

Woodchuck Chatter



Special points of interest:

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

June 8, 2007

Volume 4, Issue 6

June 21st Meeting

We talk a great deal about the tools we use and how we can be better turners, so I thought a look at the third ingredient, the wood we use, would be useful. How to choose the raw wood that suits your needs. If you have a tree that needs to be cut up, how to avoid making a wrong cut and wasting it. We will discuss what material is likely to come from different parts of the tree, how to find the color and grain variations you're looking for, and how to spot gold in your firewood pile. We'll also talk about wood words, i.e. curly, fiddle back, tiger, striped, root burl, canker burl, cancer burl, fork, crotch, flame,

quarter sawn, rift sawn, through and through, flat sawn, plain sawn, be they a botanical, colloquial, or industrial word, we'll toss 'em around and see if we can clear up some questions, myths and mysteries. I will be bringing many wood samples so folks can see and feel what we are discussing. This will be an exchange of information so I would encourage everybody to come add their special spice to this wooden version of stone soup.

Greg Drew

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May Photos



Herb examines Russ' shallow bowl



A Ted Fink birdhouse



Russ shows his small-object safety hold down/pusher tools



Greg Drew's colored bowls



Randy's interesting maple bowl

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: Got A Light??

We are being assaulted by gloom and doom. The prices of everything are going up. We American consumers are being accused of deliberately causing the globe to heat up. To make it a little bit less accusatory, the newsboobs have started using the phrase, “climate change”. Putting aside the merits of the arguments, it looks like we need to shape up. We know that we need cars and trucks to sashay from here to there. We know it would be a dark Vermont if we stopped Vernon Yankee, Hydro Quebec, and coal– fired power.

The electric industry is one of the few which tells us to give them less money. They have programs to replace incandescent light bulbs, to use power saving TV’s and computers, to guide us through peak hours of electric usage.

I’ve read a lot about hybrid car technology so I can say with

a straight face that almost all hybrids will be a feel-good purchase for some time in the future. There are some gas savings, but the payback on the technology is anywhere from 35,000 miles of driving on up. Then, somewhere down the road, the batteries give up and must be replaced. Maybe not for the first owner, but they will die. The cost of replacement will stop your heart. Not only will the coming generations of batteries be expensive, but you will have to pay to have them disposed of or recycled, assuming that’s possible.

I have come across a bright spot, no pun intended. It’s the Light Emitting Diode (LED). It uses a fraction of the electricity for the same light output with far less heat emission than fluorescents. Why? More energy is converted to light in the visible spectrum, less in the IR and lower spectrum. It lasts for up to 100,000 hours. It uses no mercury or other heavy metals,

and is practically indestructible. New applications are popping up all over the market. A company in Randolph is building direct replacements for fluorescent light bulbs. I have seen flashlights, desk lamps, even car turn signals using LEDs. LEDs can be “tuned” to emit light in any part of the spectrum so critical users can confidently work under that type of illumination.

OK. Why is a woodturner raving on about lights instead of making shavings? I walked downstairs to my shop today and turned on the lights. In order to see properly, I have fluorescent room lighting and mostly incandescent task lighting. To roam around from work station to workstation, all the lights have to be on. All told, I have almost 4,000 watts of light down there. If I could convert to LEDs, I would save enough to buy a new tool once a year! I would also have to turn on a heater in the winter, but boy would I feel good! **Army**

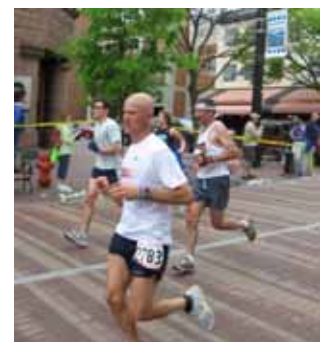
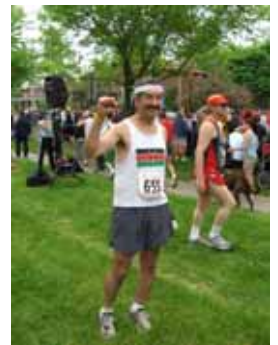


Randy is On The Lookout!



