



The Wood Spinner

May

2009

Central Virginia Woodturners

www.centralvawoodturners.org

President's Corner May 2009

Hello CVW turners. Greetings to all who have lumber and logs stored here and there around the place. I hope you are doing well and are managing to stay ahead of the curve with summer activities added in. Sure can be a challenge.

Don Voas did a fine job explaining the basics of vacuum chucking and the equipment it requires. For every step there seem to be several ways to skin the cat, and you can buy any number of finished products as well as make up your own version out of parts from eBay or the local hardware store. It will be interesting to see how many people add this skill to their repertoires in the coming months. Thank you for a thorough job, Don.

May 28 I did a demo at Willie Simmons's club, the Blue Ridge Turners. Fincastle is a charming little town. They meet in the local Fire Station, but as they do not have a room to store stuff in, the lathe and everything else has to be kept in a trailer. That and the shavings-catching tarp on the rug and the low drop ceiling made me really appreciate our situation at Crimora. Willie's shop was pretty cool, an old hand-mixed concrete auto-repair building turned to furniture restoration under his father's use years ago. A 1997 Oneway lathe with two extensions is the centerpiece, but so were the old tools along the walls and the huge stroke sander for furniture work. Willie has a storage room crammed full of all kinds of stock from lathe work of all kinds to stools and cabinets. His stock was inspiring. Pictures of his shop can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

It's been a while since we've had a newsletter. Betty had been held up by family concerns so we missed the April issue. Ron Dearing agreed to do this issue, but then he was blindsided by a deep vein thrombosis leading to a pulmonary embolism that put him into the hospital soon after the May meeting. He is out of danger now and the clot is responding to medication, dissolving away without the need for surgery. So Denny Martin has agreed to put out the next one or two, but did not want to sign up for more. We are in his debt. Is there anyone who would be willing to fill in this vital part of our club?

Our upcoming meeting will feature our very own Bert Smith on turning lidded boxes, which is certain to be a lot of fun as well as informative. Here's to productive turning for us all in the two weeks leading up to it.

Yours, Fred

May 19, 2009 Minutes

Central Virginia Woodturners (CVW)
Crimora Community Center

Officers in attendance were:

President: Fred Williamson
Roving VP: Starke Smith
Programs VP: Bert Smith
Treasurer: Dennis Hippen
Video Chief: John O'Neil
Librarian: Joan Baumgardner
Secretary: Joan Baumgardner
General members: 40
Guests: nine

The following officers were not in attendance:

Newsletter Editor: Betty Gruber

The General Meeting:

Fred Williamson called the Central Virginia Woodturners (CVW) meeting to order shortly after 6:30 pm. The following items were discussed:

Fred acknowledged the passing of Alvin Dale and expressed the club's condolences to Elbert Dale. The club will make a donation to the Fluvanna SPCA in honor of Albert.

Fred brought in a copy of The 27th Annual Smithsonian Craft Show full-page brochure, which features many artisans including several woodturners. The brochure was placed in the library for viewing. Fred indicated that this inspired his interest in possibly participating in a future Smithsonian Show.

Nate Hawkes, who was unable to attend the monthly meeting, donated maple and mulberry wood to the CVW silent auction. Nate had placed an order of cobalt steel bits for interested members after the April CVW meeting. These items were available for pick-up.

Fred inquired on the status of a rebate on a recently purchased light bulb for the club. Dennis Hippen indicated that it is still pending.

Dennis Hippen provided membership/discount cards applicable to the Woodcraft in Roanoke, VA.

Ron Dearing reported that he recently purchased the "Master Woodturners" by Dale Nish. Upon further review, he realized that he already had this publication. Ron

indicated that he might donate a copy to the club.

Betty Gruber, the newsletter editor, was unable to attend the meeting tonight. It was decided that a "back-up" newsletter editor would be beneficial. Ron Dearing volunteered to serve in this capacity.

Stark Smith informed members of the importance of implementing safety precautions at all times. Starke reported that he had an accident this past week while cutting a lilac bush with his chainsaw. After 50 years of using a chainsaw this was his first accident. He was fortunate to escape serious injuries. Starke showed members the pants he was wearing, which were shredded. This most likely would not have happened had he wore his chaps. Again, this serves as an example for ensuring the use of proper clothing and safety equipment.

Starke Smith reported that he placed an order for CA glue, which will be available at our next meeting.

Upcoming Shows, Symposiums & Events

Tom Evans reminder attendees that the club will be featured in September, at the Shenandoah Valley Art Center in Waynesboro. The Center charges a 20% commission.

Approximately thirty pieces will be showcased. All pieces must be delivered to Tom by the August CVW meeting. If more than thirty pieces are provided, an in-house jury procedure will be implemented. The Artisan Center has very affordable memberships available; however, membership is not required to participate.

