

## Arizona Woodturners Association -- President's Message -- July, 2016

Good Afternoon Woodturners,

The year is about half over, and looking back as President, it has gone fast. When I took office, I had a list of expectations for myself and my fellow officers. My fellow officers are doing great, but I am struggling. Two of the biggest items on our agenda are the new bylaws and new video system. More on those in a minute.

We now have an equipment manager to coordinate getting equipment to and from events. That should really help distribute the load.

Pete continues to go a great job with the library. Marvin has done an outstanding job with the website, and it continues to get better all the time. We are constantly working on the members only page to add value to the site.

Ana has risen to prominence with the AWA as the coordinator for all the video for the National Symposium. Hats off to her. It is a huge job, and she is doing great.

We are still working on the video, but this is right up Ken Northern's wheelhouse, and we will have more information soon.

The other big project is our Mentor Program. We have been trying for some time to get it up and running, and we are making progress. For now, if you have a need for a mentor, or can be a mentor, please feel free to post to our AWA Google Group, and we will get you hooked up.

The biggest item that is pressing on us right now is the adoption of the updated bylaws. As a 501c(3), there are very strict rules/filings we must adhere to. We have been operating under bylaws that do not meet the scrutiny of law. As such, Ken has been working on updating them and making sure they meet the requirements of the law.

Many of the changes were semantics. There is one big change in how we operate. The officers must be overseen by a board that will meet and audit the books. The officers and board are separate. More details are in the bylaws as to which group has to vote on spending certain amounts of money, etc.

I have attached them to this e-mail. Please read them as soon as possible. We will be presenting them to the club for a formal vote of adoption by August at the latest. We will announce it in advance.

Finally, I have been dealing with some family issues as my dad is terminally ill, and I will not be at the July Meeting. The good news is that I was able to turn an urn for him from a big chunk of Mesquite I had, and I am presenting it to him tomorrow so he can see it before he passes.

I will see you all in August. Thank you to the other officers for handling things in my absence.

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Turn safe,

Dale Gillaspay  
President,  
Arizona Woodturners Association