



# Chatter and Catches

the Newsletter of the



December 2020

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## President's Gouge

This year is almost over and hopefully the next will see life return to some type of normal or at least a new normal. I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving and wish you a happy Christmas, Hanukkah, Solstice or whatever you choose to celebrate. November was a fairly active month for me club wise. Along with several volunteers we set up and held an auction of Wayne Ferree's shop equipment and tools. The auction went well. We cleared the shop out for Diane, made here some money of which she donated 10% to the club. Thanks to everybody that helped and to Dave Mills for being our auctioneer.

My wife and I set up the club's tree for this year's "Gallery of Trees". The event opens on Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup>. Stop by and stuff our ballot box. Douglas County Museum & Cultural Center, 1477 Hwy 395, Gardnerville.

## Turn Here for Safety

### Avoiding Stuck Fingers

When working with CA glue, to avoid having your fingers sticking together or to the project, try applying paste wax, beeswax or other waxes to your fingers or gloves. Work the filler/glue into the work and re-apply the wax as needed. When finished, wipe the wax off. Not all waxes are safe for your skin, so read the container before trying this. As an added precaution keep some CA glue remover, fingernail polish remover or acetone handy for cleanup.



We had a board meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>. We talked mostly about 2021 dues and elections. Dues for 2021 will be prorated. The amount will be determined once we resume regular meetings. Also, elections will not be held until we resume regular meetings. The current board members have agreed to continue their service to the club until that time. I miss our face to face gatherings and hope to resume them in the near future.

Check for emails with updated club information and more project photos from the members. Hope you get all the stuff on your wish list. Enjoy the holidays. See you soon.

John "Nik" Nikakis, POTCVW

Time for the girls' second road trip to Vegas for another Jimmy Clewes class.....

Car packed with suitcases, woodturning tools and logs, snow chains on the car and we were ready to go! Yes, snow chains, the day we set off to Jimmy's we had the first snowstorm of the season, and it was whiteout until the other side of Yerington, but were determined nothing was going to keep us from our class. Also, Jeanette drove a police car for most of her working life so we were in safe hands as long as she didn't do any fast speed pursuits.



My plan for this class was to turn wet and thin, hence taking logs with us, not that many trees in the Vegas area normally. But as luck would have it, Jimmy got his hands on one of his neighbour's trees a couple of days earlier so we had an abundance of wet wood. On our first morning were greeted by a twirling Seamus (Jimmy's dog) and Cinnamon buns covered in thick delicious cream cheese icing freshly baked by Mary. After our enjoyable breakfast, my first project was a miniature cowboy hat, so much fun to make. The wet wood turned like butter, there were ribbons of wood flying off my tool like streamers in a ticker-tape parade. Jimmy makes turning so easy, he makes you feel you can achieve anything, and in his class, you can, unfortunate when you arrive home it's a different story. I need a mini Jimmy in a box to shout hints and tips to me. I have tried two more hats since arriving home they are Okayish, but I will perseverer and perfect the art. Next, I made a thin-walled flower, which is a variation on a long-stemmed goblet. Jeanette and Pattie also made one each. I am sure we will be making more; they were fun to make and look beautiful when finished. Soooooo nerve-racking making the long stems and watching the flower start to whip, but as always Jimmy was there to give advice and reassurance.

The next day I finished off the flower then moved on to a beaded honeycomb box, Pattie and Jeanette both made one the day before and I was so jealous of their boxes I had to make one. Unfortunately, mine turned out to be a funnel. I had two choices; patch the box or start again. I chose to start again, practice makes perfect and the "mate tool" is so much fun to use, why not? Next a small thin-walled pedestal bowl thingy. I just couldn't get the curve I wanted and Jimmy appears like a Genie and asks "can I make one small cut?". The answer is of course maestro, and hey presto the perfect curve and that's why he teaches around the world. He makes it look easy. Finally, on the last day, another wet wood bowl.

The beauty of Jimmy's classes is you get to develop and learn what YOU want, everything is about you. It's the woodturning equivalent to "glamping". The four of us all chose our own projects and worked at our own pace. Laura had not turned for a while, but her pieces turned out beautiful. Jeanette, Pattie and I wanted to challenge our skills and see what we could do. Each one of us got out of the class what we went for. The most important part was we had FUN, there was so much laughter over the three days.

Jimmy and Mary are the best hosts. You enter their home as woodturning pupils but leave as friends. Before I leave off, I must mention Mary's food, is amazing. For lunch each day we had a delicious homemade meal cooked for us. I was totally spoiled as Mary cooked English dishes while we were there.

Already planning next year's adventure, maybe a few weeks earlier to avoid the snow....

Yvonne....

### Quick Ornament Display

During the holidays it can be fun to make ornaments. There are plans and ideas in abundance and most can be made with little expense. Here is a quick display stand for that special ornament so it does not get lost on your tree.



John "Nik" Nikakis

You will need:

1. a piece of hardwood or Corian about ½ inch thick and large enough to cut a 2½ to 3-inch circle.
2. a piece of stiff wire or rod about 1/16 inch and at least 12 inches long. (I use welding rod)
3. a waste block 2½ square by 3 or 4 inches.
4. double-sided tape. (I use carpet tape)

Mount the waste in a chuck or on a face plate and turn into a cylinder. Flatten and sand the end. Using the double-sided tape mount your hardwood or Corian to the flat end of the waste block. If you hold the piece in place with the tail stock for a few minutes it will hold better to the waste block. Turn the piece into your desired shape for the stand. Drill a hole for your wire rod in the center, and sand and finish. To bend the wire rod into shape, drill a hole in the side of the waste block to match your wire rod about ½ inch deep. Make a ¼ inch 90-degree bend at one end of the rod. Put the bend into the hold on the waste block and gently wrap the rod around the waste block. This will give you a nice continuous curve that can be adjusted to a final shape. Cut the rod to length and form a hook to hang the ornament.

## 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 January 2021 newsletter is December 28th.

## CVW Meeting

No meeting this month.

### 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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