

# Woodchuck Chatter



Volume 4, Issue 1

## Special points of interest:

- Random Shots:
- Woodchuck News
- What's Coming Up

January 7, 2007

## January Meeting

The January meeting will be at Woodbury's, 668 Pine Street, Burlington at 7 PM on January 18th 2007. This will be the second annual roundtable presentation by the members. Each member knows something about woodturning that the rest of us don't know. This is your opportunity to enlighten, amuse or befuddle your fellow woodchucks by bringing in any and all items of interest. Include ideas or techniques that you

have picked up in the past year or tools, unique pieces of wood, mistakes you've made, woodturning tips you've found, etc.. There will be a lathe available on which to demonstrate if necessary. For those of you who have been holding onto a great idea but did not want to do a demonstration because you did not have enough material to fill up even 20 or 30 minutes, this is the venue that will allow you to share

your knowledge.

The format will be like an extended show and tell. You may bring as many items as you wish and present one on each lap around those assembled. Do not worry if you come empty handed. All are certainly welcome but we do encourage everyone to participate if at all possible.

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## January Book Review

### Woodturning: A Fresh Approach

By Robert Chapman

ISBN | 86108 119 7

Copyright 1999 Guild of Master Craftsmen Publications Ltd. 214 pages

Mr. Chapman's "fresh approach" is to move away from traditional designs while developing the best craftsmanship in modern woodturning. Respect for the raw material and the development of skills are two themes he develops in each chapter. He gives enough information to encourage a beginning turner while helping the advanced turner to study design

and work sequence.

Mr. Chapman starts off with a chapter on a woodturning workshop design with an emphasis on well equipped work stations. His illustration shows specialized lathes with appropriate tool holders nearby.

The following chapters address lidded pots and boxes, bowls, and hollow vessels. Each chapter is sub-divided into individual projects. Good advice is given on handling the raw material, mounting the work, and logical steps of progressive shaping.

His final chapter deals with

creating a finished base on the work by reverse chucking. To help digest his work, he gives us advice on continuing to examine the work of others who create pleasing shapes, keeping such shapes in harmony with the grain and figure of the wood. He mentions texturing and coloring as appropriate embellishments, without going into detail on their techniques. That could be another whole book.

**Arny Spahn**

## 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.

## Random Shots

### New Year's Planning

I need to get energized right now so I have a future to anticipate. Having been retired for 10 years now, I have either done the things I set out to do or given up on them. That's no way to maintain a zest for living.

I'm dividing my plan into parts, none of which depend on another part to get done. As a Woodchuck, my plan is as follows:

1. Clean up the shop.
2. Inventory my wood.
3. Sharpen my tools.
4. Make a list of projects.
5. Build a set of shelves to display my work in the house & get it off other spots.
6. Explore selling some of my work.

I can do any of the above

piecemeal and spend at least 2 hours a day downstairs, maybe even getting to turn some wood!

My office area is a mess. I'm going to make some decisions as to what can stay and what needs File 86.

Beside wood working, travel and cooking are two of my main passions. We are going to plan at least 2 Elderhostels after the one we are taking next week. We are also going to plan at least one long-distance trip in our camper and at least 2 week-long trips in the Northeast, plus as many weekends as we can for before July 4th and after Labor Day.

The cooking is a problem as that also involves eating. I carry more than enough ballast as is. Cil goes to Curves, a women-only exercise facility. She gave me a gift of membership in a gym

last year, so I have been getting at least 1/2 hour of exercise 4-5 times a week for the last 8 months. I have not lost weight, but my blood pressure is down enough to modify my meds, and I can handle 3 times as much weight as I could. Modify my eating habits & I bet I can lose 2 waist sizes.

If I can keep it up, I will have plenty of days off the couch. That's not too bad a thought, is it? Now, if I can keep away from the solitaire game while I'm supposed to be writing **Chatter**— I'll have a good, productive year, without making a single resolution.

**Army**

## Tips From A Wise Woodchuck

I had a lot of fun putting together the cup & ball toys I did for the Good Humor Cart and learned a lesson. It probably holds true for any project, either end-grain or across the grain with hardwoods in particular. Drills wander in wood. My first effort was to form the cup on the lathe and then use a Forstner bit in my drill press for the interior of the cup. There were 2 problems with that. First, holding the round work piece was almost impossible as the torque from the Forstner was huge. Second, once I got the piece secured with a handmade round clamp,

the bit wandered so it wasn't concentric with the outside.

