

Grand Valley Woodturners

January 2008

Volume 1 Number 1

Officers

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Meeting Information

Club meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Buck Taylor's shop, 152 - 29 Road

Dues Information

\$25.00 Individual (per year)
\$30.00 Family (per year)

Minutes of Grand Valley Woodturners

January 8, 2008

The first meeting of 2008 started at 7:00 p.m. in Buck Taylor's shop in Grand Junction. Keith Kollasch led off the meeting by proposing that we incorporate as a club under the American Association of Woodturners (AAW)

Points for affiliating with AAW

- Free insurance for members and demonstrators during meetings
- Once the club is established we can apply for grants from AAW for demos, classes, scholarships

Club affiliation as "Grand Valley Woodturners" was proposed and seconded. Proposal carried

Club officers were suggested. There were nominations for the officers. The following candidates were chosen:

President	Keith Kollash
Vice President	Ed Westemier
Secretary	David Kelly
Treasurer	Buck Taylor
Newsletter	Tim Austin

It was agreed by the group that the officers would serve by agreement of the group. They can be removed from office at any time if the group agrees. The group agreed that the term of office will be one year. Any individual can serve two consecutive terms but not more.

It was agreed the yearly dues will be \$25.00 per year for individuals, \$30.00 for families

It was agreed that the club meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of each month – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. The meeting to be held at Buck's shop, with the possibility of every other month at a location TBA in Delta.

Attendees were asked for their name, phone and email. This information will be published to the group and distributed with the newsletter via email. A hard copy of the newsletter will be available at the next meeting for those who do not have email.

It was proposed that non-members can come to the meeting.

It was proposed that when we have a demonstrator, if the cost is more than the club has in its' reserves, the members would be asked to pay another \$5.00 to attend the demo.

The idea was put forth that for demonstrators we might offer food and/or lodging instead of paying them.

A lending library was proposed.

The challenge for January was miniatures. There was a wide variety of work brought in and viewed.

Proposals for demos - Buck to show sharpening jig setup.

February's Challenge – Make a turned name tag. Next meeting: February 12

Meeting adjourned at 9:15

David Kelly, Secretary

Wood/Dust Toxicity

Edited by: Bruce Campbell

For centuries, it's been fairly common knowledge that some woods could hinder your health. As far back as 60 A.D., the Roman historian and naturalist Pliny the Elder described a case where four soldiers actually died after drinking wine from hip flasks made of yew. Of lesser gravity was the experience of a few German sawyers in the early 1700s. It seems they developed chronic irritation of the nose and eyes, as well as headaches, from sawing bald cypress.

What are your chances of a reaction to wood? Statistics say that only 2 to 5% of all people develop an allergic sensitivity to one or more compounds found in wood. But, if you handle a lot of potentially toxic species, and work with them long enough, you increase your chances of an allergic reaction. And, with sufficient exposure, some woods bother almost everyone.

Any dust, including wood dust, mildly irritates the sensitive mucous membranes of your nose and eyes, making you sneeze and tear. The dust of some woods such as western red cedar and rosewood can be especially bothersome. However, other woods, called irritants, can make you even more uncomfortable, with a rash that classifies as either irritant dermatitis or allergic dermatitis. The rash usually has a uniformly red, swollen area that may erupt in blisters, and typically first shows up on the webs of skin between your fingers. Irritant woods include black locust, cocobolo, ebony, oleander, satinwood, sequoia, and yew.

However, for you to get an allergic-type rash, you first must be allergy-prone to one of more of the chemicals found in certain woods called sensitizers. And, it may take repeated contact for your body to develop a great enough allergy for it to react (the so-called "latency period of as little as five days and up to 6-8months). If you do eventually get a reaction, the rash will look like poison ivy - red with small, individual, itchy bumps. Sensitizer woods include cypress, balsam fir, beech, birch, elm, greenheart, mahogany, maple, myrtle, redwood, sassafras, spruce, walnut, willow, western red cedar, and teak.

