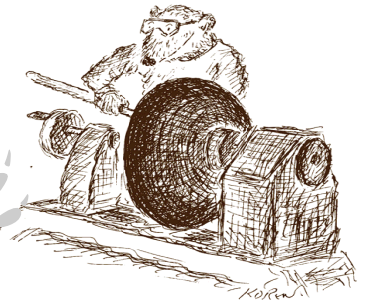


WOODCHUCK CHATTER



WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org

August 10, 2011

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Volume 8 issue 8

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

With Contributions By the Upper Valley Woodturners

Meeting, August 20th—Annual Picnic

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This will be our Annual Picnic, a tradition started early in our history. It used to be at Herb Hurlbut's house in St. Albans, migrated to the Forest Reserve, then to Russ's house in Jericho. It has now moved to Toby Fulwiler's home in Fairfield. The program will be Al Stirt showing some works to provoke our imagination, plus some critiquing of our work. Come around 10:00-10:30 in the morning & we'll get set up and have some refreshment. Al's talk won't start until after lunch.

Joe Laferriere will commence with burnt sacrifices about 11:30. What to bring: Side dishes suitable for a shared picnic. Your own variety of protein if you eschew beef. Your own serving spoons. Also bring recent works for comment by Al Stirt. He's acknowledged as a first rate turner with a great eye.

Directions to Toby Fulwiler's Fairfield Farm for the annual Woodchuck Picnic, August 20, 2011. Fairfield is forty minutes northeast of Burlington, eight miles east of St. Albans, nine miles northwest of Fairfield, 14 miles west of Bakersfield. Directions below designate two good ways to approach where I live:

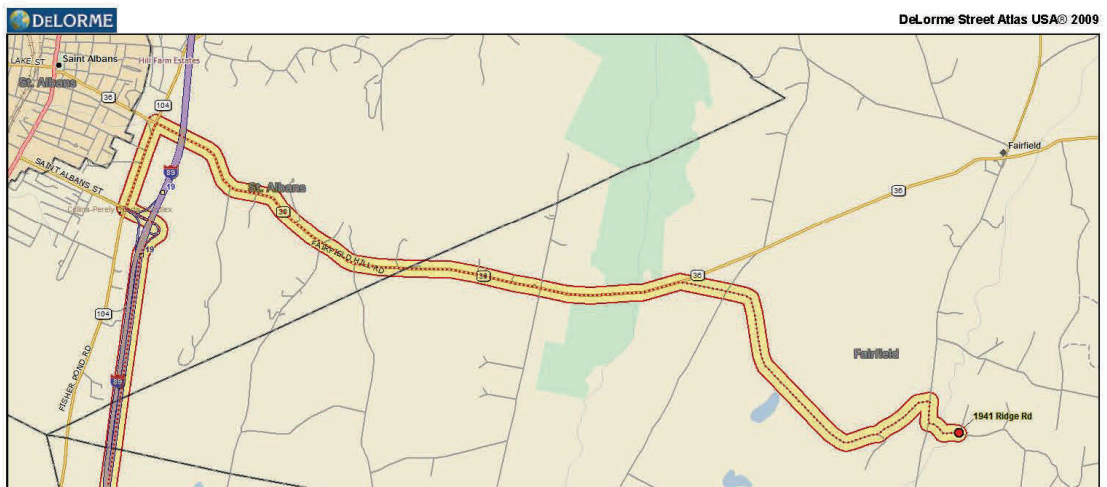
From Burlington via I-89:

- > -I-89 north from Burlington to first St Alban's Exit #19,
- > -right on 104 north to 36,
- > -right on 36, 8 miles to blinking light at Fairfield,
- > -right on South Rd., 2 miles,
- > -left, on Ridge Rd, 2 miles,
- > -left on Ridge Road N., second driveway on right (1941)

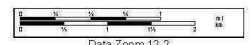
From Essex Center, Hwy 15 (about 35 minutes)

- > I28 through Westford to 104 (Fairfax)
- > left on 104 through town center to Buck Hollow Road
- > right on Buck Hollow to T at South Road
- > left on South Road, 1/2 mile, to Ridge Road
- > right on Ridge Road, 2 miles to T,
- > left on Ridge Road N. to second driveway on right (#1941)

Toby Fulwiler



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jmphelan@charter.net

I'm happy to yield part of my space for some good news of Woodchucks this month. It's great that Ralph has a new generation in his hands.

