



# Central Connecticut Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturning

Dedicated to the Advancement of Woodturning

[www.ccwoodturners.org](http://www.ccwoodturners.org)



June 2010

## Next Meeting

Tuesday June 22nd  
7PM  
Sharpening Tools  
Jim Kephart

## Upcoming Events

Sunday June 27th  
1PM-4PM  
Jim Kephart's shop  
85 Hillard Ave.  
Manchester

Tues July 27th  
Chemical Treatment of  
Wood  
CT Valley School of  
Woodworking

Sunday Sept 11th  
CT Valley School of  
Woodworking  
Open House

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Deadline for the next issue is July 10th.

## President's Note:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the members of Central Connecticut Woodturners who are participating in one way or another in the upcoming AAW Symposium.

I especially want to thank Larry Graves, who took up the responsibility of being the Coordinator for the Chapter Collaborative Challenge. Thank you Larry for a job well done. I also want to say thank you to Rick

Meier, Vice President of CCW, for the many hours he has put into working to make the Symposium a success. Also Lynda and Chris Zibbideo who have made sure through their efforts that the Symposium is a success. A thank you to Al Moltz, CCW Treasurer, heading up the equipment committee. Those are a few of the many people who have created items for the challenge, volunteered to help of various teams to work

and help in any way they can.

This is what makes the Central Connecticut Woodturners one of the great Affiliated chapters of the American Association of Woodturners. I look forward to seeing you all at the Symposium as well as meeting up with new and old friends.



~Corey Anderson

## CCW Open Shop

Jim Kephart opens his shop to CCW members on the last Sunday of the month. Jim has offered his shop to club members on June 27th from 1p to 4pm. Please contact Corey or Jim so they know how many people will be participating. Bring your tools, pieces of wood and your ideas for a project. And appetite...they go out afterwards.

Eric Holmquist has offered to open his shop on August 22nd for folks who would like access to a small (7x14) metal working lathe,

milling machine and metal working band saw (4x6) to do any special machining tasks. Perhaps you would like make some special fixtures to help make some woodturning jigs. There is not a lot of space in the room where those machines are, so folks can experiment with Polyurethane Resin (Alumilite) casting (make pen blanks, bottle stoppers or fill inclusions/inlay turnings) or just do some turning while they wait. Capacity, 2 at a time in the metalworking room and 3 or 4 in the garage where all my woodworking equipment and

casting supplies are. I have a Nova DVR XP and a Jet 1220 available for woodturning along with a Seig C3 Metal Lathe and X3 Milling Machine. Call me at (860) 654-9252 or email me at [eric.holmquist@hs.utc.com](mailto:eric.holmquist@hs.utc.com) to discuss your project.

Come join the fun. Share your talent, knowledge, shop space, gift to gab. This is a great opportunity to learn from others. Please contact a board member or myself so that we can get you on the August calendar. No meeting in August.

\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*

*A special thanks to an anonymous donation to the club of 1 popup tent. Thank you for your generosity!!!*



Show off with the best looking shirts around! The 2010 AAW symposium logo on the left side and the CCW on the right sleeve. Variety of colors to choose from, but the wine color shows the logos off the best!

## AAW News

The Finest & Bravest located at 104 Hillard St. Manchester 860-432-3492 (across from Jim Kephart's shop). They are \$38.95 each.

See ya at the symposium!!!



## CCW Club Collaborative

Many thanks to Larry Graves Douville for taking on the challenge of getting CCW members rallied together to complete the club challenge.

To the participants - you did an awesome job!!!!

Corey Anderson, Clete Boothby, Joe Borcynski, Larry Graves Douville, Ken Guarneri, Gil Hite, Eric Holmquist, Howard Loos, John Lorch, Rick Meier, Al Moltz, Chris Ormsby, Ken Rowe, Don Tyrseck, Mike South, Tom Stevenson, Dayton Stimson, Curtis Strong, Chris Zibbideo and Lynda Zibbideo



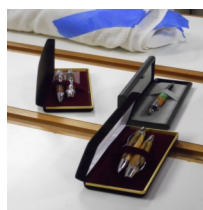
Photos by  
Lynda Zibbideo

## Show & Yell



Photos by

Lynda Zibbideo



Albert D'Antonio, Norman Hewitt, Eric Holmquist, John Lorch, Rick Meier, Al Moltz, Mike Orenstein, Jerry Sambrook, Dayton Stimson, Clement Watson, Lynda Zibbideo

## Tim Elliot Demo



Tim Elliot gave an excellent demo on how to use chip carving techniques to embellish turnings.

This is a fairly inexpensive approach to embellishing turnings. A basic chip carving knife (#15U51) sells for \$15.50 from Woodcraft and a simple ceramic hone to hand sharpen the knife are all the tools you need. A great book is Basic Chip Carving by Pam Gresham which is available from Woodcraft (#10Z22) or Amazon for around \$15. There are plenty of great resources online, so buying a ton of books is not essential.

Wood selection for chip carving leans toward fairly soft straight grained hardwoods. Ring porous woods like Ash and Sassafras are not very suitable, nor are very hard woods like Purpleheart. Commonly used

woods in the chip carving community are basswood, butternut, walnut, cherry and soft maple. Woodcraft sells various thin stock basswood boards (1/2" x 3" x 24" #145130 or 3/4" x 7" x 10" #131151 in the \$7 to \$8 range) to practice the basic techniques. A.C. Moore carries some cheap basswood plates (#206026 for \$12) to practice carving on platters before you try it on a nice turning.

Chip carving knives are generally carbon steel, so sharpening on a grinding wheel is way too aggressive as are diamond hones. As you are making small cuts on soft wood, you don't need to sharpen your knife every few minutes.

