



Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



January 2011



President's Gouge

Well, we are into a new year and are looking forward to an outstanding 2011 for the Carson Valley Woodturners. In 2010 our membership grew to 28 members and we had a number of outstanding turners and practitioners provide demonstrations for our club. We participated in the craft fair at the annual Chili Cook-Off which resulted in several individuals joining our club. We will not have a booth at the Chili Cook-Off this year because they are not allowing any use of power during the craft fair, and this will preclude us from being able to use the lathes. We will try to participate in one of the other craft fairs in the valley during 2011. Also, please don't forget that annual CVW dues will be collected at the January meeting.

2010 was concluded with our annual Christmas party held at Ruth and Dave Rich's residence. We had an excellent turnout, and I know all of us who attend had a fantastic time. The club auctioned off four items that were turned by our demonstrators during the year. The auction brought in a little over \$200.00 for the club. I would like to thank Ruth and Dave for their generosity in hosting the party, and all of the spouses and members who contributed their favorite dishes.



The Carson Valley Woodturners, as part of our outreach program, has adopted the advanced woodshop class at Silver Stage High School located in Silver Springs, NV. Working with the high school principal, Patrick Peters, and shop teacher, Dick Mesna, we provided several workshops to the students and introduced them to the wood lathe and its workings. Every student in the class participated in the workshops even though some of the students had never worked on the lathe. We were able to show them the basic skills for turning objects that could later be given as gifts. Every student left the workshops with a completed item.



During our visits to the shop we determined that the students needed additional equipment to be able to take full advantage of the lathe and its abilities. A sharpening system to keep the gouges sharp was at the top of the list. The Carson Valley Woodturners, in conjunction with [The Woodworking Source](#) in Reno, provided a new gouge sharpening system. The system was installed on an existing grinder at the school by two club members, John Compston and Dave Mills. We also determined that with the level of interest developed through the workshops that there was a need for an additional lathe. Club member Rich Sheldrew had a spare lathe and a set of turning tools, and he generously donated them to the school. Several other club members came forward with items that were also donated to the school. John Compston donated three gouges, [Ron Burdg](#) donated a grinding wheel dresser, and Bill Elerick donated a miter saw and several boxes of wood working plans and publications.

On Friday, December 10th, club members John Compston, Dave Mills, [Ralph Benson](#) (also owner of [The Woodworking Source](#)), and his employee, Peter DeBay, presented this equipment to the shop class. During this presentation, Peter provided training on the use of the sharpening system and distributed handouts for the student's future reference.

The club and school are already planning for future workshops with the students. Pen turning workshops will be held after the holidays. Students will learn to turn pens that can be given as gifts or sold to other students, faculty, family, or friends. We are also considering possible workshops in the spring to introduce the students to bowl turning.

We would like to thank the Silver Stage High School for allowing us to come into their school and work with the students to introduce them to another aspect of woodworking. We would also like to thank the students for their enthusiasm and excellent manners. It was a great pleasure working with these students and we look forward to future workshops.

I am very excited and look forward to another excellent year for the Carson Valley Woodturners. A club is only as good as its members, and special thanks to all of you for making this club what it is. I look forward to working with all of you in 2011! - John Compston, President

This Month's Program

Our next meeting at 9 a.m. on January 8th will feature Mel Swingrover who will discuss the many aspects of using a bandsaw. During the presentation/discussion, he will cover identification of bandsaw parts, machine adjustment, choosing blades, bandsaw safety, do's and don'ts, bandsaw jigs, and bandsaw uses for special projects. The bandsaw can be a very dangerous tool, so this presentation will provide essential knowledge for all. Meeting location and directions are at the bottom of page four.

Walnut Trees Face Possible Extinction

The chestnut tree is gone, we've lost most of our elm, ash and many of our butternut trees, and now we stand to lose our walnut trees as well. Just two years ago, researchers discovered that a sudden decline in black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) in Colorado was due to a combination of the walnut twig beetle and a previously unknown fungus that infested the trees by the hundreds of thousands, causing cankers, and cutting off the flow of nutrients.



With a mortality rate near 100 percent, what is the prognosis if the disease moves into black walnut's native range?

According to Whitney Cranshaw, professor of bioagriculture science and pest management at Colorado State University: "Based on the patterns seen in the West, such colonization could very possibly develop into an uncontrollable outbreak. This may ultimately have the potential to destroy black walnut in its native range. "It is critically important that fresh cut logs from walnut harvested in the Western states never be allowed to move outside the area where thousand cankers disease currently is present. Movement of a single log with live beetles can be the initial source of an outbreak that could ultimately devastate black walnut in uninfested areas."

Tiny but deadly

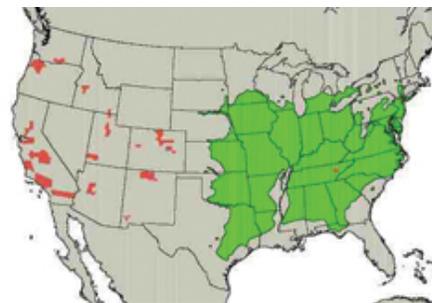
The beetles are tiny - about 1/16" (smaller than a grain of rice) - but they make up for their size with numbers. Researchers have found as many as 20,000 beetles in a 4' section of a small walnut log. By themselves, the beetles cause only minor damage to the walnut trees. The fungus they bring with them infects the tunnels, killing the cambium layer of the tree and cutting off the food supply. The tree literally starves to death. The dead cambium forms cankers, which gives the disease its name. The fungus is so deadly to black walnut trees that it has been named *geosmithia morbida*.



