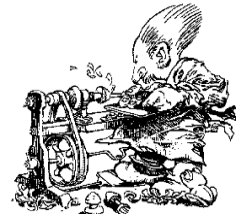




# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



## President's Gouge

We kicked off the first monthly meeting of 2015 with the biggest CROWD ever. There were 42 present and accounted for! Five new members were introduced to the membership: Earl McCracken, Nick Lazzarino, Frank Lazzarino, Jack Sorensen, and Pierre Mathieu. We also had several guests in attendance. On the subject of our growing membership we discussed what direction the club wants to go. The pros and cons that come with growth were debated. The consensus of everyone in attendance was to limit the size of the club to 50 members. This is going to take a little getting used to. Since I have been a member, we have always been talking up the club trying to get additional people. We passed out fliers at craft fairs and events. Now we are going to pull the reins in a little bit, stop the fliers and such, and just sell our wares and have fun. Not a bad position to be in. We are at about 48 members right now, if all current members pay their dues. A little heads up if you have not paid your dues and want to continue to be in the club. It would be advisable to pay up shortly because when we hit fifty members we will take applications and keep them on file and let applicants know when we have an opening.

Other items of club business: John Nikakis, our secretary (he's the one in the mini skirt), went over changes and improvements he made to the video library. Being a former secretary for the club, I can say with certainty he is the best secretary this club has ever had, hands down. Now his culinary talents are another matter. More on that later. Wayne (the cripple) Porter (shoulder surgery) gave an update on the Carson High School craft show. Without going into details, it was one of our best craft shows ever. Wayne is also assuming the job of taking orders for club tee-shirts and turning smocks (sucker). If you missed the meeting, these shirts and smocks will have our club logo on them and your name embroidered on the smocks. Call Wayne if you want to be added to the list. We are hoping to make \$3.00 on tees and \$5.00 on smocks. When prices are set in stone, Wayne will let everyone know.

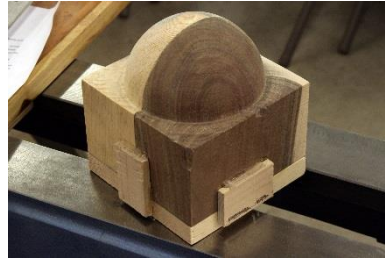
Dave Rich has been in Africa looking for sand paper. All he found was Dr. Livingston. Surprise, surprise - Ron Burdg has actually located some stateside. I am happy to announce that the orders have been filled and Ron will pass them out at the next meeting. Guess I can check that off the goal list! John Ebel turned me onto something he saw on another club's website where they will take unwanted wood from people for free as long as it is suitable for turning. We thought it was a good idea so we have done the same on our website, check it out.

**Turn Here for Safety**  
Be sure your work piece is securely mounted and is free of imperfections or poor glue joints before starting the lathe.



Frank Miller and I are playing around with a new salad bowl finish made from mineral oil and beeswax. It is just in the magic formula stage. If something good comes from it you will be the first to know. Larry LeMahieu reported all is well at Gadzooks. Sales have been a little light and a slow time of year. I know, this *President's Gouge* is a little long, kind of like reading the bible backwards. We had a lot of stuff to go over at the meeting.

The old saying, "you have to have bad days to have good days", meaning if you don't have bad days, when you have good ones, you have nothing to compare to. Well, Wayne Allen had a bad day with his demo. He was turning a *Emerging Bowl* and it never did emerge. Hey, the best darn woodturner in the club had a bad day. Don't know if it was bad two-sided tape, wood too porous for the tape, whatever, we did not experience liftoff. Then to top it off, when Wayne went out to get in his truck, his battery was dead! He left home in the dark to get to the shop early and forgot to turn his lights off! Now the guy that is penning this backwards bible can relate. I left my truck running from three in the afternoon until nine the next morning a week ago! For is the second time!! If you want to get better at this woodturning thing folks, expect to have things go wrong. We have to try new techniques and ideas - that's how we improve. Sticking up for Wayne, he had been traveling with his family prior to the demo and never got a chance to work out the details like he wanted. He was trying to help us out because we are always looking for new demos. I hope at the next meeting someone shows up with an *Emerging Bowl*. Thank you, Wayne. We are looking forward to your next demo.



One member I always forget to thank is Paul Cote. He is our resident photographer, does a great job, and never gets any credit. Anyway, big thanks Paul!

I have whole-heartily accepted John 'Nik' Nikakis' resignation as backup coffee maker. When I was in the gas station business, I would put the coffee on about 6:30 in the morning and drink out of the same pot all day long. By about 4:30, it was so good we would use it for carburetor cleaner. Don't know if you tried any coffee out of the second batch that Nik brewed but it would dissolve carburetors! Wayne Porter was afraid to pour it down his sink, thinking it would eat up his drainpipes. Nik is going to stick with his secretary duties, woodturning, and demos. Speaking of demos, Nik is doing our February demo on *Quirky Miniature Birdhouses*. Nik is getting pretty darn good at demos.

