



SLIGHTLY

SKEWED

Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild

Volume 33, Number 5 – May, 2025

NEXT MEETING

Third Sunday

May 18, 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). We're slowly getting back to many of the pre-Covid activities.

Challenge: **Spinning Tops**

Presentation: **Low Pressure Spraying**
by **Glenn from IWATA**

President's Message

Hey Glendale Woodturners!

Here's to a **smashing success** at our first meeting in the new location—**The La Cañada Community Center**—and an incredible turnout for the **Bill Haskell Weed Pot Challenge!** The new facility checks all



the boxes: great parking, storage, an A/V system ready to roll, AC on all the time, and a warm welcome from the center's team. They also host tons of fantastic classes—definitely worth checking out!

We had **31 people in attendance**, and well over **35 pieces** submitted for the challenge—some folks turned 3, 4, even 6 weed pots (WHO did that?!) A massive thank-you to **Bill Haskell** for inspiring the challenge and generously raffling off **13 of his own finished pieces**, plus boxes of shop goodies!

🌀 NEXT CHALLENGE: SPINNING TOPS!

We're aiming for **35 tops**.....it is a very fun event, pls participate! **Everyone should bring a top**—and a friend!

Also, if you say, "I don't like my piece," Jim warned us, be prepared to pay a fine. **Bill Loitz is collecting. That's two bucks. And no whining.**

Shoutout to **John Fisher** for an **outstanding nutcracker demo**—and **congrats on winning**

the challenge! We also welcomed new friends from the Woodworkers Group. A special mention to **Dave from SF Woodworkers**, who turned a “holiday cup” from a Christmas tree base... and then mentioned he's Jewish. 😂 More importantly, **he turned something**, shared it, and didn't worry about how it looked—and that's the spirit we love.

Tiprin, our fearless VP, was so inspired she now feels *obligated* to show her work. Let this be a reminder to everyone: **Don't hold back. Just share it.** The Guild is full of mentors, and no one's judging. That's how we all grow.

Got Wood?

If you hear of a tree coming down or a property clearing wood, **please post it!** With the Eaton fire, there's plenty out there. And if you're inclined, consider turning a piece as a tribute to someone who lost their home. Tiprin—our admitted **wood hoarder-in-chief**—has been turning down wood left and right.

Send Us Your Photos!

Let's fill up the website! **Send a photo of yourself with your work** to **Craig**. He's done a ton of work organizing everything on Google Drive. If you don't know what that is, ask Zane... or your grandkids. (Warning: They might laugh.)

Tools & Sales

- **AV Woodturners** a member has a lathe and **LOTS** of tools for sale. Call **Steve: 661-349-2194**

- **Charlie Hulien's Garage Sale – Santa Clarita, April 26 at 9 AM (Cash only, great tools!)**

- **A 93-year-old turner in Sierra Madre has 300–400 bowl blanks he wants to unload. We'll see what he's willing to part with—possibly some donations, maybe for sale.**

Next Month's Demo: Glenn from IWATA!

Confirmed and ready: **Glenn from IWATA** will do a deep dive on **low-pressure spraying**—an easy, fast, professional finishing method for your projects. Don't miss it!

Mark Your Calendar:

Next meeting: Sunday, May 18 (moved to avoid Mother's Day!)

Location: 4469 Chevy Chase Drive, La Cañada – about 100 feet south of Foothill, right side as you head down.

Time: 2 PM sharp. Don't show up on the wrong day—or at the old place!

Big Thanks!

Huge appreciation to **the setup crew** who arrived 45 minutes early and made it all happen.

And to **Henry**, for continuing his drink duty every month, from Kansas! .

So now... get out to your shop. Turn something awesome.

And don't forget the spinning top! 

See you next month,

- **Thomas**

The **La Cañada Community Center (LCCC)** offers a wide variety of fantastic programs—especially their well-known **ceramics classes**. Coming up on **May 3rd**, they're hosting a **massive Cornhole Tournament**, and we encourage **everyone** to show up, support their efforts, and represent the Guild! Let's form a team!

They're supporting **us**, so let's return the favor. This is a great opportunity to build community, make connections, and grow **together**.

Challenge

April's Challenge was *Weed Pots*, after **Bill Haskell** gave his demonstration last month. He brought in a dozen of the pots he has turned over time, and awarded them (via raffle) to 12 of the 15 people that turned pots for the challenge.



The judges didn't try to distinguish between our usual *Beginner*, *Intermediate* and *Advanced* categories, but just picked first, second, and third place winners, as well as some "most unique" entries. *Craft Supplies* and *Treeline* gift certificates were awarded to the winners.

