

# WOODCHUCK CHATTER

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WOODCHUCK TURNERS OF NORTHERN VERMONT

AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

WOODCHUCKSVT.ORG

June 13, 2023

Volume 20, Issue 6

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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: May 17th, 2023

*Russ demonstrates Melvyn Firmagers*

Next Meeting: June 21st, 2023

*Panel demonstration on prepping for finishing*

After that: July 19th, 2023

*Charring open grained turnings*

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**June Meeting**—Join us for demonstrations and discussion of prepping for finishing at 26 June 21st at 7pm, arrive early to chat. Location: Skunk Hollow studios, 26 John Davis Drive, Jericho, VT.

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

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Woodchuck News Page 5

Joel Gaines and Tom Dunne Show some recent work

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Photos From Tamir Page 6

Tom Dunne sends along some photos of Tamir's recent work and his outdoor shop



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Ted Fink Turns Tunes Page 7

Ted shows us a speaker set he turned from his granddaughter



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Don't Judge a Cedar by it's Color Page 8-9

Dave Buchholz tells us about a experiment he did with cedar and Spar varnish

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Too Much to do Not Enough Time to do it in page 10

Andy whines about being Too popular

## Woodchucks Meeting Minutes 5/17/23

Meeting was called to order by Harvie Porter at 7:09. Meeting was held at Skunk Hollow, as a hybrid.

### Introductions

We went around the room and introduced ourselves with who we are, where we're from, and what we'll be doing this summer.

### New Business

AAW symposium from June 1-4 in Louisville

There will be live streaming of 20 demos, \$ 99 per person, but group rates are available.

If you're not an AAW member, you can get a free 3 month affiliate membership to try it out.

Jim H announced that there will be 2 shows at Grand Isle Artworks this summer, along with a pop-up trunk show. There 2 shows will be for woodturning, and you must leave your items on display for the entire length of the show. Jim passed out more information.

Karen will start bringing CA glue to the next meeting - \$ 5/bottle

Russ encouraged people to take wood from out back (including a bunch of cedar). If you take a piece, please put a dollar or two in the pot to go to the Woodchucks.

### Show and Tell

Adam W

Small scorched vessel

Brad

Top with chatter work – will show in detail for the November meeting on making holiday gifts

Russ

Segmented vase – finished with orange oil and beeswax

Norfolk Pine hollow form with an offset hole

A Cindy Droza multi-axs form with a sea urchin in the middle

Spoon he helped a neighbor make

Tom D

Burl bowl with a cored small bowl

Cedar vase with scalloped edge

Tamir

Several small cedar pieces

Dave B

Cedar vase/vessel

Something else but I can't read my writing

A bowl with embedded walnut shells on the rim

### Raffle

A raffle with held, again thank you Russ for your generosity

### Demonstration

This month's demo was by Russ. He showed a Melvyn Firmager creation. Russ did his out of bottlebrush.

He turns it wet. It started at 52%

The larger the diameter the more it distorts.

Also the further it is from the pith, the more it will distort.

See chatter for pictures, a written description cannot do it justice.

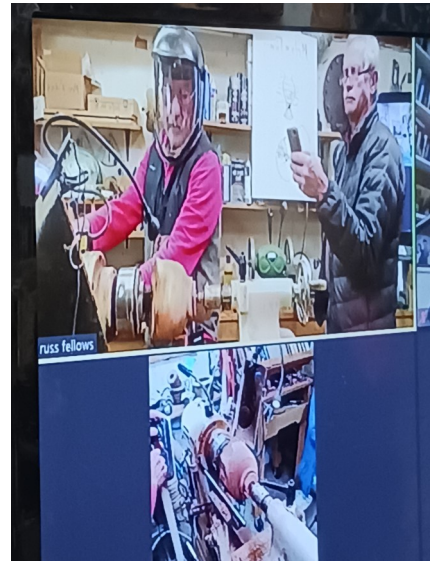
### Upcoming

Topic for the June meeting (6/21) will be "Prepping for Finished"

Volunteers to participate should contact Harvie.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Walz, Secretary





## Woodchuck News

This is a root ball my neighbor dug up from his yard. It wasn't too difficult to talk him into giving it to me. I tried to explain to him what I wanted it for. He just smiled and said it's all yours. One less thing to haul off to the landfill. After I pressure washed it, I let it dry for a few days. Then I did some trimming. I studied it for a couple days looking for the best way to mount it to the lathe. I don't know what kind of shrub it is but it turned more like bone or antler than any species of wood I've ever worked on. After many hours of turning with a round carbide cutter, meticulous detail work, sanding and finishing, I gave it its new look. It's my new favorite piece. —Joe Gaines



