



Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the

CARSON VALLEY
WOODTURNERS
September 2011



President's Gouge



Thanks to Dave Rich for hosting our August meeting and to Joe Donohue and Tom Doud from Reno Woodturning and the Nevada Woodchucks for providing the program for the meeting. Joe demonstrated several hollowing tools that they sell. Joe also demonstrated the use of a hardener that can be used on soft and punky wood to enhance the surface so that it can be turned and finished.

Several members tried the tools and were very impressed. The woodturning talent we have available in our Northern Nevada area never fails to amaze me. Again, we sincerely appreciate the time and effort Joe and Tom put forth presenting the demonstrations to the members.



At the July meeting the membership approved the purchase of two midi lathes and related hardware. The board subsequently met and decided on the purchase of two Delta Midi lathes with a five-year manufacturer's warranty. The lathes have been ordered with the stands and we should be receiving them in the near future. We have also ordered two Grizzly chucks. We looked at Nova chucks, but the price of the Grizzly chucks were nearly \$100.00 less than the Nova. While at the Utah Symposium, Dave Rich and Wayne Porter each picked up a set of turning tools. They have indicated that they are willing to sell them to the club for what they paid for them. They said the club could reimburse them for their travel cost to the symposium to cover the shipping, too.



“Ha-Ha”- just kidding. The club is also going to apply for a grant from AAW for the purchase of two additional lathes. These lathes will be used in our outreach efforts with the Silver Stage High School and other local programs that we may become involved with to teach woodturning to members of our community.

I purchased a 6'x12' enclosed trailer as previously discussed, and will be making arrangements in the near future to take it to Dave Rich's shop to load in all of the club stuff. We will then be taking the trailer to each of the meetings thereby ensuring that we have everything we need at our meetings.

At the August meeting I informed the members in attendance that I would be forming two sub-committees. One of the committees would consist of two members to assist Dave Rich in identifying and scheduling programs and presenters for our meetings. The other sub-committee would be two members to be responsible for raffle prizes. This sub-committee would ensure that we have at least six items for the raffle at each meeting. If we get a good supply of raffle prizes, we would consider increasing the number of items raffled at each meeting. As most of you are aware this is our only money making

source other than our annual dues. As I also mentioned during the meeting, please give some thought about offering your services for one of these sub-committees. If I do not get volunteers, I will be appointing members to these committees.

The September meeting will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at Wayne Porter's shop located at 759 Gansberg Court, Gardnerville, NV. Over the last few weeks, several club members made a trip to California and picked up black walnut logs. They took them to Rich Sheldrew's shop where they were slabbed. Three club members then hauled the slabbed wood to Wayne Porter's shop where it was cut into pieces and sealed. Each club member will receive one piece of this wood free and the remainder will be sold at this meeting for a nominal cost. Remaining wood will then be taken to other area clubs to see if they want to purchase any of the wood. We will also retain some of the remaining wood to be used as raffle prizes. We will also be holding an extensive show-and-tell allowing for more time for each individual. – John Compston

My Latest Design Opportunity

I recently turned a shallow Walnut bowl. It was 14 ½" in diameter and about 2" high, with a rim width of about 1/3 the bowls radius. I had put a raised bead on the inside and outside of the rim with the area between the beads lowered somewhat. From the inside bead there is a double step down into the bowl itself.

I liked the rim and bowl design that I had come up with, but the height overall was not pleasing to the eye. My "fix" was to turn a pedestal for the bowl to sit on. I wanted to stain the pedestal black, but after consulting with the boss, I decided it would be best, "for me", if I used a contrasting lighter color. I knew from past experience that maple and walnut go well together and I had some Maple in stock, so that's what I used.

I reverse-vacuum-chucked the bowl and turned a 1/8" deep recess in its bottom to receive a 1/8" tenon which I had turned on the top of the pedestal. The height of the pedestal wound up being about 4 1/2" with its width at 4" (due to stock on hand).



You never know when a mistake will turn your original idea into something you like better than what you had envisioned in the beginning. Here are the results of my first bowl on a raised base. – Wayne Porter

Safety Tip

Remove chuck keys – adjusting wrenches – knockout bars. Always make it a habit to remove any items that are not solidly attached to the lathe before turning it on. Item that are not solidly attached can become a projectile if it is attached to the chuck, and items that are lying on the lathe can result in damage to you or the item when turned on and they vibrate off striking the floor or you. As we have heard over the last year, several people have been killed while working at their lathe. Always remember safety first. – John Compston

Cinnamomum Camphora

Cinnamomum camphora (commonly known as Camphor tree, Camphorwood or camphor laurel) is a large evergreen tree that grows up to 20–30 meters tall. The leaves have a glossy, waxy appearance and smell of camphor when crushed. In spring it produces bright green foliage with masses of small white

flowers. It produces clusters of black berry-like fruit around one centimeter in diameter. It has a pale bark that is very rough and fissured vertically.

