



CHIPS & Chatter

THE SILICON VALLEY WOODTURNERS NEWSLETTER

Glen Owens talks about chainsaws

*Glen Owens
talks about
how to care
for a chain
saw.*



Glen Owens works in San Mateo at Diehl Equipment, a small engine repair shop. He's worked on 50-60 saws a week for 9 years. He talked to us about how to maintain a chainsaw, demonstrating on a new Husqvarna.

"Keep the saw as clean as you can because it helps a lot", says Glen. "Clean it after every couple of uses. Take the covers off and blow it clean."

Start your maintenance by removing the chain with the chain brake off. You should be able to move the chain. Then use the "scrench" tool that came with your saw to remove the nuts holding the chain cover. Remove the cover. Ease the chain tension and the chain should come loose. Slide the

bar all the way in to the clutch drum and remove it and the chain.

Next, remove the screws that hold the spark plug cover.

Remove the cover and you can blow off the

exposed air filter with an air hose. Just clean the felt part. Then pull the spark plug. If the saw is running rich, the plug will show built up debris and should be replaced. If it doesn't have much debris, just wire brush it and replace it. If the saw is going to sit for a long time, give the tip a spray of



The bar and chain come off first.



The "scrench" tool that comes with the saw.

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PRES SEZ



If you missed the last meeting you missed a great evening. The turnout for the Challenge was the greatest so far. Everyone did good and seemed to have a great time. The judges had their hands full this time.

What's next? How about something turned between centers? Use your imagination and come up with some new great ideas. I have seen a couple of entries already and we all had better get to work, OR wannabeajudge?

Thinking ahead a little...

Coming up in May is our annual Top night. Remember last year? We had a ball. So what that means is, start thinking of your top for all the contests: Biggest, Smallest, Best of Show, Longest Spinner, or what else can you do with a top? Start planning now and practice spinning.

Next Meeting

Join us at our next meeting, on Wednesday, April 3rd, at 7 P.M.
Location: Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center in San Jose.
Rich's Center is located behind his home at 14979 Joanne Ave., San Jose. From Hwy. 680, take the McKee Road exit East about 1.5 miles to Toyon Ave. Turn left and go 0.6 mile, turn right onto Joanne Ave.

Remember: Bring your chair and items for the *Show and Tell* portion of the meeting. We all learn together.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE: TURNING BETWEEN CENTERS.

WEB & TURNING

We all seem to be using computers more and more. Sometimes we come across some great links on or about woodturning. I would like to share a couple of the ones that I feel are great.

<http://www.kestrelcreek.com>. There is a lot to see here. If you get a chance check it out they share a lot of great information.

Another site to check out is: <http://green-alan.tripod.com>. That site is also a great place to visit and filled with a lot of great information and you can also follow the links all over the world.

How about your web searching surfing? Have you found any great places we might like to visit? Let us know.

Many shavings,

Rich

Show & Tell, President's Challenge

SHOW AND TELL

Terry
Feinburg
made a bowl
from
Canadian



*Terry Feinburg's laser-
engraved maple bowl*

sunken
maple stock. He had the bowl laser engraved as a wedding present for

Canadian friends. The engraving company, which did a beautiful job for around \$15, is *Scorchin Laster Designs*, Albert Marquez, at (408) 842-3111.

Ace
Foster
brought one
of his
throughlay
vases, made
of bay with
mahogany
veneer. He
also showed
a vase of
eucalyptus.
Both were
finished
with Deft.



*Ace Foster shows off two
vases.*

Mike Rude brought some vibration isolation pads for the Stubby as described on Stubbylist.

Visitor
Fred
Fraboni
showed an
Olive wine
stopper with
wood from
Israel and a
second one
of cocobolo.



*visitor Fred Fraboni
displays two wine bottle
stoppers.*

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE-SOMETHING WITH A HANDLE

Rich Johnson, Tony Bryhan, and Don Bonnet had their work cut out for them judging this month's Challenge.

