



Chatter and Catches

The Newsletter of the



May 2009



President's Gouge

Last weekend's Chili Cook Off was a huge success for "Sertoma," the group that organized it, and for the crafters of which we were one of 50 booths. My feelings were that half the booths were not crafts but made-in-China/Japan junk. A BIG THANKS to everyone who participated. Wayne Allen's lathe shield worked great. (Wayne: How about one more??). We demonstrated on two lathes. It was amazing how flying wood chips attract crowds. Wayne Porter, our treasurer, will be able to give us a rundown on how we did, however I am sure we made enough to pay for our booth. Thanks for the use of the tent, all the turned items, wood, use of the lathes, etc. etc. A lot of work by many people went into this. Ruth and I purchased a beautiful platter from Mel (that is after I told Ruth I would not be making one for her any time soon.)

Last month we had a pyrographic demonstration by Tia Flores. Several ladies attended, one of whom was my wife Ruth. Bill and Carol Lark saw our notice in the paper and also attended. The CVW Board will be considering bringing Tia back for a real hands-on workshop (everyone would have their own burner.) Thanks to Woodcraft for providing the burners, and for a nice raffle prize of \$25. Our own member Ron Burdg of Sierra Mold once more donated a nice tool for making bottle stoppers. Needless to say, Wayne and Maggie's shop was outstanding. It was very clean and organized as compared to my shop. Maggie, thanks for the coffee and treats.

Our May meeting will be at Dave Mills' house (directions are in this newsletter). Dave will demonstrate making a lidded vessel. Please bring something you have turned for show and tell. Remember we all were beginners at some point. Our work quality in general seems to be improving. Several of our members, including myself, would be glad to help anyone get started in woodturning. There are some mini-lathes not really being used by some of our members - perhaps they can be used at our Saturday meetings or lent to new members? I have some tools I could also lend to newcomers. FYI, Bill Grumbine will not be coming to Nevada because arrangements could not be made.

Paul Cote is the lucky person who gets to donate something for the raffle in May: an old / new tool, bottle of wine? – Dave Rich

Catch This!



At least the jig held it together and no shrapnel was produced. This was stage one of the Woodturning Design Magazine Issue #20 ornament project. I was almost done, and as is often the case, OOPS! (Well, maybe I said something else.) The flowering plum blanks were turning at 3000 RPM, and the fingernail-ground 3/8" spindle gouge went a tad too far into the deep cove. The lesson here is to use the 220-grit gouge to finish off the deeper recesses. Grumble. – Bill Draper



Swietenia Mahagoni

Swietenia mahagoni, commonly known as the West Indian Mahogany, is a species of *Swietenia* that is native to southern Florida in the United States as well as the islands of The Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, and Hispaniola.



It is a medium-sized semi-evergreen tree growing to 98–110 ft tall. The leaves are pinnate, 4.7–9.8 in long, with four to eight leaflets, each leaflet 2.0–2.4 in long and 0.79–1.2 in wide; there is no terminal leaflet. The flowers are small, produced in panicles. The fruit is a woody capsule 2.0–3.9 in long and 1.2–2.4 in wide, containing numerous winged seeds.

The name mahogany is used when referring to numerous varieties of dark-colored hardwood, originally the wood of the species *Swietenia mahagoni*, known as West Indian or Cuban mahogany. *Mahogany* was equally applied to the wood of *Swietenia macrophylla*, which is closely related, and known as Honduras mahogany. Today, all species of *Swietenia* are listed by CITES, and are therefore protected. Species of *Swietenia* cross-fertilize readily when they grow in proximity, the hybrid between *S. mahagoni* and *S. macrophylla* is widely planted for its timber. Mahogany is the national tree of Dominican Republic and Belize. It also appears on the national seal of Belize.

"Mahoganies" may refer to the largest group of all the timbers yielded by the fifteen related species of *Swietenia*, *Khaya* and *Entandrophragma*. The timbers of *Entandrophragma* are sold under their individual names, sometimes with "mahogany" attached as a suffix, for example "sipo" may be referred to as "sipo mahogany". Kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*), a close relative, is sometimes called New Zealand Mahogany.

In addition, the US timber trade markets various FTC-defined "mahoganies", under a variety of different names, most notably "Philippine mahogany".

Uses

Swietenia mahagoni is the species from which the true original mahogany wood was produced. Supplies have now become very rare due to over-harvesting, and most mahogany marketed now comes from other related species, often with faster growth but lower wood quality.

Mahogany has a generally straight grain and is usually free of voids and pockets. It has a reddish-brown color, which darkens over time, and displays a beautiful reddish sheen when polished. It has excellent workability, and is very durable. The sizes of the trees meant that wide boards were once available (and still are of the non-endangered varieties). These properties make it a favorable wood for crafting furniture.

