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# Brasstown Woodturners Guild

Newsletter — Meeting of February 2, 2019

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**Next meeting:** 9:30 am, Saturday, March 2, 2019. Joe Waldrop will demonstrate turning a natural edge bowl. Please arrive early if you can, to help set up. Bring something from your pile of wood to be turned, to add to our raffle prizes. Also, bring in some of your work, to show and tell us what you've done. We're interested in your successes, but also in your failures or problems or questions ... how do I fix this, how to do this better? Bring it in; someone might have an idea that will help you.

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**From the President:** We had another great meeting. Many thanks to Terrence Powell for a great demonstration on a Beads of Courage box. I want to give the members an early challenge on making a BoC box and have it ready by our August meeting. This is a worthy cause and will help make a seriously ill child have a better day as they go through the trauma of difficult medical procedures. So let's all pull together and make a strong showing at the September Turning Southern Style symposium in Dalton. You make the box and I'll get it to the symposium.

We had a strong Show & Tell showing this month with great participation and discussion. Thanks to all who brought their projects and shared their successes and problems.

So until we meet again in March, keep the wood turning and shavings flying. And most of all, be safe.

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## Meeting Notes:

New members:

- Carl Winter, one of our January visitors, has joined our Club. Carl is a professional woodturner, who recently relocated from Maine to Franklin, NC. He extends a welcome to any members who would like to visit his work shop; call him at 207-570-8963 if you'd like to check it out.
- Darrell Fairless (706-994-5100) is a contractor, from Hiawassee, GA. After the February meeting, Darrell bought the Delta lathe Matt Cowart was offering for sale.
- Steve Cox (352-424-1333) from Dade City, FL joined our club at the February meeting. Steve also contributed a piece of camphor wood from his home in Central Florida to our raffle, so someone will have a fragrant pile of wood shavings in their shop soon.

Safety talk: We were updated on Club Vice-President Don Marks' condition. Don suffered a broken femur in a wet-floor accident after showering at Campbell Folk School. This highlights one of the life-safety risks we all share as we grow older: brittle bones too easily broken in a fall. Don will have a long recovery ahead, but we are all anxious to get him back with us again, as soon as possible.

Photo directory: We would like to publish a membership directory, including photos of our members. We mostly only see each other once a month, so this might help us associate names and faces. Please take a moment to reply to the newsletter mailing, sending along a recent photo of yourself you would like to be included. We will distribute the photo-directory as a PDF, when it's done. Thanks!

Demonstration: Terrence Powell demonstrated the turning of a Beads of Courage box. Part of Terrence's presentation was the message that the "customer doesn't care what tools you use," when you are turning something for him or her. Gouges, skewers, scrapers — those don't matter to anyone but you, the wood turner. Learn to use the tools available to you, and apply those skills however they work best for you. There's not just one right way to turn; find your way and perfect it with practice.

During his demo, Terrence brought out and used just about every tool in his large collection of turning implements. He had the table next to the Club lathe covered up with tools, and he brought them out, one-by-one, showing what they could do, as he hollowed out a box, turned a properly-fitted inset lid, and added a knob to it.



The Beads of Courage program provides decorative glass beads to kids with serious medical problems, each time they receive a treatment for their illness. It tries to offset the stress and discomforts of their medical treatments, by providing something that's fun for them to collect, and that represents their fight for their health. Our contribution as woodturners is to provide them a place to keep the beads they collect as a tangible representation of their efforts to regain their health.

You can download the Beads of Courage guidelines for woodturners, [here](#).

(<http://www.beadsofcourage.org/resources/images/2018%20AAW%20handout-guidelines.pdf>)

Show and Tell:

Jim and Christine Smith showed two of their cremation urns, ambrosia maple hollow-forms with threaded tops.



Pete Bradley's snowman platter kept evolving as he patched cracks in the wood, due to drying stresses.



John Van Camp showed several thin-stem goblets, turned using the techniques Rudy Lopez demonstrated last month.



Greg Pillen brought a lidded cherry box with a textured rim detail.



Robert Marshall brought hickory bowls, two natural edge with heartwood in the bottom, and one turned with the heartwood on the rim.



Terrence Powell's showed 2 walnut bowls: the bowl on the right was turned immediately after cutting, the one on the left after a week. The heartwood pigment spread into the sapwood, on the left

## Bring Back Box:



John Van Camp brought the box back with his own finely-crafted version of the thin-stem goblet techniques that Rudy Lopez showed us at the January meeting. Theresa Lovallo won John's goblet in the raffle, so we'll see next month what she turns for the March bring-back prize.

Mike Regnar conducted the after-meeting raffle drawing. Member contributions from their wood piles filled most of 2 tables, and were greatly appreciated by the winners.

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(Member Spotlight, a monthly feature written by Terrence Powell, starts on the next page, featuring George Dinsmore this month)

## Member Spotlight

### Spotlight on George Dinsmore. February 2019.

This month the light shines on George Dinsmore. George is a long time member of Brasstown Woodturners Guild. He is also a BWG past president.

George started turning 25 to 30 years ago. He joined a club in Florida where he lived and did demonstrations at the Florida State Fair.

He said his wife, Lois, who was also a turner and BWG member, wanted to keep some of his turned items. He showed me the shelf and it covered a whole wall in one bedroom! (See photo below.)



When I asked what he liked turning most, he said that he did not like turning the same thing over and over. That statement showed in everything I saw that he had turned. His work is a showplace for creativity. The only constant I saw was each item was round.

I asked what his first item was and he said he did not remember.

When I asked what was his favorite item, he said he did not have one. However, he did point out several pieces that he likes. These

were from the shelf his wife requested. If I had to choose from those items, I could not say just one was liked more than others. However, I was intrigued by several, if not all, that I saw.

One item was turned out of a large candle. It was a small hollow form with a candle sitting inside as a form of a lid. (See photo below.)



Another piece that I really liked was a Trent Bosch *vessel of illusion*. He also said that he had turned alabaster and other materials.

I saw hollow forms in many shapes, sizes, and colors. Some were plain, some were embellished, some had rope or twine on them, some were in stands, and all were very good!

George then showed me his shop. His shop is a story in itself. When he and his wife moved to the mountains, he wanted a place large enough to build a shop; one that was large enough to accommodate his turning projects and his flat work.

After the house was completed, his wife, Lois, encouraged him to

build the shop of his dreams. The shop is BIG. There is just about every kind of tool to satisfy any “tool junkie” anytime.

George has several lathes and each has its own project going. There were very small turnings and extra large bowl turnings, all on-going. There was so much in that shop that I don’t know how he can find anything.

The shop also has a couch and easy chair for resting and meditation. Oh, and there is a TV and music to assist with the resting.

George said that for a while after his wife died he could not turn at all. It was as if life had been taken from him. Now he is beginning to turn again and he says that his shop is a place to put everything aside and do something he can enjoy.

George, it was a pleasure visiting with you and seeing your work and your shop. I hope that turning helps in the healing process.

Thank you.

*Terrence Powell*

