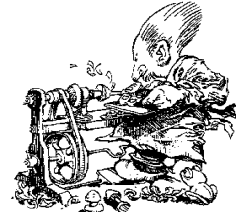




# *Chatter and Catches*

the Newsletter of the



## **President's Gouge**

I would like to start off by thanking Frank and Jane Miller for hosting our Christmas Party. Twenty-nine people attended the party and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Donna Dimmick for coordinating the party, to Bill Draper for coordinating the gift exchange, and to all of you for bringing your favorite dish to share. We had an excellent Christmas feast!

As a club we had another good year. We participated in two craft fairs and were the featured artist at the Carson Valley Arts Council. Club members went to the Bethlehem Lutheran School and worked with the students. We were not able to make it to the Silver Stage High School due to scheduling conflicts. Through the generosity of Wayne Porter and Dave Mills we were able to offer a hands-on session nearly every month in addition to our normal club meeting. It is very exciting to see our existing and new members at these sessions picking-up on techniques from our seasoned members and applying their new found skills.

The club acquired a cargo container, and through the diligent work of Wayne and Dave, they made it into a new wood storage container. Wayne Porter once more coordinated a walnut gathering trip to Winters, CA. Eight club members made the trip to cut, load, and haul four trailers full of wood back to Dave's. Over the next two days, they and other volunteers cut, sealed, and stored the wood. It was very refreshing to see the turnout of those who made the trip and those who showed up to complete the process. This wood is available to the members at a reduced cost, and is provided to members at no cost when they turn items for the craft fairs. Anyone wishing to obtain some of this wood please contact Dave Mills.

During the year we picked up several new members and it is exciting to see their enthusiasm and desire to learn. I look back to the time I joined the club with my lack of knowledge and see how far I have come through the efforts of other club members. To me this is the epitome of our group and their willingness to share their knowledge to improve the skills of other members. We have such a great group of members and I always look forward to each time we get together. It never fails that I come away with a new technique that I want to try, or a new design that I need to turn.

Just a reminder that club dues are due for the New Year. Wayne, our Treasurer, will be more than willing to collect from you at our January meeting. – John Compston, President

## **This Month's Program**

John Nikakis will demonstrate tool handle turning. Also, Dave Mills and Wayne Porter will be providing a refresher on tool sharpening.

## **Using Lathe Turnings in Non-turning Projects**

For a long time my lathe was just another woodworking tool. If it could be used on a project, fine. If not, it would just collect dust. Following are some projects where the lathe got dusted off and the turning tools sharpened:

**Turn Here for Safety**  
*Check that all locking devices on the tailstock and tool rest assembly (rest and base) are tight before operating the lathe.*

## Water Cooler/Plant Stand

This was built for a ceramic water bottle cooler we bought at a local craft fair. The stand is made of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " mahogany. The shelves are made from six pie shaped segments each and turned with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " recess and a rim about a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Our dogs turned it into a plant stand by knocking it over and breaking the water cooler.



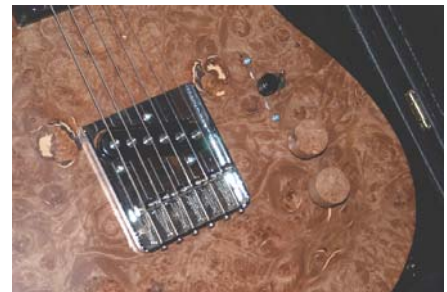
## Plant Trellis

I built the first of these for a wax plant, but they can be used for any climbing plant that you may want to move from time-to-time. The plant and trestle can be picked up and moved as one unit. I used some scrap redwood fencing and turned a recess in the base that is large enough for the pot tray to rest in.



## Electric Guitar Knobs

When I built this guitar, I used brushed aluminum volume and tone knobs. Not a very good look so I tried turning knobs from the same wood as the guitar body. I got some plastic knobs with brass inserts from Radio Shack and removed the inserts. I cut and drilled some blocks and glued the inserts in place. I mounted the blocks on a short piece of steel rod and used a Jacobs chuck on the drive spindle. I think they have a nice clean look.



## Drawer Pulls or Box Handles

I built a small work bench for my shop and added two drawers to help me misplace stuff. Instead of making knobs, I decided to try this idea. The pulls are made from a circle  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". I mounted the circle on a faceplate and trued, shaped and sanded the face. I drilled a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " hole in the face and reversed mounted it on an expanding chuck. I hollowed the back to create a finger hold, leaving about a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " rim for mounting screws. On the band saw, I cut two pieces about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " at the crown. I used this same design to make handles for a box I made for my wife. – John Nikakis



## Truly Golden

As we all get older, we experience little snapshots of things to come as we get on in our years. You can't make this stuff up, folks. If you can't laugh at yourself, be self-deprecating, and have a sense of humor, you're going to have a long day.

