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Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild

Volume 33, Number 12 – December, 2025

NEXT MEETING

Second Sunday

December 14, 2025

HOW TO FIND US

SUNDAY MEETING

2:00 pm

We've moved to a new site!

La Cañada Community Center

4469 Chevy Chase Dr

La Cañada Flintridge

near the intersection of the 210 fwy and Angeles
Crest Highway



Meetings consist of announcements, a feature presentation, a Challenge, Show & Tell and a wood raffle (except for December).

Challenge: Raise money for the club

Presentation: Lots of good food and stuff to bid on.

President's Message

Happy November, BOO, Gobble - Gobble and Ho Ho Ho....

We had only **17 members** today, but great energy, and some seriously good **calabash creations**, and excellent show & tell.



And in a result that shocked absolutely no one, **Carey WON AGAIN!** Queen of Gift Cards. Queen of Challenges. Queen of Calabash She's unstoppable. The good news: she's doing a **demo in January**, she'll be sharing the secret sauce (or at least tease us with it).

Huge Thanks!

Carl Haney

Carl stepped up AGAIN and crushed it with a top-notch chainsaw sharpening, including, tips, tricks and safety! This man has given more to the Guild than most of us have given to our own houseplants. Thank you, Carl!

John Muir High School Opportunity

Tiprin brought in a brilliant idea: Partner with **John Muir High School** in Pasadena and tap into their huge currently unused shop. We could spark the next generation of turners! Let's explore grants—and *hire a grant writer* who knows what they're doing (as opposed to us "googling and hoping").

2026 Demo Dream Team

Julia and **Tiprin** are teaming up to bring BIG names to the 2026 demo schedule.

Here are the suggested superstars from the meeting today:

Lauren Niclot

Rick Cannon

Dixie Biggs

Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler

Mark Gardner

Bill Karrow

Kathleen Duncan

Elizabeth Webber

Jimmy Clewes

All pros. All awesome.

We're also hoping to bring in **Kirk DeHeer** January 24–25 for a tool demo. Stay tuned.

Camera Gear Hunt

The Guild is leveling up! We're researching new camera equipment and a boom setup. Better recordings = more learning = fewer "What did he just do?" moments.

Ceramics Show — December 6 & 7

The Community Center is hosting their semi-annual ceramics show and sale. These artists support US—let's support THEM. Beautiful student-made pieces, perfect for gifts... or just for hoarding.

The Mighty Holiday Auction

Okay, here comes the Big One.

The Mount Everest of Guild meetings.

HOLIDAY AUCTION — DECEMBER 14!

This event provides **95% of our income** for the entire year. Without it, we'd be turning wood in the dark with dull tools, crying softly.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of **Jim Schopper**, **Bob DeVoe's** pieces helped elevate the auction. **Jim** plans to do the same again this year. Give that man a round of applause!

What we need from YOU:

Wood

Tools

Cash

More cash

And yes—white elephant items (go wild... but not too wild)

Reminder:

White elephants do **not** get sold. *They get thrown away.* So go for creativity... not sentimentality.

And did I mention **IT'S ALL TAX DEDUCTIBLE?**

Potluck, Dessert, and More Cash

You're off the hook for December's challenge. Just bring:

cash

cool stuff

dessert

sugar

more cash

tools

your bidding spirit

potato salad

If you think I'm repeating myself, I am. That's how important the auction is.

Final Thought

Prepare to hear about the Holiday Auction again. Several times. Possibly in your sleep.

See you December 14! Bring a friend—and your wallet.

We can accept cash, checks and Zelle at the Auction.

Committee Power!

Craig Sobel brought up an excellent point:

If we're going to **get things done**, we need **small committees** for cameras, demonstrators, John Muir, and more.

Strong projects = strong teamwork.

I hope **YOU** will jump in and help make the Guild even better!

Officer Elections

editor's note: *Officer elections usually take place at the November meeting, but since that didn't happen, they will occur at the beginning of the December Potluck & Auction. If you have an interest in assuming one of the positions, please speak up! The club only works with participation from volunteers.*

Challenge

The **November** Challenge was Calabash shape vessels. Once again, all entries were in the Advanced Category.

