

Central Virginia Woodturners

A Registered Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

February 2026 Newsletter

Safe Turning of Wood with Knots, Cracks Or Punky Areas

Jim Oates

Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:30 PM

Please check out the future meeting plans on the website [Calendar](#) page.

Next Skill Center Session

Skill Center and Mentoring Sessions are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9AM-Noon. The Club Store will be open at this time. New and prospective members are always welcome. Please contact [Jim Oates \(Woodturning Skills Center Coordinator\)](#) if you have a specific request.

HVAC Update

Most of the electrical work has been completed. We are waiting for the ice to allow us access to the outside for installation of the quick disconnect then the HVAC. The cost of the electrical work was \$2700.

By-Laws Update

The By-Laws and the Policy Manual have been sent to the membership for review. The membership will be asked to vote on the By-Laws at the next monthly meeting.

Virginia Woodturners Symposium

The next Virginia Woodturners Symposium will be held on October 24-25, 2026 at the Augusta Expo Center, in Fishersville, VA. More information and registration are available at <https://virginiawoodturners.com>.

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Drop-In Saturday Skills Center Session

Members can use the Skill Center on the 4th Saturday of each month from 9AM until 12:00 PM. Jeff Corwin and Alan Driver have organized an additional Saturday where members can utilize our Skill Center for projects or instruction. Members of all levels of turning skill are invited to work on challenges or get help with specific projects or techniques working with members of CVW's mentoring and instruction team. Members are encouraged to let Allen and Jeff know if they have projects or learning goals that they would like to have addressed in the upcoming session.



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Turners' Corner – Fred Williamson

A few months ago I bought a replacement CBN wheel through Amazon that I am very pleased with. It's brand is Scottchen, obviously a Chinese knock off, 180 grit 1" by 6" wheel. It has a feature I like that I didn't notice until I started using it. The solid disc is centered and the shoulders to the outer rim are sloped, so that dust and shavings don't get caught there. My grinder sits where the electric chainsaw on the bench to the left throws shavings onto the wheel. Before I always had to blow the wheel off or it would be out of balance. No more.



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The second is a new custom bowl caliper. I've been having trouble getting the correct thickness reading going around towards the bottom on deep globes. The bent wire that Ellsworth used has been the best but can be hard to read. So, I just made up this wood version that is a great improvement over what I had, which were more symmetrical in design. This is definitely asymmetrical and works great. I need to make up a smaller one for the smaller globes. I hope the photos are self-explanatory enough. Maybe I'll send this in to American Woodworker magazine too.



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Member Rolf Gebel made a green cherry bowl in my shop. Rolf had not made a bowl in about 3 years as was doing spindle work and a medical situation. This was a review of bowl making and the joys of turning green wood. Cherry bowl is about 8" diameter and now ready to sand in his shop if it ever warms up and he is awaiting the delivery of his new 16" Jet lathe. (his old 14" Jet is being replaced as parts are no longer available). Dennis



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Members Cindy Westley and Don Oxley conquered the Carter Method of tool sharpening in my shop. They corrected the bevels on bowl gouges and will apply to the community shop/grinder at Sunnyside Retirement facility. They now have the Carter Brochure to guide future sharpening and teaching others too. Many other shop questions were answered and Cindy had a tough maple plater we did some crack repair and roughed out the hard areas too. We will see the finished product soon. Dennis



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We are always in need for donations for both the Shenandoah Valley Arts Center and the Cheese Shop. Please bring something the next time you come to the Crimora Community Center. Your donations are a valued source of income for the club and help to keep dues down.

Shenandoah Valley Arts Center



Dennis Hippen has created an opportunity for the Club to sell items in the Shenandoah Valley Arts Center (SVAC) at 126 S Wayne Ave in Waynesboro. All woodworking items are welcome for donation from club members including bowls, spindle work (including pens) and flat work (e.g. cutting boards). Please use the shelf in the back room for donations. The Center will provide a display stand and manage the sales. This is a great opportunity for the Club to earn funds to offset the increasing costs of demonstrations and to keep our dues low. SVAC gift shop price points are \$40-80 range and often sell items that are \$150+. Marc Steck has volunteered to be the coordinator between CVW and SVAC. Thanks Marc!

