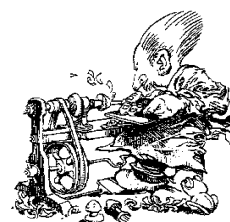




Chatter and Catches

The Newsletter of the Carson Valley Woodturners October 2008



President's Gouge

October will be a dynamite month for demonstrations. Brad Stave (Oct. 11 – 9 a.m. - 12 or 1 p.m.), who is an excellent turner and good friend, will demonstrate the turning and finishing of a lidded vessel and possibly some thread chasing, etc. Mike Mahoney (Oct. 18, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.), a production turner plus a true woodturning artist, will join us. Mike will demonstrate the use of the McNaughton Coring System plus a whole lot of other techniques and finishing pointers. Bios for both are printed below. For those who paid a \$20 fee when Mike was last here there will be no additional charge. For those who are new to our group and did not pay previously, the charge will be \$20. Please call me if you can bring a couple of extra chairs for these two meetings. Also, the CVW will provide pizza and sodas for lunch both days. Come early so we can start on time, and bring your friends! We will be having our usual raffle for gift certificates from various wood working stores, tools, wood, and anything else you would like to donate. Also, we will have a show-and-tell, so bring your items to share with the rest of us.

The election of new officers will take place in November. If you would like to volunteer to run for an office, please talk with me on either Saturday. The slate of candidates will be published in the November newsletter prior to our vote. If you would like to nominate someone, please talk with me.

A special thanks to last month's presenter Jack Schnell who demonstrated off-center spindle turning. After the demonstration, I turned a new handle for my sledge hammer I use when working with red hot steel on the anvil. - Dave Rich



This Month's Programs

Brad Stave will demonstrate lidded vessel turning on the 11th. Those who know Brad will tell you that he has always worked with wood in some form or another. And those who don't know Brad soon experience the intense love he has for wood. Brad began working with wood at the age of five when he received his first toolbox. "There hasn't been a time that I can remember, where wood has not been a significant part of my life," recalls Brad. After graduating from college, Brad remained true to his heart. He realized that working with wood was not enough. He wanted to share his love for wood through teaching; and it has rewarded him with many enriching experiences. Brad taught Graphic Arts in Mukilteo, WA, and then moved to Wyoming where he taught woodworking to Arapaho and Shoshone Native American Children (grades 3-8). In 1985, Brad moved to California where he started a new job, and became a father of a daughter. Sensing her husband's need to find some avenue to work with wood, Brad's wife Silvia bought him a wood lathe. From that point on, Brad knew he had found his niche. Brad says, "Of all the creative endeavors I have pursued, wood turning has been the most rewarding; it is the pursuit of my heart." By 2006, Brad was ready to get back home to the Pacific Northwest, so Gig Harbor is now home. Let the chips fly!!



Mike Mahoney will return on the 18th to demonstrate the use of the McNaughton Coring System. Mike has been a professional wood turner since 1994. His bowls are featured in galleries across the United States. Mike's work is sought after by collectors all over the world. Mike is often requested to

demonstrate and teach for wood turning clubs, craft schools and symposia. He has traveled around the world to discuss and



demonstrate his craft. He is considered an authority on woodturning. Mike says, "I am passionate about my craft and the American Craft movement. I am dedicated to producing quality craft and educating the public about woodturning. My wood comes from urban sources (tree trimmers and local cities). I produce all my work on the lathe without any embellishments after the fact, creating a very traditional feel with contemporary ideas. I want my work to be attractive as well as useful. For my work to be admired is one thing, but for my work to be used fulfills my purpose as a craftsman."

Product Availability Alert!

Over the past two meetings, there has been much interest in the soft hook-and-loop hand pads Gene Choquette uses to 'hold' his sandpaper while finishing items on the lathe. The most recent catalog from Klingspor's Woodworking Shop has several different types listed on Page 20. You can also see them on line in the [Pads and Blocks for Sanding](#) section.

