



Nor-Cal Shavings

Newsletter of the Nor-Cal Woodturners
An American Association of Woodturners Affiliate

<http://www.norcalwoodturners.org>

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President's Message

I'm getting better. Shows the value of being a member of Nor-Cal Woodturners! I've been practicing making egg cups for the next egg cup race and so far, the chuck has only come off the lathe 5 out of 6 attempts. That's a 16.5% improvement over 1 for 1 at the last egg cup race. At that rate, 6 years from now I'll avoid the chuck coming off the lathe. Progress is sometimes slow but perseverance is supposed to be one of my strong points. Actually I could have an excuse, like I was trying to make everyone else look good, I'm just a clown, or it's George W's fault, but I'll admit it was stupidity on my part.

Actually it was part of my lathe safety class that I am in the process of developing. Not the first time I've seen an almost accident happen on the lathe, and not all those instances were my doing. Reminder, please be careful. Don't sit in the first two rows when I'm at the lathe!!!

As for lathe safety, we need to cover shop safety, wood gathering safety, environment safety (such as the hazards of wood dust), and on and on. I think the most likely time for an accident is when something is out of the ordinary (like having a guest at your shop to turn) or your mind is somewhere else (what's for dinner) or becoming too comfortable around your equipment (and taking unsafe risks). Let's all be careful, enjoy our woodturning, and be ready to point out careless acts (and be receptive to suggestions). On to other business!

You should have received a proposed set of bylaws and a cover letter explaining the rationale of the process. We will allow time to discuss them at the August meeting should you have questions and comments.

Visit to the Bay Area Woodturners Club!

Ted Young and I attended a general meeting (and demonstration by Eli Avisera) this month. Their

club meets typically on Saturdays but this time met on a Sunday. We enjoyed our visit to and from the meeting and also it was educational to see how their club operates. A big advantage they have is that they have an association with a local school (that, 'imagine this', actually has an active woodworking program) and they are not restricted to a 2 hour meeting slot. They generally have their demonstrations in association with a regular meeting. They had a good video system and considerable technical support but still the camera boom occasionally got in the way of the attendees and lighting still was an issue, but like us, they were trying to improve things and we got some ideas of things that did and didn't work. They also had too few doing too much and a request for more help. I know I'm probably one that does too little for some organizations and too much for other organizations. We each have to balance things out. Their 'club store' carried CA glue and several other items. They had a good supply of abrasive products and said they did quite well on those items. Also Nichrome wire for making custom tips for woodburning, etc. Right now we need a volunteer (or team of individuals) that can regularly take care of our glue sales and investigate other products we (Continued on page 3.)

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Nor-Cal Woodturners

Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center
915 27th Street, Sacramento CA
Between I and J Streets

General Meetings on the **4th Tuesday** at 6:45 p.m.

Roster of Officers 2010

President: Corwin Jones Phone: 209-951-4622
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Email: tedyoung61@yahoo.com

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Email: jay.richins@gmail.com

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Gerald Pierce Phone: 916-971-1310
Email: gpierce2@comcast.net

Librarian Perry Kesterson Phone: 530-675-9519
Email: perrykest@hotmail.com

Library Asst. Dorothy Brandon Phone: 530-756-9303
Email: brandon1@cal.net

Prod. Sales (This position not filled at this time)

Mbr-at-Lge: Chris Fuchs Phone: 916-729-0719
Email: cfuchs@surewest.net

Mbr-at-Lge: John DePiazza Phone: 916-541-9328
Email: john.depiazza@gmail.com

Mbr-at-Lge: Craig Milliron Phone: 530-409-9197
Email: CraigM@ArrowSprings.com

Mbr-at-Lge: Chris Smith Phone: 916-930-0922
Email: SacWoodTurning@att.net

Web Master: Martin Harris Phone: 916-455-8385
Email: himself@martinthe Turner.info

Equip. Mgr: Ron Winterton Phone: 916-834-6635
Email: vfrfv40@yahoo.com

Mentors

LOCATION	NAME	PHONE
Auburn	Dan Clark	530-878-0931
Christmas ornaments, Cheese and Cracker Plates		
Davis	Bill Flewelling	530-753-2664
General turning of most types, Natural edge		
Granite Bay	Tom Castaldo	916-791-7544
Christmas orn., Natural edge, Texturing & Boxes		
Roseville	Phil Sargent	916-789-1172
Natural edge vessels, General Turning		
Yuba City	Norm Hinman	530-673-5056
Basic Bowl, Basic Spindle and Natural Edge.		

The Mentor program is available to members who have questions about, and/or problems with, turning, Nor-Cal programs, and to get a better 'feel' for the club. Check in with the Mentor(s) in your area of interest (or geography) and get acquainted!