Ted opens his studio to the public with a great display of turned pieces. Ted demonstrates using his Nova 3000 lathe.

Joe gets away from his turnings by going for a little run around the City of Burlington. Joe was spotted shortly before the start of the Burlington City Marathon stretching. Here he was spotted running down Church Street around mile 9 of the 26.2 mile race.



Open Studio Weekend and two of our group were hard at work.



This is part of the setup Craig made to index a router used as a carving tool.



This is a Sorby tool set for spiral work and other texturing. Packard #108777, \$189.99



Use of a texturing tool.



Craig using a Lancelot tool to texture while the bowl is slowly spinning.



One result of using the Sorby tool above.



Result of using a sharp point to texture with.



Some of the texturing tools of Dick Montague. Notice the handles.



The result of using the Lancelot grinder at a given speed.



One of Dick's textured tops, using tools above.

The texture you get depends on the stiffness of the tool, the length over the rest, and the speed of the lathe. A stiff (or short) tool will make closer marks than a long, flexible tool.

The angle at which the tool is held will also affect the marks made. In almost every case, texturing using a tool which depends on spring action, will result in clear marks on end grain and a chewing of the surface on side grain.

Woodchuck Discounts



In House Demos:

June 21st: Greg Drew on Wood Varieties.

July 19th: Open date. Need a member to demonstrate.

August 18th., a Saturday. Tentative date. Al Stirt as speaker; Woodchuck Picnic. Details TBA.

Sept. 20th: Wooden toys for the children's ward of the hospital.

October 18th. Segmented vessels. Russ Fellows & Arny Spahn. Elect new Board.

November 15th. Open date. Member input needed.

In addition to our 10% Klingspor discount on all abrasive supplies we have been offered a much broader discount for our members. Hartville Tool Woodworking which is a store and catalog based tool company in Hartville, Ohio since 1972, has made our chapter the following offer. During the first year of participation, each participating member of our chapter will be given a 20% discount off all regularly priced merchandise. After the first year of participation, the standard discount will revert to 15%. After 2 years participation, our chapter will receive a 3% rebate based on the total purchases made by our participating members. This rebate will be in the form of a gift certificate. For our chapter to be eligible we must have at least 20 members participate. To see if this would be of interest to you, take a few minutes to view their wide range of woodworking tools. They include not only woodturning, but carving and all other aspects of woodworking. Check their website www.hartvilletool.com If you would like to participate, let me know by email or at an upcoming meeting, when a sign up list will be passed. Thank you.

Ted Fink

Woodchuck Website Update: www.woodchucksvt.org

Our webmaster, Jim Cunningham, has set up the capability of members paying their annual dues using PayPal on the website. Also new members will be able to join by filling out a form on the site and using the PayPal option.

Jim has set up a member list on the Homepage, including the highlighting of those members with personal woodworking-related websites. The member's website can be viewed by double clicking on the member's name.

Jim will next be setting up a "**Members Gallery**". Please send digital images of your favorite turnings and any suggestions or comments about the site to Jim at: pens@madriver.com . If you have any difficulty getting information to Jim let me know.

Ted Fink

Treasurer's report

Treasurers' Report	
Balance Forward	\$2963.22
Income	
Dues	20.00
Raffle	34.00
Expenses	
Postage	2.00
Lathe adapters #2 and 3 videos	223.83
WC T-shirts #36	326.00
Balance forward	\$2465.39
Ted Fink	



Welcome new member

Toby Fulwiler
1941 Ridge Rd.
Fairfield, VT 05455

toby.fulwiler@UVM.edu

802 827 3779

Dick's Bit



that is not just decorative. For example, how to keep pests out.

["http://birding.about.com/od/buildhouses/a/completehouse.htm"](http://birding.about.com/od/buildhouses/a/completehouse.htm)

Hello All, Some of you may be thinking about making bird houses for yourself or for the Vermont WoodNet shop in Stowe. (By the way, this is a good outfit to join/support!) Following are some sites that have some useful information. There are also many books and some organizations that provide detailed information.