InGrained: Women and Wood Art Symposium will be held on May 29 - 31, 2009. This is Part of the Turning Wood into Art the Jane and Arthur Mason Collection. It will be Held at the Visual Arts Center of Richmond. The Admission fee is \$20 for Sat., May 30 and Free on Sun., May 31. Barbara Dill and Tom Crabb will be featured.

Don Voas' candle holder was created by magic - no band saw.

Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Colorado provides a 20% discount to AAW members. Starke Smith stated that they provide wonderful demonstrations and quality workshops. Additional information can be obtained from their website. A brochure and information packet is available for review in the library.

Library

The following items were purchased for the library:
 "Remarkable Trees of Virginia by Nancy Ross Hugo.
 "Master Woodturners" by Dale Nish
 Woodturning Design, annual subscription

The following donation was received:
 American woodworker #142 June/July 2009 - from John O'Neil

Treasurer's Report:

Current balance is \$1392. The Silent auction rendered \$69.

Show and Tell:



Starke Smith initiated

this session. There was a large selection of turned pieces and helpful hints. Jay Ragsdale was the recipient of a gift certificate from Craft Supply.

A unique item on display was a canine prosthesis worn by a yellow Labrador Retriever. Elbert Dale made and refined a left rear leg prosthesis, which required turning. The dog has enjoyed his new leg/foot so much that he is on his "second" foot.





Mars Champaign had turned several very nice pepper mills.

Silent Auction:

Dennis Hippen managed the auction. The auction rendered \$69. There was a large selection of cherry donated by Denny Martin, other wood, tarps and tools.



The "Sphere Master", Dennis Hippen showed a nearly perfect wooden ball.



Jim Oates continues to bring great examples of both his turning and carving talents.



Elbert Dale brought a motor his father made when Elbert was a boy.

Elbert Dale loves a challenge. When farm equipment injured a neighbor's yellow lab, Elbert agreed to make a prosthesis on his lathe, and it worked superbly.





Other fine examples of member's turnings brought for Show & Tell



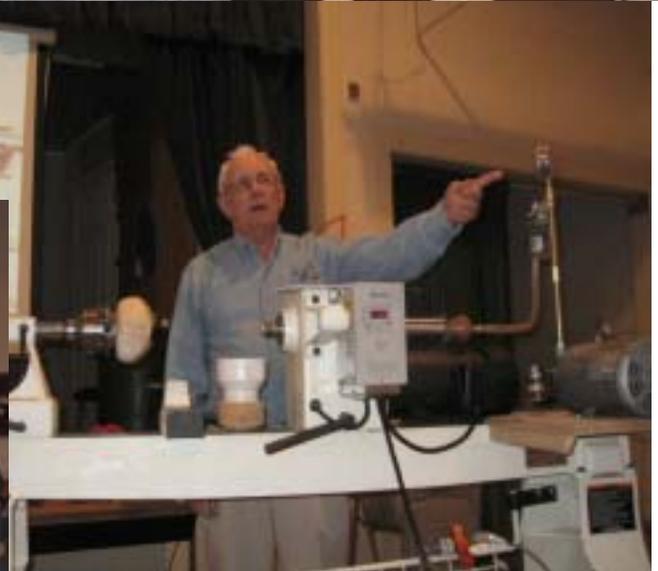
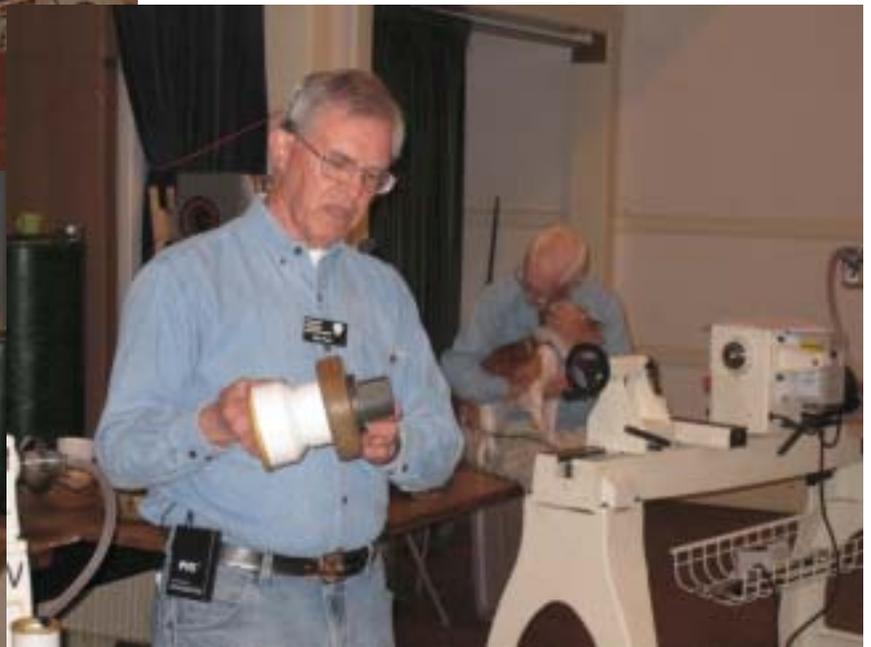
Don Voas and Harry Kellem gave excellent demonstrations on creating a vacuum chuck system. Combining Ebay purchases with shop-made components, a system can be created by anyone interested in using this technique.



