

July Newsletter

Central Virginia Woodturners

Special points of interest:

- Peter Shoemaker's barn burns
- We have a new meeting place
- Summer CVW picnic
- Dennis Hippen is our new club Treasurer
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Central Virginia Woodturners
Waynesboro, VA

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Chapter and Verse

At our previous meeting in June, it was discussed that we needed (another) new place to hold most of our meetings. After searching the greater Waynesboro area, the Planning Committee met and several members reviewed identified sites. Criteria used for selection were: As close to our original meeting place as practical to retain the origins of our club; available storage space to store our equipment; a low rental cost; and, enough room and parking to accommodate club meetings and occasional larger events.

Storage space within the accommodations was the toughest stumbling block. Waynesboro library has two free

meeting rooms that can be blocked out for use by groups such as ours, as does the Waynesboro Senior Citizens Center, but neither would accommodate storage.

The bottom line is, we are putting together an agreement with the Cremora Community Center (the converted former Cremora Elementary School) for the use of their auditorium. We will also have one of the former school rooms that we can lock, for our equipment. Rent will be \$25 per month, with some additional charge for the use of heat in the winter months.

We reviewed the proceeds from previous silent auctions, and the current club reserves and concluded that the club treasury would fund the cost of the rent for the facility for the next year. We will try to promote expanded participation in the silent auction in an attempt to have this revenue fund the cost of the site rental.

Miles Everard is making a map with directions to the Cremora meeting place and our August club meeting will be held there.

To give you a general idea of the location, take the Lyndhurst exit from I-64 headed north. This is Rte. 340 north, and is also called Delphine Avenue. Proceed 6-7

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President's Corner

Barbara and I have a barn that dates back prior to 1900 (we're not sure how far, but know it is older than that). Knowing how these old barns can become a part of you made it all the more sickening to see the pictures of Peter Shoemaker's barn engulfed in flames. As you all know, Peter is past president, and current member, of the Woodturners of the Virginias club up north of us. Lots of email has gone between members of that club and others. The latest I have to report is that Peter is now on the road to planning a replace-



ment. Peter had a great workshop within the barn, including five or six lathes and a lifetime's worth of collected tool, etc. includ-

ing much of his own work (carving and turning pieces).

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Turner's Tips

Face plate turning verse chuck mounting

With all of the emphasis on lathe chucks, turners seem to forget the old standby of using a faceplate and a sacrificial mounting block. Most, if not all of us, have one or more faceplates for our lathes. Prior to starting a new turning, rather than trying to turn a mounting rim on the piece to fit a chuck, glue a piece onto the bottom, where it will be convenient to hold the piece with your faceplate. It's a good idea to have a half-dozen, or more, blocks of soft wood handy to use in this manner. Soft pine works great, any wood that does not have a heavy, course grain. Cut the blocks into 6" diameter rounds, with the top and bottom flats parallel, such as out of a standard 2" x 6". The mounting rounds can be glued to the bottom of your piece to be turned using Titebond wood glue or even super glue. Some put a piece of heavy brown paper between the glue joint, but this is not needed if you follow the removal process described below.

Turn the piece just as you would if it were held in a chuck, except you don't have to sacrifice any of the bottom of the piece when you trim it off from the sacrificial piece. Once the piece has been turned and finished to your satisfaction, use a narrow parting tool to cut the piece away from the sacrificial mounting piece, cutting with the parting tool at the outer surface of the sacrificial block, just at the joint between it and your turned piece. Make the cut with your parting tool so that it just skims the bottom surface of your turned piece. Be sure to take just the thinnest sliver off the bottom of the piece, otherwise you will have a trace of the sacrificial block left on the bottom of your turned piece. As you work your parting tool cut towards the center of the pieces, turn the tool so that it cuts just a little more of the bottom of the turned piece, forming a sort of slight indent in the bottom of your piece. Hold your hand to capture the piece as it spins off as the cut is finalized. It will spin off into your hand (if you're careful). Be sure to keep your hand between the piece and the tool rest so the spinning piece doesn't bounce against the tool rest as it is cut free.

These sacrificial blocks are also handy for use as "jam chucks". After you have cut the piece off of the sacrificial mounting block, if its upper rim is even (not a wavy natural edge), it is possible to use one of your blocks to finish the bottom of the turned piece. Cut an indent in the block to just force fit the piece with the rim jammed into the block. This allows turning of the bottom of your piece. Many other useful methods can be found for the jam chuck method.

