



Chatter and Catches

The Newsletter of the



April 2009



President's Gouge

Various members who attended our last meeting in Reno to watch and learn how to turn alabaster contacted me to say how much they enjoyed the presentation by Mike Phillips. A special thank you, Mr. & Mrs. Phillips, for opening up your home and shop to our group.



Our next meeting will be at Wayne Porter's house 759 Gansburg Court, Gardnerville (phone Wayne for directions at 265-7887, or click here for [MapQuest directions](#)).



Wayne Allen - please bring something for our raffle (old or new, and something not necessarily for woodturning.)

Our presenter will be Tia Flores who will demonstrate the decorating of wood and hard shell gourds (calabaza.) Check out her website at <http://www.calabazaart.com>. Wayne Porter, Wayne Allen, and I attended a demonstration she put on at Woodcraft in Reno. Her work is very interesting and creative. She brings wood-burning (pyrography) to a whole new level.

The May meeting will feature guest turner Bill Grumbine. It is tentatively scheduled to be held in Reno at Woodcraft or at the Woodchucks facility. An exact date is unavailable at this time. We may have to move the meeting to our area, but the cost would rise dramatically.

Remember ... we are participating as a club in the Chili Cook-off / Craft Show April 25th and 26th at the Carson Valley Inn. We will be discussing the event at our April 11th meeting. Please turn some items you would like to sell, and donate all or part of the proceeds to the club. We will need volunteers to do some demo turning and help with the sales. Booth coverage is needed for both Saturday and Sunday. Sign up at the meeting. Last year I had a great time meeting people and helping with the sales. We also attracted some new members. – Dave Rich

Member's Photo Gallery

As the Newsletter Editor, I am always looking for material to publish. I would like to institute a gallery to showcase member's work. What do you need to do to publish pictures of your efforts? Simply [send me](#) medium resolution images of your pieces that have enough lighting and a background that will enhance their presentation. A picture of the woodturner is OK, too. I would also like to publish details associated with each piece, such as dimensions, wood, finish, time to complete, and its name if it has one. Other information such as challenges overcome, special turning methods and tools used, etc., will be interesting to readers. OK, who wants to be first? One or two pieces per person, and first come, first published. – Bill Draper

Acer Saccharinum

Acer saccharinum, known as the silver maple (also occasionally the creek maple, river maple, silverleaf maple, soft maple, water maple, or white maple), is a species of maple native to eastern North America in the eastern United States and adjacent parts of southeast Canada. It is one of the most common trees in the United States.



Description

The silver maple is a relatively fast-growing deciduous tree, commonly reaching a height of 15-25 m (50-80 ft), exceptionally 35 m (115 ft). Its spread will generally be 11-15 m (35-50 ft) wide. A 10-year-old sapling will stand about 8 m (25 ft) tall. It is often found along waterways and in wetlands, leading to the colloquial name "water maple". It is a highly adaptable tree, although it has higher sunlight requirements than other maples.

The radial and tangential shrinkage values from the fiber saturation point to equilibrium moisture content are 3.0% and 7.2% respectively.

The leaves are palmate, 8-16 cm long and 6-12 cm broad, with deep angular notches between the five lobes. The 5-12 cm long, slender stalks of the leaves mean that even a light breeze can produce a striking effect as the silver undersides of the leaves are exposed. The autumn color is less pronounced than in many maples, generally ending up a pale yellow, although some specimens can produce a more brilliant yellow and even orange and red colorations. Some specimens can simply drop their leaves while still green as well.

The flowers are in small panicles, produced before the leaves in early spring, with the seeds maturing in early summer. The seeds are winged, in pairs, small (5-10 mm diameter), the wing about 3-5 cm long. Although the wings provide for some transport by air, the seeds are heavy and are also transported by water.

On mature trunks, the bark is gray and shaggy. On branches and young trunks, the bark is smooth and silvery gray.

In many parts of the eastern U.S., the large rounded buds of the silver maple are one of the primary food sources for squirrels during the spring, after many acorns and nuts have sprouted and the squirrels' food is scarce. The seeds are the largest of any native maple and are also a food source for wildlife.

Cultivation

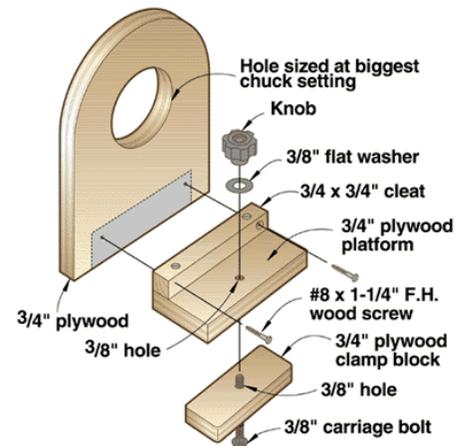
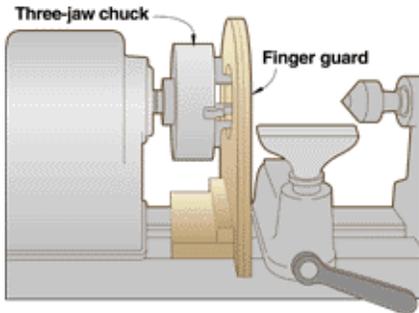
The silver maple has brittle wood, and is commonly damaged in storms. The roots are shallow and fibrous and easily invade septic fields and old drain pipes and can also crack sidewalks and foundations. It is a vigorous re-sprouter, and if not pruned, it will often grow with multiple trunks. It is, nonetheless, widely used as an ornamental tree because of its rapid growth and ease of propagation and transplanting. It is highly tolerant of urban conditions, which is why it is frequently planted next to streets. Although it naturally is found near water, it can grow on drier ground if planted there.