Phil
Roybal led
off with a
pair of pear
wood salad
tongs. They
were two-
axis
turnings,
first as a hollow form (for the spoon



*Phil Roybal shows his first-
prize salad tongs.*

*Continued
from pg. 1*

WD-40 before replacing the plug.

Chainsaws have fuel filters. If the saw idles but dies when you give it gas, it probably has a dirty fuel filter. Glen uses a little scribe to pull out the filter on the end of the fuel hose. Husky has a hard filter. If it is any other color than off-white, it should be replaced.

If you won't use the saw for a while, drain the fuel and run the saw dry, then take off the gas cap to let the fumes out. California gas contains MTBE that attacks the diaphragms and hoses used in the saws and breaks down the fuel as well. Gas left in the saw (or in a gas can) for more than 30 days can go bad, thickening into a kind of corrosive varnish. Glen has seen old gas eat through the float in a gas tank.

Some saws have a little mesh filter in the tube that brings oil from the oil tank to the bar. If the chain isn't oiling, check that filter. Flush it with gasoline if necessary. Most saws don't have such a filter. Use "bar & chain" oil in your oiler because it contains a tacking agent that causes the oil to stick to the chain and not fly off. Don't use automatic transmission fluid.

FUEL

Most saw manufacturers recommend a 50:1 fuel:oil mix. As long as you're between 30:1 And 50:1 you're OK. He recommends using high octane fuel, because it has additives that evaporate water more easily.

SHARPENING

Keep the chain sharp. On most woods you can cut for 3-4 hours between sharpenings. Sharpen more often for hard woods.

Glen uses 5/32-inch and 7/32-inch files for sharpening the 3/8-inch, low-profile chains used on small saws. "Learn how to do it even though it takes time", says Glen, because shops charge \$9-12 to sharpen a

chain, and they take off so much metal that you'll need a new chain after a couple sharpenings. Glen can get 7-8 sharpenings out of a chain, and he charges \$9. When he sharpens, if the teeth are getting close to the raker height, he lowers the raker teeth. If the chain is sharp but cuts slowly, it may be time to lower the raker. He checks this with the depth gage.

Glen likes to keep the pitch of the chain the same for both soft and hard woods, but others have had good results changing the pitch a couple degrees.

REASSEMBLY...

Put the bar on first. Flip the bar over each time you change your chain. Some saws have a wheel "sprocket tip" on the end.

They have two little holes in the end where you can insert a grease gun tip and lube the sprocket.



Put the chain on the sprocket.

*Glen reassembles his saw.
Note the exposed spark plug
and air filter.*

Make sure

it's on the right way, with the teeth raking forward on the top of the bar. Tension the chain—rest the bar on a block of wood and pull the chain up off the bar. Increase tension until the bottom of the driver stays in the track of the bar. Check the tension every time you fuel the saw, because the chain stretches and the bar moves. Finally, put the covers back.

PARTING THOUGHTS

Unless you're out in the woods, consider an electric saw. The \$69 electric saw from Home Depot is fine if you maintain it and don't use it much. It will last a long time.

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*President's
Challenge,
con't. from
pg. 4.*

bowls), then as spindle turnings for the handles. He finished the tongs with walnut oil and wax, to take first prize.

Herb Green showed a set of wax-finished worry balls made of walnut from our last meeting.

Dick Jessing presented a pair of butter and cheese knives with dark cocobolo handles, finished with sanding sealer and wax.

Dick Pickering brought in a stool that sat in pieces on his bench for five years. About to throw it out, he realized



herb Green and his worry balls.



Dick Jessing shows his butter and cheese knives.



Dick Pickering's painted stool with a handle.

he could add a handle and escape judging. He finished the stool with white paint and a clear finish.

Jim Gott took second place with a handheld vanity mirror of walnut and blackwood. The mirror insert came from Michaels. He finished the piece with Danish oil and sealer.



Jim Gott shows his walnut mirror.



