Chatter and Catches
The Newsletter of the
Carson Valley Woodturners
August 2008

President's Gouge

I hope everyone has been enjoying the summer and hopefully finding some quality time to do some Woodturning. My summer has been spent horseback riding and working on my wife's "Honey Do List." This fall Brad Stave, an expert turner from Washington State, and Mike Mahoney from Utah will be demonstrating for us. If anyone would be interested in a private or semi-private lesson from Mike, give me a call at 775-265-3099. The Board is reviewing our finances and looking at the possibility of contracting with Mike for a full day instead of the half day that is planned. Mike has been very generous in that he is coming back at no charge to the club based on the tragic circumstances when he was last with us. This would give us access to him for a full day. It would cost each of us a few more dollars but be well worth it. If Mike is retained for a full day, we could have pot luck for lunch. All of his work and that of other demonstrators will be raffled at our first annual Christmas/New Year's party. There are no new developments regarding using the Arts Council Building. One of our members, Wayne Ferree, is also looking for another facility for us to hold our meetings. Bill Draper and I will be going to Reno next week to check out two used lathes being sold by the Woodchucks. We need people to step forward and take a more active role in the club. This includes submitting articles and pictures to Bill for our

newsletter, running for office, planning the Christmas/New Year's party, set up/tear down crew for meetings (putting out chairs, sweeping, moving the lathe, etc.), and the list goes on. The club is a direct reflection of its members. It is what you make of it! - Dave Rich

Thanks again to last month's presenter, Mr. Al Mason. He gave a talk on the design and construction of complicated segmented vessels. He also showed his adaptation of the ball sanding tool shown in a recent issue of *Woodturning Design*.

This Month's Program

Gene Choquette was recently described by Highland Woodworking as a Prolific Contestant and Creative Woodturner. He tied for Second Place and won Third Place in Highland Woodworking's 4-in-1 Screwdriver Turning Contest. They were struck by the uniqueness of each of his screwdriver designs and contacted him for more information about his work. They interviewed Gene about his passion for turning and why he chose to enter a record eight handles into their competition. You can read the interview at http://www.highlandwoodworking.com/woodnews/august_2006/choquette.html. During our meeting this month, Gene will be demonstrating off-center turning. It should be a very interesting session.

Golden Ratio
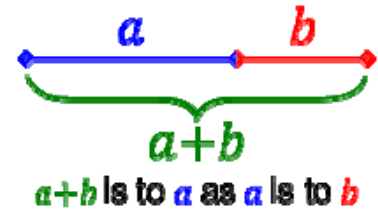
Golden ratio is not to be confused with Golden Mean (philosophy), the felicitous middle between two extremes; Golden Numbers, an indicator of years in astronomy and calendar studies; or the Golden Rule.

The **golden section** is a line segment sectioned into two according to the **golden ratio**. The total length *a+b* is to the longer segment *a* as *a* is to the shorter segment *b*. In mathematics, two quantities are in the **golden ratio** if the ratio between the sum of those quantities and the larger one is the same as the ratio between the larger one and the smaller. The golden ratio is approximately **1.6180339887.**

At least since the Renaissance, many artists and architects have proportioned their works to approximate the golden ratio — especially in the form of the golden rectangle, in which the ratio of the longer side to the shorter is the **golden ratio** — believing this proportion to be aesthetically pleasing. Mathematicians have studied the golden ratio because of its unique and interesting properties.

The golden ratio can be expressed as a mathematical constant, usually denoted by the Greek letter φ(phi). The figure of a **golden section** illustrates the geometric relationship that defines this constant. Expressed algebraically:

$$\frac{a+b}{a} = \frac{a}{b} = \varphi.$$

This equation has as its unique positive solution the algebraic irrational number:

$$\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.6180339887\ldots$$

Other names frequently used for or closely related to the golden ratio are **golden section**, **golden mean**, **golden number**, and the Greek letter **phi** (φ). Other terms encountered include **extreme and mean ratio**, **medial section**, **divine proportion**, **divine section**, **golden proportion**, **golden cut**, and **mean of Phidias**.

