

Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org



October 12, 2020

Volume 17, Number 10



Hybrid Meeting—10/21/20

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This month the site of our meeting is Skunk Hollow Studios. We will have Show and Tell and a raffle. Please have an item you have worked on ready to show, either by ZOOM or if you attend in body. Only a few should attend in person. We do need a cameraman (that's the title) to aid in any presentations. The rest of us are invited to attend by ZOOM. Woodchucks want to gather, but we still need to do so safely. This month, our presenter is Franck Johanssen, zooming in on us from Florida.

We hope to have a discussion among all the present members about our future

meetings once Russ's shop closes up for the winter.

Two items of Club business are on the table, also. We are opening up nominations for Board positions for the coming year. If you have an interest in moving the club forward, please volunteer. No one will be insulted if you do.

Second, we have a change in Bylaws coming up, as well as final Board elections. The change puts the Newsletter Editor on the Board. That is up for debate. If you don't like the idea, please speak up.

Hybrid Meeting—9/16/20 On-site photos by Karen Drennen

President Jay Bailey called the Zoom meeting to order at 7 PM. There were twelve online participants and six attending at Russ Fellows'. Jay mentioned that the board decided to improve the equipment for our Zoom meetings. The raffle was held with just eleven participants

Show and Tell: Andy Duling showed a butternut bowl burned with the new laser he purchased. It was only \$139 on Amazon. Tom Dunne shared a deep butternut bowl and a set of live edge bowls from a rosewood burl. Dave Buchholz showed a "fishbowl" with laser engraved fishes around the rim. Janet Collins shared her new pup, "Lady." Russ Fellows showed a square edge butternut bowl with carved feet. He also shared a walnut/lacewood



bowl with a lacquer finish.

The floor was opened up for nominations from the floor for officers of the club. Arny moved and it was seconded that the current officers be nominated to serve for the following year. The motion passed unanimously.

(Continued on page 4)

Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont Board of Directors

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

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

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

Treasurer: Karen Drennen
12 Winters Court
Swanton, VT 05488
kdu@myfairpoint.net
802 868 6161

Member-At-Large
Andrew Duling
2432 Ballard Rd.
Georgia, VT 05478
AEDuling@gmail.com
802 999 4491

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

Member-At-large &
Newsletter Editor:
Arny Spahn
Reporter, Assistant Editor,
and Proof Reader:
Cil Spahn
89Tom Wicker Lane #229
Randolph CTR., VT 05061
802-728-4799
woodchuck5540@gmail.com

Last week, we were blessed with a beautiful day. We love going for a drive in our new car, but hate going without a goal. So, we went looking for Tree House Lumber to replenish my flat stock. I didn't have anything bigger than a brick left on my shelves. The drive up to Barre was OK, with an on-highway detour at Exit 7 as they are rebuilding some of the infrastructure.

Heading down Main Street, we were amused at the growth just out of the town's center. Many of the mid town store fronts are empty. There does seem to be a surplus of small restaurants and bars, though. There's a left turn over the railroad tracks to get to the warehouse section where Tree house has its setup. We made the turn, and were surprised to see that where we thought Tree House was, there was a new outfit, Wilson Lumber Co. Having my mind set on Tree House, I drove out of there and headed back to the Interstate.

It's a nice, nearly hour drive to South Burlington. Traffic was light in both directions, and it was a sunny day.

We found Tree House easily as we had been there before. They have a great selection of native hardwoods and some exotics. The stock is arranged in bins; the board lengths along the right wall, and bark-on slabs scattered. There are other bins with short lengths arranged by species. There are plenty of areas to browse through depending on the type of stock you want.

I had no trouble picking out several varieties. I do not know yet what I will use any of it for, but I believe that the project comes to the wood. When inspiration comes to me, I am pretty sure I will have the wood to turn the inspiration into an object. I spent a little over \$200 there, and I did get the proper discount by telling them I'm a Woodchuck turner. Next time I feel like wandering, I will look at our Resource Page before I reach into the money jar. There are several listings for wood suppliers.

I am only retired from my full-time profession, photography. I still feel the need to be productive, to be worth the room I take up. That's why I keep the positions I have in Rotary, in Woodchucks, and other places. Making sawdust is a hobby for me, but producing finished products for other folks does feel good. Without keeping my hands and mind busy, I would probably be in bad shape. I am also an

advocate for mental health. I know how easy it is for folks to get into a funk and drop out. That not only hurts the individual, but it also hurts your circle. So, look for help if you need it. There is no stigma attached to getting help.