The radial and tangential shrinkage values from the fiber saturation point to equilibrium moisture content are 3.0% and 4.1% respectively.

Much of the first-quality furniture made in the American colonies from the mid 1700s, when the wood first became available to American furniture makers, was made of mahogany. Mahogany is widely used for fine furniture; the rarity of Cuban mahogany restricts its use (likewise Honduran mahogany). Mahogany resists wood rot, which makes it suitable for boat construction. It is also often used for musical instruments, particularly the backs of guitars.

Mahogany is used for drum making, because of its integrity and capability to produce a very dark, warm tone (as compared to other more common wood types like maple or birch). Ringo Starr was said to have used mahogany drums, on the Beatles recordings of the 60s, manufactured by Ludwig. Contemporary

drum manufacturers, including C&C custom, offer several drum kits featuring high-end shells made of mahogany.

A wide variety of electric guitars are also made from mahogany, like Gibson's Les Paul line and most of the PRS Guitars among others. It is noted, again, for its dark properties, as well as its weight (Gibson Les Pauls may weigh as much as 12 pounds), the combination of which produces a warm, rounded tone with huge sustain, for which the guitar is famous.

Mahogany is also commonly used in acoustic guitars. The wood is most often used to make the back, sides, or neck of a guitar, but it is sometimes used to make the top (soundboard) as well. Guitars with mahogany soundboards tend to have a softer, darker tone than those made from spruce.

Mahogany is also being used for the bodies of high-end stereo phonographic record cartridges and for stereo headphones, where it is noted for “warm” or “musical” sound. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Ryobi Corded Circular Saws Recalled Due to Laceration Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Ryobi Corded Circular Saws

Units: About 12,400

Manufacturer: One World Technologies Inc., of Anderson, S.C.

Hazard: The return spring on the circular saw's lower blade guard can break, posing a laceration hazard to consumers.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported.

Description: This recall involves Ryobi corded circular saws with the following model numbers: CSB123, CSB133L, and CSB142LZ. Circular saws included in this recall have manufacturing date codes between 0836 and 0842 on the data plate near the trigger handle of the saw. Circular saws with a green dot on or near the data plate and on the outside of the package are not subject to this recall.

Sold exclusively at: Home Depot stores nationwide from October 2008 through November 2008 for between \$30 and \$70.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the circular saw and contact One World Technologies Inc. to locate their nearest authorized service center to schedule a free repair.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact One World Technologies at (800) 525-2579 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.ryobitools.com



Woodturner's Web Sites

[Penn State Industries](http://www.pennstateind.com/store/DVD.html) – This well-known supplier of woodturning tools and supplies is offering a free pen making instructional video on DVD. Yes, the shipping is free, too. All you have to do is go to <http://www.pennstateind.com/store/DVD.html>, add one DVD to the shopping cart, then proceed to the checkout.

[BandSawBladesDirect.com](http://www.bandawbladesdirect.com) – Are you one of the many bandsaw owners who have difficulty finding new or replacement blades due to the odd size of your machine? This company makes Lennox blades to specification for just about any purpose. They also offer free shipping on orders over \$100.00.

Wants and Disposals

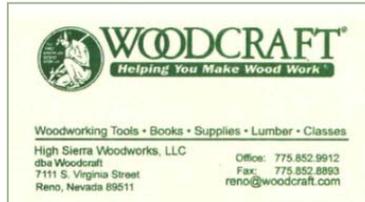
FOR SALE: Wayne Porter and Dave Rich have large and small walnut blanks for sale. Contact them at the next meeting or call Dave at 775-265-3099.

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



Woodworking Tools • Books • Supplies • Lumber • Classes
High Sierra Woodworks, LLC
dba Woodcraft
7111 S. Virginia Street
Reno, Nevada 89511
Office: 775.852.9912
Fax: 775.852.8993
reno@woodcraft.com

Craft Supplies USA

Phone Orders:
1-800-551-8876

Web Orders:
www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Dates to Remember

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 June newsletter is June 1st.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and demonstration will convene in Dave Mills' shop on May 9th at 9 a.m. The address is 20599 Highway 88 in the far south end of Carson Valley. Drive south 4.2 miles past the California border to the Toiyabe National Forest sign and proceed another 75 yards. (If you end up in Woodfords, you went too far.) Turn left on Memdewee Down Street then right at the gate for Zuni Pines, and continue down the drive to the green barn. Bring your golf clubs if you want to play a round after the meeting. We all appreciate Dave's willingness to hold a CVW meeting in his shop.

Carson Valley Woodturners' Officers

President: Dave Rich – 775-265-3099
Vice President: Wayne Allen – 775-841-5561

Treasurer: Wayne Porter – 775 265-7887
Secretary: John Compston – 775 782-3542