

Chapter Bulletin - May 2015

*This email is being sent to all chapter officers.
The contents should be shared with club members as appropriate.*

May 6, 2015

Greetings! :

As we are approaching the six-week mark from the Pittsburgh Symposium, the focus of this Chapter Bulletin is on the numerous updates about the event. Even if you are not planning to attend, we hope to engage you in the planned events, encourage you to download the event app, and visit the AAW Symposium webpage. While in Pittsburgh, we plan to increase the number of high-quality demonstrations and short, technique-oriented video productions. While we can only scratch the surface of all that will be offered, all the video content produced in Pittsburgh will be made available for the benefit of all members throughout the coming year. We are also excited about the May issue of Woodturning FUNdamentals, scheduled for release on May 10th. Additional topics covered in this Chapter Bulletin include:

In this Chapter Bulletin:

1. **2015 AAW Pittsburgh Symposium Announcements**
2. **Inside the May Issue of Woodturning FUNdamentals**
3. **New Best Practices Revisions Now Available**
4. **Newest AAW Chapters**

2015 AAW Pittsburgh Symposium

Each month leading up through June, we will furnish updates and information about the AAW Pittsburgh Symposium. Our end-of-March registrations remain precisely on pace toward on the planned budget target of 1,800 attendees.

1) Early Bird Registration:

We appreciate every chapter's assistance to **help us spread the word about the May 22nd Symposium Early Bird registration cut-off date**. In addition to the cost-saving incentive of registering before this date, earlier registrations are very important to help us gauge overall attendance and allow for proper advance preparations to manage all of the logistics.

2) Symposium Preview:

We have linked the complete advance [preview of the major Pittsburgh Symposium to this email](#). We encourage all chapter officers to **share this information with all club members** as a way to help us broadly inform all woodturners about the event.



3) Chapter Charitable Projects Information Request:

Last month's Chapter Bulletin included the request for chapters to send us a brief listing of the charitable projects and activities occurring within the chapters. Examples may include Beads of Courage, Wounded Veterans, Tops for Kids, and others. We feel it is extremely important to take every available opportunity to highlight the great work that occurs throughout our chapters. We are planning the Friday and Saturday evening social events and intend to create a visual presentation that illustrates all of the charitable projects and activities occurring within all of our chapters. There is still time and we ask, if possible, that you do this **by May 10th.**

To make this happen, we strongly encourage every chapter to send a very brief statement listing all charitable organizations you are serving. All we ask for is a few sentences to describe the charity benefited and several photos or video clips, if you have any. These can be sent to [Kim Rymer](#).

4) Downtown Pittsburgh Hotels:

Rooms remain available at the \$156 discounted rate at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center Hotel. All three of the downtown hotels are within a 12-minute walk of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. We realize that for some, that distance represents a challenge. Arrangements have been made for a shuttle service between the convention center and the hotels. We are holding off on the option for adding a fourth hotel until we are confident that the Marriott discounted room block reaches capacity. [Please visit our Pittsburgh Symposium webpage for more information.](#)

5) Annual Chapter Meeting in Pittsburgh:

Preparations for this year's Chapter Meeting session are being made, and we will provide an update about the ongoing collaborative efforts to improve services and programs necessary to meet chapters' needs. Included will be a discussion of service and communications projects accomplished in the past year and a presentation of new plans for the coming year. The Chapters Meeting will be designed to be interactive—where you can express your ideas and get your questions answered. We want to ensure that any particular topics or issues you want covered are addressed. Time will be devoted to providing a thorough update on the service and communication improvement projects recommended by the Chapter Relations Initiative (CRI) work group in 2014. It would help if you responded directly with your ideas to [Phil McDonald](#) **before May 28th**.

6) Pittsburgh Special Interest Topics:

This year, the number of Special Interest Night topic sessions has been expanded. And one of the sessions is particularly timely. Former AAW Board Member, Binh Pho, will

give a presentation, and be available for questions and answers. Binh will deliver a very personal account of how his life experiences are interwoven into his art. Binh was recently featured in the documentary film, "Last Days in Vietnam," which aired on PBS on April 28th. During the chaotic final days of the American involvement in the Vietnam War, as the North Vietnamese Army closed in on Saigon, South Vietnamese resistance crumbled. With the lives of thousands of South Vietnamese hanging in the balance, those in control faced an impossible decision-who would go and who would be left behind to face brutality, imprisonment, or even death. Produced and directed by Rory Kennedy, "Last Days in Vietnam," was nominated for a 2015 Academy Award® for Documentary Feature. Learn first-hand on Thursday from Binh about how he eventually escaped the North Vietnamese regime and started his new life in America.

Additional SIN Topics and Presenters Include:

- Principally Pens: Annual Virtual Chapter Meeting - Kurt Hertzog
- Turning Wood: It Does Grow on Trees - Jim Finley
- Segmented Woodturners: Annual Virtual Chapter Meeting - Jim Rodgers
- Gizmos & Gadgets - Rob Wallace
- Tips for Successful Glue-ups - Bob Behnke
- Women In Woodturning - Betty Scarpino

May Issue of Woodturning FUNdamentals

The May issue of our Woodturning FUNdamentals digital publication will be published for all members on May 10th. Our use of video to complement project and tip features is expanding. The May issue offers a number of articles that exemplify this with practical and informative features with broad appeal:

Projects

- Turning a Bottle Stopper, Chad Dawson
- Turning Pail Handles, Denis Delehanty
- Tool Rack Project, Ken Capie
- Old German-Style Top, Tom Pearson and Earl Culham

Tips

- Finishing Options for Woodturners, Mark Palma
- Simple Photo Gear, John Lucas
- Snagging, Pinching, and Crushing Fingers, Harvey Rogers
- Sandpaper Tip, Floyd Anstaett
- Sandpaper Rack, Bruce Holden
- Shopmade Faceplate, James L. Pruitt

Videos

- Tip for Safely Transporting Your Tools with Les Casteel
- Tips for Bleaching Wood with Joe Fleming

New Best Practices Revision - Chapter Elections

AAW has recently published the latest [Best Practices bulletin update](#). Electing officers is one of the most important functions of club success. In this Best Practice, we cover the election process and succession of elected officers. Among items addressed are documenting election procedures in bylaws, use of nominating committees, voting rights, and much more.

I would like to thank the Best Practices committee and Pat Jenkins, Central Texas Woodturners Association, for this important new documentation.

New AAW Chapters

We are excited to welcome the **Flint Hills Woodturners** in Kansas as the newest AAW local chapter. We especially extend our gratitude to Tom Boley for his organizing efforts. This will be the second chapter Tom has started, the first being Catoctin Area Turners in Leesburg, VA, now in its seventh year. Following their initial operational efforts, their plans are to incorporate in Kansas and then apply with the IRS for 501(c)3 non-profit educational charity status.

We are also thrilled to be informed of the inaugural AAW chapter meeting for the **Puerto Rico Woodturners**, the first chapter formed in Puerto Rico. The establishment of the Puerto Rico Woodturners has been spearheaded under the leadership of AAW member Carmen De la Paz, and orchestrated and coordinated by the AAW Turners Without Borders committee.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Phil', written in a cursive style.

Phil