# Woodchuck Chatte

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

February Meeting -Saturday the 16th

Website: WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org



We will start the meeting at 10:00 AM in The Sculpted Tree. Our guest turner is Rich Detrano, and the members' fee is \$10 per person. Please bring your lunch as lunch will be on our own and the meeting goes until 4:00 PM.

Here's Rich's bio:

I grew up in Northport, Long Island. From my father, a cabinet designer, I acquired an appreciation of woodworking. My introduction to woodworking and woodturning took place in a high school shop class in 1963. I remember being intrigued by the process of woodturning. It

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Volume 10 issue 2

# Report of the January Meeting—Harvie Porter

Woodchuck Woodturners of Northern Ver- President Nick Rosato called the meeting to

Monthly meeting; January 16, 2013

order at 7 PM. Twenty-eight members were present.



The meeting began with members introducing themselves and sharing what they hope to learn in the coming year.

The AAW no longer will provide liability insurance for the club. Ted Fink spoke of the need to create a liability waiver for members to sign. He is also investigating the cost of purchasing insurance for the club.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday (Continued on page 6)

2013 Dues are \$25. Dues can be paid by check payable to "WTNV" and sent to Ted Fink; PO Box 850; Shelburne, VT 05482.



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#### Random Shots- AAW Membership

Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont **Board of Directors** 

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Frankly, I have not been working downstairs very often. I have a number of things to fill my time, not the least of which is working on "Chatter."

I received my AAW magazine the other day. I leafed through it and found some articles which got me thinking of trying some stuff on the lathe. That's one of the great things about AAW membership. You can get so much out of the magazine with each issue. I imagine that's true with screw advance is intriguing. the Annual Symposium. I have

missed the opportunity of attending twice when the Symposia were here on the East Coast.

The inside cover & first page was devoted entirely to Vermonter Michael Mode's work. He is doing some astounding turning.

Further in, there is an excellent article on using a metal lathe for wood turning. The precision of cutting with a small carbide bit driven by a

The article on safety is a

good review. It might keep you from getting sloppy in your shop. Things happen real fast with power tools—so fast, you don't know about it until it's over.

I do have to confess that some of the work shown in the magazine is so intricate that I can't even aspire to it. I consider myself a hobbyist. The days I work on the lathe I want to relieve tension, not add to it.

Arny

# The President's Turn—Nick Rosato

At our next meeting we welcome Rich Detrano for a day-long demonstration on his hollow turning and carving techniques. Rich is a knowledgable guy with decades of experience and a windpipe that can talk the ear off an elephant. This will be a great demonstration that unfortunately I will miss. I'm heading to Philadelphia for a craft show and will be gone for a few days. Our VP, Mike Perron, will take over the gavel for the day, so please be on your best behavior. We all know how rowdy class can be when there is a substitute. No spitballs!

At our last meeting it came to my attention that my shop is pretty darn cold. I generally work with a few layers on and am constantly moving around so my body temperature stays comfortable. If you generally fall victim to the cold wear an extra layer or two. You can crank the heat if needed.

I want to thank Harvie Porter for taking the reins as our Secretary. His literary prowess will be much appreciated as I no longer

have to find someone else.

I have continued discussions with Sage at the Shelburne Craft School regarding hosting a community woodturning event there. The school's wood program is headed by Chris Ramos, a good friend of mine who attended the Vermont Woodworking School while I did. They are considering weekends in May or June for the event. I will keep you posted.

Beth Ireland, a woodturner from Massachusetts, was successful in her request for donations to build a mobile woodturning shop. During the next several months she will be building the mobile shop and planning a trip around the country to teach people how to turn wood. The mobile shop will allow her to pull up to any parking lot, unload some gear and get turning. I emailed her and invited her to Vermont during the tour. She replied and said she would like to come up this way. If it works out, maybe we could turn some bowls at Leddy Park in Burlington and have some

veggie burgers and hot dogs while we swim and bathe in the summer sun.

Ted Fink has been researching new insurance for our club. The American Association of Woodturners, our parent organization, has discontinued their coverage of all affiliate clubs due to rising costs. Thank you, Ted.

I was in New York City a couple weeks ago for a craft show and ran into Siegfried Schreiber again. Check out his website www.siegfriedschreiber.de to

see his creations. He's from Germany. I met him last year and was completely mesmerized by his meditative woodturnings. His objects utilize kinetic energy and move in soothing, elegant motions. Nice guy too.

