuck for the rest of the process. He typically drills only a 1/4 inch hole, as he likes narrow necks. This means only something like a twig will fit into the vessel. Larger holes would be needed for flower buds, etc.

This piece was turned from *Carolina Cherry Laurel*, and he put a *Mylands* friction polish on it while still on the lathe (he commonly finishes off the lathe)

He brought several boxes of blanks suitable for more weed pots - people were to take them and create their own pieces for the **April Challenge**. He is planning on having some prizes for the winners.

(photo thanks to Mike Toth)

Here's the weed pot he made in the demo:



Challenges for 2025

May - Spinning Tops

Other Ideas tossed out:

Collaborative project - 2 or more people working on a project;

Bring your own "Best of the Best"

Fixing a disaster, with narrative: "why my piece is in pieces, and how I corrected it."

Lidded Boxes

Finials

Combination of materials

Thimbles, tops, egg shapes

Beads of Courage boxes

Tool Handles

Part of furniture or architecture

Duplicates

Bowl under 3 1/2 in

Audio/Visual person needed

Chris Dodson has been handling our Audio/Visual equipment for some time now, he needs someone to replace him. Duties involve storing the equipment and bringing it to meetings. Most meetings will at least need the microphone and speakers set up, camera and projector for certain events. Contact him and/or President **Thomas Cassidy**.

Meeting Dates for 2025

Usually second Sunday of the Month, with a few exceptions:

April 13

May 18 (*May 11 is Mother's Day*)

June 8

July 13

August 10

September 14

October 12

November 9

December 14 (Potluck and Auction)

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