

Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org



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November Meeting—11/15/2017

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We are back in our winter quarters, CVU in Hinesburg. Directions to CVU: From the NW, exit I-89 at Exit 14 (Burlington) and head east on Williston Rd. (Rte. 2) for 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Hinesburg Rd (Rte. 116). Proceed 9.7 miles to CVU Rd., turn left at the light and CVU will be on your left at 0.4 miles.

From the East: Exit I-89 at exit 12 (Williston/Essex) Turn left onto Rte. 2A (St George Rd.) and proceed 5.0 miles. Turn left onto Rte. 116 and proceed 2.1 miles to CVU Rd. Turn left, school is 0.4 miles on left.

After turning onto driveway, take

immediate left. Drive around the left side of the building to a parking lot with large garage door and exterior dust collection system. There is a door beside the garage door to enter the woodshop. Bring along any tools you wish to see put in use, as we will have 6 lathes running for multiple demos. Want to touch up your skills? We have several folks attending who are willing to mentor you at the meeting or in your shop.

October Meeting—10/18/2017 —Harvie Porter

President Nick Rosato called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Those in presence (21) were asked to introduce themselves.

Elections were held and the slate of officers were elected unanimously. Elected were:

President - Nick Rosato
Vice President - Janet Collins
Treasurer - Karen Drennan
Secretary - Harvie Porter
Members At Large - Army Spahn,

Sal Chiarelli, Bob Martin

Woodstock show report: Thanks for Craig Hall for making arrangements. The show as a whole was not overly attended. Sunday was particularly quiet. Approx. \$1100 of sales among club members netting the club \$110. This amount did not cover the cost of the booth.

At the October board meeting, the next six months of meetings

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I started my woodworking career doing picture framing. The next step was building furniture—shelving, then kit reproduction furniture. Finally, about Y2K, we went to Arrowmont on a Woodturning Elderhostel. Cil insisted I learn how to use a lathe properly before I bought one. Good thing, too, because I made most of the major mistakes and some of the minor ones in that week.

Over the years, I've accumulated many tools, from chisels to machinery. What I have found is that the tools you own determine how easy it is to complete a project. Example: You can flatten a surface using a hand plane and hand-sanding in a day, or in 10 minutes using an electric planer and a belt sander.

As an experienced woodturner, here's my list of the essentials.

For bowl-turning and spindle making, start with a midi lathe. If you are sure you want to be a versatile, full-service turner, make the big step to a full-size lathe with at least 16" swing and 40" bed.

Get a drill press. A table-top press is OK, but the quill length is limited to about 2.5". Next, a bandsaw. A 14" unit is the useful minimum size. You may want to add a riser block for the ability to resaw wider boards, or section bigger logs. Those are the minimum machine tools for easily making a variety of turnings. A good table saw is the next step up. Segmented turning practically requires a well-made table saw to reliably and accurately cut angles.

I have many gouges in my collection. Fortunately, I have been able to bring them into my new workshop. If I had to downsize my collection, here's my priority list:

- A 1/2" bowl gouge.
- A 1.25" skew.
- A 3/8" detail gouge.
- A 1/8" parting gouge.
- A 1" flat scraper.

A 1" half-round scraper. Both scrapers should be as heavy as possible.

A 1" spindle roughing tool.

That's it— the bare minimum.

For making pens, you need a pen mandrel and special tailstock fitting.

There are a number of very helpful additions. There are ways of holding pen blanks for initial drilling. I prefer a dedicated pen-blank vise, clamped to the table of my drill press. You also need a set of barrel trimming cutters and guides.

As you gain experience and develop your personal style and signature shapes, more tools become more important. You may end up with several bowl gouges, some of different sizes, some simply ground to different angles. I have one gouge ground almost flat, used for the inside bottom of bowls. There's another one I use for finishing cuts.

I would recommend staying away from specialized tools unless you have a real use for them. As an example, I have some beading tools. I can cut a bead in seconds with one of them. Does it save time? Not really. By the time I walk over to my tool rack, find the beading tool and get back to my lathe, I could have cut two beads with my detail gouge or my skew, whichever I happened to be holding. The advantage of the beading tool is that I can consistently make beads of the exact same size each time.

The new carbide tools can be useful additions, or as substitutes for your HSS tools. The advantage to a carbide tool is that they stay sharp. I need to experiment more with my carbide tools to see if they actually do the jobs my other tools do.

Have fun doing woodwork. Every aspect has its triumphs. Cutting, sanding, finishing, decorating each can be a source of pride. And you can spend as little or as much as you are comfortable with to get good results.

Well, I've got to get downstairs and get MY shop in order!

