

WOODCHUCK CHATTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WOODCHUCK TURNERS OF NORTHERN VERMONT

AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

WOODCHUCKSVT.ORG

July 13, 2023

Volume 20, Issue 7

President: Harvie Porter
Vice President: Karen Drennen
Secretary: Gary Walz
Treasurer: Brad Jackson
Newsletter Editor: Andrew Duling
Members at Large: Bob Martin, Adam Wager,
Tom Dunne



Last Meeting: June 21st, 2023

Panel demonstration on prepping for finishing

Next Meeting: July 19th, 2023

Charring open grained turnings

After that: August BBQ

Details TBA

NEW DISCOUNT FOR CLUB MEMBERS: WOODTURNERSWONDERS

Individual members must create an account at woodturnerswonders.com and then send an email to members@woodturnerswonders.com. They should include their name as well as the name of the club that they are a member of. Woodturnerswonders will then add the discount to their account and send them an email explaining the next steps. This will give them a 10% discount on Lamps, Sandpaper, and Sanding Accessories.

**Next meeting is July 19th, 2023 at Skunk Hollow Studios,
26 John Davis Drive, Jericho. Meeting starts at 7pm arrive
early to chat.**

Slow Down on John Davis Drive!! 15mph Max

**Ross Mitchel and Adam Wager will shows us how to burn
stuff. Ross and Adam will demonstrate their open grained
wood scorching techniques.**



Meeting Notes and Photos from Last Meeting– page 2-4

Woodchuck Sightings by Russ Fellows-page 5

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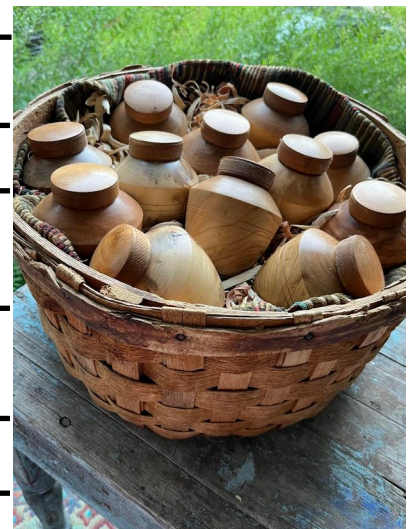
Rest in Pieces, by Russ Fellows– page 6

Russ shows an urn project he completed

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Meeting was called to order by President Harvie Porter at 7:16. No remote participants were present.

Announcements

We have two open positions:

Chatter Editor – Andy plans to abdicate his position at the end of October.

Technology Assistant – We could use someone to help setup and oversee the technology we use

AAW Membership – there is a 3 month free trial you can sign up for. AAW is a wonderful resource for all things wood turning, check the AAW site for upcoming online demos

Next Meeting – July 19

Adam and Ross will demonstrate burning techniques

Raffle

Our monthly raffle was held, again primarily thanks to the generosity of Russ. This month's also included a \$ 20 gift card

Show and Tell

George—Two segmented bowls with spar varnish finish. You would never know these were his first segmented bowls!

Russ—12 small cremation urns from branches of various woods, Spalted burl bowl

Brad V—Pepper mill from 2010, Carved spoons

Edwards—Hollow form vase, Edwards told us his secret to perfect finishing! Proper sanding, finish with tung oil, buffed on Beale Buffing System, then Carnuba Wax

Dave B—3 Pieces of Russ's Red Cedar with different finishes. One was left bare on the floor one was left outside, and one with finished with Spar Varnish. Within an house of turning the cedar started turning brown. Conclusion – you can't really stop the color change. 2 Rimmed Bowls, Used photoreactive dye to print weed leaves on rim

Meeting Topic – Prepping for Finishing

Various members shared their techniques for prepping for finishing.

Harvey Likes to use his 45 deg Harbor Freight sander w/ Roll-Lok system Raises grain with water after sanding to 220

Russ Is a fan of Sutherland Wells

Howards Feed-N-Wax (an orange oil and beeswax) With shear scraping can start sanding at 150 or maybe even 180 grit

Also likes Watco Butcher Block Finish

Dave B Uses 50% Spar Varnish and thinner. Dave has been know to say this is the **only** finish to use...