Rich Dege's pint-sized teacup.

Rich Dege made a fingernail-sized teacup of walnut with a cocobolo handle.

Terry Feinberg made a lame ("laMAY"), a tool used to slit the tops of loaves of bread before baking. He made his of rosewood, and finished it with 3 coats of thin CA glue.



Terry Feinburg and his lame.

*President's
Challenge,
con't. from
pg. 6.*



*Josh Salesin shows his
walnut platter.*

Josh Salesin made a large walnut platter sitting on a segmented maple ring stand with handles. He used a Wipe-On Poly finish.



*Gary Petretti displays his
horn-handled scraper.*

Gary Petretti made a deer horn and cocobolo handle for a Dege scraper. He claims it is actually the first Stewart tool.

Jeff Thorson turned a red oak rope handle on his new Stubby.



*Jeff Thorson is ready for
one-handed jump rope.*

Ace Foster made a bandsaw tension adjuster handle from tanoak and cherry to save his fingers when changing saw blades.



*Ace Foster presents his
bandsaw tension adjuster.*

Rick Parfitt brought a cocobolo gavel and anvil that he finished with shellac.



*Rick Parfitt shows his
cocobolo gavel.*

Next month's Challenge: something turned between centers.

MENTOR PROGRAM

Our Mentor program now includes five volunteer mentors. Contact Phil Roybal to join the list. Members who need some help (but not formal lessons) can contact:

Rich Dege	(408) 272-8122
Jim Gott	(408) 265-9501
Rich Johnson	(408) 254-8485
Ron Newcomb	(510) 797-6665
Phil Roybal	(408) 255-4789

STAFF REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS

PRESIDENT (RICH JOHNSON)

Norcal is organizing the Picnic in August in Sacramento at a big park. We'll provide wood for turnoff. West Bay will give us the dimensions. We'll have a work session to cut up wood. Clubs involved will be Fresno, Sacramento, West Bay, bay Area, SVC, Redwood Empire, Wine country, Central.

H&G coming in June to San Jose Convention Center. Also Utah Symposium. Put name on list for each. Need H&G signups.

Secretary/Editor (Phil Roybal)

Dues were due at the beginning of March, so we now have a 2002 roster in both photo and plain text versions, available for downloading from SVWoodturners. We also have a new video library list in the same place. We currently have 32 paid members.

TREASURER (JIM GOTT)

Income:

Hats	\$20.00
Videos	\$8.00
Raffle	\$43.00
Memberships	\$200.00
Checking account interest	\$0.16
Unclaimed cash from H&G	\$10.00

Expenses:

Warren Atkins (Feb. demo) (\$50.00)

New balance (spendable) \$1810.93

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIBRARY (JEFF THORSON)

We're missing the David Ellsworth video, "Tips for Turners". Please bring it in if you have it.

NEW FACES

Three people visited us at the March meeting: Cal Burrite, a friend of Phil Roybal's; Tim McLish, a member of the Wine Country Woodturners; and Jerry Trujillo, en route from Washington to Albuquerque.

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FOR SALE

Even Roy wants to know...
How did you do that?

Rich Johnson's Woodturners' Bootcamp.
Learn the basics, from chainsaw to polish. An
all day class. Book available. Sign up now.
(408) 254-8485.



RON NEWCOMB

- * Kiwi Tools Guaranteed woodturning tools
- * Sandpaper Eagle brand wet or dry
- * 3M Sanding Sponges 120 to 1500 grit

1.510.797.6665 ronwoodart@aol.com, or see
Ron at club meetings.



Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center

Hollowing tool set with handle, three tools and handle guide	\$100.
Pin Chucks	\$50
1" Saw Tooth Drill bit	\$5
Pen & Pencil kits available.	
Diamond wood & Color wood Blocks	\$12 bf
Diamond wood pen blanks pre-cut	\$1.50
Cocobolo sticks for pens	\$1.50
Lamp Kits	
Pepper mill kits	

Rich Johnson
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