

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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June 10, 2019

June Meeting, 6/19/2019

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Directions to the June 19th meeting at the home and studio of Russ Fellows (Skunk Hollow Studios, LLC) 26 John Davis Dr., Jericho, Vermont, 802-899-3059.

From the east/I-89: Take exit 11, Richmond, Essex Jct. Turn right at end of ramp. Right again immediately at the light. This is the River Rd/ Rt. 117. Go 3 1/2 miles, turn right on Skunk Hollow Rd. Go 2 1/2 miles, turn left on John Davis. Go all the way to the end, number 26.

From the Burlington area: Take Route 15 from Winooski going east. Go past St Mike's College and Ft Ethan Allen (both on left) and continue on to Essex Junction. At the Five Corners bear left, staying on Rt. 15. Stay on Rt. 15 through Essex Center and on to Jericho. There are

signs. Once you are in the village of Jericho, (look for the big Red Mill at the bridge) you will see the world-famous Joe's Snack Bar.....turn right. Turn right again at the stop sign. Turn right again at the next stop sign.....about 1/2 mile. This is the start of Skunk Hollow Rd.....turn right yet again! The first drive on the right is John Davis Dr....take it! Go to the end, number 26.

Russ Fellows returned from Florida with new ideas—and some wood! Always very interesting, a meeting you should be sure to attend.

Please bring something for our famous raffle!

May 15th Meeting at Skunk Hollow Studio Harvie Porter

President Jay Bailey called the meeting to order at 7 PM. There were 21 in attendance.

The meeting was interrupted so Dave Buchholtz could show the first steps in creating the raindrop pattern on his bowl/platter rims.

Russ Fellows welcomed those in attendance and announced that he will be moving within the next year. A list was circulated for members to sign up for items in Russ's shop that

they would be interested in buying come Fall. The first sawdust session will be the last Wednesday in May. Russ will be demonstrating a zebra wood Saturn bowl at the June meeting.

Andy Duling talked about his experience getting wood from a tree loaded with burls offered by a homeowner. The gift certificates are back for the raffle.

(Continued on page 4)

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I'm a member of AAW. I get the Journal, and flip through it the first time, then set it aside for a while. This month, I read the President's Letter, and was attracted to his main message. That message was that we should all promote safety in everything we do. As an affiliate of AAW, when we have a demonstrator, we should insist that the demonstration abide by all the safety rules AAW publishes and any local safety advice. Primarily, that means use a face-mask, wear proper clothing, use safe techniques at the lathe.

The President went further and talked about Fractal Burning, a technique using high-voltage electricity to burn vein-like patterns in wood. AAW refuses to allow demonstrations using this technique. The danger is real. Several people have died as a result of using this technique.

Before I moved to Vermont I worked in a company which made high voltage test equipment. And before that, my Air Force first career was as a Radio/Radar Airborne Equipment Technician. During those times, I was exposed to DC and AC voltages ranging from 12 volts to many thousands and AC frequencies from 400 CPS to megacycles per second. I have been bitten by some of those voltages, and it's only because I have very fast jerk reflexes that I was never badly hurt. Scared, yes; many times. It's not so much the voltage which is the danger, it is also the level of current available which is harmful. As little as 100 milliamperes can jolt you hard enough to stop your heart.

The problem with Fractal Burning is that, in order to actually burn the surface of wood treated with a conductive coating, you need a fairly high current to sizzle the wood. Devices used typically are neon-light transformers generating 2000-3000 volts and capable of applying 500 or more milliamperes. Good electrical wires are usually batch-tested to resist 2000 volts. Any wear on the wire could reduce its dielectric constant. Combine that with a damp area, and you could be in circuit with that very dangerous, indeed deadly cur-

rent. I've seen photos of turnings treated with Fractal Burning, and while interesting, do not excite me enough to buy the parts (or ready-made) equipment needed.

We should certainly advocate for good safety measures for our members, and definitely advise demonstrators on how to show safe turning.

As a member, I'm happy to urge all of us to also become AAW members. The magazine is worth-while, as it always has good tips and good instructive articles. The Journal and the British Woodturners' Journal are the tops for a dedicated turner.

There are always good articles on technique in the Journal. I often try something that's well explained. On the opposite side of the page, wood arts just slightly based on turning seem to occupy a lot of the magazine. I'm not even tempted to emulate most of the drastically carved, painted, and distressed works shown. I know, I can just ignore what I don't like, but when the work seems irrelevant to what I can do, it's hard to enjoy it. Worse, I get to feeling inferior to guys who do that kind of work.

The Brits are amusing. They have all sorts of hobby clubs. They collect all sorts of things and have clubs devoted to each of them. Just as we gather out of an affinity for woodturning, the Brits gather to show their love for so many other things from birds' eggs to beetle species; from metal detection to photos of cloud formations. It's just that they seem to be so much more serious about their hobbies than what I know about our American hobbies.

