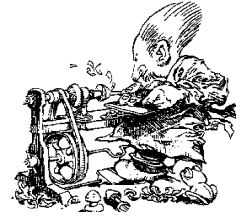




Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



President's Gouge

I would like to thank Wayne Porter for hosting our November meeting and Frank Miller for demonstrating how to turn two bowls from a single log. Anyone who has attended a hands-on session with Frank knows that he is an excellent instructor. We had a good turnout with 27 members in attendance. Thanks to those of you who helped set up and take down after the meeting.



Elections were held for 2014 officers and the following individuals were elected.

John Compston – President; Dave Mills – Vice President; John Nikakis – Secretary; Wayne Porter – Treasurer. A big thank-you to Dave and Wayne for stepping up for another year, and to John for his willingness to serve. I look forward to working with you all this coming year.



Turn Here for Safety
Keep your lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, alignment, binding of moving parts, and other conditions that may affect its operation.



We participated in the Carson High School Craft Fair on November 22nd and 23rd. It was great to see the members who showed up to help set up and take down the booth. It made a huge difference getting the booth ready for the show and getting everything taken down. We also had several members assist during the fair and many thanks to all of you. We did reasonably well though not as well as we had wished. We were in the small gym in a back corner and may have done better if we had been in the big gym, and if we had a 10x20 booth. We did not know until late that there was not going to be a craft fair at Douglas High School and were lucky to get booth space at all. If we decide to go back to Carson next year, we will try to get our name in early in an attempt to get a spot in the large gym and a 10x20 booth.



In November, eight club members made a trip to Winters, CA to pick up walnut from a grower in the area. We took four trucks and trailers and returned with more than 30 walnut butts. On the following Monday and Tuesday, club members met at Dave Mills' place to cut and seal the wood. I understand that we had a good turnout of members and that everyone worked their b!!!s off. When it was done we had filled the new wood storage container. It was very rewarding to see such a great turnout of members to assist with this project. This will benefit all of our members because we will provide wood to





you at a reduced price, and will provide wood for *free* to those of you who will turn items for the next craft fair.



Speaking of the next craft fair, we are planning to participate in the fair at the Genoa Cowboy Festival in May, 2014. We will need to

begin turning items now if we are going to have enough items to sell. We have sold most of our bowls and larger items and need our members to again step up and turn items before May. I realize that this is a never ending process, but if we want to have more outside turners present at our meetings, we need the revenue from these craft shows to be able to do so.

Reminder: CVW annual dues are payable at the first of the New Year. They remain at \$80 and support club activities and fund our liability insurance. However, if you want to pay earlier, I am sure Wayne would be happy to receive your payment.

See you at the Christmas Party. – John Compston, President [Photos by Paul Cote]

2013 CVW Christmas Party



When: December 14th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Where: Frank and Jane Miller's Residence

1564 High Pointe Court, Minden, NV

Directions: Take Hwy 395 to Stephanie and drive east on Stephanie for 3.2 miles. Turn left (north) on Squires and drive 0.3 miles. Turn right (east) onto High Point Ct. 1564 is the second house on the left. There is parking up the gravel drive and to the right of the shop. There is some space at the top of the paved drive past the garage by the shed. There is limited parking in the street, but it is narrow with ditches to the sides.

RSVP to: Donna Dimmick with the number of persons in your party

775-246-0874, or email at ndimmick@sbcglobal.net

Donna will be calling you to confirm the number in your party and what type of dish you plan on bringing. Do not worry about the basics, i.e. paper goods; they will be provided by the club. However, providing serving utensils for your dish would be helpful. Please BYOB, if desired, labeled with your name. 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 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



In the Still of the Night

I'm at the shop turning and I look up to see Wayne and Maggie Porter standing there. Wayne tells me they just got back from the lake area and he was trying to cut a log for Frank Miller's demo but he needed a bigger bow saw. I tell him I have a bigger one he can use. He then asks if I can give him a hand. If so, he can come back at 5:30 p.m. I tell him sure. He says he wants to go in under cover of darkness as this is not legal without a wood permit. I think how can I pass this up, I haven't been in jail since my teens. 5:00 p.m. Wayne shows up. It's still light, we have our counterfeit phony passports with fictitious names, and the bow saw. Kathy expresses her concern about us getting thrown in the clink. We say the tree was already down. She says why didn't you tell me that and to have a good time. Little does she know, cutting wood down or not, you still end up in the same jail.

We get to the crime scene as the sun is starting to set. Don't know if you have ever used a bow saw to cut large wood but it's kinda like using a fork to eat a bowl of soup. We start cutting with one guy on each end of the saw. The log is 14" in diameter and it is easy going for about three inches, then starts binding up. Wayne barks orders to don't push down - just pull. I'm thinking you're wasting your saw energy up yelling at me. We try cutting from the bottom side with no better luck. Then we break out a battery powered chainsaw with a dying battery with the same result. We sit there sucking wind complaining we are too old for this. I'm thinking this had better be a damn good demo Frank! Finally, I say we're only 15 minutes from the house so let's go get the chainsaw - the heck with the noise.

Down the mountain and back up. 30 minutes later we are back where we started. It is pitch black now so we break out our 007 flashlight. The tree is only 100 feet from the road but we have trouble finding it. We were just here! Wayne starts talking about Bigfoot. I'm thinking about the boogie man – yes, I hate the dark. Two minutes of cutting and we are heading back to the truck, mission accomplished, log in tow. We head down the dirt road rubber-necking and looking for red blinking lights. I think to myself: if we get caught, I wonder which of the club members will come visit us. Will the president post our bail?

