



# Turner's Talk

December 2006



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President's Challenge: Christmas Ornaments

# Business Page:

## November Meeting Minutes:

Ron Wehde/Secretary

The meeting this month was a potluck social that included a silent auction, the election of two board members and one member at large, a Christmas ornament challenge and wood raffle.

The potluck was great! The membership sat at tables complete with festive tablecloths and candles and enjoyed an evening of terrific food and good conversation.

The silent auction included some of the demonstration pieces from Andre Martel, Ray Key, Don Derry and Bruce Cambell along with some good tools that were brought by the members.

Three positions on the board were up for re-election. Melanie Mankamyer was nominated and approved to serve two more years as treasurer. Shirley Butturs is the new secretary and Jerry Holmes is a new member at large.

The results of the Christmas ornament challenge were:

1. - Ron Wehde
2. - Dennis Shinn / Ron Wehde
3. - Jim Short

President's choice – Ron Grant

## Other announcements:

Al Stratton is having a wood sale December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9am – 5pm at his home at 1746 East Kelly Road, Bellingham. To drive to his place, take I-5 north bound to exit #255/WA542 East toward Mount Baker. Turn right on East Sunset Dr. (WA542). Go approximately 3.8 miles and turn left on Noon Rd. Go 1.1 miles and turn right on Kelley Rd. Al's house is 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile down Kelly Rd on the left.

Gerrit Van Ness reminded the members that the demonstrator for January 18th will be Bonnie Klein <http://www.bonnieklein.com/bkbio.htm>. Bonnie's class on Friday January 19<sup>th</sup> at Gerrit's shop is full but there is a back-up waiting list if anyone is interested. The class will be limited to eight people and will cost \$125.00 which includes lunch. If you have questions about the class contact Gerrit Van Ness [van\\_ess@earthlink.net](mailto:van_ess@earthlink.net). If you would like to put your name on the back-up list contact Melanie Mankamyer [sjandmm@fidalgo.net](mailto:sjandmm@fidalgo.net).

The February meeting will be a mentoring session so start making a list of those problems you'd like to get corrected.

**Deadline for submitting  
info to the Newsletter:**

**The first of the  
month after the last  
meeting**

Contact Dennis Shinn with your  
submission:

360-854-9909

[hdshinn@eskimo.com](mailto:hdshinn@eskimo.com)

## **!Raffle Wood!**

Our wood raffle is an important source of income for the club. Please bring any surplus you can scrounge up but try to limit it to something you would enjoy turning yourself.

**Next Meeting  
18 Jan**

## **Club Contacts:**

**Julian Lee** - President  
360-299-2900

[groundwk@earthlink.net](mailto:groundwk@earthlink.net)

**Ron Grant** - Vice President  
360-658-2621

[narg@msn.com](mailto:narg@msn.com)

**Shirley Butturs** - Secretary  
360-826-3984

[dumpstadi@verizon.net](mailto:dumpstadi@verizon.net)

There will be a special meeting on Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup> featuring Stuart Mortimer [www.stuartmortimer.com](http://www.stuartmortimer.com). Stuart Mortimer is an award winning internationally known woodturner that will be demonstrating how to do spiral turning. Stuart will also be holding a class Monday March 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be about \$125.00 and will be limited to 8 people.

Jim Christensen will be the demonstrator for the regular meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup> and will be demonstrating how to turn a pedestal box. Jim will be giving a two-day workshop that will cover the design and various methods used in turning a pedestal box and then have a critique. This workshop will cost \$175.00 and will be limited to 8 people.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the board members both present and past for making my job as secretary so enjoyable. It's been a pleasure to work with you for the last two years.

# Art's Alive

# 2006



*Melanie, Lucinda and John were among the many club members who helped set up the display*



*Ron Means spent almost the entire day Sunday giving demonstrations on the club's mini lathe*

Ron Grant Vice President  
Photos by newsletter staff

Hi Folks;

Another Art's Alive is behind us and it was very successful. I'd like to thank everyone who helped make this possible. We had a great display of our work and the public turned out in good numbers considering the weather. Several visitors to our display expressed sincere interest in our group.

We handed out at least a dozen applications for membership and of that number there appeared to be four - six serious inquiries. Hopefully this will turn out to generate some new members for the club.

Sales were about what they've been in the past and I'd really like to see this pick up some. Increased public awareness of our group and our Art's Alive display should help improve the sales end as well as generate yet more interest in the club. We are addressing this for next year.

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**Check out the website! We're now "live"  
on the web at:**

[www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org](http://www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org)

# Editor's Note

For the past five years John Novak has photographed the gallery items, edited and produced the club newsletter and seen to its distribution. Both via email and by 'snail mail'. We all owe John a hearty *thank you* for a job well done. John leaves some large shoes to fill.

