



PAW New Member Information

Prescott Area Woodturners (PAW)

www.prescottareawoodturners.com

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Welcome!

We are happy that you have joined our group of friendly and helpful people who enjoy turning wood into functional and artistic objects of beauty. Our members have a wide range of skills and experience from the absolute beginner to nationally recognized and professional turners. We take our woodturning and safety seriously but temper our attitudes with a healthy dose of friendly humor and camaraderie. We hope you will feel comfortable joining us at our meetings and events.

Purpose

The Prescott Area Woodturners is an Arizona Non-profit Corporation operating since 1997 as an affiliate chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. PAW's mission is to inform, educate and foster the art and craft of lathe-turning for its members, educational institutions and the interested general public.

Membership

Membership in PAW is open to anyone interested in the art and craft of woodturning. Annual dues are as indicated on the Membership Application form. Dues are collected for a calendar year and must be paid by the end of December for the following year. Dues not paid by Feb 1 will result in the member being removed from the roster. Dues beginning in July or later are one-half of the annual amount.

Dues can be paid by cash or check payable to Prescott Area Woodturners and given to the PAW Treasurer or the Membership Director. If paying by cash, please put your cash in an envelope with your name on it.

Each member receives a name tag when they join. Please wear your nametag and **scan your barcode at all monthly meetings**. The nametag is also your membership card. This nametag can be used with some merchants for discounts given to PAW members. Vendors who provide discounts are listed on the PAW website. The site is password protected. The password is supplied to members at the first meeting in January of each year.

As stated above, PAW is an affiliate chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW), which is a national organization that promotes woodturning in the United States and the world. You are strongly encouraged to join AAW in addition to our local PAW chapter for the wealth of information and benefits provided by AAW. Membership information for AAW may be found at www.woodturner.org. If you join AAW, please select the "Prescott Area Woodturners" as your local chapter.

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Communications

PAW maintains an internet website at www.prescottareawoodturners.com. Visit the website for the current PAW calendar, copies of past newsletters, meeting notes, names of the current PAW Board of Directors, a list of Mentors, a gallery of member's items, copies of the PAW Bylaws and Policies, links to other woodturning sites, and other useful information.

Monthly meeting reminders and special event announcements are sent by email. Be sure your email address is correct in the current PAW Roster.

Monthly Meetings

PAW meetings are held in the workshop of the Yavapai Exceptional Industries (YEI) building at 6708 Corsair Avenue, Prescott, AZ 86301. Unless otherwise noted, monthly meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month at 12:00 P.M. (Noon). Monthly meeting demonstrations are usually performed by a PAW member except when the club sponsors a professional turner or invited guest. Monthly meetings are open to both members and non-members (guests).

Parking at the YEI building is available around the building and on the street. There is no parking fee. Enter through the back door off of the right rear corner of the building. There is usually a PAW logo sign on the back door at meeting times. Please bring a folding chair for yourself because the workshop has very few available seats. Meetings usually last about 2 hours. **Please wear your PAW nametag and scan your barcode when you arrive.** Non-member visitors should introduce themselves to the Membership Director and sign the visitor attendance roster.

Monthly meetings include club business, upcoming event announcements, show-and-tell, a safety discussion, a raffle, and a featured demonstration of a woodturning-related topic.

Members are encouraged to bring their work to monthly meetings to share during Show-and-Tell. Put your item(s) on the Show-and-Tell table before the meeting. During Show-and-Tell you may show your item and point out any interesting features or lessons learned. Note: It is just as important to the members to see and hear about your lessons learned as it is to see your flawless piece. Please don't be bashful to share as someone may learn from presentation.

Weekly Meetings (Tuesday Breakfasts)

Some members meet at BackBurner Restaurant in Prescott Valley at 7:00 A.M. for breakfast every Tuesday to share project ideas and woodturning information. Members order their own meals and pay individually at this smaller informal gathering. Members are encouraged to bring Show-and-Tell items and woodturning questions.

