



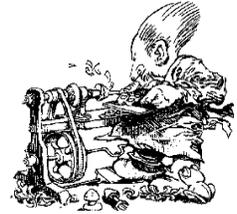
# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



July 2018

Volume 11, Issue 2



## President's Gouge

Hi all. Another month has flown by and we are well on our way into summer. We had a good turnout at our June meeting with 30 members in attendance. Frank Miller presented a program regarding the turning of a sphere using a video he produced with Gary Roberts. As Frank indicated during the presentation, he had approached Gary with a request to produce a video of a demonstration on this subject that could be used by new turners. The video was very informative and took you from the beginning through the finished product. Frank had several of the spheres they had turned during the demo along with several of the jigs that were used during the turning of the sphere. I am not sure if anyone attempted to turn a sphere at the hands-on because I was not able to attend. I know



### Turn Here for Safety

Woodturning dust is definitely not good for your lungs and long-term health. Obtain a dust mask that you can wear under your face shield that does not create a lot of fogging.

of several of our members who wanted to attempt to turn a sphere at the hands-on so I hope they were successful.

Yvonne Young stepped up and offered to assist us in trying to get outside demonstrators for next year, and she got right on this project. She has

secured two outside demonstrators for next year with Jimmy Clewes coming on April 13, 2019. Please let us know if you are interested in attending a hands-on session with Jimmy for the next day. If you are and we can fill a session, we will keep Jimmy around for another day. Yvonne has also scheduled Eric Loftstrom for July 13, 2019. Check out his website [www.ericloftstrom.com](http://www.ericloftstrom.com). We would also like to know if you are interested in having a hands-on session with Eric.

Dave Mills made contact with Mike Mahoney and he said that he was available this year on October 27, 2018. This would normally be our hands-on weekend, so in October we will be swapping our regular meeting with our hands-on session. The hands-on session will be held the second Saturday, October 13, and our regular meeting will be moved to the fourth Saturday, October 27.

During our June meeting we discussed getting a larger TV for viewing during our demonstrations. The members in attendance agreed that we should get pricing for a larger 75" TV which Dave Colon offered to obtain. We will bring this information to our July meeting for a vote of the members present. This TV would be mounted to the ceiling in Wayne's shop and would be dropped down during the demonstration.

In an attempt to get more members to bring items to the show-and-tell, we have initiated a challenge for each meeting. Our first challenge was at the June meeting where we challenged our members to bring one



of the first items that they had turned. We had a great turnout with items brought by Gary Raines, Gary Muma, Earl McCracken, Wayne Ferree, Andrew Rothwell, Richard Thomas, Patty Pastrell, Wayne Allen, Denise Paley, John Nikakis, Wayne Porter, and myself. I am sure Dave Mills would have brought something, however, he did not attend the meeting as he was having septic problems and was knee deep in “-- --“.

Our July meeting challenge is to turn a sphere, and as Denise Paley pointed out, the sphere should be turned in the style that Frank demonstrated in his presentation and not on one of the jigs that can be purchased from Ron. Our July meeting demonstrator will be Wayne Porter demonstrating his Spin Doctor, hollowing, and bowl steady.

I also wanted to thank those of you that stayed after the meeting to help get everything cleaned up and put away. See you at the July meeting and smooth turning. – John Compston, President [Photos by Paul Cote and Frank Miller]

## June Hands-On Report

Dave Mills had his Zuni Pines shop wide open to enjoy the warm summer weather. Ricky and Maverick highly approved of all the doors being open.



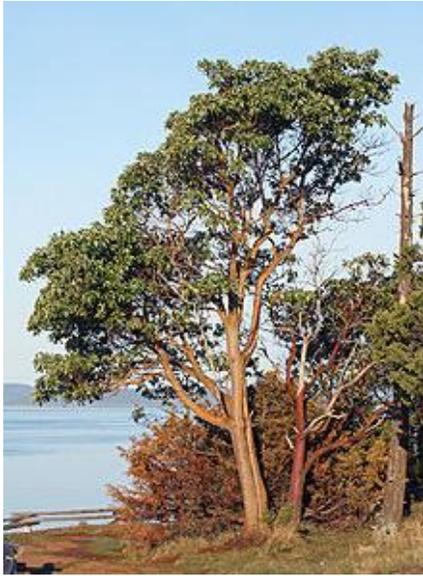
There was a light turnout that meant more Zuni blend for those who showed up.

Even with the modest attendance, there were three lathes in action all morning. Frank was helping Yvonne with a sphere turning, Pierre was working on a three-sided multi-axis spindle turning, and Richard and I were learning to use his Axminster eccentric chuck. John Drown stopped by - good to see him doing well after his operation.