That's all I have for now. I hope you enjoy Rich's demonstration.

Happy turning!

Nick

# Woodchuck Sightings—Ted Beebe



As you may recall, I am new to turning. I have had a lathe for close to 40 years, but have never used it. In April of last year, I joined the Woodchuck Turners with the intent to start turning. Last year I had lots of other projects, so I made very little progress, but my interest has not waned.

My wife and I are spending January and February in Florida. I brought my lathe, bowl blanks, and related equipment with us; so with no other distractions (except the beach, kayaking, the beach, biking, and the beach), I have turned about 40 bowls with 40 more to go; much needed experience.

I went to the January meeting of the Peace River Woodturners Club and will be going to their February meeting. They are very welcoming with skilled turners. They use some of the woods that we use, plus woods such as Florida mahogany and grapefruit. Unfortunately, they did not have a demonstration as the focus for the evening was photography; not my cup of tea. In February, also no demonstration as the focus is safety. This, too, is not an exciting subject for me, albeit very important.....I say as my thumb is still healing from a casual contact with a moving band saw blade.

Since the January meeting, I have visited a couple of their members' personal shops. One of the guys, Paul Bartlett, does some amazing segmented turnings; he is also a master cabinet maker/woodworker. His house is more like a museum. Last year he entered 5 or 6 turnings in the Florida State Fair, and came away with 5 ribbons, including Best of Show. This was his first entry in the competition, but I think he has the "bug". He is working on a piece for this year's Fair with a spider theme. Last year's winning piece was a golf theme. His NASCAR theme piece has about 2500 pieces.....amazing work!



Paul develops every project on a CAD program before he does anything; that gives him all of the angles and dimensions. You can see his work at: www.paul-bartlett.com. He said he doesn't build projects to sell but rather does it for his own enjoyment. However, because he has so many pieces, he has offered some for sale. He has them on Etsy.com at amazingly low prices. I questioned him about that and he said: first, he doesn't make them to sell; second, he doesn't like sitting in a booth at a show; and third, they aren't flying off the shelf, even at the low prices.

Paul is a master wood turner and a gentleman, and has become a friend and mentor. Several months ago, I told Bill Walsh that I had an interest in turning, but I wasn't yet sure that I would get into it. Bill told me that he didn't know anyone that got started and didn't "get into it". You were right Bill.

Bill, Toby, and so many other Woodchucks, and now Paul Bartlett, have been so influential in developing my interest in wood turning. I clearly would not have this interest, at all, if it were not for the Woodchuck Turners.

Thank you Woodchucks, and I'll see you in March.

Ted Beebe



# Rich Detrano—Continued

(Continued from page 1)

was very different from any type of woodworking that I was familiar with because it was a subtractive process done in the round.

I left Northport at the age of 25 for the sunny beaches of Florida where I spent the next 25 years. During the 80's, I used my knowledge of woodworking in the repair of wooden boats in a yard in Florida. Woodworking had become my profession.

In the 90's I became reacquainted with and fascinated by woodturning while attending an art show in Dunedin, Florida.

My fascination for woodturning soon became a passion and I joined The Florida West Coast Woodturners, (FWCW), and The American Association of Woodturners. With the help and guidance of their members, I improved my skills and eventually became the president of FWCW.

My interest and involvement in woodturning has continued until the present time.

The wood I use in my pieces is found locally. I use found wood, (trees that have been removed by others), as a source of my materials. The inspiration for my work comes from what nature provides to a

particular species of wood. I attempt to highlight the natural features of the wood including its imperfections and peculiarities. It is often the configuration of the annual rings, the irregularities of a burls grain pattern and bark inclusions that are the true beauty of my work. My intention is to create a form which will allow nature's beauty to be seen and enjoyed.