Upcoming events: Jimmy Clewes on March 14 for an all-day demo. The cost to members is \$20.00. On Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>, he will conduct an all-day hands-on. The cost is \$95.00. Five members have signed up. We have two openings left. We will draw straws at the February meeting.

More good news: We have Mike Mahoney coming in early October for all day demo and possibly an all-day hands-on!! I am very proud of this. My back is all red from patting myself.

The February meeting is at Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, February 14, at 9 a.m. The demo is by Nik Nikakis turning *Quirky Miniature Birdhouses*. Directions are on the last page of this newsletter.

That's all folks. Make shavings not sawdust. — Dave Mills [Photos by Paul Cote]

## January Hands-On Report

Twenty plus members made their way to Zuni Pines for our hands-on. Ron Burdug was the first to show at 7:30 a.m. That gave us a chance to get everyone's sandpaper order together before the crowd showed up.

Big thanks to Ron for putting it all together. We picked up two more members today: Matt Furginson and Zac Higgins. Welcome, fellas. As has been the trend lately, these two were actually born after 1960. It's great to have young guys without that old man smell. Annette Anderson, Terry's better half, is trying to get her birthday moved up to February from March. She is itching to join the club. Terry has been hinting he might buy her a membership on her birthday. The fun clock is ticking for all of us. There is too much we want to do and experience and not enough time to fit it all in. Tick, tick, tick.

We had two former presidents in attendance today. It was really hard on the secret service detail having two mucky-mucks in the same building at once. Dave Rich has just had lazik surgery for the third time so he was taking it easy, keeping an eye peeled, so to speak. John Compston was on a lathe with Nick Lazarino giving him some turning help. Nick turned his first bowl! It was just his second hands-on and he walked away with a really nice Blue Pine bowl. Without these two guys, Dave Rich and John Compston, we would not have Carson Valley Woodturners. Now here we are, getting close to that magic number, 50 members! Who would'a thought?

Other goings on: Graham Chase turned the second bowl of his young woodturning career with a little tutoring from Frank Miller. Jack Sorensen was learning the ins and outs of brass inlay. John Drown was busy turning on Mama Bear, the club's biggest and best new lathe. Yes, John was turning a piece of FREE punky Birch. Wonder if he will ever BUY a nice piece of wood to turn? Probably not, you see, he's saving his money for that new Grizzly lathe he has on order. We had lots of people around the sharpening station picking up tips, while some members were just hanging, checking everything out. I collected over \$100.00 from wood sales, most of it from our vanishing Blue Pine section. The members used to scoff and joke. Oh, that's just pine, nothing special. Well, some of the, let's say more in tune members, have figured out this stuff is beautiful. Dale Pappas turned a piece and donated it to an auction and it sold for over \$400.00 buckaroo's! Honest, folks!

Like I keep saying the best part about our hands-on is you don't have to turn. You can just sit around, drink the Zuni Blend coffee, have a donut or three, chew the fat, take a trip to the woodshed, whatever. It is just a good group intent on being better turners. The best news is no more donations to the kitty for the needy, greedy, shop owner. The club is taking care of that. Another new perquisite for our members.

Thank you to my Kathy for the delicious hot dogs, a big hit. Porter's going to be sorry he missed them. Nobody could find the location of the new woodshed. That new camo paint job did the trick.

Are you tired of reading articles by the same old people in the newsletter? I for one get tired of writing them. Not very well, I might add. It is one of the duties of the so-called club president. Bill Draper, our newsletter guru, is always looking for new articles and ideas. If you have a woodturning story to tell, maybe a new technique, or you have come across a new tool you discovered, anything turning related, Bill would appreciate you writing an article about it for our newsletter. You don't have to be the Mark Twain type to submit articles. If you hail from the same school I came from (flunked English numerous times) do not fret. Bill is a good proofreader. Heck, he almost makes my attempts readable!

Closing thoughts, my brother drove up from Martinez, CA for the hands-on. That was special. Richard is the last one still standing of my immediate family; means a lot. The meeting ended around 12:30. Thanks to everyone for help with the cleanup and putting the lathes away, it really helps. It's always weird after everyone leaves. Minutes before 20 people, controlled confusion, then every thing's quiet. Nobody around, just Ricky and Lucy sitting outside looking up at the highway, waiting for that next car to drive in. It's the same stillness you experience walking across a football field an hour after the big game has ended. I love the shop after a hands-on, still, quiet, and usually the cleanest it ever will be. Great time to putter. I think I'll play around with that new vacuum adapter Ron Burdug dropped off.

That's all folks. Make shavings not sawdust. – Dave Mills

## The Wood Caper

You “woodn’t” believe it...seven old guys putting in a 13-hour day cutting and hauling wood. I won’t go into the average age thing because it’s way too embarrassing. The day started at my house around 6:30 a.m. with Paul Cote, Dave Rich, Ken Crosby, John Drown, Dave Mills, John Compston, and myself gath-



ering for a 7:00 a.m. departure to Winters, CA. We left with three trailers in tow and John Compston setting his normal 100 mph minimum pace, which seemed to suit John Drown just fine, but Dave Rich was a little concerned about the

CHP’s tendency to frown upon light speed travel on the freeways. I, with my wounded wing and Dave Rich with recent eye surgery, weren’t of much help with the heavy work. Thank goodness, the orchard owner offered his front loader and a tractor operator to get the stumps into the trailers for us or we would be there still.

