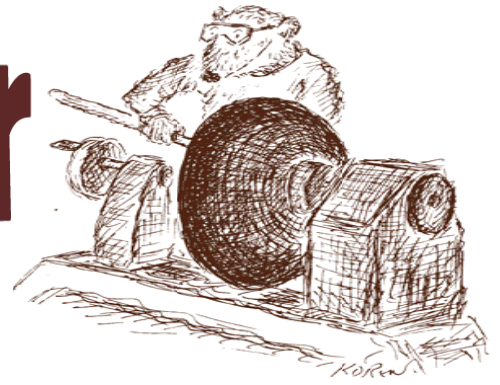


Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners



June 10, 2012

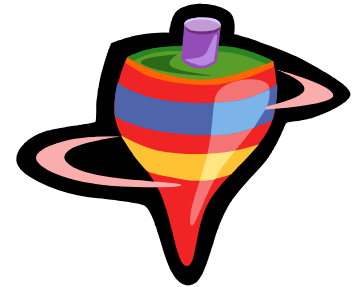
Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org

Volume 9 issue 6

June Meeting: Wednesday, the 20th At Woodworking School

Spinning Tops—Joe Laferriere And Barry Genzlinger

That's the subject of our scheduled demo. We are back at the Woodworking School in Fairfax this month. Once again, bring something for the Silent Auction or the monthly raffle. Had some good turnings? Bring some for Show and Tell. What about problem projects? Questions which need answers? Bring them on!



Minutes of the May Meeting—Toby Fulwiler

MINUTES OF WOOD- CHUCK MEETING, May 16, 2012



7:00 Meeting at *Ted Fink's Workshop* in Shelburne (Woodchuck School closed for cleaning), President **Nick Rosato** calls the meeting to order, welcomes the group, and begins introductions, with members remembering the first lathe they made curls with. He reports the results of the written club survey conducted last month with



members favoring 1) demonstrations and 2) show and tell among club activities. Highly requested was a session on "tool sharpening" which **Dick Montague** promptly volunteered to lead at the July meeting; also requested would be a Saturday session with a guest turner and more demos on hollow form turning.

The club picnic will be September 1 at **Russ Fellows** with **Al Stirt** as guest presenter.

The club booth at the Vermont Woodworking Festival will be on September 19, with all members wel-

come to participate. More on this later.



Ted Fink passes out copies of the latest *Hartville Tool Catalogue*, reminding us of their 15% club member discount.

Arny Spahn's next profile subject will be Tom Dunne (who was promptly photographed).

(Continued on page 6)

Inside This Issue:	
Woodchuck Board Info.	2
Random Shots: Everything's on Sale	2
The President's Turn	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Rough Around the Edges	3
Mentor List	4
Sharpening Bandsaws?	4
Woodchuck Profile	5
2112 Design Competition	5
Vermont Colored Plywood	7
Resource Section	10
Greetings From Skunk Hollow	10
AAW News	11
From Virginia & Texas	12
Liability Insurance	13
Demo Schedule	13
Classified Ads	13

Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont Board of Directors

President: Nick Rosato
The Sculpted Tree
150 West Canal Street Unit 3
Winooski, VT 05404
802-999-2976
nickrosato@gmail.com

Vice— President: Michael Perron
656 Pollander Rd.
Jeffersonville, VT 05464
802-644-8947
onceturned@gmail.com

Secretary: Toby Fulwiler
1941 Ridge Rd.
Fairfield, VT 05455
802-827-3779
toby.fulwiler@UVM.edu

Treasurer: Ted Fink
PO Box 850
Shelburne, VT 05482
802-985-2923
tjfturnings@gmail.com

Member-At-Large &
Newsletter Editor: Arny Spahn
Reporter, Assistant Editor,
and Proof Reader:
Cil Spahn
1626 Hebard Hill Rd.
Randolph, VT 05060
802-728-4799
apspahn@comcast.net

Member-At-Large: Craig Hall
823 Westman Rd.
Cambridge VT 05444
Phone: 802-644-5344
craighall@hotmail.com

Member-At-Large: Ralph Tursini
1011 Cady Hill Rd.
Cambridge VT 05444
Phone: 802-644-5131
info@vermont.woodturning.com

Every where I go or browse, everything is on sale. I get ten emails a day from suppliers of all kinds, telling me that I can get 10%, 15%, 20% off. I get the feeling that corporations have discovered that a sale is their only way to compete; that full retail is too much for folks to pay.