#### **Woodchuck Chatter**

Treasurer

# February 2013 Treasurer's Report

| Balance Forward              | \$2671.01 |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Income                       |           |
| Dues                         | 375.00    |
| Woodstock                    | 36.00     |
| Raffle                       | 40.00     |
| Feb. 16th entry fees         | 20.00     |
| Balance Forward<br>Ted Fink, | \$3142.01 |

The board of directors of WTNV gratefully acknowledges receipt of 2013 dues from the following members .Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Bill Blankney, David Buchholz, Greg Drew, Thomas Dunne, William Durkee, Argie Economou, Russ Fellows, Cheryl Ferry, Dave Ferry, Ted Fink, Toby Fulwiler, Barry Genzlinger, George Gibson, Rick Graveline, Alex Huizenga, Bruce Klink, Ted Latrell, Bob Martin, Gerry Martin, Gary A. Moreau, Bill Nestork, Stephen O'Donnell, David Olson, John R. Owen, Mickey Palmer, Michael Perron, Jim Phelan, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Larry Rice, Robert Riley, Nick Rosato, Bill Rowley, Bob Schu-

macher, David Scrase, D. Edwards Smith,, Arny Spahn, Priscilla Spahn. Mike Sturges, Alan Wallor(42)

(Scott Bennett, Dick Montague, Michael Mode and Al Stirt are lifetime non paying members) (4)

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.

Dues for 2013 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to Ted Fink, PO Box 850; Shelburne, VT 05482.

#### **Welcome New Members**

George Gibson 106 Ledge Road Burlington, Vermont 05401 802 864 4290 ggibsonvt@comcast.net Robert Riley 776 Porters Point Rd. Colchester, VT 05446 802 264 9845 rilerj@comcast.net

John Owen 38 Cannon Point Road Charlotte, VT 05445 802 425 4632 jrowenl@gmavt.net

Ted Latrell
181 Meaker Road
So. Duxbury, VT 05660
802 244 8373
TLatrell@myfairpoint.net

Alex Huizenga 63 East St. Bristol, VT 05443 email and phone n/a

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

Video library use, mentoring program, Klingspor and Hartville Tool discount lists, bulk purchase discounts, Woodstock Festival participation.

#### Notice regarding Klingspor and Hartville Tool member discount lists:

- 1) These lists will be updated once a year only, in the first week of April.
- 2) If you are currently on the lists and wish to remain so simply pay your dues by April 1st. Failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the lists.

3) If your name is not currently on these discount lists but you would like it to be, you must pay your dues by April 1st AND notify Ted Flnk (985 2923) or <a href="mailto:tifturnings@gmail.com">tifturnings@gmail.com</a>) that you wish to be added to these lists.

## **Woodchuck Bulletin Board**

#### Tree Felling and Log Sawing

Classes at Shelburne Farms: Saturday Jan 12, 2013 tree felling and April 6, 2013 log sawing. Ten to noon both days. Fifteen dollars per session or \$20 for both. Preregistration is necessary at 802 985 8686.

#### **Totally Turning 2013**

Totally Turning 2013 will be presenting their annual Symposium on Saturday and Sunday, March 23 & 24, 2013. The Symposium will be held at Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs NY.

The 2013 Symposium features many of the world's leading woodturners: Mike Mahoney, Binh Pho, Ernie Conover, Lyle Jamieson, Kurt Hertzog, Steve Sinner, David Nittmann, Giles Gilson, Joe Herrmann, Jerry Sambrook, Harvey Fein, Bruce Hoover, Mike Souter, and Geoffrey Noden

Visit their website, <u>www.totallyturning.com</u>, for details.

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# 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@hotmail.com
Groton

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

Ted Fink: Bowls, spindles, & boxes.
802-985-2923
jantedfink@gmail.com
Shelburne

Russ Fellows: Segmented vessels. 802-899-3059 skunkmen@together.net lericho

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

#### Making a bracelet from wood scraps— Dave Buchholz

Making bracelets with wood scraps is relatively easy and adding color brightens up the project. This is a project that does not require advanced turning skills.

It is important that the wood you choose has the grain running parallel to the bed of the lathe as you would for any spindle work. Any wood that is about 3 inches in diameter and at least 2 inches long will work. A figured hardwood will polish up nicely.

The inner diameter of the bracelet will vary depending on the wrist size of the person who will wear it. This will typically vary from 2 ½ to 2 ¾ inches. The wall thickness of the bracelet should be about ¼ inch to give enough strength to the bracelet, so choose a piece of wood ½ inch larger than the inner diameter you need.

Prepare the wood with a tenon for your 4 jaw scroll chuck. I make the tenon between centers on the lathe.

