



# The Wood Spinner

Central Virginia Woodturners

<http://www.centralvawoodturners.org>

November 2012



Top: Wormy  
Silver Maple Bowl  
by Nate Hawkes.

Left: Mountain  
Mahogany and  
Sycamore bowls  
by Don Voas

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## CVW Newsletter—November 2012

### President's Corner



Wow! Another great multi station meeting, well attended, and we added two more members. We were honored by the unexpected attendance of Barbara Dill, internationally know for her pioneering multi axis turning and a Virginia resident. She told me how much she enjoyed the environment of our meetings and members and was going to join. She did! Hopefully we have the opportunity to see her at many of our future meetings. Our Treasurer Richard Landreth was under the weather and Tim Kipps did an admiral job of filling in for him-thank you Tim.

We had a vacancy in the Club's representation on the Virginia Woodturners Symposium board. I was asked to fill that spot and the club members voted their approval. Thank you for your confidence and support- I think.

Our gallery table was once again filled with wonderful examples of our member's talents. The Show and Tell is always a high light of the evening.

Our Silent Auction contribution has been well under the historical average of \$50 per month. Last night we only took in \$18-Why?? Are the pieces too big/too small? Poor condition? Wrong species? Let us know. The Club Store continues to do well-thank you for your continued support and a continued thanks to Kirk for managing it.

Miles Everard told us about a 14 year old boy with severe physical disabilities. Miles is spear heading an effort to provide a lathe and related equipment to teach him about wood turning. Members are donating excess tools and lathe accessories as well as cash to purchase items not donated. Miles will be his initial personal mentor. You will see more about this in the newsletter and at future meetings.

Finally, our December meeting, a Christmas social evening will be held one week earlier than normal-Tuesday, December11th. It will also be earlier than normal. Meeting notices will come out well in advance. PLEASE, RSVP when you get the announcement. The club purchases the meat and supplies and drinks and we don't want to have excess or not enough. I have a great thought- everyone who doesn't RSVP will automatically be on next years Christmas meeting committee.

I really enjoy our Christmas social meeting and look forward to seeing you all there.

**DON'T FORGET TO RSVP.**

Tom Evans



November 20, 2012 Minutes, Crimora Community Center  
Central Virginia Woodturners Club (CVW)

**Officers:**

President -	Tom Evans	Treasurer -	Richard Landreth
VP of Programs –	Dennis Hippen	Secretary-	Jim Oates
Second VP -	Nate Hawkes		

Key functional support offices:

Audio Visual -	John O'Neil	Librarian-	Hal Green
Newspaper Editor -	Denny Martin	Food Coordinator-	Dick Miksad
Store Manager -	Kirk McCauley	Web Master-	Tim Quillen

Attendance: Members 38, Guests: 1

**The following officer was not in attendance:** Richard Landreth

**The General Meeting:**

Tom Evans called the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 with a lost and found item – a tape measure that was unclaimed.

New members Stan Stafira and Barbara Dill and visitor MARY Allen Green were welcomed.

Richard Landreth is sick and he was ably filled in for by Tim Kipps

The current balance prior to the meeting was \$1275 and checks were drawn for \$470 leaving a balance of \$805. Most of the expense was for the Club Store. The equipment reserve stands at \$658. Dennis Hippen introduced the evenings program featuring:

Gary Dale – demo on walking sticks

Miles Everard – making smooth cuts

Jim Kueck – turning and finishing small bowls

Elbert Dale – Taming of the Skew

Dennis also announced all remaining inventory of the General Finishes line are 25% Off at: Valley Heritage Shoppes, 2296 Jefferson Highway (Route 250)-has a

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*(Continued from page 3)*

putt-putt golf in strip center West of W'boro and East of Route 608  
Waynesboro, VA 22980  
540-221-4577

Roger and Bobbi are the owners. Check out all the other stuff they sell----- unfinished quality furniture/candles/much more ....They (sadly) can no longer gain a discount from General Finishes and are selling out the Current inventory of water and oil base stains and finishes @ 25% OFF and will no longer carry the line.

He also showed a copy of Fred Williamson's Artisans Studio Tour Poster that was excellent.

Tom acknowledged the first Newsletter published by new editor Mars Campaign and congratulated Mars on a good job well done. The next meeting will be December 11 with details to follow on RSVP, Dishes and serving tools to mark and bring.

The main business next meeting will be acceptance of the 2013 budget which will be prepared by the Board and approved by the membership.

Peter Welch has retired from the Virginia Woodturners Symposium and volunteer Tom Evans was elected to replace him.

Miles Everard – Told a story about a family of four at his church that the 14 year old son has great physical difficulties including 50 surgeries to correct his problems. Miles recently acquired two lathes but needs #1 Morse taper tools and turning tools in addition to the cabinet he is building to accommodate the wheelchair bound youth. All donations are appreciated.