It used to be that you knew that every supermarket had loss leaders at least once a week, usually on a predictably slow day like Wednesday. Today, they have week-long "specials".

Coldwater Creek, which specializes in women's clothes, bombards us with a different sale at least daily, and some-

times two times in a day. Garrett Wade has been ending one sale and starting another sale on what are best described as gadgets on subsequent days.

The main tool suppliers which I order from send out flyers every few days, always with tempting stuff advertised.

I guess that's the new normal. In my opinion, I need to concentrate on buying what I really need and not being tempted by every on-sale specialized gadget. In his column, Nick talks about a pair of tools which really are useful to him. He makes a living (I assume that he earns more than his woodworking costs him, un-

like me.) with his tools. So, he's justified in spending for top-grade tools especially if they show up on sale.

This discussion reminds me of a story. Two vacationing gentlemen meet at a center in Florida. One is relaxed, the other is obviously hassled & is constantly making phone calls. The first one asks what the problem is. The hassled one says, "I'm having a 'going out of business sale' and I'm trying to do a deal so I can buy a store for my son so he can go out of business for himself."

Well, I've got to get back to work.

Arny

The President's Turn—Nick Rosato

I have been president of the WTNV for about a half a year, but it seems shorter. I'll be 32 years old this year and have noticed an increase in the pace of life. Two months feels like one. A week feels like a day. I wonder what happens at 40.

Here are some updates on a few ongoing agenda items.

Newsletter: Arny has been working long hours compiling our newsletter, for which we all appreciate. I had submitted our newsletter into an AAW competition for the best newsletter. Unfortunately our newsletter didn't win. However, that doesn't dismiss what it means for our club. I've especially enjoyed the member profiles and hope members continue to participate. And as always, feel free to submit some tid-bit of info to Arny to put into the newsletter.

Jim Phelan has worked long hours on our website and put a lot of thought into its functionality. We've come to realize that a website is not what our membership wants to spend time on, which is nothing to frown upon. It's just the way it is. So we've decided to use the site primarily as an informational page about our club without a lot of bells and whistles. It will also be a depository for the newsletter. The specific details have not been

hashed out, but there will be changes coming.

I've been researching demonstrators to come for a weekend demo. I'm trying to find someone to teach hollow-forms, because according to the survey that's what most of our members would like to learn. I will keep you posted.

Our club picnic is scheduled for September 1st at Russ Fellows' shop in Jericho. Al Stirt will be attending and doing a demonstration and critiquing members' work. We will also have food to eat and beverages to drink.

This month's demonstration will be conducted by Barry Genzlinger and Joe Laferriere. They will discuss and show how to make spinning tops. And we may be able to get a round of Spinature Golf in too, so bring your spinning clubs. If you have produced any spinning tops bring them along so we can see them too.

On July 18, Dick Montague will be demonstrating and discussing tool sharpening.

If anyone else has a particular skill they would like to share at one of our meetings please get in touch with an officer. We would like to have more members share their wisdom so we can all benefit!

That's it for now. Happy turning!

Nick

Some days in the shop require a heavy dose of sanding. I produce cutting boards and serving platters that require hours of sanding, which I accomplish with a Festool Rotex 125 sander. This piece of plastic and metal performs like a champ. It is a 5" random-orbit disc sander with two modes. One mode is designed to take off a minimal amount of wood and leave a scratchless smooth surface. With the click of a thumb switch the other mode kicks in with an aggressive cutting attitude. I use the aggressive mode when sanding with 80, 120, and 180 grit. I click the switch and use the finishing mode for 220 and sometimes 320.

The dust collection on this hog is remarkable. I purchased a Festool CleanTech Mini vacuum to go along with the sander. The two work together as well as a Gibson Les Paul guitar with a Marshall amplifier. (For more on that combo give a listen to Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, or Slash.) The vacuum system connects to a dust-port at the rear of the sander. The power of the suction can be adjusted by a knob on the vacuum. With the vacuum all the way up I can lift a small

platter off the table. I generally cruise at half power and it collects a vast majority of the dust.

