

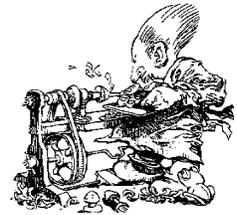


# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



August 2013



## President's Gouge

Sorry I missed the July meeting, however I understand that Wayne Porter gave another outstanding program. He said that there were no launches or major blunders during his turning a bowl on a pedestal using two contrasting woods. I also heard that we had two new members present and a visitor from the Woodchucks.



Dewayne Walker brought in our new display cases and I want to thank Wayne Allan, Dave Mills, John Nikakis, and John Robinson for signing up to turn the spindles for them. We will be using the display cases at the Douglas High School Craft Fair this year and at future craft fairs. **We need 20 or more really nice "pricy" turnings for the Douglas show**, so please consider turning one or more of them for this show. We still do not have the exact dates, but think it will be the later part of November or early December.



Several members of our club came to the Carson Valley Arts Council for the opening reception of our display at their location in Minden. Dave and Wayne put the display together and also turned during the opening. We will be the featured artist there until the middle of September and our items will be on sale during that time. Thanks again to all of you who attended the opening.



The club had planned to build a lean-to shed on the side of Dave Mills' cargo container for our club wood supply. We had looked into purchasing a container some time ago for storage of our wood while it cured, and had given up on the idea because of the price

range of \$1,500.00 to \$3,000.00. However, Dave and Wayne came across a cargo container for \$800.00 and Dave was able to get a friend of his to move it for \$140.50. This is less than



**Turn Here for Safety**  
*When using a faceplate, be certain the work piece is solidly mounted with stout screws (#10 or #12 sheet metal screws as a minimum). DO NOT use drywall screws or deck screws..*



what it would have cost us to build the shed. Dave and Wayne leveled the container and are looking for donations of shelving materials for the inside and volunteers to help construct the shelves.

A reminder that on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. John Beaver will be at our club for an all-day demonstration. There will be a \$20.00 fee for club members to attend to help defray the cost of the demonstration. Please plan to bring a lunch. There are still two openings available for the following day's hands-on session. The fee for the second day is \$600.00 and this cost will be split between the individuals who are attending the hands-on.

Our next regular meeting will be held at Dave Mills' shop on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. He will be the demonstrator and will turn a platter. Our next club hands-on session will also be held at Dave's shop on Friday August 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. Many thanks to Dave for all the support he provides to the club.

We have not scheduled our demonstrations for October or November, so if you have an idea or would like to offer your services for a demo, please contact one of the board members. – John Compston, President  
[Photos by Paul Cote and Bill Draper]

## General Sherman Tree

The General Sherman is a giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) tree located in the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park in Tulare County, California. By volume, it is the largest known living single stem tree on Earth. The General Sherman Tree is neither the tallest known living tree on Earth (that distinction belongs to the Hyperion tree, a Coast redwood), nor is it the widest (both the largest cypress and largest baobab have a greater diameter), nor is it the oldest known living tree on Earth (that distinction belongs to the Methuselah tree, a Great Basin bristlecone pine). With a height of 275 ft., a diameter of 25 ft., an estimated bole volume of 52,513 cu ft., and an estimated age of 2,300–2,700 years, it is among the tallest, widest, and longest-lived of all trees on Earth. While the General Sherman is the largest currently living tree, it is not the largest tree known to humans. The Crannell Creek Giant, a Coast Redwood near Trinidad, CA is estimated to have been 15 to 25% larger than the General Sherman tree by volume. The tree was cut down in the mid-1940s.



### History

In 1879 this tree was named after American Civil War general, William Tecumseh Sherman, by naturalist James Wolverton, who had served as a lieutenant in the 9th Indiana Cavalry under Sherman. In 1931, following comparisons with the nearby General Grant tree, General Sherman was identified as the largest tree in the world. One result of this process was that wood volume became widely accepted as the standard for establishing and comparing the size of different trees.

### Current

In February 1978 a four foot diameter, 140 foot-long branch collapsed from the tree. This collapse better revealed its largest branch, which was a little higher on the tree and, curiously, had a similar size, shape, and position on the tree (leaving the appearance of the tree relatively unchanged). The remainder of this branch is visible from the classic viewpoint as the second large stump up the trunk on the right. In January 2006 the largest branch on the tree (seen most commonly, in older photos, as an "L" or golf-club shape, protruding from about a quarter of the way down the trunk) also broke off. There were no witnesses to the incident, and the branch—with a bigger circumference than the trunks of most trees, a diameter of over 7 ft. and a length of over 98 ft.—smashed part of its enclosing fence and cratered the pavement of the walkway surrounding the sequoia. The breakage, however, is not believed to be indicative of any abnormalities in the tree's health, and may even be a natural defense mechanism against ad-

verse weather conditions. The branch loss did not change the General Sherman's status as the largest tree, as its size has been calculated using measurements of trunk volume, excluding branches. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Edited, and references removed.