Cheese Shop



We are need of more items for the Cheese Shop. Please consider items other than bowls. Boxes, vases, and unusual items sell well, plus provide a variety for customers to consider buying.

Please bring items to the Skills Center when it is open and leave them on the shelf in the back room. Please to not take them to The Cheese Shop yourself so we can manage inventory.

If you haven't visited The Cheese Shop, please do so to see what we offer. Feel free to straighten the display if it seems in disorder. If there are easels without items on them, you can place them in the tote under the shelf. While you're there, feel free to introduce yourself to the manager, Todd Anderson, and thank him for working with club. He is an Honorary CVW Member.

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Beads of Courage

We have an outlet for Beads of Courage bowls. Please consider donating to the Cheese Shop or SVAC. There are BoC buttons in the collection box in the back room.

Quote(s) of the Month

Courtesy of Mike Sorge

“Creativity is intelligence having fun. ~ Albert Einstein “

“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes; art is knowing which ones to keep.” ~ Scott Adams

Party Raffle Donors

The following vendors provided the generous donations for our 2025 Holiday Party door prizes. Please share our appreciation with them with your patronage.

Niles Bottle Stoppers	Woodcraft Short Pump*
Ace Hardware Waynesboro*	Thompson Tools*
Penn State	D-way tools/ Boxmaster*
Black Forest Sawmill	Craft Supplies USA
Klingspor	Sunnyside Resident
Lowe's Staunton	Treeline Woodcarvers
Home Depot Waynesboro*	Grottoes Ace
Lowe's Waynesboro*	Packard Woodworks*
Home Depot Harrisonburg	Woodturners Wonders*
Rockin R Harrisonburg	Mike Sorge*
Dave Wampler	Willie Simmons

*Repeat donor

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Monthly Meeting Show and Tell

Thanks to our Club Photographer Bob Shiflett

The best way to share Show-and-Tell items is at the monthly meetings. Here all members get a chance to share their work, solicit suggestions as well as creative criticism and learn something new. Members get to ask questions and see the work close up. The newsletter is also a way to share your creations, but this medium is missing the interactive element. Please bring your work to the meetings to start a discussion! If you have photographs for the Newsletter, please send to newsletter_editor@centralvawoodturners.org.

Please bring your show and tell items to the next meeting – it is a lot more fun that way.



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Demonstration Pictures

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Show-and-Tell

Fred Guendel

On the right is a walnut hollow form with a cast pewter base and rim, its 7 1/2" tall and 4" in diameter; on the left is a small honey locust bowl, its 9" in diameter and 3" tall.



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Elected Officers for 2026 and 2027	Esteemed Staff & Volunteers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President: Norm D’Allura• VP Programs & Demonstrations: Ken Koons• VP of Membership and Activities: Gary Conley• Secretary: John Schmidt• Treasurer: Ron Burton• Skills Center Director: Jim Oates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cheese Shop Coordinator: Tom Reeves• SVAC Coordinator: Marc Steck• Video Lead: Open• Store Manager: Buck Culver• Librarian: Dave Shombert• AnchorSeal Coordinator: Fred Guendel• VA Symposium Board Members: Norm D’Allura & Gary Conley• Photographer: Bob Shiflett• Webmaster: Norm D’Allura• Newsletter Editor: Norm D’Allura



The Central Virginia Woodturners (CVW), located in the Shenandoah Valley in Crimora, VA, is an affiliate of the [American Association of Woodturners](#), serving turners from Charlottesville to Staunton to Harrisonburg. Please visit our [web site](#) and consider joining our interactive, informative, educational, and very friendly club.