

WOODCHUCK CHATTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WOODCHUCK TURNERS OF NORTHERN VERMONT

AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

WOODCHUCKSVT.ORG

November 13, 2022

Volume 19, Issue 11

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



Tool Sharpening with Nick Rosato and Dick Montague

Last Meeting: October 19th, 2022

Next Meeting: November 17th, 2022

Holiday Craft and Ornament Roundtable

After that: January 18th, 2022

No December Meeting!

November Meeting Preview

Please note our November Hybrid Meeting will be on **Thursday November 17th, 2022** at Champlain Valley Union High School in Hinesburg starting at 7PM, arrive early to chat. Description of meeting presentations on P(2).

Election Results! During the October 19th, 2022 meeting an election for the board of directors was held. Secretary cast a single ballot which was voted on and carried by the present members. We elected a new Vice President, Karen Drennen, and Member at Large, Adam Wager. Thank you Dave Buchholz and Army Spahn for your board membership!

At the October 30th board meeting it was unanimously voted to extend lifetime membership to Cil Spahn in recognition of her years of service to the club. Thank you Cil!

“A Video All Woodturners Should Watch” - Rick Hamilton. Rick suggests an article from February 2022 of the AAW Magazine [“Legs are for More Than Standing”](#), and video from Eric Lofstrom [“Proper Body Mechanics at the Lathe.”](#)

Russ Fellows Wraps up another great summer at Skunk Hollow Studios. P(7)

Jim Holzschuh shows photos from the Mass Sheep and Wool festival . P(10)

Dave Buchholz gets Colorado Rocky Mountain high.....altitude sickness

Dave writes about some of the tree’s he saw on a trip to Denver P(9)

Brian Reed and Joe Gains show some recent work. P(9)



Break on through to the other side.

I write a few words about breakthroughs in my wood turning career P(11)

Preview of the presentation at the November 17th meeting

Making a spinning top—Barry Genzlinger

Over the past 20 years I have made many hundreds of tops: dollhouse miniatures small enough to fit 5 on a dime, earrings, pendants, color changing tops. Most are typical designs. Others are very fancy, made for the serious top collector. Prices range from a few dollars to many hundreds of dollars. I will bring a variety of my past creations and demonstrate my technique. I will also bring a bunch of blanks from my stash for anyone to turn.



Dave Buchholz will demonstrate how to turn firewood into Christmas trees (right).



Karen Drennen will be demonstrating snowmen. (Left)



Dick Montague:

I will do a demonstration of chatter work on different woods and a variety of projects that lend themselves to gifts for different interests and ages. It will include chatter designs for folk toys, shop tools, kitchen, garden, sewing, games and containers....

I will go over making the tools and show a commercial example. All are welcome to try the chatter work and the follow-up sanding, polishing and sharpening the tools.

Please feel free to bring examples of tools you have used and work you have tried.

Time permitting I will have something for the raffle.

Notes from October Meeting

Woodchucks Meeting Minutes 19-Oct-2022

Meeting was called to order by President Harvie Porter at 7:01 Meeting was held as a hybrid.

Announcements

There will be one last sawdust session at Russ's on Wednesday, November 2

AAW upcoming events:

Nov 5 – Women In Turning

Nov 12 – Trent Bosch – Making Hollow Forms

Many Remote Demos – check their website!

The National Symposium will be June 1-4

Election of Officers

The following slate of officers was put for nomination at the September meeting:

President – Harvie

Vice President – Karen (Dave B is resigning. Thank you for your service!)

Secretary – Gary

Treasurer – Brad

Newsletter - Andy

Members at Large:

Tom D

Bob M

Adam

A voice vote was taken of the group, since there were no positions with multiple people running. All were in favor. Congrats and thanks for serving the Woodchucks during the coming year.

Raffle

The club held its' monthly raffle. Thanks again to Russ and any others who donated wood.

Show and Tell

Adam

Adam showed a burl cap he got from Edwards

Nick

Nick honored us with his presence and showed some older projects of his that he uses around the house. They included

a butternut lidded box (used as a cookie jar)

One of his first bowls from an unknown wood

A large bowl that is used for, among other things, fruit

Elsa

A calabash shaped bowl

Spalted birch bowl

Others (My notes failed me on attribution... I'm sure there are pictures in Chatter.

We also saw a square platter from a beam

A small square platter

Notes from October Meeting, Continued

Feature Presentation – Tom M and Nick R

The feature this month was hands on sharpening demos, hosted by Tom M and Nick R.