Monthly Member Demonstrations (Tuesday Demo)

A demonstration at a club member's shop is scheduled for most months, usually after a Tuesday breakfast (hence, the name 'Tuesday Demo'), to share information on tools,

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techniques, or procedures to supplement monthly meeting demonstrations. These demos are usually in the morning but some may be held in the evening or on a different day. The demonstration topic, location and time is sent to all members by email and announced at monthly meetings and are arranged through the club Program Director. These demos often show techniques or equipment that may be difficult to show in the larger monthly meetings and are very valuable learning experiences for both beginning and experienced turners.

For liability reasons, attendance at the monthly member's shop demonstrations is for current PAW members only. Please do not bring a non-member guest. Our club "Hold Harmless Agreement" is in place during these demonstrations.

Monthly Chips & Grits Discussions (via Zoom)

Once a month a discussion of woodturning topics is held online via Zoom. This discussion is called "Woodturning Chips and Sanding Grits", or more informally, "Chips & Grits". A topic is selected each month to focus the discussion but off-topic issues are always welcome. Time is usually allotted for 'Show & Tell' and this is a good time for 'Show & Ask' if a member has a problem with a project. The date, time and topic are announced in advance and the Zoom link is sent via email.

Annual Calendar

The PAW website includes an annual calendar of events that is updated as required. The following sections describe most of the annually recurring events. The dates, locations, signup requirements, and other information are provided in advance at monthly meetings and via email.

Annual Club Pot Luck Lunch

Every year the club holds a pot luck lunch, usually at the regular YEI meeting site. The club provides a main dish, soft drinks and coffee, as well as plates and utensils. Members are asked to bring a side dish as suggested in the email invitation. Reservations are required.

Annual Holiday Dinner

PAW holds an annual dinner in December at a local establishment to celebrate the holiday season. This dinner replaces the regular monthly meeting for December and is open only to PAW club members and their spouses. Members must register and pay for their menu choices in advance to ensure that sufficient seating and food is available.

All participating members are asked to turn a small object, often a holiday ornament, for exchange at this dinner, although participation is optional. This is a good time for spouses to meet other club members and other spouses. Please plan to attend this fun social event.

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Raffles

Starting in 2025 a prize drawing will be held at the end of each monthly meeting. **A lucky name will be drawn at random from those that have used their barcode to scan into the meeting.** You must be present to win!

Community Support

PAW provides support for the following organizations.

Empty Bowls

Each year, PAW members donate wooden bowls for the annual Empty Bowls fundraiser. This charitable event is held outside at the Yavapai County Courthouse Square in downtown Prescott. Soups are prepared by local chefs and local artists donate ceramic and wooden bowls for this event. For a nominal donation, the public can select and keep a donated bowl and be served two bowls of soup (served in disposable bowls, not the donated bowls). Funds raised help support Yavapai County Food Banks.

Information about this event can be found at prescott-empty-bowls.square.site. PAW encourages all members to contribute one or more bowls every year. The dates and criteria will be announced at a monthly meeting and via email. Bowls are collected at a monthly meeting prior to the event for delivery to the organizers.

Beads of Courage

The non-profit Beads of Courage program provides supportive care for children coping with serious illnesses in more than 300 hospitals worldwide. When children undergo a medical procedure, they are awarded a bead. PAW members support the child's courage by donating turned lidded containers to store their beads and most of the PAW donations are given to children in Phoenix area hospitals. A PAW member collects the donated items throughout the year and periodically delivers them to a Beads of Courage coordinator. For information about the program go to www.beadsofcourage.org. Woodturning guidelines are available at www.beadsofcourage.org/bead-bowls.

Prescott Kiwanis

Some years, PAW members have donated turned items to the Prescott Kiwanis for their annual live auction. A PAW member will collect items prior to the auction and deliver them to the Kiwanis organizer. Information is provided in advance at monthly meetings and via email. The Kiwanis website is at www.prescottkiwanis.com.

Club Sales Events

The club participates in two types of sales events:

1. Those that benefit the club financially to support the club's mission and;
2. Those that are educational and benefit the club recruiting process.

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The rules for club sales can be found on the PAW website in the Bylaws and Policy section, Policy 2, *Public Events*. Note that the PAW Board of Directors may revise the Sales policy and choose whether or not to participate in these events in some years. Club members will be informed at monthly meetings before the events.

