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**Dir. at Large** Richard Kalman

**Woodturners Pres.** Jerry Knight

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**Library** Roy Reaser

**Mentor** Fred Willmot

**Pen Program** John Sobota

**Toy Program** Ken Crandall

**Photographer** Len Musgrave

**Proofreader** Jerry Knight

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By Ralph Crowther*



Let me start off this month by welcoming all the new members that have joined over the last couple of months. It's great to see the interest in our club and I hope that you take advantage of all we have to offer. We now have links to all the meetings since 2020 on the members' section of the website. This is a great opportunity to see any of the past meetings. We also Zoom each meeting in case you can't make it in person...you can see the meeting livestreamed. We also have all the past newsletters available to view. There is the library with hundreds of DVDs, a mentor program if you are looking for help, our toy and pen programs that we hope you participate in, for sale or want ads for members, and much more. I have always found out that the more you put into an organization the more you get out. The meetings are great but there is significant more fun/banter during other activities. And speaking of getting involved, we have an opening for the Vice President position that we will elect at the next meeting. Please consider getting more involved and step up for this position. The rest of the board will remain in place (unless others are nominated) for next year (see page 12).

October was a great month with the annual auction being a success with close to \$5,000 raised! And with our expanded storage space, we are already gathering

items for next year. November will continue to be busy finishing up toys in time for the toy distribution day on November 24th. If you haven't been to a toy workshop plan on attending on November 4th. Ken Crandall will welcome all the help he can get to reach our toy goal. Don't forget that John Sobota is looking for more pens for our troops. He is getting many requests for pens and needs to keep the supply available. November will also bring the annual woodturning contest which is a great opportunity to show off your skills and win some money.

Our Christmas party/recognition night is coming up very soon on December 8th, which is a Friday night as we don't meet on the regular Thursday meeting night. This year we are planning to have the dinner catered with a great meal including appetizers. More details on the menu will be coming soon. The cost will be only \$15 per person. Where can you have a full dinner for this price? A special thank you to Richard Kalmer who found the caterer and is taking the lead on making it happen. He has used the caterer before and says the food is great. We'll have a sign-up page on the website soon so we can plan accordingly.

And lastly, don't forget the next woodworking contest is to make something with a hidden/secret compartment. The inspiration is a tribute to the old desks that held several hidden/secret compartments to store valuables.

So as usual, enjoy your time in the shop and make some sawdust.



## Exploring the Design Process

*Thursday November 2*

*6:30 p.m.*



## Toy Work Party

*Saturday, November 4*

*9:00 a.m.*



## Setting Up a Shop for Beginners

**Diane Ewolt**

*Thursday November 16*

*6:30 p.m.*

## ANNUAL WOODTURNING CONTEST – NOVEMBER 19

It's time to start preparing your entries for this year's Orange County Wood Turners Annual Turning Contest. All members in good standing are eligible and encouraged to enter and win prize money. So, look over your creations from the last few years, buff them up real pretty, and bring them to the contest. You may go home richer!

### CONTESTS

Five contests available for entry:

- Beginners Turning
- Masters Pen Turning
- Masters Solid Wood Turning
- Masters Segmented (polychromatic) Turning
- Masters Embellished Wood Turning

### RULES

1. All entries must be the work of an OCWT member in good standing.
2. All entries must be entirely the member's own work.
3. All entries must be lathe-turned pieces.
4. All entries must have been created within the past two years.
5. All entries must not have been entered previously in any OCWT Annual Contest but may have been previously entered in any other contest.

### BEGINNER CONTEST

A Beginners Class is available to encourage new turners to participate and gain recognition.

- a. A Beginner is new to turning (less than three years' experience)
- b. A Beginner may choose to enter one or more Master Contests but if they do, they are ineligible for the current or future Beginner Contests.
- c. A Beginner may enter a Pen, Solid Wood, Segmented Wood or Embellished Wood item into this contest but all types of entries will be judged together as a group.
- d. A Beginner who wins first place in the OCWT Beginners class will be moved to the Master Contests in following years.

### MASTER

Masters are turners with two or more than years of experience or are a previous winner of the Beginner Contest.

