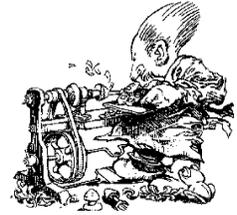




# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



## President's Gouge

Seems like I just did one of these gouge things. Boy, time flies. Hard to believe it is March already. The election of a new president is in eight short months! I am talking about electing the POTUS, not the local wood shavings club president. Speaking of shavings, the pile at the shop was getting a little unruly so I got Pumpkin the Kubota tractor fired up and proceeded to spread them where I have cleared the brush on the property. It is a quick and easy way to get rid of shavings, saves hauling them to the dump. In addition, it enriches the soil, cuts down on global warming, speeds up the mating habits of the rattlesnakes, and prevents baldness in turtles. Now most of this is not even remotely true but it gets rid of the shavings.

**Turn Here for Safety**  
Turn off your lathe before adjusting the tool rest or tool rest base, i.e., banjo.

We held our monthly meeting at Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, February 13. Your hard working board met before the regular club meeting to be brought up to speed by Graham Chase about filing as a non-profit organization. Even Denise Paley was on time. Denise has trouble getting up early, don't know or care the reason why. Presidents have to look at the big picture, cannot be bothered with trivial issues. I did think it a little strange her showing up in pajamas with the little feet attached. The board voted and approved to set the wheels in motion for Graham to file the papers as a non-profit. The club looked into being a non-profit year's back, but the cost was prohibitive. With current changes to the law being simplified, it is workable and cheaper than before. Should take 60 to 90 days to be a done deal. Thank you to Graham for putting this all together.

General club business started with the announcement that three of our members had to be put on IR (injured reserve for you people in Rio Linda). Jerry Johnson went in for microsurgery on his back and he came out with an 8-inch incision across his lower back. Jerry hopes to be back on the lathe in 6 to 8 weeks. Dave Rich made the mistake of walking out the door and slipping on the ice and broke his leg. Wayne Porter, a retired firefighter who used to pull people from burning buildings, had a ladder give way from 10 ft. in the air. He escaped with a badly bruised heel. I have commissioned Wayne Ferree, our safety chairman, to file a report. They have all guaranteed they will be ready for next year's big game.

As you know, Cindy Drozda is paying us a visit on May 14 through 16. Saturday will be an all-day demo. Sunday and Monday are hands-on days. As we get closer to her visit we will be putting out details about what she will do for the demo and what the hands-on projects are. The hands-on classes are full and we have three alternates waiting to fill vacancies. If we get three more alternates or signups we might be able to have an additional class. If you haven't done so yet, go to [www.cindydrozda.com](http://www.cindydrozda.com) and check out Cindy's work, beautiful stuff. Denise Paley, who is turning out to be a valuable new board member, has offered her home for Cindy's visit. Thanks a bunch Denise, it is really appreciated. Do you want some more good news? We have Jerry Kermode and his wife Deborah visiting us on September 10<sup>th</sup>. They are a husband wife team that do some pretty amazing stuff. Jerry is known for coning, a way to core fragile turnings with multiple voids. He also incorporates stitching into his work. If you go to his website [www.jerrykermode.com](http://www.jerrykermode.com) it shows and explains it far better than I can. When his name came up at the meeting, there was lots of praise from the members that are familiar with his work. We have Larry (the

demo guy) LeMahieu to thank for this. Larry has really grown into his new overpaid position of finding the best demonstrators in the western hemisphere.

Annette Anderson gave the treasurers report. I am happy to report the checking account balance is still growing, a positive sign.

The demo was performed by yours truly on incising which is a kind of a fancy word for embellishing or adding a little pizzazz to your turnings. It is a little difficult to be objective in reporting about your own



demo. Kind of like reporting on your own funeral. Just a reminder, if it is written in a tabloid such as this, it has to be true. I went through the tools and equipment you will need, and showed the attachments I crudely made in my shop. I also showed and used the better quality components that Ron Burdgmakes and sells. You can make almost all the needed doo-dads to do incising except for the router, or you can go the normal woodturner way and spend a bunch of bucks. This is an expensive hobby; please don't tell me you're getting rich making a

living doing this. I spread that garbage at home to my Kathy. My story line is, I am going to buy a new gun with the money I made from woodturning. Back to the demo. I demonstrated three different ways of incising only messing up one. Any good demo guy always messes up something just to look more human. It helps the audience relate. I should have the finished products ready for our next meeting.

