

Antelope Valley Woodturners Association



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Newsletter

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Newsletter of the Antelope Valley Woodturners' Association
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The next meeting will be at Paul Boyd's shop on September 18th from 09:00 to Noon.
Steve Moe will be our demonstrator

President's Message

By Bob Clark

Our July meeting at Corky's was an enjoyable experience for several reasons. Twenty one members and guests attended. Les Robison, an AVWA and Kern Woodturners' member from Bakersfield, brought 3 Kern Woodturners.



Bill Clark and Friends



Dick McCoy working Spindles

It's always a pleasure to have other woodturners attend our meetings. The temperature at Corky's and Dorine's beautiful home in Bear Valley was probably ten degrees cooler than at my house in the flat lands of Palmdale. Then there was our annual pot-luck lunch. However, I think the best part was the hands-on demonstration organized by Dan Yost. We had three lathes going at one time, experienced turners worked with new turners and everyone seemed to enjoy what they were doing. It was rewarding to see that.



Dan Yost Finalizing his Finial

I personally think that passing on these skills to other turners is one of the best things we can do as a club.



Martin with student Mickey Syke



Corky With student Art Tanaka

Thanks go to Corky and Dorine Lunceford for hosting this event, Jack Wildermuth for serving as our grill master, Martin Littleton for bringing his lathe, and of course Dan Yost for his demonstration. I cannot end this discussion without saying something about the food - Tri-Tips and everything to go with them – what a spread. Something I am quite fond of is good food.

The next AVWA meeting and demonstration will be on September 18th hosted by Steve Moe. As most of you know Steve loves gadgets. Recently I had the pleasure of seeing Steve's shop and he has more homemade tools and jigs that do the darnedest things. Steve plans on demonstrating his ornamental lathe attachment. Of course, this is an attachment that Steve made himself. Our September meeting looks to be interesting.

July Show and Tell Items



Bill Clark's Beautiful Oriental Pyrography Work



Bob Clark's natural Edge Bowl



Corky's Buckeye Burl Bowl



Corky's Cal. Pepper Bowl



Corky's Madrone Bowl



Corky's Walnut Burl Vase



Martin's Ebonized Oak Pet Urn



Martin's Elm Hollow Forms



Steve Moe's Bottle Stoppers & Ammunition Brass Pins

Other Southern California Events

David Ellsworth will have an all day demonstration on September 26th presented by the Glendale Woodturners' Guild. The price is \$35 and remember our club will reimburse up to \$30 for attending a demonstration. This offer is limited to two times per year. This is a great opportunity to see one of the legends of woodturning. Email me and I will get you on the list.

To AAW Members

If you are not an AAW member then this information would not pertain to you. However, because we are a chapter of the AAW I felt a need to post it. As you know there is some turmoil in the AAW right now. There is a special meeting being scheduled for August 28th at the headquarters of the AAW in St Paul, MN. I urge you to read over the information provided on the links below and decide what the best course of action for you and your proxy vote is. The Member Action Group (MAG) website is: <http://memberactiongroup.com/>

The Board of Directors (BOD) website is: <http://supporttheaaw.com/index.html>
I don't feel that the AVWA should become involved as an organization but rather keep our inputs on an individual basis via our proxy votes.

Keep Turning

Bob

Use and Care of Woodturning Scroll Chucks

By Mickey Burns

This article is follow-on of sorts to the article: “Mastering the Four Jaw Scroll Chuck” published in the February 2010 of the **AAW Journal**. Copies of this article will be available in the AVWA library for those who do not receive the journal. For brevity I will attempt to not duplicate items covered in the article.

Woodturning chucks are an off shoot of metal turning chucks in that the back is generally open. Some differences are that woodturning chucks have four rather than three jaws and no provision for reversing the jaws. The lack of a back on the chuck does not seem to affect the integrity of the chuck and makes cleaning with compressed air easy. Woodturning chucks have a smaller adjustment range but this is compensated for by a range of top, interchangeable, jaws. In addition to the variety of interchangeable jaws woodturning chucks can easily be moved from lathe to lathe by changing the threaded adapter. A note of caution: Chuck manufacturers normally limit the travel of the jaws with either a pin or a set screw. The pin or set screw should always be in place and functioning as intended because the intent is to prevent over extension of the jaws endangering the turner or reducing the engagement of the jaws into the scroll.

Maintenance: Normally, blowing the dust out of the chuck is all that is needed. If the chuck doesn't adjust freely after the dust is blown out it likely needs to be lubricated. Never use common lubricating oils as they attract dust and will soon clog the scroll mechanism. Instead obtain an aerosol can of 'dry lube' which is basically powdered Teflon in a fast evaporating solvent. Give the moving parts a few squirts and then cycle the jaws in and out a few times. If this doesn't work the chuck either has some sort of damage or is in need of disassembly and a thorough cleaning. This can be tricky, so find someone to do it who has done it before. Just can't do that, huh!/? OK, remove the interchangeable jaws. Check to see if the sliding jaws and their respective slots are marked. If they are marked - OK. If not, mark them. Locate the travel limiting device, pin or set screw, and remove it. Place the chuck face down on the work bench. If there is a back plate remove it. If there is no back plate there should be a 'snap ring' around the center hub. The snap ring is critical as it holds the whole thing together and it must not be stretched or distorted. So obtain a pair of snap ring pliers and remove the ring. Note: The 'snap ring' looks like a washer with a small gap in it. On each side of the gap there is a nub that is wider than the rest of the ring with a hole in it. Now you should be able to remove the scroll which you are looking at the back of and then the sliding jaws. Check and clean all parts. Then install each individually and correct any binding. Reassembly: Lube the scroll with dry lube, install and secure with the snap ring or back plate and check for free movement. Dry lube the sliding jaws. Now is the tricky part, installing the sliding jaws. Facing the front of the chuck rotate the scroll and at the outer edge you will see the leading point of the scroll. Insert the no.1 jaw and rotate the scroll until the point of the scroll is near the slot for jaw no. 2. Check to see that the no. 1 jaw is engaged in the scroll. Now insert the no. 2 jaw in its slot. Repeat for jaws 3 and 4. Continue rotating the scroll to verify that the jaws are properly engaged in the scroll and meet at the center simultaneously. If this operation fails repeat the above until it works

Clamping wood in the chuck: If you have any qualms about using the chuck use a Face Plate as Face Plates are the go-to devices in questionable situations.

Chucks normally have 'dove-tail' tapered jaws that tend to draw wood into the jaws against the front of the jaws. The mounting spigot must not reach the base or bottom of the jaw because this prevents the contact with the face of the jaws which helps stabilize the wood in the jaws.

The best grip is achieved when the taper of the jaws matches the taper on the spigot turned on the wood. This can be easily achieved by making a simple pattern from durable material like metal, wood or acrylic. It is important to frequently check to see that the wood remains tightly clamped by the chuck jaws. Be alert for any change in the sound made by the tools on the wood as a change in the sound indicates that there has been a change of some sort. Most jaws have an optimum clamping diameter. This is the diameter at which the jaws most closely resemble a perfect circle. Try to use this diameter because this is the point that there is the greatest area of contact between the jaws and the wood. Lastly, never ever leave the chuck tightening tool in the chuck because it then becomes a missile when the lathe is turned on.