

Woodturners of North Texas



36 years



Next Meeting: Thursday, March 26th, 2026
Meeting Start: 6:30 PM. Come early to socialize.

IN-PERSON MEETING!!!

Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club

6013 Craig Street Fort Worth, Texas 76112

or Virtual meeting on the Internet.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86406929325?pwd=blpwZlBsNzU0RzBCQnkzbnhiTmhFQT09>

Peppermills

Pam Thompson

I have been actively woodworking for about 25 years. I knew that if my 4 poster bed was going to have any "posts" that I would have to learn to turn them myself. I always tell people that I "turn" to support my woodworking habit.

Turning bowls or any kind of hollow form has never interested me. My interests run to decorative items such as bed posts, table legs, Shaker rocking chairs, trees, and most of all - pepper mills. They seem to hold endless design and creative possibilities. I decorate my kitchen

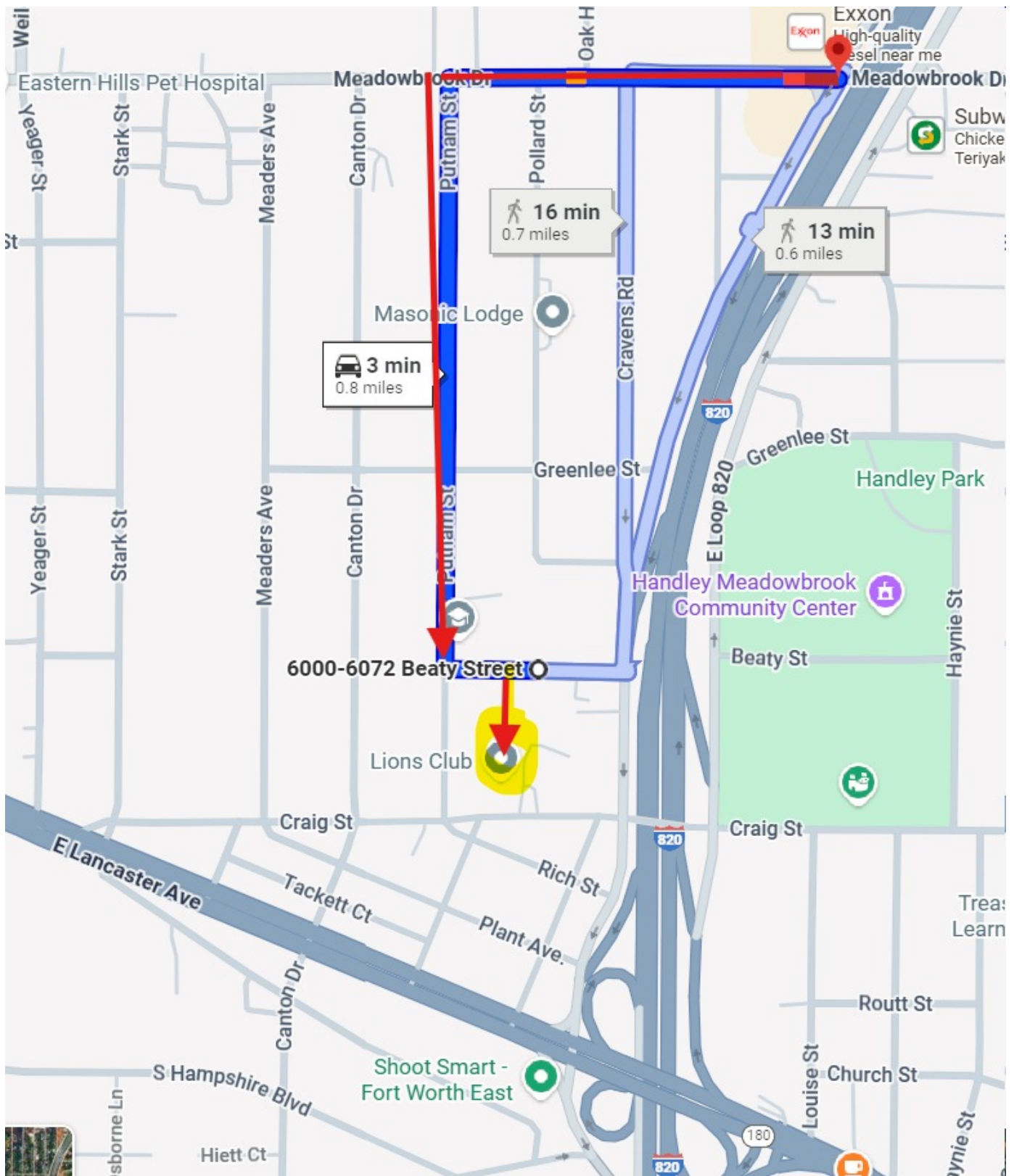
with them and if you send me a wedding invitation, you will most likely receive a pepper mill and some sort of salt pig.