In addition to the actual wood dust, molds frequently trigger reactions, too. One that actually grows in wood happens to be extremely potent: *Cryptostroma corticale*. This mold lives happily between the bark and sapwood of many hardwood trees, especially favoring maple and birch. It's responsible for the marbled spalting that woodturners prize, and for "maple bark stripper's disease," a condition with all the symptoms of a severe respiratory allergy.

If you have an aspirin allergy, be wary of willow and birch. Both of these species possess significant concentrations of salicylic acid (the predecessor of aspirin) and very sensitive individuals might only need casual exposure, such as a whiff of sawdust, to react.

Never say "no" to a dust mask. Among woodworkers, the chances of developing nasal and sinus cancer run about 5-40 times greater than non-woodworkers. Although researchers haven't identified the exact cancer-causing compound (primarily because the disease has a latency period from 30 to 50 years), some evidence points to dust from wood with high tannin content, such as chestnut, oak, redwood, western red cedar, and hemlock.

If you are sensitive to wood dust, work in a well ventilated area (this also reduces the risk to mold), avoid unseasoned wood as much as possible, and wash or shower frequently. If you develop persistent rashes or respiratory problems, contact your physician or dermatologist. (source of above: <http://www.city-net.com/albertfp/toxic.htm>)

There is an interesting list of Internet sites at <http://www.davidillig.com/awg/safety.html> where you can find additional information.

The chart below is a blend of information from two sources. The first is an article which appeared in *American Woodturner* in June 1990 (originally posted to *rec.woodworking* by Bruce Taylor (I took it from the Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild <http://w3.one.net/~ovwg/Tips-Toxicity.html>). The second is an article prepared by Roy Banner, a woodturner from Torrance, California who almost lost his life in 1989 to anaphylactic shock after turning pieces of exotic wood (see <http://www.mimf.com/archives/toxic.htm>). Roy has assembled his data over the years from various sources. I can't judge with any authority the validity of the information and it's up to you to further research any wood yourself. Take this as a jumping off point. You might also want to check out The Botanical Dermatology Database at <http://bodd.cf.ac.uk/BoDDHomePage.html> although I found it pretty hard to follow, technically.

A final note; this data does not take into consideration the added effect of formaldehyde in plywood, treated woods, sodium compounds in white pine to prevent blue stain, etc. Also, I am not aware of any work to study the interactions of woods and chemicals such as oils, glues, stains, etc. Bottom line - ensure good ventilation and good respiratory protection when you work in the shop.