Unlike figure carving, the knife techniques of chip carving do not involve drawing the edge towards your thumb or pushing towards your other hand, so the risks of cutting yourself are quite minimal.

Much like turning which artistically combines basic profiles like fillets, v-cuts, coves and beads to achieve some pleasing or useful form, chip carving artistically combines basic shapes like triangles and rectangles to achieve some pleasing pattern. A classic example forms a heart as a combination of different sized triangles with curved hypotenuses around the edge

of a rectangle. With a bit of practice and imagination, amazing patterns can be achieved.

Once you are comfortable with the basic chip carving elements, you need to practice use of the indexing feature of your lathe to lay out the pattern to be carved on your turning.

When done properly, there is no need to sand the chipped out feature, just some very light surface sanding with 320 or 400 grit to remove the layout lines once the carving is complete.



Chip carving is an excellent booth demo at a craft show as no heavy tools, power or safety shields are needed. It can help get folks in your booth which helps sell stuff.

~~Eric Holmquist





## Wood of the Month Hickory *Carya spp.* (Juglandaceae)

**Grows:** Canada and USA

**Health risks:** At this time unknown.

**Description:** The sapwood is pale & is sold as white hickory. The heartwood is brown to reddish brown and is sold as red hickory. The straight grained wood can be wavy with irregular course texture with a medium luster.

**Properties:** Hickory is very dense and heavy. It is difficult to work with & causes moderate to severe blunting of cutting edges. Pre-boring is required. It sands, turns, stands and

polishes well.

**Typical Uses:** Used for handles of striking tools (axes, hammers), furniture, ladders, vehicle veneers, cutting surfaces, violin bows, piano keys, sporting goods, flooring, baseball bats, drum stick.

**Add'l facts:** There are ten or more species of the hickory nut. Doubtless no other nut has a kernel with the aromatic properties of the hickory. The cooking flavor is also exceptional. In flavor and quality the SHAGBARK HICKORY is held in the highest esteem as the choicest of

native hickories. The pecan and SHELLBARK HICKORY are a close second.

Also used in barbeque chip flavoring.

Andrew Jackson - 7th president of USA was nicknamed "Old Hickory", because he was said to be as tough as old hickory.



## Make a Bow Knife

The knife blades are available at Craft Supplies for \$5.99 each plus shipping, (P/N 425-0150). It comes with screws and a blade guard. The wood is scrap hanging around the shop.

1. Start with one piece of wood 9/16" thick x 1 9/16 wide x 18" long and two pieces 9/16" thick x 1 9/16 wide x 5" long.
2. The shorter pieces are glued onto both sides of one end of the long piece to make a handle.
3. Cut a "v" shape next to the handle as shown in the sketch. This will help prevent tear out of the knife shank when turning the handle.
4. Center the glue-up on the lathe handle end to the tail stock and turn the handle to your desired shape. Since "I" have large hands my first handles were too large for those with smaller hands. I learned. I sanded the handle while on the lathe as well as hand sand the "v" slot next to the

handle for a nice appearance.

5. Cut out the space needed for the knife blade as shown in the diagram. I made a drill press jig to make the job easier. (See photo.) Start by drilling 2 holes halves spaced 8" apart using a 2" dia. Forstner bit. Then I cut the wood out between the 1/2 holes with a band saw. I also round the tip end of the bow knife with the band saw.
6. Sand the knife to 220 grit, rounding all edges a bit. I do it in a wood vise.
7. Next I cut the tail stock end of the handle off and sand the end smooth.
8. Now it's time to mount the blade. It's important to have the blade under tension. I made a jig that I can take to the craft shows so that I can remount blades as required for left or right handed use. (See Photo). All that is required is to have the bow ends bent closer to each other when mounting the blade with the included screws.

This can be done with a couple of blocks of wood at either end with a clamp holding the knife down in the center of the bow area. The screw pilot holes should be at the far ends of the holes in the knife. When the bow knife is released from the bent in position the blade will be in tension.



Your choice of finish. Don't try to apply a finish with the blade in place.. It is very, very sharp. Keep the blade guard in place. I usually apply the finish before installing the knife blade

Enjoy the fruits of your labor with a fresh slice of homemade bread.

See <http://www.kenswoodgifts.com/turningtips> for all sketches and more great tips.

## Kip Christiansen Demo



Kip Christiansen spent a day with CCW at the CT Valley School of Woodworking. Kip started the demo with the basics, because let's face it you can never get enough of them. Simple bead & cove. Then shocking uses of skews, followed by combining all to make tops, balls, eggs, confetti lites, unique opportunities for frustrated golfers & their golf balls. The afternoon saw Kip making boxes, inlays, toys and a new way to peel a potato....on the lathe.



## Lathe Safety Guidelines

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 time.
4. Turn the lathe "off" before adjusting the tool rest or tool rest base (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. Make certain that 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. Make sure 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 check the reason. As a starting point, consult your operator's manual for recommended speeds for a

- particular lathe. Make sure 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. 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 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.



**Central Connecticut Woodturners**  
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**Meriden, CT 06450**



~ Legal Stuff ~

The Central Connecticut Woodturners (CCW) was founded in 1994 to support the needs of woodturners in the central Connecticut area. Its purpose is to promote a higher standard of excellence in woodturning by providing an ever expanding source of information and resources to its membership. Memberships are calendar basis from January 1 through December 31. Annual dues are \$35 or \$20 for six months or less.

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Central Connecticut Woodturners - Membership Information

New:  Renew:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues (\$35) payable to:

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