

March Newsletter

Central Virginia Woodturners

Special points of interest:

- Update of our lathe spreadsheet (follows as a separate Excel file)
- First trade demo with CVW members demonstrating at Timberville club meeting
- AAW collaborative challenge coming up
- Our own 'walnut challenge'

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Central Virginia
Woodturners
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Chapter and Verse

The March meeting was very well attended. After club business, show-and-tell, and our silent auction, everyone sort of went their own way, working on various turning and sharpening projects.

If anyone needs a blank for the April 'Walnut Challenge' call Ron Dearing or Starke Smith. The blanks are 2" x 6" x 6". See page 3 for a description of our 'Walnut Challenge' for the April meeting.

We had several new members and guests for the meeting. See the list of new members on page 5. One of the new members, Bill Whitaker, has a work history of marine ship design and a resume that looks very similar to Jim Higgins. We need to get him together with Jim (who missed this last meeting). Bill thinks they may have worked on at least one major ship building in common.

At the right, that's Ben Flory making chips fly and showing some of his new confidence, thanks to Fred Williamson. See the comments below in the President's Corner column about Ben and his



grant from the AAW. We, hopefully, will see come comments about this in the local papers. Yours truly is sending a press release to the three closest local papers.

President's Corner

This issue of our newsletter includes (as a separate Excel spreadsheet) an update of the compilation of all lathes (that we have information on) available to the woodturner. New listings are in bold.

Attention all members! Put May 6 on your calendar. All CVW members are invited to join the Timberville club meeting and it is a bring a pot luck picnic. Bert Smith and Ron Dearing from our CVW club will demo for our first reciprocal demo with the Timberville club. The meeting will be held at Peter Shoemaker's barn. Directions will be given by email closer to the meeting date.

Seats were available for two more passengers with Ron Dearing and Dennis Hippen to the AAW symposium in Louisville, but now those seats have been taken by new member Bill Whitaker and his wife. We will leave early Thursday morning and return late Sunday evening. At least one car load is also going from the Timberville club. We hope there will be others in the club to take in this sure to be great symposium.

Congratulations to Ben Flory on his grant from the AAW. Ben will receive a grant for \$700 to be used towards turning lessons with Fred Williamson. Ben applied, with Fred, David Elsworth, and one other alternate turner as his

choices for furthering his turning skills. The AAW is allowing him his choice and he has elected to go with Fred, a very good choice in our opinion. Way to go Ben. That's Ben at the lathe in the picture above.

An update of the lathe spreadsheet will come as a separate file. It has been updated with information on several new lathes since the first distribution.

So far we have no takers for the AAW collaborative challenge. If you have ideas, contact Joan Baumgardner, jybaumga@direcway.com. Joan is acting as our focal point for the challenge.

Turner's Tips

Finding a segment length when doing segmented turnings:

Here's a handy method for finding the length of each piece in a segmented ring (courtesy of the AAW Journal for Spring, 2006). The method gives an easy way to find the length of a segment piece when making segmented turnings. It is only necessary to know the tangent of the cut angle (180 divided by the number of segments in the ring) to find the length of the segment. Multiply the tangent of the segment angle x the diameter of the ring.

Diameter of ring x tangent of cut angle = segment length

Example: ring diameter 6", eight segment ring

6×0.414 (tangent of 22.5 degrees) = 2.48" segment length

Number of Segments	Segment Cutting Angle (degrees)	Tangent
6	30	0.577
8	22.5	0.414
10	18	0.325
12	15	0.268
16	11.25	0.199
24	7.5	0.132

Saving spalted wood:

If you have turned spalted wood, you have probably also experienced spalted wood that has gone too far and is too soft and too weak to hold up to turning. A possible way of saving wood that has gone too far in the spalting process is to coat the wood with a mixture of 50% yellow glue and 50% water. Turn the piece oversize (similar to what you would do with green wood that is being set aside to air dry) and then liberally coat it with the 50% mixture and then let the piece to dry over night. The piece should now turn reasonably well and will also sand well. (This tip is also in the Spring, 2006 AAW Journal, but has been discussed in the past in our club meetings.)