Mount the piece of wood in your chuck and using a roughing gouge turn a smooth cylinder about I inch long. The diameter of this should be what you want for the inner diameter plus ½ inch for wall thickness

Smooth over the front edge of the bracelet.

Just mark the other edge of the bracelet with a detail gouge or a parting tool. This should be a very shallow mark since you will be hollowing out the bracelet and you need strength in the wood for now. I make the length of the bracelet from 3/4 to 1 inch.



Using a pencil I mark where I intend to wood burn the grooves. I make 3 color bands which means I need 4 wood burned groves. After marking the grove with a pencil, use a skew chisel to make a very small grove to guide the wood burning wire. I use a guitar wire to burn the 4 groves.

Rather than have colored bands that have a single color, I make shorter bands by burning a boundary at random places along the band. I place these spots so that they do not line up from one band to the next. The wood burning is done to contain the color on the wood and prevent it from bleeding over.

Now hollow out the center. I use a bowl gouge and hollow from the center out since this is end grain. Make sure you hollow out deeper than the length of the bracelet you want.

Sand the bracelet inside and out. You can paint the bands now or wait until step 9.

Part off the bracelet. I use a sanding cylinder on a drill press to clean up the just parted edge.

Paint the bands with the colors you like. I use Golden transparent air brush paints.

These are transparent enough to allow the grain of the underlying wood to show through.

After the paint dries (I wait about I hour), I wipe on a 50-50 mix of polyurethane spar varnish and paint thinner. I put several coats of this finish on the bracelet to protect the surface.

**Dave Buchholz** 



# **January Meeting—Continued**

(Continued from page 1)

February 16<sup>th</sup>. Rich Detrano will be doing a demonstration of hollow turning. The meeting will go from 10 AM to 4 PM. Mike Perron will be running the meeting as Nick Rosato will be away at a craft show. There will be a participants fee of \$10. The club will be paying the balance of the cost.

Nick Rosato has been in contact with Mike Heneghan, president of the Upper Valley Woodturners, about the possibility of having a joint meeting. Mike extended an invitation to Woodchucks to attend their bi-monthly meetings.

Ira Solace, Russ Fellows, Mike Sturgis, Mickey Palmer, and Nick Rosato provided the manpower to remove the club's pos-



sessions from the Vermont Woodworking School in Fairfax. (Thanks 'Chucks!) Nick Rosato discussed the need to create a cabinet for the AV equipment.

Joe Laferriere made a motion for the club to authorize Nick Rosato to build a new cabinet. The motion was seconded and passed.

Joe Laferriere made the motion that the fee for the workshop be raised to \$12. Arny Spahn seconded. The motion was defeated.

Totally Turning Symposium is March 23 & 24 in Saratoga Springs, NY. Information is available at Totallyturning.com. Nick Rosato mentioned that some 'Chucks might want to carpool to the show.

Beth Ireland is creating a trailer to carry lathes to use for teaching around the USA. She is looking for donations. Information is available at http://www.usaprojects.org/project/sanctuary

Arny Spahn gave information on the Randolph Playhouse fundraising for a digital projector that will allow the movie theatre to remain in business. Funds are being raised through Kickstarter.com. the URL is http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/678892078/playhouse-projector-project?ref=email

Nick is in conversation with the Shelburne Craft School about the possibility of doing some demonstrations at the Craft School. Several members expressed an interest in participating. The expected date is somewhere in late April/early May.

Nick Rosato is hoping to do some youth outreach. He is hoping to create some weekend workshops for students. However, he won't be proceeding until the liability insurance question is answered.

Nick suggested a spindle garden as a club



project. He suggested members be creative with their submissions. Nick showed some of the spindles that he had already

created.

Barry Genzlinger announced the upcoming beCause Craft Show. Crafters donate half or more of their earnings to their favorite charity. The show will be held March 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Michaels College. Their website is at http://

www.becausecraftshow.com/24801.html

The raffle was held with 20 members participating.

Nick shared the design and use of his string spindle steady.



Toby Fulwiler shared some of his burl bowls and asked a question about how to fill some of the gaps in a burl he was turning. The consensus of the group was to add a base to the bowl and don't fill the gaps!

Greg Drew offered applications for the Vermont Crafts Council Open Studio Weekend to be held May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day weekend). He stated that although the official application date had passed, turners could still sign up if they did so quickly. Greg also shared some of his turnings.