Wood	Reaction	Site	Source	Ptncy ³	Incidence	Risk ⁴
Afromosia	I	E,R	D	GREAT	RARE	M
Alder	I	E,S,R	D	GREAT	?	?
Angelico	I	E,S,R	D	GREAT	?	?
Arborvitae	I	R	?	?	?	?
Ash	I	R	?	?	?	?
Bald Cypress	S	R	D	SMALL	RARE	L
Balsam Fir	S	E,S	LB	SMALL	COMMON	L
Beech	S,C	E,S,R	LB,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Birch	S	R	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Black Locust	I,N	E,S	LB	GREAT	COMMON	H
Blackwood	S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Boxwood	S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Cashew	S	E,S	W,D	SMALL	RARE	L
Chechem	I	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	RARE	M
Cocobolo	I,S	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Dahoma	I	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Ebony	I,S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Elm	I	E,S	D	SMALL	RARE	L
Fir	I	E,S	W,D	SMALL	RARE	L
Goncalo Alves	S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	RARE	L
Greenheart	S	E,S	W,D,S	EXTREME	COMMON	H
Guarea	S	E,S	D	EXTREME	RARE	H
Hemlock	C	R	D	?	UNCOMMON	?
Iroko	I,S,P	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Katon	I	R	?	?	?	?
Kingwood	I	E,S		?	?	?
Mahogany,American	S,P	S,R	D	SMALL	UNCOMMON	L
Mahogany,African	S	S,R	D	GREAT	RARE	H
Mansonina	I,S N	E,S	W,D D	GREAT SMALL	COMMON	H
Manzinilla	I	R	D	?	RARE	?
Maple (Spalted)	S,P	R	D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Mimosa	N		LB	?	UNCOMMON	?
Myrtle	S	R	LB,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Oak	S C	E,S	LB,D D	MEDIUM ?	RARE UNCOMMON	L
Obeche	I,S	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Oleander	DT	N,C	D,W,LB	EXTREME	COMMON	H
Olivewood	I,S	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Opepe	S	R	D	SMALL	RARE	L
Padauk	S	E,S,R	W,D	SMALL	RARE	L
Pau Ferro	S	E,S	W,D	SMALL	RARE	L
Peroba Rosa	I	R,N	W,D	GREAT	UNCOMMON	M
Purpleheart	I,S	N	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Quebracho	I C	R,N ?	LB,D D	MEDIUM SMALL	COMMON UNCOMMON	M L
Redwood	S,P C	E,S,R	D D	MEDIUM ?	RARE UNCOMMON	L
Rosewoods	I,S	E,S,R	W,D	EXTREME	UNCOMMON	H
Satinwood	I	E,S,R	W,D	GREAT	COMMON	H
Sassafras	S DT C	R N	[D,W,LB D	SMALL SMALL ?	COMMON RARE UNCOMMON	L L ?
Sequoia	I	R	D	SMALL	RARE	L
Snakewood	I	R	W,D	MEDIUM	RARE	L
Spruce	S	R	W,D	SMALL	RARE	L
Stavewood	I	R	?	?	?	?
Verawood	I	E,R	W,D,S	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Walnut, Black	S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Wenge	S	E,S,R	W,D	SMALL	COMMON	L
Willow	S	R,N	D,W,LB	SMALL	UNCOMMON	L
Western Red Cedar	S	R	D,LB	GREAT	COMMON	H
Teak	S,P	E,S,R	D	MEDIUM	COMMON	M
Yew	I DT	E,S N,C	D W,D	MEDIUM EXTREME	COMMON COMMON	M H
Zebrawood	S	E,S	W,D	MEDIUM	RARE	L

Reaction: C¹ - nasopharyngeal cancer, DT - direct toxin, I² - irritant, S² - sensitizer, N - nausea/malaise, P - pneumonitis & alveolitis (hypersensitivity and/or pneumonia)

Site: C - cardiac, E - eyes, R - respiratory, S - skin

Source: D - dust, LB - leaves & bark, W - wood, S - smoke

Risk: L - low, M - moderate, H - high

[1] Cancer of nose and sinus: Statistics show that woodworkers have a 40 per cent greater chance of nasal cancer than the general population. However, the majority of statistics on nasal cancer are based on data from 1920-1960 when the furniture industry became highly mechanized with little or no dust control methods.

[2] Irritant or Sensitizer: Woods are either an irritant which cause a reaction fairly rapidly after exposure and will cause a similar reaction repeatedly, or sensitizers which may have a latency period of hours or months and may require repeated handling before reaction occurs. Sensitizer's are the more severe, because once you're sensitized, you're sensitized for life and the reactions only get more dramatic.

[3] Potency: This is the potential of the wood or sawdust doing harm and would vary with the individual. i.e., those who are allergy prone might think twice about working with wood classed as extremely potent.

