



Plane Talk Newsletter

March 2021

Vol. 20, Issue #03

This is a publication of Nevada Woodchucks, Inc., a Nevada Domestic Non-Profit Corporation. The members are woodworkers from the Reno, Sparks, Carson City, Dayton, Minden, Gardenville, Fernley, Lake Tahoe & surrounding area.

More information available at the website:
www.nevadawoodchucks.org

Contents by Section

[Membership General Meeting](#)

[SIG Schedule](#)

[Feature Articles](#)

[Community Activity](#)

[Show & Tell](#)

[Raffle Details](#)

[Shopping](#)

[Membership Awareness](#)

[Member Contact Info](#)

[Editor Notes](#)

If pdf format then clicking on above items will forward to section. As well as any other underlined text.

President's Message by Jerome Alterman



February is over, 1/6th of the year is gone, and with it some fond memories, most of which I don't remember. However, something to look forward to in the future is the CNC machine has been ordered, a space has been designated for its location, and thanks to the TNT SIG, a dust collector pipe has been extended to the area where it will be placed. Now all we have to do is wait until May, when the first pieces will be shipped. On your next visit to the shop take a look at the arrangement of the lathe area and its re-arrangement. This new setup will allow an instructor access to all the lathes in a much more efficient way. The new miter saw is in place and all that is left to do is set up an efficient dust collector arrangement. And don't forget that March is a turning point in the calendar, marking the start of British Summer time when the clocks are advanced an hour and it stays light longer.

Important Tips

Checkout Show & Tell - 15 photos from 10 reporting members!

Always confirm dates shown by viewing website on-line [calendar](#)!

Schedule Highlights for the Month of March

Board Meeting, Zoom, Tue 2nd @6:30 pm

Annual General Meeting, Zoom, Thur 11th @6:30pm

Toys SIG, Shop, Wed 3rd, 17th & 31st @10am, Sat 13th & 27th @9am

Lathe SIG, Shop, Tues 16th @ 6:30pm & Sat 20th @ 1:00pm

TnT SIG, Shop, Thur 18th & 25th @ 6:30,pm

Scroll Saw SIG, Shop, Sat 6th & 27th @ 1pm



All programs and projects of the Nevada Woodworkers are supported, in part, by the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency



The Sierra Arts Foundation supports Nevada Woodchucks activities in the Reno area.

Membership General Meeting

March's General Membership Meeting will be held on the **Thursday the 11th** at 6:30 using Zoom conferencing. Emphasis will be on Show & Tell. Zoom meeting announcements will be sent via email.

SIG Schedule page 1 of 2

Toys by Donnah Wenstrom

When: Wednesday Feb 3rd, 17th, & 31st 10 to 1pm (Bring bag lunch) and Saturday Feb 13th & 27th, 9:00 to Noon

Where: Clubhouse

Program: Working on 2021 Christmas toys

Team Leaders: Donnah Wenstrom, Julia Tachihara



Lathe by Tom Doud

When: Tuesday, March 16th @ 6:30pm & Saturday, March 20th @ 1pm

Where: Clubhouse in the Lathe Corner

Program: For our March Lathe Sig, we will continue with the kitchen utensil theme. We will be turning a small Spoon Holder, a Toothpick Holder, a wooden Utensil Holder, and a Chip & Dip Platter.

For "Show and Tell", bring in your latest turning project and show us what you are doing.

Team Leaders: Russ Lambert, Tom Doud, Mary Sedgwick



Tools N Techniques by Ed Campau

When: Thurs Feb 18th & 25th, 6:30 to 8:30

Where: Clubhouse

Program:

Going to design and build a wooden storage shelf to replace the wire shelf in the shop.

Team Leaders: Ed Campau, Tom Doud, Bob Dietrick, Christian Ziegler



SIG Schedule page 2 of 2

Digital Workshop by Ron Flint

When: By Appointment with Ron Flint

Where: Zoom on the internet

Program: The place to explore how to imagine an object and turn it in to a reproducible, original, wooden, holdable, playable, paintable, useable item, that can be a toy or usable what ever..

Team Leaders: Ron Flint, Jerry Alterman



Scroll Saw by Jerry Alterman

Scroll Saw Sig by Jerry Alterman

When: Saturday, Feb 6th & 27th @ 1-3pm

Where: Clubhouse

Program: Open

Team Leaders: Jerry Alterman, Donnah Wenstrom



Carving SIG is Suspended for Now!