Arny

Balance forward
 \$2969.09
 Income
 Dues 2018 \$25.00
 Raffle 26.00
 CA Glue 4.00
 Anchorseal 85.00
 Wood sales 30.00
 Commission Forest Festival 79.70
 Total Income \$240.70
 Expenses BOD meeting 48.47
 Balance ending \$3161.32
 Karen Drennen/Treasurer

Reminder: Unless you have paid your annual dues by April 1st your name must be removed from the discount list.
 Dues October 2017

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for 2017:

Jay Bailey, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Bill Breen, Dave Buchholz, James Bushey, Sal Chiarelli, Pete Coffey,

Janet Collins, Karen Cutler, Ann C. Dinsmoor, Karen Drennen, Greg Drew, Andrew Duling, Tom Dunn, Bill Durkee, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Ted Fink, Joe Fortin, Toby Fulwiler, Barry Genzlinger, George Gibson, Dan Gleason, Mike Glod, Steve Gutierrez, Jim Holzschuh, Brad Jackson, Paul Jagielski, Eddie Krasnow, Ted Lattrell, Lucinda Love, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Sean Murray, Ted Nelson, Bill Nestork, Bengt Ohman, John Owen, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Larry Rice, Sam Sanderson, Bob Schumacher, David Scrase, Edwards Smith, Nancy Smith, Ira Sollace, Arny Spahn, Cil Spahn, Adam Wager, Robert Woodsworth, (55) (Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Dick Montague, Michael Mode, Hav Smith and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members, (6)

If you have paid your dues for the year but do not see your name listed here please contact me to correct that error of omission.

Snowflake2017@comcast.net

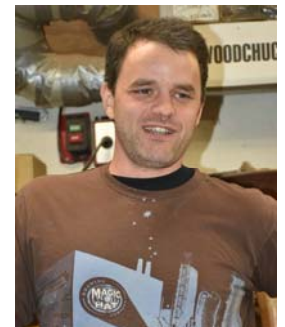
Dues for 2018 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to: Karen Drennen, 12 Winters Court, Swanton, VT 05488

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members.

Video library use, mentoring program, Klingspor and Hartville Tool discount lists, (to remain on the discount lists dues must be paid by April 1st each year.), and bulk purchase discounts.

In addition, the following member offers a 10% product discount to all WTNV members: Ted Fink

More photos from the meeting





New Treasurer, Karen Drennen, starts off right!

(Continued from page 1)

were scheduled. Our next meeting will be at CVU where multiple stations will be set up for hands-on work. Stations will probably be Nick showing bowl turning, Dave Buchholz showing carving techniques, Ted Fink showing spindle/skew techniques, Edwards Smith showing hollow turning, perhaps Dick Montague showing use of the chatter tool/texturing, and Russ Fellows showing multi-axis turning.

The remaining meetings are as follows:

Dec. - no meeting

Jan. - at Wake Robin - sharing what we learned this year

Feb. - CVU - group project @ stations

Mar. - Ornamentation stations

April - Janet Collins - topic to be decided



Some "doodles" in the background; several offset turnings by Russ.



These Kevlar chaps saved Bob from a chainsaw gone wild.

(Continued on page 5)



Ted Fink spoke about donating bowls for the Vermont Food Bank fundraiser. He is looking for members to bring him \$50 value bowls by mid December; so support a good cause and bring a bowl to the November meeting. Ted also encouraged members to recruit new members as current membership is a bit low. Woodstock payments of 10% of sales should be paid to Karen. Ted has a Delta midi lathe for sale if anyone is interested.

Bob Martin showed some chaps that had been torn by a chainsaw, saving the leg of his son.

Nov. 11 Nick will be demonstrating at Thetford Academy.

Nick got a commission to do some BIG spindles! He did about 5 near-identical Newell posts using a cardboard template.



Ted Latrell made some carbide-tipped tools using available steel stock and cutters.

Raffle: - 11 PARTICIPANTS.

(Continued on page 6

(Continued from page 5)

SHOW AND TELL

Nick Rosato showed a newel post, Ted Luttrell showed some carbide tools he made. Tom Dunn showed some hollow forms of pig nut hickory and maple with Seal -a-Cell finish. Dave Buchholz showed some poplar bowls decorated with his cosmic cloud technique, a painted carving, and a yellow heart platter with carved band. Russ Fellows showed a bowl of Norfolk Pine with a carved foot.

Meeting then moved on to Russ's demonstration on offset turning.

Respectfully submitted,

Harvie Porter, Secretary.



Tom Dunne with hollow turnings.



Russ's Norfolk Pine bowl.



Dave Buchholz's textured & painted turnings.

(continued on P. 7.)



Russ installed a piece of even-grained hardwood as the spalted wood could not take thread-cutting.