Skewed Points

The Morse Taper was invented by Stephen A. Morse (also the inventor of the twist drill) circa 1864. Since then it has evolved to encompass smaller and larger sizes and has been adopted as a standard by numerous organizations including ISO as *ISO 296:1991 Machine Tools -- Self-Holding Tapers for Tools Shanks*. Morse Tapers come in eight sizes identified by number between 0 and 7. Often this is abbreviated as MT followed by a digit, for example a Morse taper number 2 would be MT2. The MT2 taper is the size most often found in the lathes we use.

Why do you need this information? An article in a recent woodworking magazine showed one of those crazy skew chisel users turning an MT onto his workpiece, inserting it into the spindle, and then turning an egg shape on the other end without a tailstock. Seems easier to me that way, never mind the skew chisel. All you have to do is use the appropriate D1, D2, and L2 dimensions below to create your taper size on your workpiece. - Bill Draper
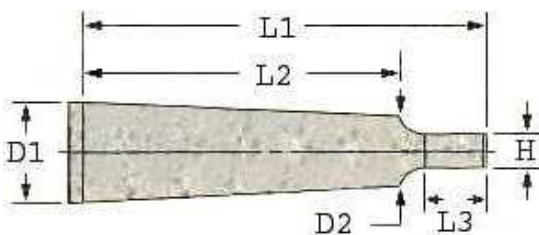
Size	D1	D2	L2	Taper per ft	L1	L3	H	Short MT L2*
MT0	0.3561"	0.2520"	2.00"	0.6246	?	?	?	
MT1	0.4750"	0.3690"	2.13"	0.5986	2.44"	0.38"	0.20"	
MT2	0.7000"	0.5720"	2.56"	0.5994	2.94"	0.44"	0.25"	1.4"
MT3	0.9380"	0.7780"	3.19"	0.6024	3.69"	0.63"	0.31"	1.8"
MT4	1.2310"	1.0200"	4.06"	0.6233	4.63"	0.63"	0.47"	2.1"
MT5	1.7480"	1.4750"	5.19"	0.6315	?	?	?	
MT6	2.4940"	2.1160"	7.25"	0.6257	?	?	?	
MT7	3.2700"	2.7500"	10.0"	0.6240	?	?	?	

Woodturner's Web Sites

YouTube – Yes, YouTube is a woodturner's web site. There are at least 10 categories and 20 full pages of woodturning videos. They are of varying quality, but they show people turning many different projects. There are also a few that show symposiums, and also how to use Google *Sketchup*. Most are in the English language. All you have to do is click here.

Woodturning Online – These pages are a source for wood turning information, projects, community and vendors. There are a large number of woodturning articles and projects. There is also a forum where you can post topics for discussion. One of the project areas on the site is for Alabaster. You can get a head start on our upcoming alabaster turning demonstration by checking out this section of the site.

Do you have a favorite site to share with the members? Send it to the Newsletter Editor.

Lathe as Art?

The wooden lathe pictured to the right was made from one 2"x4"x8" piece of fiddleback maple using glue only.

This work of art was found in the Wood Magazine.com Newsletter dtd. 7/10/2008, and was made by a craftsman identified only as myrmac2000.

Tips and Techniques

Coiling Bandsaw Blades

Coiling bandsaw blades is easier than you think. As with many apparently complex woodworking chores, complication arises from trying to assimilate or carry out too many steps at once. Taken one at a time, each step is almost childishly simple and easy to accomplish.

Therefore, we'll try to show you, one step at a time, an effective way to coil bandsaw blades. We suggest that you compel yourself not to read ahead. Read just one sentence; do what it says until you're comfortable, then read the next sentence. You can do everything very slowly; speed is neither necessary nor helpful. A death grip doesn't help either. If you squeeze the blade too hard it will bite you back, so hold it lightly.