Feature Articles page 1 of 2

WOODLORE about Goncalo Alves by Pat Ekedahl

In the high tropical forests of Central and South American, well-drained soils furnish nutrients for a variety of dense, durable hardwoods sought for maritime use, heavy construction, and furniture. The Spanish began harvesting in Latin American forests in the early 1500s to provide timber for boat building and repair. By the early 1900s, however, steel ships had replaced wooden ones, and the interest in tropical forests by both Europeans and Americans shifted to appearance-grade woods for furniture. It's probable that the wood we know today as Goncalo Alves has always been sought. Considered one of the most beautiful of tropical woods, it also has a tough reputations. Used for construction in its homeland and secondarily for fine furniture.

Goncalo Alves, sometimes called kingwood or tigerwood, grows from southern Mexico through Central America and into South America. It belongs to a large family of trees that claims over 600 species. Its relatives include tropical cashew, pistachio and the Mango. A cousin, the smoke tree, often ornaments North American lawns.

Goncalo Alves esteem with North American and European craftsman. It's made into high-value items such as archery bows, jewelry boxes and turnings. In Veneer form, it becomes panels and decorative accents on fine furniture.

All for now. Be safe, Pat

Information from Wood Magazine August 1995.



Check-out
Goncalo Alves
wood Specification
[here.](#)

Feature Articles page 2 of 2

Tiny Shop Meditation

by Mary Sedgwick

A friend recently stopped by for an unexpected but much appreciated visit. I was in my tiny shop and covered in sawdust so that's where we stayed. Good choice!!! It was easy to social distance there.

I was working on a tedious project and this was a much-needed distraction. I had a short stack of wooden parts sitting on a table next to the stationary belt sander and I was saving this very repetitive sanding task for later in the day. My friend was standing near that table when she asked if I wanted any help. Great, I said and showed her what needed to be sanded and demonstrated how. Then I watched as she sanded the first piece. Cool. She quickly caught on and this freed me up to work on the rest of the project.

While we continued to visit, I moved over to another area in my tiny shop and started working on a different aspect of the project. I occasionally glanced over at my friend when there seemed to be lulls in our conversation only to discover her totally focused on sanding and looking like she was having a lot of fun. All of a sudden, she uttered: "This is so meditative" and continued explaining how sanding these pieces of wood made her feel and reflect. Wow, her comment and countenance surprised me for a moment and then I realized that's exactly how I feel when I am woodworking – or at least for the most part anyway... Nodding affirmatively, I said: "Yes, I know..."

I love those moments when I am laser-focused yet serenely at peace while woodworking and it seems like the rest of the world is standing still. What? Haven't you ever been so engaged in your woodworking project that you momentarily forgot about whatever keeps you up at night? The baseball pitcher says he's in the 'zone' just before he throws the ball because he is able to laser-focus on that pitch and clear his mind of everything else. I understood my friend completely: yes, woodworking is meditative. Sure, there are exceptions when things just don't gel or go well but, generally speaking, doesn't woodworking make you happy?



Captain Jerry says please wear a mask at all group face to face meetings and maintain a safe distance from others.

You may not want to go as far as Captain Jerry did for this photo—but it would work!

Community Activity

Snow Removal - Woodchuck Community Action

Photos by Kirk Jeffery

After the big north valley snow dump last Friday of January, the Woodchucks received a call from a frantic granddaughter from California. She couldn't reach her grandparent's place in Sun Valley to remove snow so they could access their cars. The granddaughter called Woodchucks.

After an email went out on Friday night, a Woodchucks crew appeared on Saturday morning to remove the snow.

Several members came with snow shovels to show-off their self-powered moving snow technique.

Some came with small horsepower driven thingees - once John got it started!

Then there was the really serious horsepower snow shovel with truck attached.

All toll, about 12 woodchucks showed up early and the duty was done in about an hour.

Another example of community outreach for the woodchucks!



Tool Sale - Another Woodchuck Community Action

by John Hasenau

The club often receives requests to assist from a retiring woodworker or a surviving spouse to see that the woodworking passion is passed on to those who appreciate the art.

Dawn from Sun Valley was no exception when she contacted Woodchucks for help. Furthermore her two-car garage was full with six large floor machines and wanted to get the garage empty so she get her car back in during this cold winter.

This garage sale required lots of preparation— an inventory of the large pieces and values set. This was going to require a team. The day before, awnings and tables were set up in the driveway. Hand tools were moved out and priced to accent the large machines left in the garage for a silent auction.

The following morning the team gathered again, even though the roads were very icy, and set up signs and had the sale. It was a cold windy day, we huddled in the garage with propane and electric heaters and sold the vast majority of what was there, including the six silent auction machines.

