

**BY-LAWS FOR THE MAINE CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS.
(MAINE WOODTURNERS)**

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as of 9/17/08

ARTICLE I - ORGANIZERS AND LOCATION

The Chapter organizer is David Lancaster.
His address is : 166 Weeks Road, Weeks Mills, Maine 04358
Daytime telephone number is (207) 445-4758

The area from which we expect to draw members is the state of Maine.

ARTICLE II OFFICES

The principle meeting place of this chapter is located in the Erskine Academy.

ARTICLE III RELATION OF CHAPTER TO
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS, INC.

It is suggested that all members of this Maine Woodturners Chapter agree to be members in good standing of the American Association of Woodturners, Inc.

While it is understood that the parent organization will provide advice and counsel, as requested, The Maine Chapter is advised that its nature and extent of its activities are left to its discretion. Demonstrations, while probably part of the activities of the Maine Chapter, are conducted solely at the discretion of the Maine Chapter officers, and all safety and instruction is under their explicit direction and control.

The national office strongly recommends placing some sort of sign or notice on or around any lathe used for demonstration; that safety eye protection must be worn and a full face shield when needed. Use a dust mask and wear hearing protection. The lathe is a potentially dangerous instrument only to be used with Chapter Approved supervision.

ARTICLE IV PURPOSES

The Chapter's purposes, in addition to supporting the general purposes of the parent organization are: 1. To provide a meeting place for local woodturners; 2. To share ideas and techniques regarding this craft; 3. To trade woods; 4. To exchange ideas about tools; 5. To encourage and educate new comers to wood turning; and 6. To encourage community acceptance of wood-turning as an art and as a craft.

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

A. Fees. Annual individual membership fees for this Chapter will be \$ 30.00, family membership will be \$40.00, and student membership will be free.

B. Honored Membership. From time to time the Board of Directors will identify an individual member of good standing who has made significant and long-term contributions to the benefit of the membership of Maine Woodturners. These contributions may include, but is not limited to: giving multiple demonstrations, holding office, providing leadership, attracting new members, or mentoring those less skilled. With a successful majority vote from the board the member will receive the title "Honored Member"; and his/her dues will be considered paid for life. The board will make the designations as the situations arise.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December. In addition it is anticipated that there will be an informal meeting during the summer at a location other than Erskine Academy. The President will submit and obtain approval of his anticipated agenda for the year from the Board of Directors at the Board meeting preceding the September Membership meeting. It is anticipated that there will be a minimum of two meetings involving demonstrators/presenters, one in the fall (October) and one in the spring (March).

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS

A. Number and Election. The Officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the Chapter's paid-up members present at the time of the vote. The President and Vice President will be elected in the even number calendar years; the Secretary and Treasurer will be elected in

the odd number calendar years. Elections will take place at the May meeting of the Maine Woodturners. Nominations will be made from the floor.

B. Term of Office. Each Officer shall hold office for two years.

C. Removal. Any Officer elected may be removed when it is deemed that the best interest of the Chapter would be best served by such removal. This would be accomplished by a majority vote of the paid-up members who are present at the time of the vote, providing at least 50% of the paid-up members are present.

D. Vacancies. A vacancy in any Office maybe filled by a majority vote of the members, or if agreed upon by the members, by a majority vote of Board of Directors.

E. President. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Chapter. His duties include: 1. Prepare an annual agenda for the Chapter's activities to be submitted to the Board of Directors for their approval; 2. Supervision of the implementation of the business and affairs of the Chapter; 3. Conduct Chapter meetings; 4. Provide guidance to the Board of Directors; 5. See to the performance of duties of the other Officers.

F. Vice President. The Vice President shall be responsible for carrying out the agenda by the President and approved by the Board of Directors for all Chapter activities. In the absence of the President or in the event of his death, inability, or to act the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. In addition he / she shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be delegated to him by the President. It is hoped that the Vice President will be nominated for the Presidency at the election following his term as Vice President.

G. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep records of all business meetings and election results. It is his/her job to maintain written records of the Chapters business affairs. In addition it is the Secretary s responsibility to see to the delivery of all notices to the full membership, including changes in meeting schedules. It is anticipated that the Secretary will delegate the bulk of the workload to various members of the Board of Directors and/or the Chapter membership.

H. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect all membership fees and all other monies belonging to the Chapter. In addition the Treasurer will be responsible for keeping current and accurate records that flow through the Chapter. In general the Treasurer shall perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the President.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall be composed of seven members including the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Maine Woodturners plus two "At Large" members. The Chairman of the Board will be the immediate past President. In the event he/she is not available to serve, the standing officers will submit a nomination to be voted on by the full membership.

The Board of Directors purpose is to set policy and direction of the Maine Woodturners and to reduce the amount of time devoted by the full membership to the business of the Maine Woodturners. The Board of Directors shall report the results of its actions to the membership at the scheduled meetings of the Maine Woodturners.

In preparation for these reports the Board will meet at a time and place agreed upon by its members. It is suggested that these meetings will take place prior to and at the site of the scheduled membership meeting. These meetings are open to the full membership so long as non-board members respect the Board's need to conduct business in an orderly and efficient fashion.

The Chairman of the Board with the agreement of the President can cancel a regular meeting of the Board. It will be their joint responsibility to notify all other Board members.

At Large Members will have a two-year term unless: 1. he/she is elected to one of the four principal offices of the Chapter; or 2. he/she voluntarily resigns. At Large members can be proposed by any standing officer or the Chairman of the Board and appointed by agreement of the standing officers.

All meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any member and all members are encouraged to participate.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

These by-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new by-laws may be adopted by a vote of a simple majority of the qualified members of the Chapter

ARTICLE X ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

In the unlikely event that the Maine Woodturners should ever vote to disband the chapter it is hereby stipulated that (after payment of all extant chapter liabilities) all assets of the chapter be passed to the woodworking program at Erskine Academy.

AMENDMENTS

- (A) Article V amended to read \$30 instead of \$25. (Date unknown.)
- (B) Article III to read (**Suggested that** all members etc.) (September 15, 2004)
- (C) Article V amended. Added family membership \$40.00, and student membership, free. (October 20, 2004)
- (D) Article VI amended to include January as a meeting month. (September 17, 2008)
- (E) Article V amended to add Honored Member status. (September 17, 2008)
- (F) Article X added to deal with allocation of funds should Maine Woodturners dissolves. (September 17, 2008)