



## NEWSLETTER



## MAKING A WINDSOR CHAIR

### PART ONE

Bill Jenkins, professional Windsor Chairmaker and a member of the Richmond Woodturners performed the steps in making a Sack-Back Windsor Chair. The steps needed to do so are also used in making other forms of Windsor Chairs. During this demonstration Bill turned a leg to show his process of ensuring the 4 legs are the same shape and with a taper at top. Bill continued the demo by describing how he got the various woods for his chairs from the wood lot on his farm. The seat blank came from a White Pine in Bill's backyard. Of the other parts of the chair, the legs are maple or some other close grain wood. The stretchers, spindles, arms and backs are from oak or other open grain wood like hickory. Bill uses a large livestock watering trough to hold the various logs underwater until they are needed. He stated that underwater, the wood is free of oxygen and insects so it will not rot and most important it stays wet.

A typical seat was displayed with the holes drilled for the upper parts; Bill used a seat pattern to lay out all of the features. A bevel gauge was set with a "Bevel Boss" for drilling the leg holes. Care was taken to ensure each of the leg holes are correctly set. Two aluminum bars were used check that the pair of front legs parallel as well as the rear legs are parallel to each other. Rubber bands were spaced between each leg in order to check for height of each leg

#### Obtaining and processing the raw materials –

1. Forming a seat blank
2. Steaming and shaping parts
3. Turning parts
4. Laying out seat features
5. Drilling upper holes
6. Drilling leg holes
7. Placing the first leg
8. Placing the second
9. Installing the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> leg
10. Installing the stretchers



DRAWKNIFE



FROE AND HATCHET

## Tools used:

Axe, hatchet, wedges, (or saw mill), froe, shave horse, draw knife, spokeshave, planer, jointer, clamps, steamer, bending form, bending strap, lathe, seat patterns, electric drill, brace, tapered reamers, bevel square, hole gauge, speed square, angle gauge (bevel boss), straight edge (rulers, angled aluminum bars), rubber bands,



SPOKESHAVES

## Materials used:

1. Pine (Eastern White is best) or poplar logs for seat
2. Oak (almost any variety), hickory, or any large ring spaced grain logs for spindles, bending arms and back hoops
3. Maple or other close grain hardwood for legs and stretchers
4. Glue for seat blank

## Processes included:

1. From a log, split (or saw) out parts for seat, legs and stretchers
2. Shave, plane, joint and glue up seat blank
3. Turn legs to same pattern making sure that ring for stretchers are in same place on each
4. Turn stretchers
5. Using plywood pattern, transfer seat shape and points for drilling holes on seat blank
6. Draw sight lines on seat blank
7. Drill holes for upper features using mirrors and bevel gauge bevel gauge set at correct angle for each hole while making sure that drill device is in line with sight line
8. On bottom side taper hole for first leg
9. With first leg in place, taper second hole to match angle of first leg
10. Check for skewness for the two by using two angled rods, one at base of legs the other attached at the tips of the two legs
11. Modify the hole of the second leg so that it is in the same plane as the first leg – not skewed.
12. Drill and taper holes for third and fourth legs ensuring that each pair are not skewed and are in correct angle to each other and that the rings for the stretchers are the same distance to the seat



SETTING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> LEG IN PLACE, IN THE BACKGROUND IS THE DRILL WITH BIT TO TAPER LEG HOLES.



