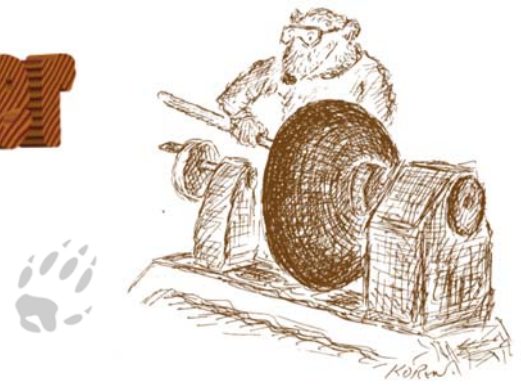


Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org



June 11, 2018

Volume 15, Number 6

June Meeting, 6/20/2018

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Directions to the June 20th 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 will show us the steps he takes to go from raw logs to taking a bowl off the lathe.

May Meeting, 5/16/2018—Harvie Porter

Bob Martin called the meeting to order at 7 PM. The 23 attendees introduced themselves and gave their hometowns. Jay Bailey is working on the club website and should have improvements finished soon. He'd appreciate any ideas club members have for improving the site. Jim Holzschuh announced the trunk show the last weekend in July. If you are interested in participating, contact Jim. Russ Fellows announced the first sawdust session will be held at his house on Wednesday June 6th.

Fifteen attendees participated in the raffle.

Show and Tell:

Dave Buchholz showed several platters with his raindrop pattern. Russ Fellows showed a chinaberry bowl, a rosewood vase, an urn made of sycamore and a elevated platter incorporating pieces of colored pencil. Arny Spahn shared a satinwood hollow form and a mahogany bowl with carved features. Jim Holzschuh

(Continued on page 4)

Woodchuck Website Now rejuvenated and live!!

[HTTP://WOODCHUCKSVT.ORG/](http://WOODCHUCKSVT.ORG/)

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

President:
Nick Rosato
The Sculpted Tree
106 Loaldo Drive
Burlington, VT 05408
802-999-2976
nickrosato@gmail.com

Vice-President:
Janet Collins
134 S. Bailey-Hazen Rd.
Ryegate, VT 05042
curlyacer@gmail.com
802-584-4341

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

Treasurer: Karen Drennen
12 Winters Court
Swanton, VT 05488
Snowflake2017@comcast.net
802 868 6161

Member-At-Large & News-
letter Editor:
Arny Spahn
Reporter, Assistant Editor,
and Proof Reader:
Cil Spahn
89 Tom Wicker Lane #229
Randolph CTR., VT 05061
802-728-4799
apspahn@comcast.net

Member-At-Large:
Sal Chiarelli
20 Cabot Dr.
Essex, VT 05452
Schiarel@uvm.edu
802-316-0054

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

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

I am a voracious reader. My favorite subjects are auto racing, Aeronautics, and Nature. There's more, of course. When the AAW Journal hits my mailbox, I pick some articles out of that. I get my daily fill of the news from the Times and Time Magazine. They both pop up on my email.

Amazon sends me notices about books I might like, depending on what I have bought from them before.

One of my latest purchases was a book from a local writer, Willem Lange. Willem is a hiker, a carpenter, and almost any other type of outdoorsman you can think of. He writes about his life, his hikes, his meetings with other people. That's quite a difference from my fiction reading.

My favorite fictional characters seem to be detectives, cops, and warriors of all types. I tend to read a whole series by an author if I like the first one I read. I have read a lot of "literature", but missed out on most of the real heavy stuff. Maybe, when I am finished with "The Right Stuff" by Tom Wolfe, I'll pick something at random and see if I can get through it. Of the some 200 books on my Kindle, about 1/4th are pre-1900s. I had bought some specifically for my wife, tried one, and got about 20 pages into it before I bogged down. One thing I have learned, which I will pass on, is that we are not obligated to finish a book which we find does not live up to its promise of entertaining us. That's a valuable lesson. There are a lot of things in life which we buy into which do not meet with our expectations, which we should put down and not waste our energy and time on.

Sometimes it's our expectations; sometimes it's that object's promises. There are a few tools which are gathering dust in my shop—they did not perform any where near as well as they should have. They are so poor in performance, I would not give them away, but I have essentially discarded them.

I am making very slow progress in my workshop right now. I have projects on the bench that I want to complete, but just can't make headway on. I visualize a project before I begin it, and continue to work it over in my mind as I go from step to step. One of the projects is a hollow form box. I have completed the shape and the sanding step of the main part. I have the top turned to fit the box, and am working on the outside shape of the top. I am hung up on the next steps. I still have the tenon on the bottom to remove or reshape as the base. I have not applied any finish to the bottom. Part of my dilemma is that the mouth of the box is the wrong size to get clamped by any of my 4-jaw chucks. Sitting here and writing about it, I think the best way will be to turn a jam chuck to fit the mouth, work on the base, then final sand and finish. Then I can go on to design the top. I have several ideas for the top, including putting a contrasting finial on it.