I have not been turning much this last month but here are some pieces made from wood generously donated by Russ at last month's meeting—Tom Dunne



Tamir sent me these pics of a 21" Acacia bowl he turned on his home made outdoor lathe in his backyard! He also sent me two links to videos of his teacher's work. I will send them separately, as he would like to work out some kind of demo with our club. Tom Dunne



## Turned Audio System Speakers

Ted Fink

Two of my granddaughters recently became interested in building audio systems for their bedroom desktops. Rather than purchase already assembled units they were taught wiring and soldering of the components by my son so they could do the required assembly themselves. My part in the project was to construct two sets of cherry speaker enclosures to their exact specifications. (See cross sectional diagram.)

To turn the speakers I glued up billets of cherry 7" X 5" X 5" with flat ends perfectly square to the sides. This was necessary because after turning the billets into cylinders, I used a 2" Forstner bit in my drill press to bore a hole from each end effectively removing the bulk of the material from the speaker interior. I then mounted each speaker using a stronghold chuck and finished the interior from each end using a ring tool. The final step is to make two light passes with each speaker over the jointer to create a flat for stability. The finish is wipe-on satin polyurethane.

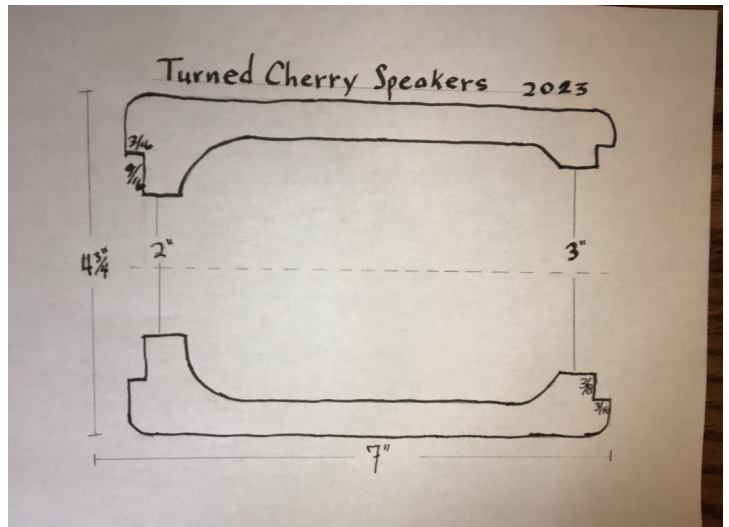
The interior of each speaker is filled with poly-fil which is used to stuff upholstered furniture. What this does is prevent random sound wave amplification within the enclosure which would cause occasional notes to sound louder than they should.

The transducer is a 3" full range driver from a company called Tang. It is recommended for use in a sealed box design with about 7.2 cubic inches of interior air. It has a very flat response from 100 Hz through 18,000 Hz. Making it a great set up for a small room.

Parts and sources: Tang Band W3-881JF 3" Full Range Speaker – Parts Express - \$32.98;

Round Speaker Terminal Cup 2-15/16" Satin Nickel Bing Post Banana Jack Parts Express - \$5.98;

Used with this amplifier from Parts Express: TPS3116D2 Class 2.1 Bluetooth 5.0 Amplifier Board 2 X 50W + 100W with Filter and Volume Controls - \$39.98



## How long will the red in red cedar last?

Dave Buchholz

### Photos on page 9

Last month Russ Fellows was offering some red cedar for anyone who wanted it for turning. The color was a beautiful bright red. I had brought in a red cedar vase which had a nice contrast between the heart and sap wood but it had lost the brilliant red of Russ' freshly cut cedar. I decided to see how long I could keep the bright red of Russ' cedar.

I started with 3 pieces of cedar from the half log I received at the monthly meeting. The section on the left was cut and left in the dark except to periodically take its picture. The piece in the middle was similar but exposed to bright sunlight. The one on the right was coated with many coats of Spar varnish and then exposed to sunlight exactly like the one in the middle.

Photo 1- Left (left in dark), Middle (30 minute in sun), Right (treated with Spar varnish, 30 minutes in sun)

Photo 1 shows what just 30 minutes of bright sun will do to the red color by comparing the left and middle sections. The bright red has already noticeably started to darken and turn red brown. The Spar varnish darkens both the sap and heart wood when it was applied and hence it is not obvious that the sun did nothing to change the color, but that will become apparent when looking at longer exposures.

