

Apple Valley Woodturners

AAW Chapter in Winchester, Virginia



<https://www.applevalleywoodturners.info>



<http://www.woodturner.org/>

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vp@applevalleywoodturners.info

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Dec 2025 Newsletter

Notes from the President

From the Editor

Program Schedule

Meeting Notice and Program

Show-And-Tell

Program Report

Treasurer's Report

Tips and Tricks

YouTube Suggestions

Guest Editorial

For Sale/Wanted

Support Our Friends

Benefits of AAW Membership

What's Going On

Virginia Clubs

AVW Membership Renewal Form

Notes from the President

All,

Just a few thoughts. The remote demonstration was everything I'd hoped for and more. Many thanks to all those who made it possible, either through their efforts or their donations.

We have finished our client activities for the year, and we're planning next year's activities. We will be expanding the scope of our involvement with NWWorks. We will be asking for your support in helping us serve the clients.

Remember the 13th is our annual brunch, ornament exchange, and elections. If you'd like to serve on the board, please consider throwing your hat into the ring on the 13th.

Finally, its time for your 2026 dues to be paid. Your dues make it possible for us to bring some great demonstrators to the club next year, so don't be shy, you can send a check with the form below, visit the web site and pay there (<https://applevalleywoodturners.info/join-us/>) using PayPal (you don't need a PayPal account, just a credit card), or bring the money to the next meeting.

Thanks to all of you for your efforts in making our club the best it can be.

Roger.

From the Editor

We are at the end of another year of newsletters. I hope you have enjoyed them. I would like to thank Lindsay for taking the photos during the meetings (and Andrea for stepping in when Lindsay was not at the meeting). These two ladies have made my life much easier. I would also like to thank all those who have contributed to the newsletter this year, including Roger for his monthly columns.

The biggest headache I have every month is finding a "feature" article. If you would like to write an article just let me know. It can be about anything to do with woodturning, and if you need help deciding on your content, just look back at the past issues. If you didn't keep the old newsletters, then you can find them all on our web site at <https://applevalleywoodturners.info/newsletters/>.

Of course we should all thank our elected officials (Roger, Mark, Scott, and Mike) for all the work they put in to make the club run smoothly. Don't forget to say thank you when you next see them. Finally, we must not forget Andrea, who has done a fantastic job getting us demonstrators all year as well as setting up demonstrators for nearly every month next year (and we are still in 2025).

Remember: the deadline for entries for the newsletter is two weeks before the monthly meeting. You can send anything for inclusion in the newsletter to me at newsletter@applevalleywoodturners.info.

Program Schedule

The Apple Valley Woodturners Mission is:

"To educate our members, other woodturners, and the public in and about the art and craft of woodturning."

The meetings take place on the third Saturday of the month at NW Works, Inc. starting at 9:00 am and usually comprise the following events:

- Meeting Notices etc.

- Show and Tell (bring your latest turnings to share with the members) including the challenge for the month.
- Raffle and “Win one – Turn one” (We have a “win one – turn one” raffle where, if you want to participate, you get a free ticket and if your ticket is drawn, you win the piece turned by someone else – BUT – you agree to bring a piece the following month to be raffled.)
- Demonstration

The demonstrators currently booked for 2025 and 2026 are:

December: Battle tops, ornament exchange, Dinner and Business Meeting. There will be NO Skills session this month.

2026 Demonstrators currently booked.



January 17: Steve Halliday will demonstrate a water drop bowl. He will show all the steps to make and paint the bowl.



Then, a special event. The following Monday evening (January 19, 6 – 9pm) – Emma Cook – platter, turned and colored.

From England, Emma is a very talented woodturner. Known as the Tiny Turner, she is currently the chair of the UK Register of Professional Turners

(<https://www.registerofprofessionaltturners.co.uk/>) and is a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Turners (<https://turnersco.com/>). You can visit her web site at <https://www.thetinyturner.co.uk/>. Her bio is available at <https://www.thetinyturner.co.uk/about>.

February 21: Jeff Hughes - Refinishing

March 21: Mike Sorge - Topic to come

April 18: Annie Ogg - Turning miniatures

May 16: Tips and Tricks and our tool auction. Start thinking now what tips and tricks you have to share and what tools you don't need any more and can donate to the club for the auction.