Dave Buccholz shared techniques for

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#### **Tool Tests—Arny Spahn**



Easy pen turner Part# 510-5200 \$89.99

I was intrigued by the Easy Wood line of replaceable carbide tools. I first bought the pen turner, which is a small tool designed for rapid shaping of pen bodies. It took me several tries to get comfortable with the tool. Maybe with several more pens, I'll actually get good results. One of the reasons I don't like the tool is that I tried seem to require a lot of it requires very precise alignment with the wood. You must be right on the center line and the tool has to be perpendicular to the wood at that point.



Easy start finisher 59.95 part# 1047660001

The Easy start finisher—it's meant to be a starter tool; they make more expensive versions—produces a very fine cut. I found it a little hard to control at first. I think that it would work best on larger spindles than what I was experimenting with.

Either of the Easy Wood tools practice to get right. Properly handled, they are capable of all that the manufacturer claims for them.

The 45 degree scraper uses a HSS replaceable cutter rather



Robert Sorby 45 Degree Shear Scraper—bowl interiors \$51.50

than a carbide bit. The shaft is square with a diagonally cut tool holder. I bought the one tool and the second cutter as an economy measure.

The tool is a dream to use. I immediately got a very smooth interior on a maple bowl with tree limbs intruding on the major grain pattern. The square shaft holds the cutter at a precise 45 degrees. Switching over to the replacement cutter, I got another series of smooth cuts on the outside of



Robert Sorby 45 Degree Shear Scraper Replacement Cutter for bowl exteriors \$15.25

the bowl. I think that these cutters may require sharpening sooner than similar carbide cutters would. I'll have to devise a holder for that purpose when the time comes. I can readily recommend this Sorby tool. They have also come out with a series of carbide tools with interchangeable handles which might be worth having as my present tools wear out.

Arny

# The Cutting of a Gem—Ted Fink

I have cut into burls of cherry, birch and oak, bud burls, and ring burls. They never ceased to excite me because no two are the same and they are invariably beautiful.

This past Christmas my children presented me with, by far, the largest burl with which I have ever had a close encounter. It had grown on a 15 inch diameter oak trunk and was nearly perfectly spherical, 37" in diameter. My sons calculated its weight to be about 900 lbs. (They proved this to be a good approximation by putting a sizable dent in my driveway by rolling off of a 28" high truck bed.)

Having searched in vain for a sawyer with a bandsaw of adequate capacity, I cut it up, one gorgeous slab at a time. But only after deliberating for weeks on the most favorable angle of attack. One thoughtless cut would render this gem less than optimally useful. I cut a 4inch thick cap off each of 3 sides followed by another much wider 4" slab off each of those same 3



sides. I have yet to process the remain-

One of the most common beliefs revealed by non woodworkers when they discuss burls is that they are much harder than ordinary wood. This is more myth than reality. Cherry burls, for example, are softer than cherry lumber. So, I didn't really expect much resistance from this burl but from the very first cut I realized that either my chainsaw needed sharpening or this was the densest piece of oak I

had ever sawn. As I got into turning it, the latter hypothesis proved to be cor-

Another myth is that hard, dense woods are unusually difficult to turn. I find them to be easier to work in as much as they present a very smooth finish right off the tool. This is in contrast to the 'softer' hardwoods such as butternut, or willow which leave wooly surface even with very sharp tools.

This burl smoothed out nicely with a finishing shear scrape at a high rake angle as fine, cleanly sliced shavings flowed from the well honed edge of my swept back gouge. The great beauty of this burl was in its heartwood which revealed swirling caramel, brown and black 'brindle' pattern. To capture as much of this heartwood as possible I cored every piece. The picture shows the final 28" X 24" natural-edged bowl from one of the large slabs.

Ted Fink

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#### Woodchuck Profile— Harvie Porter

I grew up in northern New Jersey and moved to Chester, Vermont, in 1973 after my junior year of college (Bucknell). I started college intending to major in engineering, but ended up with a degree in sociology. I decided I wanted to work on the input end of social work and go into teaching, so I returned to school at UVM to get my teaching credentials. (It was there that I became acquainted with fellow 'Chuck David Scrase, both as a German professor and fellow rugby player.)