Wayne (the limp) Porter ran the wood raffle and show-and-tell as I was busy reading the how-to book on incising, so I could finish the demo. Thanks to Wayne for picking up the slack. It should probably be a regular duty.

Show-and-tell had many participants with a great array of really nice turnings. If you ask Bob Wieland about one of his turnings, he will tell you the temperature of the wood, the stickiness of the glue, types of wood used, and maybe the sliver index of the wood. Must be the lawyer thing. Bob had three nice turnings:



A platter turned out of Sycamore, a quilted Cottonwood bowl, and a beautiful lidded box out of Birdseye Maple, Australian Blue Gum, Ebony, Lacewood, and Holly. Gary Raines: Two Madrone weed pots, one unfinished, and an Oak vase with finial and Turquoise inlay. The Oak was beautiful stuff. Gary Muma: A natural edge goblet. Frank Miller: Balsamic vinegar shakers with finials, a Hickory weed pot



with flowers turned out of apple wood, and a toothpick holder. My favorite is the balsamic shakers. Mel Swingrover: Opne of his lights-out basket illusion vases, his specialty. Mac

McCracken: A spalted Maple dish, and two out of Cherry, one out of Walnut. Also nice little tool handle looking for a tool to put in it. Ralph Wycoff: Brass medallions and a brass pen embellished using a rose engine setup. Really interesting. That pretty well says it all. The meeting ended at 12 noon. Thanks for the help with cleanup and getting things back in the club trailer.

The March meeting will be at Wayne Porter's shop March 12. Starts at 9 a.m. Frank Miller will be doing our demo on turning finials. Looking forward to the demo. Frank always impresses. That's all folks, make shavings not sawdust. – Dave Mills, President [Photos by Paul Cote]

## February Hands-On Report - Two Dozen and Counting



When the word gets out about Zuni Blend Coffee, it becomes unstoppable. That's the only reason I can come up with for us having our biggest hands-on ever, 24 by my count! I'm looking to get my new shoes resoled. Three trips to the woodshed with \$150.00 in wood sales. Things were humming to put it mildly. The best part, we had all the lathes going and had lots of help available. Anyone needing help or advice, someone was there to give a hand. Steve MacLean and John Compston were helping along with the regulars, Frank Miller, Wayne Porter, and Nik Nikakis. Gary Muma was turning a large Maple burl into a natural edge bowl. I think it's his first try turning a big burl, about 16". His lady Karen purchased the burl years ago so she came along to witness the long awaited addition to the family. Gary plans to bring it back to Zuni next week to get it completed. I walked by Mac (Davis) McCracken's lathe and the chips were flying; he was working on what looked like his biggest bowl to date.



Yvonne Young had John Compston over at the sharpening station getting a tool sharpening tune up. Ken Crosby and Nik Nikakis were working on finials along with Frank Miller. One of our new members, Dave Edwards, attended his first hands-on. Dave had a great time just watching and listening, taking it all in. He did bring a really nice dip bowl he had turned. He had some finishing questions that Steve and I attempted to solve. When all was said and done, we sent Dave home to sand and refinish our handiwork. Sometimes all the free advice is a total failure. Hope Dave doesn't ask for his membership money back. He did buy \$50.00 worth of wood from the woodshed so I think all is forgiven.



Ricky and Lucy caught two Starbuck's employees crawling under our perimeter fence, the one with the serpentine wire on top. During their interrogation, the perpetrators told us they have had quite a few patrons demanding Zuni Blend coffee instead of the dishwasher they sell under the company name. They were dressed in undercover attire, turning smocks and dust shields, with orders from the boss to infiltrate our ranks and try and get the secret formula for our Zuni Blend. We owe a debt of gratitude to our homeland security crew Ricky and Lucy for foiling a big security breach. Keeping the secret formula safe and secure. Their reward was two big marrow bones from Uncle Larry LeMahieu.

