

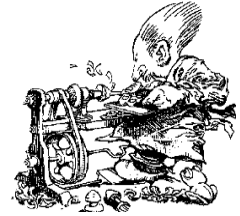


# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



May 2019  
Volume 11, Issue 12



## President's Gouge

Jimmy Clewes' demonstration was great, as usual. He showed us four different fun projects while also talking about tool technique and telling personal stories to keep us smiling, and all in less time than it would take me to make one, maybe. Jimmy was gracious enough to judge our winter club challenge and took the time to critique the entries. Thanks, Jimmy! Thanks also to all who participated in the club challenge. There were several very nice pieces and I'm sure it was not easy for Jimmy to pick a winner.

**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.

Congratulations to Patty Pastrell. Her small-footed bowl edged out the competition to win the challenge and a \$25.00 club coupon, good toward club wood. Remember the spring club challenge is a plate or platter, any size and style you like. The spring challenge will be judged at the July meeting. Ken Crosby will be demonstrating German Ring turning (Reifendrehen) at this month's club meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>.



This is a nifty process that is worth adding to your bag of turning skills.



The club needs donations for the November craft show at Carson High: Salad bowls 12 to 16 inches, platters 10 to 14 inches, natural edge bowls any size, utility bowls 8 to 12 inches, steak flippers, Christmas ornaments, anything made out of Banksia pods, and yarn bowls 7 to 10 inches. Remember to use a food safe finish. – John "Nik" Nikakis, POTCVW [Photos by Paul Cote]

## Chatter and Catches Editor

After 11 years, Bill Draper is stepping down as editor of "Chatter and Catches", the club's newsletter. Thanks to Bill and Mary Ann for all the great work over those many years. If you would like to step up and be the next editor, please contact me or any board member. Bill will work with whoever takes over, and I will help crack the whip for deadlines. In the interim, send any articles or announcements to me at [jdnika@charter.net](mailto:jdnika@charter.net). Again, a big thank-you to Bill! – John "Nik" Nikakis, POTCVW

## April Hands-On Report

We had another good hands-on session at Zuni Pines on Saturday, April 27, 2019. There were 21 members in attendance and five lathes going. Ralph Wycoff, Yvonne Young, Gary Muma, John Drown, and Shereen Kuphaldt all were turning boxes. Ron Burdgd was missed along with his two dozen donuts.



Members were turning three cornered tulip boxes with lids. These are the same as demonstrated by Jimmy Clewes at our last meeting. Dave Mills gave a short demonstration on how to start the turning and provided expert assistance to those turning their own boxes. Dave had spent numerous hours preparing the

blanks for the project. The main blocks had to be perfectly square and Dave cut them 4". He also cut blocks for the finials. The weather was great and a good time was had by all. – John Compston [Photos by Yvonne Young and Curtis Kortemeier]

## Turning Fast With Jimmy Clewes

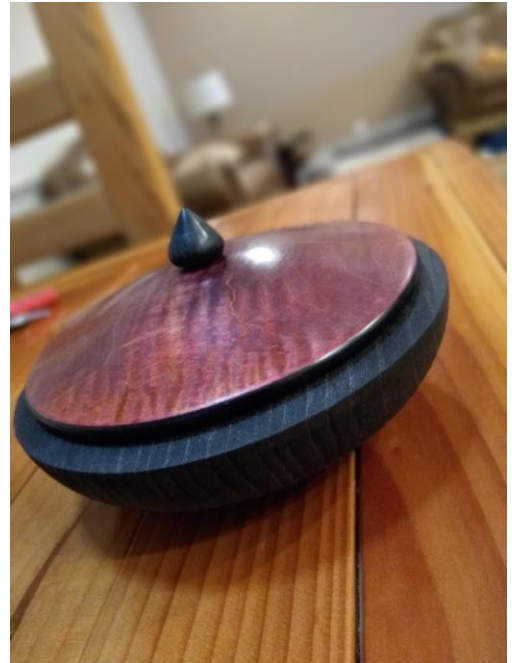
It was a cold windy day when six excited turners arrived at Zuni Pines for a day with Jimmy Clewes: Patti, Ken, Ralph, Gary M and myself...and what a day it turned out to be.