Charles Johnson, retired electrician, even rewired part of Dawn's house while we had some down time.... She is a tax preparer and was willing to do any of the volunteers' taxes for free as well!! Most of all, Dawn was happy to see all the tools go to folks who would appreciate them, as well get her car back in the garage.

Volunteers: Todd Williams, Paul Cox, Tom Doud, Steve Bloomfield, Joe Ray, Christian Ziegler, Stan Merrell, Mary Sedgwick, Charles Johnson, and John Hasenau.



Dawn



Volunteers

Show & Tell page 1 of 4

Toys for the kids by Donnah Wenstrom

Toy production is moving very slowly this year, as we have about one third the number of elves working and we had very few unfinished toys left over from last year. We have been getting a few new ones made in personal shops at home. Randy has been our major producer so far, making numerous cradles, horse heads for our stick horses, helicopters, and some new toys. If anyone wants to make puzzles at home, we prefer 3/8" thickness for easier handling and packaging. Twenty cradles have been taken to our two tole painting groups so far, and Shirley has been painting the horse heads at home. We appreciate all of our Woodchucks who participate.



A VERY BIG SHOUTOUT and THANK YOU

by Donnah, Julia, and the TOY SIG

goes to the TNT SIG for making this beautiful cabinet to store all our toy templates which have been stuffed into bags and boxes. They spent many many hours designing, making and finishing this most needed piece. We can now organize and access our templates with ease. We THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



Toys to Share by Roger Hayes

My design inspiration was based on a shy child entering a room with a toy in his hand being received as no-big-deal. I thought if he could enter the room with toys to SHARE he might get a warm reception and make a friend. That could be a life-changing event for that child and it would be due to us Woodchucks. My wife Sylvia suggested it might also be very welcome in a waiting room where many children could enjoy the uniqueness of the design.

Scroll Saw Skills By Jerry Alterman

February programs created "lots of sawdust" in the Scroll Saw Cove, especially following the Toy SIG meeting on 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month since they are prime users of the machines.



Donnah Wenstrom, Sue Gonyou, and one other member [damn those masks] making glitter. I hear someone was making flower baskets.

Show & Tell page 2 of 4

Turners February Activities By Tom Doud

In February we made Kitchen utensils—see the photo below. The lathe group also had our own show & tell and the variety of the turned items was truly inspiring—see details below.

Stan Merrell is offering a class on open segmented bowls and John Hasenau reports on his training experience with Jimmy Clews.



Honey stirrers by Hudson Diehl, Paul Cox and Stan Merrell

Garlic Crusher by Guy from Truckee [You gotta wear nametags, especially with full face masks.]



Show & tell brought out quite a variety of turning skills.

Starting from the left, Live edge winged bowl, goblet, lamp base, 2 vases with Lichtenberg wood burning, open segmented bowl, dyed cup, dish with multiple dyes on edge, naturalized platter and more!



Want to Turn Open Segment Projects by Stan Merrell

I am a new member of the Woodchucks. I recently moved to the Reno area from Des Moines Iowa. I'm still a member of the woodworking and woodturning clubs back in Des Moines. I am no expert at any one thing, I just enjoy learning and trying new projects on the lathe. I have to say though segmenting is the most enjoyable. I have turned many closed segmented pieces over the years. I have recently started on open segmented vessels. At the February lathe sig I was asked if I would do some training on how I design, create, build, and turn open segment projects. I am very willing to share what I have learned. So, with that and with the consent of the lathe sig leaders we can do this. The best time for me would be an hour or so before the regular Tuesday evening lathe sig. If there is an interest contact one of the lathe sig leaders and we will see if we can get the show rolling.

For your information, I attended a presentation by Malcom Tibbits this past month in South Lake Tahoe—excellent source for segmented turning—see websire [Tahoe Turner](#)

Show & Tell page 3 of 4



Jimmy has 5 professional sized lathes of various makes (One Way, Laguna, 2 Powermatic's, and an old Craftsman). All the lathes are equipped to the hilt with everything you need and laid out to allow efficient turning.

[Jimmy's Web site](#)



My team—Raul, Cuban bored retired child burn surgeon, Tom retired lieutenant colonel, and Kelly owes T-shirt Company.

Escape to Jimmy's by John Hasenau

This article is about how to reach out and find an opportunity during COVID times. Being bored and not being able to travel has really bothered me of late. I decided to write to Jimmy Clewes and see if he was doing turning classes in Las Vegas. As I figured it's a nice drive now—7 hours- and hotel rooms have 4 day 3 night specials and food is inexpensive during these times.

I found out that Terry Plys had actually gone in January. With Terry's encouraging advice, Sandy and I decided to go in February—not realizing it was Super Bowl weekend—a bummer for me!