Communications: I'm reluctantly being drawn into the area of "social media". When I attend a meeting, there is usually someone with a little black smartphone, paying half his attention to the meeting and fiddling with this...*thing* the rest of the time. I see two people, obviously a couple, with two of these *things*

that they are each playing with, obviously not relating directly to each other. What is it about? They are on Facebook or Twitter or some other messaging medium. I don't have a clue about the language that's used. Friend? Like? I don't get it.

Our local Chamber of Commerce is looking into becoming a presence in that world to enlarge its usefulness to its members. One thing I took home about this mess is that there is a network targeted at professionals. It's

called LinkedIn, and it's the fastest growing thing on the Web and possibly in the stock market. Aside from the market's nosedive recently, the stock is hot.

So, what about woodworkers in general and Woodchucks in particular? Should we be turning part of our attention away from Chatter and the Web and getting more interested in those little gadgets and 140-letter messages? You tell me. I just don't know.

Army

Woodchuck Sightings—Ralph Tursini & Micah



Micah Emidio Tursini was born July 5. We were very fortunate that all went smoothly with the birth. He and Andrea are both doing well and hopefully he'll be a good sport for the woodchuck picnic. Now if only I could get him to do some sanding....



From The President's Desk

August Greetings Fellow Woodchucks!

No comments about how the summer is once again "flashing" by again, but I will use it as a little segue into my first comments. Back in the winter I announced that I would be stepping down as your president at the end on my current term, which is in October. The principal reason is that starting this winter I will join the vast flock of northerners known as "snowbirds", and spend the winter... somewhere else. I am not sure where that will be, but by the time many of you read this I will be on my way to Florida to look at property. For this reason I will be unable to attend our annual picnic (see notices elsewhere in "Chatter" for details on the picnic), turning over hosting to your vice-president, Joe LaFerriere, and secretary Toby

Fulwiler, who is graciously opening his home to the club for the event this year. Rest assured the Woodchucks will not be far from my thoughts though. As a matter-of-fact, I have been in touch with the president of the Sarasota, Florida (which is where I am looking at houses) chapter of the AAW, and hope to meet with him while there.

Progress on the video front: On Friday the 5th, I picked up the cameras from Mickey Palmer and will be taking them, along with the TV, which I purchased a couple weeks ago, up to Blake Ewoldsen at the Vermont Woodworking School (<http://www.vermontwoodworkingschool.com/VWS/Home.html>) to design a storage locker for our equipment that they have agreed to build for us. Hopefully this will all be done for our September meeting!

Another reminder about the Vermont Fine Furniture and Woodworking Festival (<http://www.vermontwoodfestival.org/>) the last weekend of September down in Woodstock. We will have two displays in our booth, one of work by club members that is not for sale and shows the wide variety of things that Woodchucks make, and another of work that is for sale. Please think about putting a piece of your work in one, or both of the displays. We will also need volunteers to staff the booth. You only need to put in a couple hours on either Saturday or Sunday and you will get a pass for the whole weekend. Give me a call at 802-899-3059, or send me a note at (skunkmen@gmail.com).

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

I still have quite a bit of CA glue (in all three weights) left from the last order. I also have 5-minute epoxy. Contact me if you would like some.

The 25th anniversary books (<http://www.woodturner.org/shop/Products.asp>) have finally arrived from the AAW! These were planned for April delivery, but first there was a printer problem, then a distribution problem.....for some reason the word 'SNAFU' comes to mind!.....but now all is well. I will contact, individually, those who ordered them, and I have one extra copy. If you are interested, get in touch with me. More can be ordered as well.

Through our friends at 'Vermont WoodNet' I have made an interesting contact, and one that may prove to be helpful to those who are

always on the lookout for unusual turning stock. Jim Austin over in Middlesex has some property with a logging and milling operation, and they (Austin & Flannigan Lumber Co) are trying to serve the turning community. They pull logs out of the woods and stockpile them for a couple years, hoping to encourage some nice spalting. They have been selling some blocks on E-bay, but really would rather offer them to Vermont based turners. They are on North Bearslump Road (I am not making that up!) and I plan to go over to take a look at their operation and do an article for a future issue of "Chatter". It would be great to support this local effort, and who knows, might yield some great pieces for us! You can call Jim at 802-249-8367 or write him at (hungermountainhardwoods@wildblue.net).