One aspect of the newsletter that John dealt with so well were the credits for the gallery items. Being somewhat less organized than John, I'm discovering that once all the items have been photographed, pairing them up with the author is, more often than I would like to admit, fraught with discrepancy. Unfortunately this month may well be no exception. Anticipating errors and/or omissions, I would appreciate corrections where needed.

As a means of facilitating the association of gallery pieces with their authors, I'm including a 'submission' card for recording name, wood species, finish and so forth that I will photograph with each piece. I would also encourage each entrant to include any comments about their piece or pieces that might be of interest. Such information as techniques used, difficulties, ... that type of thing. Your comments will be included with the image or images in the published gallery. We will have extra copies of the submission form available at the meetings if you'd prefer to just fill one out at that time. Thanks in advance for taking the time and trouble of doing so!

I would also encourage any and all members who would like to participate in the newsletter to do so. Either through a letter to the editor or submitting an article for publication. Now that our newsletter is published, so to speak on the website we have the opportunity to share information well beyond the threshold of our clubhouse door. And for most of us, that's one of the passions of our craft; sharing information. Don't forget the Turning Tip of the Month! Feel free to email me ([hdshinn@eskimo.com](mailto:hdshinn@eskimo.com)) or call (360) 854-9909.

Finally, a note of thanks to Jan Garlington for her work on producing the website! For those of us with a lowly dial-up connection, the speed with which it loads is certainly appreciated. As with the newsletter, we encourage the membership to provide feedback and ideas on how the site can be improved. What sort of content would you like to see that's not now available?

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season, Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

*Dennis Shinn*

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## Gallery Submission:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wood:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Finish:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Size (wxh):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Christmas Ornaments:

## The President's Challenge

And the 'people's choice' winners are:



Ron Whede

won first prize and tied for second with these two spectacular ornaments above and right.



Dennis Shinn

tied with Ron for second place an inside-out piece with LED candle (below)



Ron Grant

received President's Choice. Miniature birdhouse (with bird!)



Jim Short's

third place scribed ball with top and bottom finials

All the entries this year were certainly worthy!



Two marvelous examples of cast and turned resin bulbs with wood 'icicles' and top caps: **Ron Means**



Turned angel. Yes, those are real shavings for the angels hair!: **Melanie Mankanmeyer**



Pagoda birdhouse: **John Gruenwald**



Bird in open form: **Dennis Shinn**



Miniature birdhouse with natural edge roof: **Fred Pahler**



Two small ornaments of tangerine, bloodwood and holly: **Mark Straight**



Work in progress: **Vern Tator**

# Looking Both Ways

## A few words from the president

What a fun filled turning year we have had! I have had a blast interfacing with our demonstrators and learned some new tricks, and we have a similarly active year ahead.

We have two national turning symposiums to look forward to in the coming year: The AAW symposium in Portland June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>, and The West Coast Round up in Vancouver BC later in the summer. Mix this up with visits from more famous world class turners to learn from, and our shows including the Munroe Wood Expo, Deming Hills to Mills, Wood Fest in Sedro Wooley, August Anacortes Arts Depot exhibit, Arts Alive in La Connor and kids fests in Mount Vernon and Bellingham, plus three outdoor turning & camping weekends. Is this enough activity for you? If not, I am open to suggestions! My goal remains to keep business out of our monthly meetings, keep the “fun turning focus” and to put NWW on the world’s turning map.

I would like to take care of members’ turning problems in shop environments where possible, and have developed a mentor list posted on our web site listed by area. This list will change with time and should you need any further help please call me to be put in touch with a local expert.

I am hoping to shed some weight shortly, maybe even 250 lbs. Not me but our club lathe. It is a fine studio lathe but at 475 lbs is not as portable as we need it to be. I am working with the board to appropriate funds to replace it with a Nova DVR XP, which weighs in at 200lbs.