Google SketchUp for Woodturning

This free software program is very powerful. Personally, I haven't figured out how to draw a square with it, but others HAVE figured it out and have written books to help the rest of us. The [Turned Out Right](#) web site discussed below has the book, and many 3D *SketchUp* models for various woodturning items. You can watch an advanced 3D *SketchUp* woodturning model being used on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nR6EeEvaQ8o>. You can download the free version of *SketchUp* at <http://sketchup.google.com/>. If you figure out how to use this tool, let me know the secret. – Bill Draper

Barefoot Spurtle

What is a spurtle and why would you make one while barefoot? The spurtle has a long history in Scotland where it was used to stir oats as they softened slowly in the pot. Today's oatmeal doesn't take nearly as long to cook, but why not keep in touch with tradition and use a spurtle anyway? Apart from cooking your morning bowl of oatmeal, it will find many other uses in your kitchen, such as defending fresh-baked cookies. The YouTube video linked [here](#) shows a "treewright" doing what many of us would perceive to be dangerous while making a spurtle "the old-fashioned way." – Bill Draper



Woodturning Safety Guidelines

The CVW organization is made up of a diverse group of individuals with varying experience levels turning items on a lathe. As a beginning woodturner I have heard numerous times "NOT IF IT WILL HAPPEN BUT WHEN." I had been turning only a couple of months when I had this experience: A piece dislodged from the lathe and passed over my left shoulder and struck the side of my shop, missing my head and shop window by inches. During our meetings the issue of safety is always discussed and all I have spoken to have experienced similar mishaps, some minor and some major resulting in serious injury. I have reproduced the following list of guidelines from the internet that we should all review from time-to-time to remind us of the dangers we face each time we turn on our lathes. – John Compston

1. Safe and effective use of a wood lathe requires study and knowledge of proper machine operation, tool use and correct turning techniques. It is your responsibility to read and follow all warning labels and owner/operators manuals supplied on or with machinery, chucks, tools, and other products. It is your responsibility to become properly educated in all aspects of woodturning prior to turning wood.
2. Always wear a full-face shield at all times. Shop/Safety glasses are not sufficient protection from flying debris.
3. Always use a proper dust mask or air filtration helmet in addition to adequate ventilation. Exposure to wood dust can be harmful to your respiratory system.
4. Always wear adequate hearing protection. Long-term exposure to noise can damage hearing.
5. Do not wear loose clothing, gloves, jewelry or any objects that dangle as they may become entangled in the lathe. Always tie back long hair. Check your person and your surroundings for any other items that may be accidentally entangled.
6. Check your owner/operators manual for proper speed recommendations. If you cannot find recommended speeds, please seek the advice of a professional prior to operating the lathe. Use slower speeds for larger diameter or out of balance work. **NEVER** start the lathe before checking to make sure the lathe speed setting is correct for the size of work to be turned. If excess vibration or shaking occurs, stop the lathe and determine the cause before proceeding.
7. Prior to starting the lathe, rotate the work piece by hand to make sure that it clears the tool rest support and lathe bed. Also, make certain that all clamping devices are locked and that the tailstock is properly seated against the work.
8. Ensure the work piece is securely mounted and is free of imperfections or substandard glue joints that may result in the work piece separating or flying apart.
9. Make certain that the belt guard and/or control and motor covers are in place. Check to make sure all tightening handles are properly tightened.
10. Make sure that the tool is resting on the tool rest before beginning the cut. Always run the lathe at slow speeds while making roughing cuts, and **NEVER** use a roughing gouge on a bowl.
11. Prior to running the lathe in reverse, make sure that necessary steps are taken to prevent the work piece and/or chuck from unscrewing itself from the lathe.
12. Always know your capabilities and work within your limits. Many techniques and procedures used by professional woodturners may be beyond your abilities or skill level and can prove to be dangerous if attempted.
13. Utilize the tailstock whenever possible. This provides an added level of safety as it often times prevents the work from coming off the lathe during a mishap.
14. Always remove the tool rest before sanding and finishing. Failing to do so can result in serious injury to your hand and fingers.
15. Do not overreach! Although many of today's tools have long blades, this does not mean that they are designed to reach long distances over the rest. Overreaching can cause the blade and/or handle to break causing serious injury.
16. Keep your tools sharp and properly ground. Dull tools are dangerous as they require excessive pressure to make them cut. If you have difficulty in sharpening, seek the advice of an expert for proper training. Keep tools out of the reach of children.
17. Do not use tools for purposes for which they are not designed or intended for. Using a tool, chuck or lathe component for purposes other than what they were designed to do will likely result in an accident.
18. Properly dispose of finishing rags and unused finishes.
19. Do not leave finish containers open and keep them away from open flame.
20. Keep your work area clean and free of clutter and debris.
21. Use caution when finishing with cloth rags, they may become entangled and cause injury.
22. Inspect your lathe and equipment frequently. Check power cords, connections and do not use extension cords for providing power to your lathe.
23. Stay alert, take frequent breaks and never operate the lathe or other shop equipment when under the influence of drugs, medication or alcohol.
24. Never leave the lathe running unattended. Be certain to turn off power to the lathe when not in use.
25. Use a well-balanced stance when turning while maintaining a firm, comfortable grip on the tool.
26. When roughing stock do not jam the lathe tool or chisel into work piece or take too big a cut.
27. Do not pound work piece into headstock drive (spur) center when turning between centers. Pound the drive center into the work piece with a soft mallet before installing it between centers in the lathe.
28. Do not use tailstock to drive work piece into the drive (spur) center when turning between centers. Secure work between centers with light pressure from the tailstock quill action.
29. Fasten stock securely between centers. Make sure the tailstock is locked before turning on the power.
30. Use common sense. If you're unsure, seek the advice of an expert. Always take necessary safety precautions to prevent serious injury.