The deadline for signing up to attend the Vermont Wood Products Marketing Council's August 17th seminar, "2020 Vision", is Friday

August 12th. The governor will be there. The secretary of commerce will be there, as will representatives from all parts of the wood-working and wood products industry, from forestry to marketing. Since we listshare with Vermont WoodNet, you all got their latest newsletter with all the information. You can call them at 802-747-7989 or write them at (info@vermontwood.com).

Thanks to all who have sent in pieces and notices to Army for "Chatter". This really helps him continue to putting out a newsletter that we all can be proud of! It doesn't have to be a feature article. A link, reference to another publication, or a short tool review will do just fine. It all helps him out. Thanks!

Cheers,
Russ Fellows

Treasurer's report June 2011

August 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward	\$2922.31
Income	
Silent Auctions	39.00
Raffle	24.00
Dues	40.00
Woodstock 2010	82.00
Expenses	
Video Equipment	609.01
Balance Forward	\$2498,30
Ted Fink, Treasurer	

Dues Paid; May, 2011

The board of directors of WTNV gratefully acknowledges receipt of 2011 dues from the following members :
Dale Bergdahl, Bill Blakeney, Larry Bose, Jeff Botas, Bob Bouvier, Michael Boylan, Dave Buchholz,, Peter Coffey, Janet Collins, Stephen Cook, Greg Drew, Tom Dunne, Argie Economou, Russ Fellows, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Ted Fink, Mike Fitzgerald, Toby Fulwiler, Tyler Gebhardt, Barry Genzlinger, Dennis Grage, Edd Gross, Erin Hanley, Jim Holzschuh, Bruce Klink, Sherb Lang, Joe Laferriere, Steve Lande, Bob Martin, Gerry Martin, Sandy Matathia, Peter Mattos, Gary Moreau, Mike B. Morisette, Mike C. Morisette, Bill Nestork, Jerry O'Riodan, Mickey Palmer, Jim Phelan, Michael Perron, Harvie Porter, Nick Rosato, Bob Rosenblum, Bill Rowley, David Scrase, Adam Sollace, Ira Sollace, Arnold Spahn, Priscilla Spahn, John Tichonuk, Ralph Tursini, Allan Wallor, Bill Walsh, Paul Willard, Jerry Wood.
(Scott Bennett, Dick Montague, Michael Mode and Al Stirt are lifetime non paying

members)
Dues for 2011 are \$20. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to Ted Fink, 136 Davis Ave.; Shelburne, VT 05482.

Welcome New Member!

Harvie Porter
 34 Randolph Ave.
 Randolph, VT 05060
 802 728 4265
hporter@mail.ruhs.K12.VT.us



Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members. Video library use, mentoring program, Klingspor and Hartville Tool discount lists, bulk purchase discounts, Woodstock participation.

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
 Cambridge

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

Ralph Tursini: Spindles & bowls, vacuum chucking.
 802-899-6863
 info@vermontwoodturning.com
 Cambridge

Ted Fink: Bowls, spindles, & boxes.
 802-985-2923
 jantedfink@gmail.com
 Shelburne

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels. 802-899-3059
 skunkmen@together.net
 Jericho

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

Greg Drew: Tool skills. Finishes.. Portable mill & chainsaw work.
 802-527-6207
 personal-woodsmythe@yahoo.com
 Georgia

MINUTES OF WOOD-CHUCK MEETING, July 29, 2011



7:04 p.m. President **Russ Fellows** calls the slightly attended meeting to order; I count fifteen present. Guest **Harvie Porter** from Randolph is introduced and members introduce selves to Harvie.

Woodnet Fine Furniture & Woodworking Festival, September 24-25, still looking for both products and members to staff the booth.

Russ again recommends *Woodturning Design* magazine as especially helpful.

Picnic this year will be at **Toby Fulwiler's** Fairfield Farm on August 20 (see directions on 1st page).