There are four Master Contests

1. Pen Turning – open to all types of turned pens.
2. Solid Wood Turning – open or closed form – turnings without embellishments. A piece consisting of four or fewer pieces glued together may be entered into this contest.
4. Segmented (polychromatic) Turning - Work pieces

created by gluing many separate pieces of material together before or during turning. Entries may be closed segmented, open segmented, stave or any other turned pieces made up of many pieces. A piece consisting of four or fewer pieces glued together is NOT eligible for this contest

d. Embellished Wood Turning – an open or closed form that includes embellishments such as piercing, carving, coloring, inlay, texturing, burning, etc.

### JUDGING

Judging will be done by an independent panel(s) selected by the Turning Club president or an assignee of the Club President who will evaluate:

- a. Quality of work
- b. Design and originality
- c. Use of material
- d. Additional factors the judges see fit to consider
- e. The judges may award one, two, three, or four prizes in each contest depending upon the quality and quantity of the entries (1st, 2nd, 3rd, Honorable Mention).
- f. Each member is limited to winning one prize in each Contest but may win prizes in multiple Contests.
- g. The judges' decisions are final.

### FRED ADAM AWARD

The winner of the Segmented (polychromatic) Turning contest shall have their name added to a perpetual plaque as the winner of the Fred Adam Polychromatic Award.

### PRIZES

One to four prizes in each contest will be as follows:

**Master Classes** (in each of the four contests):

- 1st place – \$75
- 2nd place – \$50
- 3rd place – \$25
- Honorable Mention – \$15

**Beginner Class:**

- 1st place – \$50
- 2nd place – \$30
- 3rd place – \$20
- Honorable Mention – \$10

**Best of Show**

\$100

WOODTURNERS' CHALLENGE



WOODTURNERS' CHALLENGE





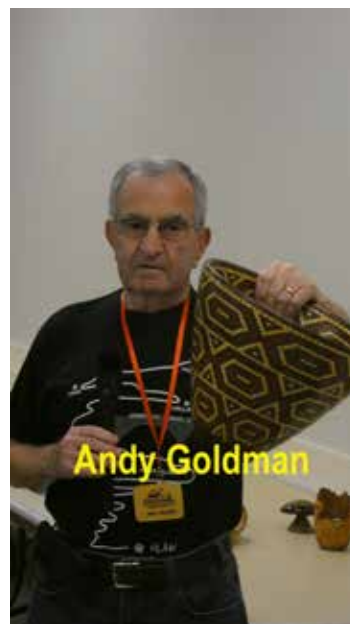
Robert Bilevich



Jim Mains



Craig Elliott



Andy Goldman

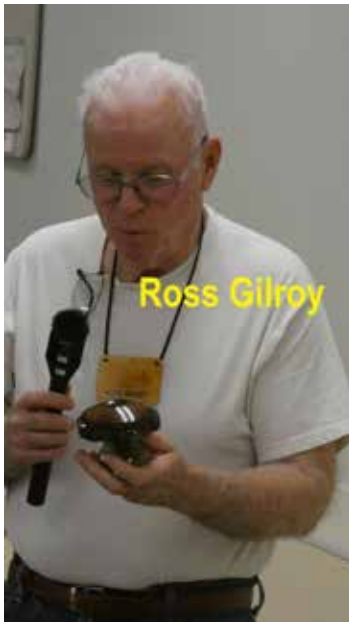
WOODTURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



Doug Turner



Ralph Crowther



Ross Gilroy







WOODTURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



## WOODTURNER'S SHAVINGS

By Chuck Phillips



Just in time for Christmas prep, we were treated to the whimsy of Larry Marley. In the unlikely event you are unfamiliar with his work, head over to <https://www.larrymarley.com/>. Tonight's project is a spiky blowfish ornament. The original inspiration for his

fish came from a teapot he made for the Laguna Festival of the Arts. Like most of his pieces, it is built from a segmented body. While you could make this form a solid block, Larry prefers the appearance of segmented.

As is good practice, Larry starts with a sketch of the finished profile. From this the ring sizes can be determined. The body is constructed in two halves to make hollowing it easier. (Why hollow? Because an ornament should be light, so the branch doesn't bend when you hang it up.) For the initial shaping of the outside Larry uses a few spots of double-sided tape to hold the two halves together. The bond doesn't need to be much, as all you're trying to do is keep them from slipping. I imagine you could do the same thing with a couple of dots of hot glue.