Book Review

Problems in Wood-turning by Fred Duane Crawshaw. Originally published by The Manual Arts Press, 1909. Original copy was from the University of Michigan and digitized by Google Books. As you can see, this book was published almost 100 years ago. The book serves several purposes. First, it helps students of woodturning, especially those who are under the supervision of a teacher. Second, it simplifies the subject of wood-turning. Third, it shows the reasons for handling tools in a particular way for each cut. Lastly, it offers mechanical drawings for several projects. The order of the drawings suggests a logical progression of thought and application of principles. An example of tool use instruction includes the dreaded skew chisel. Examples of the projects include a mallet, potato masher, chisel handle, and darning sphere. Click [here](#) to download a PDF version of the book from Google.

Woodturner's Web Sites

[Turned Out Right Woodturning Web Shop](#) – This site is much better than the average web site that wants to sell you things. They actually have a lot of useful woodturning information. Rather than itemizing the content here, just visit the site and spend a few hours browsing through it.

[WoodTurner Pro.com](http://WoodTurnerPro.com) – This site sells software for the segmented turner. Their products are *3D Design PRO*, *Woodturner PRO* and *Lamination PRO*. All three sell for \$99 bundled into a ‘suite,’ and individually for less. If anyone buys one of these products, please write a review for the newsletter.

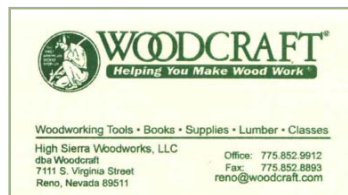
[Do you have a favorite site to share with the members? Send it to the Newsletter Editor.]

Wants and Disposals

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

Phone Orders:
1-800-551-8876

Web Orders:
www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Dates to Remember

The 17th Annual Southwest Association of Turners (SWAT) Symposium, at the Waco, TX Convention Center on October 17 – 19 2008. Featured demonstrators include Art Liestman, Betty Scarpino, Binh Pho, Donald Derry, Mark St. Ledger, Trent Bosch and Matthew Hill. Visit <http://www.swaturners.org>

The Marc Adams School of Woodworking (Franklin, IN) will host the first-ever Segmented Turning Symposium - "Exploring Possibilities" on November 14 - 16, 2008. The three-day event is open to anyone who shares the love of wood turning and the precision of woodworking. Throughout the weekend there will be opportunities to attend workshops, visits with manufacturers, share tips and tricks, consult with technicians from different industries, participate in an Instant Gallery, vote for board members, and establish guidelines for developing a new "Society of Segmented Turners". Visit <http://www.segmentedwoodturners.org/>.

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.

The Nevada Woodchuck's Lathe Special Interest Group meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Their Beginner's Lathe Group meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday at the same time. Visit <http://www.nevadawoodchucks.org/> for more information.

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 November newsletter is October 27th.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meetings and demos will convene in Dave Rich's shop on October 11th at 9 a.m., and on October 18th at 9 a.m. 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
Vice President: Wayne Allen – 775-841-5561

Treasurer: Dave Colon – 775 783-8600
Secretary: Al Mason – 775-266-4071