I was hired as a math teacher at Woodstock Union High School in 1978 and I worked there for two years. I left Woodstock to take a two-year around-the-world bicycle trip of 25,000 miles. Upon my return I was hired by Whitcomb HS in Bethel, VT, married my wife Susan, and moved to Randolph. We bought a house there in 1986, two weeks before my son, David, was born. Our house, built in 1870 (we're the 4<sup>th</sup> owner!), has been a "fixer upper", with many improvements yet to come. My wife, Susan, made the decision to leave her position of teaching French to stay home with the children when our daughter, Katie, was born. I credit most of the success of our children to her efforts. David graduated from Cornell and is now an engineering consultant, and Katie graduated from Dartmouth and is now working on a PhD in cognitive neuro-psychology at Harvard.

I left teaching in Bethel in 1988 and have been teaching at Randolph Union High School since that time. I am fortunate to live a mile from work, so I am able to cycle to work daily. I expect to continue teaching at least a few more years before retiring, perhaps to another career?

I started turning when my mother passed an II" Delta lathe on to me about 10 years ago. Along with the lathe came a box of chisels, among which was a skew. It

is a wonder I survived my early unsafe attempts at turning. I was able to fashion some candlesticks and some goblets by using such tools as a 2" wood chisel to smooth surfaces and using the skew to hollow out the goblet. A narrow mortising chisel was my parting tool.

About 7 years ago I upgraded to a 12" Delta lathe and, with the acquisition of some real lathe tools and a Penn Industries chuck, started turning bowls. I still didn't have much idea of what I was

doing, as catches and tearout were common. I continued to put my life at risk as I roughed out and formed the exterior of my bowls with a 2" spindle roughing gouge. (I learned at one of my first 'chucks meeting of my error.) Even though the Reese drive on the 12" lathe made speed changes convenient, it seemed like the lathe had more vibration than my old 11" lathe. Thus, when an old Broadhead-Garrett (Atlas I-Line marketed for schools) appeared on Craigslist in Southern VT, I upgraded to the beefier lathe.

This brings me back to my wonderful wife. When I was looking at NH Craigslist two years ago, there was a listing for a Powermatic 3520B lathe. The lathe was less than half the price of new. I showed the ad to my wife and wistfully commented that someday I could hopefully sell enough bowls to be able to buy a lathe like that and that it would be the last lathe I would ever need. Her comment was, "Why don't you buy it now before you are too old to get down the stairs to use it!" So, between selling my previous lathe, using some gift money and a small sum more, I purchased the lathe. Now the pressure is on to bring the quality of my turning up to the quality of the lathe.

At this time, I'm focusing on turning bowls and the occasional platter, with hopes of building



enough of a selection to be able to do a farmers market or local craft fair. I'm guessing my sharpening skill and edge control are improving as I can occasionally produce that "start sanding with 200 grit" finish of which I hear the more experienced turners speak. I continue to experiment with bowl forms, with the goal of finding one that I can call my own. Most of the wood I turn is harvested as I collect the 8 cords we burn each winter. I find cherry the most beautiful, but it sure is fun turning the softer maple. Additional woods I have turned include ash, yellow birch, and walnut. I particularly enjoy woodturning as there is limitless opportunity for growth, both in improving skill and learning new forms and techniques. When in the workshop, I listen to VPR when the machinery isn't running.

You ask what woodturner's work I admire? Probably the first person whose work I admired was Arny Spahn. Arny used to sell at one of our local stores and I admired the wonderful vases and platters that he had for sale. I knew I had a lot to learn to catch up to Arny's skill level. I haven't seen the work of any of the famed turners, so these days I admire the work of any of the Woodchucks who bring a bowl or other turning to our meetings that shows a skill level better than mine. I'd love to make a bowl as distinctive and beautiful as Ted Fink's EKG bowls or as attractively finished as those with Mickey Palmer's special mix.

I find I have more interests than time. I enjoy singing with a local choral group and occasionally, with the other three members of a barbershop quartet. I've been learning to play the Scottish smallpipes, but I'm afraid they're being neglected as I spend more time on the lathe. In summer, I tend a large vegetable garden. I enjoy hiking, Nordic skiing and snowshoeing, but of greatest interest to me is cycling. As mentioned earlier, I cycle to school every day, and am hoping to put more cycle adventures into my schedule. My last big trip was a solo trip from Vermont up through the Canadian Maritimes and across the Trans-Labrador Highway (harvieslabradortrip.blogspot.com). I'm hoping to get into long distance events in the future.

