



Woodturners of the Virginias

Mount Jackson, Virginia

a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners



January 2026

Welcome everyone to the New Year. Seb, our new President, opened up our first meeting of the year and recognized all of the wonderful events the club was involved with in 2025. The newly elected officers were announced for the next two years. A round of applause please for those who stepped up to serve. We also want to thank each member who has helped to facilitate other operations past, present, and future.

New Officers for 2026 are:

President: Seb Romano

Vice President: Bob Mathis

Treasurer: Tim Smith

Secretary: John Anderson

Safety Minutes:

Hank spoke to the club on safety matters. He opened the discussion on this point, sharp tools are much safer than dull tools. Sharp tools cut cleanly and dull tools bull their way through causing tear-out and the tool slipping from the surface of the work piece. Hank continued to explain it is also necessary to become familiar with the equipment you are operating. The steps required to be safe include checking manually that proper clearance and speed settings are reviewed before turning on a machine. Additionally, PPE should be worn including a face shield with a Z87 ANIS rating such as a Bionic Uvex.

WOVA, Woodturners of the Virginia's, is always open to new turners and we were privileged to entertain two guests this month. Please help spread the word.

Many thanks to Wolfgang and Jenny and all others who brought snacks for our meeting.

Reminder:

The club still has plenty of items in our store so please check frequently for those needed items. This will save you money and give the club coffers a little lift at the same time.

Club Goals:

During the November board meeting there was a conversation about member participation and mentoring. A decision was made to develop a consistent training program to help members become mentors. If you are interested please email Bob Mathis at bmathis@colbobcc.com so you can be added to the list. If you are interested in other possibilities to serve please let us know.

AAW Symposium:

2026 AAW Symposium will be held on the East Coast this year in Raleigh NC on June 4th - can be found online. Remember this occurs on the East Coast only once every three years.

Treasury:

Currently the club has approximately \$2300.00 in the bank with a pending bill of \$400-\$500 bill for heating oil and \$700.00 for upcoming insurance. Please renew your yearly dues, \$40.00, to help maintain a safe balance for the operation of the club. A discussion was raised should we pursue an outlet where we can sell items to raise funds. This would require members turning and donating to this endeavor. Please let the club know if you will support a fund-raising venture.

The ideal of a tool and wood sale was introduced and Tom Coker agreed to head this. Please let Tom know if you are willing to help with such a project. It would be beneficial for the club to receive a percentage of sales. The option of having a silent auction was also proposed for tools and equipment.

Show and Tell:

Dale Bowers marked up the the show and tell with his collection of bolt action pens. Those are some fine writing in struments you have created.



Richard Allen revisited the vessle he created during his laser deep hollowing demo. He used green stock for his demo which has cracked as it has undergone some drying. Richard also shared a live edge deep “Pop Corn” bowl he has turned and has not applied any finish.



Scott Schlosser bowled us over with his segmented bowls. He used sprayed coloring for his finish. Scott also shared some glue-ups for creating vessels for the Beads of Courage which he shared with members who will complete turning them. Scott plans on giving a workshop in April for turning vessels for the Beads of Courage program. Thank you Scott for sharing your time and talents.



Starke continues to stay busy creating several pieces from a white oak plater and a walnut dish to a tiger maple bowl. His finish of choice for these wonderful pieces is Danish oil, however he did fume the white oak.



Steve Nurkowski shared a couple of bowls he has done. One is Paulownia wood and the second is Honey Locust. He created one with a finished edge and the larger one has a natural edge. He chose wipe on poly for his finish.



Tom Coker brought in several of his spindle turned deer antler pens. Tom buffed them to bring out a nice sheen for a finish. Great looking pens.

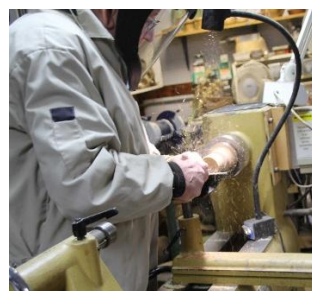


Wolfgang Neudorfer lit up the show and tell with creative light houses. Wolf shared some of his secrets about how he used window candle lights and jam jars to create the lights. He used various woods to make the actual light house bodies. Wolf finished his light houses with Mylands Friction Polish. Well done Wolfgang we appreciate you sharing with us.



Demo:

This month's demonstration was presented by Hank Mariem on using texturing tools. He covered several commercially available tools and their proper use. Hank walked us through using several tools and the end results of each. He passed his work around so we could all gain a visual perspective of the results. Hank, we thank you for sharing your knowledge and skill in the craft of woodturning.



Mentoring:

For those members interested in mentoring, Bob Mathis will be conducting a meeting Saturday January 17th at 8:45 am. Please email him at bmathis@colbobcc.com