Visualizing a finished product comes naturally to me; as a photographer, I was always two jumps ahead of clients in knowing what was going to look good on paper. Choosing the right angle and lighting, I could do a shoot in just a few shots instead of spending hours and rolls of film to get what the client wanted.

I have to admit that I still have room to adjust a turning when it starts to look ugly. Previsualization just takes me so far.

We took a sort of vacation this weekend and went up to our camp in Derby. Hadn't gone last year as we were moving from our house into our "independent living" apartment in Randolph Center. The cottage needed a lot of cleaning and some repair work. We ate out Friday night. Saturday we watched the Belmont race and cheered "Justify" on. Decided to come home Sunday; got here in time for a great brunch and then watched the Canada Grand Prix. A real fine weekend.

Well, I better get downstairs to work.

Arny

Balance forward

\$4018.19
 Dues \$0.00
 Raffle \$30.00
 Glue \$.00
 Sawdust donations \$8.00
 Total Income \$38.00
 Balance ending \$4056.19
 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 May 2018

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for 2018:

Jay Bailey, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Chris Bishop, Bradford Blaisdell, Dave Buchholtz, James Bushey, Sal Chiarelli, Janet Collins, Karen Cutler, Michael Deweese, Brad Dinwiddie, Karen Drennen, Greg Drew, William Durkee, Andrew Duling, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Ted Fink, Joe Fortin, Barry Genzlinger, George Gibson, Michael Glod, Linda Hollingdale,

Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Kevin Jenness, Eddie Krasnow, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Timothy Montgomery, Sean Murray, Ted Nelson, William Nestork, Stephen O'Donnell, Bengt Ohman, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, Lawrence Rice, David Robistow, Sam Sanderson, David Scrase, Edwards Smith, Nancy Smith, Arny Spahn, Cil Spahn, Adam Wagner (50)

(Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Dick Montague, Michael Mode, Hav Smith and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members, (6)

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.

Snowflake2017@comcast.net

Dues for 2018 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).

Welcome New Members

Brad Dinwiddie
 41 Downes Road
 Underhill VT 05489
 802-275-7185
brad@frogpondwoodturning.com

David Robistow
 277 Robistow Drive
 Fairfax VT 05454
 802 849 9389
drobistow74@gmail.com

Invitation To The Trunk Show—Jim Holzschuh

Fellow wood turners take note - this year will be the 8th annual Trunk Show at the Grand Isle Art Works gallery in Grand Isle. A trunk show is an event in which vendors present merchandise (sometimes new work) directly to customers at a



retail location or another venue. In recent years we have had approximately 35 to 40 artists set up on the grounds of the gallery for the weekend. Like previous years, there will be a large tent where we will have space for up to 8 woodworkers to demonstrate their craft and sell their artwork. Additional woodworkers are always invited to set up under their own

individual 10x10 pop-up tents and join the festivities. If you have not been to the gallery you will find that we have plenty of parking space for visitors and outside vendors alike, approximately 75 Vermont artists' work in the gallery and a small on-site cafe. As Ellen and I raise fiber animals we also have some of our Angora goats at the gallery during the summer which has proven to be a draw for potential customers.



This year the Trunk Show will be on the last weekend in July, 28 and 29. There is a \$25.00 fee to reserve a space which will



be returned to the artist at the end of the weekend. During the weekend you keep track of your sales and pay 20% to the gallery at the end. You can sign up online at <http://grandisleartworks.com/trunk-show-and-sale/trunk-show-call-to-artists/> or you can also print out an application from a link at the bottom of that page. Consider coming to the Islands for the weekend.



Bob Martin starts the meeting up— Nick & Janet were both elsewhere.

(Continued from page 1)

shared two bowls of flamed box elder. Tom Dunn shared a live edge bowl of Russian olive and a cored set of live edge bowls of Russian olive. He also shared a bowl of aspen burl, a bowl of buckthorn and an urn of Norfolk pine.

The meeting then adjourned for a demonstration of ring turning by Dave Buchholz.

