

Woodchuck Chatter



Special points of interest:

- Photos of Last Meeting
- Random Shots:
- Woodchuck News
- What's Coming Up

October 12, 2006

Volume 3, Issue 10

Meeting on October 19, 2006

We will be meeting at Woodbury shop this month. The agenda includes election of officers for the coming year. At the September meeting, the current board was nominated to remain in office. Further

nominations from the floor for any position will be requested. The current Board, while willing to serve, is not fiercely protective of the eminent post to which each has been elected.

The demo this month will

be on using woodburning as a decorative touch and as a method of signing your work.

What do you use? Please bring your tools and share your techniques.

Report of Board Meeting, October 11

By Cil Spahn

We met at Ted Fink's house in Shelburne on Oct. 11. After supper, Ralph opened the meeting with a discussion of the club's need for demonstrators. The Board concluded that there are many members with things to share who are shy about standing up in front of their peers. We will encourage our folks to prepare to share. There are several meetings at which you can offer anything from 5 minutes to 1/2 hour (or more) of your ideas.

The idea of a known turner who comes to our area being invited to make our meeting one of his/her stops for a gratuity was discussed and approved. We heard from Al Stirt a while ago that he would definitely not be offended if we offered money to a demonstrator from away, which encouraged us to set aside up to \$500. We don't feel we can afford to pay for travel, but we can certainly put up and feed someone for a few days.

The next item was on what we should have for demonstra-

tions. We expanded our calendar and noted further items to explore. Dick Montague urged the Board via e-mail to provide time and encouragement for members to try any techniques presented, at the meeting.

Here's the current calendar:

October: woodburning & signing your work

November: Closed Vessels: Craig Hall.

December 2nd: Open shop @ Craig Hall's shop 10-4. See & use power tools. Bring your lunch.

Directions to follow.

January: Round table: Members share methods & tool tips.

February: Ron Fellows & Arny Spahn: Building segmented/laminated bowls.

March: Bowl Gouge grinds & sharpening: Application to green turning: Ralph Tursini & others

April: Ted Fink : Lidded box; Turning a barrel.

May: Michael Mode and/or spindle turning.

June & July: Possible guest

speakers from away; other topics may be covered.

Topics under consideration: Short demos by 3 members. "Disaster Night", 5 minute presentations by prepared members. Finishing techniques & material.

Saturday visit to Matthew Burak or the Granville Bowl Mill.

Special Notes:

Availability of Woodchuck T-shirts. Various sizes still available; check w. Ted. Price: \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members.

At our November meeting we will collect your contributions of toys for the Good Humor Cart at the pediatrics wing of Fletcher Allen Hospital. We hope you have taken the time to turn a few toys to bring some smiles to sick kids.

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Random Shots

Woodchuck Chatter

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Woodchuck Chatter will be published monthly. Deadline for submissions is the 7th of the month. Please E-mail all submissions to the Editor in text or Word format. Visuals can be submitted as JPEG or TIFF.

My mother-in-law always had her Christmas shopping finished by the end of August. I can hardly start to make a list out before November, either to give or to get. Our Good Humor Wagon project has me thinking about gifts, though. This club has many skilled woodworkers, and I wonder how many of us use those skills for Christmas giving. It is a nice thing to do once in a while, but does Cousin Jane need another one of your wooden bowls?

I have very few relatives to gift, so I have to be especially careful about overloading them. I have made hinged boxes, pen sets, a jewelry box for my grand daughter, salad bowl sets, and a set of magic wands for my grandson. How about you? Do you have any new ideas for crafted gifts? Let "Chatter" know soon, so we can get on with it before it's too late.

Shop maintenance: My shop is in my cellar and it gets humid in the summer. This year I spent a lot of time down there

(according to the wife) so I kept up on my rust patrol. All cast iron and steel surfaces need scrutiny to keep them rust free. Slick surfaces let wood and tools glide so you avoid catches and uneven cuts.

One of the demons I discovered is that wood dust is hygroscopic. Any where dust stays, little spots of rust appear. I keep a sanding block with 180 grit paper nearby to clean up my surfaces, including the lathe bed and tool rests. Then I spray with Boeshield T-9 which lubes and seals surfaces.

Any planer knives get a similar treatment. Chisels & gouges are scrutinized & honed or ground just before use. I'm trying to develop some discipline so I know which tools I'm going to use on a project and tune them all up before I begin.

I also try to gather the glues, finishes, and solvents I'm going to use before I start a project. It helps to know I've got the expendables I need and to clean out any applicator tips and have brushes or rags ready and clean. I've made plenty of trips

to pick up stuff like that in the middle of a job, and I hate it as badly as the wife does. I may have to travel over 60 miles round trip for an item not stocked in Central Supply!

