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# Brasstown Woodturners Guild

Newsletter — Meeting of March 2, 2019

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**Next meeting:** 9:30 am, Saturday, April 6, 2019. John Keeton will demonstrate turning an elegant vase. 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 this month. Attendance was great as was the Show and Tell participation. Thanks to all who brought their projects for us to admire. And many thanks to Joe Waldroup for his great demonstration on turning a natural edge burl bowl. I learn more every time I watch a good demonstration and this was no exception. I was also very encouraged to see the Beads of Courage boxes beginning to show up at Show and Tell. It looks like the quality of the boxes is improving as the examples I saw were beautiful. So let's keep the momentum going and make the boxes for this is a great cause. I'm looking forward to our next meeting and John Keeton's demonstration of turning an elegant vase. So until then, keep the wood turning and the chips flying, but most of all, be safe.

## Meeting Notes:

Visitors: Bruce Dawkins, Hiawassee, GA, formerly from Tallahassee, FL

Safety talk: Don Marks presented a 'real-life' safety lesson: *if it doesn't look safe, don't do it*. He illustrated the principle with his own recent accident, stepping out of the shower at the Campbell Folk School. The room didn't have a bath mat, and the floor was wet. It didn't look safe, and it wasn't, resulting in a broken leg. He said he should have put a towel down first, instead of stepping on the wet floor.

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 mostly done. Thanks.

**Demonstration:**

Joe Waldroup demonstrated turning of a natural edge bowl, using spalted maple burl from a large, old tree recently fallen on his property.



Before: rough chainsawed burl blank



During: rounded on bottom, still some flats on top of blank



After: fully-rounded blank with tenon

Joe began with a large, rough, chain-sawed burl blank, and showed how to set the blank up between centers, so that its high points and low points on the rim would be lined up with each other, for a balanced appearance. The tailstock center had the pin removed, so that repositioning it in the process of balancing the rim points would be easier, without holes being pressed into the wood by the pin.

Then, he rounded the outside of the blank, and shaped the tenon and its shoulders. The next step would be putting the blank's tenon into the large jaws of a chuck, and coring out additional bowls, but this wasn't part of Joe's demonstration setup this time.

Joe then took a rough-turned blank he had turned several months ago, and showed how to finish-turn the inside on the chuck, including shear-scraping using the bowl gouge, to achieve a finish.



The final shaping of the foot of the finish-turned bowl is done using a jam chuck (left), with a mouse pad between the bowl and the jam chuck. Joe's setup included a removable extension cylinder between the jaws and the jam chuck, to accommodate bowls with tall sides.



Right — Joe's favorite sanding tool, the Foredom.

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### Show and Tell:



Christine Smith turned this maple and rosewood (?) Beads of Courage bowl, with dyed exterior (black base, plus blue and green)



Rich Egli brought this large hollow-form of spalted maple



Tony Bradley brought in a nice cherry burl natural edge bowl



Brian Dobson showed this tulip-tree 'donut,' an interesting shape



Matt Cowart brought a Bead of Courage box, and a collection of earring holders



Brian Dobson brought a nice vase.



Theresa Lovallo turned this miniature birdhouse



Greg Pillen showed this wet-look painting technique involving water drops and rattle-can spray paint (described below); he also brought a maple and walnut-lid Beads of Courage box

Greg Pillen's explanation of the "bubble-effect" paint technique, pictured above:

*In this example, I used a dark green for the background - 2 coats. Blue also works well, but any color could be used.*

*After the base coat dried, with a spray bottle, spritz some water across the area to be treated. While the water bubbles are still on the base coat, take a spray can of contrasting color and do a light dusting at a steep angle to the surface. In the example I used white. Then, at 180 degrees to the first, do another light dusting of a third color that contrasts with the first "dusting." In the example I used brown. This adds to the 3D effect.*

*Then wait for the water to evaporate. When the water evaporates, the dusted paint will settle and dry on the base coat leaving the appearance of "bubbles."*

Next page: Terrence Powell's "Member Spotlight" article this month focuses on all of us ... read on!

## *Member Spotlight*

### Spotlight on Us and Our Loved Ones. March 2019.

This month's Spotlight is a little different. I was having trouble getting times set up with members for interviews and some things happened and memories were brought to mind. Here is what happened.

I received a call, from someone I did not know, wanting me to help a former Brasstown Woodturners Guild member's widow get rid of his tools and everything in his shop.

A few weeks ago, I had a BWG member to ask me to do the same task for his wife, should he die. He said he was doing an inventory with prices on it.

Almost four years ago, another former BWG member's widow asked me to help inventory and get rid of her husband's shop tools.

These three things have been on

my mind this past weekend and I have decided to write this article to ask all of you to prepare ahead of your death. Yes, that sounds morbid. However, our club is made up mostly of seventy, eighty, and ninety year-olds. We are not getting any younger and we sure do not know when that final day is to be.

Ask yourself, "Does my wife, husband, children, or siblings know what my shop has in it?" If your answer is like mine or the three mentioned above, then these loved ones will have a problem.

I have asked a friend and fellow BWG member to help my wife, if I die before either her or him. He will know where I will keep an updated inventory of tools and equipment that will have the cost or estimated cost of said tools and equipment. A lot of it is old, like me,

and may not be worth much. But there are a lot of tools and a lathe that are valuable. My wife and daughter will also know where this list is and who they might call in to help.

There will still be problems. However, things will be much easier for my loved ones and that is what I think is important.

I hope that you will talk this over with your loved ones and see what they think would be the best way to go. Who knows? They may want to keep your tools for their own use. That would be nice for all.

Next month I will get back to the regular Spotlight on a particular member. Thanks for putting up with me and my thoughts this month.

*Terrence Powell*