



Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the

CARSON VALLEY
WOODTURNERS

July 2019

Volume 11, Issue 14



President's Gouge

We had another fun meeting with a bunch of smiling faces thanks to a beautiful spring day. After a quick discussion of club business, we jumped right into the day's demonstration. Andrew Rothwell showed us a quick method for making a "Magic Wand", sans feather. This was the first bit of spindle turning we've had demonstrated in a long time and was a nice change. Hopefully we can learn how to add the feather sometime in the future. We had another good show and tell with Wayne Allen, Andrew Rothwell, Dave Mills, John Seher, Pierre Mathieu, and myself showing our latest creations.

Eric Lofstrom will be our demonstrator at this month's meeting. Bring a lunch, it will be an all-day event. If you haven't seen Eric's work visit his web site; www.ericlofstrom.com. There will be a \$20.00 charge for the demonstration to help cover the club's cost.

We will have no show and tell or raffle this month due to the demonstration. We will be judging entries for the club challenge, so bring your plate or platter for a chance to win a \$25.00 club coupon good toward club wood. November is getting here fast and the club needs donations for the Carson High Craft Show:

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, Yarn bowls 7 to 10 inches. Remember to use a food safe finish.

John "Nik" Nikakis, POTCVW



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.

June Hands-on Report

Wow, there was a lot going on at the hands on party this time. About 20 members in attendance, and they all had their smiles on. I think that was due to the attitude adjustment we all get when we immerse ourselves in woodturning and friends. The Zuni blend coffee and donuts didn't hurt either. Frank M, Dave M, Ron B, others, and myself were giving advice...good or bad. The main emphasis this time was on hollowing, and there were more hollowing tools to try out than you could shake a snake at. To list a few, there were Ron's Snake hollowers, One-way captive hollower, Osprey tool, D-Way hollowing tool, The eliminator tool, various brand name hand held hollowing tools with round carbide cutters and tool steel cutters

Not to mention the hand made hollowing tools for small to miniature hollowing projects. I saw several of Frank's tools and Ron's tools there. I think we had seven lathes spinning out hollow forms from 1" to 10" tall with the shavings flying. "I love the smell of wood shavings in the morning". Frank's new laser and mounting system on Dave's One-way Captured hollower, was really cool. I really, really, really need one. When I was young it would have been called spiffy. Spiffy, rad, hot, cool, bitchin, or whatever...it was nice. Dave, my birthday is coming up. Skew practice was also happening on a



a couple of the lathes with Frank and I imparting our limited expertise to the more gullible mem-



bers...well my limited expertise anyway. I went out and cut a small branch from one of Dave's Aspen trees and used a skew to turn a small wooden flower; which caught the interest of several members. I learned how to turn a flower from Wayne Alan, years ago. There was a request to do more at the next hands on...we'll see. The donut bandits (Ricky and Maverick) were lurking about waiting for an opportunity to strike. Speaking of strikes, Maverick didn't look any the worse for ware after his encounter with a rattlesnake. Dave is still complaining how it hurt

him, (in the pocket book), as bad as it did the poor dog. It was good to see everyone enjoying themselves and learning from others. Paul C was there with his camera recording it all, so I'm sure there will be a picture or two confirming it was a great day for learning and practice. Thanks Dave, for the use of your shop and for having turning blanks all set up for us. It always takes time to ready a shop for our arrival, and I know we all appreciate your time and efforts. - Wayne Porter [Photos by Paul Cote]

Just a little Button.....

So, I had just finished the lid for my ash bowl and now it was time to make the little button for the underside.... My favorite part of the lid, quick and easy to make but a very neat way to finish the lid, hiding the hole left by the screw.

I found the perfect small piece of light wood, 2 by 3 inches. Not sure what the wood was but it turned beautifully. BUT there was a slight clunk, clunk noise as it turned.. Not a problem, I'm getting it round, right?. Now that clunk, clunk noise should stop when it's round, but it didn't. We all know that at this point you should shut off the lathe and take a look at what is causing that noise, Don't we???? Well, I didn't switch it off and look, I was lazy. It was only a small piece of wood and I was making just a little button, what could go wrong. I soon found out what was causing the strange noise as the SMALL piece of wood flew off the lathe and hit me smack bang straight in the face. what made matters worse as the wood was only small I chose to wear my safety glasses and not my full face shield... Well, I got a nice split lip, blood everywhere because lips like to bleed. To add insult to injury, Vince, my husband was standing watching me as it happened. Not only is my lip bleeding and hurting, now I am getting an ear full about not wearing my full-face mask, rightly so (but I will never admit it to him).

