



The **DRILL** Newsletter

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Demonstration Shows Variety Of Chucking Options

CHARLIE & HOWARD PUT A HOLD ON WORKPIECES

By Scott Hampton

January's demonstration was presented by Charlie Smith and Howard Atamian, featuring how to hold your workpiece properly using the many chucks available to woodturners.

Charlie started by explaining that a regular faceplate is the easiest and cheapest method for holding bowl blanks on a lathe. Howard explained that you can use a glue block attached to a faceplate to turn just about anything. Both Charlie and Howard suggested using sheet metal screws for attaching the wood to a faceplate as they are the strongest screws for this type of chuck. You can also turn a faceplate into a three or four point drive by putting either three or four wood bolts through the holes of the faceplate. This is great for turning large and irregular shaped pieces of wood between centers.

Charlie went on to explain the use of a screw chuck. There are many sizes of screw chucks available. You can tighten a large woodscrew into a four jaw chuck by tightening down the screw using the jaws. By drilling a hole into the center of your workpiece, you can then screw it onto the chuck. This method is very popular with bowl turners.

The discussion then moved on to pin chucks, with Howard explaining how

they are used. A pin chuck is a piece of round steel stock with a slot where a pin can be inserted to hold the wood tight to the chuck. These types of chucks are used mainly for small turning projects.

Howard and Charlie then brought out the newest chucks used in woodturning, the scroll chucks. Scroll chucks started as three jaw chucks used in the metal turning industry until someone got the bright idea that they can be used on a woodturning lathe. They later found that a four jaw scroll chuck will work better for woodturning. A couple of companies in Canada started mass producing them and marketing these kinds of chucks to woodturners, and the rest is history.

Charlie went on to explain that some scroll chucks have straight sided jaws and some have dovetail-shaped jaws. With either of these jaws, you do not want your wood to bottom out on the bottom of the jaws. If it does, your wood will not line up straight with the lathe's axis and also cause vibration.



Howard shows how you can use a faceplate as a four-point drive for turning natural edged work pieces.

Most scroll jaws have several different jaw sizes available as accessories. Depending on the size of your project, you must choose carefully which size jaws you use while turning your project.

Some scroll chucks differ in some have sealed gearing and some have open gearing (Oneway vs. Vicmarc). Also most scroll chucks also have different size inserts that are available so you can use the same chuck on lathes that have different thread sizes on the headstock.

Howard and Charlie then brought out a collet chuck. Collet chucks are great for turning pens, bottle stoppers and off-center turnings. You either attach or turn

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March Meeting Demo...

Woodturning A Pepper Mill

...Don't Miss It

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2011 MEETING

By Scott Hampton

Jack Ritchie opened the meeting at 9:30 am. We welcomed Ron Glahn, a new member. Stan Stephens collected dues during the meeting. Jack asked if anyone will step in as interim Secretary as Cortland Hunt has moved to Texas. No members volunteered. Jack asked if anyone was willing to be a dedicated Audio/Visual partner with Scott Hampton. No members volunteered.

There was a good turnout for the Veterans Cane Project. Several members brought cane blanks that were turned during the winter season. This project is in conjunction with the valley's woodcarving club. Charlie Smith said we need at least 50 cane blanks turned and about half (25) turned cane blanks have been turned in. It was discussed that the wood being turned for the canes is a hard wood to make into cane blanks. Some

members suggested using just a roughing gouge and a skew as these seem to be the best tools to use.

A discussion took place as whether we should invite David Springette to give us a professional woodturning demonstration. A vote was taken and only two members were interested. We will not be extending David an invitation to demonstrate at this time.

The club's bi-annual Woodturning Picnic was discussed and voted on. Jack Ritchie explained that the picnic will probably be toned down from past picnics, with less raffle prizes and auction items. A location and date for the picnic and final details will be forthcoming after the next executive board meeting. The majority voted to hold the picnic.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

I am sorry I missed you all at the January meeting. I had to schedule a last minute surgery on my knee. I had surgery on the Friday prior to the meeting so I was in no shape to stand and demo. I do want to thank Howard Atamian and Charlie Smith for filling in and putting on a great demonstration on chucking and reverse chucking. I'm told that they covered this from front to back for the members of the club. Some of you had a lot of questions about vacuum chucking. It's interesting how chucking works. Congratulations to J.C. Charles who I'm told won the vacuum pump in the raffle. Additionally, thank you to Jack Ritchie for running the meeting in my absence and Scott Hampton for filling in for the meeting recording secretary.

Jack Ritchie is going to demonstrate the pepper-mill for us at the March 26th meeting. This will be very good, so please try to make it if you can.