How to Ebonize:

To create an Ebony like effect, soak steel wool in vinegar (use a plastic container as the vinegar can eat through metal). Let this sit for one week and then remove the steel wool. Then soak wood that has been turned near its final shape in the blackened vinegar to stain the wood to a very dark black that looks much like Ebony.

How to know a safe turning speed:

This tip comes from a Dale Nish demonstration on one of the club's AAW 2005 symposium's DVD's. Keep the following number range in mind when turning—6000 to 9000. Merely divide the diameter of your turning into 6000 to get the safe low range speed. Dividing into 9000 will give the safe high range. Since seeing Dale give this rule of thumb, I have gotten into the habit of always doing this. It's easy and keeps your turning speed safe.

Next month: How to handle green wood.

Show and Tell and Meeting Shots



Peter Welch and **Fred Williamson** at the lathe above and **Fred** (right photo)



Show-and-tell from the March meeting. Notice **Dave Archer's** Windsor chair in the picture on the right. The wane edge, reddish bowl in both photos is a **Fred Williamson** piece from pink sycamore from a tree Bert Smith and Starke Smith salvaged. The large wane edged bowl in the rear left (also in right photo) is Royal Pelonia and is also by Fred. He brought two pieces for the silent auction (HB Salomon out-bid everyone to get both pieces). The gray spot in the bowl is the result of two nails in the tree, plus Fred said that a pipe went through several feet of the tree.

Walnut Challenge

All members who were at our February meeting know that Starke brought in 2" x 6" x 6" blanks for our April meeting "Walnut Challenge". If you didn't get a blank at the February meeting contact Ron Dearing or Starke Smith, or it is acceptable to use your own blank. The challenge is to do whatever you wish with the blank and all will be reviewed at the April Show-and-Tell. There are basically no limits to what you are allowed to do with the blank. It's totally up to your imagination. Just to name a few options, there is nothing to limit cutting the blank into segments, etc. Color, texture, pyro, you name it, you can do it. Let's see some "out side the box" turnings.

Coming Shows, Symposiums, Events, etc.

The **AAW's 20th Annual National Symposium** will be held this year in Louisville, KY June 22-24. Louisville is only about a 9-10 hour drive from us. What an opportunity to see not only the best in the US, but the best in the world. The symposium will have over 140 demonstrations, plus three woodturning exhibits within easy walking distance of the show hall.

The **Utah Woodturning symposium** is the longest running woodturning symposium in the world. 2006 marks the 27th anniversary of this event. It runs June 15th – 17th, 2006 at

the Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. There will be over 100 demonstrators given by some of the world's best. For information see www.utahwoodturning.com.

The AAW has announced an **invitational exhibition** titled, **"Tops, Boxes, and Treen-ware of the World"** to be held at its Gallery in Landmark Center in St. Paul, MN. The exhibit will open on Friday, January 13th and will run through April 14th. Treen is defined as turned items used in the home such as: covered boxes, sewing boxes, eggs, needle cases, pin cushions,

and lace bobbins. The exhibit will consist of hundreds of turned items.

The Dakota Woodturners will present their **8th annual mini lathe symposium** in Mandan, ND on March 31 (evening) through April 1st and 2nd. For information email Welby Baetsch at wbaetsch@btinet.net.

The Southern Piedmont Woodturners presents **"A Day at the Lathe"** in Concord, NC, on Saturday, April 1, starting at 9:00 a.m. The day of turning will feature Nick Cook, Bobby Clemons, and Chris Ramsey. Pre-registration is \$30 or \$35 at

the door. For information contact Barry Russell 704-933-9092 or email at brus-sell8@carolina.rr.com.

The **AAW** will collect Christmas ornaments at the symposium in Louisville for their **"back to the community"** project. The ornaments will be delivered to the Kosair Children's Hospital for the hospital's fund raising auction. If you have an ornament to contribute, bring them to a club meeting on, or before our June 20th meeting. One of the members going to the AAW event will deliver them to the symposium.