I had to return some lumber and pick up some additional for the Trigger Shack (shooting shed) Wayne Porter and I are working on. The day before, Wayne helped me load up the lumber for return in my GMC pickup. Wayne said it might be better to load it on the lumber rack on Old Blue, my 1971 Chevy pickup. It has a lumber rack and would be better suited because the lumber would not stick out over the tailgate because the lumber is four feet longer than the bed of the GMC. Because it was Wayne's idea, I immediately said no, it will be fine, I will just put a red flag on it, knowing all along that the legal limit is two feet of overhang. If it was anyone else I might have listened, but Wayne always has his little suggestions and you don't want to admit he might be right.

The next morning at 7:30, I am leaving the house and thinking, going one way with the wood I can probably sneak in early not get caught and be OK, but then I think I'll be coming home with more 12 footers, I might be pushing my luck. Better switch the wood over to Old Blue. Heck, Wayne won't know. He will

not be able to say, see I was right. So I pull the GMC over to Old Blue to switch the lumber. Old Blue has 365k miles, five transmissions and three new engines under her belly. The floor boards are rusted through on the driver's side. A piece of plywood is in place so you don't have to look at the pavement. Old Blue has a special place in my heart. In fact, I joke I had my first sexual experience in Old Blue. I start up Old Blue to let her get warmed up and get her juices flowing, and proceed to load the lumber, tie it down, and get on my way. I got to Silver State, swapped out wood, and got back home at about 9:30 a.m.

Wayne is waiting, and we work all day getting the rafters, studs, and wall sheeting in place. We stand there admiring our work saying we did well for a couple of old guys. It's now 4:00 p.m. and the sun is starting to set, so we knock off for the day. Wayne helps me put the saw away and heads home. I jump in the golf cart vehicle and head for the house. I see the lights on the GMC are on. I think if I left the lights on this morning, the battery would be dead by now. I drive up to the GMC, open the door, and it's nice and warm in the cab because the heater is running. That's right folks - I left my truck running from 7:30 in the morning! With my wonderful hearing and Golden year's memory, it had been running for 8 1/2 hours!!!!!! I checked the gas gauge expecting it to be on empty, was surprised to have only used 1/4 tank of gas. I think to myself if it was a hot summer day, I probably would have burned the engine up. Problem is in truth, I keep thinking to myself, I need to stop thinking!!!! I get into the house, report to Kathy what transpired, and all I get is 'that look', no comment, just 'the look'. You all know, 'THAT LOOK!'

Moral of the story or what did we learn? Come on now, it was Wayne's fault! If he hadn't said something when we loaded the wood this never would have happened. Tomorrow I will go to the shop and look at my old report card from high school and probably just smile and chuckle. – Dave Mills

## Janka Hardness Test

The Janka hardness test measures the hardness of wood. It involves measuring the force required to embed an 11.28 mm (0.444 in) steel ball into wood to half its diameter. This method was chosen so that the result would leave an indentation 100 mm<sup>2</sup> (0.16 sq in) in size. It is one of the best measures of the ability of a wood species to withstand denting and wear. It is also a good indicator of how hard a species is to saw, nail, or turn.

The hardness of wood usually varies with the direction of the wood grain. If testing is done on the surface of a plank, perpendicular to the grain, the test is said to be of "side hardness." Testing the cut surface of a stump would be called a test of "end hardness." The results are stated in various ways. In the United States, the measurement is in pounds-force (lbf). In Sweden it is in kilograms-force (kgf), and in Australia, either in newtons (N) or kilonewtons (kN). Sometimes the results are treated as units, e.g., "660 Janka".

A common use of Janka hardness ratings is to determine whether a species is suitable for use as flooring. Some examples of wood species relative hardness values are listed in the table below. – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia; edited.

Example Wood Species	Janka Hardness (pounds-force)
Lignum vitae (hardest wood listed)	4500
Ipê (a common deck wood)	3684
Teak	2330
Rosewood	1780
Hard maple	1450
Ash (a common material for baseball bats)	1320
Red Oak	1290
Cocobolo	1136
Mahogany	800
White pine	420
Balsa (softest wood listed)	100

## Dates to Remember

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 **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Woodturning Symposium** will be held at the Utah Valley University campus UCCU Events Center on May 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 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 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. 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 [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 February 2014 newsletter is January 27<sup>th</sup>.

## CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW get-together will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 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 Mills – 530-694-2565

Secretary: John Nikakis – 775-265-3890

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