

June 1, 2018

Greetings!

As you are aware the annual [AAW Symposium](#) represents a significant milestone in our calendar each year. Given the level of work associated with the final preparations this month's chapter officer bulletin is a short one.

Even if you are not planning to be with us in Portland, you may find interest in reading the [AAW Symposium Planning Guide](#). The breadth of the activities presented over four days is astounding. I hope you will enjoy reading through it and will take away an appreciation for the collective efforts by all our volunteers and for the generous support given to us by our vendors. If you are planning to be there in person, the [AAW Symposium Planning Guide](#) will give you a head start in planning your activities. You will also see the diverse collection of talented demonstrators and panelists who will be covering virtually all corners of woodturning.

Another way for those not attending to be engaged in this signature AAW community gathering is to follow AAW's social media streams and join-in remotely during our two live auctions. By registering in advance for the AAW remote live auction site, you will be able to follow the auction via live video and audio stream. Pieces are already up and available to view online at: <http://auction2018.woodturner.org/auctionlist.aspx>. Auction specifics are thoroughly covered in the [AAW Symposium Planning Guide](#).

2018 Annual Chapter Meeting in Portland

Each year the AAW Board of Directors and staff present a forum focusing on services and communications. Updates will be offered in Portland on progress made over the past year on additional new services related to the AAW's long range Vision 2020 plan. We are extremely excited in anticipation of announcing two significant new programs designed for chapters.

First, after considerable planning and consultation with AAW demonstrators and chapter officers, we will roll-out the new **AAW Demonstrate Direct**, online directory for demonstrators. This new site will offer a Google Map-based directory with information for those in chapters responsible for finding and selecting demonstrators.

We will be launching our new online **Demonstrator Development** site. For the first time AAW will make available on its website a one-stop location with publications and videos for those interested in developing their demonstrator skills. This tool will present another solution to a need expressed by chapter officers when the original consultations leading to the Vision 2020 plan were held. And during the annual chapter meeting, we will also be introducing facets of continuing planning for further initiatives to be launched over the next 12-18 months.

Of course, the chapter meeting will also allow for an interactive exchange among chapter officers about successes within their own chapters. And there will be a facilitated open Q&A session with the AAW Board and staff.

A summary of the Portland chapter meeting will be distributed to all chapter officers in the July Chapter Bulletin.

Announcing 2019 AAW Board of Directors Candidates

On behalf of the AAW Nominating Committee Chair, Kathleen Duncan, and the AAW Board of Directors, we are pleased to announce the following six candidates are running for the AAW Board. The six, listed alphabetically, are:

Andy Cole
Joe Dickey
Lou Kinsey
Ken Ledeen
Shaun McMahon
Harvey Rogers

AAW members elect a nine-member board to volunteer their time and energy to represent the membership in moving the AAW forward. Board members may serve two consecutive three-year terms.

You can vote for up to three candidates. Candidate statements will be published in the June issue of *American Woodturner*. There are two ways to vote:

- 1) by electronic ballot, available on the AAW website, or
- 2) by paper ballot; PLEASE NOTE, if you would like to cast your vote by paper ballot, please request a paper ballot be sent to you by calling or emailing the AAW at 877-595-9094 or inquiries@woodturner.org.

New this year, the period for casting your votes has changed. We encourage you to get the word to your chapter members to participate in the voting process and hope you will help make this election turnout significant. **Votes must be cast electronically or received in Saint Paul between August 1, 2018, and midnight CST August 31, 2018.**

We appreciate your partnership and value your support. If you have questions, concerns, or need assistance, please contact me at 877-595-9094 (toll free), Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m., to 4:30 p.m. CST.

Warmly,



Phil McDonald
Executive Director

