



Great Falls Woodturners Newsletter

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Great Falls Historical Society Demonstration

On January 8th Chuck Kuether, Paul Snyder and Sam Sampedro did a demonstration for the Historical Society and the public. Paul Snyder was instrumental in coordinating the entire program and did an excellent job.



The public was invited and there were 12 folks in attendance, including several members of the club.

Chuck and Sam used the mini-lathes from the club and demonstrated turning a pen and turning a bowl.

Sam was first and demonstrated turning a pen that, when finished, was awarded to a member in the audience as a door prize. There were several pens

awarded the audience as door prizes and were well received.



Chuck then did a demo turning an Ash bowl, giving the audience an insight in the process of creating a bowl.



In addition to the demonstration, there were a number of objects brought in by Paul, Chuck and Sam to show the audience the versatility of woodturning.



There were a number of questions that the three demonstrators answered.

A couple of the attendees were very interested in the art of woodturning and may attend future club meetings and demonstration.

All-in-all the demonstration was very well received.

Club Demonstrations

January 7 – Sam and the Club

On Jan 7th there wasn't a demo scheduled. Instead, we had an interactive discussion on using 'punky' wood and the best way to try and save a platter that had 'punky' wood laced throughout.



The discussion then centered on mounting, reducing the thickness of the platter, and then finishing it.

The discussion covered a number of audience questions on what finishes to use and the method of application. It was a good interaction and all of us benefitted from the discussion.

I feel that we should have more discussions of this nature which can definitely be educational in the future.

Rich Charlson 2014 Segmenting Workshop

The 2014 Workshop got off to a great start with 24 members attending.



Rich conducted a lecture on three different approaches to segmenting. Each of the methods will allow members, from new to segmenting to somewhat experienced and more advanced levels, to choose which approach to take for the class. This is an excellent offering by Rich to get us going on creating a segmented piece based on our skill level.



Rich is being assisted by Terry Hill and Randy Gazda. A disc sander, band saw, drill press, and drum sander will be available for attendees to use in moving

their project forward during the class. Be sure to do your homeworkHeadmaster Rich will be watching.....



Club Web Site

At the December 3rd Club Meeting Chuck Kuether brought to the club's attention that our Club Web Site is going to be updated. He solicited any and all suggestions that, you the members, can make to bring our site up to date.

If you have looked at other sites and found their site to have items or sections that you feel should be incorporated into our site, please let Chuck or Arnie Owen know so they can consult with the gentleman that will be doing the site for us. Thanks.

Club Meeting Schedule

****Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1 and 8**

Please Note: There will be a regular club meeting for all members on Feb 4th

*Feb 4th Demo – Chuck Kuether – Drying Wood in a Microwave

**Feb 15 Demo – Terry Hill

*Mar 4th Meeting, Demo – Paul Snyder – Corian Pen

**Mar 15th Demo – Randy Gazda – Turning a Stool

*Apr 1st Meeting, Demo – Jay Eklund – Eggs and Mushrooms

**Apr 19th Demo – Sam Sampedro – Finishing a Rough Turned Bowl

*May 6th Meeting, Demo – Sam – Sharpening (Per Request)

**May 19th Demo – Chuck – Putting Finishes on Your Work

*Jun 3rd Meeting, Demo to be announced

**Jun 21st Demo to be announced

* 6:30 PM

** 12:30 PM

Perpetual Bowl

The 'Perpetual Bowl/Pen', turned by **Dave Stratton** was won by **Sam Sampedro**. Sam has the honor of providing the perpetual bowl for the Feb 4th, 2014 meeting.



Dave Stratton

Info Tip – David Stratton

Here is a video clip of Heather McPhie.

<http://vimeo.com/21779390>

Editor's Comment: My thanks to the following individuals who helped with the content of this newsletter:

David Stratton

Please Note:

You will notice that this newsletter is short compared to newsletters of the past. This is due to a couple of factors:

- 1. We have had a lull in club activities since Dec 3rd except for the short meeting on Jan 7th, but...**
- 2. There is a lack of information and input by the club in general to me to assist with putting out a quality newsletter.**

I need your help and input in order to provide you all with the information and education for the club. Sam

Roger Wayman



Gary Campbell



Paul Snyder



Reb Bishop

*****Pens Created for Heather McPhie*****

Chuck Kuether



Dave Stratton



Sam Sampedro



Photos of the Instant Gallery

(Photos by Paul Snyder)



Rich Charlson

This is another approach to segmenting that some of the workshop attendees will be attempting (heavy emphasis on ATTEMPTING)

Six Laws of Woodturning

(From Woodturning: A Foundation Course by Keith Rowley)

The speed of the lathe must be compatible with the size, weight, and length of wood to be turned.

