

Redwood Intermediate School  
 233 W. Gainsborough Rd, Thousand Oaks  
 Entrance on Camino Manzanas

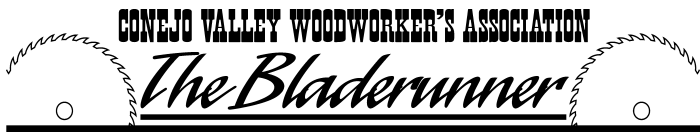
**MEETING DATES**  
 First Thursday of each month – 7:00 PM

**PROGRAM**  
**April 5** Beginning woodturning  
**May 3** To be determined

**TRIPS**  
**April 7** John Tarpley's shop  
**May 5** To be determined

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## March Meeting

### Show and Tell

**Guy Buchwitz** pointed out an article in *Wood* about a blade stop that senses a finger at the table saw blade and can stop the blade before the finger is cut severely.

**Dan Gallo** took a class on hand-made dovetails taught by Frank Klaus. He brought in a magnificently dovetailed mahogany box that he made during the class.

**Gene West** brought a new toy – two penguins on a seesaw. The seesaw works, and the penguins can be used as separate toys.

**Bill Waters** showed how to use pipe clamps so that the play in the parallel jaws does not cause a problem. He attached a piece of wood with a bull-nose to a pipe clamp using hot-melt glue. The glue is flexible and adjusts to the wood.

**Howard Ford** showed two items. One was "God's Eye View", a hollow egg shaped walnut turning with a light-colored turned wood ball on the inside. The walnut egg had an opening to see the ball. An eye was carefully painted on the ball. The second item was a turned purpleheart bowl. The walls were very thin. Immersing the bowl in muriatic acid enhanced the red color of the purpleheart.

### Program

**Paul Deneen** of Carbide Saw presented a program on the different kinds of saw blades and the properties to look for when buying a new blade. Carbide Saw, a division of Central Coast Saw, Inc, is located at 2521 Grand Ave., Ventura, CA 93003. The phone number is

1-888-701-9279, his email is paul@carbide.com, and the web site is [www.carbide.com](http://www.carbide.com). Carbide saw sells saw blades and has an in-house sharpening service.

Paul pointed out that there are only a few saw-blade manufacturers in the United States. There are several in Asia and some in Europe, but most companies get saw blades made by one of these manufacturers.

The "carbide tip" is usually tungsten carbide, an alloy of tungsten, carbon and cobalt. Different alloys give different hardness. Since harder alloys are more brittle than softer alloys, the best solution is to use the softest tungsten carbide that will do the job and give the longest life. The tip is brazed onto a copper foil that is then brazed onto the saw. The purpose of the copper is to reduce shock on the tip as it strikes the material that is being cut.

Blade tolerances are tighter for industrial blades than for contractor saw blades. Typically a good table-saw blade for woodworking will have a maximum run out of  $\pm 0.004$ ". The tolerance for a punched contractor saw blade is about  $\pm 0.007$ ". Side clearances or blade overhang from the saw blade body is typically 0.002". This clearance prevents the saw blade from contacting the work piece, thus avoiding both heat generation and kickback.

The geometry of the tip depends on the saw's function. The hook angle is the angle that the blade makes to the radial line from the center of the blade. Positive angles can be as much as 20°-25° and are very aggressive. These blades tend to cause chipping. Negative angles of -5°-6° give smoother cuts and are used for materials such as Melamine. The top grind is

how the tips appear as they are coming toward you. For rip blades the tops are flat. For crosscut blades the tips are slightly tapered in alternate directions on successive tips. The tapering helps to cut the grain to give a smooth cut. There are many variants that are reported to give longer life or smoother cuts.

Another important feature is the “chip limiter.” This is a bump that is located between each of the teeth that removes chips from the wood and therefore prevents kickback.

Selecting the blade speed is important. If the blade is too slow it gives a rough cut and can cause kickback. If the speed is too fast it could cause burning. For those with lower powered saws, thin-kerf blades require less power than standard blades.

Clean saw blades are important. Clean blades cut better and give a smooth cut. A dirty blade cuts as though it is dull. Blades can be cleaned with oven cleaners, proprietary cleaners, or mineral spirits.

Paul was asked about resharpening saws. Basically it depends on the cost of the blade. It does not pay to resharpen an inexpensive blade. However, it is not easy to tell when a blade needs to be resharpened. Often the manufacturers have the best facilities for resharpening a blade because they can leave equipment set to the proper angles and dimensions. When a blade is sharpened material is ground from the top and then from the sides. Since some material is removed from the tips and some overhang is needed to prevent friction and binding on the wood, a blade can only be resharpened a few times.

Blades can also be retipped. However this is expensive. It is worthwhile if one or two tips are missing but generally not worth the cost if many teeth are gone.