Mel Swingrover showed up without the Dead Sea hat, which probably has been relegated to black tie and nudist events. He had some questions about a Potpourri bowl he was turning. He talked to Wayne, hope he got some good advice. My friend Wayne is always giving me advice, solicited or not. Had lots of drop in's: Paul Tanaka with that special shipment of reloading supplies. His payment was a cup of Zuni Blend and a Weightwatchers donut. Wayne Ferree came by for a donut and an insomnia tip, followed by a little shooting the bull and a trip to the woodshed. Paul Cote, the X-rated photo guy, was on hand doing his thing. Annette and Terry Anderson were busy collecting club monies and checking out everything going on. I want to thank John Ebel for his donation of three new light fixtures to the club. He did walk away with a little free wood for his generous donation.

That pretty well says it all from my perspective, limited as it is. Sure would like a member's comment or two about our hands-on. Being a nag, I have mentioned all this before. Space shuttle to Earth - come in please. Does anybody hear me?

Meeting broke up around noon. Thanks to everyone that helped with cleanup and putting lathes away. It is really appreciated. After every one left, three of us club old timers John Compston, Wayne Porter and myself sat around talking about the old days in the club. How it was in the beginning and what it has evolved into. The best wood turning club around. I would not have these two as my friends without belonging to CVW, and for that, I am grateful. Make shavings not sawdust. – Dave Mills [Photos by Paul Cote]

## John Robinson

I received word from Donna Dimmick that John Robinson had passed away this last week. As is my way, I have been thinking about him a lot. I get emotional when I loose friends. It is human nature. If you are a new member to the club, you were not fortunate to meet up with him. John has not been a member for the last two years or so. He had been battling cancer; he finally succumbed to a heart attack at the age of 78.

First time I met John was at one of our monthly meetings. Being in business all my life, when I meet someone, I usually ask what they did for a living. That is my small-minded way of figuring out people. John's response to me was, "I'm one of those guys that built all that lousy construction on the top of Kingsbury." My response, "You mean that crap that's sliding off the mountain?" He stuck his chest out, got a big grin and proclaimed "that's me". Being a guy that lived at Tahoe for 45 years, I had heard stories for years about the stuff they were building at the top of Kingsbury. Growing up on the Nevada side, Kingsbury was the dirt road that you took to Minden once a year to get new license plates. If you couldn't afford property in the basin you could always go up on Kingsbury grade, buy an acre lot from Don Hall for \$500.00 bucks, and build a house or rent something dirt cheap. If you built at Stateline, Zephyr Cove, and Marla Bay, you had the usual visits from the building inspector, but up on top of Kingsbury the rules did not seem to apply, and things just seemed to get overlooked. It was well known and a



given in the building trades. Maybe a little money changed hands. There were many horror stories about houses settling, windows not opening, roofs giving way with heavy snow, run-of-the-mill stuff when you build in decomposed granite, on hillsides at high elevation. Don't get me wrong, these guys provided a big service to the community. They were movers and shakers in their day. Names that come to mind are Ferti Sievers, Kermit Lincoln, Jim Owen, and John Robinson. John was in the excavating business in and around Tahoe for years. With his passing, they are probably all dead and gone now. We meet people that are in the sunset of their lives, moving a little slower a little wrinkled and gray and you have no idea where they came from or who they were in the day. Tahoe would not be there today without the John Robinson's of the world.

John defied all the rules of woodturning. He used scrapers almost exclusively when turning bowls. On the inside and outside. It scared the hell out of me, but he got away with it. Turned some pretty darn nice stuff too. When the club was building our display stands to use in our craft shows, we asked for volunteers to turn some spindles to support the glass shelves. John volunteered, so I gave him the wood and the design for him to turn. Turning fir is a pain because it is very prone to tear out. You need sharp tools to turn it. I got a call from John, and he is telling me the wood I gave him is junk, keeps tearing out. Knowing he is probably using scrapers, I tried not to laugh on the phone. I responded, yeah, you never know if you have junk wood until you start turning it. He tells me he is going to go buy some good wood and start over. In the end John showed up with the spindles nicely turned, still complaining about the bad wood the club gave him. I just smiled and thanked him. Now until they plant me, every time I put those display stands together, I will think of John.

