



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Board of Directors Meeting

October 2, 2025 via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ron Day at 2:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Keith Baizer, Linda Britt, Sally Burnett, Ron Day, Chuck Lobaito, Kimberly Winkle and Reid Zimmerman were present, along with AAW Executive Director Gretchen Wilbrandt. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Chuck Lobaito, with second by Reid Zimmerman to approve the August 28, 2025 Board minutes. Motion passed. Motion by Reid Zimmerman, with second by Sally Burnett to approve the September 4, 2025 Board minutes. Motion passed.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Chuck Lobaito reported that cash had declined in July reflecting significant bank activity related to event facility expenses and reimbursements to demonstrators, volunteers and board members for travel and lodging. Accounts receivable show considerable improvement. Unrestricted investments gained in July. Merchandise and advertising revenue have not met expectations to date. Personnel expenses will rise as open positions are filled. Overall, the AAW remains in a good financial position.

(Note: KC Kendall joined the meeting at 2:20 pm.)

Reid Zimmerman made a motion to approve the finance report, pending audit, with Keith Baizer seconding the motion. Motion passed.

(Note: Jay Brown joined meeting at 2:37 pm.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Gretchen Wilbrandt reported current membership is 12,719 and an end-of-year membership campaign is being planned. The Raleigh site visit was in early September and a site visit for the 2027 symposium is planned in early November. Sarah Marriage has been hired to replace Josh Friend as editor of the *American Woodturner* and will work with Josh until the end of the year. Hiring for several positions has been a large priority and final interviews are scheduled. A fundraising campaign will be implemented before the end of year. Website updates continue to be worked on. Gretchen will be attending Irish Woodturners Guild National Seminar in Ireland beginning October 16.

DEMONSTRATOR COMMITTEE REPORT

Ron Day provided a list of invited demonstrators and selected applicants for the 2026 and 2027 symposia. The names of the demonstrators will be made public when registration opens. The Committee will be working on the schedule for the two streaming rooms. Committee also working on how to best represent ornamental, segmented and pen turners in Raleigh for the AAW's 40th anniversary. Demonstrator committee moved to accept demonstrators as suggested. Second made by Linda Britt. Motion passed.

KC Kendall took over Board meeting from Ron Day.

POP COMMITTEE REPORT

The POP Committee, represented by Chair Kimberly Winkle, made a motion to approve POP's choice for the POP Merit Award for 2026. Chuck Lobaito seconded the motion. Motion passed. Name of the award winner will remain confidential until further date. Kimberly also asked that the showcase artist selection deadline be changed from August 1. POP and the Demonstrator committees will work on a date agreeable for both committees.

KC Kendall reminded the Board we need to select an Honorary Lifetime Achievement winner at the November Board meeting.

KC advised Strategic Planning documents are now available to Board members in preparation for the November in-person Board meeting. Documents should be reviewed prior to the meeting by all Board members.

Motion to enter executive session made by Chuck Lobaito, with second by Reid Zimmerman, to discuss personnel issues. Meeting began at 3:45 pm.

Motion made by Linda Britt, with second by Reid Zimmerman, to end executive session. Motion passed. Session ended at 4:33 pm.

A motion was made by Chuck Lobaito, with second by Sally Burnett, to adjourn Board meeting. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Britt
AAW Board Secretary