



# Central Connecticut Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturning

Dedicated to the Advancement of Woodturning

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



August 2011

## Next Meeting

September 27th  
5:30PM

CT Valley School of  
Woodworking

Pizza, club challenge,  
spouse show & yell!

## Upcoming Events

Bad Dog s Burl  
Road Trip  
Sun 8/28

Meeting at the Com-  
muter lot at 9:30

Hebron Harvest Fair  
Sept 8th-11th

Sunday Sept 10th  
CT Valley School of  
Woodworking  
Open House

## This Issue

10 Essential Cuts  
2 & 3

CA Finishing 4 & 5  
CA Burns 5

Sobering Thoughts 6  
Show & Yell 4

Final Thoughts 7  
Wood of the Month 7

Deadline for the next  
issue is September  
10th.

## Open Shop Month

This is Open Shop Month!!

Thank you to all that are par-  
ticipating in this event.

The month of August CCW  
will NOT have a meeting or  
picnic. This year we are try-  
ing something new. Open  
Shops! This is where various  
club members open their  
shops up to other members  
to come, visit, create and or  
learn new things.

Please note the following  
shops are participating.  
Please call to let them know  
that you are coming so that  
they can anticipate the atten-  
dance.

**Jim Kephart** - Jim will NOT  
be having an open shop in  
August

**Lynda & Chris Zibbideo** -  
8/13 12-4PM 203-686-1207  
General turning, carving &  
tips

**Eric Holmquist** - 8/13 9AM - ?  
860-289-4791 Intro to metal  
lathe

**Al Czellecz** - 8/20 9:30AM -  
??,860-584-9003, General turn-  
ing, and tips

**Corey Anderson** - 8/27 12-  
4PM 860-368-1146 General  
turning and tips. Raffle!

## Annual CCW Club Challenge

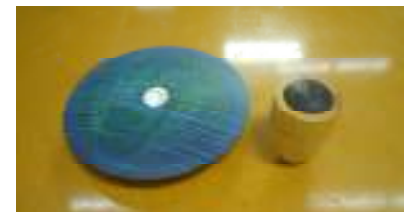
This year's club challenge will  
be held at the September  
meeting. This year's theme is  
"Multiples". This means one  
item repeated multiple times.  
Example, napkin rings would  
be multiple. Prizes will be  
given for the best examples  
of multiples.

Please note that the Septem-  
ber meeting will feature a  
pizza party starting at  
5:30PM. We will also be hav-  
ing a spouse's craft show &  
yell. Where there is a crea-  
tive woodturner...there is  
usually a creative spouse.  
Time for them to get some  
recognition too!  
Plus other fun events.

So remember for September:

- Club challenge
- Pizza party
- Spouse Show & Yell

On May 8th **Jimmy Clewes** came to CCW for an  
all day demonstration. Jimmy demonstrated the  
African Drum box, Oriental Box and a Colored  
Piece. The African Drum box and the Colored  
Piece will be raffled off at the September meeting.  
Tickets will be \$5 each and can be purchased at the  
meetings.

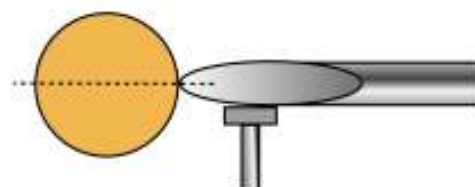




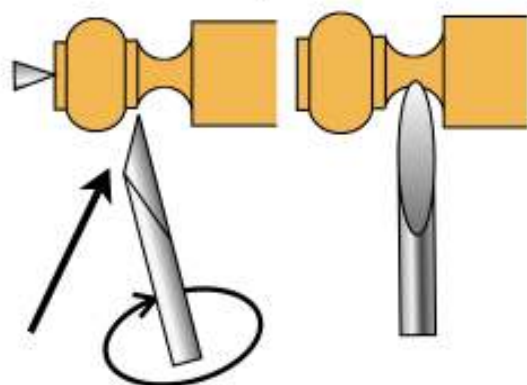
## Keith Tompkins Ten Essential Cuts

To begin this cut, the tip of the tool should be pointing directly towards the centerline of the turning. Then, feed the tool until the tip just begins to cut a fine line around the turning. This line will act as a support until the bevel contacts the work. This cut is the basis for cutting beads and coves as well as filets.

Cutting into end grain with a spindle gouge.