One thing I guess about our woodturning hobbyists: We are all packrats and tool junkies. We keep pieces of wood "in case" there is a use for it. We see a new tool and visualize a use for it better than the tool we own. We read about a different finish option, and we try a pint of it. Where did I read that we are all just one tool away from perfection?

Perhaps I'm just visualizing my guilt on the rest of us?

Arny

June 2019 Treasurer's Report

Balance forward

\$4134.74
 Raffle \$22.00
 CA glue \$15.00
 Anchor Seal \$17.00
 Sawdust Donations \$4.00
 T-shirt \$10.00
 Total Income \$68.00
 Website expense \$235.92
 Total Expenses \$235.92
 Balance ending \$3966.82
 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 2019

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2019**:

Jay Bailey, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Chris Bishop, Brad Blaisdell, Joyce Blaisdell, Dave Buchholz, Sal Chiarelli, Janet Collins, Karen Cutler, Mike Deweese, Brad Dinwiddie, Karen Drennen, Andrew Duling, Tom Dunn, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Joe Fortin, Toby Fulwiler, Joe Gaines, Barry Genzlinger, George Gibson, Dan Gleason, Susan Gleason, Jim Goodwin, Rick Hamilton, Peter Hebert, Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Joe Laferriere, Luc Lefebvre, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin,

Tim Montgomery, Ted Nelson, William Nestork, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Harvie Porter, Larry Rice, Sam Sander-son, Edwards Smith, Arny Spahn, Cil Spahn, Marilyn Stolberg, Adam Wager (47)

(Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Ted Fink, Dick Montague, Michael Mode, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members, (8)

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. kdn@myfairpoint.net

Dues for 2019 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). Mention the club to get your discount.

I have CA glue. If you need any, please contact me!

Arny,
 Please see attached report. Also, there are some "Woodchuck Sightings"-the real deal. These were taken at the side of my home.

Karen



Show & Tell Photos from the May meeting



The club is instituting a December meeting this year. It will be a social event with a Yankee gift exchange. The mentor list has been pared down, eliminating those who are no longer attending meetings. Members interested in adding themselves to the mentor list should contact Army Spahn.

Karen Drennan now has CA glue for sale. Anchorseal is also available for \$17/gallon.

There were 11 participants in the raffle.

Show and Tell: Joe Gaines showed a spalted birch bowl formed from a crotch reinforced with CA glue mixed with black stone dust. Dave Buchholtz showed platters with several patterns burned into their rims. Tom Dunne showed two hollow forms turned from maple burls. Russ Fellows showed a hollow form with an offset hole from box alder and a segmented bowl with a tripod base. The meeting then adjourned for the remainder of Dave Buchholtz's presentation. Adirondack Inspired Turnings.com is Dave's website where the articles he has written are available.

Respectfully submitted,

Harvie Porter, Secretary



Catching up on the winter



Andy talks about his Box-elder natural edge bowl.



Some of the raffle items



Great to gather again at Skunk Hollow, but cool enough for jackets.



Dave does some prep. for the demo.

Joe Gaines healed a dangerous split with CA; finished with spar varnish.

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Dave shows his decorated platters—geometric design.



Tom Dunne does great hollow turnings.



Russ is a really versatile turner. Here, he has a hollow Box-elder form.



Russ found a better dust mask for use while sanding. It's by **Novemkada**, and available from Amazon for about \$14 each.



Dave starts by screwing a platter blank to a faceplate, using Spax coarse screws..



He forms the bottom first.



He uses an inset about 3/16" deep to fit the expansion jaws of a chuck.



Dave completely finishes the back side, including decorating the inset and applying his signature using items from craft stores.



Dave then turns the blank over, re-attaches it to the lathe then forms the bowl area. He finishes the hollowing out after the spray-on decorating is finished.



Dave uses a narrow parting tool to scribe borders. He then uses a scrap of Formica to burn the inscribed border lines.



Blue painters' tape masks areas. Use short pieces rather than bending long pieces. Makes for cleaner lines.

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The article I wrote about the raindrop decoration appeared in the AAW Woodturning Journal and is available from my web site. You can find it in the article section of adirondackinspiredturnings.com. There is also an article about embossing which I used to sign my signature on the bottom of the plate during the demonstration. This was published in the electronic AAW journal, Fundamentals. It can also be found on my web site on the article page under "Embellish Your Turnings".

Dave Buchholz



After masking, the object is sprayed with the base color and allowed to thoroughly dry.



Water is dripped onto the object. Use a fine spray for smaller droplets.



A can of acrylic is then sprayed at a low angle across the object. White is being used for the first color.



Black is being sprayed onto this bowl..



