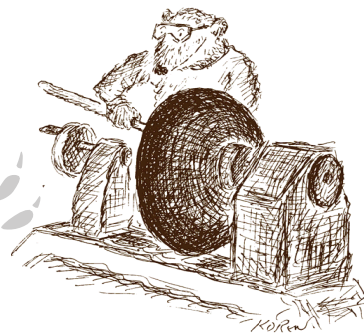


WOODCHUCK CHATTER



October 11, 2008

Volume 5 issue 10

THE NEWSLETTER OF WOODCHUCK TURNERS OF NORTHERN VERMONT

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org

Next Meeting: October 23, 2008

Woodchuck Board Info. 2

Random Shots: measurements. 2

Greetings From Skunk Hollow 3

Treasurer's Report & New Members. 3

Demo Schedule 3

September meeting 5

Return of the Good Humor Wagon 6

Lessons From The Turning Bench 7

Wise Woodchuck 7

Classifieds 8

Policy on Insurance 8

Policy on borrowing Club Property 8

This coming meeting is a week later than usual, due to scheduling conflicts within The Shelburne Art Center.

The order of business: Greetings & introductions. Announcements. Elections. Raffle. Show & Tell. And the program. This month, Randy Ramsden is going to show us how he makes a variety of ornaments to be hung on your Christmas tree (or, as ecumenical Jewish people might say, Chanukah bush.) No complaints about the last remark, please. I'm entitled.

There's a new twist to the elections this time. Remember that 2 persons were nominated for the position of 2nd Member

At Large? Well, at the Oct. 8 Board meeting, the Board took a look at the number of members. We have 82 on the membership list and it is uncertain how many are totally inactive and how many are not able to come to meetings many times per year. We feel that there are at least 60 in the latter category. That means we should have a total of 3 Members At Large. So, it will be possible to elect all three of the candidates.

The normal order of business is to announce the candidates approved by the membership in September and to ask if there are any nominations from the floor. If there are further

nominations, the candidates are usually asked to leave the room and a vote is taken to decide which candidate for a position the members favor.

The candidates are invited back into the room (they have a right to vote, too.) The results of the by-election are given. Then, if there are no objections, the President can call for a motion to have the Secretary cast one ballot in favor of the slate of officers.

This is a procedure suggested by Robert's Rules for small associations where there are no antagonistic issues.

Board Report



We met At Russ' home Oct. 8th & finished dining by 7:00. (Russ is an excellent host and provided the main course.)

Present were Russ, Randy, Ted, Arny. Guests were Ralph, Craig, and Cil. Note: Members are cordially invited to join the Board to help with deliberations.

First on the agenda was the Woodstock Woodwork Show.

Our booth cost \$360 and we grossed \$436 (including the sale of 7 Woodchuck caps). We decided that WTNV would pay one-half of the cost & assess the contributing members - there were several—the other half. The organizers are looking for feedback for the next year. Our consensus is that Woodstock is

(Continued on page 4)

Woodchuck Chatter

Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

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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.

I was doing some more research on “Google”, the source of so much information. I’m still on a riff vs: units of measurement. This month, what with Oktoberfest, (why do we have to be a pretend Austria when we are a really good Vermont?) thoughts of beer and bratwurst came to mind. For my fellow lovers of suds, here’s the way to measure beer.

Imperial measures:

2 teaspoons = 1 dessertspoon
3 teaspoons = 1 tablespoon
2 tablespoons = 1 fluid ounce
5 fluid ounces = 1 gill
2 gills = 1 cup
2 cups = 1 pint = 20 fluid ounces
2 pints = 1 quart = 40 fluid ounces
4 quarts = 1 gallon = 160 fluid ounces
9 (beer) gallons = 1 firkin
2 firkins = 1 kilderkin or 18 gallons
2 kilderkins = 1 barrel or 36 gallons
1 1/2 barrels = 1 hogshead or 54 gallons
1 1/3 hogsheads = 1 puncheon or 72 gallons
1 1/2 puncheons or 2 hogsheads = 1 butt or pipe (or 108 gallons)
2 pipes = 1 tun or 216 gallons

Or, x many trips to the restroom per hour.