Another great thing about the Rotex is the name. I love tools that have a badass name. Think of Grizzly (my favorite) or Powermatic. One-way is kind of soft on the ears like the sound of snow hitting a blade of grass. I want my machinery to not only work aggressively, I want it to sound aggressive when I refer to it. For my table saw I use Freud saw blades. Makes me think I should be all psychoanalytical toward my table saw: "Deep down you do love wood even though you rip it apart."

A quick look through a Rockler (another winner) catalog led me to some more revelations. Rockwell Jaw Horse HD RK9000 Workbench System. Anything with an unnecessarily huge number in its name gets points. And Jawhorse is right up there with Grizzly.

Dovetail. How sweet. Sounds like something someone should receive on Valentine's Day.

Dolly. Lipstick with that?

Kreg Pocket Hole System. Points for Kreg, but keep my pockets intact.

Dovetail Setup Jig. (Insert annoying buzzer sound.)

Bench Cookie. Bench Cookie Plus. And Bench Cookie Cones. Really? Baking in the woodshop.

Anyway. A particularly painful part of my sanding process is edge sanding. I cut the perimeter shape on a bandsaw, which leaves a rough surface on the edges of the platters. I've tried using a router to cut the edges smooth, but it ended up being more time consuming than what I do now. I put a Jacobs chuck into the head stock of my lathe with a 3" firm hook-and-loop sanding disc. I use 80 grit first and run the edges of the platters along the spinning disc. A dust collection hose is right next to the head-stock, which catches a vast majority of the dust. I use this technique for 80 and 120 grit. I then transfer the platters to a vise attached to my work bench. I use cloth backed 80 grit paper to round the sharp edges and then go through the grits by

(Continued on page 4)

Treasurer's report April 2012

Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward	\$1979.25
Income	
Raffle	32.00
Dues	25.00
Expenses	
none	
Balance Forward	\$2036.25
Ted Fink	
Treasurer	

The board of directors of WTNV gratefully acknowledges receipt of 2012 dues from the following members :

Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Bill Blakeney, Larry Bose, Bob Bouvier, Michael Boylan, John Brislin, Dave Buchholz, Janet Collins, Greg Drew, Tom Dunne, Russ Fellows, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Ted Fink, Mike Fitzgerald, Toby Fulwiler, Tyler Gebhardt, Barry Genzlinger, Al Gilbert, Edd Gross, Brian Hehir, Kevin Jeness, Joe Laferriere, Sherb Lang, Bob Martin, Gary A. Moreau, Sean Murray, Bill Nestork, Mickey Palmer, Michael Perron, Jim Phelan, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, John Reilly, Larry Rice, Nick Rosato, Bill Rowley, D. Edwards Smith, Nancy Smith, Ad-

am Solace, Ira Solace, Arny Spahn, Priscilla Spahn, Mike Sturges, Marybeth Tevis, John Tichonuk, Ralph Tursini, Bill Walsh, Bob Zeliff.
(Scott Bennett, Dick Montague, Michael Mode and Al Stirt are lifetime non paying members)

Dues for 2012 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to Ted Fink, PO Box 850; Shelburne, VT 05482.

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members. Video library use, mentoring program, Klingspor and Hartville Tool discount lists, bulk purchase discounts, Woodstock participation.

Woodchuck Mentors

These Woodchucks are able and willing to help other Woodchucks wanting some hands-on instruction.

Craig Hall: Bowls, spindles, & hollow forms.
802-644-5344
craighall@hotmail.com
Cambridge

Dick Montague: General turning, all aspects plus tool sharpening.
802-584-3486
Montagueturn@hotmail.com
Groton

Ralph Tursini: Spindles & bowls, vacuum chucking.
802-899-6863
info@vermontwoodturning.com
Cambridge

Ted Fink: Bowls, spindles, & boxes.
802-985-2923
jantedfink@gmail.com
Shelburne

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels.
802-899-3059
skunkmen@together.net
Jericho

Bill Walsh: tool sharpening
802-839-6332
billiriquois@yahoo.com
Northfield

Greg Drew: Tool skills. Finishes.. Portable mill & chainsaw work.
802-527-6207
personal-woodsmyme@yahoo.com
Georgia

(Continued from page 3)

hand along each of the four edges of the square platters.