Both gave a 15 minute talk about their approach to sharpening. You couldn't have asked for two more polar opposite approaches, but their methods both work well for them.

Dick

“If you can see the edge, you don't have an edge”

“How do you tell if it's sharp?” Look at the shavings!

If you see dust, it's dull

If you see shaving, it's sharp

Uses CBN Wheels

Don't use a diamond wheel

Likes the One-Way Wolverine Fixture

Talked about the importance of burrs and how to create

Nick

Use Vari grind Jig

Nick primarily uses two tools.

He likes, and mostly uses, ½” gouges – both bowl and spindle

He sharpens very frequently

Depends on the stage of the process, the wood type, etc.

For his bowl gouge, he like the “Double Bevel”, a Main Bevel then a Relief Bevel.

Both Dick and Nick then held hands-on sessions sharing their tips and techniques. Thanks to everyone who brought in equipment and tools to share.



Pictures from October Meeting



One of Nick's first bowls

Don't forget we need to bring raffle items next month



More Pictures from October Meeting

The Main Attraction



IT'S A WRAP
By Russ Fellows

I think that's a Hollywood expression used when a project is completed? It is not exactly accurate in the case of Skunk Hollow activities, as there is every intention of picking back up again in 2023. Bob and I so enjoy hosting the Woodchucks, and judging by the turnout at the last Sawdust Session on November 2, the Woodchucks continue to enjoy it as well. The weather gods were kind and threw no early snowstorm at us, and ALMOST all of the woodpile behind the shop is gone!

Thank you all again for making the effort to attend all our club gatherings! It involves considerable driving for many of you, but it is what makes our club, well, the great club that it is!! I have assured the board that it is my plan to pick up again in May 2023, which means a Sawdust Session on Wednesday, May 3 and the for the regular club meeting on Wednesday, May 17, I have been asked to come up with something new and exciting that I learn in Florida this Winter for a demo! I'll do my best!

Many of you have stopped by to visit us in Florida, so please consider this an invitation for any of you to do likewise. We always enjoy the company, don't hesitate! Soooooooooo, wrapping it up for 2022 from Skunk Hollow! Thank you!!

Photos from Last Sawdust Session of 2022 at Skunk Hollow Studios



Left: Ross with a willow bowl.



Right: Elsa with a nice bowl



Left: Tom's Honey Locust form .



Right: and above Joe's beautiful as always work





Beautiful Works of art by Tamier



Left: Jake's birch bowl with impressive figure

Below: The gang from November Sawdust Session



Bristlecone Pines

By Dave Buchholz



I visited the Denver area last month and climbed in the Rockies to see examples of bristlecone pines. The bristlecone is one of the oldest trees on earth. They grow near the timber line on the sides of the Rockies. The second picture shows the cones on a tree which was pretty healthy. I don't know how old the ones I saw were but they live in a harsh environment. These trees were at the 10,000 foot altitude. The views were gorgeous but the lack of air was challenging for those of us used to sea level conditions.



The Colorado people do some strange things. They plant sumac as an ornamental tree in their yards. They also plant Ailanthus trees (Tree of Heaven). I don't know anyone around here who would deliberately plant these trees. The Ailanthus tree is considered an invasive tree.

Joe Gaines sent in a still shot of the piece of junk wood River birch he showed at Sawdust Session this month. "I was careful to crop out the hole in the bottom. I plan to modify this piece with a 2 part base of walnut or cocobolo to hide the hole. If I get on it I should have it ready to reshow at the November 17 gathering at CVU."



Brian Reed shares pictures of a carved bowl that he made for his wife. "It's black Cherry, finished with wiping polyurethane. The inspiration for the design was the bowls made by David Fisher and illustrated in Fine Woodworking magazine. My departure from lathe work was necessitated by the need for a long bowl to fit a specific space in our kitchen."



Jim Holzschuh visited Springfield MA recently for the Massachusetts Sheep and Wool Festival. "I've been making lots of fiber tools. They include shawl pins, darning eggs, a darning mushroom, yarn bowls, salad bowls, Christmas trees and more."



Notes from Ya Boy

Teaching bowl turning as part of the CVU ACCESS program got me thinking about my progression in turning. Like many turners I was dogged by catches in my early turning career. I was trying as hard as I could to keep all the information in my mind about correct turning technique. There was just too much to think about and I kept on getting catches. One day I decided to stop trying to turn correctly and I focused on not turning incorrectly. I asked myself “what is a catch and how do I avoid them?” With what causes a catch in mind my skills were finally able to progress.