The Zuni blend was good as always and the conversations some of the best. Dave, thank you for hosting a fun morning. Keep your tools sharp and the shavings out of your coffee. – John “Nik” Nikakis [Photos by Paul Cote]

## Arbutus Menziesii



The Pacific Madrone is a species of *Arbutus* found on the west coast of North America, from British Columbia (chiefly Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands) to California (mainly in the Puget Sound, Oregon Coast Range and California Coast Ranges but also scattered on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains). It becomes rare south of Santa Barbara County, with isolated stands south to Palomar Mountain in San Diego County, and northern Baja California, Mexico. It is also known as the Madroño, Madroña, Bearberry, or Strawberry Tree. In British Columbia it is simply referred to as *Arbutus*. Its species name was given it in honor of the Scots naturalist Archibald Menzies who cataloged it during George Vancouver's voyage of exploration in the area.

### *Morphology*

Madrone is a broadleaf evergreen tree with rich orange-red bark that peels away on the mature wood, leaving a greenish, silvery appearance that has a satin sheen and smoothness. The exposed wood sometimes feels cool to the touch. In spring, it bears sprays of small bell-like flowers, and in autumn, red berries. The berries dry up and have hooked barbs that latch onto larger animals for migration. It is common to see madrones of about 10-25 meters in height, but in the right conditions the trees reach up to 30 m. In best conditions, madrones can also reach a thickness of 5-8 feet at its trunk, much like an oak tree. The leaves are thick, oval, 7-15 cm long, and 4-8 cm broad, and arranged spirally; they are glossy dark green above and a lighter, more grayish green beneath, with an entire margin. The leaves brown during the fall season and detach from the branches.



### *Uses*

Native Americans ate the berries, but because the berries have high tannin content and are thus astringent, they more often chewed them or made them into a cider. Many mammal and bird species feed off the berries, including American Robins, Cedar Waxwings, Band-tailed Pigeons, Varied Thrushes, Quail, Mule Deer, Raccoons, Ring-tailed Cats, and Bears. Mule Deer will also eat the young shoots when the trees are regenerating after fire. It is also important as a nest site for many birds, and in mixed woodland it seems to be chosen for nest building disproportionately to its numbers. The timber distorts during drying and is not much used, but an attractive veneer can be made from it. Recently, it has become more popular in the Pacific Northwest as a flooring material, due to the durability of the wood, and the warm color after finishing. Mostly the wood is sought for its heating capabilities since it burns long and hot in fireplaces. Woodturners also prize the wood for their creations.

### *Conservation*

Although drought tolerant and relatively fast growing, the Pacific Madrone is currently declining throughout most of its range. One likely cause is fire control: under natural conditions, the madrone depends on intermittent naturally occurring fires to reduce the conifer overstory. Mature trees survive fire, and can regenerate more rapidly after fire than the Douglas-firs with which they are often associated. They also produce very large numbers of seeds, which sprout following fire. Since the arrival of Europeans in North America, fire suppression has resulted in a reduction of the range of the Pacific Madrone. Increasing development pressures in Pacific Madrone habitat have also contributed to a decline in the number of

mature specimens. This tree is extremely sensitive to alteration of the grade or drainage near the root crown. Until about 1970, this phenomenon was not widely recognized on the west coast; thereafter, many local governments have addressed the necessary protection of Pacific Madrone by stringent restrictions on grading and drainage alterations when madrone are present. The species is also affected to a small extent by sudden oak death, a disease caused by water mold.

### Cultivation

The Pacific Madrone is difficult to transplant and a seedling should be set in its permanent spot while still small. Transplant mortality becomes significant once a madrone is more than one foot (30 cm) tall. The site should be sunny (south or west-facing slopes are best), well drained, and lime-free. Pacific Madrone needs no extra water or food in its native range once it has become established. Water and nitrogen fertilizer will boost its growth, but at the cost of making it more susceptible to disease. . – From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Edited, and references removed.

### Dates to Remember

The **2018 SWAT Regional Symposium** will be held at the Waco Convention Center, 100 Washington Avenue, Waco, TX 76701, from August 24-26, 2018. National and regional demonstrators as well as vendors, instant gallery, hands-on-area, banquet and drawings. Lunches are provided. Lead demonstrators are scheduled to be Stuart Batty, Keith Gotschall, George Hatfield, Dan Tilden, Craig Timmerman, and Alan & Lauren Zenreich

### 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 August 2018 newsletter is July 30.

### CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and demonstration will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, July 14, 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**

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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