My second try, giving up on the batch I had turned, was to use a standard clamp to hold the square piece while I drilled the 1-1/2" recess in the blank.

Using the center dimple in the recess to position my live center, and a Steb center to drive the piece, I quickly finished off the outside, sanding to 220 & using a hard wax finish.

Over Christmas, I gave my visiting son-in-law the opportunity to use my lathe to make a 6" long handle. It required an end-to-end 1/4" hole with a counterbore of 9/16" for the

head of a bolt. First, he formed the handle using a scroll chuck and then, still mounted on the lathe, used a long 1/4" drill to through-bore. Guess what. The drill wandered and his hole came off center. He was happy enough with the project as he had gone out that morning and bought a Jet mini-lathe to set up at home. We learned a lesson, though, which we will use in the future. We'll through-bore first, then use the resulting hole to center the project and turn the outside. Sometimes thinking backward solves a problem better.

**Army**

## Woodchuck Sightings

### Shelburne Art Center Woodturning Classes with Ralph Tursini

to register or for more information call the Shelburne Art Center (802) 985-3648



Bowl Turning

Instructor: Ralph Tursini

Saturday/Sunday, January 20-21, 9:00am-4:00pm

OR

Saturday/Sunday, March 10-11, 9:00am-4:00pm

Members \$220, Non-members \$250

Materials \$30, Maximum 4

Here's a chance to learn how to turn a bowl from green material or refine skills you may already have. This will be a hands-on workshop and will cover areas including: material selection and preparation; lathe safety, operation, and chucking techniques; bowl gouge use and sharpening; bowl design considerations; and finishing and drying techniques. The workshop requires no previous experience and because it is limited to no more than four participants there will be plenty of individualized attention.

### Wood Source

I have come across a gold mine of wood in Williamstown. A man by the name of Don Gilman has an enormous quantity of wood for turning... several burls (cherry and apple), lots of large pieces that are all ready to be turned and just an absolutely huge quantity of all kinds of wood that he would like to sell. I got 18 pieces of apple from him to make bowls 14 to 16 diameter, some great pieces of maple and some beautiful cherry 8 - 1/4 planks, all for \$49.00. I thought you might want to alert the woodchuckers. His phone is 433-5372. If anyone plans to go down I would love to go with them to get more wood as I only have a Saab and a truck is certainly in order if one plans to buy, and one would buy when they see all he has.

Happy Holidays to you and family,

**Joe Laferriere**

## Treasurer's report

### Treasurer's Report

Balance forward	\$2364.23
Income	
Dues	40
Raffle	36
Expenses	
Postage	<u>2.07</u>
Balance forward	\$2438.16

Ted Fink



### New Members:

Please welcome:

Chuck Courcy

1 Rock Point Rd.

Burlington, VT 05408

802 355 8737

[ccourcy@dioceseofvermont.org](mailto:ccourcy@dioceseofvermont.org)

## In House Demos:

**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 : Watt?

There has been a myth circulating that a motor running at 220v would cost half as much to run, for the same work output, as a motor running on 110 volts.

First a few definitions: Current, measured in amperes (amps for short) is the actual flow of electricity. Voltage denotes the potential differences in a circuit and is the force causing current to flow. Resistance is determined by the material of the wire, usually copper, (silver has less resistance, aluminum and iron more) , the diameter or gauge of the wire and of course the length of the wire. (It is therefore wise to use a heavier gauge shorter extension cord whenever possible) . A watt is a measure of electrical power and equal to the volts times the current ( $P = V I$ ) .

The easiest way to understand these terms is to compare electricity to water in a piping system. The current,  $I$ , is the actual amount of water flowing through the pipe. The voltage,  $V$ , is like the water pressure pushing the water through the pipe and the resistance,  $R$ , to flow, is largely determined by the caliber or inside diameter of the pipe. This relationship is indicated by the equation  $V = IR$  (Voltage = Current X Resistance) known as Ohm's Law.

The myth arises from the fact that the same motor running on twice the voltage will use just half the current (amps). The problem is that the electric company charges you not for amps you use but watts which is a measure of electrical power. The number of watts is proportional to the number of volts times the number of amps so that as you double the voltage from 110 to 220 you reduce the current from say 20 to 10 amps. The number of watts and therefore the mechanical power available at the shaft of the motor, remains the same as does your cost.