Russ mounts a workpiece on his lathe. The cutter is driven at high speed. The workpiece is rotated in the chuck jaws against the cutter.



The Hope thread cutter rotates and advances the workpiece.



Russ advances the tool one click at a time to deepen the cut.



The lid having been threaded, Russ fits the box onto it. This version of the Hope tool has a hinge for easy working and trial.

(continued on P. 8.)

(continued from P. 7)



Here is the ideal product. It shows what looks like a spider when viewed like this.



Russ uses several parting tools to produce his concentric cuts.



The cuts need to be evenly spaced and evenly deep.



A pre-cut round is pressure-fitted into an MDF square. Russ prefers to cut into the off-set side of the workpiece first. Here, he mounts the square onto a round of MDF mounted on the lathe.

(continued on P. 9)

(continued from P. 8)



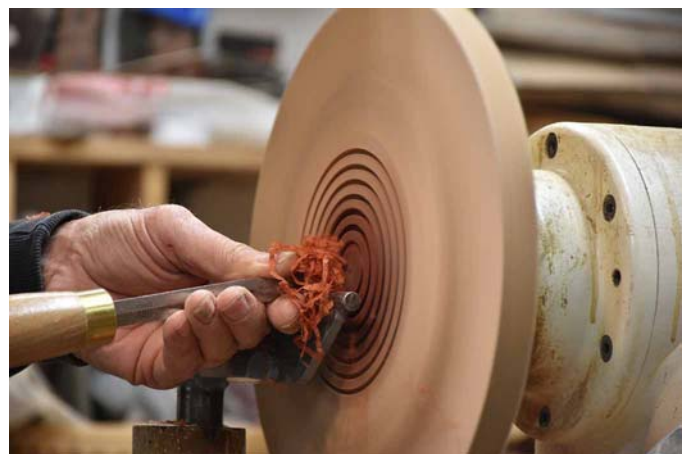
Russ draws a pencil circle as a starting point for the cuts.



This parting tool has aluminum tape to mark the cut depth.



The outside circle is being cut. The square of MDF keeps the workpiece from splintering at the edges.



More concentric circles are cut.

(continued on P. 10)

(continued from P. 9)



Russ sands and cleans the first side.



The piece is flipped and fastened centered to the MDF



Circles are cut, centered on the piece and just deep enough to impinge on the circles cut on the other side of the workpiece.



After cutting, sanding, and cleaning out the remaining shreds, here's what it looks like. These pieces can be used as coasters, box tops, or as part of other offset turning projects.

It is an old bromide that we don't appreciate what we have until it is snatched away from us! As in electricity! From 1:42 A M Monday morning until Friday afternoon, Skunk Hollow was in the proverbial and literal dark! In the 36 plus years we have been here this was, by a wide margin, the longest outage we have had. Because of this, we never bothered to install a generator! Now, many Vermont Electric Co-op customers are rethinking that decision! Created in the 1930s from the "crumbs" left by the private utilities when the state was divided up for electrical service...a campaign promise of then-governor, George Aiken,



the Co-op has had the worst imaginable grid to maintain over all these years. It wanders all down the spine of the state, all the way to the Mass line. It has been an ongoing nightmare for them to keep the electrons flowing to some of the state's most unfriendly locations, but they have, and done an admirable job, even winning awards for their new "Smart Grid". Onward! And probably without that generator? It won't happen again...right?

Thanks to all for coming out to Jericho for the last meeting on the summer "campus"! As always, good to see you. Bob and I enjoy hosting these woodchuck gatherings, and look forward to continuing next Spring!



A couple follow-up notes to the demo I did at that meeting:

1. I finished the vessel (see pic # 130 below) on which I demonstrated the Simon Hope Threading Jig (http://hopewoodturning.co.uk/threading_jig_30.html). This a tool I really am enjoying and have now used several times. It allows you to easily add a very neat dimension to your turnings. I will bring the completed piece into the November meeting in Hinesburg, as it has a multi-axis finial also, which is one of the things we will talk about then.
2. The main part of my demo last month was showing how I do my multi-axis "spiders". In that demo I emphasized the importance of making each groove exactly the same depth. I had tried both using a sharpie and/or piece of tape to guide the cut, but both had limitations. In one of the Youtube videos(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IbhghiRcOxY&t=10s>) I referenced last month, the guy had a neat set up to both hold his tool level and control precisely the depth of cut. I rummaged around in my shop and found

a tool rest I had made several years ago for another purpose. It had a flat top which would work for this experiment! I then fabricated a stop block to attach to my parting tool. Photo



#133 shows the tool attachment and photo #132 shows it in position on the tool rest. As I write this I have yet to actually try it! This I will do this week and bring everything in to the meeting on the 15th. At that meeting we will have six lathe stations, and I will be manning one to talk about and demonstrate multi-axis techniques.

