

Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org



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May Meeting, 5/16/2018

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We will meet at CVU this month. !
Directions to CVU: From the NW, exit I-89 at Exit 14 (Burlington) and head east on Williston Rd. (Rte. 2) for 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Hinesburg Rd (Rte. 116). Proceed 9.7 miles to CVU Rd., turn left at the light and CVU will be on you left at 0.4 miles.
From the East: Exit I-89 at exit 12 (Williston/Essex) Turn left onto Rte. 2A (St George Rd.) and proceed 5.0 miles. Turn left onto Rte. 116 and proceed 2.1 miles to CVU Rd. Turn left, school is 0.4 miles on left.

After turning onto driveway, take immediate left. Drive around the left side of the building to a parking lot with large garage door and exterior dust collection system. There is a door beside the garage door to enter the woodshop.

This month, Dave Buchholtz will demonstrate the German craft of "ring turning". See P. 14 for an article found by Nick Rosato to show what ring turning is.

April Meeting, 4/18/2018

7pm Nick called the meeting to order. 24 members attended.

Members introduced themselves and stated where they lived.

Dues were due and Karen Drennen stated it was members' last chance to get on the discount list.

Jim Holzschuh invited members to attend the 8th Annual Trunk Show at his gallery Grand Isle Artworks. He encouraged members to be vendors as well.

Nick Rosato and Janet Collins will be demonstrating at the 9th New England Turners Symposium at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH. Janet will demonstrate inlay techniques and Nick

will demonstrate a crotchwood project.

Nick mentioned the scheduled demonstration for the next six months. He was scheduled for May 16, however had to cancel. Dave Buchholtz will demo instead. He will demonstrate German Ring Turning.

Members shared projects during the show and tell portion of the meeting.

Janet Collins demonstrated split turning. It was well received as members congregated around the lathe.

Fifteen people participated in the raffle.

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Take care,
Nick

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I just read that Vermont Life is quitting. The magazine has been bleeding millions for years. Advertising is down—going to the web, I suppose. The state is retaining the name and is toying with the idea of going digital. I know that decision will cut into the income of several photographers I know. 6 employees will lose their jobs.

There should be some kickback from folks here and across the country. Many, many people really feel they keep in touch with Vermont through Vermont Life, just as many folks subscribe to their local paper even though they have moved to the sunnier part of the country.

Vermont is special. I could write a whole page on the various things that make Vermont what it is and why so many of us love it. Can we Woodchucks do anything to maintain that special feeling Vermont has, in spite of the things peeling the paint off of our state?

Bad news fills the papers. The opioid crisis. IBM moving out of state. Our governor making upsetting proclamations, like budget-cutting in places that hurt. The EB-5 fraud in the Northeast Kingdom. Undocumented farm workers being hunted down.

I think we can do some things to draw attention away from some of that bad news. As woodturners, we are craftsmen. We can show fine work at every

opportunity. By doing that, and tying that sense of workmanship to the traditions of Vermont careful production, we move the pointer of opinion more toward the “good” side of the scale.

I would suggest that, wherever you display or sell your fine turnings, you tag them as “Vermont Made”. Do some research and see what you can tag your goods with. Is the wood a native species? Did you harvest it with respect for the environment? Be truthful about what you display and sell. There are people lurking out there who know more about things than you suspect! And I would suggest that we all need to be respectful of the folks we meet at gatherings. They may just want to feel good about their interactions to feel like buying. And meeting interesting, respectful Vermonters may be more points for our state. We Woodchucks are pretty much all Vermonters. Not necessarily born Vermonters, but Vermonters in spirit. We moved here almost 50 years ago. We blended in to a large extent; served in town government, acted as ballot clerks, attended church suppers.

So, I hope we Woodchucks can use our skills to keep Vermont a good place to work, to live, and to visit. We can't bring Vermont Life back to the newsstands, but we can still keep Vermont worth living in.

Arny

Balance forward

\$3811.13
 Dues \$200.00
 Raffle \$28.00
 Glue \$.00
 Sawdust donations \$10.00
 Total Income \$238.00
 Expense \$30.94 Board meeting
 Balance ending \$4018.19
 Karen Drennen/Treasurer

Reminder: Unless you have paid your annual dues by April 1st your name must be removed from the discount list.