After the first year of infection, some of the foliage in the upper branches turns yellow at the tips and thins out. By the time these symptoms appear, the disease has progressed to the point where the tree cannot be saved. As the disease progresses, larger branches die. The tree dies within three years of the first visible symptoms. Once infected, there is no effective treatment.

Stop the spread

There are steps you can take to help stop the spread of this disease to black walnut's native range. Do not sell or transport walnut logs, slabs, or firewood (any walnut with bark attached) from areas of known or suspected infestation into unaffected areas. Kiln-dry walnut lumber, however, poses no threat. If you suspect that you have walnut trees that are affected, call your area forester or the USDA. Do not send out a sample without specific instructions because the beetle can chew its way through plastic and cardboard packaging.



Walnut trees and their nuts play a vital role in the ecology of many of our forests. Many livelihoods depend on walnut trees: woodworkers, loggers, log buyers, sawmillers, the edible nut industry, furniture makers, carvers, and makers of many specialty walnut products. Harlan Palm, president of the Missouri Walnut Council, estimates that the loss of walnut trees in Missouri alone would amount to roughly a half-billion dollars and would wreak financial havoc on thousands of individuals. Serious tree farmers have been tending walnut plantations for decades to provide retirement income or to leave something of value for their grandchildren. It's hard to describe how devastating this would be for them. Spread the word, not the disease. - This article originally appeared in the March 2010 issue of *Sawmill & Woodlot Management* magazine. This article subsequently appeared in the October 2010 issue of *Woodshop News*. Used with the permission of the editor.

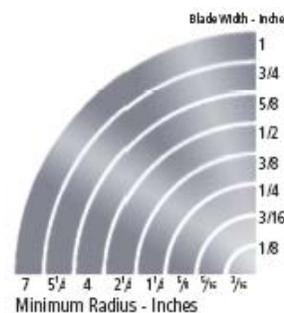
Woodturning Shop Tip

Choosing the correct bandsaw blade width - If no instructions are provided with your bandsaw, blade width should be determined using the following guidelines:

Bandsaw blade width is measured from the tips of the teeth to the back edge of the blade.

For cut-off sawing, the blade should be as wide as the machine will allow. The wider the blade is, the straighter the cut will be. Faster feeding also can be achieved.

For contour sawing, the blade should be as wide as the machine allows, but still narrow enough so that it can cut the desired shape (radius). Minimum dimensions for different cutting radii are shown on the chart at right. - Reprinted with the permission of the Olson Saw Company, Bethel, CT.



Woodturner's Web Sites

[Around the Woods](#) – This web site has many woodturning tips and techniques for beginners, intermediate, and advanced turners alike. There are projects, videos, and links to other woodturning sites. Everyone can benefit from a look at this site.

[Mike Mahoney Makes a Natural Edge Bowl](#) – A natural-edge bowl is a striking creation. Its gently undulating, bark-edged rim, reflecting the contours of the log from which it is made, provides a visual rhythm and liveliness that other turned bowls can't always match. This excerpt from [Bowl Basics: A Workshop with Mike Mahoney](#), covers all the essential steps in the creation of a natural-edge bowl.

Dates to Remember

The Desert Woodturning Roundup will be held February 18th – 20th, 2011, at the Mesa Convention Center, Mesa, AZ. Scheduled demonstrators include Mike Mahoney, Lyle Jamieson, Christian Burchard, Mark Sfirri, Stephen Hatcher, Don Ward, Al Stirt, Ron Goble, and special guest Betty Scarpino. Events include an Instant Gallery, vendor area, and panel discussions. For more information and updates, visit www.desertwoodturningroundup.com.

The 2011 Idaho Artistry in Wood Show will be held Saturday, February 26th and Sunday, February 27th at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 3300 Vista Ave. Boise, Idaho. Competitors of all skill levels, from beginners to experts are invited to have their art displayed and judged. The show will include turning and other wood art demonstrations, seminars, vendors, auction, and banquet. Registration will take place on Friday, February 25, 2011 from 12-6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Information and prospectus can be found at <http://swiwt.wordpress.com> or emailing jswagsinc@aol.com or fglench@cableone.net.

The [Utah Woodturning Symposium](#) will be held May 19th – 21st in Orem, UT, at the McKay Events Center. Engage with today's top professionals and up-and-coming woodturners in a friendly, informal learning environment. With over 80 demonstrations to choose from and a full schedule of special events, there is something for everyone! Demonstrators currently include Bonnie Klein, Dick Sing, Katherin Kowalski, and Richard Raffan. More information is available on their [web site](#).

The 25th Annual American Association of Woodturners Symposium will be held June 24th – 26th at the St. Paul RiverCentre in St. Paul, MN. Demonstrators currently include Dixie Biggs, Jerome Blanc, Alan Carter, Nick Cook, David Ellsworth, Russ Fairfield, Clay Foster, Dick Gerard, Steve Hatcher, Michael Hosaluk, Todd Hoyer, Alan Jensen, John Jordan, Jerry Kermode, Ray Key, Bonnie Klein, Alan Lacer, James McClure, Dale Nish, Pascal Oudet, Hayley Smith, Al Stirt, Chris Stott, and Malcolm Tibbetts. Visit the [AAW web site](#) for details and updates.

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 regularly scheduled meeting. The submission deadline for the February 2011 newsletter is January 31st.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and demonstration will be held in Dave Rich's shop on Saturday, January 8th 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 – 775-690-6011

Treasurer: Wayne Porter – 775-265-7887

Vice President: Dave Rich – 775-265-3099

Secretary: Dave Mills – 530-694-2565

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