The piece shown below was made completely using the above method. The lid was turned in place on the base, which was mounted to a sacrificial piece. Once the lid was complete on its top side, it was parted from the base and eventually the inside was turned using the jam chuck method. While still on the lathe, the base was hollow and finished after the lid was parted off. Once hollowed, the base was then parted off per the above methods and then jam chucked to turn the bottom.

If you are careful parting a piece from the sacrificial block, and it works even better if you do the inward curve method described, you can take a disk sander and finish the bottom of the piece without needing to remount the piece.



Taking your own pictures

Using the same picture examples used above for the faceplate turning explanation, I will attempt to explain an easy way to take pictures of your work that will give reasonable results. I attended a session at one of the past symposiums done by a professional photographer, and of course he uses more sophisticated techniques. He has a frame that is about a 2' cube, with a chair like back, all made from 1" x 1" wood. He then uses a translucent vellum sheet as the background material. This can also be a photo grade material that that is translucent and fades from gray or black to white (either from top to bottom, or bottom to top), as the backdrop. The professional then under-lit the frame with a spot light and uses a spot light to light the piece.

Now to explain an easier method:

I use either white or black felt as the background, depending on the color of the wood used, and drape the felt over

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Show and Tell



Ron Dearing's show-and-tell for July. Several members asked about the material of the red-orange plate front right —it is Padauk

No show-and-tell pictures were taken at the meeting, so these are recreations.

(Editor's note: Sorry to only show my work in the show and tell. I put out a call for pictures of work done by others this month, but at release date no one had sent any.)

Turner's Tips (continued)

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the back of a straight-back chair. I use the seat of the chair as the platform for the piece to sit on. For pieces too big for the chair, I turn the chair around, using the back of the chair as a background drape and then spread the felt on a low coffee table. I have overhead lighting (the room over head light) and use a flash on my digital camera. To get the best resolution, I set the camera to the highest resolution setting.

I don't find that I need to do much in the way of editing, other than to crop the picture to the most desirable fit for the piece. The camera does the rest. (Aren't these new digital cameras great?)

This is an ongoing column, dedicated to bringing you biographies of our CVW members.

Each month we try to bring you at least 2-3 new member's biographies to help us all become more familiar with our fellow club members.

Getting To Know Our Fellow CVW Members

Bio's on the way this month:

- **Dennis Martin**
- **Bob Smith**
- **Cliff Savell**

More effort will be put into getting more of the bio's complete. With a number of new members of late, it is recognized that this is needed.



Chapter and Verse

(Continued from page 1)

miles to the main intersection in Cremona and turn left at the Exxon station. The community center is just past a set of railroad tracks and is on the right.

In order to retain the great facilities at the Miller School, we will continue to hold one meeting per quarter there, on the last month of each quarter, as we have done in the past. These meetings will be open turning sessions with a slight change in the way we utilize the lathes. In an attempt to do a better job of including all in the use of the lathes, three lathes will be reserved for instructional purposes. Five of the lathes will continue to be open for any project members wish to try. The three reserved lathes will be for any instructional purposes members want help with. The more seasoned members will be requested and encouraged to make their assistance available at these lathes to help any wishing assistance. The goal is to make the open sessions meaningful and instructive at all levels.

Dennis Hippen has volunteered to take over from Scott Koehn as club treasurer. Scott has been our Treasurer since the beginning of the club. Many thanks to Scott, and good luck to Dennis in this new position.

We are still looking for a club Secretary to replace Bob Garnett. I don't think Bob will come to any more meetings until we have found a replacement. Just joking, Bob has had a church function conflict for the past several meetings and assures use that he will be attending again soon. After the last meeting we received an email from Dennis Martin, a recent new member, and he is a potential candidate for club Secretary.

Club officer terms were restored at the last meeting to a term of two years. They were originally two years, then voted to a term of 18 months, so the change is just a return to what we had originally.

It was discussed and turned over to the Planning Committee for further review and proposals to investigate having an outside guest demonstrator. This could also include inviting adjacent clubs to participate. More on this item after the Planning Committee thrashes it through.

Another item for the Planning Committee to come up with recommendations is a club summer picnic. The first one (two years ago) was fun and gave the new club a chance for members to get acquainted. Now that we are more established, it's time to do the same for our additional new members. The last picnic was held at the Miller School, which has a great facility for picnics, and was well attended. Let's make this one even better.

We have a new meeting place, the Community Center in Cremona. Our August meeting will be held there.

President's Corner

Several members of our club have suggested some sort of cooperative effort to make some contribution to Peter as he tries to climb out from under this mess. (If you've seen the after pictures, you will know this is not an over statement.) I will make sure that the Planning Committee puts together a proposal for the club along these lines.