With the body mounted between centers, rough turn the outside to shape, leaving a tenon at each end. Separate the halves, grip them with that tenon, and hollow the interior. Since this will be fully closed in, there's no need to go overboard finishing the interior, unless you're into that. You should, however, make sure that the face that will be glued to the other half is clean and true. Once both are hollowed, glue them together, making sure the segments line up correctly. Using your centers to press the halves while the glue takes its initial set will help maintain concentricity.

While the body is curing, Larry moves on to making the spikes. A lot of spikes. As his normal layout calls for 23 of them, he'll make about 25 to allow for the inevitable breakage. Turning them is a matter of roughing the stock down to a cylinder (Same diameter as your drill bit.), marking the length, taper to a point, and cut off. Lather, rinse, repeat as necessary. To mark the length, Larry uses a pencil in a small marking gauge. He then uses a parting tool to highlight the pencil line. If you can feed your blank through the headstock it's easy to turn a large batch, feeding out enough for a new spike each time.

The lips serve a real purpose: They cover the spot where all the segments come together, which is notoriously difficult to align perfectly. They are made by turning a small ring, undercut on the back, and set on a small tenon. The undercut will allow them to sit flush on the front of the body.

The eyes are made from holly with a bit of ebony inset for the pupil. Larry cuts small plugs of ebony, drills a hole in the end of the holly, and glues them in. After truing up the end and checking for chipping, he turns a ball on the end of the holly blank. One thing to be careful of here: Always sand from the holly towards the ebony. Going the other way risks dragging small bits of ebony into the holly, which will spoil the color.

The last bits that need to be made are the fins and tail. These are carved from flat bits and attached with a bit of brass rod.

By now the glue in the body should be cured, so you can mount it back between centers and finalize the shape. There will be a slight discontinuity where the thickness of the tape between the halves existed in your preliminary shape. Clean that up, and sand everything smooth. The final removal of the tenons should probably be done carefully and off the lathe.

As Larry says, "The eyes are fun". Varying the placement of them can radically change the personality of your fish. Larry will move them about until he gets the desired effect. To mark their location, he uses a piece of carbon paper, doubled up so it marks on both sides. Pressing an eye at the chosen spot will leave a small mark on both the body and the eye. To keep the pupils at the same level he uses a pair of dividers to transfer the distance between the pupil edge and the carbon mark from one eye to the other. The location of the second eye is then marked with the carbon paper. A small bit of brass wire is used to attach the eyes.

Laying out the spikes is initially done by eye, and then Larry uses his dividers to get the final spacing uniform. They are attached by drilling a hole and gluing in the spike. A similar process attaches the lips and fins. Finishing is probably best done with something like a spray lacquer.

You get a bit of extra time for the challenge, because the November meeting will be our annual woodturning contest. Bring out something interesting for that, and then bring an ornament in December.

## TOY STORY

*By Ken Crandall, Chair, Toy Program*



Attendance remains strong with a cadre of regulars. Cars, trucks, cornhole games, and keepsake boxes were finished heading into crunch time with our yearly output standing at 3,700 toys. Robert

Morris finished another set of puzzles and Rex Bullock added sports cars and excavators done with the artistry that he is known for. My special thanks go out to Jerry Knight and other turners who made wooden bowls for the new food mixer toy I have made. They are beautiful.

Saturday, November 4th is our last work party for the year leading up to Distribution Day. Bring in all of your finished and unfinished projects so that they can be included in our final inventory. I need to have final counts so I can make informed choices for each of the non-profits we serve. My committee will begin next week canvassing them to assess their wants for this year.

Distribution Day, as always, will be the day after Thanksgiving, November 24th this year. It is quite a spectacle to see thousands of beautifully handcrafted wooden toys on display at one time. It is the culmination of our year's work, and makes it all worthwhile. I invite all of the members of OCWA to stop by and see what we are about. You might decide to join up. We will begin pulling toys at 9:00. Refreshments will be served.



# SUPPORT OUR TROOPS PEN PROGRAM

By John Sobota, Chair, Support Our Troops Pen Program



It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of another year. Veterans Day is once again right around the corner. We are once again receiving an increase in pen requests from various organizations for many of the local events honoring our active-duty military and

veterans.