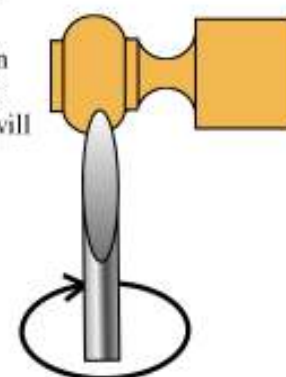


Cutting a cove.



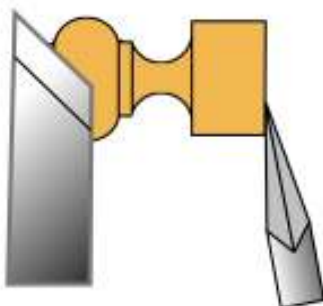
This cut starts with the bevel rubbing at the center of the bead, then the tool is rolled in one direction to form half the bead, then in the opposite direction to complete the bead. Making a v-cut on both sides of the bead in advance will make this cut easier to perform.

Rolling a bead



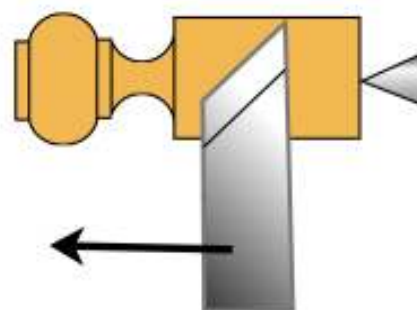
This cut begins the same as the end-grain cut. Point the bevel in the direction you wish the cut to follow. The cut starts out with the tool's flute facing away from the cut, and as the cut progresses, the tool is gradually rolled to the flute-up position while maintaining bevel contact.

Cutting end-grain with a skew



The cut is started with the handle held low, then the handle is raised to arc the toe of the tool into the cut. Several light cuts are better than one deep cut. Notice the side of the tool rides along the wood, while the sharp edge faces upward, rolled away from the cut. This cut is also used for cutting v-grooves, and a variation of this cut works well for forming beads.

Smoothing a cylinder

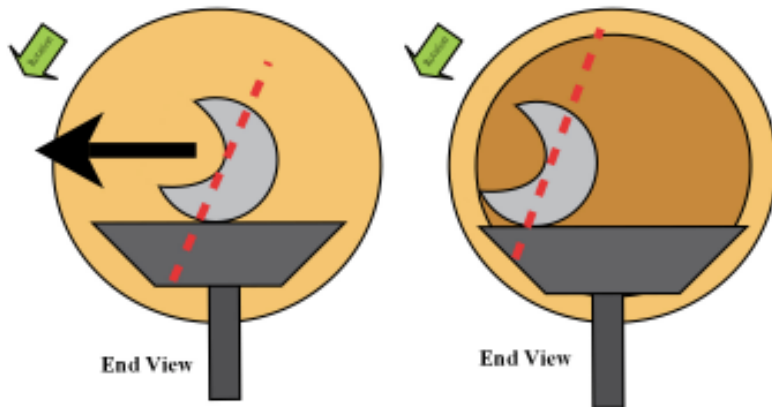


Rolling a bead with a skew chisel

Similar to cutting a bead with a spindle gouge, the cut begins at the center of the bead, and the skew is rolled in one direction to form one half of the bead, then the tool is flipped over to complete the other side. In most cases, the cut is made with the tip; it is important to maintain contact between the tip and the wood throughout the entire cut, otherwise a catch will result.

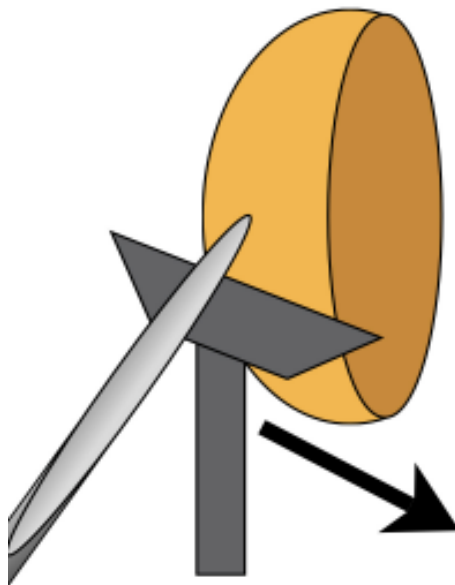
Begin with the skew lying on top of the turning, then lightly roll the tool in the direction of the cut until the bevel rubs and begins to cut. It is best to avoid the toe (long end) to prevent catches. Flip the tool over to cut in the opposite direction.