For now, I plan to attend the August 5 meeting of the Woodturners of the Virginias, and all CVW members are invited. The meeting will be held at Ashton Waters's home (it had been planned to be held at Peter's barn) and includes a demonstration and a pot luck picnic. I will try to get some time with David Evans and Ashton to see what our club can do for Peter. If you have any suggestions, don't hesitate to make them known (email them to me at rdearing@rica.net).

Coming Shows, Symposiums, Events, etc.

Turning Southern Style, Unicoi State Park, Helen, Georgia will be held September 8—10, 2006. This is the twelfth year for the symposium put on by the **Georgia Association of Woodturners**. Demonstrators will include: Stuart Batty; Judy Ditmer; and, Vic Woods. Single person registration fee is \$145. Contact: Jim Hutchinson, 2197 Kodiak Drive, Atlanta, GA, 30345.

Tennessee Association of Woodturners 19th annual woodturning Symposium will be held August 12 and 13, 2006, at the Blemont Campus, Nashville, TN. Non-member registration is \$165. Demonstrators will include: Dale Nish; John Lucas; Mike Mahoney; and, Dick Sing.

The **Virginia Woodturners** (including our own CVW) will host their **second semi-annual symposium** November 4th and 5th in Daleville, VA, which is about 10 miles north of Roanoke. The symposium will be held at the Greenfield Education and Training Center, just 3.5 miles off I-81 (exit 150B) on US220N. Go to www.virginiawoodturners.org for registration and for special rates on hotel accommodations in the area. This symposium is a **must** for all CVW members. The last symposium, held at the Outlet Village, was great. The coming event promises to be even better.

CVW Schedule of Demo's and Calendar of Other Club Events

Please note some revision to the coming schedule of demonstrations.

August 5—Woodturners of the Virginias club demo. CVW members welcome. Demo by **Joe Ruminski**. Pot luck picnic at Ashton Waters' home.

August 15—**Bert Smith**—Turning a hollow vessel

September 19—Open turning at the Miller School

October 17 Ray Jones—Turning to dimensions

November 21—**Miles Everard**—Turning a Christmas Angel and a Christmas ornament

December 19—Fred Williamson—shaping the edge of a bowl after turning

January 23—**Elbert Dale**—"Taming of the Skew—II"

If you have a demo that you would like to put on for the club, sign up now. We need to get our calendar filled. Contact: Ron Dearing at one of our meetings, or at rdearing@rica.net.

Want Ads

For Sale: Spindle lathe, made from kit, 16" swing x 36" spindle capacity, 1 HP, 8 speeds—jack shaft with two pulleys and four speed pulley on motor, heavy duty, body is made from two layers of MDF (2" thick), 1" - 8 tpi spindle w/ left hand thread on outboard. 24" outboard swing. Heavy duty welded tool rest. \$400 (flexible).

Contact Ron Dearing (540) 248-8887 (answering machine) or (540) 248-2512.

For Sale: Cast Iron Delta Lathe with two (one unused) motors, several pulleys, several tool rests, mobile stand, etc. Used less than one year. \$550;

One older commercial Rockwell table saw, very heavy, excellent saw-\$150.

Contact Hilel Salomon 540-456-8623, or 803-787-5973.

New Club Members

New Members:

- **Michael Solatka (no picture available at this time)**

Note: If you have joined CVW within the last 2-3 months and have not been introduced in the club newsletter, please send me an email so I can include your name in the new members column.

Send attention: rdearing@rica.net.

Also Note: We need personal bios from many members for the "Getting to Know Our Fellow CVW Club Members". Please take a few minutes to respond to the bio questionnaire that has

been emailed to you. This is much easier than doing personal interviews with each person. If you don't have email, talk to Ron Dearing about a questionnaire.

Members that we still need biography information include:

- Michael Atkins
- Howard Baker
- George Bentley
- Dennis Brown
- Harold Carwell
- Elliot Crafiak
- Alvin Dale
- Paul Dana
- Dan Drew
- Gene Fleming
- Ernie Floyd
- Andrew Flusche
- Dave Fuqua
- Ray Jones
- Ed Lang
- John Laport
- Pat Laport
- Dennis Martin
- Gary Martin
- Brian McReynolds
- Dave Mitchell
- David Rhodes
- Jeff Scott
- Bob Smith
- Harvey Spouse
- Pat Steele
- Tim Surratt
- Ed Tobias
- Roger Van Hooser
- Doug Van Lear
- Tim White
- Troy Young