Don brought his excellent collection of shop-made chucks for his vacuum system, while Harry described his shop-made techniques for connecting the vacuum lines through the head stock. Both use a system of mounting the bowl chuck on the tail stock to center the bowl on the vacuum chuck.

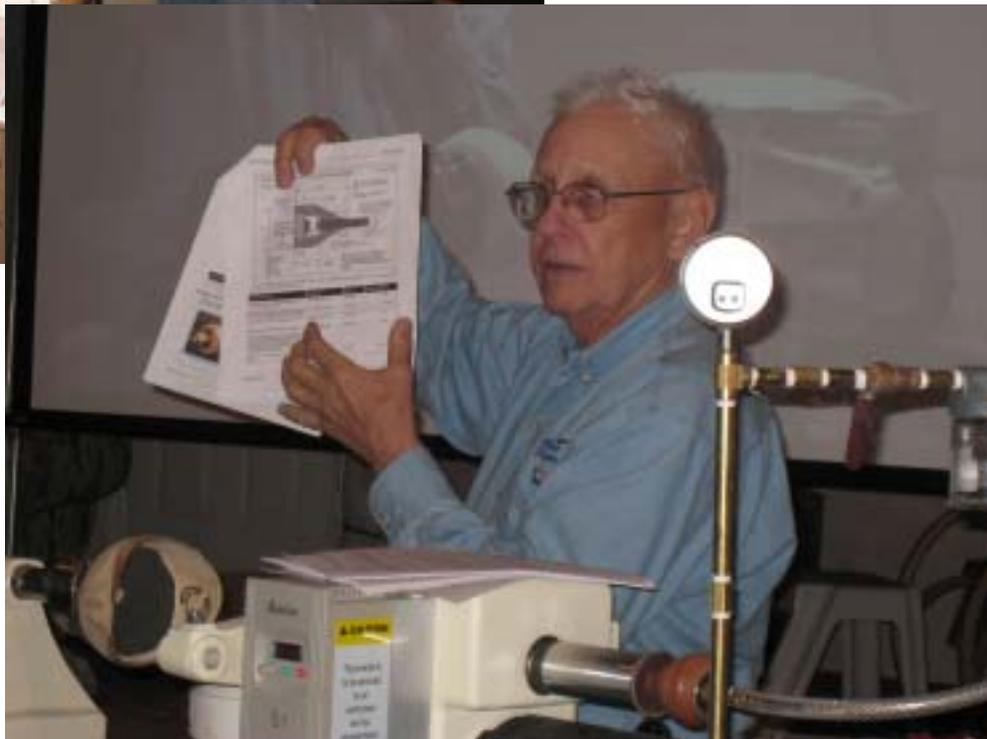


The Internet is a great source of vacuum chuck information



While showing his system of mounting a chuck on the tail stock to center to bowl on the vacuum chuck, Harry even provided the proper technique in finger pointing during his demonstration.

More demo pictures





The April meeting was a multi-station event: Carving with Dave Potter, Jim Oates and Joan Baumgardner; Turning Pens with Bryce Connelly and Betty Gruber; Turning Spheres with Dennis Hippen; and sharpening with Starke Smith. The multi-station event meetings are always well attended.



About Central Virginia Woodturners

Central Virginia Woodturners is a local chapter of the AAW with over 70 active members. Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 9:00 PM at the Crimora Community Center.

Directions to the Center:

From Staunton and points north or south, from I-81 take the Rt. 612 Verona exit east, or from route 11 just north of Verona turn east onto Rte. 612 (at the Burger King). Stay on 612 for 10-12 miles. After crossing South River, the Crimora Community Center is on the left.

From Charlottesville and points east on I-64, take Exit 96 (Lyndhurst Exit) and go north on Delphine Street. After a mile or so you will cross 250 E. at the Hess Station and join 340 North. Go 6 miles north and turn left onto Rt. 612 at the BP Station. Go 1 mile and the center is on the right just after the RR tracks.

Contact Information:

For information on attending CVW meetings or joining CVW, contact:

Fred Williamson, CVW President,
f1w2@cville.net;

Bert Smith, Events,
woodsmith600@adelphia.net;

Starke Smith, CVW vice-president
starke@cfw.com;

Dennis Hippen, CVW Treasurer,
Hipwood@comcast.net.



Fred Williamson had a chance to visit the shop of Willie Simmons and shared these pictures.