**Hollowing end-grain with a spindle gouge**



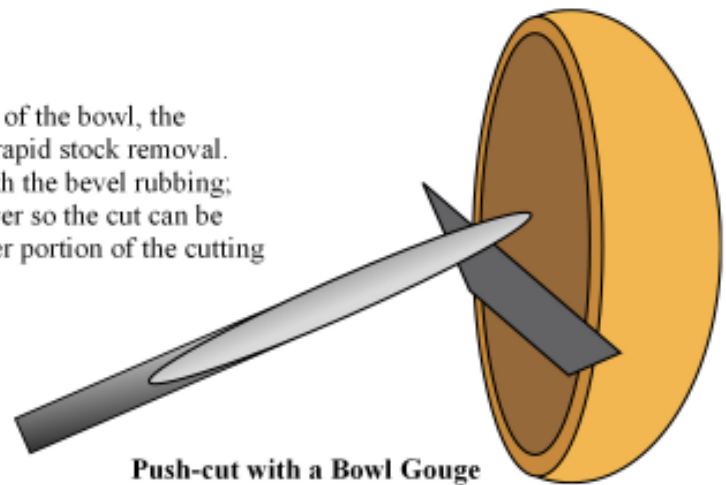
Begin by creating a divot at the center of the work piece, holding the tool as illustrated. Then pull the tool towards the rim to complete the cut, using the lower part of the cutting edge. Repeat the process from center to rim until the piece is hollowed. The tool may be rotated towards the horizontal for a smoother cut; however, there is a greater risk of a catch. Anchoring the tool handle against you body will aid in fine control.

**Pull-cut with Bowl Gouge**



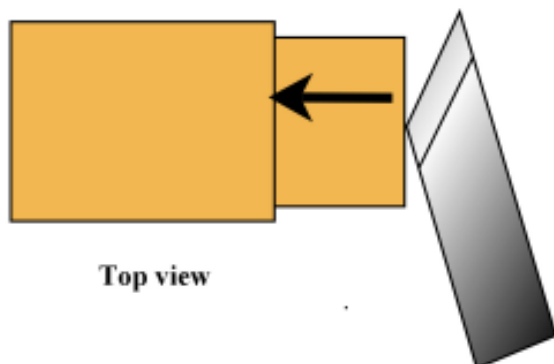
Starting at the base of the bowl, the pull-cut facilitates rapid stock removal. this cut is made with the bevel rubbing; the tool is rolled over so the cut can be made with the lower portion of the cutting edge.

**Push-cut with a Bowl Gouge**



This cut is made with the bevel rubbing, and the flute in a vertical position, rotated 90 degrees to the cut. To begin this cut at the edge of a bowl, touch the edge lightly until a fine line is established; point the bevel in the direction you want the tool to follow. Keeping the cut on-center with the flute perpendicular to the edge prevents the tool from skating. The tool can be rolled into the cut, especially when the cut approaches the Bottom.

**Cutting a Fillet**



Top view

Creating a fillet serves to separate elements within a turning. This can easily be done with scraping methods, but the results are not clean and crisp. Cutting a fillet with a skew chisel requires beginning the cut with an unsupported cutting edge. Begin by just touching the turning lightly with the heel of the tool, allowing a shallow groove to form. Then rotate the toe of the skew upward so only the tip contacts the wood, not the entire cutting edge. Cut in the direction illustrated. Clean up the shoulder cutting with the toe of the skew.

# CA Finishing

Cyano-acrylic (CA) finishes are popular on pens and other small spindle work (key chains etc.) that is subject to a lot of handling. It is not a practical finish on larger items, the short open time and cost of CA limits its use to small items.