*Ira Goldberg*

### Visitors

**Eddie Edwards, Brad Kingsbury, Bob Pearson, Vince Vlastic and Paul Myhre** sat in on our meeting last month. We hope to see them regularly.

### New Members

A hearty welcome to our new members:  
**Richard Kingsbury, Martin Leung, Aaron Siegmund, Gary Wessely, Bob Scebold, Bob Glickman.**

### Raffle Winners

10" rip blade	<b>Lee Cooper</b>
10" crosscut lade	<b>Brad Kingsbury</b>
Variable speed drill	<b>Larry Lutz</b>
\$50 gift certificate from Conejo Hardwoods	<b>Ken Johnson</b>
\$50 gift certificate from Conejo Hardwoods	<b>Paul Brockway</b>
Makita sander	<b>Rosemary Williams</b>
Dovetail jig	<b>Doug Laird</b>
Suspenders	<b>Doug Laird</b>

### April Meeting

#### April Meeting, April 5, 2001

Howard Ford and John Tarpley will demonstrate the basics of wood turning at the April meeting. Both of these CVWA members have many years experience on the lathe. They are both members of the Glendale Woodturners Guild, they both have given lectures and demonstrations at wood working shows and they both are working with the Los Angeles Maritime Institute, contributing to the restoration of a pair of brigantines.

The presentation will be directed to beginning turners and will cover very basic skills. Subjects to be covered at the meeting include safety precautions, wood preparation, chucking the piece, tool selection and proper tool application.

#### April Trip, April 7, 2001

As an extension of the meeting, members are welcome to visit Tarpley's shop on Saturday for a “hands on” turning session. Lathes and tools will be available and attendees will have the opportunity to “put the tool to the wood. Bring your face shield and tools (if you have any).

## Seminar

### A Weekend with Paul Schürch June 2 and 3, 2001

Our Master Class Seminar on Decorative Veneering with Paul Schürch is a definite go. Please note the date change. The previous date conflicted with the Anaheim show. We now have approximately 40 members on the sign-up sheet. With a maximum class of only 50, we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible if you want to attend. The fee for the weekend will be \$50 which will include lunch on both days. Class will run from 8-6 on Saturday and 8-5 on Sunday. We're still finalizing the location so look for that information in next month's newsletter. We hope to have a video camera and monitors available so that everyone can get close-up views of Paul's demonstrations. If you haven't done so we encourage you to visit Paul's Web site at <http://schurchwoodwork.com> where you can see examples of his work and learn more about Paul's career. You can also see more of Paul's work and a brief description of some of his techniques in the March-April issue of Woodworker West.

While we've focused on the veneer aspects of his work, he designs and builds all the cabinetry that he decorates so I'm sure we'll learn about his construction methods during the class. Paul describes his feelings about his art and teaching in his Educational Statement: *"I currently own and operate a custom woodworking shop specializing in marquetry. I produce up to 30 pieces of fine furniture per year. For several years I have been teaching furniture making, veneerwork and marquetry, and I am now dedicated to the task of passing on the knowledge I have received from the many fine teachers and masters of the trades. They gave so freely of themselves, their secrets and techniques, so I could pursue the ideas and visions I had for my own furniture designs as well as my future as a teacher. When I started my internship in marquetry, there were about twenty businesses in this area of Italy producing marquetry, and now I understand there are only two shops left. It is my hope that you will*

*make good use of this information, the techniques and tools that I have to offer, as well as allowing me to introduce you to the art of decorative veneering. I wish to instill confidence, and inspire students to explore this fine craft on their own projects, and to help them to create lasting works of art that will be handed down for generations to come."*

Look for more information about Paul and the weekend in upcoming issues of the Bladerunner. If you wish to sign up please contact: Brad Ormsby at (818) 991-1130, [brad@ormsby.net](mailto:brad@ormsby.net) or John Tarpley at (805) 499-2953, [jetarpley@earthlink.net](mailto:jetarpley@earthlink.net).

*John Tarpley*

## Announcements

### Membership

If you haven't paid your dues as yet, you are at risk of being dropped as a member and this will be the last copy of the Bladerunner you receive. Please see Marlene Peters at the meeting.

### Seminar Fees

Since many of the expenses for the seminar must be paid for in advance, the attendees are encouraged to bring a check to the April meeting or to send it to the CVWA post office box. If you have any questions, please talk with Brad or John.

## Classified

**For Sale:** A Delta 8" radial arm saw and a 12" planer. Both of these older tools are wired for 3 phase power. Contact **Milton Kretsch** 805-498-3971.

**For Sale:** 10" DeWalt radial arm saw on a mobil base and small shop vac. \$125 OBO. Router table for a 1.5 hp Craftsman router. It is 18" x 30" with a Woodhaven HD insert plate and plate levelers \$30. HD Flexshaft with a 10 piece rotary rasp and file set. \$25. Vacuum sanding table-new in box \$35. Craftman belt sanding stand \$12.50. Call **Gene Strojek**, 805-523-3113.