

June Newsletter

Central Virginia Woodturners

Special points of interest:

- Cutting up some burl and rough wood
- Several CVW and W of the VA's attend AAW symposium in Louisville
- Another new meeting place needed
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Central Virginia Woodturners
Waynesboro, VA

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Chapter and Verse

The open turning session at our June meeting at the Miller School was preempted by an impromptu session on how to cut up burl and rough pieces of wood. Kirk McCauley had salvaged some great burl and other pieces of rough wood. It was all too heavy to lug up to the school shop, so the club gathered down on the grass outside of the shop entrance. Fred Williamson and others familiar with cutting rough wood gave their opinion on how Kirk could get the best turning pieces from his find.

Much discussion at the meeting centered around the need for (another) new meeting place. Many members from the west side of the moun-

tains are not happy with the drive to the Miller School. In addition, Peter Welch is having second thoughts on the difficulty of adjusting his schedule to always make the Miller School available. He is OK with a once-per-quarter commitment, like we have had in the past, but he feels that every month will be too much.

Bert Smith sent word that member Brian McReynolds has tentatively offered a potential meeting place in downtown Waynesboro.

The Planning Committee

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President's Corner

Well, several of us made it to the AAW symposium in Louisville, with many thanks to Dennis Hippen and Don Voas who did all of the driving in our car.

In addition to Dennis, Doug, and yours truly, from CVW I saw Joe Berg, H B Saloman, Bill Whitaker (and wife), Harold Green (and wife), Jim Higgins, Bob Garnett (and wife), and Jesse Wasserman with his wife. From the Woodturners of the Virginias, I saw Ashton Water and they had others in attendance. Of course, Joe Berg and Don Voas are members of that club as well as

CVW. Don also belonged to the Cincinnati chapter before moving to VA. Because of the proximity to Louisville and the large size of that club, Don ran into several of his former club-mates.

Shame on the presidents of CVW and W of the VA's for not making prior arrangements for sitting together at the banquet. At least several of us did sit together, but the two clubs were spread between at least three widely separated tables.

It was a very good show, with very few glitches, lots of good demonstrations



Fred Williamson gives Kirk McCauley some advice on what to do with a large chunk of wood

and way too much tempting stuff in the trade show section. I took almost 70 pictures that I will bring on CD to the next meeting. I will make about five copies to share, but anyone wanting a personal copy can just let me know and I will make an additional copy.

Among the pictures, I have about 36 of the Instant Gallery and auction pieces. One of the auction pieces went for \$11K and several went in the \$4-\$5K range. There were 1700 attendees at the show, with over 2000 at the auction. I am sure that most of the addi-

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Turner's Tips

Sorry, due to going to the AAW symposium, there will be no "Turner's Tips" this month. If you have suggestions for a subject, let me know. Send your suggestions to rdearing@rica.net. Or, submit your own article and we will include it.

President's Corner

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tional were collectors that drove up the price range on the donated pieces, bidding up pieces for names like Binh Pho, David Ellsworth, Dale Nish, Hans Weissflog, Alan Batey, Mike Mahoney, Andi White, and other world class turners.

I had seen Stuart Batey at last year's Albany symposium, but we were lucky enough to get to see he and Mike Mahoney do their duet demonstration. More than you could ever imagine to learn about using a bowl gouge. Each defended their own personal approach, with Batey using a push cut method and Mahoney using a scraping cut for much of his work. Both are very experienced, especially considering their respective ages. Both would appear to be under forty, or at least not much over.

I had never seen Hans Weissflog and enjoyed his rotation on how to groove a lidded box so much that I also took in his rotation on turning a "Saturn box". This consisted of a natural edge piece of burl turned into a small sphere (40 mm diameter—he is German and did all of his work using metric) that opened as two pieces. The sphere also had a thin ring, two millimeters thick by about 150 mm. It made the piece look like a replica of Saturn, with the ring actually cut free so that it could rotate, but retained as a part of the piece.

Hans has been featured in the AAW Journal, doing some of his grooved pieces. Watching him make a small box with a grooved lid was amazing. He used a self-made tool that cut grooves about 1 –1.5 mm wide. He mounted the lid and cut concentric rings on the inside of the lid, going half way through. Then he mounted the lid about 1/4" off-center and cut non-concentric rings on the outer surface, again going half way through to just meet the inside rings. This creates a sort of grill work like effect. He makes all sizes of sphere using this technique, with the rings on the inside and outside of the spheres, creating some very attractive pieces. He is probably the most exacting turner that I have ever watched.

I tried to watch Stuart Mortimer do a rotation. He does pieces where he cuts away a spiral like series of grooves around the periphery of hollow vessels. Dennis Hippen's friend, Mark (not sure of Mark's last name) that also attended the symposium thought Stuart was one of the best rotations he saw. Unfortunately, when I went to an afternoon session it began immediately as a continuation of the morning session. There was no indication on the program that this was a two part session, and Stuart began using terms he had explained in the morning session, with no explanation for those who had not been in the morning session.

Couple this with the fact that I got to the session too late to get a seat and had to stand along the wall, a long way from the actual demonstration; and, Stuart has a very heavy Brit accent which he fills with Brit colloquialisms. All of the above led me to walk out of this demonstration far short of the half-way mark. Too bad, as I am interested in trying his spiral cutting technique, but I will have to learn it by trial-and-error, as I got nothing from his demonstration.

My favorites were Hans Weissflog and Mike Mahoney, with the duet of Mike and Stuart following very closely, with extra good marks for their fun, joking, and good humor. Each tried to outdo the other in giving the other a hard time and putting down the others work. All of this was humorous and both obviously had great respect for the other.

Show and Tell



Kirk shows one of his bowls



Fred Williamson's stuff and some of Starke's sanding material offerings



More show-and-tell

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:

- Photos were taken for several members, plus two new members but time has not allowed them to be ready for this month's issue. See this column again next month.

Chapter and Verse

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will meet before next month's meeting to identify alternatives to solve this issues of where to meet, how to get better use of the lathes at the Miller School when we have open turning, etc.

A survey has been sent to all members, via email. So far, more than half of the members have returned their surveys and a meeting place on the West side of the mountain seems to be of prime importance. Some increase in dues may be needed to cover such a move and the survey indicates this would be acceptable (within limits).

John Heyden has purchase 20-30 very nice stack chairs for the club at a UVA auction, should they be needed at our new meeting place.

***“We need
(another) new
meeting place
located on the
West side of
the mountain.”***



One of our tables of CVW members at the AAW symposium. CW from front left—HB Salomon, Bob Garnett, Bob's wife, Jim Higgins, Mrs. Green, Harold Green, Bill Whitaker, and Bill's wife. I am terrible with names and afraid that I would miss on the wife's names, ergo the formal Mrs. I plan to send out a questionnaire and add spouses to our member bios files. That way all will have them at hand. As soon as the bio files are a little more complete, I plan to send out a complete CD with all members, one to everyone.

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 Blemond 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 Vil-

lage, was great. The coming event promises to be even better.

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

July 18—Ray Jones—Turning to dimension.

August 5—Woodturners of the Virginias club demo. CVW members welcome. Demo by **Joe Ruminski**. Pot luck picnic at Peter Shoemaker's barn.

August 15—Bert Smith—Turning a hollow vessel

September 19—Open turning at the Miller School

October 17- Elbert Dale—"Taming of the Skew—II" .

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

December 19—Open turning at the Miller School

January 23—Demonstration needed

February 20—Demonstration needed

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.

Want Ads

For Sale:

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.

New Club Members

New Members:

- **Norman Proffitt**
- **Kit Hudson**

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 per-

sonal 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