Respectfully submitted,

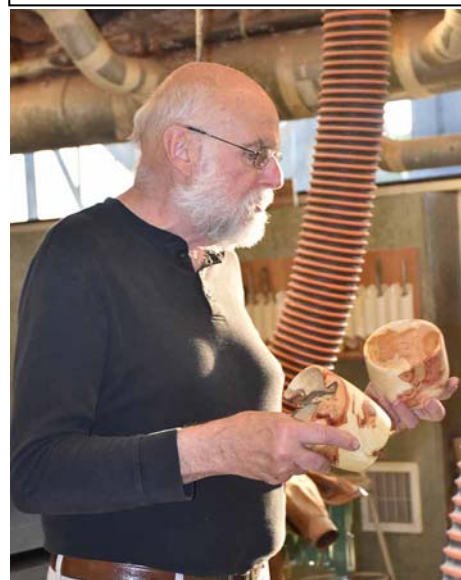
Harvie Porter, Secretary



Karen runs the raffle.



Some of the raffle items.



Jim Holzschuh shows a couple of box-elder items. Take away too much and the nice color goes away.



Welcome back, Russ!



Jay Bailey talks about some features for our Website.



Tom Dunne tells about some of his latest work.

Russ brought some nice stuff back from Florida.

Dave worked some more on improving his Raindrop decorations. Not all his latest worked out as well as he wanted.



Russ's Chinaberry bowl. It can be spectacular when finished, but it's considered a trash tree in Florida.



Rosewood vase by Russ.



A burial urn by Russ. Soon to be used.



An artistic opportunity. The platter had a split, so Russ cut the split away and built in a section composed of colored pencil scraps and epoxy.



Closeup of Jim's Box-elder items.

(Continued on Page 7)



This is a finished product, decorated with paint bubbles.



Dave brought a sample to show what he is aiming for.



As an experiment in asymmetrical round turning, he made a little fish.



Getting some help changing belts to adjust the speed.



Working the outer edge to form the lowest branches & the “trunk” of the tree.



Buzzing away at the lowest part of the tree.



Thinning down the round to start forming the intermediate branches.



Working on the top branch and peak.



(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued from Page 7.)



Reversing the workpiece to do the reverse side.



Attaching the tenon to the chuck.



Whittling away at the second side.



Now to the bandsaw to split the ring.



The tenon is gone and the “tree” is fairly symmetrical.



Slicing off the individual “trees”.



One way of decorating the trees is with various thick paints from craft shops like “Michaels”.



I neglected to mention a couple of other techniques last month during the German ring turning demo. The description that Nick asked Arny to include described ring turning as requiring a sense of form and high imagination. Making a Christmas tree required neither. A much more sophisticated form can be made either by embedding a template in the ring or by making a negative template to use on the outside. The butterfly ring (obtained from the web) shows in white a template that had been inserted into the ring of wood before turning. As you turn the ring you turn away the wood until you reach the white template. The required sense of form is only needed to make the template.



A second method is to create a negative template. As you turn away wood on the ring, you keep stopping to check the form against the template. This is like turning a sphere by first turning an arc of the radius you want the sphere to have. You use the arc pressed against the sphere to check that the radius of the sphere is correct.

Dave Buchholz

A number of years ago while flipping through a botany textbook I came across a half page article about how Japanese craftsmen sand and polish using Horsetail. I would love to be able to cite the article here but I really have no idea where I saw it.

Horsetail is a common weed we have all seen. It grows pretty much anywhere it gets the chance, but we have all seen it in quantities on roadsides, riverbanks, abandoned lots, etc. Horsetail is also called scouring rush, snake grass and many other common names.

Unlike most plants, horsetail has silica in its epidermis (Campbell, Reese, Mitchell, 1999). I wanted to find out if this silica was hard and sharp enough to act as sandpaper for turning projects. Trying to be as scientific as possible I turned a straight spindle at about 1.5" circumference. Using a parting tool, I marked divisions into the spindle. I then sanded the partitioned segments. Starting at 120 I sanded two segments and then applied dried Horsetail to the second of the two segments. I used the horsetail just like sand paper. I then sanded the next two segments with 120 then 220 and again applied Horsetail to the second of the two segments. I continued down the spindle with 320 and finally 400 grit sandpaper. I then compared the segments sanded with and without horsetail

The results of the experiment were not impressive. The horsetail did improve the look of the spindle when



applied after the 400 grit sandpaper. The horsetail was difficult to hold and use, and I am not sure if the slight sanding and polishing it did was worth the effort. It would be much easier to simply buy a higher grit of sandpaper.

Since the experiment I have fully sanded two bowls. I finished the sanding process with horsetail. It did give the bowls a slightly more polished look, but the difficulty of holding the



little segments of horsetail is not worth the slight improvement. Free sandpaper growing in roadside ditches is just a little too good to be true.

