



# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



May 2010



## President's Gouge

We had a very successful booth at the Chili Cook-off Craft Fair. It was great to see the turnout we had of club members assisting in the booth. Several other club members stopped by and gave us support. I would like to give a special thanks to the club members who turned during the show. As we have found in the past, the more chips that fly, the more attention our booth gets. I had several people comment that it was great to be able to watch items being made that were being sold at the show. One woman was especially excited, because she waited until I had finished a ring holder because she was going to be able to tell the person, whom she was buying it for a gift, that she actually saw it being made. I believe there were only about 10 items left that did not sell and I will keep these until next year. We sold a majority of the items on Saturday, and we turned another ten items on Sunday which also sold. As we have found in previous Chili Cook-off Craft Fairs the items priced at \$10.00 and less sell the best. I challenge each member to start now preparing for next year's craft fair. The more items we have the more money we make. A full accounting of what we made will be discussed at the May meeting.



We had a huge amount of interest in the club from individuals who stopped by the booth. We have the names of at least 10 people who want to be added to our mailing list, and we also provided them information about our new website and our meetings and schedule. We have already had two new people join the club who downloaded the club application from the website.

A special thanks to Don McRoberts for all of his hard work on the website and his continuing work on keeping it updated. Don is looking for photos of your work that can be posted on the website.

Our May meeting will not be held on the second Saturday. Instead, we have a special demonstration by Malcolm Tibbetts who lives at Lake Tahoe and is a world renowned segmented turner. This meeting and demonstration will be held at Dave Rich's shop at 665 Rocking Horse Road, May 22, 2010 at 9:00 AM. As I will be out of town for this meeting, please let me know by May 14<sup>th</sup> if you are planning to attend. We need to make sure that we will have enough space and seating for all attendees. We plan to be back on our regularly scheduled second Saturday meeting in June. We are currently working on a program for the meeting.

Again a special thanks for all of you who turned items for the craft fair and those of you who worked so hard to make it a huge success. - John Compston, President

## A (Very) Brief History of Woodturning

The origin of woodturning dates to around 1300BC when the Egyptians first developed a two-person lathe. One person would turn the wood with a rope while the other used a sharp tool to cut shapes in the wood. The Romans improved the Egyptian design with the addition of a turning bow. Early bow lathes were also developed and used in Germany, France, and Britain.

In the middle ages, a pedal replaced hand-operated turning, freeing both the craftsman's hands to hold the woodturning tools. The pedal was usually connected to a pole, often a straight-grained sapling. The system today is called the "spring-pole" lathe. Spring-pole lathes were in common use into the early 20th century. A two-person lathe, called a "great lathe", allowed a piece to turn continuously (like today's power lathes). A master would cut the wood while an apprentice turned the crank.



The term "bodger" stems from pole lathe turners who used to make the chair legs and spindles. A bodger would typically purchase all the trees on a plot of land, set up camp on the plot, and then fell the trees and turn the wood. The spindles and legs that were produced were sold in bulk, for pence per dozen. The bodger's job was considered unfinished because he only made component parts. The term today is alternately defined as a person who leaves a job unfinished, or does it badly.

During the industrial revolution the lathe was motorized, allowing turned items to be created in less time. The motor also produced a greater rotational speed for the wood, making it easier to quickly produce high quality work. Today most commercial woodturning is done by computer-operated machinery allowing for mass-production that can be created with accurate precision and without the cost of employing craftsmen. Despite this, there is still a demand for hand-turned products. Woodturning is also a hobby enjoyed by many people.

Modern professional woodturners are typically either "production" turners producing large quantities of functional pieces, or artistic turners producing smaller numbers of pieces, often enhanced after turning by carving, piercing, coloring, applying pyrography, gilding, or a number of other techniques to produce objects for the art market. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. References removed, and edited.

## Safety Tip of the Month

Those of you who read the April newsletter recognize that the theme was lathe speed and safety. Dave Mills experience was quite dramatic and none of us want a similar thing to happen to us. That is why I am bringing it up again this month as a reminder to all turners that operating the lathe at the wrong speed can have disastrous results. I know myself that after reading the last newsletter, I was much more aware and cautious each time I turned on my lathe. Bill Draper's article was quite informative and included some great tips. Make use of those tips and be safe.

**ALWAYS CHECK THE SPEED OF THE LATHE BEFORE TURNING IT ON.** Use slower speeds for larger diameters or rough pieces, and higher speeds for smaller diameters and pieces that are balanced. Always start a piece at a slower speed until the work piece is balanced. If the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the work piece vibrates, always stop the machine to determine the reason. As a starting point, consult your operator's manual for recommended speeds for a particular lathe. Make sure the lathe speed is compatible with the size of the blank. Safe turning. – John Compston

## Rockler Companies Recalls LED Light Kits Due to Burn and Fire Hazards

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 products. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: LED light kits

Units: About 2,200

Distributor: Rockler Companies Inc., of Medina, Minn.

