



Brasstown Woodturners Guild

Newsletter — November 4, 2023 Meeting

What's up next?

Saturday December 9, 2023 meeting: This will be our annual Christmas luncheon meeting, and will start at 11 am. The club will provide ham and turkey courses, and we ask you to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be a Christmas ornament exchange, so get busy on the lathe!

Election of Officers: We have 3 officers who are resigning at the end of 2023. We now have a volunteer to serve as President, Richard Truhn (see profile, below.) We still need someone to replace Gerry Wright as Treasurer, and to replace Robert Marshall as Secretary/Newsletter Editor. The outgoing officers will be happy to assist new officers in getting oriented to the jobs, so don't hold back from volunteering just because you don't know everything that is required. We'll help you get started.

Richard Truhn is a new member who wants to do his part, and has volunteered to be President. Here's his 'profile':

I attended the November meeting after having intended to show up a couple of months previously. I am a fan of Mark Taylor's work. I saw it at the Murphy Art Center and I immediately knew I wanted to meet him when I saw his Itty Bitty Bowls and hand carved birds. I spoke with him briefly at the MAC and he invited me to attend a meeting.

Mark was the first person to greet me when I walked into the meeting and he introduced me to a couple of the other guys. Mark was also the featured demonstrator that day and he worked on the exact pieces I was interested in. I knew something great was in store for me and I was excited to start.

I moved to Murphy 2 years ago. My family has visited this area over the past 40 years and it was always my dream to retire close to John C Campbell Folk School because of my love for traditional Appalachian crafts. I had looked at their catalogs for many years and plotted out road trips to get there long before I first visited Murphy.

I have always had a love for craft. I began with ceramics over fifty years ago. I have pursued additional crafts such as oil painting, woodturning, woodcarving, broom making, china painting, knitting (I knit Portuguese style), crochet, spinning, felting, fabric dyeing, quilting, sewing....

I think you begin to get the picture. It drives my family nuts. They think I should pick one thing and do it forever. I never did.

I started all this with classes in Michigan. I moved to central Florida almost 40 years ago and began taking classes there. A broom maker who taught at JCCFS even came to my house one day and gave me a private lesson in broom making, further cementing my admiration for people who teach there. From Central Florida we moved to Cumming, Ga. where I pursued new crafts like needle felting and fiber. From Ga I moved to Murphy.

Along the way I worked in retail and the auto industry to support my habit. There were independent spurts where I worked in promoting the arts, did a little writing and publishing, and shared what I learned through teaching. Now I am a little bit retired but work part time so I can continue to buy craft supplies and take new classes, much to my family's chagrin. I truly have tried to stop, it just doesn't work for long.

So now I am here, doing what I always dreamed of doing. I see so much talent within a two hour drive of where I now live. I didn't know where to begin, until now.

Y'all (I've become Southern by choice) are the greatest. If I can just give back a little of what you have given me through sharing your experience, kindness, grace-and Southern Hospitality-I will die a very blessed man indeed.

I look forward to knowing and working with each of you.

November Meeting Notes

Demonstration:



Mark Taylor presented a demonstration on turning Christmas ornaments from branch wood, cherry this time.

The first item Mark turned was an angel, with wings and halo fashioned from disks parted-off from the same spindle stock. The angel's dress was hollowed to reduce weight, in case she's hung on a tree. Two completed angels appear, lower left.

The second item was a miniature birdhouse. The one shown below is not hollowed, and would sit on a shelf or table. If used as a hanging ornament, it should be hollowed for lighter weight. It appears at lower right.



Our website - what's in it for you? Brasstownwoodturners.org includes the following:

- Archived copies of our newsletters from this and prior years, going back to 2004 (with a gap for 2006-2011).
- Show-and-tell articles, which show how to make various projects or carry out specialized techniques. These are created by our members, either directly if you know how to create a web article, or through photos and text provided to someone who can do it for you. I (Robert Marshall) would be happy to take your input and fashion it into a show-and-tell post. Several good photos and paragraphs of text are all it takes.
- Member galleries are articles which show a member's favorite works. Again, we'd be happy to help you put together a gallery of your work; just send us some good photos.
- We also have categories for a "shop tour" of your workshop, "for sale" listings (like tools), and other "announcements." If you want something posted, check with Robert Marshall, who will continue as webmaster indefinitely.

Looking for wood? Check out caglumber.com, located in Gainesville, GA. Lots of dimensional lumber, slabs, turning stock, etc. Domestic and Exotic. Complete price list can be viewed or downloaded: <http://caglumber.com/images/CAG%20price%20list.pdf>.

Wood for turning, also tools: Gary Gardner of Morganton, GA (near Blue Ridge) is selling wood and tools from his operation. He's a long-time professional woodturner. He says this is not a fire sale, but the prices are very reasonable, less than you'll find elsewhere for the same things. No checks, no credit card, cash only. Contact Gary Gardner, only via email: <turningleaf2@tds.net>

Got Wood? Jim Smith uses [this supplier](#) in Donalds, SC (not near anything!) But lots of turning blanks for sale. Website: <https://www.turningblanks.net/pages/about-us>

Show and Tell



Jeff Bagley cast this epoxy bowl with tagua nuts (vegetable ivory)



Robert Marshall made this hollow-form using mountain laurel branch slices and coffee-epoxy. [See BWG website for more detail.](#)



Robert Marshall turned this cherry lidded box, using an acorn for the knob on the lid.



Robert Marshall turned this plywood sphere, assembled from 60 identical triangles, forming a 3-d geometric shape that was then turned on the lathe. [More on website.](#)



Cedar and maple turnings by Jerry Bassett.



Pete Kaup turned this vase and the wine-bottle stopper, both from plum.

Officers, Brasstown Woodturners Guild, 2023

President: Dennis Perez — Vice President: Mark Taylor — Treasurer: Gerry Wright
Secretary: Robert Marshall — Advisers: Talmadge Murphey and Marsha Barnes

Membership application

**BRASSTOWN WOODTURNERS GUILD
2022 MEMBERSHIP**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SPOUSE _____ PHONE (__) _____

Are you an AAW Member (yes/no) _____

E-MAIL _____

(Please print clearly -- whether or not you receive an e-mail newsletter. This is for emergency notification of Club news)

DUES:

\$30 (SINGLE) - Add \$10 extra for mailed version of newsletter

\$35 (FAMILY) - Add \$10 extra for mailed version of newsletter

Amount Paid: \$ _____ CHECK/CASH

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW

Will view newsletter via WEBSITE Wish newsletter mailed (\$10
e-mail extra)

Make checks payable to:

Brasstown Woodturners Guild (or BWG) and

Mail to:

Gerry Wright, 45 Barnett Road, Hiawassee, GA 30546