I hope you all have considered filling some of the openings we have available on the board. This is very important to the structure of the club; to keep it moving forward. Lets pull together to patch this open spot on the board. If you are interested and have some skills to do this kind of work, please step up. We will discuss this more at the next meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all there,

Tye Putman

Club President



2011 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Tye Putman.....297-1930	Newsletter Editor	Scott D. Hampton.....733-9948
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Secretary	Scott Hampton (Interim)	Raffle Tickets.....	Terry Gilliland
		Librarian.....	(Open Position)
		Audio/Visual.....	Scott Hampton

Meeting Dates: The Sequoia Woodturners meet the last Saturday of the month, every-other-month starting in January each year. Location and time of meeting will be announced in the newsletter and on the website.

Club Website: www.sequoiawoodturners.org

**Next Meeting
To Be Held
March 26th
See Page 6 For More
Details/Directions**

JANUARY SHOW & TELL STARTS THE YEAR OFF RIGHT

The following members brought projects for the January Show and Tell Presentation. Charlie Smith, Howard Atamian, Mad Jack, Craig Miller, Dennis Ivans. Mike C., Richard Vanderdiel, Larry McCartney, Scott Hampton, Kevin Connor, Ron Glahn and Perry Coy

Terry gave away a vacuum pump for the end of the year prize for the club challenge.



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JANUARY DEMONSTRATION

a tenon on the wood and the tenon is tightened down inside the collet to hold your work.

Howard showed how to attach an irregular shaped piece of wood to a small lathe for turning a natural edge bowl. You need to mark the center of the wood bank so you can line it up evenly between the axis of the headstock and the tailstock.

They moved on to how remove a tenon after your turning is finished and you want to put a nice foot on the bottom of your project. Charlie discussed how he prefers to use a jam chuck for removing the foot/tenon. This is accomplished by placing your project between the headstock and tailstock and tightening the piece between them, or “jamming” the piece between them. A jam chuck can be a piece of wood that has a long tenon on it so it can reach deep into irregular shaped or natural edge projects. You can also use a wood disk with a groove cut into it so a bowl can be tightly pushed into the groove (jammed). With both of this type of procedures, the tailstock is brought up to hold the piece securely while turning to remove the foot/tenon. They also showed the benefits of using a set of Cole Jaws. They’re used for creating a decorative foot or removing a tenon from the bottom of a bowl.

Howard explained the various ways to remove the small tenon, or nib, left over when done turning. He said you can use a chisel, a pocket knife, a power chisel, etc. You can then sand the remaining wood to smooth the surface and then apply your favorite wood finish.

Howard explained the use of vacuum chucking. Vacuum is measured in units of mercury. He explained the differences in the amount of pressure needed to hold your work. He discussed that the larger the chuck and amount of units/pressure, the more pounds of pressure is created. Too much pressure can cause your project to collapse and too little pressure and your project can come off the lathe while it’s turning. You need to figure how much pressure is needed to hold your work at the right amount of pressure. Howard demonstrated how powerful even a vacuum pump from Harbor Freight can be. He showed that you do not need an expensive vacuum pump to create a well working vacuum chuck for your lathe.

Charlie and Howard demonstrated an actual working vacuum chuck on a mid-lathe to show the holding power of this type of chuck. You should use your tailstock as much as possible while using a vacuum chuck as a safety procedure because the vacuum might not hold if the wood is very porous, like mahogany and oak.

You also need to filter the air going into the pump so dust, dirt and wood shavings do not destroy the inner workings of the vacuum pump. Also required is a bleeder valve to adjust the amount of vacuum placed on your project. This is important for holding your project at the correct pressure.

You can purchase vacuum chucks and systems or you can build your own if you are mechanically inclined. You can make vacuum chucks out of non-porous wood. Remember to use a gasket to hold the vacuum chuck against the project you’re working on to prevent the vacuum



Members look on in interest as Howard and Charlie explain the uses of various chucks for woodturning.

pressure from leaking around the wood. Vacuum chucks can be made from wood or metal.

Charlie and Howard finished up discussing the importance of safety while using the various forms of chucking and turning in general.



Howard explains the use of a vacuum chuck for hold your workpiece on a lathe.



A VISIT WITH THE CENTRAL VALLEY WOODCARVERS

By Mike Cunningham

On Saturday, February 05, 2011, Sequoia Woodturners members Chuck Smith, Howard Atamian and me attended the monthly meeting of the Central California Woodcarvers. The meeting was held at CCW member Bert Frazier's house and workshop. We were the guests of Chuck Smith who is a member of both organizations.



