

**From:** Lawrence J. Genender, M.D., FACS  
**Sent:** Tue 4/3/2007 11:34 AM  
**To:** rlehrbass@masterplan-inc.com  
**Subject:** Information Piece Re: Return to the Community Project

Hello Rodney,

The AAW would like to remind the membership about the Return to the Community Project. This is a service activity in which the woodturning community can express its gratitude to the city that hosts our annual Symposium. This year the AAW chapters in the Portland area have selected the Doernbecher Childrens Hospital as the recipient of the project.

Doernbecher Childrens Hospital cares for youngsters from all over the Pacific Northwest and is an excellent facility. It is another one of those hospitals that is bursting at the seams with patients. The age of the patients run from neo-natal to teenagers. If you have an opportunity to visit the hospital while you are here you will find it a very cheerful, but sobering experience. Any toy that kids can play with, turned or otherwise, will be gratefully appreciated. Suggestions include finger tops, pull string tops, toy cars and trucks, as well as rattles for the little ones, but we are certain that the ingenuity of AAW members will produce some inventive toys. One word of caution: these kids are often very sick and sensitive to lots of things. As a result of the medications that they receive they often become extra sensitive. So, any finish that is put on the toys should be as neutral as possible and digestible. We suggest mineral oil as a finish. If you have something else, that is fine, but the finish on all toys needs to be identified.

The Pacific Northwest chapters of AAW wish to thank all woodturners in advance for the work that they will be contributing to the hospital for the use and enjoyment of the children, and look forward to being the local hosts for the upcoming Symposium.