Speaking of Oktoberfest, Cil & I visited the Stowe Craft Fair, where, beside touring the booths, we enjoyed a sausage & beer under the entertainment tent. There were plenty of jewelry, pottery, and clothing craft booths but I simply ignored them as I only have an interest in manly(?) crafts like turning & so forth. Of the booths with turnings, there were a few really notable ones. One lady had magnificent large bowls decorated with ornate inlays of wood or glass beads. The glass beads looked like a miniature mosaic. Another lady had bowls of more modest dimensions, well done & finished. Some of hers had a decorative band with a burned-in design of cattails and reeds. I thought they must be laser-

generated because of the hair-thin lines.

Another booth might be the one which I heard characterized as one of “ugly bowls”. The bowls were dimly lit and showed none of the nice shapes most of us strive for. Talk about ugly, though. Here’s the impression I got. The owner had planted himself on a stool so I could not get into his booth to take a close look at his stuff. He had his hat on & was chomping vigorously on something all the time we stood there. Cil was busily examining some silver jewelry in the booth across from this one.

I felt that the turner didn’t want me to look too close, didn’t seem friendly or interested in his customers, and wasn’t a very good salesman.

The reason I mention this guy’s apparent attitude is as a lesson to think about if you are going to sell your wares at a craft fair or farmer’s market.

1. If your work is good enough to sell, make sure folks can see it well.
2. Make your booth inviting.
3. Look and dress like you are respectable & respectful.
4. Greet people who look interested.

The prices at Stowe seemed awful high this year. I imagine that the organizers had to boost the booth prices due to increased costs. They had several gas heaters in each of the large tents. It’s a juried show, which adds more cost to the exhibitors. It’s held at prime leaf-peaking time so there are mostly flatlanders up to enjoy what we Vermonters take as part of our everyday lives. Incidentally, calling myself a Vermonter is not a fib. If I called myself a NATIVE Vermonter that’d be a fib. One definition of Vermonter I heard recently, is a person who came up here to die. Not quite true. Most of us came up here to LIVE. Anyway, back to the Stowe fair & the costs. As a juried show, the exhibitors have a right to price their goods as quality items. They also have the

right to expect that their audience is willing and able to pay a premium for skill, provenance, and beauty.

We returned from an Elderhostel in Crisfield, MD last week. If you think Vermont’s farmers and lumbermen have it bad, go to Crisfield. Over the last 2 centuries, Chesapeake Bay’s fish stock has been badly depleted and there are huge dead zones in the upper bay. At the beginning of the 20th century, over 9.5 million bushels of oysters were taken annually, and crabbing was really big starting in the 50s, when oystering was not so good. Last year, the watermen took in 37,000 bushels of oysters. Crabbing had gotten to an ebb. They were only able to deliver crabs to the processing plants 3-4 days a week, even though they ran their lines daily. Just not enough catch to warrant a trip down the bay a half-mile. Now, the watermen are caught between the perils of increasing demand for fish stock preservation, diminishing prices, low catches, and competition from Asia for much of their stock--in-trade. They are angry at DNR for over regulation. The area has just a fraction of the processing houses it once had. That means less jobs, lower economy, underfunded schools, and land going to condo developers, who, stupidly enough, aren’t finding buyers for their inventory. The current credit crisis has ruined what housing market they had before 2008.

The lesson I took from Crisfield is that we want to assess our natural resources and renew them as we go along. We want to treasure and preserve our Vermont heritage and learn how to have the new technology market live alongside that heritage co-operatively. We want to make it possible for people to work through regulation.

It’s also important to provide good jobs and living conditions to keep our young citizens here, not encouraging them to seek fortunes down country.

Arny

Russ extracted an article on food-safe finishes from this month's "Fine Woodworking". As it's copyrighted by the magazine and 3 pages long, I've tried to summarize the content.—Arny

Back in the day, many finishes contained lead as a drier. Lead has been banished. Almost all current finishes are harmless to humans. Fully cured, they are an indigestible plastic-like substance. The author of the article, Mike Mahoney, says that since safety is no longer an issue, you should base your decision on durability of the finish, ease of application, and the intended use the article will be given.