June 20: Jason Breach

July 18: Open

August 15: Open

September 19: Apple Harvest, no meeting

October 17: Stewart Furini, IRD Topic to come



October – Stewart Furini. This is an IRD (Interactive Remote Demo). Best known for his decorated pieces, Stewart is a member of the UK Register of Professional Turners (<https://www.registerofprofessionalturners.co.uk/>). His web site is <https://www.stewartfuriniwoodturning.co.uk/>

November 21: Charles Worton - Spheres and eggs

December 12: Dinner, etc

The Saturday following the meeting is a skills event. Meeting at the same place, at 9:00 am, this is your chance to bring that troublesome piece and get some expert advice on how to solve your problem. Occasionally this session is used to hold a hands-on session to follow on from the meeting demonstration. There may be a small charge for this, and numbers are limited to the number of available lathes, so sign up early. Only paid up members may attend the skills sessions due to insurance restrictions.

December Meeting Notice and Program

The December meeting will be held on December 13 (NOTE: 1 Week early because of the Holidays) at:

NW Works, Inc.
3085 Shawnee Dr,
Winchester, VA 22601

The meeting will start promptly at 9:00am and usually is done by noon. The doors will be open from 8:30am for people to come in and chat. There is often a group heading out for a sandwich after the meeting, so plan on joining them if you can.

- Business notices, announcements etc.
- Show and Tell (bring your latest turnings to share with the members) including the challenge for the month.
- Raffle and “win one – turn one”
- No Monthly Demo. This is our annual meeting. We vote in new officers and enjoy a potluck lunch together. Sign up with Roger and find out what you need to bring.

Show-And-Tell

Every month at the main meeting, attendees are encouraged to bring their turned items to show the rest of the attendees. Also, every month we have a club challenge. This is your chance to participate and show everyone your view of things. It is not compulsory and there are always lots of ways to meet the challenge. The challenges set so far are:

December: As usual we will be having an ornament swap, so the challenge is to make Christmas Ornaments.

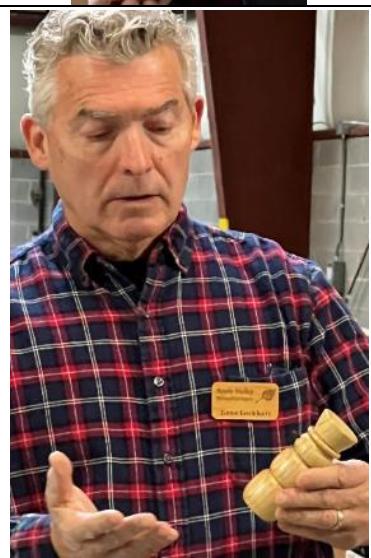
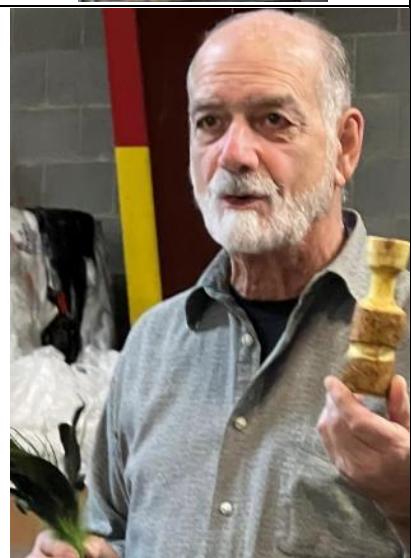
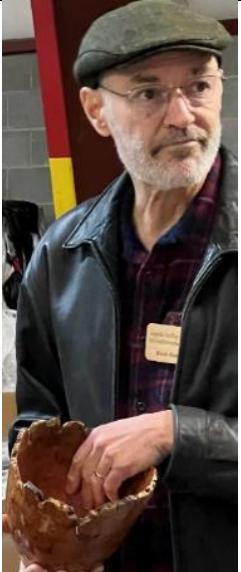
January: Natural edge piece. It can be a bowl or a vase or anything else as long as it is turned by you and it has a natural edge.

Challenges are usually announced at the meeting prior so there is a full month to get the piece made.

Program Report

The meeting was well attended with our first IRD - from Jason Breach in the UK. Jason gave a fantastic presentation of his Japanese Pagoda Box. Andrea has secured an in person demonstration for next year, so we have three international demonstrators in 2026. Below are some pictures of the show and tell including the challenge snowmen.







Treasurer's Report

We will usually include a report from the Treasurer each month so that you are aware of the financial state of the club.