For those readers that may not be aware, the OCWA operates a "Support Our Troops" pen program. The club furnishes members with pen kits and wood pen blanks to turn, finish and assemble. The pens are then returned where they are inspected for quality and distributed to various organizations for our military personnel, both active-duty and veterans as a small token of our appreciation for their service. Over the last few years, we have been averaging over two thousand pens per year

distributed to various organizations.

Our members have submitted over one thousand eight hundred pens to date this year for distribution to the various organizations in support of our troops. We are always looking for more members to participate in our program by making quality pens for our program. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our pen program. My contact information can be found in the members directory on the OCWA website.

I would again like to thank all those who have contributed to our pen program by donating tools, materials or money for the continued support of our "Support Our Troops" pen program. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the OCWA and the members and veterans of our armed forces who receive the pens we distribute.

Hello Captain Len,  
I am one of many recipients of your fine craftsmanship in the wooden pens you so graciously and unselfishly donated to all of us veterans. Your talent is duly noted and will undoubtedly grace many more veterans with such exquisite craftsmanship. May God's grace and mercy be a blessing on you and all the members of the Woodworkers Association.

Honor Flight 2023 September 15-17

John L. Hart - Sgt  
USMC  
Vietnam 67,68,69  
OohRah!

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## Proposed 2024 Slate

At our November meeting, we will have the election of new officers for the year of 2024. See right for the list of offices and the person who has come forward to fill each position.

Office	Name
President	Ralph Crowther
Vice-President	Open
Secretary	Michael Aghajanian
Treasurer	John Butler
Public Affairs Dir.	Sandra Smolinsky
Director at Large	Alfred Missbrenner
Director at Large	Ken Crandell
Director at Large	John Sobota
Director at Large	James Santhon
Director at Large	Diane Ewoldt
Director at Large	Richard Kalman

## “CLUB ROOTS” (25 YEARS)

Bruins, William  
Couch, Sam  
Crowther, Ralph  
Daniels, James  
Davis, Carson  
Gamo, Gilbert  
Goldman, Andy  
Ingram, Ruth  
Kaufholtz, Lee  
Neesley, Michael,  
Plummer, George  
Rogers, Les  
Smet, Edward  
Wade, David

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

James Santhon  
Jeff Bennett  
Craig Chambers  
Carson Davis  
Andy Goldman  
Len Musgrave  
Michael Neesley  
Ingko Oetomo  
George Plummer  
Al Whitcomb  
Larry Marley  
Ralph Crowther

## WOODWORKER OF THE YEAR

2022	John Sobota
2021	Richard Kalman
2020	Ken Crandall
2019	Ken Cowell
2018	Bill Rogers
2017	John Marshall
2016	Len Musgrave
2015	Ken Cowell
2014	Larry Marley
2013	Ralph Crowther
2012	Ed Smet
2011	Len Musgrave

### Person of the Year

2010	Al Whitcomb
2009	Ed Straub

## PAST PRESIDENTS

2013 - 2020	James Santhon
2012	Vic Cohn
2010 - 2011	Craig Chambers
2006 - 2009	James Santhon
2005	Doug Nowlin
2001 - 2004	James Santhon
1999 - 2000	Carson Davis
1997 - 1998	Sam Migliazzo
1995 - 1996	Mike Neesly
1993 - 1994	Larry Baum
1991 - 1992	Len Musgrave
1988 - 1990	Al Griffin
1987	Andy Goldman
1986	Greg Martin
1985	Dough Christie
1984	Bob Pederson



### **A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

Kirk Woloshyn, Long Beach

Jim Shapiro, Orange

Stephen Illencik, Fountain Valley

Jan Barber-Doyle, Westminster

Rich Mewes, Trabuco Canyon

### **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!**

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Woodcraft Supply – (714) 963-9663 [(714) 963-WOOD] • [www.Woodcraft.com](http://www.Woodcraft.com)



*Sawdust & Shavings* is the newsletter of The Orange County Woodworkers Association.  
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#### **MAILING ADDRESS**

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Fullerton CA 92836-8038

Do you have an idea for an article, shop tip, or tool review?

Please send articles to: [ssmolinsky@comline.com](mailto:ssmolinsky@comline.com)

Deadline for submissions is the Monday after the Woodturners meeting.