



DECEMBER 2013



Clinton Spencer turned this from the holey piece that broke off during Tom Evans' October demonstration

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The Wood Spinner
Central Virginia Woodturners <http://www.centralvawoodturners.org>



President's Corner

We packed the house for our November meeting and had a record number of visitors, many of whom will probably be new members in January. The Denny Martin Skills Room continues to improve with the wall and trim painting completed and a fresh coat of Porch and Deck enamel on the floor. When the slate shelves are installed on the radiators the room will be complete-except for the electrical upgrades which the Ruritans have assured us will be completed by Thanksgiving. That room will be officially sanctioned at our Christmas meeting/social night Tuesday Dec 10th when Mrs. Carole Martin cuts the ceremonial ribbon to open the room. The meeting notices will soon arrive in your email in-box. We expect a very large turn out. Having an accurate head count is **essential** to having enough tables set up and food prepared. **Please**, RSVP when you get the notice, even if you can't join us that night. We won't be mad at you, or talk behind your back, if you can't make it. An RSVP of regrets is as important to our head count as a confirming positive response.

Don't forget we meet one week early- on the 2nd Tuesday in December not the normal 3rd Tuesday. Every year someone forgets and shows up on the normal 3rd Tuesday and can't understand where every one is.

We have new officers for 2014-2015 but unfortunately there is not a nominee for president. The executive officers will have to rotate running the meetings until and in hopes that someone will step up to help. It is uncertain how the absence of a president will effect our chapter's connection with the American Association of Woodturners. Hopefully we will not lose our association with them.

The Presidents Challenge has produced \$120 in net proceeds to the club. Keep those small bowls, vases and plates coming. Natural edge items sold first. If you are in Stuarts Draft check out the Cheese Shop on Tinkling Spring Rd (aka RT 308). They sell many very unique foods items.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the December meeting when we celebrate our 10th anniversary and dedicate the Denny Martin Skills Room. Happy and safe turning.

Tom's words of wisdom:

"Life is simpler when you plow around the stump"

"Some days you're the top dog; some days you're the hydrant"

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November 19, 2013 Minutes, Crimora Community Center, Central Virginia Woodturners Club (CVW)

Officers:

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

Key functional support offices:

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

Attendance: 52, Members: 42

Guests: Bobbie and Pat Champaign, Michelle Champaign Early, Bill Walters, Eric Jones, Liz Karaffa, Mike Woods, Gerry Early, Bill Pond, and Dave & Jane Maxton.

The following officers were not in attendance: Richard Landreth, Nate Hawkes



The General Meeting:

Tom Evans called the meeting to order after rounding up all the attendees. New members and visitors were welcomed. Tom noted the progress made in the Denny Martin Skills center and acknowledged donations from members and Burkes Paint who supplied a discount on the floor paint. The room now only needs electrical work and shelves completed to be ready. He thanked volunteers for the Christmas party that will be held on the second Tuesday in December and remind-

ed people to RSVP yes or no when the announcement is issued. Invitations have been issued to charter members who are no longer members. We will dedicate the room and have a slide show as part of the program. The Show and Tell theme will be Christmas things.

The President's Challenge resulted in \$120 for the club after the commission was deducted by the Wine Shop in Richmond and the Cheese Shop in Stuarts Draft. More small natural edge bowls are needed and they sell well. Even beginner bowls will sell.

Carole Martin donated a bench vice to the club and had two to sell for \$50 each. One was purchased by Jason Levinson. They were both sold.

Barbara Dill reminded us to wear proper protective equipment to avoid breathing

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dust since it can cause COPD especially in former smokers.

The slate of officers was presented:

- President - VACANT
- VP Programs – Phil Evans
- VP Membership – Jim Guynn
- Treasurer – Richard Landreth
- Secretary – Jim Kueck
- Store – Kirk McCauley
- Newsletter Mars Champaign – Mars needs help
- Librarian – Matt Shapiro
- Food Czar – Fred Williamson

Tom asked for volunteers to fill the vacant positions but got none for President. Fred reminded us that we cannot remain part of the AAW if we do not find a president. Shame on us.

The slate was elected by acclamation.

Mars Champaign turned 90 and we sang Happy Birthday for him and welcomed his family to the celebration with a second cake and a tee shirt – *I'm one tool away from greatness*. Dennis Hippen said that Mars was able to walk them into the ground at the North Carolina Symposium in Greensboro. Thanks to Elbert Dale for the great cake.



Tom thanked Ron Capps for his help in collecting donated tools for the skills center.