## Advantages

Very durable – extremely hard and resistant to sweat and oils in hands  
High gloss

## Pencil Hardness for Common Coatings

TYPE OF COATING: PENCIL HARDNESS

- Catalyzed polyester: 9H
- Catalyzed polyurethane: 9H
- Enduro: 8H
- Cyano-acrylic: 7H
- Catalyzed modified acrylic polyurethane: 4H
- Catalyzed acrylic polyurethane: 2H
- Water-based polyurethane: 3H
- Water-based urethane/isocyanate catalyst: 2H
- Conversion varnish: 4H
- Low-VOC lacquer: 3H
- Low-VOC catalyzed lacquer: 2H (24 hours)
- Urethane/nitrocellulose lacquer: F (24 hours)
- Water reducible lacquer: 2H
- Tung oil/polyurethane wipe-on finish: 2H
- Water-based polyurethane wipe-on finish: HB-F
- Precatalyzed aerosol: 3B
- Waterclear acrylic aerosol: 3B
- Clear shellac aerosol: 3B
- Polyurethane/nitrocellulose aerosol: HB
- Nitrocellulose aerosol: 3B
- Amber (orange) shellac 1 lb. cut (waxed): 3B

## Disadvantages

Short open time – easy to mess up  
Prone to blushing – entrapped moisture in the wood can form a fog layer between the wood and the finish

Fumes are annoying – run dust collector to evacuate CA fumes.

## Preparation

To avoid blushing, it is a good idea to clean the wood with Acetone if practical. This helps to ensure a consistent starting point for surface moisture and oil.

## Application Method

Application of the CA can be done in many ways, all of which are good once you get used to them, but each method has a learning curve so it tends to be best to pick an application method that works well for you and stick to it.

Common application methods include

- Paper towel
- Plastic bags (the little baggies that come with the pen kit)
- Batting
- Delrin sheets

My preferred method is paper towels.

Protect the ways of the lathe with something like cardboard or a scrap of plywood to avoid needing to scrape off any CA that gets flung off the blank during the finishing process.

## Sanding / Polishing

There are two basic approaches, either Micromesh or sandpaper.

Micromesh 1,500 through 12,000.

Hand sand with the grain for the first three grits, beyond that is a waste of time, can be done either wet or dry.

Alternatively wet sand with automotive wet/dry sandpaper 320 through 2000 and finish up with plastic polish.

## Formulations

While there are several formulations of doing CA finishes, the two most common are CA and Boiled Linseed Oil (BLO) or CA and Accelerator

## CA / BLO

### Advantages

Longer open time  
Highlights grain in wood

### Disadvantages

Color shifts the wood  
If not careful to wait for curing, can ruin Micromesh

### Basic method

Applied on lathe around 500 RPM

Have a bright lighting setup that will allow you to see a crisp line of light the whole length of the blank

Put a little bit of BLO on the paper towel and apply to the blank and get a uniform thin film of BLO on the blank. This accents the grain and allows the CA to easily float over the film.

Keeping the same oily spot of the paper towel used to apply the BLO on the wood, begin putting two or three small drops of medium CA on the blank while keeping the paper towel moving.

Observe the reflection of the light off of the finish. Initially it will be blurry, once the reflection clears, that section is done, continue to rub the blank until a crisp reflection can be seen over the whole blank.

Discard that section of paper towel and repeat the process starting at putting BLO on the paper towel, but from this point just use a small drop. From this point forward the BLO is only a lubricant to help form a uniform CA film so very little is needed, too much BLO just makes a mess. The wood is now somewhat sealed so little if any BLO will get absorbed into the wood.  
Build up four to six coats of CA

Give it a shot of Accelerator after last coat

Let cure for at least 15 minutes and preferably longer as the BLO is a retardant.

**CA** from page 4

Clean off any globs of BLO that form on the surface, can use De-natured Alcohol (DNA). Don't use Acetone as it is a CA solvent.

Sand / Polish as described above.

### **CA / Accelerator**

#### **Advantages**

Color neutral – lends itself to dyed, airbrushed or light (Holly etc.) woods where color preservation is desired  
Quick to do – cure time in the order of seconds

#### **Disadvantages**

Extremely short open time, may grab  
Without dye, may not accent wood grain very well

#### **Basic method**

Applied on lathe around 500 RPM

If CA is to be applied over an air-brushed pattern put on a few light coats of shellac before starting the CA process or the paint will smear. There is no need to sand after the shellac, sanding at this point risks scratching the pattern. As long as the shellac is put on lightly, any surface roughness will not be visible through the CA.

If CA is to be applied over a uniform dye job, no shellac is needed.

With the paper towel moving, put a few drops of CA on the blank, trying to get a uniform coat on just two or three passes of the paper towel, and quickly remove the paper towel. The cellulose in the paper towel is a catalyst, so haste is essential or the CA will start to grab and leave a mess of fibers that you will have to sand off and start over.