It is also commonly cultivated outside its native range, showing tolerance of a wide range of climates, growing successfully as far north as central Norway and south to Orlando, Florida. It can thrive in a Mediterranean climate, as at Jerusalem and Los Angeles, if summer water is provided. It is also grown in temperate parts of the Southern Hemisphere, as in Argentina and Uruguay.

The silver maple is closely related to the red maple, and can hybridize with it, the hybrid being known as the Freeman maple (*Acer x freemanii*). The Freeman maple is a popular ornamental tree in parks and large gardens, combining the fast growth of silver maple with the less brittle wood and less invasive roots of the red maple. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Plywood Lathe Guard

After nearly losing a finger to a spinning three-jaw lathe chuck, I came up with a guard that keeps my fingers safely away from the chuck. The base mounts on the lathe bed with a threaded knob so it can be removed easily to change turning stock or your lathe tool setup. The 3/4" plywood guard plate attaches to the base with screws, and the hole is sized to accommodate the chuck at its maximum diameter setting. To mark the location of the hole, slide the guard plate up next to the



chuck, hold a pencil against one jaw, and slowly turn the chuck by hand. - Doug Kuehl, Duluth, Minn., in *Wood-magazine.com*.

Batteries for Life

As revealed in [Woodworker's Journal field editor Chris Marshall's interview with Craig Taylor of Rockwell Tools at the International Builder's Show](#) (click to see the video), Rockwell has come out with



a new line of portable power tools – and a new **guarantee of free batteries for the tool's lifetime** in the hands of the original purchaser. With your initial purchase of a drill or driver from their 14- or 18-volt Ni-Cad or Lithium-ion powered lines, you'll get a battery - and you'll register your tool with Rockwell Tools. Then, when that battery wears out. – whenever that may be – you contact them via the instructions you received when you registered, and get a replacement battery for your tool for the cost of shipping and handling (currently, approximately \$6). Rockwell's new handheld power tools also include a reciprocating saw and a

random orbit sander, as well as a [Jawhorse™ portable workstation](#) that weighs 43 pounds itself and can hold items up to 2,200 pounds in weight and 37 inches. You can find out more about the tools and the battery program through the Woodworker's Journal video and at www.rockwelltools.com. – Chris Marshall and Joanna Werch Takes, *Woodworker's Journal eZine* Issue 215

Woodturner's Web Sites

[Woodturning DVD Rental](#) – Perhaps you missed this pointer to [Smartflix.com](#) in a prior newsletter. Their library has expanded not only in non-woodworking areas, but especially in woodworking and woodturning. There are 63 titles in woodturning alone as of this writing. Check them out at the above link.

[Woodturning Design Magazine](#) – Everyone is familiar with this magazine. It contains many interesting articles that challenge the reader to try out their projects or create masterpieces of their own. Their web site contains [downloadable instructions](#) to make the nut and bolt shown in the photo. Do you have the skills (and the tools) to make this project?



Wants and Disposals

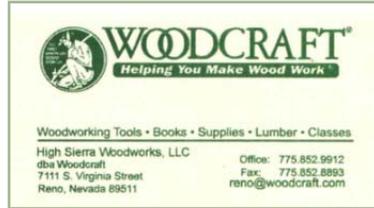
FOR SALE: Wayne Porter and Dave Rich have large and small walnut blanks for sale. Contact them at the next meeting or call Dave at 775-265-3099.

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.



www.hartvilletool.com
800-345-2396



Craft Supplies USA

Phone Orders:
1-800-551-8876

Web Orders:
www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Dates to Remember

The Woodworking Shows returns to the Cal Expo in Sacramento on April 24th through April 26th. Hours are 12-6 on Friday, 10-6 on Saturday, and 10-4 on Sunday. Craft Supplies is expected to be one of the vendors. For discounts, registration, directions, and more information visit their [web site](#).

The Carson Valley Chili Cook-off and Craft Fair will be held at the Carson Valley Inn from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 25th and 26th, 2009. The CVW will have a booth to demonstrate woodturning and sell items to the public.

The Utah Woodturning Symposium will be held May 14th through May 16th, 2009. Details have been finalized, and are now posted on their [web site](#).

The 23rd Annual AAW National Symposium will be held in Albuquerque, NM on June 26th through June 28th, 2009. Details are posted on the [AAW website](#).

The Woodturners of Olympia, WA 2009 "Creativity in Woodturning" Symposium will be held Saturday, July 25, 2009 in Lacey, WA. Eric Lofstrom will demonstrate on woodturning basics. Eric will be followed by Jimmy Clewes who will demonstrate design, shape, form & aesthetics, oriental boxes, turning a twist and long stem goblet, and colorings. For information or registration see <http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org>.

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 May newsletter is April 27th.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and demonstration will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on April 11th at 9 a.m. The address is [759 Gansburg Court](#) just off Highway 88 in Carson Valley. If you find yourself in California, you went too far. We all appreciate Wayne's willingness to hold a CVW meeting in his shop.

Carson Valley Woodturners' Officers

President: Dave Rich – 775-265-3099

Treasurer: Wayne Porter – 775 265-7887

Vice President: Wayne Allen – 775-841-5561

Secretary: John Compston – 775 782-3542