For salad bowls, tongs, etc. a penetrating oil has some advantages. They are easy to apply and can be reapplied when the object starts to look shabby. It's essential that the unfinished surface be as scratch-free as possible. Sand on the lathe, reversing direction between grades. Tung oil and linseed oil are two favorites as they cure and harden in the wood, making frequent refinishing unnecessary. Mike likes an oil/varnish blend, heavily diluted and thinly applied. Too many coats produce a film finish which will be harder to repair. Nut oils are more expensive and slower to cure. Mineral oil forms no film and requires more frequent renewal.

Don't use vegetable or olive oils as they can go rancid or remain sticky. Oil finishes offer no resistance to abrasion, but if you are using a wooden article to serve food and are worried about the patina it gains, you might as well use plastic utensils & bowls.

Film finishes can provide a finish with just the amount of sheen you want, but they do break down with regular use. These finishes may be rela-



tively easy to repair, but you'll get tired of that in a hurry. Tough varnish or poly finishes are broken down by the constant rubbing, pounding, and cutting in a kitchen. They may be very hard to repair at all. These film finishes may be very appropriate for dry storage such as cookie jars or sugar bowls. Or any serving dish not subject to mechanical attack.

Oil/varnish finishes dry very slowly and their odor lingers. You should not put them into food use until the odor has completely disappeared.

Mike claims that he has unfinished plates which are 12 years old. Good hardwoods such as maple, cherry, or birch have closed pores are very good as they take sanding very well and refuse penetration by moist foods.

Some further advice, probably unnecessary to Woodchucks, is to treat woodenware well. Don't leave them standing in water. Use mild dish soap, scrub gently, and rinse. Don't put wooden items in the dishwasher or the microwave.

In House Demos:

October 23:
Randy, Xmas ornaments. Elections Vote.

November 20:
Possible demo on thin turning. Possible talk on new finishes from a local mfr.

January 15th: Round Table. Members bring their techniques, tools to share ideas.

February 19th:
Practical demo on sharpening tools. Ralph & Bill Walsh guide you. Bring in some sharp or dull gouges.

March 19th: 2 short demos by Ted. Making wooden faceplates with a wood tap. Altering tool handles for a better grip.

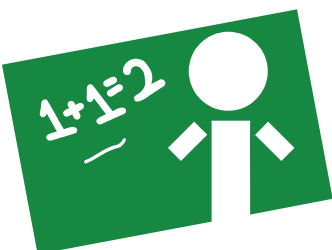
April 16th: TBA.

May 21st: Michael Mode?

June 18th: "Green" practices or a guest speaker from away.

Treasurer's report

Balance Forward	\$2428.16	Welcome New Members	woodturner007@yahoo.com
Income		Bob Rosenblum	
Dues	60.00	98 Mystic Dr. Norwich, VT	Ira W. Sollace
Sealer reimbursement	65.00	05055	580 West Hill Road;
Raffle	40.00	rosenblum.robert@gmail.com	North Middlesex, VT 05682
			802 229 4326
Expenses		William Lawhorn	ISollace@yahoo.com
Picnic supplies/food	191.78	15 Matt's Meadow Jericho, VT	Paul Henderson;
Al Stirt honorarium	<u>200.00</u>	05465	300 Grove St., #12.; Rutland, VT
		802 858 9908	05701;
Balance Forward	\$2201.38	wjdl1824@yahoo.com	609 335 8000
			plynas@comcast.net
Ted Fink		Larry Rice	
		200 Park St.#2 Burlington, VT	
		05401	
		802 324 0913	
		Riverweb@together.net	
		Gerry Martin	
		998 Lincoln Hill Rd. Shrewsbury,	
		VT 05739	
		802 492 2244	



(Continued from page 1)

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.
802-899-3059
skunkmen@together.net*

*Bill Walsh: tool sharpening
802 482 215
billiriquois@yahoo.com*

as good a spot for the show as any. There was some speculation that moving might decrease the number of visitors.

Membership: We have a list of over 80 members. Some of them are not current with their dues, and a few, current or not, have not been to a meeting recently. The list now has all the recent members on it, with a few incomplete entries. Some missing addresses, phone numbers, and a few without email addresses. Since we are distributing Chatter only by email, some folks are missing info. Arny will send out copies of the list & ask if folks are still interested in receiving Chatter (Done!). The list will be considered final in a week; it will then be configured as a PDF file—as is Chatter—and emailed to the membership. Some hard copies will be available at the next meeting.