Carey Caires took top honors with her tiny bowl of cocobolo finished with Aussie Oil.



Mike Toth had sycamore and Chinese elm entries, walnut oil finish.



Another of Chinese elm, and an unspecified wood, walnut oil again.



Thomas Cassidy's pieces: Oak, still wet, and liquid maple gumdrop (sic)



Judges were: **Sara and Carl**

Show & Tell

Jim Vollmer had several in-progress cherry and walnut segmented bowls, Tried & True Original. And a couple of Christmas trees of "found" wood



Tiprin Follett had a bracelet fashioned from a blown up oak bowl.



Mike Toth's black acacia vase, walnut oil.



James Hurst's bowl of Douglas fir, with carving, iridescent acrylic paint



Chris Dodson - olive bowl, Maloof polyoil.



Thomas Cassidy - two in iron bark; maple with texturing; olive "calabash with feet", poly blend for all



PRESENTATION

Carl Haney gave us a presentation on sharpening chain saw blades.



While there are many jigs and gadgets available, he prefers to use a round file (usually 5/32") and a flat file to do his sharpening. It takes him about a minute to sharpen each tooth. The round file fits into the round opening below the tooth, and the flat file is used to remove the burr that the round file creates on the top of the tooth. If you can see "shiny" at the tooth, it's not sharp yet.

New blades cost \$20-\$50, depending on size and manufacturer. Make sure that you keep the saw well supplied with chain oil to lubricate the blade as it rotates.

There are left handed chain saws available, which would be of great benefit to the sinister individuals among us, you can find them on-line (although the AI at Google claims they don't exist)



Upcoming Presentations

December - *Pot Luck and Auction*

January - *Miniatures* by **Carey Caires**

February - *Swirly Bowl* by **Craig Sobel**

*We need presentations for meetings in the future. Doesn't have to be intricate or long, just something that people may have an interest in, particularly for newer turners. Traditionally, the VP (**Tiprin**) is in charge of arranging presentations, but if you also send them to me (John - newsletter editor) I will list them.*

Other Items.

No new members this month.

Meeting Dates for 2025

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

December 14 (Potluck and Auction)

Meeting Dates for 2026

January 11

February 22 (moved for Super Bowl)

March 8

April 12

May 17 (moved for Mother's Day)

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 13

Challenges for 2026

Thanks to **Amy** and **PJ** for coming up with the monthly **Challenges** a couple of years ago. Since no one has done that since, I have taken it upon myself to create a list of **Challenges** for the upcoming year. - **John Fisher** (editor)

January - something from **Emily Ford's** demo - *Rattles, captive rings, tops, etc.*

February - *Kits - kitchenware, pens, etc.*

March - *Miniatures (after Carey's demo in January)*

April - *Fix a disaster, with narrative: "why my piece is in pieces, and how I corrected it"*

May - *Lidded Boxes/Vessels*

June - *Finials*

July - *Collaborative project - 2 or more people working on a project.*

August - *Thimbles, tops, egg shapes*

September - *Combination of Materials*

October - *Duplicates - 3 or more of the same.*

November - *"Best of the Best" - what you're most proud of*

December - *usual Pot Luck and Auction.*

Pot Luck Reminders

If your dish needs to be kept warm, bring extension cords.

Put your name on dishes and utensils you wish to take back home.

Make a dish to feed 8-10 people. The various charities are no longer able to accept left overs.

We will provide plates, cups, napkins, cutlery, and some drinks.

CONTACTS

Glendale Woodturners Guild

GWG web site:

<http://www.woodturners.org>

President: Thomas Cassidy

(h) (626)-376-1230(h)

president@woodturners.org

trcassidy@gmail.com

Vice President: Tiprin Mandalay Follet

(h) (626)-497-4216

vp@woodturners.org

Treasurer: Bill Loitz

(c) (818) 326-8296

b.loitz@earthlink.net

Secretary: Craig Sobel

secretary@woodturners.org

(h)

Editor Newsletter: John Fisher

(h) (818) 304-6898

editor@woodturners.org

durynredbaron@cs.com

Librarian: Jim Vollmer

(h) (310)780-4995

librarian@woodturners.org

Webwright: Anthony Thiessen

athiessen2@gmail.com