The tool must be on the rest before the whirling timber is engaged, and must remain so whenever the tool is in contact with the wood.

The bevel (grinding angle) of the cutting tools must rub the wood behind the cut.

The only part of the tool that should be in contact with the wood is that part of the tool that is receiving direct support from the tool rest.

Always cut 'downhill' or with the grain.

Scrapers must be kept perfectly flat (in the 'trailing mode', i.e. with the tool handle higher than the tool edge).

Woodturning Safety

Safe, effective use of a wood lathe requires study and knowledge of procedures for using this tool. Read, thoroughly understand, and follow the label warnings on the lathe and in the owner/operator's manual. Safety guidelines from an experienced instructor, video, or book are a good source of important safety procedures. Please work safely.

Safety is **YOUR** responsibility.

1. Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses that include side protectors. Use a full faceshield for bowl, vessel, or any turning involving chucks and faceplates.
2. Fine particles from a grinder and wood dust are harmful to your respiratory system. Use a dust mask, air filtration helmet, proper ventilation, dust collection system, or a combination of these to deal with this serious issue. Be especially mindful of dust from many exotic woods, spalted woods, or any wood from which you notice a skin or respiratory reaction.
3. Wear hearing protection during extended periods of turning.
4. Turn the lathe off before adjusting the tool rest or tool rest base, i.e., banjo.
5. Remove chuck keys, adjusting wrenches, and knockout bars. Form a habit of checking for these before turning on the lathe.
6. Tie back long hair; do not wear gloves; and avoid loose clothing, jewelry, or any dangling objects that may catch on rotating parts or accessories.
7. When using a faceplate, be certain the workpiece is solidly mounted with stout screws (#10 or #12 sheet metal screws as a minimum). Do not use dry wall or deck screws. When turning between centers, be certain the workpiece is firmly mounted between the headstock driving center and tailstock center.
8. Ensure the belt guard or cover is in place.
9. Check that all locking devices on the tailstock and tool rest assembly (rest and base) are tight before operating the lathe.
10. Ensure the blank is securely fastened.
11. Rotate your workpiece by hand to make sure it clears the toolrest and bed before turning the lathe on. Be certain that the workpiece turns freely and is firmly mounted. A handwheel on the headstock simplifies this process of spinning the lathe by hand before turning on the switch.
12. Be aware of what turners call the "red zone" or "firing zone." This is the area directly behind and in front of the workpiece, the areas most likely for a piece to travel as it comes off the lathe. A good safety habit is to step out of this zone when turning on the lathe, keeping your hand on the switch in case you need to turn the machine off. When observing someone else turn, stay out of this zone.
13. Always **check the speed** of the lathe before turning it on. Use slower speeds for larger diameters or rough pieces and higher speeds for smaller diameters and pieces that are balanced. Always start a piece

- at a slower speed until the workpiece is balanced. If the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the workpiece vibrates, always stop the machine to verify why. As a starting point, consult your operator's manual for recommended speeds for a particular lathe. Ensure the lathe speed is compatible with the size of the blank.
14. Exercise extra caution when using stock with cracks, splits, checks, bark pockets, knots, irregular shapes, or protuberances. Beginners should avoid these types of stock until they have greater knowledge of working such wood.
 15. Hold turning tools securely on the toolrest, holding the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner. Always contact the tool rest with the tool before contacting the wood.
 16. Note that, when running a lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened or locked on the lathe spindle.
 17. Know your capabilities and limitations. An experienced woodturner is capable of lathe speeds, techniques, and procedures not recommended for beginning turners.
 18. Always remove the tool rest before sanding, finishing, or polishing operations.
 19. Don't overreach, keep proper footing, and keep your balance at all times.
 20. Keep lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, alignment, binding of moving parts, and other conditions that may affect its operation.
 21. Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Don't force a dull tool. Don't use a tool for a purpose that it was not designed for or intended for.
 22. Consider your work environment. Don't use a lathe in damp or wet locations. Do not use in presence of inflammable liquids or gases, and always keep a fully-charged fire extinguisher close at hand. Keep your work area well lit.
 23. Stay alert. Watch what you are doing. Pay close attention to unusual sounds or vibrations. Stop the lathe to investigate the cause. Don't operate machines when you are tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 24. Guard against electric shock. Inspect electric cords for damage. Avoid the use of extension cords.
 25. Never leave the lathe running unattended. Turn power off. Don't leave lathe until it comes to a complete stop.
 26. Many accidents to woodturners occur while using saws, especially band and chain saws. Learn and follow the safety guidelines for this equipment.