Source: *Biology*, Neil Campbell, Jane Reece, Lawrence Mitchell and Richard Liebaert - Benjamin/Cummings - 1999

- 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) Bad Dogs Burl Source, (www.burlsource.com) They are down in Belchertown, MA and have an incredible inventory of Australian and North American burls. 413-213-0248
- 5) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 6) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 7) 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/>
- 8) 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.
- 9) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 10) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 11) Business cards and other printed goods: Vistaprint.com
- 12) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. www.maplelandmark.com
- 13) 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
- 14) Paw Prints Printing WWW.paw-prints.com 802 865 2872 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT 05403
- 15) Your NEW colored plywood source. trethaway@comcast.net. Has scraps of colored plywood for resale. Listed on eBay as scratch101012.
- 16) The Tree House, hardwoods & mill shop. Native woods, priced from \$5.00. 1891 Williston Rd., 802-497-3530. www.treehousehardwoods.com
- 17) Suffolk Saw of New England, Jeff & Danielle Mellott; 33 Gaudet Dr., Belmont, NH, 03220 877-550-7297

Classified Ads

Free To Members



Bowl Display Stand (used)

Made of Ash, 63" tall, 8 circular shelves, 2 each of the following diameters: 6", 7.5", 9", 10". Footprint 20", Two wedges included for leveling on any terrain. Price \$40. Contact Ted Fink at 985 2923 or at TJF-Turnings@gmail.com

6" Delta jointer, 2nd set new knives. \$275
Joe Fortin 498-4276

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.

Craig Hall: Bowls, spindles, & hollow forms.
802-644-5344
craighall@hotmail.com
Cambridge

Dick Montague: General turning, all aspects plus tool sharpening.
802-584-3486
Montagueturn@gmail.com
Groton

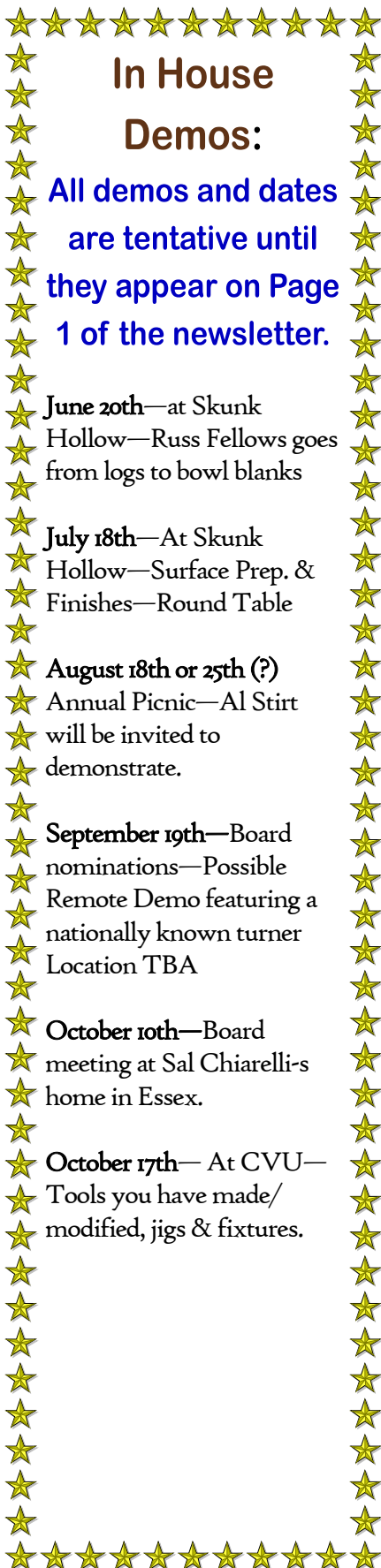
Ralph Tursini: Spindles & bowls, vacuum chucking.
802-899-6863
info@vermontwoodturning.com
Cambridge

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels.
802-899-3059
skunkmen@gmail.com
Jericho

Bill Walsh: tool sharpening
802-839-6332
billiriquois@yahoo.com
Northfield

Greg Drew: Tool skills. Finishes.. Portable mill & chainsaw work.
802-527-6207
personal-woodsmythe@yahoo.com
Georgia

Nick Rosato
The Sculpted Tree
802-999-2976
nickrosato@gmail.com
General turning



In House Demos:

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

June 20th—at Skunk Hollow—Russ Fellows goes from logs to bowl blanks

July 18th—At Skunk Hollow—Surface Prep. & Finishes—Round Table

August 18th or 25th (?) Annual Picnic—Al Stirt will be invited to demonstrate.

September 19th—Board nominations—Possible Remote Demo featuring a nationally known turner Location TBA

October 10th—Board meeting at Sal Chiarelli-s home in Essex.

October 17th— At CVU— Tools you have made/ modified, jigs & fixtures.