



Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



President's Gouge

I'm sorry I missed the January meeting. I understand from several of the members that Mel presented an excellent program on the use of the bandsaw. I also heard that there were some outstanding items in the show-and-tell. Do not let the show-and-tell frighten you if you feel some of your items are not as good as others. I have found that this is an excellent opportunity for each of us to get feedback regarding the projects we have brought. Even though my items may not be as extravagant as some, I always receive positive feedback and am proud to show the other members how my skills have improved. There is not a meeting that goes by that I do not learn something new from the show-and-tell. It is apparent that there is a huge amount of information that is shared during these sessions. It is hard to get to the program as most of the attendees are huddled around the show-and-tell table prior to the meeting discussing the items.



As of the end of January, we have 15 members who have renewed their membership. If you have not yet renewed and are not going to make it to the February meeting, you can renew by mailing your 2011 dues to Wayne Porter, 759 Gansberg Court, Gardnerville, NV 89460. In 2010, we had 28 paid members and it would be nice to see all of last year's members renew for 2011. It is also time to renew our AAW memberships. I would like to encourage all members to join the AAW. Through the AAW, the club has liability insurance that covers members who are participating in any demonstrations. If you are not an AAW member you cannot participate in any demonstrations that include the use of any tools.

In December I prepared an article for the Record Courier regarding the Carson Valley Woodturners adopting the shop class at Silver Stage High School. Some of you may have seen it in the Record Courier. I also sent the article to the Fernley Leader and the Mason Valley News. The article was picked up by the Mason Valley News and was in their paper. I have not heard if it made the Fernley Leader or any other newspapers in our area. I received a call from a gentleman in TRE who had read the article and wanted to know about our club and what we were doing at the school. I visited this gentleman on Saturday, January 15th. I explained that their next project was going to be making pens for the school district to be given to teachers in the district when they reach tenure. He provided me with some myrtle wood that could be cut into pen blanks. When we get into other projects with the school he said he had additional myrtle wood that could be used by the students. This individual has limited movement and has turned several rolling pins. He said that he would be interested in learning how to turn a bowl. I plan to get together with him in the next couple of weeks to help him turn a bowl. If anyone else has received any feedback regarding the article, I would like to get it back to the club members. We will be looking at a couple of additional workshops with the school before summer. I would again like to thank those of you who participated in the workshops and contributed to the items we donated to the school.

We are still contemplating participating in one of the many craft fairs that take place in the valley. We will keep you updated on our progress. The last Chili Cook-Off Craft Fair provided us with several new members and provide some valuable exposure for our club. - John Compston, President

January Meeting Summary

Once again the Carson Valley Woodturners had a great meeting. The main event was presented by Mel Swingrover on the use of the bandsaw. He covered more topics than I can even remember, but some of them were safety, types of saws, types of blades and their uses, and blade brands and where to purchase and get them sharpened.

During one part of his demo, he cut out a cabriole furniture leg. By marking, cutting, taping and re-cutting, re-taping, and re-cutting again; he made a very complex shape on the band saw and did it with ease. I know it takes practice, but the entire process couldn't have taken more than 15 minutes. The shaping and sanding was still left to be completed, but the entire basic shape was in hand. WOW!

Mel demonstrated the use of his circle cutting jig, and his V-block jig for holding logs and dowels while cutting them. He also showed how to construct the jigs. Also covered and emphasized was proper feed rate and where *Not* to put your hands when the saw is running or being fed. As Mel puts it: "Band saws are also used in butcher shops, and the saw makes no distinction between a side of beef and a pinky".

It was obvious Mel was a wood shop instructor in his life prior to retirement. He came very prepared for the demonstration he put on. Mel also donated the easel he made for his visual aids to the club. Thanks Mel for a great demo and a professionally constructed easel.

Aside from club business we had a fantastic show-and-tell session. With no meeting in December there were a lot of items on display because we had two months of turning since the last show-and-tell. Dave Colon displayed a beautiful bowl that was made from carob. Gunter Kaiser brought in a really nice lidded box. He makes them for his son who sells them containing the yo-yo's his son constructs. Gunter also showed us some tea light holders he turned. I guess Gunter and I were on the same page this last month as I had arrived with some tea lights of various woods, an ash bowl stained black and red, a maple lidded salt bowl, maple goblet, a walnut bowl with a pierced rim, and a chip and dip bowl out of pine. I'm envious of the talent Bill Elerick displays in his segmented turnings. He says there are mistakes in it, but it looked really good to me, and I believe this was only the second or third one he has done.