Photo 2- Left (left in dark), Middle (2.5 hours in sun), Right (treated with Spar varnish, 2.5 hours in sun)

Photo 2 shows the effect of 2.5 hours in the bright sun. The untreated cedar has gotten noticeably browner while the Spar varnish treated section has not changed.

Photo 3- Left (left in dark), Middle (1 week in sun), Right (treated with Spar varnish, 1 week in sun)

Photo 3 shows the effect of one week in the bright sun. The untreated cedar has gotten even more noticeably browner while the Spar varnish treated section has not changed. So I conclude that if you want to keep the bright red of the cedar, keep your work in a dark closet and never take it out. If you want to display your cedar, then treat it with a UV inhibitor like Spar varnish but realize that the varnish will change the color at the initial application. The Spar varnish has kept the same color of the treated wood (which is darker than the original cedar) but it hasn't changed after one week of exposure to the sun. I can't tell you what will happen after years of exposure since this experiment only lasted one week.

Box Elder Maple sometimes also has a bright red coloration. It will also change quickly like the red cedar. The only way to keep that original color is to do what Binh Pho did. He air brushed red acrylic paint over the original red color. Just make sure to use a color fast red acrylic paint.





Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

## Notes a From Ya' boy

With summer approaching my life is getting more and more busy. I rarely complete a task without feeling like there is some other task that I should be working on instead. I have bowls to turn, bowls to sand, bowls to finish, bowls to laser engrave , the car to load and unload, markets to attend, baseball games and practice to get Arlo to, the lawn needs to be mowed, vacations to planned and went on. With all this being said, I just want to remind the membership that the club will need a new communications person/Chatter editor starting in October. Feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.



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**JUNE 2023 Treasurer's Report**

**Bank Balance forward**  
4944.71

**INCOME**  
Dues 300.00  
Donation 45.00  
Raffle 32.00  
377.00

**EXPENSES**  
Drozda IRD deposit 50.00

**Bank Balance ending** 5271.71  
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 Gaines, Barry Genslinger, George Gibson, Jim Goodwin, Rick Hamilton, Damon Hartman, 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, Dave Smith, Edwards Smith, Marilyn Stolberg, Brad Vietje, Wes Volk, Adam Wager, Fred Walters, Gary Walz (52)

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)

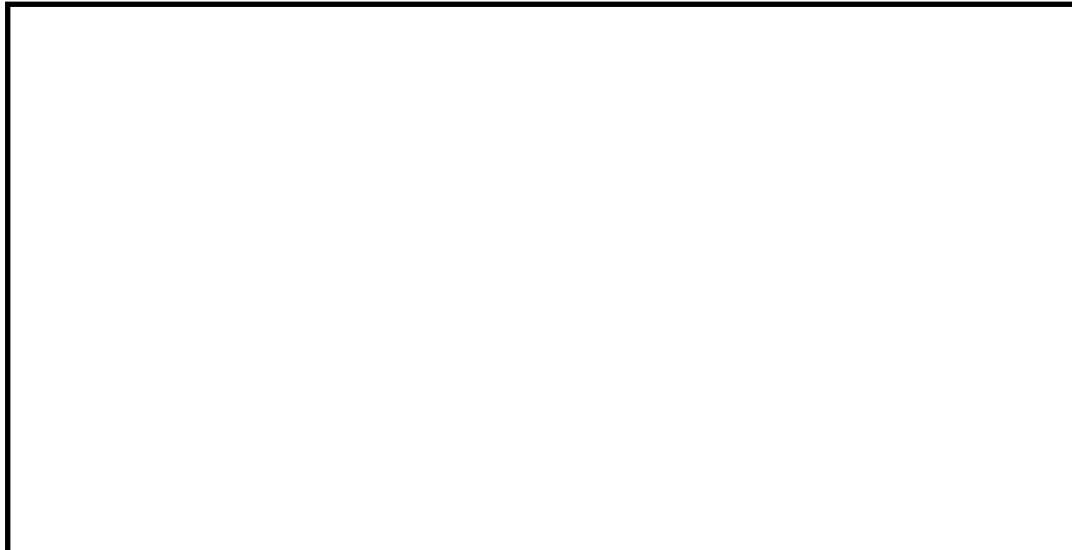
Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Ted Fink, Michael Mode, Dick Montague, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith, Army Spahn, and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members (9)

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](mailto: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**


**Classifieds**



## **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.  
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Russ Fellows: General, segmented, & multi-axis turning  
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Ted Beebe: Segmented work.  
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