I consider sanding by hand to be the workout portion of my day. Instead of going to the gym, I turn on some electronic music with a fast-paced, four-beat rhythm. I get into a groove and work that sand paper back-and-forth for an hour or two. You've got to be careful when experimenting with electronic beats, though. They have the potential to make you more energized than a shot of espresso followed by a Red Bull chaser. I get comfortable listening to trance; dub-step and house music don't really do it for me. Word to the wise: if you do experiment with electronic music and find yourself in a dark place, just follow it up with some Marvyn Gaye to even the keel.

One day I was in a bit of a hurry so I contemplated a new marketing campaign for my work. It is also a way to avoid a ton of sanding. I haven't seen products within this theme so I feel like I've got a strong marketing angle. I want to make salad bowls like this and serving platters and cutting boards and rolling pins and anything else that I just don't want to sand. I want to create a line of work called Rough Around the Edges. I can tell people that the reason I'm not sanding has nothing to do with the fact that sanding is boring and sucks on things we only say in private conversations. It's not that I'd rather avoid sanding at all costs. Instead of the truth, I could tell people the products are not sanded because that's what the marketing department told me to do.

In an age when discrimination is so alive in our social fabric, why discriminate

against the non-sanded?

It could be argued that non-sanding is better than poor sanding because at least you don't pretend to be good at it.

Here's one of my potential magazine advertisements. A family of four sitting at a dinner table. Husband is grimacing. Children have their elbows on the table with their chins in their hand. A non-sanded butternut bowl, furry with tearout, sits at the middle of the table. It's filled with wilted lettuce drenched in watery Italian dressing and sprinkled with brown grape tomatos. A tiger maple serving platter with a thin walnut stripe sits beside the bowl with a blotchy finish. A pile of charred chicken wings and meatloaf sit on the platter. The chicken has noticeable strands of gnarled-hair on its surface. Another hairy platter has a pile of undercooked white rice. The four members of this family represent the nucleus of America. The wood dinner plates in front of each person are so poorly sanded the texture resembles gravel. There is a slogan in big bold letters across the top of the page: Rough Around the Edges. At the bottom of the page in equal sized letters: Just Like Your Wife's Cooking. The way I figure, the marketing plan could help the business penetrate into certain rural communities.

For another magazine ad I'll use the same furry butternut bowl. The bowl is held by a man wearing red flannel and a Budweiser hat. The slogan above: Rough Around The Edges. The slogan below: Just Like Your Husband's Personality. I'm no marketing research guy, but I think I've got something here.

Nick

Sharpen Bandsaws???: Toby Fulwiler

Is it feasible economically to sharpen dull used bandsaw blades? It would make good ecological sense if this is possible. To that end, does anyone in our club have their bandsaw blades re-sharpened? If so, by what company? how successful is it? and how much does it cost? Thanks, Toby

I was born in Indianapolis, Indiana but grew up in southern Michigan, northwest of Detroit. I presently live in Middlebury, VT

We moved to Vermont for our primary residence after Katrina hit New Orleans, where I had lived for 33 years.

Sarah Ashe, my second wife, is also an artist, doing painting and paper and reed sculptural lamps. I have three children from my deceased first wife, Carol. They are; Andrew, Sarah and James. Sarah is married and has produced two grandsons, Jack and Wyatt.

I received my BS degree in mathematics, with a minor in physics, from the U. of Michigan and my MBA in finance from Harvard University.

I spent most of my working life as a financial executive with a construction company in New Orleans. I have been a studio artist full time since 1998.

I got into woodturning in the 1980's when a friend gave me an old lathe he had restored. All I had to do was pay the freight on it from Philadelphia to New Orleans.

I started playing around with the lathe and basically taught myself to turn by buying videos and making every mistake possible. After about ten years, I got interested in segmented turning and signed up for a three day course with Ray Allen in Yuma, Arizona in 1993. I learned a lot from just watching Ray. Subsequently, in 1999, I received a grant from AAW to spend a



week at Arrowmont in Tennessee where I studied with Ray Key and got my first real instruction in the basics of wood turning. Finally, in 2001, after I began teaching, I signed up for a four day session with David Ellsworth where I learned how to hollow turn and to teach students in group lessons with varying skill levels.

Most of my sales are through galleries and craft shows, but since Katrina, I have received a significant number of sales on commission from people who want to preserve a memory from a favorite tree. I prefer hollow thin wall vessels, and some sculptural turning, but out of economic necessity am forced to also make utilitarian work.

I listen to classical music on VPR in my shop.