Mini Woodturning Workshops

Sign up at the meeting for the August 28 workshop at Norm Hinman's shop. Three full-size lathes available.

*Dues for the calendar year are \$35 per member and \$10 for spouse (if they desire to join) Commercial memberships are available for \$50 per year. This membership includes yearly advertising in the newsletter. Ads are to be business card size and may be changed from month to month. Contact Treasurer Dan Clark for more membership information. Newsletter deadline is the tenth of each month. All submissions should be sent to **Nor-Cal Woodturners, Norm Hinman, 302 Peck Ave., Yuba City, CA 95991. E-mail to: nhinman@yahoo.com***

Proprietary names which may be included herein are for information purposes only, and no endorsement of any particular product or supplier mentioned or criticism of others not mentioned by Nor-Cal Woodturners is implied.

CALENDAR

- Aug 24 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Henry Meier: Thread-cutting machine.
Raffle.
Auction of pieces by David Ellsworth and Bob Rosand.
- Aug 30 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Sept 28 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Nomination of Officers and board members.
Neal DeVore: Natural edged bowl.
President's Challenge: "Bowling Gone Wild".
Auction of pieces by David Ellsworth and Jimmy Clewes.
- Oct 4 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Oct 26 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Election of Officers and board members.
Nick Todd: Ice Cream scoop.
Raffle.
- Nov 1 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Dec ? Christmas party. Date: TBD

LAST MEETING

At the July meeting, several **extremely** gracious ladies served dishes of ice cream to those attending. At a table beyond the ice cream ladies was an unbelievable array of 'goodies' to sprinkle on or otherwise garnish the ice cream. At the other end of the room lathes had been set up in preparation for those wishing to engage in an egg-cup fabricating tournament. After this excitement had quieted a bit, we were treated to a delightful display, with accompanying commentary, of turnings by many of the attendees. (Read "Everyone wins", on page 5.)

NEXT MEETING

Nick Todd, woodturner extraordinaire, will display his skill by turning an ice cream scoop. (Where was he last month when the serving ladies had to resort to store-bought scoops to serve the ice cream at the July meeting?) Nick is renowned in the field of turning kitchen utensils, as well as beautiful bowls and platters.

Pres. message (cont. from page 1.)

should carry. Let a board member know if you can fill that need in our club.

Their 'show and tell' had a similar format to our Member's gallery but to our credit, we usually have more participants than they did on this occasion, but I cannot judge from just one visit. The Bay Area Club is a non-profit organization that does give them some opportunities that Nor-Cal doesn't have. A task I had hoped to properly review this year, but our bylaws revision task had to come first in our priority list. A challenge to be addressed next year, possibly!

As for our meeting, again more things to consider than time will permit. But if you miss seeing Henry and his thread cutting machine, you will have really missed out on seeing one of our most talented club members. I'm personally in awe of all he has accomplished!!! The time for Henry's presentation will in no way do justice to what he could teach us!!!!!!

NEWS & NOTES

Nor-Cal Woodturners welcomes

New Member:
Claude Garrod

Attendance

(unknown) attended the July meeting.

Membership:

On May 13th. Nor-Cal membership stood at:
106

Notes from the Library

Library materials may be checked out by members for one month at a time. There is a 50 cent fee for each book or magazine and a \$1.00 fee for each DVD or VHS tape that is checked out. There is a limit of three library items that may be checked out at any one time. Be sure to return the items at the next meeting.

Greenwood Sealer

Greenwood sealer is available in **5-gallon** quantities only. If you want smaller quantities, get in touch with some of your turning buddies and split 5-gallons among yourselves. For the near future, at least, contact Dwight Rutherford to obtain it. If you need it posthaste, give Dwight a call at 916-783-5082 and go to his house at 1407 Hermitage Way, Roseville, 95661. Otherwise, give Dwight a call, and he will bring it to the next meeting.

Auction

Don't forget to bring your checkbook or plenty of cash \$\$\$s to the August meeting. Two turnings done by previous demonstrators will be auctioned off. A natural edged Plum bowl by **David Ellsworth** and a crisp, delightful christmas ornament by **Bob Rosand**.

!!DUST!!

Many activities result in producing, or raising, dust: Farming, mining, logging, auto racing on dirt tracks, road building, driving cattle or sheep... or working with them in corrals, cabinet and furniture making, woodturning and, especially, sanding dry wood.

When I started turning, I realized that dust would be a serious problem. I had a small, enclosed shop with a single window and a door. Actually, it had been a bedroom in a converted garage attached to our standard, tract-type house.

My solution was to install an 1182 cu ft/min 2-bag collector outside of the shop in what remained of the garage area. I installed 5" sheet metal ducting through the wall, into the shop, and over to the bandsaw and down to the lathe. I connected it to an 18" diameter funnel located at the far side of the lathe from where I stood while turning. Blast gates were installed at appropriate locations in the ducting so the air, and dust, evacuation could be controlled.