CHAIR LEG WITH TAPER AT TOP

TWO VIEWS OF TWO SCORPS USED TO CARVE SADDLE IN THE SEAT



**TWO VIEWS OF TWO TRAVISHERS AND A SMALL COMPASS PLANE (CURVED FRONT TO BACK AND SIDE TO SIDE)**

Tools Used to Carve the Saddle of the Seat

## IN CASE YOU WANTED TO KNOW

### The Right Angles for a Comfortable Windsor BY CURTIS BUCHANAN

There are no set values for the critical angles in a Windsor chair. Rake, splay, cant, and slouch can all be adjusted through a range of angles, depending on the style and function of the chair. All of the angles are interrelated, and even on the same chair the rake and splay will differ between the front legs and the back legs. The front legs of a Windsor provide side-to-side stability, so they have a greater splay angle than the back legs. The back legs provide resistance to the backward momentum of the sitter, so they have a greater rake angle than the front legs. Dining and desk chairs are more up right, living-room chairs are more relaxed. So, on a dining chair, both the cant angle and the slouch angle will be smaller; on the living-room chair, where the sitter will be sitting back farther, the cant and slouch angles are greater. Slouch and cant angles tend to be greater on armchairs than on side chairs.

Splay—angle of the leg (off vertical) when seen from front or rear

Rake—angle of the leg (off vertical) when seen from the side

Cant—angle of the seat (off horizontal) when seen from the side

Slouch—angle of the center spindle (off vertical) when seen from the side

See the drawing at: <https://www.finewoodworking.com/membership/pdf/19130/W243BUonline%20extra.pdf>

Or: <https://www.curtisbuchananchairmaker.com>

Or: Google “The Right Angles for a Comfortable Windsor”

For more info and another look at making a Windsor see:

<https://northernwoodlands.org/articles/article/rake-and-splay-how-i-learned-to-make-a-windsor-chair>

## SHOW AND TELL



ROBERT GUNDEL, SPALTED MAPLE, BUFFED AND WAXED,  
5" X 12"



JARED PARKER, OAK BURL, MINERAL OIL, 4" X 7", FIRST  
BURL



CODY WALKER, BEECH, CARNAUBA WAX, 13"



JIM BUMPAS, GOLDEN RAIN TREE, WAX, 6" X 6",  
3 TRUNKS CAUSED INTERESTING CONTORTIONS WHEN  
DRYING



JEFF LOHR, WILLOW, TUNG OIL, 12"



JIM ZORN, EBONY, CA



DAN LUTTRELL, MAPLE, CARNAUBA WAX, 12½" X 5"



STEVE SCHWARTZ, CHERRY, POLY, 4" X 6" TALL



BRAD MILLER, OAK, DANISH OIL



DOUG MURRAY, MAPLE/WALNUT, POLY, 10", FIRST  
SEGMENTED ATTEMPT



BETSY MACK, PLYWOOD, GOLDEN RATIO TOOL, 10"



TIM WARREN, WALNUT & CHERRY,  
SPAR VARNISH, 9"

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The typical answer to “How many whatever it is do I need?” for hobbyists is usually at least one more than I have. For us wood turners it can be a tool, a chuck or even a lathe. I know I have four lathes, but one is for metal, one is really small, and one is part of my ShopSmith which requires some maneuvering to convert and is really too low for extended turning sessions. At the club demonstration in March, I learned that if I chose to go into segmented turning, I would probably need a few jigs and perhaps a thickness sander. We can always make excuses for purchases that make sense to us and hopefully our life partners but at some point, we run out of room in the shop. So, for me, it’s either move, expand or follow the expression that necessity is the mother of invention. I am flat out of room.

A few years ago, I actually made a functional thickness sander driven by my ShopSmith when I needed one for a cutting board. Those who have seen my shop know that no way a standalone one would fit, but a length of PVC pipe, a bearing and a few scraps later I was in business. Maybe too little thickness capacity for segments, but it got the job done. For those without a ShopSmith, there are numerous YouTube videos on the subject.



This month’s challenges for me involved raising the spindle on my mill to be able to index some holes on the rim of a bowl and a close call on the capacity of my cole jaws. I was all set to turn a bunch of small diameter piece holders or even make a new set like Jim Zorn showed in the “jigs” demo from February, or even a Longworth chuck, but managed to eke out a few millimeters. I could also have used another chuck to avoid changing jaws. I can make room for that and may soon be on my birthday wish list.