Dues through April 2018

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for 2018:

Jay Bailey, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Chris Bishop, Bradford Blaisdell, Dave Buchholtz, James Bushey, Sal Chiarelli, Janet Collins, Karen Cutler, Michael Deweese, Brad Dinwiddie, Karen Drennen, Greg Drew, Barry Genzlinger, Wil-

liam Durkee, Andrew Durling, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Ted Fink, Joe Fortin, George Gibson, Michael Glod, Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Kevin Jeness, Eddie Krasnow, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Timothy Montgomery, Sean Murray, Ted Nelson, William Nestork, Stephen O'Donnell, Bengt Ohman, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, Lawrence Rice, David Robistow, Sam Sanderson, David Scrase, Edwards Smith, Nancy Smith, Army Spahn, Cil Spahn, Adam Wagner (50)
 (Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Dick Montague, Michael Mode, Hav Smith and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members, (6)

If you have paid your dues for the year but do not see your name listed here please contact me to correct that error of omission.

Snowflake2017@comcast.net

Dues for 2018 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to: Karen Drennen, 12 Winters Court, Swanton VT 05488

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members: Video library use, mentoring program, bulk purchase discounts such as CA glue and Anchor Seal, Klingspor and Hartville Tool discount lists, (to remain on the discount lists dues must be paid by April 1st each year).

Welcome New Members

Brad Dinwiddie
 41 Downes Road
 Underhill VT 05489
 802-275-7185
brad@frogpondwoodturning.com

David Robistow
 277 Robistow Drive
 Fairfax VT 05454
 802 849 9389
drobistow74@gmail.com

Invitation To The Trunk Show—Jim Holzschuh

Fellow wood turners take note - this year will be the 8th annual Trunk Show at the Grand Isle Art Works gallery in Grand Isle. A trunk show is an event in which vendors present merchandise (sometimes new work) directly to customers at a



retail location or another venue. In recent years we have had approximately 35 to 40 artists set up on the grounds of the gallery for the weekend. Like previous years, there will be a large tent where we will have space for up to 8 woodworkers to demonstrate their craft and sell their artwork. Additional woodworkers are always invited to set up under their own

individual 10x10 pop-up tents and join the festivities. If you have not been to the gallery you will find that we have plenty of parking space for visitors and outside vendors alike, approximately 75 Vermont artists' work in the gallery and a small on-site cafe. As Ellen and I raise fiber animals we also have some of our Angora goats at the gallery during the summer which has proven to be a draw for potential customers.



This year the Trunk Show will be on the last weekend in July, 28 and 29. There is a \$25.00 fee to reserve a space which will



be returned to the artist at the end of the weekend. During the weekend you keep track of your sales and pay 20% to the gallery at the end. You can sign up online at <http://grandisleartworks.com/trunk-show-and-sale/trunk-show-call-to-artists/> or you can also print out an application from a link at the bottom of that page. Consider coming to the Islands for the weekend.



Some of the raffle prizes.



Jim Holzschuh carefully turned a piece of Box Elder to preserve the crimson markings.



Nick opens the meeting



Karen shows her 2-piece candlestick. Nice spindle work.



Dave found that artificial wine corks serve well on this shop-made platter holding rig.





Dave shows one of his "raindrop" decorated platters.



Mickey Palmer took one of the demo vessels from last month & worked on it some more.



Sean Murray is making a business of custom laser engraving various pieces; here, he shows two of the thousands of mugs he's done for a customer.

Product Review of the Granberg Alaskan Small Log Mill A Useful Addition to Your Turning Tool Arsenal Or A Quick and Convenient Way to Cook Your Saw - Andrew Duling

For many years I thought about getting a chainsaw sawmill. My friend Rob, who I consider a small engine guru, always warned me against the impulse. He would generally make a scoffing noise and say something about cooking the rings of my saw. I was never sure what that meant, but it didn't sound good. Rob moved away a few years ago, and until a few weeks ago his disdain for chainsaw saw mills had stuck with me. I purchased a Granberg Alaskan Small Log Mill from Amazon for \$132.73. Assembly was pretty easy. Those who don't like to read/follow directions will find assembly to be difficult. The only aggravating part was attaching the mill to the chainsaw. The weight of the saw and the awkward size and shape of the mill makes clamping the mill onto the bar a three handed job.