This site has some specs and many, many links. Paste this link into your browser & follow it.

["http://birding.about.com/library/blhousespecs.htm"](http://birding.about.com/library/blhousespecs.htm)

This is a link from above with short articles about some important considerations when making a bird house

This is a commercial site with pictures of a large variety of houses. Most of us, given the specs from above, could figure out the rest. This may be a source of ideas.

["http://www.bestnest.com/bestnest/bird_houses.asp?src=goto&kw=birdhouse"](http://www.bestnest.com/bestnest/bird_houses.asp?src=goto&kw=birdhouse)

This site should take you to a picture of a bird house for folks who just do not know when to stop.

["http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/images/B000MVZNFE/ref=dp_image_text_0/002-8480511-0925621?ie=UTF8&n=286168&p:s=garden"](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/images/B000MVZNFE/ref=dp_image_text_0/002-8480511-0925621?ie=UTF8&n=286168&p:s=garden)

This site has some log type houses that would lend themselves to turning, split turning, and bandsaw box type construction. Click on small images to see large. It has sizes (note that different sources have slightly different specifications) and what looks like a list of interesting books and links to just about every outdoor activity.

["http://www.inquiry.net/outdoor/skills/seton/bird_houses.htm"](http://www.inquiry.net/outdoor/skills/seton/bird_houses.htm)

Google will give you more information than you can use in a lifetime.

["http://birding.about.com/od/buildhouses/a/completehouse.htm"](http://birding.about.com/od/buildhouses/a/completehouse.htm)

Richard Montague

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.

802-899-6863

Tursini@pshift.com

Ted Fink; Bowls, spindles, & boxes.

802-985-2923

jantedfink@gmail.com

Russ Fellows; Segmented vessels.

802 899 305

skunkmen@together.net



Woodchuck Watch

Woodchuck Sightings: Ted Fink will be turning cherry ice cream bowls at

Ben and Jerry's Waterbury Factory 7/4/07.

Randy Ramsden will be doing a demo at the MapleWood Gallery in Stowe on Sunday June 24.

A little pat on the back...

I'm new to your club, having attended only one meeting last month and so far have been a self-

trained woodturner. But the passion is growing, especially after the "open studio" weekend where my wife and I visited Ralph Tursini at his Cambridge studio. The Saturday afternoon session was not well attended, so Laura and I stayed quite a long time, with Ralph taking us through his whole process, from cutting and splitting a black cherry log, to rounding it out on his giant bandsaw, to shaping the outside, then inside, on his eight-foot One Way. His open studio was, in fact, an all-afternoon tuto-

rial on the art of green bowl turning. This open letter is my way of thanking Ralph and the club for its expertise and generosity. Toby Fulwiler, Fairfield, VT

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.

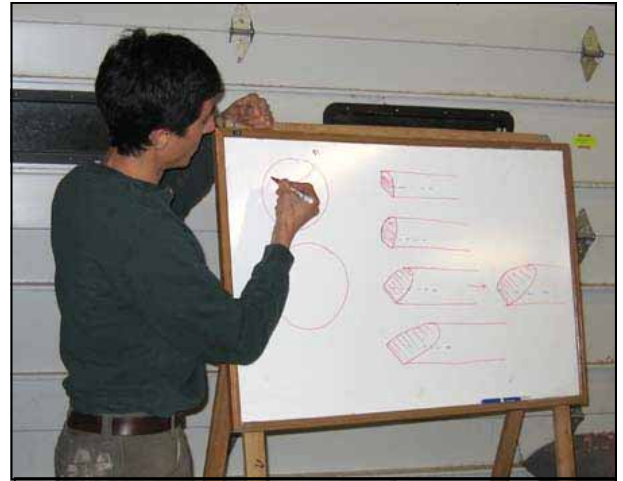
The event must be "sanctioned" by WTNV. That is, you must notify the Treasurer, who will provide a copy of the cover sheet for the policy. You

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.

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

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THIS is the spot you need to keep sharp!

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.