Speaking of wood crafting, we spent last weekend in the Finger Lakes region on the trail of good wine. The Glenn Curtiss Museum is in Hammondsport. Glenn was one of the originators of manned flight. Besides an extensive collection of ground and air vehicles illuminating Curtiss' inventiveness, they also have a shop where they build replicas and restore old craft. They are building a replica of a Curtiss flying boat designed for the first trans-Atlantic flight. Unfortunately, the War to End Wars broke out and the flight was cancelled. This project has many of the aspects of wooden boat building; the hull is of thin slats of Sitka spruce lovingly formed to an exquisite frame. There are no original blueprints, just Curtiss's engineering drawings. That's craftsmanship.

Army

Brief minutes from September Meeting

There were 21 members in attendance.

Welcome new member Tom Dunne from Middlebury.

Ted Fink gave a very informative talk about the hazards of dust. Bob Martin brought an array of dust collecting machines and how he employs them.

Adirondack Woodturners will be hosting the Totally Turning symposium Oct. 14- 15 at the Empire State Plaza in Albany NY. As of 10/9 there were still registrations available. For more information visit www.totallyturning.com

Next meeting on the 19th at Woodbury's

Next board meeting will be 4/25/07 at Ted Fink's house. All members are welcome.

Craig Hall, Secretary

Scenes From September Meeting

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Ted Fink gave an excellent talk on the dangers of wood dust inhalation. See "Ted's Turn" for a run-down.



The fan & collector pipe of Bob's home-built dust collector.



Bob Martin brought in some of his dust collecting tools.



Hav. Smith's amazing burl bowl



Ron Fellows shows some recent work.



Hanging air filter—double furnace filters & quiet computer fans.



Craig Hall & his natural edge cherry burl bowl

Treasurer's report

Treasurer's report:

Balance forward	\$2355.48
Income	
dues	10
raffle	30
Expenses	0
Balance forward	\$2395.48
Ted Fink	



New member list for 2006

The updated list of all woodchuck members will be available at the picnic and subsequent meetings. Simply replace the old list in your 3 ring binder with the new.

Ted Fink

In House Demos:

October 19th:
Woodburning & signature techniques:
Led by Craig

November 16th:
Bring your toys for the Good Humor Cart. Turning closed vessels with Craig Hall.

Dec.: No scheduled meeting, but on Dec 2, Craig will open his shop 10:00-4:00 to explore other wood working tools.
Directions to follow.

Jan. 18th: Round table: Methods & technique, members contribute.

Feb. 15th:
Assembling stacked/laminated/segmented bowls. Ron Fellows & Army Spahn

Mar. 15th: Shaping & sharpening bowl gouges for wet turning, Ralph Tursini.

April 19th: Barrel-shaped lidded box project; Ted Fink.

Ted's Turn : Health Hazards of Wood Dust

1) The Nature of Dust

-wet wood vs. dry

Dry wood, being lighter will stay suspended in air longer and therefore be more hazardous than wet wood. Also sanding produces the smallest particles and most turners do their sanding on dry wood.

-sharp tool vs. dull

Sharp tools produce shavings and chips. Dull tools produce dust

-toxic vs. non toxic

Wood varies greatly by species as to its capacity to irritate our mucus membranes or induce an allergic reaction (sensitization) on repeated exposure. Lists of toxic woods can be viewed through the AAW website (www.woodturner.org) but, as a general rule, exotics grown in the tropics tend more extractives in the heartwood. These chemicals are evolutionary developments that allow the tree to protect itself from infestations or rot. They tend to be either irritating or sensitizing to us, however. North American hardwoods tend to be less irritating or sensitizing but can do both as well.

-size matters

The smallest particle you can see in a darkened room in a beam of light is 20 microns. A micron is one millionth of a meter.

The size of particles that can penetrate the deepest parts of the lungs is 5 microns and smaller. So, the particles that can do you the most harm you can't even see! The very smallest particles are produced by sanding, the finest grits used on dry wood producing the largest population of respirable (5 microns or smaller) particles.

Assume that once you have done sanding in your shop that the air will be contaminated with respirable dust for the next 12 hours. One of the reasons other than their extreme light weight that causes these particles to remain suspended so long is that machining wood imparts a positive charge to all dust particles produced. Since like charged particles repel each other they will stay suspended in air longer.

2) Exposure

The skin area in your average sized woodchuck (human) is approximately 1.5 square meters. If the entire respiratory system were flattened out it would be between 150 and 175 square meters. So, when you think in terms of personal protection from wood dust concentrate your efforts on protecting the respiratory system.

Respiratory system:

There are 23 bifurcations or branchings below the main windpipe (trachea) The smallest bronchioles, just before you get to the air sacs (alveoli) where gas exchange takes place, are about 5 microns in internal diameter.

Your lungs main defense mechanisms against dust are twofold:

A)The **mucociliary membrane** is a thin fluid layer that coats the entire inner lining of the respiratory system from the vocal cords down to but not including the alveoli, the tiny air sacs where gas exchange takes place. The upper portion of this membrane is more viscous and any particles that comes in contact with it get stuck to its surface. The lower portion of this membrane is more fluid and in it are rapidly waving fine hairs called cilia which constantly move this entire membrane upward toward the larynx. Once there, all particles are either swallowed or coughed up and expectorated.