Using the sawmill was pretty straight forward. I built a guide from 2x4's for the first cut. After the first cut the flat surface made by the first cut acts as the guide. I have milled 4 logs so far,

and have been happy with the lumber produced. The lumber has all been of a consistent thickness and had a decent surface.

Using the mill is hard work. Processing one log leaves me sore and tired



the next day. I believe that having the logs at waist height, as they are in the images provided by Granberg, would make the process much less physically



taxing. I think Rob's apprehension about overheating a chainsaw are also true. I have been careful to allow my saw to cool off between cuts.

The major downfall of this mill is the toll it takes on the operator and chainsaw. Overall I would rate this chainsaw mill as a useful tool. Being able to cut lumber to custom lengths and thickness will be useful for a host of turning projects. I would recommend this product to any other wood turner, just work slowly and be patient.



Start with 2 pieces of wood of equal dimensions. The thickness of each should be equal to 1/2 the width.



Use something like a paper bag as an interface. Glue the two pieces together with the paper between them. Titebond will do well. Let the glue dry before the next stage.



Find the center of each end.



Use an awl or punch to mark the centers.



Using a cup live center mount the piece on the lathe. A Steb Center is a good choice for the drive end. The idea is to hold the wood without splitting the join.



Rough out the object.



(Continued on Page 7)



Continue to make a cylinder.



Janet's favorite parting tool. Note the shape.



Using a pattern to mark off the divisions of the spoon shape.



Close to the final shape.



Using a chisel to split the 2 pieces.



Sanding.



Janet likes this sandpaper.

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(Continued from Page 7.)



Work carefully from both ends of the piece with the chisel.



If your application of glue was even, the paper boundary gets split fairly evenly on both parts of the piece.



Saw off the waste from both ends of both pieces.



A wooden hand clamp is a safe way to hold the piece vertically for sawing the face of the bowl of the spoon.



Draw a guide line for sawing the scoop shape.



Cut the scoop shape with the bandsaw. The next step would be to use a burr or a spoon gouge to scoop out the bowl shape.



This shows what can be done to decorate the spoon. Note the chip carving on the handle.



This is a chip carving knife—very sharp.



Shows one step in carving out the pattern.



Draw out the pattern for the chips.



Relax, carve one chip at a time, and keep your fingers out of the knife's path!



A long-standing use of split turning is to make identical slats, flat on the back side, for chair backs.

Last “Dust and Chips” from Florida (until next Fall!).

I am carefully watching the weather back home.....YES, Vermont is still ‘home’, and always will be emotionally! It appears that the temp’s are nearing my wimpy required minimum to start packing up the truck for the trip back north? Actually, the truth is that as I get more and more involved with my activities and responsibilities down here, I need more days to fit everything in, sooooooo, later departure dates, and earlier return dates in the Fall as well. This has meant making some tough choices about galleries in Vermont too, as eventually I reduce my northern commitments. I also feel I am at something of a transition re. how much product I make to sell, and how much is in the “just for fun” category!! Stay tuned on this question!



Last Friday I made another delivery of bowls to our Food Bank(<https://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/>). (Photo #08). This brings the total to well over 200 so far, and there will be another load in the Fall! As I have mentioned here previously, they use them in their big fund raiser in November. Whenever someone makes a donation of \$25 or more, they can choose a bowl as a thank-you gift. Last year over \$5,000 was attributable

to our efforts! We hope to better that this year!!



I talk frequently about how fortunate we are in Florida to have such an abundance and variety of hardwoods for turning. A couple issues back I sent to Chatter a picture of my backyard there, and called it an “embarrassment of riches”. Well, I made a promise to Bob, and my neighbors!, that it would all be cleaned up prior to leaving for the summer. Let photo #20 be proof that I am keeping my word! It has all been sorted, waxed and stored away for future use. And yes, I will be bringing a few samples back to share with the Woodchucks. Because I want to be sure I bring only wood, I now debarked, power wash, wax, and wrap in plastic, every piece. You will see a sampling in future club raffles.