I like to turn most burls, but prefer big leaf maple, madrone, cherry, mesquite and white birch when I can find it.

I like David Ellsworth's hollow forms and Bill Hunters' sculptural work from co-cobolo.

I have many hobbies; I play the cello in various chamber groups both in New Orleans and Vermont, I love to read, play tennis and ride my bike for exercise. I do some furniture making and with the help of fellow Woodchuck, Craig Hall, I recently finished making a curly maple/ cherry trestle dining room table. I also completed my first violin last year.

I spent 5 years in Peru/Ecuador as a Peace Corps volunteer/supervisor. I was formerly the director of Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans and helped found the Bayou Woodturners Club, AAW chapter in 1999. I am currently very involved with the Acorn Energy Co-op developing/ building community based solar arrays in the Addison County area.

I would like the club to consider bulk purchases of sanding supplies as well as the CA glue and Anchorseal.

Mike Mahoney's DVD on coring would be a good one for our library.

2012 Design Competition

Exercise your creativity! Part of the Fine Woodworking Festival in Woodstock is a design competition. The Festival will be held at Union Arena in Woodstock, VT September 29 & 30th. We will have a double booth at the Festival for exhibiting and selling the turned pieces of our members.

You are also encouraged to participate in the design competition which has 5 categories of woodwork. The 3 that would pertain to woodturning are:

Production Woodenware: Includes established lines of commercially sold

products. (i.e.

bowls, toys, games, gifts, utensils etc.)

Custom Woodenware: Includes one-of-a-kind (i.e. bowls, games, toys, games, gifts, utensils or furnishings that are not furniture or artistic works.

Carvings/Sculpture: Includes custom artistic turnings, carvings, instruments, boats, and other items not considered furniture or woodenware.

As a renter of a booth at the show the WTNV gets one free entry into the competition. (Entries prior to 6/1/12 are \$15 and \$25 thereafter)

You can win our 'free entry' by bringing your competition piece to the Wednesday September 19th 2012 WTNV meeting. The winning entry will be voted on by the members present.

You can download entry forms and view other information about the Design Competition at www.vermontwooddesigns.org

Ted Fink

7:35 Ted presides over the club raffle, with 16 members participating.

7:40 Show & Tell



Ted shows his father's epoxy/glass process vase.



Russ shows a large black-cherry bowl with an ugly black stain caused by a metal hook in the wood.



Arny shows a flower-shaped maple bowl finished with wipe-on poly.



Dick Montague shows a variety of small items including off-center garden stick and dirt dibbles.



Tom Dunne shows a delicate hollow form turned from big-leaf maple.



Mike Perron shows a honey dipper turned with a 'fluted' parting tool that avoids tear-outs, a bottle stopper/corkscrew, and a strong and reasonable screw chuck .



The parting tool.



Jim Holzschuh shows a black locust spalted burl bowl



Greg Drew shows small oak burl bowls.



Gerry Martin shows bowls turned from white birch and elm burls.



The Glaser screw chuck.



A corkscrew, primarily made of wood.

MULTI-COLORED PLYWOOD

There is a specialty plywood company in Rutland (<http://www.rutply.com/>) that makes a whole line of very unique products which may be of interest to some in our club? I have turned a couple bottle stoppers of this stuff and it works well and produces a beautiful finish. It is eye-catching too! When I had the bottle stop-

pers in a display at a show, they were the first ones to sell! The problem is that they have minimum order requirements that make it difficult for small businesses or hobbyists. Some members of Vermont WoodNet are now planning solve this problem by sharing an order to meet their minimum.

Take a look at their website. If you are interested in getting some, let me know.

Russ Fellows

May Demo: Ted Turns Platters

8:20 Demonstration of Sandwich Plates

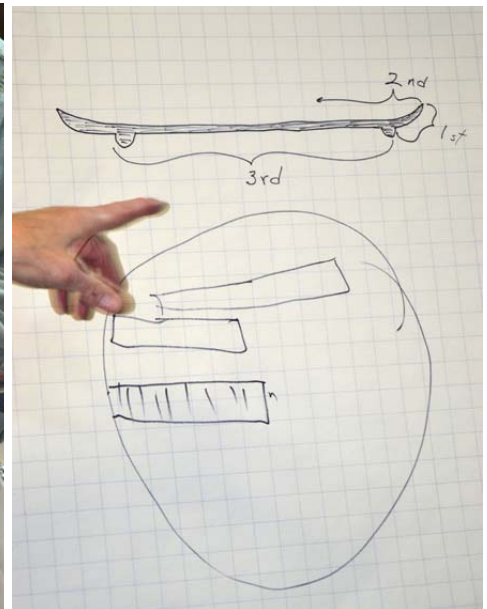
Ted Fink explains features of his shop design, including his custom tool holders and clever drawer system. Then a lucid demonstration on how to turn 12" and larger sandwich plates with raised rim and ringed bottom. Details from Ted.