If there were something I'd like to see more of at the club's meeting, it would be the opportunity to do some hands-on work. Would it be possible to schedule a short session before the general meeting where turners learning a skill could get a little hands-on mentoring? There may be no better way to learn how to use tools than experience, but having a little guidance could speed that process along. For example, I'd love to actually handle one of the chatter tools and see how it works when pressed into a turning bowl. When they're available, I appreciate being able to purchase CA glue and Anchorseal at a discount. Would the bulk purchase of sandpaper be something worthwhile to the other members?

Harvie

## January Meeting Continued

making spatulas and scoops. One part of the procedure was to microwave the

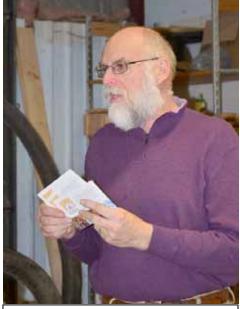


Toby showing some of his small burl bowls.

green wood and clamp it quickly in a form to create a curve in the spatula or handle.



"What do I do with these big cavities???"



Jim Holzshuh inviting us to an exhibit.

Jim Holzschuh gave an invitation to members to attend the  $2^{nd}$  annual Meet the Artist Groundhog Day Gala at the Grand



Using a special jam chuck to hollow out a ladle.

Edwards Smith shared a natural edge ash bowl with an off center core. It was explained that the unusual grain positioning was due to the wood coming from a leaning tree.



Edwards Smith showing an ash bowl with offset growth rings.



Isle Art Works on February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 -8:30 PM.

Cheryl Ferry showed a nice natural-edge burl bowl

Ted Fink gave an informative presentation (Continued on page 10)

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## January Meeting Continued

(Continued from page 9)



Greg Drew showed us a beautiful vessel crafted from a lovely burl with a pierced stand.



on the role of water in the nature of wood, the parts of a tree to avoid for turning, and how wood degrades. He suggested the book *Understanding Wood: A Craftsman's Guide to Wood Technology* by R. Bruce Hoadley as the go to reference on wood for woodworkers. (Note: This title is also available for the Kindle.)

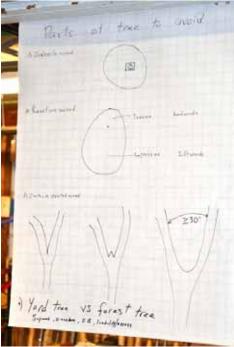
The meeting ended at 9:05. Respectfully submitted, Harvie Porter











#### **Woodchuck Chatter**

# The Resource Page—Additions Welcome

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- I) 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) Forest Products Associates, ( <a href="www.forestproductsassociates.com">www.forestproductsassociates.com</a>), 75 Oak Hill Rd, Greenfield, MA, 01301, 413-772-6883. Located just over the line south of Brattleboro, this old family-run business has a great inventory of U S and imported lumber, and a big burl and exotic section as well. They are Vermont WoodNet members and are nice folks to deal with.
- 3) Northend Hardwoods, 31 Adams Dr. (off Williston Rd just before Industrial Ave) Williston VT, 802-864-3037. A full range of U S and imported woods, cabinet grade plywood, and a new department for turners with lots of thick, dry stock to choose from.
- 4) Sutherland Welles Ltd., No. Hyde Park, VT, 800-322-1245. (<a href="www.sutherlandwelles.com">www.sutherlandwelles.com</a>). Right here in our own back yard, they make the best Tung oil products in the U.S. Call with an order and it goes out the same day!
- 5) Bad Dogs Burl Source, (<u>www.burlsource.com</u>) They are down in Belchertown, MA and have an incredible inventory of Australian and North American burls. 413-213-0248
- 6) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 7)<u>www.exoticwoodsusa.com</u>. They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 8) 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. <a href="http://www.exoticwood.biz/">http://www.exoticwood.biz/</a>
- 9) Sinclair Mill Works in North Danville VT <a href="http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm">http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm</a>. 802-748-0948. He specializes in figure Vermont species. His prices are very reasonable.
- 10) Woodturning Videos and eBooks by Steven D. Russell <a href="http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/">http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/</a>. This website is full of tips & instructions for turners.
- 11)Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. <a href="https://www.mikejackofsky.com">www.mikejackofsky.com</a>. Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 12)A website that sells only sanding supplies. (http://www.2sand.com/) Their prices are great and their service is super fast.
- 13) CA Glue Source—http://woodenwonderstx.com/ZC WoodenWonders/
- 14) Business cards and other printed goods: Vistaprint.com
- 15) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. Www.maplelandmark.com