Meeting Pics

Thanks to Dave Buchholz and Adam Wager





Woodchuck sighting:

Since meeting Ross Mitchel a few years ago when he joined the Woodchucks, I realized we had TWO common interests.....turning and motorcycling. It had been my intention to do a ride with him, it finally happened late in June! Dodging raindrops, we had a nice ride down into the Mad River Valley and lunch, before I headed further south to meet friends and he returned to Stowe.

Since I met him at his home, it was a great opportunity to meet Marilyn and see his shop. Nestled in a lovely wooded setting, and not far from the village, I got the tour of his newly constructed shop/addition. While from the street it looks like many other white Vermont farmhouses, it is actually a tri-plex, with Ross and Marilyn having the large ground floor end unit. It was a logical move to add the shed and workshop to the property, and the other two owners were fine with his plan. Now well landscaped, it looks as though it has been there for years!

Compared to the barely controlled chaos of my shop, it was the model of order and neatness, with a beautiful and newly completed center work table and storage unit. A side bench with expansive windows looking out over the yard and woods behind, and a good dust collection system in place suggested it stays that way!

Thank you Ross for the opportunity to see where it all happens!!



Joe Gaines shares A spalted maple bud vase made from some scrap wood and a bud vase made from a piece of an unknown species of wood I've had in my shop for years. (Andy says it's elm so that must be it).



“REST IN PIECES”

By Russ Fellows

A friend approached me a couple months ago with an unusual request. At least it was a first for me! Her mother had died well into her ninth decade the year before and it had been decided to wait until some time had passed for a memorial gathering. The family was spread out over Canada and the U. S., so in addition to allowing emotions to calm, it would be more convenient for making travel arrangements. Since the deceased had been cremated, the request was for twelve “mini urns”. I have done many memorial urns over the years, but it had always been in a ratio of one urn for one departed! However, there was no reason the ashes couldn't be divided into twelfths! The stipulation was that they should be small, 3-3 1/2 inches, and made of wood native to Canada, where the family was from. The choices were maple, cherry, and birch. I went to work!

I roughed them all out leaving a tenon on the bottom. Then out came my Simon Hope hollowing tool. I didn't bother setting up the laser, as they were small enough to use my fingers as calipers. To aid stability I made them all end grain, and figuring a few would still crack, I made several extras. (Some did develop hair-line cracks, but curiously, only the birch ones?) Then off to a bin of dry shavings. Fast forward a few weeks, and down to about 12% moisture, I went to work finishing them. In order to get them all the same size I made several templates, and because I had made them end grain, the holes all stayed surprisingly true, making it easy to mass produce the lids, for which I used some kiln-dried cherry. For the finish I used a couple coats of satin Wipe-On poly and high luster friction polish for the lids. Then, using my spigot jaws to hold them, I parted off the tenon and finished the bottom, adding my little “florette” maker's mark and a label of the wood species. Job done and customer very pleased! The last pic shows the delivery basket, and while not visible, twelve little tubes of superglue to seal the lids after filling, a legal requirement!



News from the Grand Isle Art Works Gallery—Jim Holzschuh

The woodturning show, Turning Vermont, A Show of Wood, has come together nicely. Eleven turners from the Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont have their work on display and visitors to the gallery have come away with rave reviews. As you know the show started on June 24th and will continue until July 30th. The gallery, located at 259 US Route 2, Grand Isle, is now open 7 days a week from 11:00 to 5:00. If you are in the area please stop by. I have set up my small lathe in front of the gallery and there will be turning demos on the weekends - weather permitting. In conjunction with the show there is also a silent auction with 11 donated pieces from the turners. The money raised from the auction will go to the World Central Kitchen. Speaking of the auction it will be available both online and in person at the gallery. The link to see (and bid on) the auction items is: <http://grandisleartworks.com/product-category/silent-auction/>

want to take this time to thank all the woodchucks for agreeing to be part of the show. The wide diversity of turned objects and wood choices speaks well of the diversity of the turners. We all turn what we like and we like different things and have different goals for our turning. It is truly “A Show of Wood”!