I was afforded the compliment of being voted the most improved turner, and presented with a nice coffee mug. I think there must have been three or four people involved in the vote. Thank You! However, when I look at what the rest of you are putting out, I'm inclined to believe someone just wants to keep their treasurer. I may not be a great turner, but I have great insight.

Dave Mills showed an excellent maple burl cap he turned. He left the natural burl points on the outside of the bowl and kept the irregularly shaped rim intact. He applied a natural finish to the foot, then the top of the rim was sanded, stained black, sanded again, and stained red. He also turned a bead on the edge of the naturally finished bowl.

Dave's bowl inspired a lot of turners in the club to order burl. Because Dave had offered to place a group order from his burl source, a lot of money departed Nevada for Oregon. The big spender, I am very sad

to say, was yours truly, (not as sad as my wife, though). When all of this burl dries I think we will see some really sweet turnings. I know I've missed mentioning some of the excellent work brought to the show-and-tell this month and I am sorry, but I'm on Medicare now and I hope you can forgive me. Thanks to Dave for handling the burl order. I know it required numerous calls to Oregon as well as locally and a trip to Sparks to pick it up. – Wayne Porter

This Month's Program

Our February 12th meeting will be held at Dave Mills' shop, located at 20599 Hwy 88, Woodfords, CA. Ron Burdug is going to bring all of the turning tools he manufactures. There will be demonstrations using some of the tools. We will also be holding an extensive show-and-tell. Individuals who bring something for show-and-tell should be prepared to discuss the type of wood used, where they obtained the wood, the tools used to turn the item, any problems or success they may have had turning the item, and how they finished the item.

Putting Lessons to Use

Our association of woodturners allows us to learn and thereby become more accomplished craftsmen. As a beginner using the lathe as a tool, each meeting has been instructive. I take home at least one new idea or a way to improve my technique from each meeting. Frankly, at my stage of development, I believe I can learn more from the members than from some of our guest speakers. There of course are always exceptions to any premise, and our last presenter who discussed finishes was one.

Before the November meeting I kept both a can of polyurethane and a can of wipe-on poly in my shop. I used the polyurethane (brushed on) as a sealer for less-polished surfaces (furniture) and the wipe-on poly for my more finished surfaces, such as a segmented piece. Unless used within a reasonable amount of time, each can of liquid will crust over and must be discarded. I found myself throwing out about 25% of the polyurethane and at least half of the wipe-on poly, depending upon the size of the component I was finishing. The revelation by the guest speaker that wipe-on poly is nothing more than polyurethane diluted with naphtha was one of those 'eureka moments'.

Now I buy a large can of naphtha and a small can of polyurethane, transferring the polyurethane into a glass jar, sized for the amount of liquid still remaining after use in order to keep the airspace above the liquid to a minimum. I no longer buy the wipe-on poly. When finishing my turnings, I use a basting syringe to add an equal amount of naphtha and polyurethane in a small plastic container to prepare my finish coating. As the speaker told us, the down side of using wipe-on poly is the requirement to apply eight-to-ten coats. The upside however, is the ease and smoothness of applying a thin coating with a clean rag that dries quickly with no bubbles, ridges, lumps, or brush lines.

If you would like to try my method of finishing on one of your turnings, stop by my shop and I will mix up a sample of CVW Poly. – Wayne Ferree

Woodturner's Web Sites

[Hull-Oakes Sawmill](#) – This is the last steam-powered commercial saw mill in the country, and they're one of the few mills capable of cutting large timbers up to 85' long. The mill has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1996. Large long timbers are still used in railroad trestles, the restoration of historic structures, and for the spars and masts of ships.

[Woodturning Cruise 2011](#) - This trip is a once in a lifetime voyage where you will not only see the beautiful country of Norway but you will meet many woodturners, learn a lot of turning techniques from skilled turners, and even do some woodturning yourself on the high seas! A very special experience!

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 March 2011 newsletter is February 28th.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting will convene in Dave Mills' shop on February 12th at 9 a.m. The address is 20599 Highway 88. 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. We all appreciate Dave's willingness to hold a 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

www.carsonvalleywoodturners.com

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

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

Craft Supplies USA

Phone Orders:

1-800-551-8876

Web Orders:

www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Exotic Woods USA

Contact Editor for 15% Discount Code

Phone Orders:

1-631-651-8651

Web Orders:

<http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com>