At 7:45 p.m., we arrive at Zuni Pines. Dinner has turned to leftovers but I think this is better than they serve at jail. Was it worth it? You bet! Frank did a great demo. All is well that ends well. – Dave Mills

And Now, the Other Half of the Story

To put things in perspective, I was desperate. Frank really needed a 12" x 16" or larger piece of wood for his demonstration. We had already put out the call to all the members for this piece of wood ... no response. Then we went to one of Frank's neighbors to cut down one of his 12" birch trees for him. We could use a chunk of that for the demo. We did cut it down for him, but it wasn't quite 12" in diameter; more like 5-1/2". Not very productive for us, but Frank's neighbor was probably inside his house smiling as we did his yard work for him while dodging dog bombs.

Time is getting short, and still no 16" log for Frank, so I decide to take a trip up the hill looking for a downed tree. I know where a wood cutting area is, but with no permit, I'm just a little bit nervous. Yes it is only one little piece of wood, but who wants to explain to a ranger that it's all for a good cause, and only a one-time event. Quiet is the modus operandi. I check my hand saws and none are of sufficient size. The club would surely purchase a cheap bow saw for the good of the demo. Off I go to town for the largest bow saw I could find. \$13.00 and I'm all set. Maggie goes with me because a night in the clink alone can be scary.

Right off the bat, I find a downed tree with easy access. Well, just my luck, one quart of sweat and I discover the bow saw wasn't quite big enough. So off to Dave's house we go to let him know what was going on. Dave volunteers his giant bow saw for the cause ... along with himself. Hey, he says, this sounds exciting and fun, I can't remember doing anything like this since ... I won't go into what he said.

I should have known better than to ask a two-strike felon for help with something that was questionable with the law. Sure, he says, no problem. It's dark and no one can see us. A little mud on the license plate and we'll be all set. Maggie decided that with Dave along things were getting a little too risky and decides to go home where she can be available to pay our bail.

Dave and I head up the hill for round two with the big bow saw. After getting it stuck half a dozen times; and two more quarts of sweat, Dave decides it's worth the risk to use his chain saw. It's dark, he says, and no one will hear us. I'm thinking, what does "dark" have to do with "hearing"? Dave tells me to stop worrying, he's been to jail twice and it's not so bad. Besides, my CHAIN SAW is very quiet. Oh, Yes! Dave must have a stealth muffler for his chain saw. If anyone had one, he would be a crook, so I figure maybe he really does have one.

Down the hill for the stealth chain saw and back up again. After stumbling around in the dark with a flashlight for five minutes, we finally find the prized log again. I hold the light while Dave starts up his "stealth" saw. Ever been camping and notice how quiet things get at night when all the creatures are slumbering? Well, that peace and quiet was broken by the sound of 10,000 steam locomotives screaming through the night on very ill-fitting rails.

Shortly, our one little piece of wood is cut and silence once again descends upon us. As Dave strolls around in the dark with his saw, looking for the truck, he calls back over his shoulder, "I'll be right back to help you carry that log". No way am I going to just stand around waiting for the cops to show up. I threw the 684 pound log on my shoulder and followed Dave around in the dark panting while he tried to locate where we left the truck.

Finally loaded up and on the way home, I realize the folly in my attempt to do something that may be questionable where the law is concerned. ONE; I will go find a ranger and "ask" if I can have one piece of wood for a demonstration on turning wood. I'm sure he would have said yes. TWO; I'll take our retired police officer president along for advice on "STEALTH". After all, Dave admitted being on the losing end of a confrontation with police officers ... twice!

One trip to town, a \$13.00 bow saw, three trips up the hill, and a boat load of worry all for one little piece of wood. You're welcome, Frank! It was a great demo! – Wayne Porter

And Now, a Word from the Demonstrator

I first turned wet wood about 25 years ago, and have turned a variety including olive, eucalyptus, and madrone from which I found the oils toxic to breathe. I have also turned Christmas trees and others, but this was my first time with wet aspen. I have tried dried aspen and it turned reluctantly, but I will not attempt to turn it wet again. I recommend that if you have a fresh cut aspen log to put a generous amount of white glue on the ends to seal it, and leave it for a couple of years.

The techniques I showed for rounding a large piece also will work well on large dry wood. The large mass and small cutting surface of Ron Burdg's Hercules tool is well suited for dry wood. It absorbs the shock of intermittent cuts and produces a good finish. However, the wet aspen was like turning a wet sponge and a carbide tool is not what I would choose. A longer sheering angle is a better choice for wet wood such as a 3/8" bowl gouge with a standard grind.

I want to thank those that had the time and patience to sit through the extended demo because it ran much longer than I expected. – Frank Miller

Dates to Remember

The **Artistry in Wood Show** will be held February 22nd - February 23rd, 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 **35th Annual Utah Woodturning Symposium** will be held at the Utah Valley University campus UCCU Events Center on May 15th-17th, 2014. The theme will be "A Tribute to Dale Nish". Demonstrators include: Kip Christensen, Hans Weissflog, Jakob Weissflog, Art Majerus, Ray Key, Mike Mahoney, Steve Gray, Stuart Mortimer, Bonnie Klein, Kirk DeHeer, Bill Ooms, Nelson Cassinger, Al Stirt, David Ellsworth, Kurt Hertzog, Jerry Kermode, Glenn Lucas, Don Russell, Tom Sorenson, Keith Tompkins, Richard Raffan, Rex Burningham, Joe Wagner and many more. For more information, visit the Symposium web site at <http://www.utahwoodturning.com>.

The **AAW 28th International Symposium** will be held June 13th - Jun 15th, 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. Look 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 cwnews@charter.net no later than Monday of the week before the next regularly scheduled meeting. The submission deadline for the January 2014 newsletter is December 30th.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

There will not be a regular December meeting. Instead, we will hold our annual Christmas Party which was previously discussed on page two.

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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