Hazard: Defective wiring in the light kits can cause the battery pack to overheat and explode, posing a risk of burn and fire hazards to consumers.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported.

Manufactured in: China

Description: This recall involves Rockler LED lights with either an interchangeable spotlight head or a magnifying head. Models included in the recall have stock numbers 26429 – spotlight, or 27017 - magnifying. Stock numbers are printed on the packaging.

Sold at: Rockler Woodworking and Hardware and other specialty stores nationwide from March 2009 through October 2009 for about \$60.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled LED light kits and call Rockler Companies to receive a free repair kit and installation instructions.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Rockler at (800) 260-9663. Consumers can also write to Rockler Woodworking and Hardware at 4365 Willow Drive, Medina, MN 55340



## Save Money on Sandpaper Discs

Not too long ago, I decided I was paying too much for the 2” hook-and-loop sandpaper discs I was using to sand projects on my lathe. I began thinking how I could easily cut them from relatively inexpensive hook-and-loop roll stock, and came up with the idea described here.

I went to the local hardware store and picked up a 2” pipe nipple and end cap. The inside diameter is what is important, and mine was 2 1/16”, but that has not mattered. I placed a piece of 220-grit sandpaper flat on my bench top and hand sanded one end of the nipple until I could see that the entire circumference of the inside edge had made contact. Then I got out my Dremel grinder (and eye protection) and carefully ground an angle around the outside edge until I was just beginning to form a cutting edge on the inside of the nipple. Lastly, I carefully hand-filed the edge until it was sharp, and screwed on the end cap.



To cut the discs, lay the roll stock flat on a block of wood, put the cutting edge in a position to yield the most discs, and hit the cap with a heavy hammer. A 4-pound sledge worked best for me. – Bill Draper

## Woodturner's Web Sites

[Carson Valley Woodturners](#) – This is our brand new club website. It was created and is maintained by [Don McRoberts](#). He is adding content on a regular basis. If you have favorite web sites for woodturners, please send them to Don. Also, there is a gallery for member creations – send pictures of your work to Don, too! And, why not consider making this your home page?

[Micro-Mesh Abrasives](#) –Micro-Mesh products are "cushioned", long lasting fine abrasives (up to 12000 grit) that provide the ultimate finishes and desired results to manufacturers, scientists, hobbyists, and consumers. Micro-Mesh products are available in a wide selection including sheets, rolls, discs.

## Wants and Disposals

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

## 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 Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild is presenting the 2010 West Coast Roundup, An international Woodturning Symposium featuring world renowned instructors & authors, in Vancouver, B.C., on September 10–12, 2010. Alain Mailland, Art Liestman, Nick Cook, Michael Hosaluk, Graeme Priddle, Marilyn Campbell, Jason Marlow, Dale Larson, will give demonstrations and lectures on all aspects of woodturning. More information is available on the [Guild's web site](#).

The Woodturners of Olympia (WA) are presenting the Creativity in Woodturning Symposium 2010 at the Komachin Middle School, 3650 College Street, Lacey, WA, on July 24, 2010. The packed one-day program includes demonstrations and discussions by Alan Lacer, Bill Luce, and Dave Schweitzer. More information is available at <http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org>.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Segmented Symposium will be held November 11-14, 2010, at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. Everyone interested in segmented turning, from novice to accomplished, is welcome and will benefit. Visit [www.segmentedwoodturners.org](http://www.segmentedwoodturners.org) for online registration and further 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 regularly scheduled meeting. The submission deadline for the June 2010 newsletter is May 31<sup>st</sup>.

## CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and demonstration will be held in Dave Rich's shop on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 this CVW meeting in his shop.

### Carson Valley Woodturners' Officers

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

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

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

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

### 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.

### SIERRA MOLD CORPORATION

- Precision Machining & Engineered Products
- Machine Tool Accessories
- CNC Machining
- Sierra Racing Products Division

Ronald L. Burdick  
PRESIDENT

1558 FORREST WAY • CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89706 USA  
(775) 882-3500 • FAX (775) 882-2502



[www.hartvilletool.com](http://www.hartvilletool.com)

800-345-2396

### the Woodworking SOURCE

9744 South Virginia Street, Suite E, Reno, NV 89511  
Store Phone: 775-624-9174 Store Fax: 877-530-9663

Ralph Benson  
Mobile: 775-762-1160  
ralph@the-woodworking-source.com

[the-woodworking-source.com](http://the-woodworking-source.com)

### 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>