The Central California Woodcarvers has been in existence since 1971 and is affiliated with the California Carvers' Guild, a statewide organization 900 members strong. The CCW is our team partner for producing the canes for veterans project that we embarked on as a club endeavor. Howard, Chuck and I came to present the CCW with our first batch of cane shafts for this project.

The first batch of cane shafts produced by the Sequoia Woodturners were 27 strong and consisted of cane shafts in both Walnut



and Pistachio woods. The members of the CCW were very impressed with our efforts and asked many questions about how they were produced and what finishes were used on the cane shafts. Jim Hickey and Don Cathey, the President and Vice President challenged

their club to produce Eagle head tops for the canes.

When the canes are finished, they will be presented to the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Fresno to be given to wounded and disabled vets. Don said that canes from the CCW had already been given to disabled vets

including one survivor of the Bataan Death March of WWII, POWs of the Vietnam era and both the Iraq and Afganistan conflicts. Lloyd Moore gave an entertaining explanation of the

eagle head carving and showed a couple of examples of the finished top and cane. He got a total of 12 of the 30 members in attendance at the meeting to commit to making the cane tops for our project.

The meeting concluded with a Hotdog, Bean and Potato Salad lunch hosted by the CCW. We were most impressed with the partnership for this project with the Central California Woodcarvers and look forward to the projects continuing success.



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This Space Is Reserved For Free Classified Ads & Announcements For Members. If You have Something To Sell, Or Something You Want the Club Members to Know About, Please Contact Scott Hampton (Editor) At (559) 733-9948 or email: woodburner@comcast.net

2011 WOODTURNERS CHALLENGES

March—Twig Pot, Toorthpick Holder, Flat Bowl or Dish, Scoop

May—Bird House, Bird Feeder, Tool Handle, Garden Dibble

July—Kitchen Utensil, Salad Bowl, Bottle Stopper, Egg or Sphere

September—Natural Edge Bowl, Lidded Box, Bracelet

December—Christmas Ornament, Spinning Top, Ball and Toss Toy, Candle Stick

Special Challenge (Any Month)—Turn something that is not made of wood (corian, plastic, etc.)

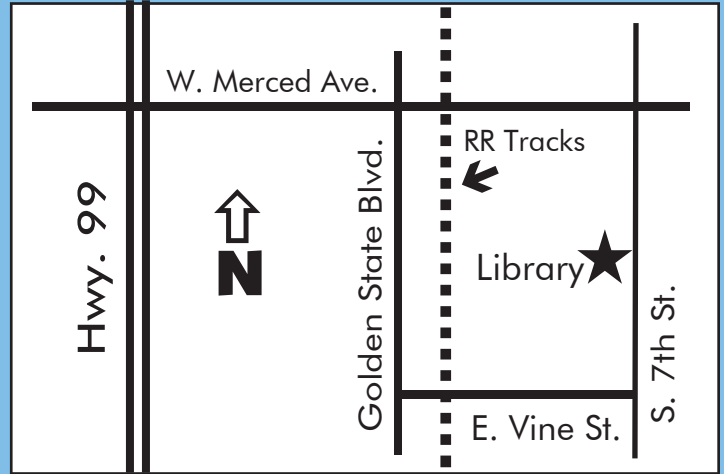
Rules:To participate in the challenges you must be a member of Sequoia Woodturners and have a name badge. Project must be finished, signed and dated in 2011 (if possible). Must be present to win.

MOST OF ALL, HAVE FUN!

**NEXT SEQUOIA WOODTURNERS MEETING SAT. MARCH 26, 2011
MEETING STARTS AT 9:30 AM**

**LOCATION: FOWLER REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY
306 SOUTH 7TH STREET • FOWLER, CA**

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy. 99, take the Merced St. exit, turn east (towards mountains) onto W. Merced St., continue on W. Merced Ave., drive across the railroad tracks, then turn right onto South 7th Street. Library will be on the right-hand side.



THE SEQUOIA WOODTURNERS NEWSLETTER IS LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Do you have the time to become a newsletter writer? I am looking for a few members who will like to write some articles for our club's newsletter. Articles wanted include: How-To-Woodturn, Member Profiles, Woodturning Event Articles, Etc. Also, if you have an idea for an article(s) that you will like to submit, please feel free to give me a call or send me an email. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Scott D. Hampton, Editor

The Sequoia Woodturners Newsletter is the Official publication of the Sequoia Woodturners and is published every two months prior to the next meeting. Copies of the newsletter are sent to all paid members and also to the AAW Local Chapter Committee Chairman.

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