First Place went to **John Fisher's** homage to **Bill Haskell's** bottle forms - Iron bark eucalyptus, acrylic paint and UV resin in the cracks, Tried & True finish.



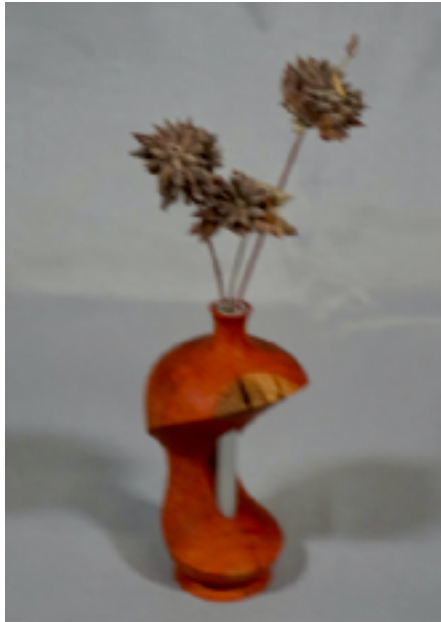
Second Place was taken by **Carey Caires** for her box elder burl (the short one on the right). She also had pieces of Mystery Wood and Koa, Aussie Oil, spray acrylic finish.



Carl Christensen was awarded Third Place for his segmented piece (the one in front) No info on the other two pieces, Mahoney oil finish.



In the Most Unique category, **Chris Dodson** was cited for his iron bark piece with an aluminum tube to replace the wood he turned away, Sam Maloof finish.



"Best Square Bottom" award went to **Kathy Hein's** walnut entry.



Unique honors also to **Mark Fitzsimmons** multi center piece of Malealienca.



And now the rest:

Mark Fitzsimmons' piece from Manzanita burl



this one of curly walnut:



Mike Toth had an assortment - olive, cherry, walnut, oil finish.



He must also have some REALLY BIG weeds to fit his pots of, oak and sycamore: The photos don't show it, but they were pretty large.



John Fisher had a couple more, mystery wood and olive, Tried & True.



Carl Haney had pieces of black walnut w/wax and olive with oil and poly.



Tom Hall's quartet: Olive, Eucalyptus, maple burl, lacquer finish, and olive with 2/3 beeswax, 1/3 BLO.



Chris Dodson's piece of buckeye burl, dye & friction polish.



Craig Sobel's piece with no finish.



Thomas Cassidy had 4 entries: Carolina cherry, walnut w/texturing, black acacia, red ironbark. Poly oil blend was the finish of choice.



Jim Schopper also had a quartet: 3 with walnut oil finish, one with lacquer, blue & green dyes.



Klaus Schmitt had eucalyptus, clear wood finish.



Larry Margules's entry was of black walnut & olive, spray lacquer.



Craig Ravello's piece was fashioned with maple, walnut & cherry, Howard's finish.



Judges were: **Bill Haskell, Bill Loitz, Carey Caires.**

Show & Tell

Only a few things (most everybody was busy making weed pots).

Dale Gertsch had pencil & clip holders along with the starting blank. He says he's made close to a hundred of these things over time. Birdseye maple, poplar, blackwood; sanding sealer & wax finish.



David Feinner brought his entries from the SFVW challenge which was to make something from a Christmas tree stump, no finish as yet. He just recently started turning.



Klaus Schmitt's container and lid had a clear wood finish.



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 **Jim Baldrige**, who is also the current president of the San Fernando Valley Woodworkers club. He recently acquired a 60 year old lathe, took a class with **John Fisher**, and has now been officially hooked.

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

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

PRESENTATION

John Fisher gave the presentation this month, talking about the class he took last October at the Dale Nish School at Craft Supplies in Utah.



The class was on making classical wooden nutcrackers. It consisted of turning various parts (torso, head, arms, legs, hat, etc.) then doing some careful sanding before going onto adding the faces and other decoration before final assembly. It was taught by **Paul Anderson**, who is a professional turner in northern Utah, mainly turning architectural size pieces.

Paul doesn't consider any of his designs proprietary, and has decorating kits and pieces available. **John** has a pdf of the class instructions (including diagrams and dimensions for the various parts) available. email him to get it, **Craig Sobel** may also put it up on our Google drive site.

John had the (almost) finished soldier he made in the class, along with parts for a Scotsman and another soldier that are in various stages of completion, and he talked a bit about the processes involved.

Paul teaches his class regularly in October, check out the classes section on the [Craft Supplies USA](http://www.craftsuppliesusa.com) website ([woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com))

*Photo thanks to **Mike Toth***

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:

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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