One major reason that smoking is so harmful is that the smoke paralyzes the cilia so the membrane doesn't move and all the particles and debris that has been breathed in stays in the lungs.

Health Hazards of Wood Dust *Continued*

(Continued from page 4)

B) The alveoli, the tiny air sacs that form grape like clusters have an entirely different mechanism to rid themselves of particles (5 microns and smaller). They contain giant scavenger cells called **alveolar macrophages** that engulf particles then migrate out of the lung through the lymphatic system.

3) Protection:

A) Minimize dust in the air:

Use very sharp tools.

Use vacuum capture at site of production. There is a very rapid fall off in effective dust capture as the vacuum port is moved farther from the point of dust production so keep the vacuum as close to your work as possible.

Ventilate your work area by opening windows whenever the weather allows.

Install a ceiling-mounted air filtration system.

B) personal protection:

Use a NIOSH (National Institutes of Safety and Health) or MSHA (Mining Safety and Health Administration) approved respirator.

Remember that if you have a beard you will not be able to get a good airtight seal on your face and you should either dial 1 800 Gillette or buy one of the excellent filtered air flow helmets available

Ted Fink

AAW Information

Through recent contacts, I am sure you are familiar with the AAW's Best Practices Sub-committee. We are charged with obtaining and posting write-ups on planning, structure, and management of local chapters, for use by other local chapters and members, as aids. These write ups are produced by individuals who have had experiences in these areas and have the desire to share with others. You can find these postings at <http://www.woodturner.org/community/chapters/practices>. Under "Best

Practices Listings", you can take advantage of the subjects in blue. The subjects grayed-out are still under development. I suspect we have not thought of every potential write-up available. You may have an idea we haven't thought of!

Currently, we are seeking someone to produce a write-up on the subject of "Show and Tell". If you have had experience in this area and would be willing to share it with your fellow woodturners in the form of a write-up, we would like to hear from

you. One of our team of editors will assist you to ensure the final write-up is one you will be proud of. And what could be wrong with having your name listed on the Website as being a participating member of the AAW! Please see our editorial policies link on the Web page.

You may contact us or submit your write-up by e-mailing bestpractices@woodturner.org.

Dan Luttrell, Chairman
AAW Best Practices Sub-Committee
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Policy on AAW Liability Insurance

Members of WTNV who are giving public demonstrations are covered by the AAW-sponsored liability policy under the following conditions:

You must be a member of AAW and WTNV.

The event must be "sanctioned" by WTNV. That is, you must notify the Treasurer, who will provide a copy of the cover sheet for the policy.

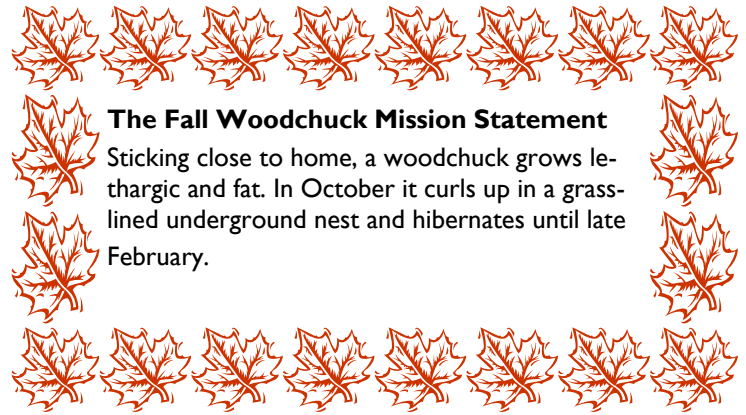
Notify the editor of Chatter so you can be listed in Future

Woodchuck Sightings.

The demonstration must have wood turning as the main subject.

Woodchuck Turners of
Northern Vermont
An associated chapter
of
American Association of
Woodturners

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The Fall Woodchuck Mission Statement

Sticking close to home, a woodchuck grows lethargic and fat. In October it curls up in a grass-lined underground nest and hibernates until late February.

This Space For Mailing Label

Policy On Borrowing The Club Lathe and Tent

This is the policy which was formulated at the October 2004 Board meeting. It was first printed in the October 2004 Woodchuck Chatter.

The primary goal in buying these tools is to have good equipment available so we can demonstrate in public, thereby attracting new members and recruiting would-be turners.

All members in good standing (paid up dues) are eligible to bor-

row the equipment primarily for demonstration purposes. We may borrow the equipment for ONE WEEK at a time. The Treasurer is responsible for knowing where the equipment is at any time; therefore the borrower is responsible to sign the equipment out—by phone or in person— and back in.

The lathe and its parts are a unit. Don't ask to borrow only the chuck or other parts.

The borrower is responsible for transporting the equipment to and from its storage location. The

borrower is responsible for returning the equipment in excellent condition with all its parts intact.

The borrower is responsible for any liability rising from the use of the equipment.

Only club members may operate our lathe to avoid litigation by untrained turners.

The Chapter has first dibs on all equipment so that we can show our stuff at public events.