Congratulations to **Ralph** and **Angela Tursini** for the birth of their baby boy!

7:20 Treasurer **Ted Fink** conducts the raffle with items such as \$10 gift certificates, turning magazines, and interesting wood as prizes. Thirteen people participate and most seem well rewarded for their two dollar

ante in. Ted bought back his pencil collection in the Silent Auction for \$4.

7:25 Show & Tell. The feature for the evening is an all-member "Show and Tell," with no demos otherwise planned:



Bill Walsh explains his current interest in turning urns and wood burning, passing around samples of each and explaining the value of various wood burner tools



including *Razor Tip* and *Detail Master*. Naturally, Bill also showed a homemade burner he made from an automobile battery charger. He was especially excited about a new off-center compass design he used on one of his hollow form bowls.



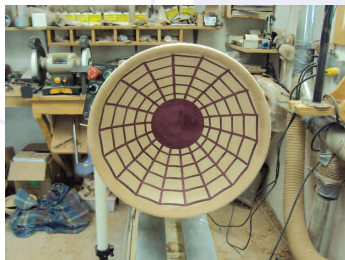
Toby Fulwiler passes around four small bowls turned from what he called a dark mystery wood inherited from his father; members identified the wood as *coco bolo*.



Ted Fink shows some of his new design ice cream bowls, smooth and thickly turned to provide insulation, including a giant bowl suitable for containing a Ben & Jerry's Vermonster or a full half gallon of more generic ice cream.

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Greetings from Skunk Hollow ! Once again I have been "playing" with some new designs. I have been taking one of my "basket" designs that I have been doing for a number of years and expanding it to make it look like a spider's web. The one pictured here is maple and purpleheart, and in the picture doesn't look too bad. However, I am struggling with getting all the lines in the web to line up precisely. I use both 'segmenting' and 'stack-ring' techniques for this (normally my pieces



use one or the other) and because of the many steps involved, am finding it difficult to get all the alignments perfect.



The other picture shows a different take on a checkerboard pattern. Laminating this way means that there is an unusually large amount of end-grain turning, rela-

tive to the total. The finished effect is quite dramatic as the pattern is revealed in so many different contours. I have just started this one and will bring it, or one like it, to the September meeting.

As always, I enjoy having visitors to my studio, and if you would like to explore a laminated or segmented turning technique, please don't hesitate to give me a call! 802-899-3059

Russ Fellows

Woodburning Tools—Bill Walsh

Here is a short note on what woodburning pens I've found to be the most useful.

My short journey into woodburning on turned items has helped form an opinion on what's out there for equipment.

First you'll need the woodburning unit, the main differences are one or two ports and the power rating. The units with two plug in jacks makes switching from one pen to another as easy as flipping a switch.

The two woodburning units I have the most experience with and feel good about recommending are the Detail Master and the Burnmaster. Both manufacturers have single and dual port models available and seem to recover their heat quickly.

Now for the pens, Detail Master has a complete line up of fixed tips pens. The first is from their "Special Pen" category that I've only seen on their web site. The pen is a model 20-A at around \$30.00 direct

from the factory.

This is a heavy duty skewer with a 14 Ga. cord. This pen is great to outline the borders and shapes, making both curved and straight lines easily.

The next pen is the model 10-A, which is used for very fine lines. The tip is much thinner than the 20-A and uses an 18 Ga. power cord. Both tips are sharpened on a stone and touched up using a leather strop.

There is one more tip that I wouldn't be without. It is the Razor tip ball stylist 1/64". This can be used to sign your work. It's capable of burning very small letters which is something most of us struggle with. It takes practice but the tip needs to be small and this is the smallest one out there!!! To use this pen with the above mentioned units it requires a cord and an adapter which Craft Supply has listed on their site.