Spray a few shots of Accelerator and wait a few seconds. With a light touch of finger tip make sure that the surface is cured.

Repeat the above two steps with a clean section of paper towel each time to build up at least six coats of CA.

With a strip of 320 grit sand paper and a backing board, lightly sand down any ripples in the surface. Without the BLO to float the CA and the process haste, ripples are hard to avoid, so more coats are used to ensure that this step does not sand through the finish.

Micromesh or Sand / Polish as above.

~~Eric Holmquist

## **CA Burns**

When Dr. Harry Coover and Fred Joyner first discovered CA (cyanoacrylate) in 1942 they were trying to develop gun sights. It became the popular "Super Glue" in 1971. And was used as an instant bonder for war wounds in Vietnam. A product this versatile is bound to have hazards.

I was recently transferring a crushed bottle of super thin into another bottle. The crushed bottle was leaking a little so I wrapped it in some toilet tissue and continued. It seemed to be a pretty good idea at the time. Save an ounce of glue, put it in a new bottle, wrap it with something to keep the leaking under control. Oh Wait! Super thin and tissue paper, made of cotton residue. This may not be such a great idea. The contact of Cyanoacrylate adhesives and cotton or wool could result in a powerful, rapid exothermic reaction.

In other words, it could burn. (see photo)

At first the burning felt like I feel when I turn pens and use CA for a finish. Then I realized that the tissue was soaked and reacting to something on my finger. Maybe the wax or finish I was using earlier, maybe it was just moisture. I dropped the bottle and tried to remove the tissue. It was too late and I knew that adding moisture would be the wrong thing. I just cried. Really, it was like holding my finger on a hot iron. When I finally cut it away with a pair of snips, put it in water and got it off, the pain was unbelievable.

I then remembered what I had read about the reaction to cotton and wool, moisture, wax and other materials. I had a lapse of memory which caused me third degree burns to my

finger.

I've been out of the shop for 5 days and probably will be for a few more. I learned to type with 9 di-gits and use my Iphone with the "friendly finger". Be aware of the hazards associated with our hobby, they could change your life.

*Eddie Castelin*

From the Bayou Skew vol13/no2

# Sobering Fact

From Michael Ginsburg

I came across a very sobering story that was on the forum I belong to, Sawmill Creek. Somebody posted a thread referring to a thread on WOW Forum. It was a very tragic situation where a woodturner was severely injured from a head wound and eventually passed away. It caught my attention because I normally do not wear a facemask. I own one, but am a bit lazy, as I am sure many of us are. I thought you might be interested in this story as a reminder to all of the members of our club the importance of proper precautions that should be taken to maximize our safety.

## Re: Joan Kelly Update

Here is a message from Joan's husband, Earnest:  
Many of you are already aware of Joan's dreadful accident on May 4, but I will give a brief account: Joan was turning a heavy bowl blank on her lathe. It flew to pieces and one large piece struck her in the face and forehead causing profuse bleeding

and underlying injuries to the face and skull. I found her within what must have been a very few minutes, called an ambulance, and applied a compress. She got to the hospital having lost a great deal of blood and requiring transfusions. She immediately went into surgery. Over the last ten days, her blood pressure and other vital signs have generally stabilized. We hope that the swelling is decreasing, and Tuesday a lumbar puncture lowered the pressure on the brain dramatically. We pray for a good recovery, but she has not yet regained consciousness. She is receiving outstanding medical care.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude for the incredible outpouring of prayer, sympathy and assistance that has already occurred. Many of you, plus Joan's many other friends, have blessed us with prayers, assistance and love. The community on Joan's beloved Ocracoke Island have sent us their love. The contra dancers are praying for her, including dancers in Little Rock and Huntsville, who were recently delighted by her talented calling. Close friends in Joan's jazzercise

and yoga groups have been on hand. Clergy from Idlewild and a number of churches have prayed with us. Dear friends have been with us daily, offering prayer, food, sympathy and greatly appreciated medical expertise. Whatever remains ahead, Joan should know that she is admired, treasured and loved to a degree that exceeds her wildest dreams. For my own part, I am humbled by the staunchness and devotion of so many wonderful people. For the last few days, some lines of Yeats have been running through my head: *"Think where man's glory most begins and ends, And say my glory was I had such friends."*