### **Show and Tell:**

**Don Voas** kicked off Show and Tell with 2 large Eastern Red Cedar bowls finished with water based poly. One left with a shiny finish and one dulled slightly with fine sanding pads. His Mt Jackson days Demo Sycamore bowl and locally grown mahogany natural edge bowl were very nice. He also had two Christmas ornaments made using a converted knife as a parting tool to shape the limbs.

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**Tom Evans** showed a natural edge Box elder bowl with many irregular surfaces and nice color and a large Catawba natural edge bowl.

**Dennis Hippen** brought three pieces made from one Chestnut Oak log with nice grain but some warping. The largest had been soaked in alcohol and was less warped.

**Tim Qullen** turned some smaller bowls and a nicely figured round Pecan bowl.

**Tim Kipps** showed us some Jackson Prayer Tree pens salvaged from punkie wood vacuum impregnated to make solid before turning.

**Jim Kueck's** Black Oak bowl was in the finishing process and he used it in his demonstration. He also showed a natural edge Cherry bowl and a bowl turned from Pear wood.

**Starke Smith** showed platters made from crotch lumber obtained at Blue Ridge Lumber as well as a nice Chinese Mahogany bowl and a nice Walnut stump bowl. He also had a bud vase from the SJPT.

**Kirk McCauley** brought in things not to be done every day such as a Corian bowl (hard to cut) and round soapstone cutting boards (dusty). He also had soapstone cubes to keep from watering down good drinks with ice.

**John O'Neal** had a platter made from a 2 inch cherry slab that cracked during light cutting and sought advice on solving the problem. His Danish oil finish was still tacky and he wondered how to remove it. Suggestions included oven cleaner, Orange Cleaner and Simple Green.

**Nate Hawkes** showed pieces he demonstrated during the Artisans tour including a wormy Silver Maple platter, a fancy grained walnut bowl and a cored pair of Mulberry bowls. He had two rolling pins from Pecan and Beech.

**Jason Levinson** presented a partially finished Box Elder closed vessel and wondered how to stabilize the color. General Finishes water based finish was recommended.

**Jim Oates** brought in another domed Walnut cake plate and a compote recovered from an exploded natural edge Cherry bowl. He showed a Cherry burl and Walnut lid he had made for a ceramic bowl.

**Phil Evans** showed a deep natural edge Walnut bowl and a limb slab that he turned with bark-on and curled when drying. By adding a chain he made into

*(Continued on page 13)*



## November Show & Tell Gallery



Don Voas red cedar bowls and native mahogany bowls with knife used for the tree ornaments behind the small bowl



Tom Evans catalpa and box elder bowls



## November Show & Tell Gallery (Continued)



Dennis Hippen's three pieces from chestnut oak



Tim Quillen Pecan Bowl



Tim Kipps' pens from Stonewall  
Jackson Prayer Tree



### November Show & Tell Gallery (Continued)



John O'Neil and Cherry platter



Jim Kueck

Black oak bowl  
natural edge cherry bowl  
peach bowl



Jason Levinson

Box Elder bowl





## November Show & Tell Gallery (Continued)



Starke Smith's walnut bowl from a stump, Chinese mahogany platter, natural edge bowl, and bud vase from the Stonewall Jackson Prayer Tree

Kirk  
McCauley's  
corian bowl,  
black soapstone  
cheese boards,  
and soapstone  
"ice cubes."





## November Show & Tell Gallery (Continued)



Clockwise from top left:

Jim Oates cake stand, com-  
pote, and cherry lid for bowl

Nate Hawkes pecan box, beech  
box, and pecan rolling pins

Nate Hawkes walnut bowl  
and wormy silver maple  
bowls

Jim Oates walnut cake stand





## November Show & Tell Gallery (Continued)



Top: Wall Hanging by Phil Evans



Left: Phil's unique sander adaptation



Below Left: Fred Williamson's Norfolk Island Pine Bowl

Below right: Fred's spectacular poplar bowl





## **SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY!**

**By Brian McEvoy**

In my 25 years of turning I've had a few accidents but I've been very fortunate that none of them have caused a serious injury. Over time complacency can lead to carelessness. In this case I was very lucky that this mishap didn't have more serious consequences. Because of this event, it has forced me to look at my safety practices with even greater vigilance.