Similarly I have struggled with my OneWay coring system. I could make it work and on unique, special, or expensive blanks it was definitely worth having, but I never felt like it saved me any time or even effort with generic blanks. At the November Sawdust Session Tom Dunne, while talking about a problem he had, inadvertently told me what I was doing wrong. I was using the middle/medium speed pulley on my lathe for coring. Using the large/slow pulley increases the torque the lathe has and makes the coring system work much better. In hindsight this is obvious and something I should have known. But sometimes it takes a change in thought to help you progress. My production speed has increased and I have our Sawdust Sessions and Tom Dunne to thank. Thanks!



**Woodchuck Turners of
Northern Vermont
Board of Directors**

President: Harvie Porter
39 Randolph Ave.
Randolph, VT 05060
802-728-4265
weltradler@gmail.com

Vice-President: Dave Buchholz
5 Randolph Road
Keeseville, NY, 12944
518 834 9524
dbuchholz@northwestern.edu

Secretary: Gary Walz
68 Oglewood Rd.
Milton, VT 05468
802 893 1159
GaryWalz@gmail.com

Treasurer: Brad Jackson
14 Rustic Drive
Essex Junction, Vt. 05452
802 878 8979
bradjackson234@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor:
Andrew Duling
2432 Ballard Rd.
Georgia, VT 05478
802 999 4491
woodchuckturnersof-nvt@gmail.com

Member-At-Large:
Bob Martin
36 Calais Rd.
Worcester, VT 05682
Phone: 802-223-7475
martrlm@yahoo.com

Member-At-large
Tom Dunne
36 South St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
802 388 6981
jthomasdunne@gmail.com

Member-At Large :
Arny Spahn
89Tom Wicker Lane #229
Randolph CTR., VT 05061
802-728-4799
woodchuck5540@gmail.com

Past President and Web Master
Jay Bailey
22 Cobble Hill Meadows
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 479-1458
tjaybailey@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report

NOVEMBER 2022 Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance forward
5100.99

INCOME
Dues 50.00
Raffle 20.00

EXPENSES
Refreshments 119.19

Bank Balance ending 5051.80
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 **2022**:

Jay Bailey, Lori Barg, Wayne Beauchemin, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Chris Bishop, Bradford Blaisdell, Joyce Blaisdell, Robert Bouvier, Bill Breen, Dave Buchholz, George Cacchio, Sara Campbell, Sal Chiarelli, Janet Collins, Karen Cutler, Michael DeWeese, George Disney, Karen Drennan, Andrew Duling, Tom Dunne, Cheryl Ferry, Dave Ferry, Joe Fortin, Joe Gaines, Barry Genzlinger, Carl Gerner, George Gibson, Mike Glod, Jim Goodwin, Rick Hamilton, Damon Hartman, Peter Hebert, Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Pam Jedlicka, Kevin Jenness, Scott Johnson, Eddie Krasnow, Joe Laferriere, Ted Lattrell, Luc Lefebvre, David Lein, Kevin Liddiard, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Gerry Martin, Ross Mitchel, Kevin Murdough, Ted Nelson, Patrick Nevers, Elsa Oppenheimer, Mickey Palmer, David Papin, Jeff Petter, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, Barent Rogers, Robert Schumacher, David Scrase, Edwards Smith, Marilyn Stohlberg, Wes Volk, Adam Wager, Fred Walters, Gary Walz, Mike Washburn, Bob Zeliff (71)

Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Ted Fink, Michael Mode, Dick Montague, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith, Arny Spahn, Al Stirt and Cil Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members (10)

If you have paid your dues for the 2022 year but do not see your name listed above, please contact me at BradJackson234@gmail.com to correct that error of omission. Dues for 2022 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to: Brad Jackson, 14 Rustic Drive, Essex, VT 05452

The Board of Directors also gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2023**:

Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Paul Jagielski, Kevin Liddiard, Dave Smith (5)

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.
802-584-3486
Montagueturn@gmail.com
Groton

Russ Fellows: General, segmented, & multi-axis turning
802-343-0393
russfellows@outlook.com
 @fellowswoodart
Jericho

Ted Beebe: Segmented work.
802-849-2436
Teddy.beebe@gmail.com
Fletcher

Tom Dunne: Hollow turning, etc.
802-388-6981
jthomasdunne@gmail.com
Middlebury

Dave Buchholz
General turning; advanced embellishments