

Woodchuck Chatter



November 8, 2007

Volume 4, Issue 11

Special points of interest:

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

Meeting of November 15th



This month's meeting is our last at Woodbury on Pearl Street. The topic is a farewell/holiday/toys for kids party.

Ted is taking care of

the refreshments.

Please bring in your turned toys for the Good Humor Wagon. There may be a demonstration.

We will have a raffle so please bring raffle items.

The January 2008 meeting will take place on the **4th Thursday of the month, the 24th**, at our new location, The Shelburne Art Center

woodshop. Starting time is the same, 7PM.

Directions: From the 4 corners light at the center of Shelburne village, Proceed about 250 feet west on Harbor Rd. Immediately before the RR tracks on the right is the Shelburne Art Center studios and workshops. The wood shop is the one farthest from the road. Parking is to the left just before the RR tracks in the "SHELBURNE STATION".

The January meeting is an extended 'show and tell' where all members are encouraged to bring in anything they have learned in the last year and educate the rest of us. It can consist of a new tool or technique, unique piece of wood, a success, a failure or anything else that might be of interest to woodturners.

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October Meeting—Laminated/Segmented Bowls



Our new President, Russ Fellows, gave a real nuts 'n' bolts talk on putting together two kinds of segmented bowls. The featured attraction was a stacked bowl consisting of separately constructed rings. Each ring is composed of 20 pieces, cut to a 9 degree angle, glued together in a pair of half-circles. The half circles are then trued

up on a sander and joined into full circles. For Russ's wide-bottomed bowls, he uses a glued-up plank which offers less distortion as it ages than a solid board. Each circle is carefully glued and clamped into position atop the last circle and allowed to dry before the next circle is assembled onto the stack. When the bowl is fully assembled, it is mounted on the lathe and turned to its final shape.



Diagram of layout



Russ shows a variety of segmented work

Russ gave us a series of handouts as guides to cutting the right length of segments for each diameter of ring. The layout and accuracy of cutting are essential to a saleable piece. He also showed a few jigs he has made which help get repeatable results. His gluing method (he uses Titebond III) is uncomplicated. He applies glue to one piece,

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Random Shots

Woodchuck Chatter

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Safe working conditions can make a real difference in your bottom line. I come to that great truth because of a sore back. I have had a problem off & on since July. Maybe my warrantee ran out with my latest birthday, because I've got other ailments as well.

I did some research on industrial accidents. Most of them are the fault of he who has them. Most of them could be prevented by good working habits. Some of them can be prevented by adding proper shields to power tools, by marking uneven floors with bright paint, or just having enough light in the workplace.

As an employer, you need to bone up on OSHA/VOSHA regu-

lations for your shop. Employer or employee, you need to rehearse your work pattern to see what you can do to avoid injury.

Start with moving stock from shelf to workbench, or to power tool. Anything over 20 pounds presents a hazard if not lifted properly. Get off balance with a load and risk a sore back, stretched tendon, or a fall into whirring machinery. I am very guilty of lifting loads too heavy for me. Are you? A one-person shop faces that kind of choice many times. Use leverage to shift stuff. Use dollies or carts to move stock from place to place. A physical therapist can teach you how to tone up for heavy work.

Next, the dreaded machine tool accident. Each tool has its own hazards. Study how to keep parts of yourself away from cutters. The table saw presents lots of amputation opportunities. Not all operations can be done with the common guards in place. Try making a dado with a splitting blade in place! Use push sticks whenever possible with any kind of saw, plane, or routing table. Stock likes to ride up on saw blades, so be sure that you use a hold-down if needed. Radial arm saws and chop-saws are somewhat safer than table saws, but don't get careless. Either one can send a chunk of wood flying back at the operator.

Your lathe is a special case. A "dig" can pop a massive piece of wood loose at horrifying speed from a scroll chuck or inadequate fasteners to a faceplate. The basic safety gear for the lathe is a good face mask, good gloves, and properly fitted clothing without loose flapping parts.