Beginning Bank Balance (11/1/2025)	\$ 6908.12
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Deposits	\$ 610.00
Checks/EFT Cleared	\$ 52.64
Ending Bank Balance	\$ 7465.48
Checks Pending	\$ 0.00
Pending Deposits:	\$ 0.00
Cash for Change:	\$ 50.00
PayPal Balance	\$ 474.58
Total available	\$ 7990.06

Tips and Tricks

Protect your lathe with a paint shield

By Dennis J. Dantro

Do you spray paint on the lathe ?

Protect your lathe with a shop made paint shield.

It's easy to make from 2 sheets of cardboard.



Step 1: Cut 2 sheets of cardboard to the same size. Large enough to cover your lathe.



Step 2: Cut a slot in the cardboard large enough to slip onto the spindle body BEHIND your chuck. Location is important for a secure fit. So remember, measure carefully. I used a pencil, ruler and square to layout my slot.



Step 3: After the slot is cut and tested, lay the 2 pieces flat on the table to create the hinge. Tape on both sides of the cardboard creates a hinge. Allow a small gap between the sheets so you can fold it in half for better storage.



Step 4: When you have finished spray painting just unscrew your chuck or slip the paint shield off the lathe. You can store it flat or on end.

YouTube Suggestions

Here are a few YouTube suggestions:

@MikeWaldt
@RHumphrey
turnawoodbowl.com

Don't forget to send me your favorite YouTube channels so that we can all enjoy them.

Guest Editorial

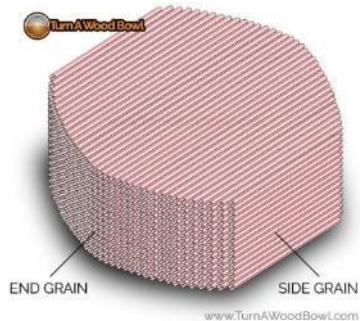
This month's article comes from Mark Zimmerman.

Avoiding End-Grain Tear-Out in Bowls and Platters

I don't enjoy sanding; I wouldn't say I hate it, but it certainly isn't my favorite part of woodturning. And I don't think I've ever met a woodturner who's a sanding enthusiast! Since I make a lot of side-grain platters and bowls, there are always two areas of end-grain that have the potential to produce difficult-to-sand tear out.

There's a really good online article by Kent Weakley, a turner who has a website called Turn A Wood Bowl, about avoiding grain tear out, and I've drawn from his piece for this article; here's the reference: <https://turnawoodbowl.com/14-ways-to-avoid-wood-grain-tear-out-with-wooden-bowls/>.

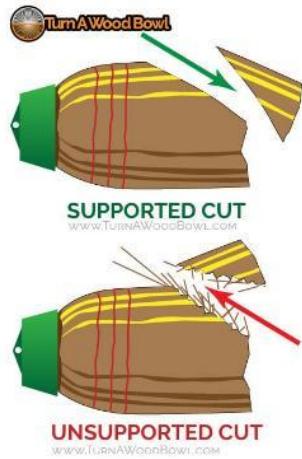
To turn a side-grain bowl or platter, we're cutting across all parts of the wood fibers, as illustrated by this depiction of a bundle of straws:



While the side-grain usually cuts cleanly (if you don't get a catch!), the end-grain fibers can more easily rip or break off, causing what we've labeled as tear out. And while tear out can look like small dimples or marks in the wood, because the end-grain fibers have been essentially ripped off, the gaps in the wood are much deeper than they appear on the surface, making them a lot more difficult to sand away.

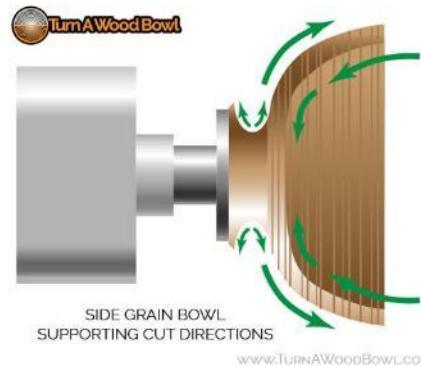
There are a number of steps you can take to minimize or prevent end-grain tear out, and I'll highlight the key ones here:

1. Always keep your cutting tools as sharp as possible. This means touching up bowl gouges at the grinder more frequently than you might think is necessary, and making sure your scrappers always have a good cutting burr. I use a swept-back Irish or fingernail grind on most of my bowl gouges, which gives me a long edge that I can use for shear scrapping when I'm working on getting rid of small areas of tear out. And I prefer negative-rake scrappers, particularly on the inside of bowls and platters, because they are easier to control than a single-bevel scrapper and I think they're usually easier to get a good sharp burr on the grinder.
2. Cutting the wood fibers in the proper direction is the second most important technique for preventing end-grain tear out. This process is all about cutting end-grain fibers in a "supported" direction rather than an "unsupported" direction, which means on the outside of a bowl you want to cut from the smaller base to the wider rim, and on the inside of the bowl you want to cut from the rim towards the bottom of the bowl. These principles are illustrated here, first using a broom as an example of a bunch of fibers bundled together like they would be in a piece of wood:

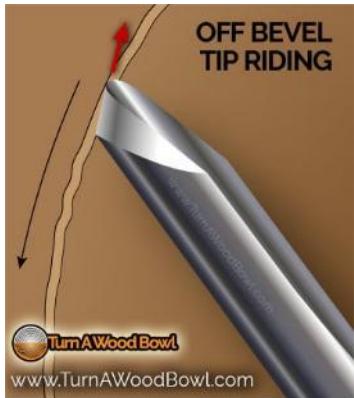


When the broom fibers are cut from the handle side towards the end, each fiber being cut is supported by a fiber below it, making it less likely for the fibers to get caught on the cutting instrument and tear like they would if the cut was coming from the end of the broom towards the handle.

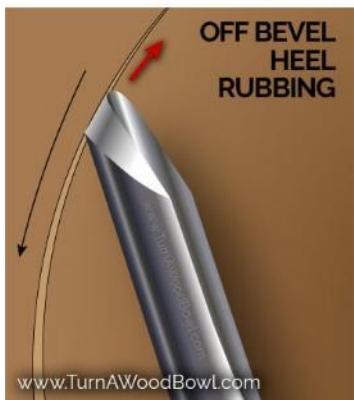
Applying that analogy to a bowl looks like this:



3. Increasing the lathe speed and slowing the rate of your cuts or scrapes can also help reduce end-grain tear out. Once I've got a bowl or platter well rounded and balanced on the lathe, I'll usually turn up my lathe speed for my finishing and scraping cuts. That said, it's important to stay within a lathe speed range that's comfortable to you based on your turning experience and your ability to control your cutting tools.



4. Staying on, or “riding” the bevel with a bowl gouge is critical to preventing tool marks and tear out in your turning piece. If the angle of your bowl gouge is too high, as shown in the top picture below, it’s much easier for the tip of the gouge to dig into the wood and cause tear out, or worse a nasty catch. And if the angle is too low, as in the bottom picture, the tip of the gouge won’t cut efficiently and the base of the bevel will rub too deeply into the wood and cause tool marks.



5. Sometimes simply wetting the wood fibers can help deal with tear out in tricky pieces of wood, probably because raising the fibers helps align the fibers better and provides for a superior supported cut. I’ve found this technique useful often times when sanding as well, especially with courser grits like 80 and 120, possibly for the same reason. The other technique that can be useful for getting rid of tear out that has already occurred is to stiffen the fibers with a sanding sealer; I usually use Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat diluted 50:50 with denatured alcohol as my go-to sanding sealer, but I’ve used it undiluted and straight from the can for softer wood or areas of “belligerent” tear out, usually letting it dry overnight before doing additional finishing cuts and shear-scraping.

If you would like to write an article or editorial for the newsletter, let us know. It must be woodturning related.

For Sale/Wanted

List your surplus woodturning related equipment or your needs here.

Support Our Friends



<http://www.mcfarlandsmill.com>

161 Woodchuck Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

mcfarlandsmill@comcast.net

Phone: (540) 667-2272 FAX: (540) 722-6261

Hours: Mon-Wed, Fri 7:00-3:30; Thu 7:00-6:00; Sat 8:00-1:00

We all know and appreciate what McFarland's Mill does for our club. Please stop by to thank them for their help and, even better, purchase your turning supplies from them to support them for supporting us! Stephanie and Robert will appreciate your patronage, for sure.

In case you don't already know, they carry a variety of items from the Rockler catalog and, if they do not have something in stock, they will order it for you (sale prices, discounts, and specials apply) and you will not have to pay for shipping - a good deal! Contact Stephanie by phone or email.

Joe Lehnens
Forest Utilization & Marketing Specialist

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Charlottesville - Headquarters
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Shane Wagoner, 540-364-2401
P.O. Box 398, Marshall, VA 20116

Benefits of AAW Membership

AVW is a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW), the largest organization for woodturners in the world. You can enjoy a free 60-day trial membership by going to <http://www.woodturner.org>. In addition to home delivery of their award-winning bimonthly publications, American Woodturner and FUNDamentals, there is always something new to learn and discover on the AAW web site.