Library: Arny has the distribution copies. He brings them with him to every meeting he attends. The process is simple. Look for a title you are interested in. Pull the copy, enter your name & date on the library card, and put the card into the box provided. Bring the copy back the next meeting and hand it to Arny.

We will purchase the following titles this month: AAW 2008 Symposium (Instant Gallery & 2 discs of technique demonstrations); "Beyond Wood: Portrait of an Artist"; Projects Along The Woodturning Trail" by Alan Lacer"; Aesthetics and Properties of Wood" by J. Jordan and Bin Pho's DVD. He does a fantastic style including piercing, gold leafing & painting on a very thin vessel.

Two points were brought up in reference to the librarian. First, a printed list of all titles should be made. (Arny promised to work on it.) Second, with all the different tasks Arny does, the job of Librarian should be shifted to another person. That person

needs some computer literacy and the ability to copy DVDs for distribution, plus the ability to keep and update the catalog.

Woodchuck Handbook: The original handbook had 3 parts: Woodchuck history, membership, and resources. The handbook has not been updated in 5 years. Ralph Tursini has taken on the job of updating the history of WTNV.

Website: Jim Cunningham has started our website. It looks good but needs input from the members. Two items which could help your business are the submission of photos of your work and a link to your website or email address.



Demonstration schedule: We discussed possibilities. The following is a report of our speculation and is not at all firm. If your name is on this list, expect a call from Russ as to your willingness and availability. Naturally, volunteers are fervently welcome. Please, if you have a specialty, share it with Woodchucks.

October 23rd: Randy Ramsden; Birdhouse ornaments. (firm)

November 20: (checking) Tom Dunne; thin turning or a new mfg. of wood finishes.

December: No meeting.

January 15th: Round Table Discussion of techniques and materials.

February 19th: Sharpening Your Tools. A practical demonstration of different grinds and how to achieve them using the common bench grinder. Ralph Tursini and (checking) Bill Walsh.

March 19th: Ted Fink: Making faceplates using a wood tap

and gouge handles modified for better hand control.

April 16th (checking) Janet Collins: carved decorations.

May 21st: (checking) Michael Mode.

June 18th: "green" turning or a national demonstrator.

Once again, this list is speculative. Unless it appears in the "Demo Schedule" column, it is still vaporware. All dates are subject to confirmation, as we can only get a 3-month commitment from the Shelburne Art Center.

Meeting place: Our present location is adequate and sensible. There were comments about the quality of the available lathes, which are not suited to extremely demanding techniques. One thought was to move the WTNV Nova 3000 lathe to the Center with the understanding that it would be covered under the Center's liability insurance. That may not work. Certainly if a demonstrator needs a better lathe than is at the Center, ours could be moved there for a single demo. Naturally, we are reluctant to move it back & forth, as it is a good, heavy and large setup. Won't fit into the back of my mini or on Mickey Palmer's bike.

We would like all members to suggest an alternative meeting place as we would like a Plan "B" and we see our membership growing.

Speaking of a growing membership, in our discussion we realized that the active membership is over 60 which means that we can elect 3 Members At Large instead of 2. So, as we have 3 candidates for the positions, we should elect all 3.

The next Board meeting will be at Russ Fellows' home on April 8th.

Arny Spahn reporting.

Monthly Meeting 9/18/2008
 Meeting called to order by Russ Fellows.
 Meeting was held in the front building at Shelburne Art Center. Introductions were made including a few new members.
 Russ showed the piece Al Stirt created at the picnic. All agreed that the demo was very informative.

Minutes: approved.

Announcements:

AAW National Symposium – 2009 to be held in New Mexico.
 Vermont Woodworking School is moving to route 104 in Fairfax.
 Western Tool Supply on Williston Road is closing later this year.
 Craig Hall is selling a spindle lathe – contact him for more details.
 See the ad on the last page.

New Business:

Dues for new members paying now are good for all of 2009.
 Members voted unanimously to increase the remuneration for Al Stirt.

Board Meeting set for Russ's house on October 8th.
 Bylaw change – members voted to allow for additional "members at large" based on the number of general membership. One "member at large" per 20 regular members.

Annual Elections:

The current slate of officers was nominated by the membership for 2009. Craig Hall and Ralph Tursini were nominated for the second member at large position. Voting to take place at the October meeting.
 We held our monthly raffle with 21 members participating.