Well then, what, if any, advantage is there to running larger motors (2HP and up) at 220v instead of 110v?

Smaller motors are often wired for 110 as a matter of convenience. Residential and light commercial buildings have many pre-existing 110v outlets but few have 220v outlets. However, attempting to run larger motors at 110 volts results in wire sizes that are often impractical to install and cost prohibitive. For example, the full load amperage of a 3HP motor at 110 volts is typically 34 amps and a 5 HP motor 56 amps. The National Electric Code would require a minimum of an 8 gauge feed for the 3HP and a massive 4 gauge wire for the 5 HP motor at 110v. Depending on the length of the wire run even larger wire sizes may be necessary. Using 220v motors of the same power would result in halving the necessary ampacities of the wires and a corresponding reduction in cost of material and labor for the circuit installation.

The advantages of a lower current/higher voltage combination also extend inside the motor. Heat is the motor's worst enemy. One source of heat results from the electric current flowing through the resistance of the motor's internal conductors. The power lost to heat is equal to current in amps squared times resistance or  $\text{Heat} = I^2 R$ . This limits operating temperatures. The motor manufacturer must either increase the conductor size and thus overall motor size to reduce  $R$  or operate at higher voltages to reduce current. The net result is that your 220v motor will run cooler and /or be smaller and lighter than the comparably powered 110v motor.

The power drop in a line can be huge when a motor starts up because it may pull 5 to 6 times the current it will be drawing after it is up and running. The dips in power will also occur under heavy cutting conditions resulting in poor performance. The drop in power in your line equals the square of the current times the resistance. What this formula should make clear is that the more you are able to reduce current,  $I$ , the less the dip in line power at the machine. The two ways to do this are to use higher voltage e.g. 220 and, if possible, 3 phase.

Special thanks to Jim Fink EE for his abundant help with this article.

Ted Fink

## 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.

### Desert Woodturning

Roundup 2007 registration cutoff date is approaching.

Don't miss out on one of the premiere symposiums of the year. For all Symposium information, please see [www.desertwoodturningroundup.com](http://www.desertwoodturningroundup.com) What better place to be in February than Arizona? Please pass this information on to all your Chapter members as soon as possible.

Thank you, Mike Lucckino President: Arizona Woodturners Association

### Turning to the Future AAW Juried Youth Exhibit

Calling young turners! In May of 2007, the American Association of Woodturners Gallery in St. Paul will be hosting a juried show of work by turners up to twenty-two years of age.

Winners will have their work exhibited in the AAW Gallery from May 4 to August 3rd, 2007. Photographs of the top pieces in each age category will be featured in American Woodturner and on the AAW Gallery webpage.

Work will be judged in four divisions: 10 and under; 11-14; 15-18; 19-22.

Limit of three pieces per turner, three digital images per piece limit.

Images should show object clearly- detail images accepted. Images sent on CD will not be returned.

Applicants need not be AAW members to apply.  
DEADLINE: February 15, 2007.  
ENTRY FEE: \$10

Mail entry fee and images to AAW/Youth Exhibit 75 W 5th St, St Paul, MN 55102.

Images may also be submitted by e-mail to [gallery@woodturner.org](mailto:gallery@woodturner.org)

Ask for an application form by email to the above email address.

### Subject: AAW Web Site

December 4, 2006

To: American Association of Woodturners membership

Subject: AAW Website Announcement:

In August of this year, we launched a new online Members Only area that included the ability to register, renew and update your memberships in the AAW through the Internet, as well as access to an online Resource Directory. Unfortunately, our service provider who has facilitated the setup and administration of this system has not met our expectations. As a result, the Internet based Members Only system will be suspended while we sort out the specifications and expectations of what we hope will be a more comprehensive, cost-effective and user-friendly system.

Therefore, effective immediately, if you wish to join, renew or change your membership in the AAW, please get in touch with our St. Paul office.

Here is the contact information: American Association of Woodturners  
222 Landmark Center  
75 West Fifth St.  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
651-484-9094  
651-484-1724 (fax)  
[inquiries@woodturner.org](mailto:inquiries@woodturner.org)

Please note that a copy of a membership form can be found in your 2006 AAW Resource Directory. You can also access a printable copy of the AAW membership application and renewal form through our website.