#### **Turning Around America**

In 2010, I left Boston on a journey to teach as many people as I could, in one year, how to make a simple object out of wood. I called the project Turning Around America. Armed with two mini lathes, a grinder, a small bandsaw and hand-tools, in a Van that was part living and part shop, I traveled 30,000 miles, and reached 3000 people. At some stops I was lucky enough to get volunteers from local woodturning clubs to help me, allowing many more kids and adults to experience the magic that is woodturning. If there were no volunteers I taught wood shaping and cutting with simple hand tools. The impact was huge. Most of the people I taught had never touched a tool. The excitement on their faces and the emails I received later were very inspiring.

Being mobile allowed me to access communities that did not have woodturning/woodworking in their schools or art centers. I brought the workshop to them. While I traveled, my colleague Jenn Moller created and maintained an interactive web site so everyone could follow my progress. After my year on the road, Jenn and I accepted an invitation to teach the village of Vera Cruz, Guatemala how to use hand tools. This was also a very empowering project for us as well as the villagers.

Turning Around America continues this idea of mobile education by launching our new project, Sanctuary. Sanctuary is a prototype we are designing and building, of a mobile art/ craft studio that is on a trailer base. We launched the campaign on December 21 through <u>USAArtists.org</u>, to acquire funds to build the studio. USA Artists is a nonprofit art foundation that umbrellas artists under their non-profit status. All donations to our project through them will be tax deductible. We have until February 6<sup>th</sup> to raise our goal of 30,000 dollars. The prototype we build will be used by Turning Around America to continue our mobile teaching mission. Having two traveling studios will allow us to cover more ground and reach more people with our mission - to empower person-to-person, hand -to -hand. Turning Around America has been invited to turn around Boston Public Schools for the month of October 2013. We are also planning a return to the village of Vera Cruz to teach woodturning for one month in November 2013. We cannot do all these projects without your help. I am asking woodturning clubs everywhere to help me with the challenge of continuing craft/art education for future generations. To Donate, Please go to our site at <a href="www.turningaroundamerica.com">www.turningaroundamerica.com</a> and press the Sanctuary button, which will take you to <a href="www.turningaroundamerica.com">USAArtists.org</a> to learn more about our project. I feel strongly that we are the stewards of our craft. If we do not pass our skills on to a new generation, who will?

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# Classified Ads

Free To Members

Skil 9" Benchtop Bandsaw for sale. Like new, this saw includes flexible light, laser tracking, and ten brand new 59 1/2 inch blades from 1/8 to 3/8. \$75.00 for all. Contact Toby Fulwiler by e-mail or call 827-3779.



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My name is Judd Stewart, the designer and manufacturer of the R4 Tool Cart "Kit" that was first introduced to the woodturning community in the *Journal* of the *American Association of WoodTurners* (Dec 2011 pg 68). Sadly, the R4 "Kit" is no longer in production but I now offer the R5-P Plan-set.

The 5 sheet (22" x 34") R5-P plan-set includes the following;

Bill of Material with sources, part numbers and qty.

A cut list of all wood parts

A graphic showing an optimized
placement/layout of parts for a
4' x 8' sheet of plywood (18MM
Baltic Birch).

If you find the tool cart interesting and think your membership might want one please spread the word. Additionally, if you would like to include a graphic (better version of the one below) in your newsletter let me know and I will

promptly send it.

Hopefully your membership will find the cart a useful addition to their shop.

Sincerely,

Judd tewart www.Montana-Designs.com 619.562.0508



#### Wanted: Lathe

I am looking for a used full size lathe, not less that 2 hp and variable speed. Hoping to pay less than \$1000. and would love to find something closer to \$500. Nick mentioned something about mentioning it in your news letter. I may have found one by then but if you hear of anyone looking to get rid of something, please pass on my name.

Thanks
Tim
Timothy Clark
Cabinetmaker/Chairwright
2111 Green Street
Waltham, Vermont 05491
(802) 877-1058
cell- (802) 989-3204
tim@timothyclark.com