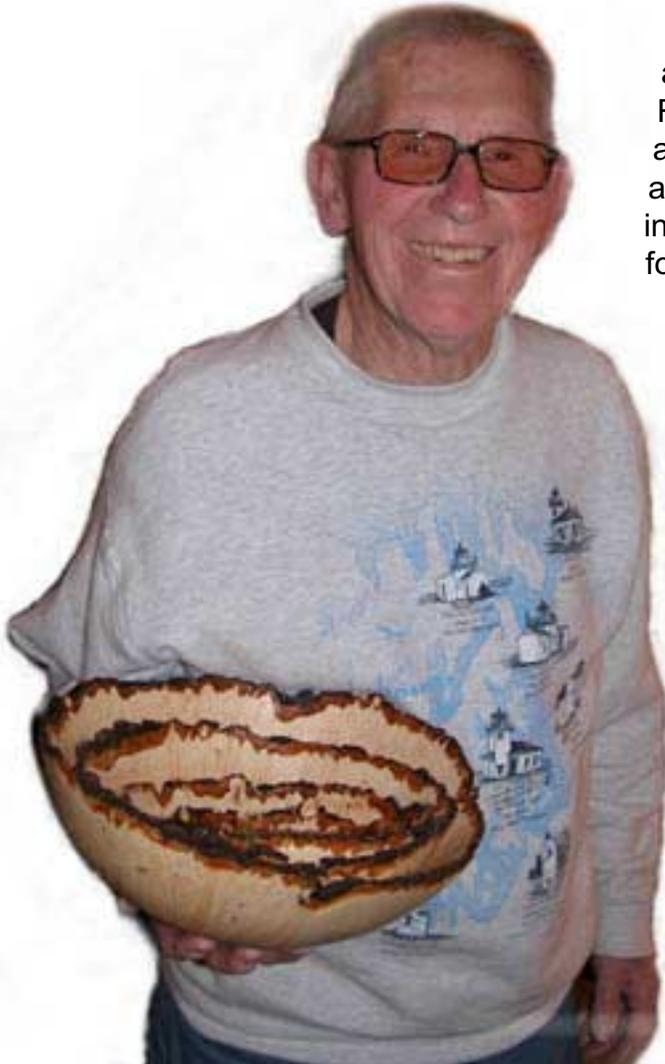
I want to thank the Board and all of the Volunteering Members who have been such a help in setting up and generally supportive in helping organize our activities. I want to particularly thank retiring Board Members; *John Novak* who has done a grand job of publishing our newsletter for such a long time, and *Ron Wedhe* who has done a great job as secretary and the preparation of our minutes. A special thanks to *Gerrit* for arranging all our programs, *Melanie* for agreeing to continue as Treasurer without any arm twisting, *Ron Grant* who has been my personal support and advisor, *Lucinda* as an outstanding purchasing agent who goes to great lengths to tote all of her goodies to each meeting and is always there to support us at every event, *John Mull* for quietly keeping our Library up to date, *Bob Doop* for lending us his audio system and gallery reporting, and *George Way* who has been a great supporter and has agreed to continue as our videographer. I would like to welcome *Dennis Shinn* as our News Letter Publisher and *Shirley Butters* as Secretary. If you like what we are doing as a club please feel free to get a little more involved I would particularly like additional assistance in the following areas: - Caterers – a small group that can assist in the preparation of our pre meeting no host suppers, and similar activities; a Barrista who can guarantee to produce coffee that is not too strong and not too weak for all members, and always have tea at the right temperature; Set Up and Teardown Crew Boss and crew; Youth Outreach Co-coordinator.

I look forward to seeing you all on January 18<sup>th</sup> for Bonnie Kline’s Demonstration at Hillcrest Lodge. A Merry Christmas to you all and safe and happy turning.

*Julian Lee - President NWW*

# Featured Turner

## Ron Scrimsher



Ron lives in the Dewey Beach, South Fidalgo Island area, Ron is a self-taught turner and started turning shortly after he retired from a life long career in construction and construction management with the Shell Refinery in Anacortes. He says it provided a much needed focus to take his mind of ill health and divorce! With 15 years of turning under his belt, Ron has turned almost every species of wood available and is a prolific bowl turner.

His favorite wood species are white, natural edge maple burl, Figured big leaf maple and madrone. Ron lives to turn and will think nothing of roughing out four or five bowls per day, sometimes before breakfast, most of which are in the 15" to 28" size range. Some are huge, appearing to be close to bathtub size! Ron is always keen to assist other turners and has particularly helped Anacortes turners get started in the craft. He is on our club mentor list and is happy to spend time with those in need of turning help.

Ron has just purchased a new long bed, Vicmark VL300 lathe to replace his custom built Nichols bowl lathe that is for sale!

A (very) small sampling of Ron's work:



*[Editor's note:  
With this issue of  
Turner's Talk newsletter,  
we are embarking on a  
regular column,  
Featured Turner to  
spotlight members of  
Northwest Wash.  
Woodturners Assoc..  
Thanks to Julian Lee for  
the text and photos for  
this month's installment.]*

# November Member's Gallery

A monthly showcase of members' work



The natural edge vase *above* (maple, 12" tall x 10" diameter) by Jerry Holmes was the people's choice blue ribbon winner at the Greater Vancouver Turner's show earlier this fall. Other pieces by Jerry include (*above left* and *below right*) two black walnut hollow forms and *left* a spalted beech hollow form vase.