A tool rack of PVC pipe. The angled cuts allow for quick return of the tools and instant draining of chips.



Matching a board before gluing to provide a symmetrical pattern.



Showing the differences in sawing boards out of a lock. The bottom illustration is quarter-sawn which provides the best stability and grain pattern for platters.



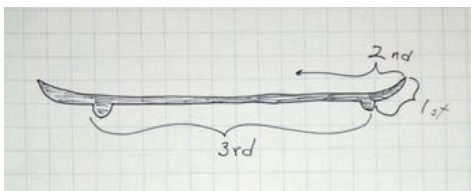
One of several drawer sets in Ted's shop. The recessed knobs keep from tangling power cords.



An example of quarter-sawn wood.



Ted glues a square block of hardwood on the base as a tenon for turning. It is centered to give maximum diameter of the platter from the board.



Showing the order of cuts on Ted's platters.



As promised, cookies and brownies are passed around.



1. Ted trues the rim, working from the back side to minimize tear-out.



2. Working up the outer perimeter of the plate.



3. Refining the rim with a detail gouge.



4. Starting to dig out the plate's surface.



5. Carving away at the plate.



6. Using a massive scraper at a steep angle to even out the plate's surface.



7. Ted uses a carpet-covered plywood plate as a jam chuck.



8. Centering up the platter before cutting the foot and the back side. All but the very center can be refined without moving the tail stock.



9. After sanding and coats of wipe-on poly, there you have it.

- 1) Lathrop Maple Supply, Hewitt Rd, Bristol, Vermont, 802-453-2897. With a newly expanded inventory area, Tom has a fantastic supply of local and imported wood. His new division, "Exclusively Vermont, LLC, specializes in high quality Vermont lumber and mill products and FSC stock is available.
- 2) Forest Products Associates, (www.forestproductsassociates.com), 75 Oak Hill Rd, Greenfield, MA, 01301, 413-772-6883. Located just over the line south of Brattleboro, this old family-run business has a great inventory of U S and imported lumber, and a big burl and exotic section as well. They are Vermont WoodNet members and are nice folks to deal with.
- 3) Northend Hardwoods, 31 Adams Dr. (off Williston Rd just before Industrial Ave) Williston VT, 802-864-3037. A full range of U S and imported woods, cabinet grade plywood, and a new department for turners with lots of thick, dry stock to choose from.
- 4) Sutherland Welles Ltd., No. Hyde Park, VT, 800-322-1245. (www.sutherlandwelles.com). Right here in our own backyard, they make the best Tung oil products in the U S. Call with an order and it goes out the same day!
- 5) Bad Dogs Burl Source, (www.burlsource.com) They are down in Belchertown, MA and have an incredible inventory of Australian and North American burls. 413-213-0248
- 6) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 7) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 8) Griffin Exotic Woods These folks came up in a search for something else, and I ended up buying a couple things from them. Their prices were fair and the service was good. <http://www.exoticwood.biz/>
- 9) Sinclair Mill Works in North Danville VT <http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm>. 802-748-0948. He specializes in figure Vermont species. His prices are very reasonable.
- 10) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 11) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 12) A website that sells only sanding supplies. (<http://www.2sand.com/>) Their prices are great and their service is super fast.
- 13) CA Glue Source—http://www.woodenwonderstx.com/ZC_WoodenWonders/

Greetings From Skunk Hollow—Russ Fellows

Greetings Fellow Woodchucks.