## Save Money on Sanding 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.

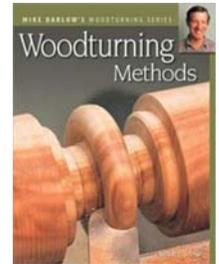


I went to the local hardware store and picked up a 2” pipe nipple and end cap. (The inside diameter is what is important and should be the same size as your pad.) I placed a piece of 220-grit sandpaper flat on my bench top and hand sanded one end of the nipple until I could see that the entire circumference of the inside edge had made contact. Next 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 the cap on the opposite end.

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

## Book Review

*Woodturning Methods*, by Mike Darlow. Fox Chapel Publishing. \$25. A little bit of turning history and a lot of turning information. Mike covers regular and thin spindle turning, sphere turning with and without jigs, eccentric and multi-axis turning, and elliptical turning. Special tools, chucks, and jigs are well described with quality photos and drawings. He includes detailed chapters on chucking and drilling. The book has several projects, including my favorite, a multi-axis duck. Overall this book has very good information, is well written, with outstanding photos and drawings. – John Nikakis



## Shop Tools and Supplies

At our last meeting, tools and supplies were demonstrated, and several members expressed an interest in obtaining them. One item was Devcon 2-Ton Epoxy. The package contains two 4.5 oz. bottles, and costs \$16.99 at Ace Hardware in Gardnerville. The other item was a right-angle drill. A suggested source of supply is Harbor Freight in Carson City. One of several products they carry is a variable speed (0-1500 RPM), reversible, 3/8” [drill](#). Its current ‘sale’ price is \$38.99. It is unknown whether you can apply one of their 20% discount coupons to its purchase.



## Dates to Remember

The **Southwest Association of Turners (SWAT)** will hold their 2013 symposium on August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, in Waco, TX. Lead demonstrators include Jimmy Clewes, Ashley Harwood, Don Derry, J. Paul Fennell, and Dixie Biggs. Features of the symposium include an Instant Gallery in which woodturners display their work, a Saturday evening banquet that features a raffle of over 30 beautiful turned pieces, a second raffle, using the same tickets, is held during Sunday lunch. This raffle includes a full-size lathe, three midi-lathes, plus an assortment of woodturning tools and accessories. Forty-three vendors will sell equipment and supplies to those attending the symposium at very competitive and usually discounted prices. Lunches are provided during the three-day event. Special Interest Groups will be present for hands-on pen turning, and tool sharpening. There will be a hands-on turning area to try out new tools,

obtain one-on-one coaching, or just make some shavings. There will also be activities for spouses. Visit the SWAT web site at <http://www.swaturners.org> for more information.

The Rocky Mountain Woodturners will hold their **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium**, September 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds in Loveland, CO. Participants can select from over 42 rotations, with featured demonstrators David Ellsworth, Binh Pho, Kip Christensen, Kirk DeHeer, Jason Schneider, Michael Blankenship, Rick Orr, John Giem, Ashley Harwood, and Dale Bonertz. There will also be vendors and a hands-on woodturning area. For symposium information, contact Allen Jensen at (970) 663-1868, or visit the event's website at <http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com>.

The **Artistry in Wood Show** will be held February 22<sup>nd</sup> - February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at the Boise Hotel and Conference Center, 3300 Vista Avenue, Boise ID. Competitors from all skill levels, will submit their wood carving, turning, scroll work, fine wood working, gourd art, and pyrography entries for public display and judging. The show will feature demonstrations, vendors, raffles, an auction and banquet, and the opportunity for artists to sell their work. The Idaho show is one of the largest of its kind in the western United States. Contact [Doug Rose](#), 208-387-0492, for more information.

The **AAW 28<sup>th</sup> International Symposium** will be held June 13<sup>th</sup> - Jun 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Phoenix, AZ. "Rising", the theme of the 2014 exhibit, is sponsored by the [Professional Outreach Program](#). As always, you can interpret the theme literally or imaginatively ... the choice is yours. Watch for details in the August 2013 issue of *American Woodturner*. Work must be less than two years old and created at least in part on the lathe. No size limit, but only a few pieces that ship oversize can be accepted. As of July 2013, demonstrators are Alan Carter, Jimmy Clewes, J. Paul Fennell, Douglas F. Fisher, Ron Fleming, Clay Foster, Todd Hoyer, Rudy Lopez, Michael Mocho, Christof Nancey, Joshua Salesin, Neil Scobie, Hayley Smith, Michael Werner, and possibly more. You can respond here to the [Call for Demonstrators](#).

### 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 September 2013 newsletter is September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting will convene in Dave Mills' shop on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. The address is 20599 Highway 88, 4.2 miles south of the California border. Turn left on Memdewee Down Street, then right at the gate for Zuni Pines. We all appreciate Dave's willingness to hold CVW meetings in his shop.

**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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