I depart for Florida early on November 16th. Thanks again to all who have made the trek out to Skunk Hollow for both meetings and Sawdust Sessions. I will return in early May and hope to be able to pick up again for both!!

Cheers!

Russ Fellows
(skunkmen@gmail.com)
802-343-0393

- 1) Lathrop Maple Supply, Hewitt Rd, Bristol, Vermont, 802-453-2897. With a newly expanded inventory area, Tom has a fantastic supply of local and imported wood. His new division, "Exclusively Vermont, LLC, specializes in high quality Vermont lumber and mill products and FSC stock is available.
- 2) Hayley Wood Products in Colchester. (<http://www.hayleywoodproducts.com/>).
- 3) Sutherland Welles Ltd., No. Hyde Park, VT, 800-322-1245. (www.sutherlandwelles.com). Right here in our own backyard, they make the best Tung oil products in the U S. Call with an order and it goes out the same day!
- 4) Bad Dogs Burl Source, (www.burlsource.com) They are down in Belchertown, MA and have an incredible inventory of Australian and North American burls. 413-213-0248
- 5) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 6) www.exoticwoodsusa.com. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 7) Griffin Exotic Woods These folks came up in a search for something else, and I ended up buying a couple things from them. Their prices were fair and the service was good. <http://www.exoticwood.biz/>
- 8) Sinclair Mill Works in North Danville VT <http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm>. 802-748-0948. He specializes in figure Vermont species. His prices are very reasonable.
- 9) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 10) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. www.mikejackofsky.com. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 11) Business cards and other printed goods: Vistaprint.com
- 12) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. www.maplelandmark.com
- 13) Les Dougherty & Susan Curington Owners, North Woods Figured Wood North Woods, LLC PO Box 808 Forest Grove OR 97116 [800-556-3106](tel:800-556-3106), [503-357-9953](tel:503-357-9953) www.nwfiguredwoods.com offers lifetime 15% discount on any website wood purchase. Use "WOODTURNERS" coupon code at checkout. www.nwfiguredwoods.com
- 14) Paw Prints Printing WWW.paw-prints.com 802 865 2872 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT 05403
- 15) Your NEW colored plywood source. trethaway@comcast.net. Has scraps of colored plywood for resale. Listed on eBay as scratch101012.
- 16) The Tree House, hardwoods & mill shop. Native woods, priced from \$5.00. 1891 Williston Rd., 802-497-3530. www.treehousehardwoods.com
- 17) Suffolk Saw of New England, Jeff & Danielle Mellott; 33 Gaudet Dr., Belmont, NH, 03220 877-550-7297

Classified Ads

Free To Members

In House

Demos:

All demos and dates are tentative until they appear on Page 1 of the newsletter.

Nov. 15th: Multiple station demos

Jan. 17th: Annual show-and-tell at Wake Robin

Feb. 21st: Group activity - Spindle turning

Mar. 21st: Texturing and decorating stations

Apr. 11th: Board Meeting

Apr. 18th: Janet Collins - Topic TBA

Woodchuck Mentors

These Woodchucks are able and willing to help other Woodchucks wanting some hands-on instruction.

Craig Hall: Bowls, spindles, & hollow forms.
802-644-5344
craighall@hotmail.com
Cambridge

Dick Montague: General turning, all aspects plus tool sharpening.
802-584-3486
Montagueturn@gmail.com
Groton

Ralph Tursini: Spindles & bowls, vacuum chucking.
802-899-6863
info@vermontwoodturning.com
Cambridge

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels.
802-899-3059
skunkmen@gmail.com
Jericho

Bill Walsh: tool sharpening
802-839-6332
billiriquois@yahoo.com
Northfield

Greg Drew: Tool skills. Finishes.. Portable mill & chainsaw work.
802-527-6207
personal-woodsmythe@yahoo.com
Georgia

Nick Rosato
The Sculpted Tree
802-999-2976
nickrosato@gmail.com
General turning

WTNV Liability Insurance

Liability Insurance Policy

As of April 2013 we are covered by a liability policy with the following limits:

Each occurrence: 2M; Damage to rented premises: 1M; Med expenses: 10K;

Personal injury: 2M; General aggregate: 4M; Products aggregate:4M.

The Hartford; Agent; Michael George: (317) 735 4072; mgeorge@amj_ins.com

This policy covers all members at all

WTNV events.

If you are demonstrating, this policy will not cover any claim if you are being

compensated either by commission or sale of your turnings. In other words, this does not serve as an individual business policy.

If you need a copy on the insurance face sheet, contact Ted Fink at TJFTurnings@gmail.com