You start out by meeting your "group" of learners (limited to 4 at a time) in Jimmy's Garage Workshop. The workshop is a 3 day event, 8 hours each day.

All the wood was provided. There were abundant squares of maple, some Claro Walnut, lots of Olive Wood and Mulberry to your hearts content. We all started out making the classical Jimmy Clewes wide colored edge platters with the central bowl. Various dyes were used on these and best ways to approach these, also used multiple dyes and some ways to leave the grain more prominent

In Jimmy's study there was a wall of forms that he showed you day one. You could pick and choose whatever way you wanted to go with the wood. No matter where you are in the shop you felt well mentored as Jimmy listens as well as he sees. We focused on design, shape, texturing, finishing and overall form. I only had Jimmy run over to the one way lathe once when the 24" platter still wasn't balanced and I had turned up the speed.

As Jimmy guarantees 100% satisfaction. His wife was fantastic cook and provided excellent food and snacks. When I learned there was no TV for super bowl Sunday, Jimmy went out and got one and put it on the wall. Granted it was small, and when I mentioned the size to him, he said "well mate it could go back out" which I immediately backtracked and indicated it was fantastic!!

This was a fantastic experience for me, and Terry. One I will always cherish. Terry summed it up for both of us when he said "I looked at all I had made during that weekend and I didn't think I had the ability or talent to do that".

Tools & Techniques (TnT) February Activities By Edward Campau

The back and drawer pulls were installed and finished applied to pattern case. The new sliding miter saw was installed, aligned and vacuum duct was modified. Also, the overhead vacuum extension deadend was moved and extended for eventual connection to the CNC. The Moravian workbench was moved to a location near the lathes where the lathes had been re-arranged.



Show & Tell page 4 of 4



Here is my double sided ACR bit.



P2 ACR Bit by Zephyr Tool Group, made in USA

Buy 10 on [Amazon](#) for \$5.50

Philip Screw Heads—UGH

By Christian Ziegler

During the build of the pattern case, I had trouble torquing in the last mm of a Phillip headed screw. Yes we were using power drills but I was looking for the refinement of getting the screw just slightly below the top of the work by using a screwdriver.

When this has happens in my shop, I go through all my Philip headed screwdrivers and bits until I fine something that seems to work the best. I have cursed them many times because of what I have learned is called “cam out.”

Today I only buy star or square drive headed screws. So I began this research journey of finding the right tool to use when the only option is Philip headed screws. Philip headed screws were first used by General Motors in 1936 Cadillac. They had a a particular feature called “cam-out”, so that in the production of automobiles the driver would slip before damage could occur. Eureka! So the Philip headed screws are designed to do this! But they are everywhere!

There are Philip driver bits that have what is called Anti-Cam Ribs (ACR) which are grooves on the blades of the bit head that do reduce cam-out. I also found some that use the term “Laser cut” that purport to have similar effect.

After going through the bits & screwdrivers again I found a double-ended bit with ACR - see top photo. Unfortunately it is #1 and being double ended doesn't fit the hand 1/4" drivers I have. I found a product on amazon of course - see 2nd photo.

There is a lot more I found - will share next time.



Occasional Tables as Gifts

By Rod Procter

I made two of these occasional tables for my sister-in-law. Tops spalted hard-wood from pallets. Legs are walnut.

Membership Awareness page 1 of 2



Fire Resistant Disposal Cans

by Paul Yarmolich

We have deployed 2 fire resistant disposal cans in the shop.

YOU STILL SHOULD DRY OUT YOUR RAGS BEFORE PUTTING THEM INTO THE CAN.

Instead of dropping the possibly flammable/combustible rags, etc. into the plastic potentially combustible trash cans their final stop should be the new red cans.

This adds a margin of safety to the disposal of potentially flammable/combustible rags and any other flammable/combustible item.

Thanks for using the new cans only for flammable/combustible materials.



Federal Funding for Grants

by John Hasenau

The Nevada Arts Council is required to inform all grantees of the percentage of federal funding included in their grant award. **FY21 Grant #: OSG20.1.04**

Federal funds constitute 82.5% of this Grant Award.

The question is how will federal funds for Arts be affected going forward. The Nevada Arts Council is a significant grantor to our club.



Art Sale March 20th

by John Hasenau

Our art partner, The Sierra Art Gallery, is holding an art sale on March 20th in the Pioneer Plaza. Please contact John

at labanimalconsultants@charter.net or 775-636-5674 if you have art you would like to sell. We have 10x10 spot reserved.



Earth Day 2021—Nothing Definite

by John Hasenau

Earth Day is Thursday April 22. If there is an event, Reno would celebrate on Sunday, April 25th.