1. Go get a bandsaw blade to practice with, preferably between 1/4" and 1/2" wide. Hold the uncoiled blade in a horizontal circle in front of you, teeth up. For the purpose of this discussion, we'll identify 6 o'clock as the point nearest your navel; 12 o'clock is the point farthest from you.

2. Support the blade with your left hand at about 9 o'clock: palm up, fingers below the blade pointing toward 2 o'clock, thumb closing lightly over the top.

3. Hold the other side of the blade with your right hand at 3 o'clock: palm down, fingers above the blade pointing left toward 10 o'clock, thumb wrapped lightly beneath.

4. Move your hands toward each other to halve the distance between them, squeezing the blade into an oval.

5. Without moving your elbow, bend your left wrist up toward you as if you were tipping a beer.

6. Without moving your elbow, bend your right wrist down as if you were casting a fly. When both fists are roughly vertical (like holding a steering wheel), the blade will be bent into the shape of a saddle, with high lobes left and right, low lobes front and back.

7. Without moving your elbow, rotate your left wrist 45° clockwise, bringing the left lobe of the saddle down to the right.

8. Without moving your elbow, rotate your right wrist about 45° counterclockwise, bringing the right lobe down to the left above the left lobe. As you rotate your wrists you'll see the low lobe at your navel moving up and forward, while the front low lobe moves back toward it. It doesn't matter which lies above the other.

9. Keep on rotating your left wrist, letting your hand migrate toward 6 o'clock, until the left lobe (now a loop) is horizontal.

10. Rotate your right wrist, letting your hand move to 12 o'clock, until its loop, too, is horizontal.

11. Step back and admire. If you've been living right and thinking good thoughts, you just coiled a bandsaw blade! If it didn't work perfectly, never fear. It was only a first try, after all. Have another go at it, one sentence at a time. Sooner or later it'll work, and there'll be a new blade coiling expert in the woodworking world. - Copyright © 2001 Highland Hardware, reprinted with their permission.

Wants and Disposals

FOR SALE: Powermatic Model 72A Cabinet Saw, 14" blade, 5 hp - 220v single phase, 8-10 yrs old, original owner - Malcolm Tibbetts (http://www.tahoeturner.com). Call 530-541-6135. Malcolm will make you a good deal.

FOR SALE: Wayne Porter and Dave Rich have large and small walnut blanks for sale. Contact them at the next meeting or call Dave at 775-265-3099.

Resources

The Carson Valley Woodturners wish to express our appreciation for the support provided by generous vendors. Please visit their stores and web sites for your woodturning and woodworking needs.
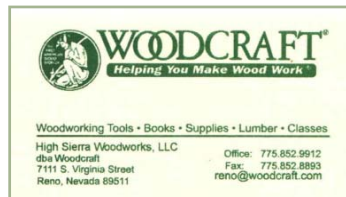
Craft Supplies USA
Showroom/Store:
1287 E. 1120 S.
Provo, UT 84606
Phone Orders:
1-800-551-8876
www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Dates to Remember

The Arizona Woodturner's Association will hold its third Desert Woodturning Roundup on February 6, 7, & 8, 2009 at the Mesa Convention Center, Mesa, AZ. Visit www.desertwoodturningroundup.com.

Newsletter Editor's Request

Please send your newsletter contributions and suggestions for improvement to Bill Draper via cvwnews@charter.net no later than Monday of the week before the next meeting. The submission deadline for the September newsletter is September 1st.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW general meeting will be held in Dave Rich's shop on August 16th at 9 am. The address is 665 Rocking Horse Road in the Ruhenstroth area of Carson Valley. We all appreciate Dave's willingness to hold CVW meetings in his shop.

Carson Valley Woodturners' Officers	
President: Dave Rich – 775-265-3099	**Treasurer:** Dave Colon – 775 783-8600
Vice President: Wayne Allen – 775-841-5561	**Secretary:** Al Mason – 775-266-4071