Show & Tell:

Several nice pieces shown by members.



Mickey Palmer's wing bowl.



Mickey's adventure in painted finishes.



Randy Ramsden and an unusual maple bowl.



Joe Laferriere's burl bowl.



Russ Fellows and an in-process new design.



Tom Dunne & a thin-turned hollow form.



An example of a successful Bowl Saver project.



Bottle stoppers by Ralph Tursini



Texture work by Ted Fink.



Acorn cookie jar by Ted Fink.

Demo: Ted and Russ demonstrated texturing using Kutzall cutters and the Proxxon mini grinder.



A "medium" Proxxon grinding wheel

(continued on P. 6)

September Meeting continued.



1. Ted uses the grinder to put a band of texture near the rim of this bowl.



3. Using a detail gouge to incise a groove on either side of the texture for definition of the edge.



1. Russ generally uses the Sorby texturing system especially on his basket series of bowls.



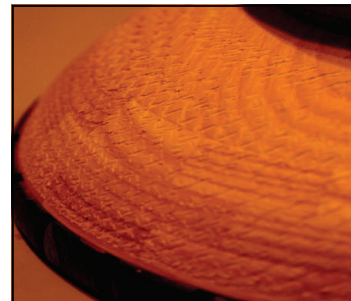
3. Russ using the Kutzall tool. This tool is loud, powerful, and requires a very low lathe speed for best texture.



2. He's on the "wrong" side of the lathe. The work has to rotate away from the turner & this lathe doesn't reverse.



4. The finished product.



2. Close up of the texture.



4. The results on a lathe turning at 500 RPM. A much slower speed would have produced closer marks.



5. Another example of texturing using the grinder.

Return Of the Good Humor Wagon

To all,
I just spoke with Bob Bouvier who said that the lady who used to do "humor therapy" at FAHC was let go and moved to FL but there are some volunteers still doing it and the humor wagon is in need of more toys. So the program, though changed a bit, is still operant and we should proceed with all possible dispatch to make more toys to bring to our Nov. meeting.

Ted
Folks, this is one of a very few projects WTNV has taken on for the good of our community. There's no better reason needed than to know there are children in hospital and grateful for a little diversion. Please make at least one toy. I will be glad to email anyone the

plans for a pull toy or some other wooden, simple toy. Take a look at Dick Montague's column this month.



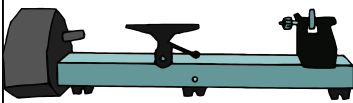
Some of the toys destined for the Good Humor Cart in 2007.



In 2006, several members made tops; Craig made the automaton bird, Arny did the ball & cup toys.

For those of us wanting to make things for the coming holidays the time to start has come. Most everyone, young and old, appreciates the gift of a useful, beautiful, or fun hand turning. This time of year we think of gifts for the young and young at heart. As a club we are committed to making toys for youngsters in hospitals and who are in tough situations. With this in mind, let us talk about turning toys and tops. Note that the above three categories don't have to be unrelated. A toy can be useful if it helps develop coordination, beautiful because a lathe lends itself to sculptural forms, and fun by definition.

There are many, many toys that can be turned or have turned parts. Examples include pull toys, ball & cup, skittles, tower of Hanoi, chess & checkers, rattles, Celt dolls, croquet, jack straws, peg games, tricks, and tops. I make tops and other folk toys, so I will share a few ideas. Tops come in a wide variety of styles, sizes, and



complexity. Most countries and cultures have their own style and



the internet will allow you to explore this side of tops and toys.

The finger top is small and can be simple or as complex as you wish. They can be made in a few seconds or many hours. Materials vary from wood to plastic to nuts to They can be from one piece or glued up from hundreds (take note all you segmented turners). They can be turned on a simple lathe with one tool or an ornamental lathe using many cutters.

Let us take a look at making the finger top. I start with 1 1/4 to 1 1/2" diameter square or round stock 2 1/2 to 3" long. Drill a 3/16" hole 5/8" deep in the center of one end and mount it on a MT (Morse Taper) screw center. This center is small and out of the way while turning and holds small pieces well. It shortens the usable length by only 3/4".

True the blank round. I use the wing of a Glaser bowl gouge.