I was working on a couple medium sized Doug Fisher style wall hangings. The 2 x 32 inch piece of yellow cedar had been drying for some time and as far as I was concerned was perfectly stable. I went to work on the first piece and after a couple of minutes of turning I felt a vibration that didn't seem right so I stopped the lathe and discovered a small crack. Not wanting to take a chance I removed it from the lathe for repairs. The issue with large wall hangings is the incredible centrifugal force created on the outer edge. In any case, I removed the cracked piece and mounted the second one. After inspecting the piece very carefully for anything that might cause me concern, I turned on the

lathe and slowly increased the speed until I was comfortable. All the while I was careful to stand out of the firing line of the platter which is a habit I've always tried to adhere to. As I half turned to pick up my gouge, I heard a loud crack and with natural instinct, dove for cover. In a split second about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the timber had broken off: the 2000 lb. lathe jumped about a foot to one side because the piece that was still attached was so out of balance. After I collected myself I took a deep breath and assessed the damage. I've taken a few pictures to show you the force that a 10 pound piece of timber can exert.

In hindsight, I've determined that I was totally at fault for this mishap, mainly because I was careless with my lathe speed. Over many years of turning large items I've always had the attitude that my lathe speed should be as fast as I was comfortable with. If the lathe wasn't vibrating then it





must be ok and in hundreds of cases it has been. I promise you one thing, I will start out with a slower speed in the future until I'm 100% sure of the timber's stability.

As they say about "getting back on the horse" I did turn a 3 x 48 inch natural edge big leaf maple burl wall hanging the next day.

I'm fortunate to have acquired the habit of standing off to the side and out of the danger zone, otherwise I'm sure I wouldn't be writing this commentary.

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL!!**

Continued from page 5

a wall hanging which brought more and increased the price. His knot hole in a Walnut bowl was filled with a miniature Cardinal making it a truly unique piece. He also explained the advantages and dangers of using an electric grinder to sand bowls.

**Fred Williamson** showed a Norfolk Island Pine bowl and a unique Poplar burl bowl where the burl had become a beautiful purple.

Drawing winners were Tim Quillen and Nate Hawkes.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Current club balance is \$805.00

#### **Silent Auction:**

The auction rendered \$18.00

#### **Demonstration:**

This demonstration had a little bit for everyone and encouraged you to spend time at each station. These sessions are especially good for new turners and tips for the more advanced turner were freely shared.

The next club meeting will be Tuesday December 11, 2012, time to be announced. This will be the annual Christmas party

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**Thank you Denny Martin for all the wonderful photographs!**



## Press Release From OASIS: Santa Brings Rocks

"Look up, is it Santa? He has a beard!" No, it is artist-geologist Stuart Mercer in his workshop making gifts from Virginia gems that he has mined himself in the Old Dominion. Though the real Santa may bring switches or coal for the naughty, this is a Santa who merrily brings *rocks* for everyone. Mercer's show has been the most popular exhibit of the year for the past two years at OASIS Fine Art & Craft, and has expanded each year, drawing many repeat customers. "Lapidary in the Loft" fills the broad mezzanine at the top of a short flight of stairs in the historic Hostetter Building that OASIS occupies. Mercer will be found at work next to an extensive exhibit of the fine jewelry items that he creates with Virginia gems and sterling silver. There are also many fascinating rock specimens and tools from his collection.

Stuart Mercer, a long-time member of the cooperative, moved into the area in 1969, attended Turner Ashby High School, and graduated from James Madison University in 1975 with a degree in geology. He is a licensed Virginia contractor, formerly operating Mercer Roofing, Inc. and is self-employed as proprietor of Elk Run Mining Company. He personally mines, cuts, and polishes Virginia gemstones, and individually creates settings of sterling silver or 18-carat gold.

Many visitors have enjoyed Mercer's enthusiastic manner and his willingness to talk to groups or individuals about geology and Virginia gems. It is not unusual for him to invite visitors to try their hand at grinding a gem. The exhibit is open seven days a week, during all OASIS business hours, from November 24 to December 31. There will be daily demonstrations by the artist through December 24.

The public is also invited to an open house to meet the lapidary artist and enjoy refreshments and live music. The free event is Friday, December 7, from 5 to 8 pm at OASIS Fine Art & Craft, 103 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg during First Fridays Downtown. Simply Folk will provide music. The folk duo features Mike Simpson and Becky Glick, who have a varied acoustic repertoire that includes folk, seasonal, and religious music. You may recognize old favorites like "You Gotta Walk That Lonesome Valley", but they also spice their performances with original compositions.