FYI, did you know that the term salt pig comes from Scotland? It comes from the Scottish word “pygg” that is an unglazed ceramic vessel. It wasn’t glazed so that it could absorb moisture from the salt and keep it usable.

The hardest part of making a pepper mill is drilling accurate hole sizes. The turning design is completely up to you. Of course there are certain rules that have to be followed, but you can make the design as ornate or as simplistic as you want.

Hopefully there will be time to show how several different types of pepper mills are assembled and also some major design flaws that I have managed to create over the years.

Construction is ongoing so the back entrance will likely be used.



Please note our web site is continuing to be refined. **Take a look** 🌀:

[URL: https://wntx.org/](https://wntx.org/)

To get help with your woodturning project, please go to our **Mentor page** at:

<https://wntx.org>

Click Mentor tab for details

Also you can have a discussion before our meeting or during a break.

[Lions Club Teardown](#)

All tables must be put on the rack unless instructed not to.

All chairs can be placed on the wall (neatly) cushions out.

If the changes are modified for a specific evening it will be announced during the meeting.

The Woodturners of North Texas newsletter is published monthly. Inputs are due to the editor by the tenth of each month for inclusion in that month's newsletter.

WNT gives permission to all other AAW woodturning chapters, woodworking magazines, and newspapers to use any text material and accompanying photos or drawings contained herein for the benefit of woodturners everywhere. We ask that credit be given to the source of the material. WNT logos and graphics may not be copied without permission.

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WNT WEB SITE: <http://www.wntx.org/>

Board of Directors

President	Blake Hickerson	Cell 817-925-4160
Vice President	Bob Nelson	Cell 432-294-2089
Past President	Greg Stehle	Cell 480-225-4835
Treasurer	Lawrence Reid	Cell 817-706-8709
Librarian	Jim Barkelew	Cell 817-694-5208
Activities	Jeff Allen	Cell 817-706-4543
Newsletter	Steve Mills	Cell 817-471-5546
Secretary	Brian Begina	Cell 817-829-6106
Audio-Visual	Randy Sullivan	Cell 817-879-9489
Logistics	Bill Collins	Cell 817-797-6715
Web Master	Jim Legrand	Cell 228-342-3391
Member-at-Large	Ann Mellina	Cell 817-905-2040
Member-at-Large	Keith Adams	Cell 817-271-1617

Calendar of Events

March 26th Regular Monthly meeting 6:30 PM
Location: **Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club**
Demonstrator: Pam Thompson
Subject: TBD
Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86406929325?pwd=blpwZlBsNzU0RzBCQnkzbnhiTmhFQT09>

April 7th Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM
Location: **Remote - Zoom meeting**
Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83748506862?pwd=N3RtVUVzSjk3UGVGczRJVpTL1ZqQT09>

April 30th Regular Monthly meeting 6:30 PM
Location: **Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club**
Demonstrator: ?
Subject: ?
Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86406929325?pwd=blpwZlBsNzU0RzBCQnkzbnhiTmhFQT09>

Facebook

Have you worked long and hard on a project and want to show it off? Do you have a question about how to do something? Want to sell a tool that you no longer use? Need inspiration? Want to start a discussion? Have wood to share?

The club has an additional Facebook page where you can post anything woodturning related. It's a member's only page so you have to ask and be approved to join. Search Facebook for Woodturners of North Texas, (WNTX.org) Members Forum.

<https://www.facebook.com/wntx.org>



... making



Good
Shavings

President's Notes for March, 2026

Greetings,

If you may have missed my email earlier this week, it is with heavy heart that we have lost a faithful club member, Thomas (Tom) Echols. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Although a bit of a roller coaster in the weather, I hope everyone is taking advantage of the beautiful weather to get the projects you have been contemplating done before the weather heats up.

You will want to be in attendance this month for the SWAT scholarships to be given out. SWAT gives us one scholarship for a club member that has never been to SWAT before and the club also sponsors a scholarship that all members are eligible for, so you do not want to miss your opportunity to take advantage of getting your registration paid for.

For those who have never attended SWAT this is an opportunity to be inspired by the work others have done, which is exhibited in the instant gallery, attend informative demonstrations on how a turner completes projects, some you may have admired and wonder just how they do what they do. Then there is the trade show where vendors and manufacturers exhibit tools, wood, kits and anything else woodturning that you might think of that you may want or need for your woodturning.