Dennis Hippen also explained that Rolf Gebel is recovering slowly and is much better but expects another month to be back to health.

Ron Capps showed the article in the Monticello Newsletter about Fred Williamson showing some fine examples of his work. It is now posted in the skills center.



H B Salomon was back at our meeting after a heart tune up at UVA. Looking good too!

Show and Tell:

Dennis Hippen – showed 5 magnifying glasses made from Monticello tulip poplar. His two pens were made from oak root burl and blackwood. He explained he had several drying rests made from band saw blades available. He also had 2 goblets and a stem from a North Carolina Symposium demon-



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stration that he is finishing.

Mike Sorge showed his diamond shaped bowl made from zebrano turned at about 2500 rpm. The lid for the vessel was glued up of zebrano and wenge.



Mars Champaign showed his latest five bottle stoppers and a perfume pendant made from purpleheart.



Roger Chandler has recovered from his shoulder problems and is back to turning with a spalted maple bowl.

Elbert Dale turned a plywood built up bowl made of Russian plywood to see if it would eat his tools as Jim Higgins claimed it would. It did. Buy American Made! Elbert says it is the last plywood bowl he will turn.



Jason Levinson showed his bowl with a nice shape and a he had practiced a better finish showed a larger-footed natural wood that was really impres-



cherry burl natural edge small English elm bowl that ished bottom. Then he ral-edge bowl of the same sive.

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Kirk McCauley lives in North Garden which is Virginia wine country so he produced specialty wine accessories that would hold glasses on a bottle or a wedge shape that held an inverted bottle and a stopper. His appetizer platter that attaches to a wine glass is very innovative. He also had 2 cored walnut bowls and a large Monticello Sugar Maple bowl.



Jim Oates showed a box elder natural bowl with the edge enhanced with a leather dye pen and an English elm burl stemmed goblet. (Ed: In photo at right, Jim O's work is on left, Jim K's on right)

Jim Kueck showed his partially natural edge locust spoon rest and a nicely turned winged Osage orange winged bowl. His spalted oak bowl shrank a lot in spite of being old and dead for quite a while.



Clinton Spencer told a tale of duct tape and reinforced tape used to hold Tom Evan's blown "holey bowl" and a novel way he mounted it on a large dowel to turn it between centers since both ends were hollow. The wood moved making mounting to a face-

plate difficult but the end result is nice even though he intends to do more with the foot. (Ed: Here Tom is critiquing Clinton's work .)

Miles Everard showed us a blank (before) and a finished lamp (after) made from walnut and maple segments.



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Barbara Dill showed us 3 versions of eccentric turnings she has produced from holly for an AAW challenge – Rising of the Moon. Her first piece took about three days.

Charley Conner brought a curly maple and walnut rolling pen and a large ambrosia maple bowl with a beaded edge.



Gift certificate winners were Jason Levinson and Charley Conner.

Treasurer's Report: No Treasurers report

Demonstration:

The multi-station demonstrations were done by Elbert Dale – master of the skew, Dennis Hippen – Sharpening turning tools, Jim Oates - Carving and sharpening carving tools, and Miles Everard - Turning Christmas ornaments See page 8 for photos of the demonstrations, ed.

The next club meeting/Christmas party will be Tuesday December 10, 2012 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

The following was received from Tom Evans on Saturday, 11/30/2013:

I am very happy to announce that we have a nominee for president !!! Dennis Hippen has agreed to accept the position.

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS, of our By-Laws, requires a vote by the members to fill that position. I will add an item on the 12/10 meeting's agenda for that vote. THANK YOU DENNIS !!

We now have a full compliment of strong and talented officers to lead the chapter for the next two years. I am preparing a recap of the out going officers accomplishments for the 2012-2013 term. I feel very proud of what this team has achieved but I know I will leave some things out, without your help. When you get a free minute please email me with those things that you remember. Many heads are better than one

Thanks, And a special thanks to Dennis.



Clockwise from Top left: Jim Oates at his carving station, Examples of Jim's carving skill, Miles Everard demonstrates making an ornament, Elbert Dale shows proper skill technique, Dennis Hippen sharpens a gouge, Miles Everard talks to his "class".



