

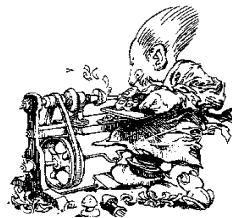


Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



December 2011



President's Gouge

A special thanks to Dave Mills for hosting our November meeting. We had a great turnout and an excellent program was provided by Dave and Wayne Porter. At the beginning of the meeting, nominations were opened for the 2012 CVW officers. Dave, Wayne, and I each indicated that we would be willing to serve another year. Dave Rich had decided not to run for the Vice President position, and Mel Swingrover offered his candidacy. The candidates were presented to the members and were elected unanimously. John Compston, President; Mel Swingrover, Vice President; Dave Mills, Secretary; and Wayne Porter, Treasurer. We all look forward to working with you during the next year. Mel has been our Librarian for several years and has done an excellent job. With his new duties as VP and serving on the program committee, Mel felt that he would not be able to effectively continue as the librarian. Wayne Ferree has graciously agreed to become the Club Librarian.



On November 18th we had another excellent hands-on session with eight members in attendance. Dave Mills hosted the session at his shop. The weather was a little blustery but we all survived, even with a short power outage due to the wind. I have since spoken to several of the members who attended and they stated that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Ron Burdg thought that it was very informative, that there was good exchange of information, and that it was low-key. Ron generously donated a tool rest for use on the new lathes. During the session, all in attendance agreed that we needed to compensate the individual hosting the session to help defray the cost of heating the facility and for the use of the electricity. It was agreed that each person attending would contribute \$5.00 at each session. Just a reminder that anyone wishing to participate in a hands-on session must be a member in good standing with the AAW (American Association of Woodturners). We are currently planning our next hands-on session, and when we make a decision, we will be letting you know the date and location. Hope to see you there.

There will not be a regular meeting in December. Instead, our 2011 Christmas Party will be held on December 17, 2011. This year's event is being hosted by Dave and Pat Colon at their residence at 231 Laura Springs Circle. Donna Dimmick is coordinating the party and will be contacting members to get the number of attendees and to find out what food item they will bring.

It appears that we may be able to get more walnut. Wayne Porter is waiting to hear from the individual in California as to when we can pick it up. When the date is known, the officers will pick up the walnut, and subsequently will be calling on other club members to help cut and seal the wood. As before, the

walnut will be sold to club members first, and then we will make the remainder available for sale to other clubs in the area to defray the cost of obtaining the wood. - John Compston, President

2011 CVW Christmas Party



When: December 17, 2011 at 5:00 PM

Where: Dave & Patricia Colon's Residence
231 Laura Springs Circle
Gardnerville, NV

RSVP to:

Donna Dimmick with the number of persons in your party
at 775-246-0874, or email at ndimmick@sbcglobal.net

Donna and John Robinson will be calling you to confirm the number in your party and what type of dish you plan on bringing to the party. Do not worry about the basics, i.e. paper goods; they will be provided by the club, however, serving utensils for your dish would be helpful. Please BYOB. The club will provide sodas, tea, etc.



Gift Exchange Rules: Each person who desires to participate must bring a gift, and put their gift in "the pile". Gifts must be wrapped, but should not be labeled to identify a sender or recipient. Gifts should be inexpensive (< \$15), and should be considered "useful" and not "white elephants". All participants will draw a number (from a hat, perhaps) to determine their order. The participant holding #1 will select and unwrap any gift from the pile and then show it to everyone. Each successive participant, in the order determined from the drawing, can either "steal" an already opened gift or be adventurous and choose a wrapped gift from the pile. If the participant chooses to steal, the person whose gift was stolen repeats their turn and either steals another person's gift (they cannot immediately steal back the gift that was just stolen from them) or unwraps a new gift. This cycle of stealing can continue, but will end after any one gift has been stolen three times. Since items can be stolen, the item in your possession is not yours until the game is over (a food item cannot be eaten until the game is over). The game will continue until the last gift has been opened.

Auction: We also will be auctioning off some of the items the club has received from demonstrators and individuals over the past year. – Donna Dimmick



Aspen

Aspen is a common name for trees of the Salicaceae family. Some of the species in the family are: White Poplar (northwest Africa; southern Europe, east to central Asia); Chinese Aspen (China); Bigtooth Aspen (eastern North America); Japanese Aspen (Japan); Common, Swedish, Trembling, or Eurasian Aspen (northern Europe and Asia); [the "*Trembling*" name stems from the leaves of the tree trembling in the slightest wind]; Quaking, Trembling, or American Aspen (northern and western North America); and Grey Poplar.



Habitat and Longevity: The five typical aspens are all native to cold regions with cool summers, in the north of the Northern Hemisphere, extending south at high altitudes in the mountains. The White Poplar, by contrast, is native to warmer regions, with hot, dry summers. These trees are all medium-sized deciduous trees ranging 15–30 meters tall.