Noise in the shop can be very tiring and can damage your hearing over time. I know of people who have a radio going in their shop. That just adds to the sound level. Ear muffs and/or earplugs muffle the worst of the frequencies.

I saw a cartoon a while back. This great huge lumberjack was about to cruise the woods dressed in all the safety gear demanded by OSHA. From the ground up, he had iron toed boots with Kevlar tops. He had on shin guards, knee guards, and a Kevlar apron. He wore a kidney belt to prevent lower back problems. His jacket was Kevlar and Cordura. His massive gloves were covered in chain mail. On his head, he had a bump cap equipped with a face mask and earmuffs. His face was covered by a dust mask. He couldn't move!

Most of those safety items could save you from the hazards of the shop, but overdoing it can make it impossible to get a day's work done.

Arny

Woodchuck Sightings

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.

Greetings from Skunk Hollow,

I have been busy over the last few weeks getting ready for my first craft show, The Art & Artisans Holiday Market November 10th and 11th, 10:00-5:00, held this year at Mount Mansfield High School located on Brown's Trace, about a mile north of Jericho Center. Since it is the first time for me, and I don't have a good idea of what may sell, so I have prepared a variety of all the different types of pieces that I do. The picture was taken in my shop earlier this afternoon (Monday).

See everyone on the 15th!

Russ



(Continued from page 1)

then rubs the next piece against it while holding both flat on a surface to which the glue will not stick. When the glue seizes, the two pieces must be in perfect alignment. Allow at least 45 minutes before disturbing the partial ring.



His 9 degree jig and hold down for the chop saw. He still has all 10 fingers.

The next of the 10 pieces per half is added on in the same way. By doing half-circles, he can get the two ends of a half precisely parallel by sanding.



Here's a photo of Russ's flexible clamp for final ring assembly. A few wraps of string are wound around the piece and pulled to tighten.



The rings are then glued and clamped and left to dry 24 hours before adding the next

The two half circles are then joined to make a ring.

Russ also makes what he calls a "single board" bowl. A square board is assembled from strips of wood of equal width. All but the center joint are glued up and let dry. Concentric circles are then scribed on the board. At 45 degrees, the circles should be one board thickness apart for least wastage.

The bandsaw is set at an angle, which can be from 30 to 45 degrees. Cut the half-circles and assemble into full circles. Assemble the circles, from smallest to largest, and let dry before adding the next layer. Accuracy of

alignment is extremely important in this style of bowl, just as it is in any glued-up work.

An accurately placed waste block of hardwood on the base layer helps assure that the assembly is perfectly concentric.

Russ uses the following tools to prep the wood for assembly.

- ◆ Table saw & miter gauge.
- ◆ Thickness planer.
- ◆ Stationary sander, preferably disc + belt.
- ◆ Clamps, both Jorgensen and spring type.
- ◆ A drum sander and hydraulic press are good tools to have, also

Russ recommends drying time of at least an hour for completed half-circles and at least a full day for completed rings. Sand on a belt sander for a good flat surface of each ring before gluing to the previous layer.



Arny's current work depends on the contrasts between species of wood for their interest. He likes using a sandwich of very light wood, like holly, between two layers of very dark wood, like ebony, wenge, or walnut as an accent ring.

Gather boards of different woods and plan out your layers. A bowl with even-thickness layers would be boring, so decide on relative thickness of the layers. A 4/4 board can be resawed into two uneven-thickness boards and then planed or thickness-sanded for flatness. Generally, an odd number of layers is more esthetic than an even number.

Arny makes accent layers by resawing thin sections, running them through his thickness sander, assembling, and gluing in a press.

The various boards have circles cut out of them using the bandsaw for the outer edge. Scribe an inner circle on the pieces being used

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Secretary's Report, October Meeting



Old business:

VHS tapes are currently being converted to DVD form in order to compact the library to a more transportable form as we search for a permanent meeting place. Please do not sign out any original media.