Camphor is a white crystalline substance, obtained from the tree *Cinnamomum camphora*. Camphor has been used for many centuries as a culinary spice, a component of incense, and as a medicine. Camphor is also an insect repellent and a flea-killing substance.

Cinnamomum camphora is native to Taiwan, southern Japan, southeast China and Indochina, where it is also cultivated for camphor and timber production. The production and shipment of camphor, in a solid, waxy form, was a major industry in Taiwan prior to and during the Japanese colonial era (1895–1945). It was used medicinally and was also an important ingredient in the production of smokeless gunpowder and celluloid. Primitive stills were set up in the mountainous areas in which the tree is usually found. The wood was chipped; these chips were steamed in a retort, allowing the camphor to crystallize on the inside of a crystallization box, after the vapor had passed through a cooling chamber. It was then scraped off and packed out to government-run factories for processing and sale. Camphor was one of the most lucrative of several important government monopolies under the Japanese.



Culinary uses of camphor. In the ancient and medieval Middle East and Europe, camphor was used as ingredient for sweets but it is now mainly used for medicinal purposes. For example, camphor was used as a flavoring in confections resembling ice cream in China during the Tang dynasty (AD 618–907). An anonymous Andalusian cookbook of the 13th century contains a recipe for meat with apples, which is flavored with camphor and musk. A 13th century recipe for "Honeyed Dates" is also flavored with Camphor. By the time of the Renaissance, camphor as a culinary ingredient had fallen into disuse throughout Europe.

Today, camphor is widely used in cooking (mainly for dessert dishes such as kheer or paal paayasam) in India where it is known as *pachha karpooram* (literally meaning "green camphor"). It is widely available at Indian grocery stores and is labeled as "edible camphor". In Hindu poojas and ceremonies, camphor is burned in a ceremonial spoon or plates for performing aarti. This type of camphor is also sold at Indian grocery stores but it is not suitable for cooking.

The twigs and leaves of the camphor plant are used in the smoking and preparation of Zhangcha duck, a typical banquet, and celebratory dish in Szechuan cuisine.

Other Information. Introduced to the contiguous United States around 1875, *Cinnamomum camphora* has become naturalized in portions of the states of Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, and South Carolina. It has been declared a category I invasive species in Florida. It is also prized for use by woodworkers and woodturners.

Cultivation. Camphor may be propagated by seed in USDA Hardiness Zone 9B to 11. Camphor trees grow in full sun to partial shade. They tolerate clay, loam, sand, slightly alkaline to acidic soils, and drought. They need to be well drained or they may suffer from root rot. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. References removed, and edited.

Coated Abrasive Basics

At the last meeting, a large quantity of emery paper was offered to us at no cost. I gladly took home a supply. When trying to determine the grit number and after research on the web, I found that this paper uses the unusual emery products grading system – not the existing CAMI, FEPA, and JIS grading systems which agree at 180-grit, then deviate somewhat above and below 180. Just what we need to keep us

on our toes. I'm sure that some of you knew this already, so I'm hoping others of you can use a [Coated Abrasive Basics primer](#) that also includes a grading system grit comparison chart. It is two pages long and is full of useful information. It was interesting to read that emery abrasives are intended for use on metal only. I think I will still try to use the paper for a final sanding/polish on my turnings. – Bill Draper

Woodturner's Web Sites

[Carter Products](#) – For over 80 years Carter Products has designed and manufactured products that enhance the performance of industrial and amateur machinery of all types. Today Carter Products is a leading manufacturer whose engineers carry on the tradition of listening to the customer and then developing new products to make your work quicker, safer, more accurate, and less costly. Of interest to woodturners, Carter Products offers a line that includes a Hollow Roller Turning System, a series of tool handles and collets, a Center Master Blank Creation System, and a faceplate alignment device. There are numerous useful items in each of the four categories, so visit the web site for more information.

[Hut Products](#) – HUT Products was established in 1991, initially as a source for woodturners to purchase quality wood finishes that they manufacture. From that important beginning until today, they now offer a comprehensive line of pen and game call supplies, turning materials, lathes, and, fine finishes. With determination that their motto "Turn to Quality" is foremost in assuring customer satisfaction with their products, they are pleased to be regarded as an important resource for thousands of customers world-wide. Check out their many offerings on their web site.

Dates to Remember

The Woodturners of Olympia will hold their 5th Annual Creativity in Woodturning Symposium featuring David Ellsworth and James Leary at the Komachin Middle School, 3650 College Street SE, Lacey, WA 98503, on Saturday, July 28th, 2012, from 7:45a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Visit their [web site](#) for further information and sign-up.

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 October 2011 newsletter is September 26th.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and program will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on September 10th at 9 a.m. The address is 759 Gansburg Court, just off Highway 88 in Carson Valley. If you find yourself in California, you went too far. We all appreciate Wayne's willingness to hold CVW meetings 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.

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