Tommy Schutz will have some Osage (Bois d'arc) that has been harvested from the Osage reservation in Oklahoma at the meeting that he will be selling for \$5 a slab. He is also looking for someone who would turn him a bowl 8 - 12 inches in diameter 3/8 to 5/8 inches thick for a game that is a traditional Osage tribe ritual game.

If anyone is looking for some cedar let me know for I have quite a bit that a few of our members have picked up to turn and from what I have cut up is very pretty wood.

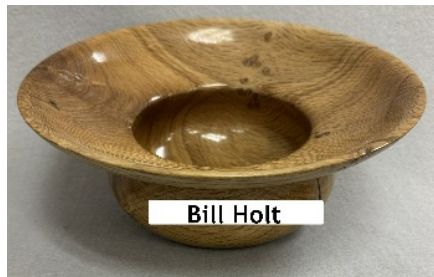
Blake

Who's Up For A Challenge?

Who is up for a challenge? For March, your challenge is to make something that is Easter themed. It can be anything: eggs, rabbits, baskets, or something else, just as long as it is related to Easter. Added color will be considered a bonus!

Happy turning,
Bob Nelson

Last Month's Challenge





Randy Sullivan



Randy Sullivan



**Art by Dewey Johnson
Turning by A. Melina**



Bob Grinstead



Bob Grinstead



Bob Grinstead



Bob Grinstead



Stephen Hill



Stephen Hill



Stephen Hill



Stephen Hill



Corey Johnson



Jim Barkelew



Ron Traylor



Ray Apodaca



Ray Apodaca

Critique & Display



Jim Combs



Jeff Allen



**Bob
Grinstead**

2026 SWAT SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED

SWAT scholarships for 2026 will be awarded at the March 26 monthly meeting.

Members present who have paid their 2026 dues will be eligible to participate in the drawings.

SWAT provides one \$230 scholarship for each participating club to award. It will be awarded to a member who has never attended SWAT. WNT will add a \$55 banquet ticket.

Woodturners of North Texas provides four members with a \$230 scholarship and a \$55 banquet ticket. One of these will be awarded to a member who has never attended SWAT.

Winners are responsible for their transportation and lodging expenses.

To all Members,

Open Shop- Home

This is a free once-a-quarter opportunity to get together at a member's personal shop to see their shop, exchange stories, possibly observe some skills or techniques and perhaps learn about a new toy (um Tool) or possibly receive some instruction from a club member.

This does not replace the existing quarterly open shop events held at the lion's club, before one of our regular meetings.

Keith is looking for volunteers to host an open shop at their home.

Currently, we have the following volunteers:

- 1. Randy Sullivan - Date TBD**
- 2. Lawerance Reed - Date TBD**
- 3. Stormy Boudreaux - Date TBD**

Please let Keith know if you are interested in sponsoring an event.

Be sure to bring some great stories about your woodturning adventures and possibly your favorite beverage or snack items to share as well. This is an informal meeting with no specific agenda other than a great time to meet with other club members.

Thank you,
Keith Adams
BOD - Member at large
Woodturners of North Texas

Librarian Notes
(librarian@WNTX.org)

Ebony

I suspect that every turner has a prized chunk, slab, log, or FOG wood that is waiting for the perfect project. One of my treasures is a 1x2x12 piece of ebony that I can't even remember when I bought it. Making finials or knobs would require an equal work of art to attach them to. My Dad played an ebony clarinet that is a worthy use of a scarce resource.

Ebony, genus "*Diospyros*", is a combination of density, workability, and beauty that has made it a treasure from ancient Egypt to a humble woodturner needing a finial. Harvesting an ebony tree was a challenge with only an axe. Chainsaws and global trade made ebony widely available (and still expensive).

Texas Ebony: "*Ebenopsis ebano*" is a different species used for landscaping in the American Southwest. It is native around the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The strong demand for the various *Diospyros* woods along with a limited growth area drives up the price. The ebony tends to grow by itself rather than vast forests. It also takes a long time to mature (50 to 100+ years) so replenishing the harvest is slow.



Surplus magazines, DVD's, and books are available at club meetings for free or a small charge (books).

There are many excellent curated resources on the [AAW website](#). This is a major benefit of becoming a member of AAW.

The WNTX on-line library is currently offline to address a security issue and future usefulness for the club.

Important note: Be aware that some turning videos found on random web searches may contain unsafe and potentially dangerous methods. Safety education is a vital part of turning.