Grand Isle Art Works Pop Up Show!

The Grand Isle Art Works gallery, 259 US Route 2, Grand Isle will be hosting its 11th Pop Up Trunk Show and sale on July 29, from 10:00 to 4:00. We are looking for artists who might want to set up a popup canopy for the day and sell their work. Information and a registration form is available on the gallery website at: <http://grandisleartworks.com/trunk-show-and-sale/trunk-show-call-to-artists/>

The cost to reserve your spot is \$35.00 which is returned to you at the end of the day. If you have ever wondered how to sell your wood turned items this is a chance to get them out in the public eye. Come up for the day and join other artists for the day. It usually turns out to be a great time for both artists and shoppers alike.



Fumed Red Oak Vase

By Damon Hartman

This red oak wide mouth vase has curly figure which is not common for red oak. I new when I saw it I had to get it.

I like to fume red and white oak and darken it up. I also was hoping the fuming would highlight the curl figure. Fuming is very easy to do. Simply put your turned piece in a sealable container with a dish of house hold ammonia. The ammonia reacts with the acids in the wood to create a darker finish. Oak fumes well because of the natural acidity of the wood. I finished this piece with Mike Mahoney's walnut oil. My go to finish.



Notes From Ya' Boy

By Andy Duling

I was planning on writing a short article about my experiences canoeing the Allagash waterway, but the weather events of earlier this week take precedence. I was part of the recovery effort from Tropical Storm Irene. I can say with first hand knowledge that the clean up from this storm is going to take a long time. Water damage and mold are the obvious immediate issues affecting flooded homes, but the list of potential problems just starts there. Fuel oil spills, foundation issues, septic system failure, sewer line issues, electric problems, well contamination are just some of the problems I saw during Irene recovery and I would expect to see as part of this recovery. I guess I am trying to saying is that, our affected friends and neighbors are going to need our help and support long into the future.

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JULY 2023 Treasurer's Report

Bank	Balance forward
	5271.71

IN-	COME
	Dues 75.00
Do-	nation 25.00
Raf-	file 24.00
	124.00

EXPENSES 0

Bank Balance ending	5395.71
Cash on Hand	25.00

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2023**:

Jay Bailey, Ronald Bauer, Wayne Beauchemin, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, David Bisbee, Chris Bishop, Bradford Blaisdell, Robert Bouvier, Dave Buchholz, James Bushey, George Cacchio, Mike Dever, George Disney, Karen Drennen, Andy Duling, Tom Dunne, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Joe Fortin, Joe Gaines, Barry Genslinger, George Gibson, Jim Goodwin, Rick Hamilton, Damon Hartman, Peter Hebert, Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Paul Jagielski, Kevin Jenness, Scott Johnson, Kevin Kelley, Eddie Krasnow, Luc Lefebvre, Kevin Liddiard, Chris, Lumbra, Bob Martin, Russ Michel, Kevin Murdough, Ted Nelson, Elsa Oppenheimer, Mike Papin, Harvey Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, Barent Rogers, David Scrase, Reed Sims, Dave Smith, Edwards Smith, Marilyn Stolberg, Brad Vietje, Wes Volk, Adam Wager, Fred Walters, Gary Walz (55)

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2024**:
Harvey Porter (1)

Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Ted Fink, Michael Mode, Dick Montague, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith, Army Spahn, and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members (9)

If you have paid your dues for the 2023 year but do not see your name listed above, please contact me at BradJackson234@gmail.com to correct that error of omission. Dues for 2023 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to: Brad Jackson, 14 Rustic Drive, Essex, VT 05452

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members: Video library use, mentoring program, bulk purchase discounts for CA glue and Anchor Seal, and 10% discount on purchases from Klingspor, Penn State Industries, and Rare Woods USA. To ensure your discount, Klingspor requests you login **before** you order. PSI requests you mention the club. Rare Woods USA requests you order using coupon code WOODCHUCKSROCK or mention the club.


Reminder: As previously advertised, unless you have paid your annual dues by April 1st your name must be removed from the discount list.

Brad Jackson/Treasurer

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
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russfellows@outlook.com
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