The same tool with its small flute radius allows me to rough the point end, rim, and the other side. I could finish the handle and be done in a minute or so with no sanding. Most of the time I refine the point end and other side with a 1/2" spindle gouge leaving enough stock to allow aggressive buffing pressure. Next a 1/16" groove is cut around the rim which is then friction burned with a wire.

Note!!! **NEVER** wrap wire or anything else around your fingers when turning. A chatter tool is used to pattern one or both sides.

Sand and buff before cutting the handle so small it will not take the twisting force of buffing. I use 220 (P grade abrasives) for a few seconds to remove any slight tool irregularities. 320 removes 220 scratches and goes lightly over the chatter work. Reverse the lathe for 400, reverse again for 800, and again for 1500. Last I reverse once more and buff with Tripoli compound worked into a patch of terry cloth towel. At this point detail is added to the handle and it is finished as before. Because of fussing with the form, detail, and finish, it takes considerable time. However, a top right off the tool with no sanding will spin. After admiring your work, form a point on the remaining stock, round or

point a 3/16" dowel 1 1/4" long and press or glue it into the mounting hole and you have another top - two for one. You should know that spinning tops with the handle down can be more interesting.

Again time and space have gone. Call me with any questions this has raised or details you would like to have. Making turnings with which to play and have fun is both satisfying for you and brings pleasure and delight to others.

Richard Montague
802-584-3486



Words From A Wise Woodchuck

Bowl Sanding Tip

When sanding bowls for long periods one problem I've run into is forearm muscle fatigue repetitive motion stress related to gripping the tool. One of the major causes, I believe, is the often awkward hand position re-

quired to both grip the tools and keep a finger on the trigger/switch. A solution that seemed to work well for the close-quarter style drills that I used to use is to wrap the handle with a heavy gauge loop of wire to keep the trigger pulled. This frees up the hands to hold the tool in more

ergonomic positions that can be switched to occasionally.

Some pros and cons of pneumatic vs. electric tools.

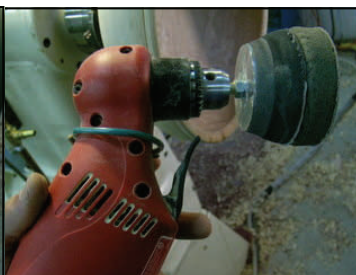
While on the topic of sanding options I'll note that I've since switched from electric to pneumatic tools for sanders. This is mostly for ergonomic and durability considerations. These tools are designed to be used in around-the-clock production environments so are available in a pleasantly staggering range of options. The designs incorporate more ergonomic considerations. They are generally smaller, lighter, more durable, repairable. The down side is cost

and price. While the initial price of the hand tool is relatively inexpensive (\$50-150) the power source (air compressor) is quite pricey to purchase (\$1200-\$2500) and inefficient from an energy standpoint. Consider this: According to a pneumatic tool specialist I spoke with; for every 1 hp of work done at the end of a given pneumatic tool, the compressor consumes 5 to 7hp of electricity! Ouch.

-Ralph Tursini



Switch on



Switch off

Opportunities & Classifieds

I have a good sized - roughly 20-24" in diameter at the base - butternut tree that is clearly on its way out.

I really don't know if butternut is desirable for wood working but wanted to check with you.

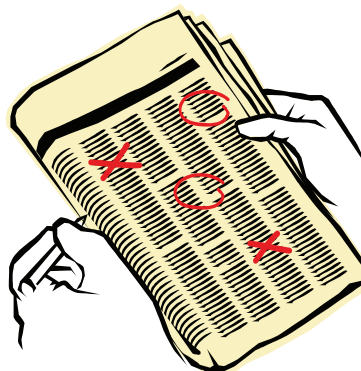
If someone wanted to harvest the trunk - which is roughly 20' of straight timber - I would welcome them to do so and cart away all that is left over.

thanks

Keith Gaylord
kgaylord@us.ibm.com

I have an Oliver lathe for sale. Its cast iron with a variable speed motor, a 12" swing, and a turning length of 34". Accessories are a live tailstock and a threaded adapter to fit a Oneway chuck. Minimum speed is 500 rpm. Although best suited for spindle turning I have turned bowls and hollow vessels. Excellent condition. Price is \$700.00 firm.

Craig Hall
Craighall@hotmail.com



The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

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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. 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.

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 borrow 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.