The trip there went fine with only one pit stop for the “old guys”, until we made it to the exit off I-505 at Winters. That’s where the tail light fell off the trailer John Compston was pulling. (Sorry Dewayne, but as the passing CHP motor officer said “rusty bolts just don’t hold worth a !!!@). Dave Rich was sure we were all getting speeding tickets but I guess radar detectors don’t measure light speed.

John Compston was able to avoid another “plum” colored and shaped finger this trip, and all went pretty well ... except one of Dave Mills’ saws quit running after just a cut or two. According to Dave, they just don’t make saws like they used to. He decided to use the other saw until he got home where he could repair the “bad word” saw, or take it to the saw repair shop. These new saws are just so fickle. As most of you know, Dave used to own a gas station (service station) where he would check the tires and air pressure, oil level, clean the windows, fill up the gas tank, etc. In other words, he would sell you everything he could to make a buck and in the process make sure your car was safe and ready to roll. I suspect I now know the real reason Dave is no longer in the service station business. The saw repair consisted of dumping the oil out of the gas tank, and the gas out of the oil tank, and refilling them with the proper fluids! Enough said, eh Dave...and you criticize me for watching over your shoulder and pointing out some small flaws here and there. When Dave told me what happened it made the whole trip worthwhile. I didn’t laugh—much. In the process of getting the story, I had asked Dave if he let John Drown fill up his saw tanks (Some of us know how the hole got in the tailgate of John Drown’s truck.) and he said, “No, I was able to do that all by myself”.

John Compston may have lost his credibility as the speed record holder, because John Drown crossed the finish line with his trailer load of Walnut ahead of everyone else. The race ended around 7:30 p.m. for two of the trailer loads, John and John driving. I’m not sure whether Dave Rich and Paul Cote stopped off for dinner at Tahoe or what, but I checked at 8:10 p.m. and Paul’s truck had finally found its way out of my driveway. Overall, it was a great day of Walnut stump gathering and we can now look forward to cutting it into usable size pieces and sealing it for storage in our newest cargo container. If you didn’t get in on the woodcutting, you might want to help out on this next phase.

If you get a chance to thank the people mentioned above for gathering wood you can purchase on the cheap, please do, as it really is hard work for a bunch of old fogies. — Wayne Porter [Photos by Paul Cote]

## 150 HP Lathe

I saw this video link on YouTube and thought club members would enjoy a video demonstration on how to build and use a 150 HP lathe. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4qB6n1cm04>. – Wayne Allen

## Dates to Remember

Be part of the first **Oregon Woodturning Symposium!** Interact with today's top demonstrators and up and coming woodturners in a friendly, informal learning environment with over 40 demonstrations to choose from and a full schedule of Special Events. Join us at the [Linn County Expo Center](#) in Albany, Oregon, March 6-8, 2015. There is something for all! There will be an instant gallery, vendor area, banquet, and live auction. Demonstrators include Mike Mahoney, Jimmy Clewes, Trent Bosch, Kirk De Heer, Dale Larson, David Nittmann, Dave Schweitzer, Molly Winton, Eric Lofstrom, Nick Stagg, and Sara Robinson. Visit <http://www.oregonwoodturningsymposium.com> or contact Terry C. Gerros, [gerrost@yahoo.com](mailto:gerrost@yahoo.com).

The **AAW 2015 Symposium** will be held in Pittsburgh, PA, on June 25-28, 2015. Currently announced demonstrators include Mark Baker, Stuart Batty, Jerry Bennett, Michael Brolly, Christian Burchard Nick Cook, David Ellsworth, Lyle Jamieson, Steve Kennard, Craig Kirks, Alain Mailland, JoHannes Michelson, Pascal Oudet, Joey Richardson, Avelino Samuel, and Mark St. Leger. Registration is not yet open. More information will follow when available. AAW's Symposium web site is [here](#).

The 19th annual **Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium** will be held on September 18-20, 2015 at the Larimer County Ranch, Loveland, CO. This three-day event has 49 rotations. Glen Lucas, David Ellsworth, Sam Angelo, Michael Roper, Doug Schneider and Vince Wilson are the current demonstrators with more to be announced. More information can be found at [www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com).

## Newsletter Editor's Request

Please send your newsletter contributions and suggestions for improvement to Bill Draper via [cwvnews@charter.net](mailto:cwvnews@charter.net) no later than Monday of the week before the next regularly scheduled meeting. The submission deadline for the March 2015 newsletter is March 2.

## CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, February 14 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 club meetings in his shop.

### Carson Valley Woodturners' Officers

President: Dave Mills – 530-694-2565

Vice President: Ron Burdgd – 775-721-0253

Treasurer: Mel Swingrover – 775-783-3299

Secretary: John Nikakis – 775-265-3890

Member at Large: DeWayne Walker – 775-883-7518

Member at Large: Wayne Porter – 775-265-7887

[www.carsonvalleywoodturners.com](http://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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