John had a great sense of humor, always cracking jokes with that loud voice. I will miss that. John could be gruff and short but he could be caring also. He really cared for Bill Elerick, Donna's dad. I got a call once from John telling me that Billy's scaring him, he's trying out his vacuum system. The bowl keeps flying off the lathe. He's going to get hurt or killed! Bill was losing his eyesight at the time and could barely see. John was just worried about his friend, and wanted me to fix it. That was John, big tough construction guy, but in reality a truly good soul.

John's wife Ginny said John did not want a service; she is planning a celebration of life later. When I hear a date I will let you know. Ginny has asked if the club would help with selling John's woodworking tools and equipment. I will let you know when all the particulars are worked out. Ginny said John would not want us to be sad about his passing. Think good thoughts, and maybe lift a glass in his honor. The next time you see a gravel truck going down the road or a big old excavator moving some dirt, think of John Robinson. I know I will. – Dave Mills [Photo by Paul Cote]

## Supply Line!

Ever go home after a meeting and ask yourself, "Where did he say he got the . . . ?" While not intending to endorse any product over another, we would like to share where to get things discussed during demos and/or show-and-tell.

Larry LeMahieu shared about a personalized wooden, laser engraved, medallion that could be inset into turnings. They are available from [www.ronbrownsbest.com](http://www.ronbrownsbest.com). For those who didn't get Dave's Incising demo handout or managed to lose it already, he shared the following: He gets (a lot of) miscellaneous tools from Ron Burdg. Go to [ron@sierramold.com](mailto:ron@sierramold.com), or grab Ron at the next meeting. Eagle America ([www.eagleamerica.com](http://www.eagleamerica.com)) is one source for the router bits Dave uses, and Treeline ([www.treelineusa.com](http://www.treelineusa.com)) for the piercing bits. The router is a Harbor Freight tool. Flute Masters Tools for Woodturners manufacturers a plastic indexing wheel (<http://www.flutemasters.com/index-wheels>). Unfortunately the Harvey Fein incising link ([www.incising.com](http://www.incising.com)) Dave shared has expired and is up for sale. However, Harvey has another site and after a bit of exploring, I found some info on his jig here: [http://harveyfein.net/fein\\_woods/jig/index.htm](http://harveyfein.net/fein_woods/jig/index.htm). Someone (I've forgotten who - sorry) also shared with me that

Whiteside (<http://www.whitesiderouterbits.com/>) is a good source for router bits and they are made in the USA. Happy Turning! – Denise Paley

## Dates to Remember

The **2016 Utah Woodturning Symposium** will be held at the UCCU Events Center in Orem, UT, on May 12-14, 2016. Demonstrators currently include Richard Raffan, Rex Burningham, Kip Christensen, Kirk DeHeer, Michael Hosaluk, Jimmy Clewes, Michael Mocho, Carmen DeLaPaz, Lane Phillips, Linda Ferber, Mike Mahoney, Pat & Karen Miller, Vernon Liebrant, Megan Williams, John Beaver, Chris Pytlik, Janice Levi, Sarah Robinson, Avelino Samuel, Doug Schnider and Pat Johnson, among others! More information including registration can be found on their [web site](#).

The **AAW 30th Annual International Symposium** will be held in the downtown Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart on Thursday, June 9 through Sunday, June 12, 2016. The preliminary list of demonstrators includes Sally Ault, US, Benoit Averly, France, Jason Breach, UK, Seamus Cassidy, Ireland, Robin Costelle, US, Jean Francois Escoulen, France, Richard, Findley, UK, Liam Flynn, Ireland, Cynthia Carden Gibson, US, Michael Hosaluk, Canada, Beth Ireland, US, John Jordan, US, Dale Larson, US, David, Marks, US, Yann Marot, France, Philip Moulthrop, US, Binh Pho, US, Jason Schneider, US, Mark Sfirri, US, and Curt Theobald, US. More information to follow. You can also go to the AAW International Symposium web site [here](#).

The **2016 Woodturners of Olympia Symposium** will feature Michael Hosaluk and local turner Bob Espen. The symposium will be on Saturday, July 23. There will be workshops following the symposium (July 24 through 27). Visit the [WoO web site](#) for more information.

## 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 April 2016 newsletter is March 28.

## CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, March 12, at 9:00 a.m. The address is 759 Gansburg Court, just off Highway 88 in Carson Valley. If you end up in California, you went too far. We all appreciate Wayne's continued willingness to hold club events in his shop.

**Resources**

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