The Resource Page—Additions Welcome

- 1) Lathrop Maple Supply, Hewitt Rd, Bristol, Vermont, 802-453-2897. With a newly expanded inventory area, Tom has a fantastic supply of local and imported wood. His new division, "Exclusively Vermont, LLC," specializes in high quality Vermont lumber and mill products and FSC stock is available.
- 2) Forest Products Associates, (www.forestproductsassociates.com), 75 Oak Hill Rd, Greenfield, MA, 01301, 413-772-6883. Located just over the line south of Brattleboro, this old family-run business has a great inventory of U S and imported lumber, and a big burl and exotic section as well. They are Vermont Wood-Net members and are nice folks to deal with.
- 3) Northend Hardwoods, 31 Adams Dr. (off Williston Rd just before Industrial Ave) Williston VT, 802-864-3037. A full range of U S and imported woods, cabinet grade plywood, and a new department for turners with lots of thick, dry stock to choose from.
- 4) Sutherland Welles Ltd., No. Hyde Park, VT, 800-322-1245. (www.sutherlandwelles.com). Right here in our own back yard, they make the best Tung oil products in the U S. Call with an order and it goes out the same day!
- 5) Bad Dogs Burl Source, (www.burlsource.com) They are down in Belchertown, MA and have an incredible inventory of Australian and North American burls. 413-213-0248
- 6) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 7) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 8) Griffin Exotic Woods These folks came up in a search for something else, and I ended up buying a couple things from them. Their prices were fair and the service was good. <http://www.exoticwood.biz/>
- 9) Sinclair Mill Works in North Danville VT <http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm>. 802-748-0948. He specializes in figure Vermont species. His prices are very reasonable.
- 10) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 11) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 12) A website that sells only sanding supplies. (<http://www.2sand.com/>) Their prices are great and their service is super fast.

CA Glue in stock with Russ:

Thin, medium, thick:
 2 oz.....\$4.58
 8 oz.....\$15.20
 16 oz.....\$25.75

(Continued from page 4)



Dave Buchholz presents a series of bowls where he experimented with different black/white/gray rim stains to add character and texture to otherwise plain bowls. He also explained the value (pro and con) of a moisture meter available at Lowe's for \$9.95.

Greg Drew shows a remarkable burl bowl with both regular and irregular grain in the shape of what might be called a Friar's Hat. He explained the black walnut foot necessitated when he turned through the bottom for want of an effective depth gauge, which since then he's invented from old files and



wires (you gotta see this new tool to understand it).

Sherb Lang who has been turning less than a year, shows both a small box and a segmented bowl destined for his daughter. He asks advice about fixing tear-out and received about fifty suggestions from the experienced members on hand.

(Continued on page 7)



Sherb's small box.



Sherb's problem of tear out on the interior of bowls. Suggestions ranged from changing speed to changing grind angle or removing the heel of the bowl gouge. Fortunately, he came to the right crowd. We've all got this experience.



The rings are stacked, the form is turned, then cut neatly in half. One half has the top ring carefully cut off so that the center of the final bowl is only one ring wide.



Craig Hall shows his newly invented "Craig Sanding Tool" (foam on a stick) to smooth the inside of hollow turnings.



ors. Says he's just experimenting.

9:00 Meeting adjourns and members return chairs to their upstairs storage place.



The finished result.



Russ Fellows holds up his latest segmented bowl made from plywood as well as an oval segmented bowl of many col-



Russ also showed the fast result of using the coring device he showed last month. This took him less than 5 minutes.

In House Demos:

August 20th: Annual Picnic. Al Stirt, guest speaker. Topic TBA

September 21st: Hands on: Several lathe/sharpening stations.

October 5th: Board meeting at Russ's house.

October 19th: Celebration Of Errors. Bring in your turkeys & let us comment. We'll help break the curse over you. No Halloween pranks allowed.

November 16th: Making Christmas Tree Ornaments. Randy, Toby, & possible others show different styles.

December: No Meeting.

January 18th: Annual Round Table of tools & techniques.

Classified Ads

Powermatic 60B jointer for sale. Great shape, absolutely no rust. Cutterhead: 8" straight knife; 3 knives. Purchased in 2004. This machine has been very well cared for in a professional woodshop--owner is upgrading. Selling for \$1000. Comes with mobile base and 2 extra sets of knives. Possible free delivery + setup, please call Josh to discuss: 802-287-4136. Located in Poultney, VT.

For Sale: Dave "Herb" Hurlbut's tools. He's laid down his hand tools now & wishes to sell several excellent woodworking machines. Call Sandy Hurlbut Tel : 802-527-0692. for details & asking prices.

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.