All of the aspens (including the White Poplar) typically grow in large clonal colonies derived from a single seedling, and spreading by means of root suckers. New stems in the colony may appear at up to 30–40 meters from the parent tree. Each individual tree can live for 40–150 years above ground, but the root system of the colony is long-lived, in some cases for thousands of years, sending up new trunks as the older trunks die off above ground. For this reason, it is considered to be an indicator of ancient woodlands. One such colony in Utah, given the nickname of "Pando", is claimed to be over 80,000 years old, making it possibly the oldest living colony of aspens. Some aspen colonies become very large with time, spreading about a meter per year, eventually covering many acres. They are able to survive forest fires because the roots are below the heat of the fire, and therefore new sprouts will grow after the fire burns out.

However, aspens do not thrive very well in the shade, and it is difficult for aspen seedlings to grow in an already mature aspen stand. Fire indirectly benefits aspen trees, since it allows the saplings to flourish in open sunlight in the burned landscape. Lately, aspens have an increased popularity in forestry, mostly because of their fast growth rate and ability to regenerate from sprouts, making the reforestation after harvesting much cheaper, since no planting or sowing is required.

In contrast with many trees, aspen bark is base-rich, meaning that aspens are important hosts for bryophytes and act as food plants for the larvae of butterfly (Lepidoptera) species.

Young aspen bark is an important seasonal forage for the European hare and other animals in early spring. Aspen is also a tree of choice of the European beaver.

Uses: Aspen wood is white and soft, but fairly strong, and has low flammability. It has a number of uses, notably for making matches and paper where its low flammability makes it safer to use than most other woods. Shredded aspen wood is used for packing and stuffing, sometimes called excelsior (wood wool). It is also a popular animal bedding, since it lacks the phenols associated with pine and juniper, which are thought to cause respiratory system ailments in some animals.

Heat-treated aspen is a popular material for the interiors of a sauna. While standing trees sometimes tend to rot from the heart outward, the dry timber weathers very well, becoming silvery-grey and resistant to rotting and warping, and has traditionally been used for rural construction in the northwestern regions of Russia (especially for roofing in the form of thin shingles).

Aspens and other members of the *Populus* genus contain salicylates, compounds related to aspirin. Leaves and leaf buds of aspens have been used to treat burns, irritations, aches, and swollen joints. Bitter herbal tea from bark and leaves has been used to treat mild urinary tract inflammations. The Ojibwe used the inner bark of the trunk as a poultice, and the Cree ate the inner bark in the spring as a mild purgative.

Legends: Aspen has been traditionally reputed in many countries to drive off evil spirits; hence it was often planted near the dwellings. According to an Eastern Slavic apocryphal legend, Judas Iscariot hanged himself on an aspen tree, hence its leaves have been trembling with horror ever since. The species does not grow in the Middle East, so this legend obviously has local syncretic origins.

An aspen stake was believed to be one of the few weapons suitable to kill a vampire or a werewolf. By the same token, a bigger stake could be driven into the grave of a person condemned to damnation, so as to prevent them from rising from the dead. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. References removed, and edited.

Woodturner's Web Sites

[Moisture Problems in Wood](#) – For those who want to learn more about the way wood moves in response to humidity, Lignomat USA has created the linked resource. The site has a Q&A format with answers based on their decades of experience.

[3D Woodworking Store](#) – This web site is another supplier of InLace products (in addition to many other things). Their pricing is very competitive. For example, a large InLace resin kit sells for \$23.99. If you order from this site, please let the rest of us know about your experience. [Editor's note: I purchased a box of the turquoise product from this company at the Sacramento *Woodworking Show*. They took another 10% off the above price and threw in a bag of show goodies, too. It is unknown whether they will do this for online customers.]

Dates to Remember

The Woodturners of Olympia are presenting their fifth annual symposium, "Creativity in Woodturning" featuring David Ellsworth on July 28, 2012 from 7:50 a.m. until 5:15 p.m. It will be held at the Komachin Middle School in Lacey, Washington. The price is \$90 until May 31st after which it will increase to \$100. Youth under the age of 18 attending with an adult can attend for \$10. All prices include lunch and prizes. The day will start with James Leary conducting a "Primer on Spindle Turning – Basic Cuts". He is followed for the rest of the day by David Ellsworth who will be demonstrating his bowl making and hollow form techniques. David will also lead four hands-on workshops which are limited to eight participants per day. Workshops scheduled for Sunday, July 29th and Tuesday, July 31st will cover cutrim and natural edge bowls. Workshops scheduled for Monday, July 30th and Wednesday August 1st will cover hollow forms. The cost for each of the workshops is \$150. For more information or to register for the symposium or classes, go to their web site: <http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org>, call Al Price at 360-791-0396, or email him at aprice44@aol.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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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 January 2012 newsletter is January 2nd.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

There is no regular meeting this month as described on pages one and two. The CVW Christmas Party will be at Dave and Patricia Colon's residence at 231 Laura Springs Circle. To get there from the US 395/Highway 88 intersection, go north on US 395 for about 0.5 miles. Turn left/west onto Mueller Lane (NV 757) for 3.2 miles. Turn left/south onto Foothill Road (NV 206) for 1.8 miles. Turn left/east onto Laura Springs Circle. Their house is on the right near the end of the road.

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