For those who have already registered or renewed your membership through the online system, please be assured that your personal information is safe and secure. Also, the drawing for a free Powermatic lathe from the list of those who have registered

or renewed your AAW memberships online, will still take place as promised (note: anyone joining or renewing by fax, mail or phone is still eligible for the lathe drawing by indicating your wish to participate on the paper renewal form or by stating so when calling in).

We sincerely apologize for this interruption in service and for any inconvenience it may have caused.

Angelo lafrate Larry Sommer

AAW President AAW Executive Director

Mary Lacer, AAW  
Assistant Director  
75 West 5th St., Suite 222  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
651 484 9094  
651 484 1724 fax  
[mary@woodturner.org](mailto:mary@woodturner.org)  
woodturner.org

### JoHannes Michelsen School of Woodturning

Dear Woodturners,

It has been almost a year now since Deb (my wife) and I started work on our Barn; we closed on the new to us 1840s house and barn here in Manchester VT about three miles from where we lived before. The reason for the move is simple; more space! More space for our individual studios—Deb is a woodworker as well--- and ample space for me to have room for teaching.

It's been a long haul but we are now up and running, we've had a few courses and the space works very well; all the students have been happy with the results.

Attached please find two documents, one is just a sign up sheet the other covers what is needed to know about the workshop, this info is also available on my web-site. Where it says "All skill levels welcome" please understand that I truly mean that; I've had total beginners take my

course and have always sent them home with a hat, a wealth of new skills and a huge smile.

This mail is being sent to all the Clubs/Chapters in the AAW; your kind consideration in taking the last step to help me get the word out will be greatly appreciated.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact me directly.

Thanx, JoHannes  
JoHannes Michelsen  
[joh@woodhat.com](mailto:joh@woodhat.com)  
[www.woodhat.com](http://www.woodhat.com)  
1336 Main Street  
PO Box 562  
Manchester Center, VT 05255  
Studio 802 362 3481  
Cell 802 353 0523

### In Memory of Frank Sudol (December 2006)

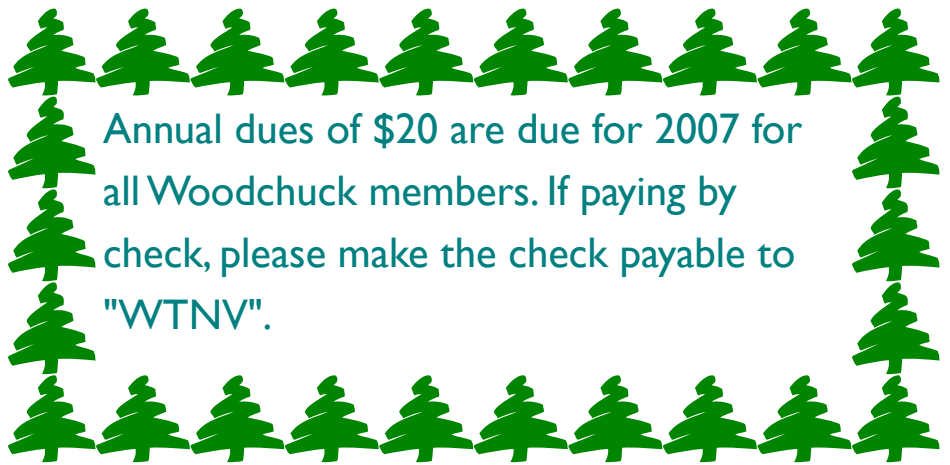
Frank left us at the age of 72. He was known as one of the world's leaders in the woodturning community, exciting aficionados and art collectors with his style of piercing thinly milled birch. He created works known for their color, animal shapes and woven filigree designs.

He lived in Paddockwood, Saskatchewan Canada and was a member of the Prince Albert Woodturners Guild. Frank was also a member of the AAW for many years. He was to be one of our featured demonstrators at the summer 2007 Portland Symposium.

Frank was an inspirational speaker. In one interview with a local newspaper, he shared his philosophy for being a successful artist. "The message for my students is you will never be remembered for what you copied, but you will be remembered for what you created .... Once you reach inside, you will have original work." He is survived by his partner Lois Laycraft and his Children.

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

Publisher:  
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Annual dues of \$20 are due for 2007 for  
all Woodchuck members. If paying by  
check, please make the check payable to  
"WTNV".

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.