



# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



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## President's Gouge

I want to thank the members for electing me as President of the Carson Valley Woodturners. I look forward to serving you and the club in the coming year. I would also like to thank our other officers Dave Rich - Vice President, Wayne Porter - Treasurer, and Dave Mills - Secretary for serving. We have come a long way in the last two and a half years under the leadership of Dave Rich, and I think we need to give him special thanks for having the vision and the ability to put this all together and to get us where we are today. I also want to give a special thanks to Dave for stepping up and taking the Vice President position to assist in getting presenters for our coming meetings. He indicated that he already has several presenters lined up for coming meetings. I also want to thank Dave for being such a gracious host and for offering his shop for the majority of our meetings over the last couple of years since the club was started.

As we go into a new year we will be looking to our members for ideas and topics for upcoming meetings. One of the ideas that I have discussed with several members is to visit other member's shops. We can do this in several ways. If you have a shop that would be large enough to host a meeting we could plan to hold our meeting there and the individual whose shop we are using could prepare a demonstration on a topic of their choice. For those whose shops that are too small to host a meeting we could plan to make a short visit to their shops and possibly visit several shops during one meeting. The individuals could explain their shop layout and how it works for them. We have already visited Wayne Porter's, Dave Mills', and Wayne Ferree's shops. Anyone who would like to host a meeting, even those who have already hosted a meeting, please contact me so we can get you on the schedule.

A special thanks to those members who have already made presentations at previous meetings. After looking at the items that have been brought into our meeting for show-and-tell it is apparent that we have many talented members and we all learn something new from each of you. We may want to have a meeting that is strictly show-and-tell, having each member that brought something explain in detail their process from start to finish regarding the item they brought. Your presentation does not need to be elaborate and can be as simple as a demonstration on how you use a particular gouge.

During our last appearance at the craft fair I watched Dave Mills and Paul Cote use gouges during demonstrations. I was able to evaluate how they used the gouges and make adjustments to how I was using the same tool. These simple pointers have improved my turning skills. It doesn't take much to make an impression. I realize I may be easy to impress, however, we can all learn something new.

We need to give a special thanks to Dave and Ruth Rich for opening their home for our Christmas party and being such gracious hosts. We had 26 people attend and a good time was had by all. The gift exchange was interesting, but not much stealing, with the exception of a necklace that seemed to be special to several of our lady guests, and Paul was able to go home with his wife and not sleep in the garage. It was very nice meeting all of the spouses of our members and being able to spend time with all present.

January is the start of a new year and with it comes renewal of our club membership. Please be prepared to renew your membership at our January meeting. Wayne Porter will be glad to accept your dues at that time. Yearly renewal is \$50.00.

Our January meeting will be held at Rich Sheldrew's shop where I will be demonstrating Pen Turning. Also, Wayne Ferree will make a short presentation called Turning Fundamentals that demonstrates what he learned at a recent training session he attended.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2010, at Rich Sheldrew's shop at 1736 Sunset Court. It is located near the intersection of East Valley Road and Toler/Fish Springs Road. If you have trouble finding it you can contact Rich at 775-721-3010, or me at 775-690-6011. - John Compston, President

## Turning a Pen the First Time

When I got my first lathe two years ago (I have already purchased a new larger lathe), I purchased it before Christmas. However, my wife would not let me use it until after Christmas; it was my present. My nephew gave me a pen kit for Christmas and I thought it would be an easy project. Little did I know what this would involve. The first thing I did was sign up for a pen turning class at Woodcraft in Reno, which involved taking the safety class first, then on to the pen turning class. The class was very informative and took me through all of the steps. However, it also brought to light all of the other items I would need to complete the pen making process. Before it all ended, with the cost of the lathe and related accessories, I think my first pen cost somewhere around \$ 1,000.00!

Pen turning requires some specialized items not typically used in other types of turning. The first thing you are going to need is a way to cut the pen blank after you have marked it for the barrel length. I did not have a band saw so I cut my blanks by hand. This worked OK until I purchased my new band saw and I now use that. The next thing you will need is a drill press to drill the blank for insertion of the brass barrel. The drill press I had did not extend the 2 inches I needed to drill the pen blank and this resulted in the purchase of a new drill press. I then needed to purchase a pen vice to hold the pen blank so that I could drill it for the barrel. The drill press vice I had did not work well for holding the blank. The next thing I needed was a pen insertion tool to insert the barrel into the blank after coating it with CA glue. I then purchased a barrel trimmer so that I could trim the end of the blank flush with the barrel that had been glued into the blank. The next thing I purchased was a pen turning mandrel which you use to mount the pen blanks for turning between the head and tail stock. This was all fine and good until I looked at the pen turning kit that was given to me and I determined that I also need a special bushing for the type of pen I was turning. Each type of pen requires a bushing for the specific pen design, i.e. slim line, click pen, cigar, etc. I also determined that I needed drill bits for each of the pen designs which I purchased. Once I got the pen turned I now needed to apply the finish. The types of finishes vary, but the one that I prefer is the Mylands Friction Polish. Once the finish was applied I now needed to put all of the pieces together, and for this I purchased a pen press. There are other options than the pen press, i.e. bench vise, pipe clamps, or handed quick action bar clamps. Here is a list of the items that will be needed:

Lathe	Pen blank
Saw	Drill press
Pen vice	Drill bits
CA glue	Insertion tool
Barrel trimmer	Mandrel
Bushing to match the pen type	Pen kit
Sand paper or sanding pads if using acrylic blanks	Finish
	Pen press/assembler

You are now ready to turn your pen by following the steps listed:

1. Remove parts for pen kit and reference the directions
2. Mark pen blank with duel lines for blank identification
3. Rough surface of barrel with sand paper so glue will adhere