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

March 21—Miller School—Walnut Challenge turning opportunity for all members

April 18—Outlet Village—**Joe Berg**—"How to finish a turned piece (includes a Beale demonstration)"

May 6—Demo at Timberville Club. All CVW members are invited to join the Timberville club meeting and it is a bring a pot luck picnic. Bert Smith and Ron Dearing will demo for our first reciprocal demo with the Timberville club. The meeting will be held at Peter Shoemaker's barn. Directions will be given by email closer to the meeting.

May 16—**Fred Williamson**—using a bowl gouge. This should be at the Outlet Village (presuming it is still available at this time).

June 20

July 18

August 5—Timberville Club demo. CVW members welcome. Demo by **Joe Ruminski**. Pot luck picnic at Peter Shoemaker's barn.

August 15 open

September 19

October 17 open

November 21 open

December 19

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: John O'Neil or Ron Dearing.

Getting To Know Our Fellow CVW Members

There are too many bio's that have been completed this month to include them all in the newsletter. They will come soon as a separate email (in PDF format). I threw in Bill Woodson's picture to give you a flavor of the great things to come.

Bio's on the way this month:

- Craig Dearing
- Bill Whitaker
- Dennis Brown
- Dave Archer



Tips

Tip 1

A good rule of thumb for **lathe speed** is: Diameter of piece in inches x RPM = ?, where the resultant number should be kept between 6000 and 9000.

Examples: Safe speed for a 2" diameter piece is $6000/2 = 3000$ rpm to $9000/2 = 4500$ rpm. Safe speed for a 6" piece is $6000/6 = 1000$ rpm to $9000/6 = 1500$ rpm. This tip came from a Dale Nish demo at the AAW 2001 symposium

video (CVW club library).

Tip 2

From the same tape as Tip 1, above.

Source for artist's supplies (e.g. felt markers,

etc.), DickBlick.com.

Remember, submit a tip and win a free year's subscription to our newsletter.

Want Ads

For Sale: Powermatic 3520A lathe. Good condition. Price: \$1800 (flexible). Contact Joe Berg (CVW member) 540-885-1066. (Joe likes the 3520A, but is stepping up to the newer Powermatic.)

For Sale: Jet model 1442VS lathe with extra drive belt. Less than one year old. \$700. Contact Kirk McCauley (CVW member)

home: 434-293-7525, work 434-296-3913. (Kirk has stepped up to a bigger lathe.)

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).

Bowl lathe, similar kit construction. Very heavy duty, with up to 48" swing without changing setup. Larger swing with change in tool rest mount (up to 72" swing) x 36" (plus) depth. 1 HP jack shaft drive with 8 speeds from 300—2800

rpm. 1 1/2" - 8 tpi. Very sturdy weldment tool rest. Four heavy duty faceplates.

For either of the above, contact Ron Dearing (540) 248-8887 (answering machine) or (540) 248-2512.

New Club Members

New Members:

- **Bill Whitaker**

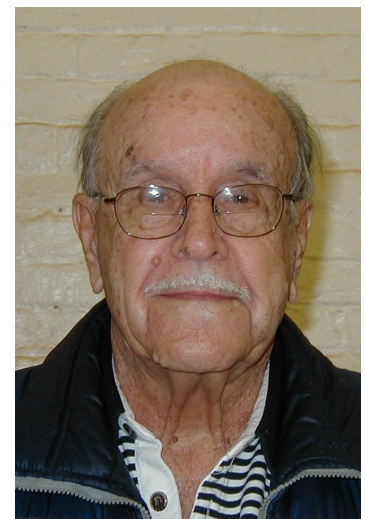
Guests:

- **Tim White**
- **Elliott Crafaik**
- **George Bentley**

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.



New CVW member **Bill Whitaker**. A bio sheet on Bill will follow soon.