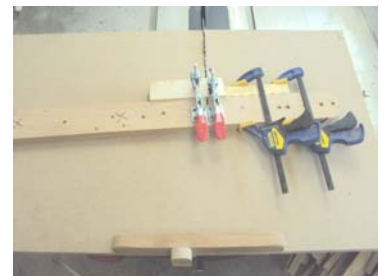
Things are slowly returning to normal at my home and studio in Skunk Hollow, Jericho. It has taken a year of work to make all the repairs and hopefully even improve on the way it was? I look forward to being able to host our annual picnic again in August!

I am also back at work full time in my studio and experimenting with some of the new things I talked about in my demo in May about multi-axis turning. For my Open Studio I made a few bottle stoppers with the Sorby wobble chuck. See picture # 1. I called them "Crazy Corks" for their eccentric look. I didn't sell any!!!! I did sell several of the "old" style though. The reason may have been due to the \$5 more I charged for the new ones? They take twice as long, so I thought it was fair. Next time I will try pricing them all the same and see what happens?

Another addition to my shop is a cutting sled (picture #2) for my table-saw using the aluminum runners I had talked about at a meeting earlier this year. I have used cutting sleds for years, but by carefully dialing in the fence on this new one, I am now able to more accurately produce, in quantity, much smaller sized segments than was possible previously. This has enabled me to make items with a lot more intricacy and detail. The zebra-wood, ebony, and bloodwood bowl in picture #3 has 628 pieces.

As always, visitors are welcome to stop by any time! Call first (802-343-0393 or 802-899-3059) just to be sure I am around. As I mentioned at both the May and June meetings, I plan to experiment more with multi-axis projects, so any of you who would like to learn with me, come on over.

I will be away for the June meeting, so see you in July!



Russ Fellows



It's all about the Chapter!

When you think about your journey in woodturning, it probably started simply enough. The 7th grade woodshop class was the beginning for many of us. For others it might have been the Freedom Pens at Woodcraft, Rockler, or other retailer. Often it is a turning demo at the county fair by one of the local chapters. Perhaps it was a neighbor, friend, or family member. Regardless of how you got hooked on woodturning, your point of contact with the AAW is usually through your local chapter. Being a chapter member is a key benefit of being an AAW member.

With 14,500 members and 350 plus chapters, the AAW has the Saint Paul offices and staff as a focal point. However, that focal point exists only to serve the chapters and members. It is a communications hub. The whole purpose is to keep the membership and chapters supported. The flow of programs, information, and services to the membership and chapters is the entire focus of the Saint Paul staff.

When you think of your own reason for woodturning, whether it be for relaxation, a part-time hobby/business, or a full-time occupation, give some thought to those who've

helped you along the way. Remember the demonstrators at your local chapter? Your mentor at your club? The classes you took along the way? If you've received from others along the way, are you giving back? When was the last time you volunteered to do a demonstration? Don't use the excuse about your skill level. Everyone has skills to share. What about serving in office? Every chapter is in need of officers, demonstrators, and helpers.

We are about to embark on our annual symposium. The number of hours donated by the volunteers to make this event happen is staggering--from the local chapters who are the host clubs, through the attendees who are camera operators, instant gallery helpers, registration packet stuffers, and others. The efforts have been underway all year to make this event happen. The San Jose symposium hasn't even taken place and the Florida clubs are already gearing up for the next symposium. The host chapters and leadership there are already planning for you.

My suggestion is that you get involved with your local chapter. Find ways to give back a little. Submit an article to the newsletter or webmaster. Offer to run for office. Volunteer to do a demo. If you can't demonstrate, at least pick up a broom after the demo. Help

make coffee. Whatever your expertise is, chances are it is needed and will be of value. Often, it is just a helping hand that is truly appreciated. Perhaps you could help the club meeting volunteer bring things in from the car.

Woodturning is all about sharing. Unlike what happens in many other crafts, it is a rarity when a woodturner won't share his or her ideas, expertise, techniques, sources, and anything else you might inquire about. There is so much giving in woodturning that it is truly unique among hobbies, crafts, professions, or in whatever category you place it. What can you share? Figure out what it is and step forward. Trust me, you'll always get back far more than you give. The question really is "What can you do to support your local chapter?" Ask. Talk to the members, officers, or volunteers. There usually isn't any shortage of needs. You need only to ask.