[4] Risk: This is a qualitative assessment of the risk of a given wood doing serious harm. It is derived by combining the Potency and Incidence measures as follows

	SMALL	MEDIUM	GREAT	EXTREME
RARE	L	L	M	H
UNCOMMON	L	M	M	H
COMMON	L	M	H	H

Chart References:

1. *Woods Toxic to Man*, author unknown
2. Woods, B., Calnan, C.D., "Toxic Woods." *Br. Journal of Dermatology* 1976
3. *ILO Encyclopedia of Occupational Health and Safety* 1983
4. Lame, K., McAnn, MEDIUM., *AMA Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants*, AMA 1985
5. *Poisondex*, Micromedix Inc. 1990
6. *List of woods and toxicity characteristics*, Roy Banner, 1989

Source: *Greater Vancouver Woodturners, 2006 via American Association of Woodturner web site*

NAME THIS NEWSLETTER!!!

The newsletter needs a name. We would like to have suggestions. So put on your creative thinking caps and let's see what we can come up with at our February meeting.

DOOR PRIZES?

Would you like to have door prizes at each meeting? If so, donations will be needed. Just another thing to think about and discuss at an upcoming meeting.



UTAH WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM
The 2008 Utah Woodturning Symposium will be held May 22-24 at Utah Valley State College in Orem, Utah.

Check It Out--
American Association of Woodturners

The AAW website is www.woodturner.org . It has lots of good information. If you check out the Forum, you can find pictures of different items. It includes details like wood and size included with the pictures. Very interesting!

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Brand New Delta 8-inch bench grinder GR350, never used, Still in box. \$75.00
 Call Dave at 970-856-3653

For Sale: Delta 10-inch Contractor's Saw, 2 HP 110-220 Motor, new blade. \$350.00 See Tim or call 263-7404

Directory

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Grand Valley Woodturners

Minutes of the January 19, 2008 Board Meeting

The Grand Valley Woodturners Board Meeting was held at MacDonald's in Delta, January 19 from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m. Attendees were: Keith Kollasch, President; Ed Westimere, Vice President; David Kelly, Secretary; Buck Taylor, Treasurer, and Tim Austin, Editor.

AAW membership required for all board members. Everyone is a member of AAW except for Tim and he is in the process of joining. Forms need to be filled out and submitted to AAW

SMALL STEP Grant from Colorado on the Arts – Dave will contact Ronna Lee Sharp to pursue this.

Tim brought copies of meeting rules and procedures. He said his rock club follows these and they work well.

Buck will open a bank account with Keith as a co-signer. This will be a checking account for dues and any other funds that are collected.

Officers' Duties

President will conduct meetings, coordinate board, keep things running

Vice President will be the program coordinator, plan turning challenges, back up other officers

Secretary will keep minutes of all meetings, keep membership list current, and forward information to board members

Treasurer will be responsible for the bank account and collecting and tracking dues.

The Newsletter editor will put together the newsletter, emailing newsletter to members, and printing copies for those without email.

We discussed participating in the Farmer's Market in Grand Junction along Main Street. Ed will check into this.

We talked about sources of wood. Tim can get a truck load of walnut blanks of different sizes. Buck has a friend with a mill that we might utilize for local trees if we pay for the band saw blade. Intermountain Lumber in Grand Junction is a good resource for hardwoods.

We are looking for a meeting location in Delta. This would enable turners from Hotchkiss, Paonia, Ridgeway, etc. to come to a meeting.

A perpetual turning project was proposed. We would sell tickets for a drawing at each meeting. Donated wood will be awarded as prizes, as well as the perpetual turning. The perpetual turning is a project of any kind that is donated to the club. Whoever wins this prize will be required to turn something and donate it to the next month's drawing.

It was proposed to have turners talk about the work they bring in – technique, finish, problems, tools, etc.

Newsletter will ask members to bring their dues to the next meeting

Newsletter will ask for suggestions for a name for the newsletter.

Minutes submitted by David Kelly, Secretary

A Note From David Kelly:

I was talking to the President of the Front Range Woodturners. He suggested we do some virtual demos. Which is—we get a DVD of a turner and show it to the group. We can stop it for questions along the way. He said if you have a professional come in, they ask about \$200.00 - \$300.00 plus expenses for a demonstration. But he also said they might be open to negotiations when they realize how new our club is.

David Kelly