Photo # 24 shows a burial urn I made

of sycamore. It is another club project we do for the local chapter of the VA. There is a big veteran’ cemetery in our county and many families who choose cremation have taken advantage of it this free service. To make this one I used the Simon Hope hollowing system and the Hope threader for the lid that I demonstrated last year. I normally do these as end-grain pieces, but I wanted to see if the pith would crack turning side-grain? It did, and I filled the cracks with epoxy dyed red to match the insert for the lid. I can talk about this a little more at a meeting or sawdust session?



Other photos show the incredible figure in a chinaberry vessel and a natural edge Cuban mahogany bowl. I will have both of these finished for our June meeting.

And speaking of the June meeting.....I will be doing a demo on different ways to “attack” a green log to get different kinds of turnings! Alas, there will be no Cuban mahogany or rosewood logs to cut, but the principles for cherry and maple are no different! Hope to see many of you then!

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Cheers!

Russ Fellows

PS The first “sawdust session” of 2018 will be at my shop on Wednesday, June 6th, starting at 5:00 PM. All are invited!! I will ask Arny to send a reminder a few days before.

Sent from my iPad



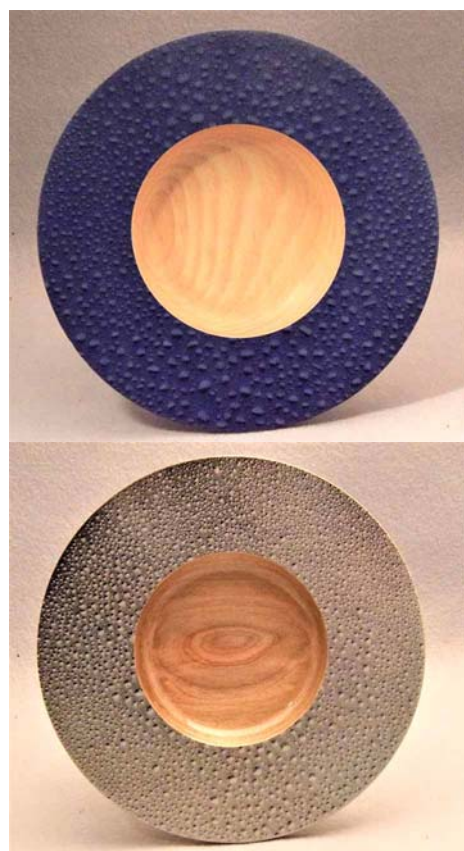
Raindrop Decoration—Dave Buchholtz

The March issue of the British “Woodturning” magazine had a platter on its cover with a unique 3D raindrop pattern on its rim. This was part of an article by Mark Baker, the editor, about the work of Howard Lewis. The description for the platter described it as having a secret colored decorative pattern. The term secret bothered me because the woodturning community is normally so open and sharing. I felt compelled to learn more about the secret. By searching the web for creating a raindrop pattern, I found many YouTube videos of young males decorating their Xboxes with this pattern. The process is actually quite easy.

I turned a platter by first attaching a piece of wood to a faceplate with short machine screws. This surface will become the top of the platter and the screw holes will be turned away by the scooped-out center of the top of the platter. While on the faceplate, I turned a recess on the bottom for my 4-jaw chuck and turned the surface of the bottom. This was sanded and my choice of finish applied to the wood. I then mounted the platter on the chuck and flattened the top. I left the center area flat. By waiting until after the pattern is applied to the rim to make the center, I don't have to mask the center. I sanded the top, applied masking tape around the outer edge of

the rim, and put paper on the bottom. The masking tape and paper on the bottom are to keep paint off everything except the top. I then spray painted the top with blue. After several coats of paint were allowed to dry, I sprayed water from a spritz bottle to create a pattern of raindrops on the top surface. If the pattern doesn't look like you want, just dry it off and spray again until you get the pattern you want. While the water is on the top, use a light paint at a shallow angle to spray one side of the water droplets. Carefully turn the platter 180 degrees and spray a dark colored paint at a shallow angle to coat the other side of the water drops. For the first platter I used white and black as the light and dark colors. As the water drops evaporate, the paint falls and sticks to the platter's surface creating a 3D like pattern. Depending on the size of the water drops, it may take several hours for the water and paint to dry. This can be hastened by putting a heat lamp above the platter. After this dried, I mounted the platter again and turned out the center area of the platter. This was sanded and finish was applied over the entire top. I use spar varnish, thinned 50-50 with paint thinner and applied with a paper towel while the platter is turning on the lathe. I found that the paint thinner in my mix would

smear the pattern so the first two coats of varnish are sprayed on from a rattle can. This doesn't smear the pattern and allows me to follow the sprayed varnish with several coats of wiped on varnish to produce a glossy surface.