Before I turned on the fan I always opened the outside door on the South side of the garage so air coming through the bag would exit the garage and not circulate inside. I also had to open the window which was on the North side of the shop. Thus, fresh air was always coming into the shop and exiting, dust laden, through the other side of the garage. Theoretically, the air in the shop was replaced every 67 seconds, but since I was between the window and the air removal funnel, my air was cycled much oftener than that.

But... then I moved. My next, and current, shop has a 10' X 12' roll-up door at each end. One at the North and one at the South ends. There is almost always a breeze (sometimes a wind) blowing from either the North or the South. By opening both doors I have a spontaneous dust removal system. If the wind doesn't happen to be blowing, I turn on a large fan and let it blow through. And... the neighbors don't object. The nearest house to either the North or the South is at least 1/4 mile away.
(Norm Hinman, Ed.)

Everyone Wins in Egg Cup Race

By: Chris Smith

Our July Meeting was a fun evening where several NorCal Members competed in an Egg Cup Race. Ted Young vs Corwin Jones; Tony White vs Craig Milliron; Chris Smith vs Jay Richins and Dave Dolmseth vs Norm Hinman. The competition started off with a bang when the chuck flew off Corwin's lathe!! He did warn us not to sit in the first two rows. Tony and Craig had a real race with both of them finishing neck and neck at about 1 minute 45 seconds. Finally, Norm got a laugh when he started his turning using only one hand, and his left hand at that! Everyone was a winner in this friendly competition.

(Photos: page 7)

Participation Pays

By: Chris Smith

It may be a coincidence but it seems the Nor-Cal Board Members made out well at the July Participation Raffle. Jay Richins (Secretary) won the first prize of a \$ 40 gift certificate from WoodCraft. Ted Young (Vice President) won 2nd prize of a \$ 20 one from Sacramento Machinery. Dan Clark (Treasurer), and Chris Fuchs (Member at Large) each won a tool roll bag. Tony White, though not on the board, did win a tool bag. He donated it back since he already owns one, and then his name was drawn a 2nd time! This just goes to show that the people who participate in all the activities have a better chance of winning. We'll have one more drawing in October. Get involved in the member gallery, president's challenge or donate something to the bi-monthly raffle and you could be our next winner.

Member Profile



Dwight Swaback

By: Chris Smith

It was around 1988 when Dwight saw a lathe for \$125 at Post Tools. It reminded him of using a lathe in 9th grade at Orland High School so he thought he'd give it a try. He still has that first bowl.

Dwight continues to enjoy bowl turning, especially natural edge bowls. He showed me some of his home made jigs when I visited his shop. His sister, Joy, has let him take over the 2 car garage where he has a large Woodfast Lathe for his bowls and a Bonnie Klien mini lathe he uses for pens and small projects. He took a class from Bonnie where he made a tiny goblet with three captive rings!



Dwight's career in Psychiatry brought him to UC Davis Medical Center where he worked before going into private practice in 1979. His busy work schedule made it difficult to turn



consistently but he was able to join Nor-Cal Woodturners in 1988.

For several years he took classes and combined one of his other passions, Videography, with turning. Dwight has an extensive VHS collection of training sessions he recorded. They are a valuable resource he would love to share with anyone interested.

Dwight feels that you can always learn, even from the mistakes that end up in the "Humble Pile". You can see from his work that he has learned well. His advice to new turners is to



take advantage of the Mentor program we have at Nor-Cal, visit other member's shops, watch videos, observe and learn.



Dwight had to leave Nor-Cal Woodturners in 1993 due to a busy work schedule but he rejoined in 2007 and is pleased with the changes NorCal has made. He really enjoys the web site and encourages all the members to view it regularly. Observe and Learn, like Dwight is still doing.

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**Member Nor-Cal Woodturners
of Sacramento, CA**



Ted Young



Jay Richens



Corwin Jones



Chris Smith



Craig Milliron



Dave Dolmseth



Tony White



Norm Hinman

**“Caught” by our roving
photographer:**



Chuck Renda discussing the finer points of a turning with Andrew Sylvester and Don Hendricks



Craig Milliron explaining a detail to Phil Harris and Don Hendricks.



Andrew Sylvester and our President conferring on important issues.

More egg cup turning



Ted



Corwin



Tony



Craig



Dave



Chris



Norm



Jay



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 Phone: 916-362-9664

Hrs: M-T-W-F: 9am - 7pm, Th: 9am - 9pm, Sat: 9am - 6pm, Sun: 12pm - 5pm

Address Correction Requested

Nor-Cal Woodturners
302 Peck Avenue
Yuba City, CA 95991