Events Benefiting the Club

“Stocking Stuffer”: This event is the primary fund-raising event for the club. Usually held in December, inside at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center (Old Armory) on Gurley Street in Prescott, the sale supports the Yavapai County Sheriff’s Jeep Posse. All turned items are donated by members with proceeds benefiting club activities.

Educational and Recruiting Events

Mountain Artists Guild (MAG) Event: MAG usually arranges annual 2-day arts and crafts sales in May and August on the Yavapai County Courthouse Square in downtown Prescott. The PAW Board of Directors decides each year whether to participate in these events and notifies members in advance at monthly meetings and via email. Club members provide live lathe demonstrations to promote woodturning and recruiting for the club and members may sell their items at these events.

Help is always needed for these events on the square. Club equipment must be transported from the PAW storage shed at the YEI building, set up on the square, taken down after the event, and returned to the PAW storage shed. Sellers are required to help and non-seller volunteers are needed.

Holiday Show: This educational and recruiting event is usually held in November inside the Grace Sparkes Activity Center (Old Armory) on Gurley Street in Prescott, hosted by the Mountain Spinners and Weavers Guild. PAW members may sell their items at this event.

This show is held inside, lasts only one day, and includes items from local fabric arts and woodturning artisans. Live lathe demonstrations are not allowed but PAW members provide displays of woodturning activities and answer questions about the art as part of the PAW recruiting effort.

Prescott Farmers Market: PAW is periodically invited to participate as a local artist, usually once or twice a year. Members give live lathe demonstrations for educational and recruiting purposes. Sometimes members donate woodturned items to sell for the benefit of the club and sometimes members may sell for their own benefit. These events and details are announced in advance at monthly meetings and via email.

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Mentoring Program

PAW 'Mentors' help new members understand club activities as well as offer guidance with turning skills and equipment purchases. Mentors also assist other club members with turning techniques and guidance as requested. Mentors are highlighted and easily identified on the Club Roster.

Most of us learn to turn, or increase our skills, by working with an individual whose skill level is higher than our own. With this thought in mind several members have offered to be mentors. A list of mentors and their special interests is available on the PAW website.

Scholarships

PAW has a scholarship program to help promote and improve personal skills in woodturning. One scholarship may be offered each year to a club member who has been a member in good standing for at least two complete years. A written request must be submitted to the Board of Directors and scholarships will be awarded in the spring. The complete details and requirements may be found on the PAW website in the Bylaws and Policies section, Policy 4, *Scholarships*.

Vendor Discounts

Some local and national woodturning supply vendors offer discounts for PAW member purchases. See the PAW website for a list of vendors and their discount amounts. You may be required by the vendor to show your current year PAW name tag to receive the discount.

College Woodturning Classes

Yavapai College offers college credit woodturning classes at the Prescott campus. These classes are for students with all levels of experience. Many PAW members have taken these classes and found them to be very helpful. More information may be found at www.yc.edu or by asking a PAW Board Member for the current contact person. Sign up reminders are announced at PAW monthly meetings and via email.

Safety

Woodturning has inherent safety issues that can cause harm or death. PAW encourages all members and demonstrators to comply with the safety guidelines advocated by the American Association of Woodturners. See the PAW guidelines in Policy 6 – *Safety*. AAW publishes a Safety for Woodturners digital book that is available for free download to all AAW members and is filled with good advice and techniques. PAW includes a Safety Chair who is available to answer your safety questions. In addition, the well experienced PAW Mentors will be happy to provide safety guidance. Additionally, please note that by joining PAW you accept the "Hold Harmless Agreement" which can be found on the PAW website home page. Please learn and turn safely!

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Friendship and Camaraderie

Like any organization, PAW's success is dependent upon our members. In a survey of PAW members, one club member liked "the unparalleled experience with more attuned members giving willingly of their time in teaching new techniques to other members". Another member enjoyed "the social element united in an interest in craftsmanship".

Whether you're an experienced turner or looking for a new challenge, come join us at our meetings and events. Ask questions. Meet new friends and experience the satisfaction one gains by turning a work of art.

More Information

Learn more about the craft and art of woodturning by visiting:

PAW: www.prescottareawoodturners.com

AAW: www.woodturner.org