Membership Awareness page 2 of 2

Board of Directors includes:

Officers—elected by membership

President: Jerry Alterman
 Vice Pres. Mary Sedgwick
 Secretary: Paul Yarmolich
 Treasurer: John Hasenau

Ad Hoc members—elected by Officers

Russ Lambert Bob Dietrich
 Edward Campau Donnah Wenstrom
 Tom Doud Tom Mattis
 Todd Williams

SIG Program Leaders - non-voting

Lathe Tom Doud & Russ Lampert
 TNT Edward Campau & Bob Dietrich
 Scroll Saw Jerry Alterman & Donnah Wenstrom
 Toy Donnah Wenstrom & Julia Tachihara
 Carving Paul Volpp

Monthly Business Meetings

Board Meetings — any Member can attend.
 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm

Membership General Meetings
 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm

Clubhouse Tool Safety

Always Wear Safety Equipment

ear & eye protection, latex gloves for finishing

Wear The Right Clothes

wearing baggy or loose clothes might get caught in a cutting head or saw blade.

Avoid Using Anything That Can Impair Your Reaction Time and Judgment

for example no alcohol or other intoxicant

Disconnect Power

before changing blades or bits on your power tools

Use A Single Extension Cord

too many cords can be confusing
& a tripping hazard

Never Use Blunt Blades & Bits

dull tools will need to be made to work harder to cut and as a result can bind or kick back.

Check Stock for Existing Metal

spinning blades and metal (like nails) will harm the operator, & damage stock and the cutting head.

Work Against The Cutter

ensure that the blade or router bit cuts against the motion of the wood instead of with it

Never Reach Over A Running Blade

always wait until a spinning blade has stopped moving before reaching to remove waste or cut-offs

Use a Push Stick

use a push stick on stationary power tools

Minimize Distractions

finish what you were doing when working with a power tool before engaging in other activities

Seek Hands-on Tool Training

seek hands-on assistance for safety awareness any-time using a shop tool for the first time

Committee Chairs

Newsletter Editor: Christian Ziegler
 Webmaster: Kirk Jeffery

On-line Shop Safety Test:

All our new members must complete the on-line Shop Safety Test. In order to take any classes or participate in any of the Woodchuck SIG's. This Shop Safety Test is a requirement to use shop tools and equipment.

After completing the Application Form and paying your membership dues, you will receive an acknowledgment e-mail that includes the password. You can then take the test.

To take the test, go to the members only section of the web-page and click on the link to the safety test. It will ask you for an e-mail and your name. Take the test and it will e-mail the results and the correct answers (if you missed any) back to you.

Example: go to www.nevadawoodchucks.org/members-only/ enter password, select Safety Test.

Member Contact Information

Board Members & Committee Chairs

See phone list on the right

Clubhouse Address

405 Western Rd. #36, Panther Valley

Club Phone Message

775 -241-3872

Club Mail

The Nevada Woodchucks, Inc. ,PO BOX 20285
Reno, NV 89515-0285

Member

Phone (775)

Bob Dietrich	851-7521
Christian Ziegler	384-1948
Donnah Wenstrom	473-0256
Edward Campau	345-2549
Jerry Alterman	224-5396
John Hasenau	356-9123
Julia Tachihara	826-0825
Kirk Jeffery	208-724-7745
Mary Sedgwick	972-6930
Paul Volpp	853-3432
Paul Yarmouth	925-989-0789
Ron Flint	224-5318
Russ Lambert	359-4554
Todd Williams	240-1286
Tom Doud	223-5585
Tom Mattis	530-721-5362

Editor's Notes

Article Deadline

20th day of prior Month of Issue

Any article received on or before the 20th will be included in the next issues. Any article after the 20th may not get in, although we will try. If not, it will go in following month if still appropriate.

The newsletter is published at the beginning of each month.

You can email copy of your article to chziggy@atechmar.com. Include photos or art separately—do not imbed photos in text or email as difficult to pull it out. The publisher may edit your text to fit, improve grammar or clarity.

Any urgent questions you can call or text Christian Ziegler on mobile 805-209-9640.

Acceptable Articles

Any woodworking creation done by a Woodchuck whether done in the club shop or at home.

Any community activity that would be of interest to the Woodchuck members.

Any woodworking subject you would like to share with the Woodchuck community.

Any woodworking related item you would like to sell—no commercial ads please!

PDF & Hyperlinks

This newsletter is published as a pdf digital document. Hyperlinks have been imbedded to facilitate navigating throughout the document. The Hyperlink is shown as an underlined word/words—clicking this word should move you to the intended page or website.