As we launch our 26th annual symposium, please take a few minutes to attend the Chapters meeting and the General Membership meeting. Bring your ideas, questions, suggestions, and list of needs. If you won't be able to attend, make sure you get your information to a member who will. We always are looking for ways to improve our programs. The idea flow from the membership and chapters gives us the infor-



mation we need to know how best to help. If you attend and are volunteering, I thank you. If you are attending and aren't volunteering, there still is time. Tell them at the registration desk that you are willing to help. If you aren't able to help, take a moment to thank a volunteer. It doesn't matter which volunteer you select. Find any volunteer or many of them over the course of three days and just say "thank you." They are donating their time to help put on the symposium for your education and enjoyment.



--
Kurt Hertzog

More AAW News—Virginia



AAW Chapter woodturning Clubs of Virginia host the 2012 Woodturning Symposium "A hands-on woodturning experience" on September 15 and 16, 2012 at The Expoland Exhibition Center, Fishersville, VA. This bi-annual symposium continues to lead the way in regional woodturning symposiums. It is your chance to step up to the lathe and have a mentor guide you as you do the turning.

This year our featured demonstrations will be given by Jimmy Clewes on Saturday and Sunday and by Brian Noble-Marx on Saturday. In addition to the tradi-

tional demonstrations, there will be 11 stations with talented VA turners guiding you in areas of their expertise as you do the turning at the lathe. You will find more information about the [symposium in our brochure](#).

Registration is now open and we hope you will join us. [Visit our website](#) for complete details and on-line registration.

Contact Peter Toch at ptoch@comcast.net for more information.

Work is underway to realize the inspirational "Virtual AAW" vision described by Stan Wellborn in his March Board message about the new AAW website project. The existing website has served us extremely well. Created and maintained over the years by AAW members, it receives more than 70,000 page views every month. As rapidly as technology is changing around us, we, too, need to adapt to growing demand for new ways to improve communication and share information.

Access to information and the open exchange of ideas are central to the AAW mission. Our goal, simply stated, is to of-

fer AAW members the world's largest searchable source of woodturning information and resources, and to offer the convenience of choosing how to access it among the growing array of digital devices.

The website project is in the early assessment stage and we are generating a growing list of improvements and new content ideas. Progress will accelerate over the summer and we will keep you informed along the way.

With the promise of more information, new capabilities and a new look there is also the promise that some things will remain as they are. We want to communicate with every member in a manner that is valuable and relevant to him or her. We will enhance, not replace, the experience of personal service, retrieving a copy of American Woodturner from the mailbox, and a friendly voice on the other end of the phone.

Phil McDonald
Operations Director

More AAW News From Texas

The Central Texas Woodturners Association recently placed the first exhibition of turned wood art in the Austin Bergstrom International Airport. This exhibit was likely the largest ever showing of turned wood art in Austin, and featured over 20 works from club members in a wide range of styles. The exhibition ran from February through April 2012. This was a rare opportunity to locate an exhibit in a unique and highly visible location, and for our club, served as a local milestone of recognition for the craft of woodturning.
Curtis Turner
Central Texas Woodturners Association



Classified Ads



In House Demos:

June 20th: Spinning
Tops—Joe Laferriere,
Barry Genzlinger

July 18th: Dick Montague
demonstrates sharpening
techniques.

August meeting: Picnic on
September 1st.

I have a cast iron Oliver lathe with a 12" swing 36" turning length, sliding headstock and 3 tool rests. The headstock is threaded 1-1/8 X 8. It has a live center and an adapter for a scroll chuck.

Asking \$700.00

Craig Hall

802-644-5344

Well I am changing careers and heading for California to start a PhD at Stanford. The wood shop is for sale if anyone is interested.

I've got a beautiful European **combination machine** if anyone wants a full shop in a one-car garage.

If any of you are looking for great deals on my lumber stash, just **email me what sizes and species you're looking for** and I'll send pictures & prices when I get back 5/19. Lots of wide hardwood boards, legs/turning blanks, exotic shorts, and 1/2" QS Oak for drawers.

It's all got to go by the 22nd :)

-- Joe Powers joepowers16@gmail.com

Policy on AAW Liability Insurance

Members of WTNV who are giving public demonstrations are covered by the AAW-sponsored liability policy under the following conditions: You must be a member of AAW and WTNV.

The event must be "sanctioned" by WTNV. That is, you must notify the Treasurer, who will provide a copy of the cover sheet for the policy. You must also notify the editor of Chatter so you can

be listed in Future Woodchuck Sightings. The demonstration must have wood turning as the main subject.