Turn the easy way, I define the four cuts of tool control

By Lyle Jamieson (

One of our AAW board members noted recently that his experience of turning was "hard work". He cited his arms, his back, and his legs ached. As MLK said "I have a dream" and I have a dream too. My dream is that everyone learn the tool control methods that make turning easy and a whole lot more fun. In the good old days, it took a lot of strength and endurance to turn. Now it is not a strength thing, it is a finesse thing. The tools and the lathe do all the work. We used to use bowl gouges with lead shot in them to try to absorb the beating we put our bodies through just to rough out a bowl blank. We were drawn to heavy tools so the tools would take some of the punishment off our bodies.

I am not **just** talking about the hollowing system and laser use. I am referring also to the skills we use on the outside of hollow forms or any other turning we choose to do. In my **Bowl Basics DVD** I have broken down the tool control into four cuts. When you put a sharp edge against the wood only one of four cuts will happen. It does not matter what tool you have in your hand one of four things will happen. Once you understand the four cuts and the rules involved, the hard work and fear goes away. If you follow the rules you will never get a catch again. I hear turners all the time refer to catches as if they are normal, "Everyone gets a catch now and then" they say. I disagree!

Here I define the four cuts: push cut, pull cut, scrape cut, and sheer scrape cut. The first is the push cut. The push cut with a bowl gouge is the work horse and we use it a majority of the time. It is used to hog off. It is used on spindle work. It is used on the inside of bowls. The push cut can be aggressive and take a large amount of wood away with each pass. It can be a small finishing cut leaving a great finish on the wood that needs little sanding. It can be a shaping cut. It can be a refining cut. The flute is facing the direction of the cut. The handle is parallel to the floor or slightly down. None of the cuts have the handle up with a bowl gouge. The flute is tilted on a 45 degree angle to the wood direction so the tip of the gouge is slicing on an angle and leaves a clean surface on the wood. The direction of the cut (all cuts) is always going downhill to the grain, slicing supported fibers. This slicing action will always leave a better surface and takes less sanding than with scraping mode. The first and foremost rule for the push cut is the bevel is supporting the cut. The bevel is the directional finder. The bevel is the controlling factor. The bevel prevents catches. The bevel is necessary all the time. In fact, I have a procedure of lining up the bevel with the existing surface of the wood before I take EVERY cut. The A-B-C's: Anchor, Bevel, and then a Cut. A cut without the bevel will get you a catch.

The second cut is the pull cut and is used when it is necessary to shape, if the handle gets in the way of the lathe and I cannot use the push cut. The main use of the pull

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cut is on the outside of a bowl where the head stock will be in the way and I cannot use the push cut. Three rules are: (1) The handle is way down, like at a 45 degree angle down and tucked into your thigh. (2) Use the tip only. Do not get a shaving going down on the wing of the bowl gouge. And (3) Bevel support is on the side of the gouge. (In contrast to the push cut where the bevel is supported at the tip of the gouge.) To start a pull cut the flute is pointing almost straight up. This is one of the hardest cuts to master because we don't use it very often. It takes small shaping cuts. It is not usually a finish cut and we do not hog off with it.

The third cut is the scraping cut. We can scrape with many tools. The new rule for scraping is that the cutting edge must touch the wood at less than a 90 degree angle to the surface of the wood. When we scrape with the bowl gouge we twist the flute in and face directly at the wood surface. We use the broad brush of the wing and stay away from the tip and the corner of the wing. When we are doing hollow forms with the HSS cutter we are in scraping mode. We cut slightly above the center line to keep from violating the 90 degree rule. I don't use the scraping cut much because the push and pull cuts leave a better surface on the wood with less torn out grain and less sanding.

The last and fourth cut is the sheer scraping cut. This is scraping on a steep angle. So with the bowl gouge we would scrape with the handle down, way down, the steeper the angle the cleaner the cut. In a bowl, I use the sheer scrape to refine and finish the outside of my bowls. The importance of grain orientation comes in here again. On the outside of a hollow form we need to have the angle of the cut facing downhill.
Downhill

on an end grain hollow form (or spindle mode) is from the largest diameter to the smaller diameter. On a bowl, to go downhill with supported fibers we must make the cut on the bottom outside of a bowl from the base to the rim. The steep angle is peeling the fibers with little angel hair shavings downhill.

The carbide cutter I have on my hollowing system uses the bevel supported push cut and a negative rake scraping cut, both with the little 3/16 inch nanograin carbide cutter.

All this is hard to visualize from text. My goal here is to outline the four cuts. [My] DVD would let you see the cuts in action or check my YouTube clips to get a glimpse of the cuts as I make them. But the better and faster way is to seek out a mentor in your club and get some help from someone that has the skills. We need to prevent catches, prevent torn out grain, we need to prevent vibration problems, and we need to limit sanding. When you want to learn techniques, you go to school. When you have troubles you want to fix you go to the doctor. I prefer to prevent the problems, not put a

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band aid on them once they crop up. Trial and error is a hard way to pick up these skills.