I know I have been able to read since just before I turned 4. At that time, it was mostly comic books and Big Little Books, and I have been a constant reader ever since. I have subscribed to any number of magazines related to my interests, usually 3 or more at a time. I was into guns when I was a competitive pistol shooter.

When we were big into camping, there were a few mags that were interesting. Likewise with wood working and cars and racing. Currently I subscribe to 2 car magazines; the third one folded last year and went digital only. I guess I'm no longer really enthusiastic about cars, as I did not get an issue or two and didn't notice they were absent until I read about an article in one of them, in a later issue. I still love auto racing, and read results every week. I also watch a few races during the year.

Besides a few woodworking magazines, I also have a large collection of woodworking manuals, ranging from outdoor furniture to ornament turning. When I feel like getting down to the shop, there's plenty of good info available.

My daily reading consists of about an hour reading the news, mostly as feed on my computer. I also spend lots of time with fiction. My Kindle tablet has over 200 books on it ranging from James Fenimore Cooper to Archer Mayer. Paper is good, too, and we have 5 book cases full of a variety of works. I really think I should read some of the classic works I have avoided. I did get plenty of that back in school, back before I discovered science fiction. Trouble is, a lot of that is so deep and of such a tedious style, I have not been able to fight my way through. When I pick up an author, I usually read every thing by that author. And I have learned that it is OK to stop reading a book when it becomes too tedious. That took me a long time to learn. I used to fight my way through the most boring stuff; no longer.

So, I need to get back to work and produce this issue. I give thanks every month for the contributions I get from my readers. Lately, Ed. Smith, Russ Fellows, and Karen Drennen have been my most faithful contributors and help make "Chatter" interesting.

Arny

Balance forward
 \$4071.69
 Dues \$50.00
 Raffle \$17.00
 Camera donation \$10.00
 CA glue \$20.00
 Adj. \$7.00
 Total Income \$104.00
 Monthly Zoom fee \$15.89
 Bank service charge \$3.00
 Woodchuck masks \$180.24
 Total expenses \$199.13
 Balance ending \$3976.56
 Karen Drennen/Treasurer

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

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for 2020:

Jay Bailey, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Brad Blaisdell, Joyce Blaisdell, Chris Bishop, Mike Breen, Jay Brunault, Tom

Brunault, Dave Buchholz, Sal Chiarelli, Janet Collins, Mike Deweese, Ann Dinsmore, Brad Dinwiddie, Karen Drennen, Greg Drew, Andy Duling, Tom Dunne, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Joe Fortin, Toby Fulwiler, Joe Gaines, Barry Genzlinger, George Gibson, Mike Glod, Jim Goodwin, Rick Hamilton, Peter Hebert, Linda Hollingdale, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Jake Jemas, Kevin Jenness, Eddie Krasnow, Luc Lefebvre, Joe Laferriere, Lucinda Love, Chris Lumbr, Bob Martin, Kevin Murdough, Ted Nelson, William Nestork, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Jeff Petter, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, Larry Rice, Sam Sanderson, Edwards Smith, Arny Spahn, Cil Spahn, Marilyn Stolberg, Adam Wager, Gary Walz, Mike Washburn (58)

(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.

KDii@myfairpoint.net

Dues for 2020 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, & Penn State Industries discount lists, (to remain on the discount lists dues must be paid by April 1st each year). Mention the club to get your discount. PSI and Klingspor request you log in **before** you order anything to ensure your discount.

Jay Visits Las Vegas



Lotsa Rocks!

I'm in Las Vegas visiting family. It's totally different here with regard to vegetation, lots of Palm trees, lemon and orange trees, small shrubs, desert variations of pine, and some Acacia trees that

look to be 30 feet or so. Don't know how they would be to turn and I don't think the airline will let me take any wood on the plane however.



In town, they have lemon & lime & orange trees



And palm trees!

(Continued from page 1)

The meeting then adjourned for Brad Blaisdell's demonstration on using epoxy.



Andy tells about his turnings.



Jay videos Andy



Russ and Brad discuss the demo.



A variation of segmented turning: A solid walnut bowl gets a pierced-segmented rim.



Russ has experimented with using clear epoxy as a turned element. Here, the knob on his pepper mill is a section of burl encased in epoxy to show the texture.



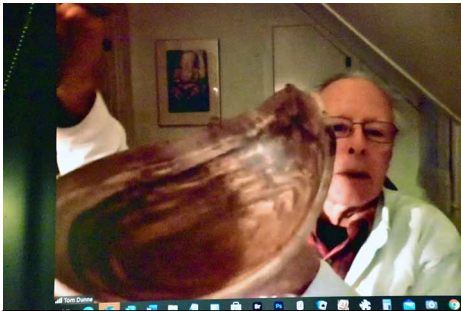
Show & Tell: Russ makes a square bowl.