4. Drill pen blank with appropriate size drill bit for kit chosen
5. Glue barrel into blank with CA glue
6. Trim end of blank to ensure that the barrel and end of blank are now square to blank
7. Position pen blank on mandrel with appropriate bushing – caution do not over tighten the locking nut as this can cause the mandrel to flex
8. Rough blank down to slightly larger than bushing
9. Sand blank to match bushing diameter
10. Apply finish
11. Assemble pen per instructions

It is not necessary to purchase all of the items that I did, but it was a good excuse for me to purchase several other items such as a new drill press, new band saw, etc., with my wife's approval as our nephew had provided me with the first pen kit. During my demonstration at the January meeting we will discuss and I will demonstrate several of the steps listed above resulting in a finished pen. - John Compston

## Benefits of AAW Membership

Several CVW members have asked about the benefits of joining the AAW. The AAW web site contains a video that describes the AAW, its mission and functions, and the benefits of membership. Here is the link: [http://www.woodturner.org/resources/videos/AAW\\_who\\_we\\_are.wmv](http://www.woodturner.org/resources/videos/AAW_who_we_are.wmv) Also, there is a listing of benefits at: <http://www.woodturner.org/org/mbrship>. The CVW would like for all of our members to become AAW members and qualify our chapter to become an AAW Star Chapter. These Chapters will receive a five video set of the *Masters of Woodturning*, a plaque recognizing the AAW Star status, a listing on this webpage (<http://www.woodturner.org/community/chapters>), AAW Star designation on their listing in the Local Chapter list of the Resource Directory, as well as the grateful thanks of the AAW. Lastly, in order for you to participate in hands-on demonstration and training at our CVW meetings, you must be a member of the AAW so that their [liability insurance coverage](#) is extended to you.

## Stanley Works Merges with Black and Decker

“Human sacrifice, dogs and cats living together, mass hysteria!” These immortal words of Dr. Peter Venkman from the classic movie *Ghostbusters* came to mind when I started to read an article in the December 2009 issue of *Woodshop News* announcing the subject merger. Well, maybe it isn't that bad. The article described the merger as the uniting of “two iconic tool companies with no significant product overlap that could improve growth prospects.” Perhaps you are thinking that this doesn't affect woodturners, but it does somewhat when you consider the brands involved. Stanley's brands include Stanley, FatMax, Bostitch, and Vidmar. Black and Decker brands include Black and Decker, DeWalt, Porter-Cable, and Delta. The new company will be named Stanley Black and Decker, and the deal will close in the first half of this year. Will there be a new lathe forthcoming with this new masthead on it? – Bill Draper

## 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.

FREE ELM: This is a reminder to contact Wayne Porter to get some of the free Elm the club obtained from the City of Gardnerville. Hopefully it hasn't turned into firewood!

## Woodturner's Web Sites

[International Association of Penturners \(IAP\)](#) - The IAP is an organization that recognizes pen making as a craft with unique and distinctive character. The goal of the IAP is to give pen makers a place to enhance their skills, share experiences, and promote the art of pen making. The IAP is a virtual association

of like-minded individuals. The primary “meeting place” for IAP members is their on-line discussion forum. Membership is free of charge and is activated simply by obtaining a username and password on their web site.

[Exotic Woods USA](#) – The text from a recent message to members offering a wood discount is excerpted here: “My name is Gerry Romeo and I am the owner of Exotic Woods USA and also an AAW member. I would like the opportunity to offer you and all your chapter members a standing discount of 15% off any orders placed at: [www.exoticwoodsusa.com](http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com). (This includes sale items and free shipping on orders over \$300). Please take a moment to visit [www.exoticwoodsusa.com](http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com) to see the large selection of exotic woods that my site offers. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me or my assistant, Lisa.” CVW members should reply to Mr. Romeo’s email they received to obtain a discount coupon code to use on-line.

## 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](http://www.hartvilletool.com)  
800-345-2396

### Craft Supplies USA

Phone Orders:  
1-800-551-8876

Web Orders:  
[www.woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com)

### Exotic Woods USA

Phone Orders:  
1-631-651-8651

Web Orders:  
<http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com>

## Dates to Remember

Super Wednesday at Craft Supplies USA will be held May 5, 2010 at their location in Provo, Utah. The sale opens at 9:30 a.m. For more information, visit their [web site](#).

The Utah Woodturning Symposium, which will be held May 6 – 10, 2010, is the longest-running woodturning symposium in the world. The year 2010 marks the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the event. Participants can select from over 100 demonstrations given by some of the best woodturners in the world. For more information, visit the [symposium’s web site](#).

The AAW 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium will be held June 18 – 20, 2010, at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. For more information, go to [http://www.woodturner.org/sym/all\\_symposia.cfm](http://www.woodturner.org/sym/all_symposia.cfm).

The Nevada Woodchuck’s Lathe Special Interest Group meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Their Beginner’s Lathe Group meets monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cvwnews@charter.net) no later than Monday of the week before the next meeting. The submission deadline for the February 2010 newsletter is February 1st.

## CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month’s CVW meeting and demonstration will convene in Rich Sheldrew’s shop on Saturday, January 9th at 9:00 a.m. The address is 1736 Sunset Court, near the intersection of East Valley Road and Toler/Fish Springs Road. We all appreciate Rich’s willingness to hold this CVW meeting in his shop.

### Carson Valley Woodturners’ Officers

**President:** John Compston – 775-782-3542

**Vice President:** Dave Rich – 775-265-3099

**Treasurer:** Wayne Porter – 775-265-7887

**Secretary:** Dave Mills – 530-694-2565