Remember safety first, don't ignore something that seems wrong or think small pieces of wood can't hurt (they do).... You never know what is lurking inside a piece of wood. It would



be a nail, a bullet, just a strange piece of hardwood. Be careful, a couple of minutes checking what that strange sound is could save you a trip to the hospital.... I was lucky this time, and hopefully learnt a good but bloody lesson.....

-Yvonne....

Safety: (long term safety)

This essay began when I heard Jimmy Clewes remark that one day the Medical Profession will classify dust related lung problems as a “Wood Turner’s Lung.”

If the practice of ignoring dust, that I have observed during the “Hands On” sessions, is an indicator of how the membership works in their home shop, a great number of us are going to develop serious Lung Problems.

Those of our membership, who joined the club during the earlier years of its formation, know that I am a Woodworker who, late in life, has become enamored with the Lathe. My woodworking career began at about the age of eight, when Santa gave me a scroll saw. I was a child during the depression years, a time when money did not exist. Children had to make their own toys. As I grew, so did the size and complexity of my shop. My shop now contains 3 lathes, including my newest purchase of a Laguna 24/36.

A Woodshop generates tons of sawdust, but it is easily handled because of its coarseness. I wore a mask only part of the time when in the shop. All machines are connected to a vacuum system, and the sanding sequence of working up to 180 or 220 grit sandpaper is considered a smooth finish (therefore no very fine sanding dust). All hand sanding or machine assisted hand sanding is accomplished on a large down draft sanding table, with internal filters. I even have a ceiling mounted dust collector that cleans the air between working sessions. Frequent cleaning of the shop and equipment also helps control the potential dust problem.

The wood dust that is generated around a lathe is a much more serious matter: The dust collected is much finer (we sand to 1000 + grit); some of our tools generate very fine shavings and dust; we work close to the cutting tool; and it is difficult to position a vacuum that will effectively collect the generated dust. I’m sure all have seen fine suspended dust particles contained in a sunbeam. Imagine the concentration of suspended dust in the air around your turning.

We must protect our lungs. Three things that we can and should do is 1.) clean the shop after each use; 2.) position a vacuum as close to the work as practical (especially when sanding) and 3.) wear a proper Dust Mask. I have been trying to find a system for item 3, which is both effective and comfortable. I’m still searching. My first attempt was a sealed helmet/Face shield. Effective, but hot in the summer, expensive, required a battery and not the most comfortable thing to wear. I have tried the Scuba type of mask where the air intakes are located in the rear, behind the neck. With the mouth piece in place I slobber on my lathe, and while there is less dust behind your head, there is still an adequate amount of fine particles suspended in the air to do you harm. I have tried many types of paper and cloth masks, including disposable surgical masks. Mr. Mills uses a “Dust=be=gone” mask. I use one for the dustier operations in my wood shop, but I judge them not suitable for work around a Lathe. They are comfortable because there are air gaps around the edges.

I have concluded that a dust mask probably is the answer (comfortable, low cost and potentially effective) if they can be sealed against your face. They should have one or more “One Way Valve” to provide for a positive escape route for the Exhaled breath (and not fog your glasses), and also have a way to clamp the mask around the nose.

I will conclude my remarks with a challenge to the Club. With 60 + members sharing our experiences of what does, or does not work, we should be able to develop a short list of effective ways to protect

our lungs. Such a "List" would be helpful for both our veterans as well as for our new Turners. Please tell us how you deal with dust, and the merits and de-merits of your system.

-Wayne E. Ferree

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.

meeting. The submission deadline for the August 2019 newsletter July 29.

Newsletter Editor's Request

Please send your newsletter contributions and suggestions for improvement to the Club Newsletter Editor via cvwnews@charter.net no later than Monday of the week before the next regularly scheduled meeting. The submission deadline for the August 2019 newsletter July 29.

CVW Meeting Location and Directions

This month's CVW meeting and all-day Eric Lofstrom demonstration will convene in Wayne Porter's shop on Saturday, July 13 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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Carson Valley Woodturners, PO Box 84, Gardnerville, NV 89410 www.carsonvalleywoodturners.com