This is the logo Andy printed on a bowl bottom.



Andy got a laser engraver from Amazon for \$159.00, called the Mysweety. Setup is not too hard and results are



Tom Dunne shows one of the bowls from a burl. He got several using his coring setup.



Dave showed his laser-engraved critters on the top rim of a bowl.



Janet has adopted a new shop dog.

September Demo: Brad Blaisdell Fills with Epoxy



Brad talks about the 2 components of epoxy, resin and hardener.



He's adding an equal amount of hardener to the resin.



Just a little pigment goes in to give a transparent color.



Karen stirs the mix thoroughly .



She pours the mix into her partially turned box elder form.



Brad adds some more and spreads it around. The epoxy will seep into all the crevices.

(Continued on Page 6)



Brad experimented with a piece of Sumac. It splits while drying.



He poured epoxy into the crack and it filled the center cavity. Keep pouring at intervals to make sure the crevice fills up.



Here's the result when the piece is turned down. The crack is full, and the turning could make a candle stick.



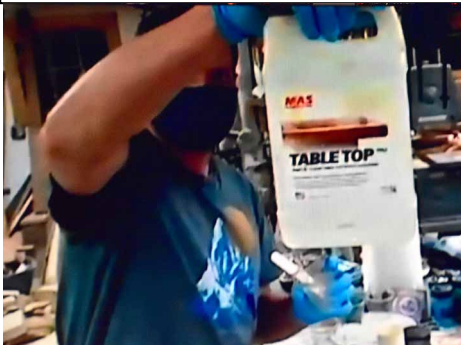
After the epoxy sets, Karen will have 3 distinct colors filling the bottom of this natural-edge bowl.



Andy adds a 2nd layer to an object. The form is heavy paper and will be turned off.



Some more color added to his mix.



Here is the jug of resin, labelled Table Top finish. That particular size/brand runs \$108.00 from Amazon. It makes 2 gallons of finish.



Brad dumps any excess epoxy into a container and when it's full, he might turn it down to see what he can get from it. Here, Russ goes to work on one of the dump-clusters.



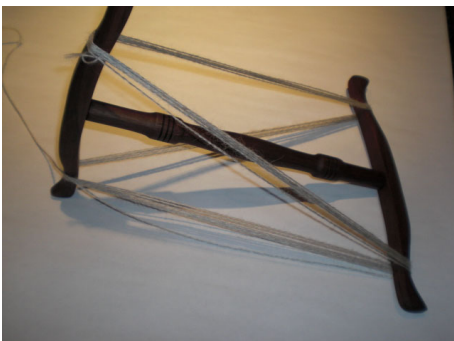
Part way through the lump, here's what was discovered. More work will change the appearance.

Turning For Fiber Crafts Jim Holzschuh

My name is Jim Holzschuh. My wife, Ellen A. Thompson, and I own Yellow Dog Farm, located in South Hero, VT. We raise Angora goats and we also have several alpacas. Angora goats are prized for their mohair fleece. They are sheared twice a year, in April and October and an adult Angora goat will yield, after processing, enough yarn for about 40 4 ounce skeins – enough for about 5-6 sweaters or many more hats and scarves.



I was the recipient of the old Dunlap lathe that my father used. Sears sold them in the 40's before the Craftsman brand became their claim to fame. I had used it to make several bowls and plates early in my turning career but when we



Niddy-noddy with yarn

got the fiber animals in 2005 I started making tools for fiber artists as well as your typical bowls and plates. You

would be surprised how many different tools fiber artists use that have a turned component. The pictures are some of them:

The drop spindle is used for hand spinning and is a tool that dates back at least 10,000 years. The single ply of yarn spun on the drop spindle can be plied back onto the same spindle for a multiple ply yarn, thus making a drop spindle the only tool you need for making finished yarn. The yarn bowl is a much



Drop spindle

newer “invention” as they have become popular only in the last 15 to 20 years. It allows for a ball of yarn to be used without the ball rolling away, under the couch or being chased by the family cat. Tools for winding yarn include the nostepinde, for winding a center pull ball, and a niddy-noddy used for winding a skein of yarn. I have made sock darning, however no one seems to do that anymore. A wrist distaff hangs from your wrist and is used to hold the roving (washed and carded fleece) for hand spinning. Then there are buttons, beads, shawl pins, knitting needles and hair picks. A spinning wheel has



Yarn bowl



nostepindle

MANY turned parts, however I have not made one. Yellow Dog Farm is one of the few Majacraft spinning wheel dealers in Vermont for anyone who is looking to purchase a spinning wheel – sorry, a flagrant and unsolicited plug...