What's Going On

Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium <https://mawts.com/event/>

Date: 09/25/26 - 09/27/26

Location: Wyndham Resort and Convention Center

Address: 2300 Lincoln Highway East (Route 30), Lancaster, PA 17602

Other symposiums:

Nov 7-9, 2025	North Carolina Woodturning Symposium, Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, NC
Jan 9-10, 2026	SW Florida Wood Art Expo Charlotte Harbor Event Center Punta Gorda, FL
January 22-25, 2026	Colonial Williamsburg 28th Annual Woodturning Conference, Colonial Williamsburg, VA
Jan 30-31, 2026	Tennessee Association of Woodturners 2026 Symposium Franklin Marriott Hotel and Convention Center Franklin, TN
Feb 20-22, 2026	Florida Woodturning Symposium RP Funding Center Lakeland, FL
March 21-22, 2026	Idaho Artistry in Wood Show, Jack's Urban meeting place, Boise, Idaho
June 4-7, 2026	AAW Symposium, Raleigh, NC. https://www.aawsymposium.org/about
July 30-Aug 2.	Turn on Chicago Woodturning Symposium, Hilton Hotel, Northbrook, IL
September 25-27	Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium, Lancaster, PA (See above)
September 25-27, 2026	Segmented Woodturning Symposium, Hilton Northbrook Hotel, Northbrook, IL
October 24-25	Virginia Woodturning Symposium, Augusta Expo Center, Fishersville, VA

Virginia Clubs

Catoctin Area Turners

Areas served: Serving western Loudoun County, Maryland

Contact: https://www.catoctinareaturners.org/content.aspx?page_id=4&club_id=779723

Meetings: Thursday before the 3rd Saturday each month, 6:30-? pm at the Leesburg Volunteer Fire Department, 215 W. Loudoun Street, Leesburg, VA (Note: See web site for meeting exceptions in January and July.)

Web: <https://www.catoctinareaturners.org/>

Capitol Area Woodturners

Areas served: Northern VA, DC, and MD.

Contact: <https://capwoodturners.org/membership/#contact>

Meetings: Pimmit Hills Center located at 7510 Lisle Ave, Falls Church VA 22043... second Saturday of each month, 8:00 am for "Social & Donuts", 8:30 am for show and tell and 9:00 am for business meeting and demo.

Web: <http://www.capwoodturners.org/>

Central Virginia Woodturners

Areas served: from Charlottesville to Staunton to Harrisonburg.

Contact: <https://centralvawoodturners.org/contact-us/>

Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month, 6:30-9:00 pm, at the Crimora Community Center, 1648 New Hope and Crimora Road, Crimora, VA 24431,

Web: <http://www.centralvawoodturners.org/>

Mid-Maryland Woodturners Club

Areas served: Serving the Frederick, Maryland area.

Contact: https://www.mmwtc.org/content.aspx?page_id=4&club_id=840995

Meetings: Wednesday before the third Saturday of each month at 6:45 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 9664 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick MD 21702

Web: <http://www.mmwtc.org/>

Tidewater Turners

Areas served: Serving the Norfolk, Virginia, area.

Contact: tidewaterturners@gmail.com

Meetings: Fourth Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the Woodcraft of Norfolk/Virginia Beach 5802 E. Virginia Beach Blvd, Suite 152, Norfolk, VA 23502

Web: <http://tidewaterturners.net/>

Woodturners of the Virginias

Areas served: Serving the foothills of the Shenandoah Valley and neighboring West Virginia

Contact: <https://woodturnersofthevirginias.org/contact2/>

Meetings: First Saturday of each month, 9:00 am at Peter Shoemaker's "Phoenix Shop" at 5906 Main St., Mount Jackson, VA.

Web: <http://www.woodturnersofthevirginias.org/>

AVW Membership Renewal Form

Membership Type (check one): Individual (\$40) Family (\$45)

(check one): New Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Alt. Phone: (____) ____ - _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: (____) ____ - _____

AAW Member (yes/no): _____

Active-duty Military (yes/no)? _____ (\$20) Branch? _____

Already a member of an AAW affiliate club (yes/no)? _____ (\$20 discount on Individual and family))

Club name: _____

Check #: _____ Amount: _____ Date: _____

Mail form to the Treasurer with Check or contact treasurer@applevalleywoodturners.info for other payment methods.

Mike Fraser
329 Russell Road
Berryville. VA. 22611