Criteria for meeting space shall be: centrally located as possible, free to club, lathe on hand or space for the club lathe, heated with toilet facilities and room for 30 members.

For the first 3 months of '08, the meeting will be held at the Shelburne Art Center. Please note the January meeting will be the 4th Thursday of the month. February and March will be conducted on the usual 3rd Thursday.

Another possible location would be the White River Craft School In Randolph

New business:

New board members are : Russ Fellows- president, Joe Laferriere- vice president, Randy Ramsden- secretary, Ted Fink- treasurer, Army Spahn- member at large.

The bylaws are currently being revised to create more members-at-large as club membership has grown considerably since the by-laws were created.

Upcoming topics and demos:

November: Bring in toys for the Children's Hospital.

January: Annual round table of ideas, tips, or disasters you would like to share.

February: hook tool demo. A review of Alan Lacers' tool making demonstration.

March: Making end grain boxes

April: Hand thread chasing

May: Green wood turning

June: Methods of drying wood

July: Open

August: Annual picnic

Show & Tell



Randy: Miniature bird house, silver maple bowl



Sue: Salt and pepper grinders, textured bowl enhanced with gesso

Misc:

The Spring board meeting will be held at Russ Fellows house in Jericho on April 10th. All members are welcome.

29 members in attendance.



Bill: Maple bowl with beaded rim

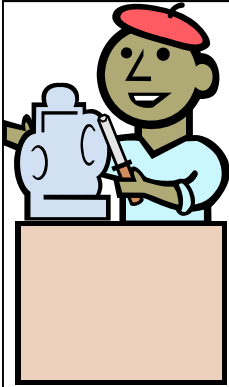


Ralph: sugar maple bowl



Craig: birch burl bowl

Ted's Turn: Videos I Have Viewed



“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep”
Dilbert

The 3 DVD set of videos has arrived from the AAW. The AAW National Symposium was held in Portland Oregon this year. It is set to come back east to Virginia in 2008. In viewing the videos I continue to be amazed that they come up with such diverse topics to present.

In volume 1

Alan Laser, **Befriending the Skew**. I have watched Alan's skew DVD's several times but always learn something new from his presentations. Also I never tire of listening to him. He is an excellent teacher and his unpretentious delivery is smooth and effective.

Jon Magill, **Building a Rose Engine Lathe**. No type of turning is nearly so specialized as rose engine turning. The pieces that can be produced from these engineering marvels are the most intricately accurate turnings I have ever seen. This video gives you a good way to build your own rose engine lathe quite inexpensively.

Ryozo Kawakita, **Small Japanese Bowls**. Interesting differences in tools and techniques are the highlight of the rotation.

Mike Brolly, **Thoughts on Design**. Perhaps the most enigmatic aspect of any art form is the creative process. Mike Brolly allows us to follow his personal creative path. He interestingly came to a decision point along the way to not allow anyone, even a well intentioned customer, to enter the design process of his pieces. For that reason he does no custom work. This frees his creativity and its expression in his work.

Mike Jackofsky, **Mechanics of Hollow Turning** A unique inside-the-vessel view of hollow form tuning,

In Volume 2

Trent Bosch, **Bowl Basics and Carving on Turning**. Many new methods of texturing bowls are reviewed and demonstrated.

Alan Maitland, **Off Center Turning**. This video takes off center work to a whole new level.

Melvyn Firmager, **Sea Flower Form**. An attractive and technically demanding piece is turned by one of the English master turners.

Bill Moore, **Metal Spinning**. If you have longed for something uniquely different to do on your wood turning lathe, this is it. Bill does an excellent job of explaining every aspect of this subject.

Jimmy Clewes, **Oriental Lidded Box**. An exciting (and somewhat dangerous) demonstration of high speed turning.