"Lapidary in the Loft" exhibit shows at OASIS Fine Art & Craft through December 31. The artisan, Stuart Mercer, will be in residence during all open hours through December 24 to do demonstrations and talk with visitors. Business hours are Monday through Thursday 10am to 5pm, Friday 10am to 8pm, Saturday 10am to 5pm, and Sunday noon to 5pm. The public is invited to a free holiday open house on Friday, December 7, 5-8pm with refreshments and music by Simply Folk, at OASIS Fine Art & Craft, 103 S. Main St., Harrisonburg. For more information, call [540-442-8188](tel:540-442-8188), email [info@oasisartgallery.org](mailto:info@oasisartgallery.org), or see [www.oasisfineartandcraft.org](http://www.oasisfineartandcraft.org). For more information, you may contact Stuart Mercer at [540-421-7663](tel:540-421-7663)

## 2013 AAW Symposium Demonstrator List Announced

In a recent message to members, Kurt Herzog announced the list of invited demonstrators, to the 2013 AAW Symposium in Tampa. These experts promise to offer a wide variety of techniques, tips, and international perspectives.

Here is the list: Nick Agar - UK, Trent Bosch - USA, Don Derry - USA, Mark Gardner - USA, Cynthia Gibson - USA, Michael Gibson - USA, Keith Gotschall - USA, Phil Irons - UK, Mike Kebs - USA, Glenn Lucas - Ireland, Mike Mahoney - USA, Andre Martel - Canada, Michael Mode - USA, Tania Radda - USA, Mark Sfirri - USA, Steve Sinner - USA, Hans Weisflog - Germany



Demonstrators at Work



Clockwise from top left: Gary Dale; Miles Everard; Tom Evans tries the skewer; Jim Kueck; Skewmeister Elbert Dale shows how its done.

New Members Barbara Dill and Stan Stafira





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### Reminder

**It was proposed at the January, 2011 meeting that members with last names beginning with A to M come early for set up, and those beginning with N to Z stay late to clean up. You are encouraged to do both.**

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Ervin Stutzman who did the platter demonstration at our October meeting advises that a great source of wood for platters is Local Wood, 40 Kimble Road, Berryville, VA 22611 (540) 955-9522. [www.localwoodva.com](http://www.localwoodva.com)

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CVW members Nate Hawkes, and Dennis Hippen were the featured artists in November at The Barn Swallow. Per the Barn Swallow press release "They bring their own individual interpretations from the "prayer tree" oak, that was part of Stonewall Jackson's confederate encampment. These three artists have created turned bowls, and other forms from this historic tree."

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### Wood For Sale

I have several 50 lb. onion bags full of mahogany and Spanish cedar blocks for sale. Most blocks are 3"x3"x2 1/2"-4". An occasional block is larger. The wood is dry and well-seasoned and should be good for small boxes or gluing into larger units for turning. I'm asking \$25 per bag. I have collected the wood for my own use, but making musical instruments leaves me no time for turning. I hope you can help me spread the word. I'm in Greenville, VA, but I work in Staunton. The wood can be picked up at either location. 540-337-4571. evenings, 540-887-2313. week days. [johndogwood53@comcast.net](mailto:johndogwood53@comcast.net) Thank you. John Calkin

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FREE WOOD KINDLING-SIX-SEVEN BOXES-YOU HAUL Call Dennis Hippen - 540-943-1211







**Lathe For Sale:** CVW member Don Kersch is upgrading from his current lathe which is a Grizzly G1495 with attachments as listed below. Contact Don at 540-248-0328 or email at [AustinDon@yahoo.com](mailto:AustinDon@yahoo.com) for additional information.

Picture of the lathe with the copy attachment lying at the base. The G1495 is a multi-speed wood lathe in excellent condition. It in-

cludes a copy attachment, 3/4 H.P. single phase 110V motor, 3 jaw chuck, live center, 2 face plates, 2 tool rests and guard modified for dust collector attachment. \$550, OBO

## CVW Christmas Party

Our Central Virginia Woodturners Christmas Party will be held Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Crimora Community Center. **Please RSVP** to [oatesjim@comcast.net](mailto:oatesjim@comcast.net) the number that will attend in your party by December 5. Please advise with your RSVP if you are able to assist in setting up on Tuesday. Family and guests are welcome.

- 6:00-6:30pm appetizers. Meet and Greet.
  - 6:30 Very short business meeting (Approve 2013 budget) followed by dinner.
  - We will supply sliced cold ham and turkey/chicken & related condiments, hot & cold beverages, ice. Members should bring: **A-F** Salads & Breads (pre-slice any rolls please), **G-L** Vegetables, **M-R** Desserts, **S-Z** Appetizers (Please arrive @ 6:00)
- PLEASE mark your dishes and serving utensil -Thank you.
- Name tags every one, guests also for ease of socializing.
  - There **will be** Show & Tell but there **will not be** a silent auction. If you need wood help yourself and make a donation.
  - The Club Store will be available in the back room on an as needed basis-see Kirk.
  - The Library will stay in the back room, available to anyone who wishes.

We will start setting up on Tuesday afternoon @1:30pm.