- 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) Hayley Wood Products in Colchester. (<http://www.hayleywoodproducts.com/>).
- 3) 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!
- 4) 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
- 5) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 6) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 7) 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/>
- 8) 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.
- 9) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 10) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 11) Business cards and other printed goods: Vistaprint.com
- 12) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. www.maplelandmark.com
- 13) Les Dougherty & Susan Curington Owners, North Woods Figured Wood North Woods, LLC PO Box 808 Forest Grove OR 97116 800-556-3106, 503-357-9953 www.nwfiguredwoods.com offers lifetime 15% discount on any website wood purchase. Use "WOODTURNERS" coupon code at checkout. www.nwfiguredwoods.com
- 14) Paw Prints Printing WWW.paw-prints.com 802 865 2872 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT 05403
- 15) Your NEW colored plywood source. trethaway@comcast.net. Has scraps of colored plywood for resale. Listed on eBay as scratch1012.
- 16) The Tree House, hardwoods & mill shop. Native woods, priced from \$5.00. 1891 Williston Rd., 802-497-3530. www.treehousehardwoods.com
- 17) Suffolk Saw of New England, Jeff & Danielle Mellott; 33 Gaudet Dr., Belmont, NH, 03220 877-550-7297

Article About German Ring Turning—found by Nick Rosato

The craft of wooden ring turning exists only in one place—in Seiffen and is only dominated by 8 craftsmen. Christian Werner is one of them. Wooden ring turning arose with the decline of tin mining end of 18th century. The existing hydropower was used for the turning of characters, pyramid parts, mechanical toys and other things. But it was hardly possible to produce animals of turned parts. Therefore, the

invention of wooden ring turning was a small sensation. It was a breakthrough in the manufacture of toy animals and a huge gain in the toy range. Wooden ring turning requires not only physical strength but also sense of form and high



imagination. A trained wooden ringturner is able to produce a variety of animal character profile and accessories with little technical effort.



In House

Demos:

All demos and dates are tentative until they appear on Page 1 of the newsletter.

May 16th—At CVU—
Dave Buchholz does his
raindrop decorating.

June 20th—at Skunk
Hollow—Russ Fellows goes
from logs to bowl blanks

July 18th—At Skunk
Hollow—Surface Prep. &
Finishes—Round Table

August 18th or 25th (?)
Annual Picnic—Al Stirt
will be invited to
demonstrate.

September 19th—Board
nominations—Possible
Remote Demo featuring a
nationally known turner
Location TBA

October 10th—Board
meeting at Sal Chiarelli-s
home in Essex.

October 17th— At CVU—
Tools you have made/
modified, jigs & fixtures.

Classified Ads

Free To Members



Bowl Display Stand (used)

Made of Ash, 63" tall, 8 circular shelves, 2 each of the following diameters: 6", 7.5", 9", 10". Footprint 20", Two wedges included for leveling on any terrain. Price \$40.

Contact Ted Fink at 985 2923 or at TJF-Turnings@gmail.com

WTNV Liability Insurance

Liability Insurance Policy

As of April 2013 we are covered by a liability policy with the following limits:

Each occurrence: 2M; Damage to rented premises: 1M; Med expenses: 10K; Personal injury: 2M; General aggregate: 4M; Products aggregate: 4M.

The Hartford; Agent; Michael George: (317) 735 4072; mgeorge@amj.ins.com

This policy covers all members at all

WTNV events.

If you are demonstrating, this policy will not cover any claim if you are being compensated either by commission or sale of your turnings. In other words, this does not serve as an individual business policy.

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@gmail.com
Groton

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

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels.
802-899-3059
skunkmen@gmail.com
Jericho

Bill Walsh: tool sharpening
802-839-6332
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Northfield

Greg Drew: Tool skills. Finishes.. Portable mill & chainsaw work.
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