I guess the point of this month’s message is to remind us that there are many ways to accomplish tasks without digging too deep into our pockets. We all like a cool new tool, but often the satisfaction of coming up a unique solution to the job at hand can put even a bigger smile on our face.

Happy and safe turning,

Bruce

## MEETING NOTES OF 17 MAY 2018

President Bruce Robbins opened the meeting at 6:30 and discussed the following topics:

Congratulations to all those who entered the annual turning competition. Number of pieces exceeded last year's entries.

Dawn Flores reported that \$425 was raised for the Rice River Research Center by selling our finished bowls from Aage's rough turned stock.

Richmond Woodturners Meetings and Events are now posted on the Richmond Cultural Arts Calendar.

Upcoming events – see below

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mid Atlantic Woodturners Association Symposium 2018, September 28, 29 & 30

Makerfest – Saturday Oct 6th

State Fair – Friday Sept 28 – Sun Oct 7 - Unspecified days for that period

Stratford Hall – September 15-16 – See Dan Luttrell

Virginia Woodturning Symposium – Nov 3-4 - See below

Richmond Woodturners will be conducting a hands-on demo with the 4-H Club at Holiday Lake, located west of Farmville, in Appomattox/Buckingham State Forest - June 19 – See Lee Scarbrough

## Richmond Cultural Arts Calendar

Our club meeting and events can now be incorporated into the Richmond Cultural Arts Calendar which is a community based organization that supports local arts organizations and individuals by highlighting events, performances, etc. Our current page can be accessed at the following link:

[http://calendar.richmondcultureworks.org/event/richmond\\_woodturners\\_monthly\\_meeting](http://calendar.richmondcultureworks.org/event/richmond_woodturners_monthly_meeting)



## SAVE THE DATE!!

Virginia Woodturning Symposium 2018  
November 3 & 4, 2018  
Expoland - Fishersville, VA

Mark your calendars to reserve the dates for the Virginia Woodturning Symposium! There will be 41 rotations held at 7 different stations covering a number of turning techniques during this exciting 2 day event! This is an awesome opportunity to enhance your knowledge base!

Some of the demo topics include-

*Fabulous Finials, Pen Making Start to Finish, Fun with Spheres, The Airbrush Demystified, Natural Edge Winged Bowl, Basic Bowls, Techniques for Deep Vessels, and many other fantastic sessions!*

The following demonstrators are on the schedule:

Cindy Drozda  
Nick Cook  
Graeme Priddle  
Joe Fleming  
Mike Sorge

Rudy Lopez  
Barry Gross  
Mark St. Ledger  
Dick Hines

Donna Banfield  
Frank Penta  
Lyle Jamieson  
Fred Williamson

The symposium is a great place to meet woodturners from other clubs, learn new skills, and talk with vendors about your tool and supply needs! There are also opportunities to work on your techniques with experts at the Skills Center, and an Instant Gallery where you can view or display turnings!

If you pre-register before October 26, 2018, the price is only \$80 for the weekend!

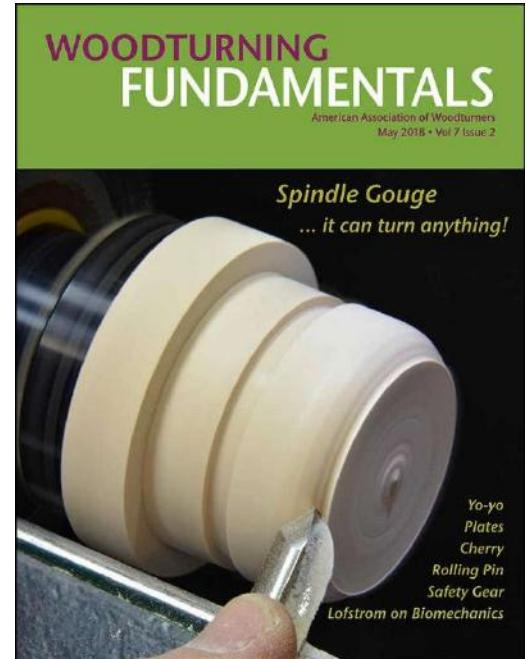
Check us out for details on the web at: <http://www.virginiawoodturners.com>

**Stay tuned for more details in the months to come and MARK YOUR CALENDAR!! We look forward to seeing you there!**

Interested in more projects, techniques, tips, videos, and information to build essential woodturning skills? Check out the newest issue of Woodturning FUNdamentals.