Gerrit VanNess: maple burl vessels with ebony collars.



Three natural edge vessels with bark inclusions by Vern Tator





Madrona pots by Bob Doop



Mert Dodge: Fig & tiger vessel



Linda Myers: "Dooopwood" bowl *above*. Maple bowl with pyrography rim *left*.



*Above:* Walnut bowls: Julian Lee

*Below:* Maple burl bowl by Jack Northey



Ron Whede:  
Maple bowl, dyed  
finish outside,  
pyrography pattern in-  
side.



# Club Activities

## Open House

Julian Lee will host a turning Open House and Party Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>. Turning will commence at 10.00am and finish at 5.00pm with a break for a soup and salad lunch. We will have 5 lathes set up and tutors on hand to assist with turning 101 and beyond. If you cannot join us for a visit during the day, the party will continue from 6.00pm with wine and cheese and a buffet supper. Please come and join us.

360 299 2900  
3701 Rosario Crest Lane.  
Anacortes,  
Wa 98221

We are located on south Fidalgo Island on the cliff at Sares Head above Rosario beach. From highway 20 at Pass Lake turn North on Rosario Road one mile. hairpin left on Cougar Gap Road turn an immediate right into my driveway Rosario Crest Lane , bear right on the concrete drive at the hill crest turn right for the shop straight ahead for the house.

Check the NWW website, [northwestwoodturners.org](http://northwestwoodturners.org) for a complete list of special programs, turning events and symposiums for the coming year.

## January Meeting

January's demonstrator will be one of our local area (Renton) celebrities, Bonnie Klein. Bonnie has been turning for over twenty years and was instrumental in the development and popularization of the mini lathes. Using smaller lathes provides the portability to travel to fairs, classes, even vacations and continue her passion for turning. She channels a great deal of this passion into hours of volunteer work teaching and sharing with youth groups.

For more information on Ms Klein's work please visit:

<http://www.bonnieklein.com>

## November Potluck Dinner

November's meeting provided an opportunity to simply chat and get to know other members of the club. In addition we held a silent auction of tools and pieces turned by several of the demonstrators from the past year. All proceeds from the demonstrators' pieces went directly to the club treasury. A percentage of the tool auction also helped augment our resources.

Thanks to all who helped with the setup for the dinner and auction, in particular Jean for orchestrating the entire affair.



## Classified

*This space is set aside for members to advertise free of charge to sell or purchase Tools, wood, etc. Please submit your ad to John Novak by the last Thursday of the month for inclusion in the next months newsletter.*

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### MORE WOODTURNING

The newspaper for turners. Published 10 times a year by Fred Holder. One year: \$30.00; Two years: \$50.00; Three years \$70.00.

More Woodturning online at:

[www.fholder.com/woodturning/woodturn.htm](http://www.fholder.com/woodturning/woodturn.htm)

Lots of great information for our browsing pleasure.

More Woodturning

PO Box 2168

Snohomish WA 98291-2168

Phone: 360-668-0976

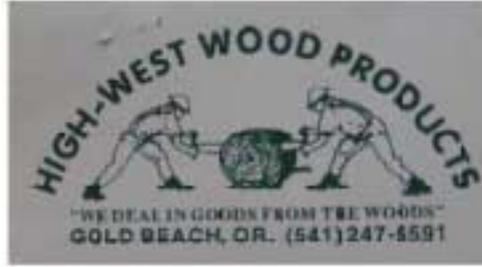
email: [woodturner@fholder.com](mailto:woodturner@fholder.com)

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### Club Discounts Available:

Show your Club Membership card and get 10% off at Rockler's and Crosscut Hardwoods.



*A good source of myrtle, maple burl and other figured turning burls*

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Got a tool or two you no longer need? Need an item related to woodturning (or general shop use)? Contact other members of the club here in the classified.

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### **Targo Woods**

**600 W. Holly Street Bellingham**

*On the grounds of the ReStore.*

Local, Bellingham wood source for your projects. Hard woods, Burls, Veneers. Wood to replace a leg on a chair, make a whole dining room set or turn a bowl, you will find it at Targo.

Oby says: [NW Woodturner Club members will get 10% off on their purchases.](#)

**Save on gas buy local.**

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### **Useful Website Links**

Note:

Web links have been provided on our website rather than included in the newsletter. Please visit: [www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org](http://www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org) for club and resource links on the web.

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**For Sale:** Nichols custom built bowl lathe. 3HP variable speed. Tailstock, 1-1/4" x 8TPI spindle thread. Turn up to 38" diameter.

\$US4,000.00

Contact Ron Schrimsher:

360-293-8386

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