We have recently had another serious injury at the lathe in our turning family. The best reason to learn to have fun and turn the easy way is that it is the safe way. A process in control builds in safeguards. Just a simple thing like getting a catch can hurt you if all the pieces of the turning puzzle are not in place. You are never too old to start using new methods to enjoy your time at the lathe and make turning physically easier. As we age it is harder to handle the weight and stress of hard work. Follow the fun and be safe.

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Miscellaneous Items

A big thanks to Miles, Everard, Elbert Dale and Jim Oates for handling the various demo stations at the November meeting. We had a big crowd and there seemed to be much interest. Jim, I may need safety training as my pocket knives have never been this sharp.

This was a lot of effort by all that members really seem to enjoy.

Thanks, Dennis

Lathes for Sale

Jet 1442 with 57 inch extension bed and legs for \$1,700
36 inch Vega lathe duplicator with extra cutting head \$500
Powermatic 3520 lathe with standard accessories, extra 3 inch faceplate and accessories. \$3,000
Duplicator and Jet 1442 as a package for \$2,000
All in excellent condition.

Bob Davis, rbd4n@virginia.edu<<mailto:rbd4n@viginia.edu>>, 434-996-0379

New Book on Finishing Available

Charles Neil is a professional woodworker from New Market, VA and has come out with a new book on finishing, **Finishing Simply Put..** He started out as a automobile detailer/finisher as a teenager and has been building and finishing furniture for over 30 years.they've already sold out the 1st printing and are into a 2nd printing. Contact **Charles Neil Woodworking** <workshopofcharlesneil@msn.com>

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Professional Size Lathes for Sale

From: William McInnis

I am downsizing and the following list of lathes and some of my wood is being offered for sale. I will need to be moved out of my existing location by mid January.

1. Nichols Lathe 20+ inches below the spindle, 5 foot bed, 2 HP, 1 1/2" diameter shaft with #2 morris taper, 1/2 ton overhead chain hoist and rail that will swing 360 degrees around the lathe. 7 foot boring bar and stand. 2 tool rest, several face plates and other accessories. 500 pounds of sand ballast in inside of the lathe housing.

2. Turn of the Century chain and belt driven wheel right lathe with a 1 hp motor. 3 feet 7 inches swing from the spindle to the lathe base. Mechanical and hand turning tool rest, lots of mechanical tooling cutters and cutter holders. Lathe height is approximately 6 ft. 7 inches to the top of the motor and the bed is 58 inches long. Overall length is approximately 7 feet 5 inches and 41 inches wide.

3. Serious Lathe Co. Lathe, 13 inches of swing to the bed. Cast Iron bed length is 5 feet. 3 HP motor and electronic controls.

3 morris taper, 1 1/2" shaft. Includes a #3 morris taper spur drive, live center and drill attachment. 2 tool rest. This lathe is a little tall and I made a platform to stand on while turning that is included.

4. Wood domestic and exotic: Burls (Claro Walnut, Big leaf Maple, Cherry, Australian Burls), African Blackwood, Pink Ivory, Rose Wood and more.

Please contact me if interested and I will send you some pictures.

William (Bill) McInnis, Gastonia, NC, 704-299-2714 Cell, 704-861-9036 Home

wmcinnis@earthlink.net

General Model 16018 Lathe For Sale

Catoctin Area Turners (CAT) club in Leesburg has a General Model 16018 lathe for sale. This is 18" x 38" with electronic variable speed (reversible) and 1 hp motor 220v, with 4 groove pulleys. It comes with 3 tool rests, 12" and 4" from the factory and a 6" after market one. The spindle is 1" x 8 TPI with MT2 on the spindle and the tailstock. The lathe is made in North America (Canada), and the club is asking \$1,000. It has been the club demo lathe for a couple of years, but the club has upgraded to a Powermatic lathe.

The lathe is currently in a member's shop near Waterford, VA. The shop is located just east of Rt 287, North of Rt 9. The lathe can be seen and tried out most any time, and the Catoctin Club can probably assist with delivery within a "reasonable distance" if necessary.

Please phone [585-455-2517](tel:585-455-2517) (cell) if you have questions or to make an appointment to see and try out the lathe.

A big Thank you to Fred Williamson who provided all the photographs in this issue except that of Tom Evans on page 2. *ed.*