However, it only works when you are also logged into the AAW website,

<https://www.woodturner.org/page/FUNDamentalsRes>



## UPCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS

June: Bill Jenkins - Making a Windsor chair – Part Two

July: Advances in pen making – Bill Walters/Bruce Robbins

August: Natural Edge Bowls – Dick Hines/Chuck Mosser

September: Design for Woodturners - TBD

October: Ornaments - Alan Leland

1st Time Visitors

New Members

Returning Member

Steve Kellner

Dawn Flores

Jim Parker

## June Snacks & Drinks

Georgia Wood ..... Ice and Cooler  
Galen Rice ..... Liter of Coke  
Gordon Kendrick ..... Liter of Pepsi  
Greg Glennon ..... Liter Caffeine free soda  
Herb Walke ..... Cookies  
Izumi Miller ..... Chips  
Jeff Lohr ..... Salty Snack  
Jerry Fisher ..... Salty Snack  
Jerry Harvey ..... Sweet Snack

You can switch with someone if you are unable to bring those items for the month assigned.

## 2018 Challenges

3rd Qtr. Hollow form

4th Qtr. Shop tool

2019 1st Qtr. Jigs

Further definition of these may be forthcoming.

## Financial Report

Our current balance is \$7,476.81. Changes in the balance are attributable to collection of membership fees, expenditures related to the new A/V system and purchase of additional gift cards for show and tell drawings.

## Richmond Woodturners Quarterly Challenge

The Challenge will now be regularly scheduled for the third month of each quarter (March, June, September, and December). Entries will be placed on a table separate from the Show-n-Tell table.

## Committee Chairpersons

Charlie Hamilton      Chairperson of the Social Media Committee

Jared Parker      Chairperson of the AV Committee

Jim O'Hanlon      Chairperson of the Turning Competition Committee

## For sale or trade

If you have any items to list in the For Sale or Trade Section,  
Please email me at  
[forsale@richmondwoodturners.org](mailto:forsale@richmondwoodturners.org).

Please remember that each item needs a description, price, city, seller's name and contact info (phone/email).

You can include pictures if you like. They will run 1 month unless notified to "re-run".

## Club Officers

President: Bruce Robbins  
Vice President: Jim Bumpas  
Secretary John Anderson  
Treasurer: Cody Walker

## Directors

Activities Director: Georgia Wood  
Resource Director: Chuck Bajnai  
Information Director: Stan VanDruff  
Membership Director: Dan Luttrell  
Newsletter Editor: Bob Marchese

Past President Directors:

Lee Scarbrough  
Rey Deyo

## Meeting Schedule

June	6/21/2018	December	12/20/2018
July	7/19/2018	January	1/17/2019
August	8/16/2018	February	2/21/2019
September	9/20/2018	March	3/21/2019
October	10/18/2018	April	4/18/2019
November	11/15/2018	May	5/16/2019



Contact the store at: [804-355-3945](tel:804-355-3945)

Fax: 804-355-2532

Email: [richmond-retail@woodcraft.com](mailto:richmond-retail@woodcraft.com)

9862 West Broad Street  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Organizations such as the Richmond Woodturners, Penturners and carving clubs would not exist if it weren't for the kindness of their sponsors. We are blessed and grateful to have the Richmond Virginia Woodcraft store supporting us and our activities. Please remember this and support them at every opportunity!

For the classes provided at this location see: <https://www.woodcraft.com/stores/richmond/classes>

Look for classes taught by Ray Deyo, Clark Brummett, David Sterling, Brian Noble-Marx and others.