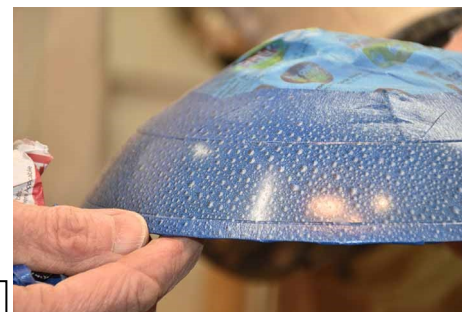
A closeup after the black is sprayed on.



Now the white is being sprayed at a different angle.



After being dried, the masking is carefully removed. The hollow can now be fully carved out and finished.



Another closeup of the bowl before unmasking. The raindrops show up well.



A different platter, showing gold high-lights.

It was great to once again hear the sounds of Woodchucks back at the Skunk Hollow campus, first, at the regular May meeting (much more about that elsewhere in Chatter), and then again two weeks later at our first Sawdust Session for 2019. It wad good to see all the familiar faces, as well as some new ones. I particularly enjoy the informality of the Sawdust Sessions, where everybody participates, and there is not a set program or demo. Our Florida club has such a session every Tuesday, except for the week of our regular meeting, and they are very helpful to our newer members particularly. We are a club of now, 160 members, and many of them are recent retirees from other worlds, so a little extra input and instruction is always welcome. I look forward to more of these gatherings here, throughout the summer! The board has asked me to do a demo this month at out regular meeting. The

request was for “something new from Florida”. Well, Woodchucks in Florida do pretty much the same stuff as Woodchucks in Vermont, but as I scratched my head for a bit, I recalled a demo at the Florida Symposium that was very popular. It was by a turner named Jason Clark (<http://www.jtcturning.com/>). This is a fairly straightforward project, requiring some rather unusual jam chucks and some very precise parting cuts right at the end. Below is one I made a couple days ago. The rings of this Saturn are all captive within the next ring out. Here is a YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMsDLi-bmOI&feature=youtu.be>) of the first part of this project. The “surprise” component will be how to cut the rings! Hope to see you all on the 19th!

Russ Fellows
(Russfellows@outlook.com)
802-343-0393



May Sawdust Session Photos—Jay Bailey



- 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) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 5) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 6) 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/>
- 7) 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.
- 8) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 9) Business cards and other printed goods: Vistaprint.com
- 10) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. www.maplelandmark.com
- 11) Les Dougherty & Susan Curington Owners, North Woods Figured Wood North Woods, LLC PO Box 808 Forest Grove OR 97116 [800-556-3106](tel:800-556-3106), [503-357-9953](tel:503-357-9953) www.nwfiguredwoods.com offers lifetime 15% discount on any website wood purchase. Use "WOODTURNERS" coupon code at checkout. www.nwfiguredwoods.com
- 12) Paw Prints Printing WWW.paw-prints.com 802 865 2872 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT 05403
- 13) Your NEW colored plywood source. trethaway@comcast.net. Has scraps of colored plywood for resale. Listed on eBay as scratch10to12. *(That's an email address. Try it.)*
- 14) The Tree House, hardwoods & mill shop. Native woods, priced from \$5.00. 1891 Williston Rd., 802-497-3530. www.treehousehardwoods.com
- 15) Suffolk Saw of New England, Jeff & Danielle Mellott; 33 Gaudet Dr., Belmont, NH, 03220 877-550-7297

Side Notes

News on Mentoring

In House Demos:

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

June 19 – Russ's What I Learned in Florida demonstration, Favorite sandpaper discussion

July 17– Various glue-up techniques with types of glue.

August Picnic - TBA

September 18 – Bowl Coring

October 2 – Board Meeting in Randolph

October 16– Remote Demo -Mike Mahoney (tentative)

November 20 – Making Holiday Gifts

December 11 – Holiday Party – Yankee exchange

As of this month, we are rebuilding the Mentor column. The Board decided that it is time to renew our list and add a listing for instructors who wish to offer paid, long-term lessons.

As Mentors are covered for liability by our blanket policy, they must be members of WTNV. Other Instructors should have their own insurance coverage.

A notice has gone out to the membership and as they reply, we will list them in the columns.

Instructors For Hire

Nick Rosato
802-999-2976
nickrosato@gmail.com

Once and twice turned bowls
Coring with the Oneway Coring system
Understanding and using gouges
Spindle turning and duplication
Hollow Turning
One-on-one instruction at my shop or your shop.
Flexible scheduling. \$250 half day. \$400 full day.

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.

Dick Montague: General turning, all aspects plus tool sharpening.
802-584-3486

Montagueturn@gmail.com
Groton

Russ Fellows: General, segmented, & multi-axis turning
802-899-3059

skunkmen@gmail.com
Jericho

Ted Beebe: Segmented work.
802-849-2436

Teddy.beebe@gmail.com
Fletcher