Peace and Blessings on You All,  
Ernest Kelly



# Keith Thomkins Demo



**Bad Dogs Burl Road Trip** Sunday August 28th. Two years ago several of us took a road trip to Bad Dogs Burl Source in Belchertown, MA. It was a great trip. This year Rob Doyle is offering to set out a bar-b-que for us. However we need a headcount. If interested, please contact Lynda Zibbideo 203-686-1207

**CT Valley School of Woodworking Open House** Saturday September 10th. CCW has in the past always had a presence there. If interested in demonstrating, please contact Lynda Zibbideo 203-686-1207

**ARTISAN AND CRAFT SHOW** HEBRON HARVEST FAIR, September 8-11, 2011 CCW has decided to take a booth for demonstrating and selling. For additional information please check <http://hebronharvestfair.org/pages/JuriedArtsandCraftsShow.html> Contact Arlene Snyder or Carol Roffee if interested

**West Hartford Art League** Saturday, September 17th, from 10 - 6 in Blue Back Square Juried Clothesline exhibit (open to all mediums. Work must be able to hang by clips from a clothesline - unstretched canvas, fiber, photographs, drawings, etc). Visit our website at <http://www.westhartfordart.org/upcoming-exhibitions/> to download entry forms.

## Call for Entries "Artistic Wanderings 2011"

An exhibition opportunity for all artists. Norwich Arts Center Galleries, 60 Broadway, Norwich CT 06360  
Sponsored by the Norwich Arts Council & The Katherine Forest Crafts Foundation Exhibition Dates: August 5 through August 27, 2011 Opening Reception/Meet the Artists: First Friday, August 5 from 6-9pm, Awards at 7:30pm  
Juror: Guido Garaycochea, curator for Expressiones, New London, CT [www.guidogaraycochea.com](http://www.guidogaraycochea.com) for info and imagery Questions can be directed to Carol at 860-822-8412. You may also check the NAC website for updates: [www.norwicharts.org](http://www.norwicharts.org)

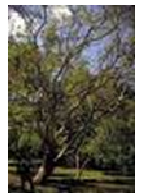
**Articles:** Looking for articles that you want to share with your fellow CCW members. No computer...no problem, write it out & mail it to me.

## For Sale:

Mike's Going Out of Existence Sale All of the items listed are used and are being sold as is. They all work well and, to the best of my knowledge, suffer only normal wear and cosmetic deterioration. You can (and should) test each item yourself before buying. Mike Kormos Phone (203) 922 -1273. A complete listing is on CCW website



## Wood of the Month Chakte Viga (*Caesalpinia platyloba*)



**Grows:** Mexico and Central America  
**Health risks:** The dust may cause contact dermatitis. Has a slight odor  
**Description:** Chakte Viga is best known for its beautiful, golden orange wood and subtle grain pattern. The sapwood is yellowish to white and is clearly demarcated from the heartwood. The heartwood varies slightly from pale to rich reddish orange. The grain is typically straight, but can interlocking. It is reported to have good tonal qualities and is popular in both instrument building and wood turning. The wood can darken with exposure to light.

**Properties:** Known to be insect resistant, polishes to good luster, will cause moderate blunting on hand tools.  
**Typical Uses:** Interior furniture, turnery, molding and carving.  
**Additional Information:** This small, tropical-looking tree is a perfect choice for courtyards and other oasis zones. The lush green foliage is extremely ornamental, with compound leaves to 8 inches long, composed of large oval leaflets. Although this tree does bloom in the summer with clusters of small yellow flowers, the leaves and thornless nature are its most outstanding features. *Caesalpinia platyloba* grows

quickly to 20-25 feet tall and wide. Hardy to 25°F, this tree can freeze to the ground if temperatures drop to the high teens. However, re-growth is rapid, up to 6-8 feet of growth in a year. Leaf drop can occur in a cold winter, or when plants are water-stressed in the hot summer months. Native to the tropical deciduous rain forests of Mexico, this tree is harvested there to make fence posts. USDA Zone 9.





**Central Connecticut Woodturners**  
**c/o Lynda Zibbideo**  
**158 Reynolds Dr.**  
**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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860-267-0830 wooden-it-be-nice@sbcglobal.net

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www.nutmegwebservice.com



Central Connecticut Woodturners - Membership Information

New:  Renew:

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

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

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

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

Dues (\$35) payable to:  
 Central Connecticut Woodturners  
 c/o **Alan Moltz**  
 21 Decosta Drive  
 Newington, CT 06111