Jimmy is a whirlwind, so much energy and vigour. He is relaxed, full of fun, entertaining, and makes you



feel comfortable and relaxed. Our planned projects for the day were a scorched ash bowl with a turned edged and finished off with a coloured lid (yes coloured with a U), and if we had time, a platter with coloured lid. I am a SLOW turner so my goal for the day was to finish the bowl and lid.

We all started off turning the simple bowl. First lesson of the day from Jimmy: Mark the wood here,



here, and here. Cut from that line to that line, create several straight lines, smooth out, and viola, a perfect curve. WOW!! Next, burn the wood and then scrub with a wire brush. It created the most beautiful finish. I must admit, I was looking for the fire extinguisher when the blow torches came out. Fire+Wood Shavings = Sirens and Firemen...but all was good - no fire engines.

Next to turn the lid, colour it, make a simple handle and a button for underneath and it was only 10 a.m. Jimmy assured us we were all doing very well. Colouring was fun. I chose a nice red which gave my little bowl an oriental look.

At this point Tiger Woods was also doing well and was looking like he was going to win the Masters much to the delight of Jimmy and Dave.



Quick break for lunch and lots more stories from Jimmy about his life in the turning world.

Now it was on to turning a beautiful platter with a coloured rim. Again more hints and tips from Jimmy, not to forget Dave who kept sneaking up behind me and turning my lathe up to take off speed (3,000 revs ☺) and opening up the flute of my bowl gouge. This time I chose a stunning dark blue, overlaid with a teal for the rim.



I was amazed that I managed to finish the two projects. Jimmy told me that was because I was turning fast and using efficient cuts. Well who knew I could do that!

At the end of the day the 6 of us were tired but very happy with our masterpieces.

We got Jimmy to sign them as a souvineer of the day. Jimmy wants to come back and visit, he said he now sees Carson Valley Woodturners as his home club, and I am sure he will be returning again soon.

I would encourage each and everyone of you to take the opportunity to take a class from one of our visiting demonstrators. You will always learn something new and get to know your fellow club members better.

As usual, a huge thank-you to Dave for letting us use his workshop, and helping throughout the day.

Oh, Tiger Woods did win the Masters! – Yvonne Young

## Finishing the Bottom of a Bowl

The two common methods of supporting a turned bowl in order to finish the base are jam chucking and a vacuum system. However, there is a third, the “Rebhorn” Chuck.

Support and stability of the piece to be turned when using a jam chuck depends upon the fit of the item into the chuck and can present a problem if the item to be supported has become out-of-round or has an irregular top. Vacuum chucking is expensive (vacuum pump, special turning head, special chucks, ducting system, etc.) and requires an airtight fit between the item to be finished and the chuck. Air can leak through cracks or large pores or defects in the piece, negating the vacuum. Also, delicate items may not be strong enough to support the negative pressure required to hold the item to the chuck. I once was finishing a large and complicated segmented bowl and had the bottom blow out, launching the upper section of the segmented piece and resulting in irreparable damage to my turning. Infiltration of any wood dust into the



pump can destroy the expensive pump (\$500+).

I have both systems, but the method I use most frequently is the Rebhorn system. It is quick and easy to set up and to use, will support any shape of bowl, and will not damage small or delicate items. The basic system consists of a rigid circular plywood face (attached to the headstock with a face plate), your turning, with the base facing the tailstock, encapsulated between a confining second plywood disc (containing a cush-

ioned center hole) and the headstock disc.

The confining disc is attached to the headstock disc with a series of ¼-inch bolts.

I found only one reference to this setup on the internet, with the author calling it a donut chuck. In 2008 I brought this system to the attention of the club and handed out a four page description of the chuck, and its construction. The article was written by Alan Lacer and reproduced from the American Woodturners magazine. I can supply copies of that article to any interested club member. One final note: Mr. Lacer refers to the chuck as the Straka Chuck, but I think it is more appropriate to name it the Rebhorn Chuck in honor of the inventor. – Wayne Ferree [article and photo]

### Dates to Remember

The **American Association of Woodturners (AAW)** has announced that its **33rd Annual International Woodturning Symposium** will be held in Raleigh, NC on July 11-14, at the Raleigh Convention Center, 500 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27601. Check out their [web site](#) frequently for more info.

### Newsletter Editor’s Request

Please send your newsletter contributions and suggestions for improvement to the Club Newsletter Editor 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 June 2019 newsletter is May 27.

### CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month’s CVW meeting will convene in Wayne Porter’s shop on Saturday, May 11 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 our 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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