Ellen and I go to several Sheep and Wool Festivals and craft shows during the year where you can see yarn and knit products from our animals as well as some of the tools pictured. We al-



Jim using a wrist distaff and drop spindle.

ways demonstrate spinning at these festivals and usually draw quite a crowd of folks interested in the process of turning fleece into finished yarn. We also own and run the Grand Isle Art Works gallery in Grand Isle, VT where you can find our products as well. In the gallery

Turning For Fiber Crafts
Jim Holzschuh

we display (and hopefully sell) wood turned objects by fellow



Wrist distaff

Woodchucks: Greg Drew, Russ Fellows, Nick Rosato, Barry Genzlinger and yours truly. In the summer, after the April shearing, we bring some of our goats to the gallery and they stay till the end of September when they go back home to South Hero - ready for their October hair cut. Being in Grand Isle for the summer we tell folks that they go south for the winter - like so many of the Island residents.



Ellen spinning



Turned buttons



Hexagonal drop spindle



Niddy-noddy



A shawl pin

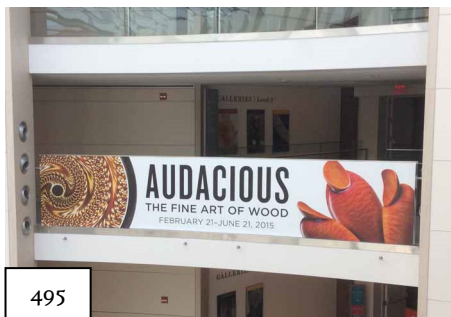
Plan on visiting the gallery sometime or looking for us at one of the Sheep and Wool festivals or Craft Shows.

Over the weekend of June 6th-7th I was in the Boston area, for several reasons. One of them was to go to this exhibit (<http://pem.org/exhibitions/178-audacious-the-fine-art-of-wood-from-the-montalto-bohlen-collection>) at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass. Salem is much better known for its periodic gatherings of witches through the centuries, but tucked in among its colonial-era buildings is a stunning, and contrasting building (Photo # 493) housing the Peabody Essex Museum.



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The one I went to see was called "Audacious", "The Fine Art of



495

Wood" (Photo # 495).

The theme of the show is how woodturning has progressed over the last couple of decades from making bowls to making art. There were dozens of pieces on display including pieces from fellow Woodchuck club members Al Stirt (Photo # 469) and Mike Mode (Photo 485). Of particular interest to me was the piece by Hal Metlitsky (Photo # 482) and also the signature piece for the show pic-



469

tured on the promotional banner (photo #495). This piece was one of the ones I cited in my May demo on segmented turning as being particularly inspirational for me. It is made using the same technique I talked about then, and am now using extensively, called 'modified stack ring'. The last photo(#487) is of perhaps the most unusual piece in a the show that was ALL unusual pieces! It was made of comic books crumpled up into a ball, saturated with epoxy, and turned into the shape you see!! Anyone feel like trying something new?? I could go on at length about the many stunning pieces on exhibit made by so many of the well-known artists in our (now) slightly wacky world of woodturning. I bought the book accompanying the exhibit and will have it to share at the meeting on the 17th, and although the show ends on the 21st of this month, if you have time, or need to be in the Boston area, go out of your way to see this! Hope to see many of you on the 17th in Jericho!

Russ Fellows



485



482



487

- 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 back yard, 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 'exoticwoodsusaaw' 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 scratch101012. **(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

Want Ads Mentors Wanted Share your Skills

I have a lathe for sale! All the information is on the craigslist ad here: <https://vermont.craigslist.org/tls/d/williston-wood-lathe/7146512631.html>

Jeff Petter



John Brislin's Powermatic 3520A lathe. Asking price is \$2200.00. Attached are some photos. Karen Drennen is contact for it. 802-868-6161.

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

Tom Dunne: Hollow turning, etc.
802-388-6981

jthomasdunne@gmail.com
Middlebury

Brad Dinwiddie: General turning, peppermills, utensils, pens
802-275-7185

brad@frogpondwoodturning.com
Underhill

In House

Demos:

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

November 18th- Various Christmas ornaments.

December 16th - Holiday round table

January - Remote demo - TBA Date TBA

February 17th- Tool sharpening

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.