In Volume 3

Stephen Hogbin and Michael Brolly, **Instant Gallery and Critique**. This is the part of the Symposium where two or more experts select and critique several pieces from a vast array of outstanding work. It often seems to me to be a competitive attempt by the presenters to outdo each other in arcane descriptive terms of what is turned art but Hogbin and Brolly work well together. Also this critique veers away from the usual and safe format of picking pieces of well known tuners. Most of the artists I had never heard of but their work appeared to be of the very highest quality. Much of this DVD is spent panning over hundreds of gallery turnings that are so creative that you cannot watch without being inspired to get back to your lathe.

In House Demos:

- November 15.
Turn in toys.
- Holiday cheer.
- December.
No meeting.
- January 24.
Round table on skills, techniques.
- February 21. Hook tools. A follow-up to Al Lacer's presentation.
- March 20.
End grain turning.
- Covered boxes.
- April 9.
Spring Board meeting.
- April 17.
Thread chasing.
- Threaded lids. Craig Hall.
- May 15.
Green bowl turning.
- Ralph Tursini.
- June 19.
Drying green wood.
- July 17.
Open.
- August 21.
Picnic meeting.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward	2543.62
Income	
Raffle	45
T-shirt sales	15
Dues	20
Property sold	52.50
Expenses	
Miscellaneous	75
Balance Forward	2626.12



New member:
Please welcome
Doug Varney
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DSV@UVM.edu

Layered Bowls—Continued

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for ring layers. Drill a small hole on the circle, just large enough for a scroll saw blade. Very carefully saw out the circle. The nice thing about doing bowls this way is that each inner circle can be used as a layer of a smaller diameter bowl.

Arny likes to have the base as the thickest layer of a bowl. As a waste block, Arny uses a dense

hardwood piece, cut to a square which will fit his #2 scroll chuck jaws. He glues the bowl bottom to the waste block using the lathe as a press. Mark one side of the waste block to line up with the #1 chuck jaw. That assures that the piece always goes back on the lathe aligned as it came off. Each glued layer is allowed to dry a full day. When the base piece is ready, turn it to a round, which helps to get all layers concentric. Concentricity allows for the most flexibility in the final shape without making the bowl into a funnel.

Glue the next layer on, aligning it with the previous layer. Put the assembly into a press to dry overnight. A screw press works well, with the warning that it can twist the workpiece out of alignment as it is torqued down. Arny has started to rough turn



each layer as it dries to keep concentricity.

When the piece is fully assembled, turn the outside first to a pleasing shape. Turn the inside next. Start at the rim and work

Woodchuck Mentors

These Woodchucks are able and willing to help other Woodchucks needing some hands-on instruction.

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

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

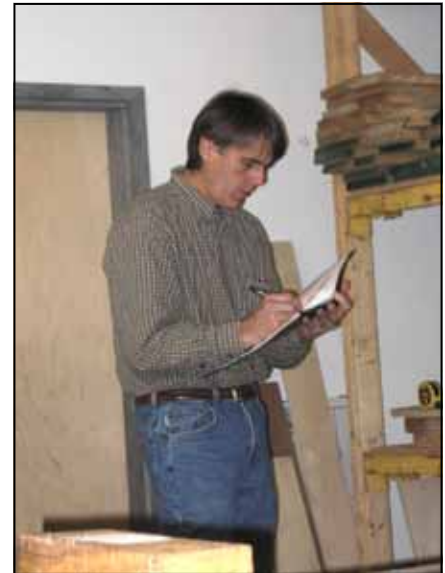
*Ralph Tursini: Spindles & bowls, vacuum chucking.
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*Ted Fink: Bowls, spindles, & boxes.
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*Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels.
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Randy's silver maple work.



Craig's last notes. Thanks for keeping good minutes .

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. You

must also notify the editor of Chatter so you can be listed in Future Woodchuck Sightings.

The demonstration must have wood turning as the main subject.

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American Association of
Woodturners

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Thanks, Ralph, for a productive tenure as President. We've gone from less than 20 to more than 50 members; we've had demos from local and national turners, we've had a great time. We've learned a lot during your terms.

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.