EMPTY BOWLS

The Empty Bowls Event is a two-hour, lunch time fund raising event held once a year by the Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB). All tickets include food tastings from local restaurants and your selection of a handcrafted bowl. They have wood, glass, and ceramic bowls. Tickets for the event are \$125 or \$150 for early admittance. If you get in early, you get first pick for your bowl. The next Event will be held on Friday, April 24, 2026. The last Event raised over \$300,000 and tickets were sold out.

We had a great response last month and brought in 56 bowls. That gets us to more than we had last year at this time. Thanks for all your donations.

The WNT Board has agreed that Empty Bowls is a very worthy activity and should be supported by the Club. Our Club contributes almost all of the wood bowls and provides a top turning demonstration at the event.

I will be collecting bowl donations at our monthly meetings.

Please only contribute Quality bowls. The people attending the EB Event are paying a healthy sum and we should not insult them with a poor-quality bowl.

If you have any questions or comments, please let me know at randkbiz@msn.com.

Thanks,
Ron Traylor

Empty Bowls 2025/2026

<u>Turner's Name</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bill Holt			11		28
Dewey Johnson			22		27
Blake <u>Hickerson</u>	2		1		26
Jim <u>Barkelew</u>			7		15
David <u>Balch</u> 11 small					14
Ron <u>Traylor</u>	2		1		10
Ron Howe					9
Ann <u>Melina</u>					7
Bob <u>Grinstead</u>			4		7
Randy Sullivan			2		6
Greg <u>Stehle</u>					5
Danny Woods					5
Jim Combs			3		5
Steven Hill			4		5
Jeff Allen					4
Steve Mills					3
Travis Clayton					2
No Signature					1
Gordon <u>Kayser</u>	1				1
Dave Wilson					1
Brad Pearson					1
?					1
Sandy <u>Jarrell</u>			1		1
Monthly Total	5	0	56	0	
Grand Total					184

DID YOU KNOW ?

During a conversation with our financial advisor, I learned when you are required to take a minimum distribution from a qualified 401K, IRA, Etc you can make a Qualified Charitable distribution to an organization like The Woodturners of North Texas being a 501(c)3 and save paying tax on that amount at the same time it counts toward the minimum distribution.

If you have question please discuss with your financial planner or tax specialist for specific details.

Blake



[SWAT February Newsletter](#)

[SWAT Homepage](#)

Affiliate Membership **FREE** Worldwide

The **free** Affiliate membership offers access to the complete collection of AAW online resources, including the *American Woodturner* journal, for a **full three-months**.

Free: Affiliate Membership

Membership features:

- Online access to *American Woodturner* and Woodturning **FUND**amentals, both current and archived, as well as other online publications.
- Online access to learning portals including Woodturning Fundamentals and Demonstrator Direct (develop a demonstration).
- Online access AAW produced videos and video series.
- Find online projects, articles, and tips using AAW Explore! and a few keywords.
- Locate a wide selection of curated online woodturning videos that have been pre-screened for quality content and safety using Video Source and a few keywords.
- Members-only or discounted access to AAW hosted online and live events, including AAW symposia.
- AAW email newsletters: AAW Tool Box (weekly), Keep Turning with AAW (bimonthly).
- Member galleries for inspiration and ideas: Maker Photo Gallery, AAW Forum Gallery, and more.
- Directories: Members, Chapters, Demonstrators, Schools, Educators, and more.
- Discounts in AAW online store.

Support these businesses that support us



10% discount to current Woodturners of North Texas members.

<http://www.woodworldtx.com/>

13650 TI Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75243
(972) 669-9130



10% discount to current Woodturners of North Texas members.

<http://www.rockler.com/>

3810 S. Cooper St.
Arlington, TX 76015
(817) 417-0070

Craft Supplies
[woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com)

1-800-551-8876



10% discount to current Woodturners of North Texas members.

<http://www.woodcraft.com/>

754 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054
682-334-1025

Penn State Industries

<https://www.pennstateind.com>

1-800-377-7297

The Regular Monthly Meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month at 6:30PM in person or via Zoom.

Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM on Zoom. All WNT members are invited to attend.

If you would like to attend the Board meeting, email your request to Blake Hickerson president@wntx.org

Anchorseal®

The club has purchased a 55-gallon drum of Anchorseal sealant for green wood and it is available to members for \$15.00 per gallon. It is available at the club meetings.

Rules for advertisements: Free ads are available only to WNT members. The deadline for submission or cancellation of an ad is the 10th of the month to be placed in that month's newsletter. Ads will only run for one issue unless notified (email wntnewsletter@gmail.com) by the 10th of the month. Also, if you decide to cancel an ad, please notify the editor (have you spotted the trend yet?) by the 10th of the month.