

# Apple Valley Woodturners

## Quarterly Newsletter, 4th Qtr 2021

AAW Chapter in Winchester, Virginia



<http://www.applevalleywoodturners.org>

<http://www.woodturner.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/947204865752570>

### AVW Officers:

**President:** Gene Lockhart

703-380-7563 [Genelockhart16@gmail.com](mailto:Genelockhart16@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Dennis J. Dantro

540-664-3859 [dennisjdantro@gmail.com](mailto:dennisjdantro@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Terry Fox

610-246-0070 [Tfox1042@yahoo.com](mailto:Tfox1042@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Mike Fraser

703-598-1689 [mike.fraser.1945@gmail.com](mailto:mike.fraser.1945@gmail.com)

**Program Director:** Chris Renteria

540-539-5406 [cjrent45@yahoo.com](mailto:cjrent45@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Walt Weidman

757-817-1621 [nnsengineer@gmail.com](mailto:nnsengineer@gmail.com)

**Facilities:** J.C. Jennings

304-283-8848 [Jennings.jc@gmail.com](mailto:Jennings.jc@gmail.com)

**Website Director:** Walt Weidman

757-817-1621 [nnsengineer@gmail.com](mailto:nnsengineer@gmail.com)

**Member at Large:** Jeff Shumaker

240-362-6630 [ripsawyer22@yahoo.com](mailto:ripsawyer22@yahoo.com)

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### AVW Schedule Meetings and Skills:

February 12: Skills Day

February 19: **Meeting – Demonstration  
Jacob Shanholtz, turning pens. Workshop  
@ noon**

February 26: Skills Day

March 12: Skills Day

March 19: **Meeting – Demonstration TBD**

March 26: Skills Day

April 9: Skills Day

April 16: **Meeting – Demonstration TBD**

April 23: Skills Day

### AVW will follow the AAW Demonstration Safety Policy

- You are required to wear a full-face shield. Additionally, you are required to practice and support AAW Safety Policy and take precautions while demonstrating at the lathe, as well as include and teach appropriate safety measures in your presentation.
- When selecting your woods, please be aware of wood allergies. No toxic or exotic woods may be used.
- Because of the air conditioning systems, sanding must be minimal and done only as a last resort, not as a part of the demonstration.
- Microwave ovens, open flames, and propane torches may not be used due to Fire Marshal and Convention Center regulations.

## President's Message:

Hello and Happy New Year to all Apple Valley Woodturners members!

We hope you had a relaxing and joyful Christmas and holiday season and that the new year holds much promise for new adventures! We closed out the 2021 meeting year on a positive note with several highlights including our return to in-person meetings. We relocated to an expanded meeting space which supported our members' contributions of woodturning demonstration topics and ongoing support of club activities and events. Your time and talent kept us engaged during our virtual meetings and gave us a new appreciation for skills teaching and mentoring as we resumed in-person meetings. I offer a heartfelt "Thank You" again to all who kept us learning and turning over the last year!



Welcome again to our newest members and those who have rejoined us recently! We're excited to have you participating in our monthly Skills Sessions where we strive to help everyone learn safe and effective skills. All of us benefit from these sessions. We're considering incorporating a series of informal short woodturning demonstrations to highlight techniques and members' projects.

Looking ahead for this year we're coordinating with other regional clubs to bring in at least two nationally recognized woodturners. The dates and specific topics will be announced once arrangements and contracts are finalized. We're already planning for participation in local community events such as the Apple Harvest Festival in September. We'll do our best to keep members informed of regional woodturning events as they're announced.

Lastly, don't forget that the annual AAW Annual International Woodturning Symposium

will be held June 22-26 in Chattanooga, TN. Registration is open now. Our club is an AAW affiliate member, so we may qualify for a registration discount if a minimum number of members attend.

Please remember to visit our club's sponsors listed in the newsletter and on our website, and don't forget to check our club's social media links to see members' current work. In the coming weeks we'll also provide information on our plans to support the Blue Ridge Habitat for Humanity home building program in the Winchester area.

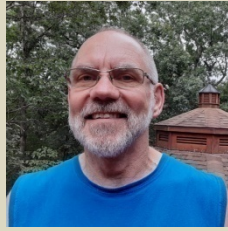
We look forward to seeing you soon at our monthly meetings and sharing ideas for new topics, events and service opportunities throughout the year. Stay safe and all the best for your woodturning adventures and success in 2022!

Sincerely,

Gene Lockhart  
President, Apple Valley Woodturners

## Editor's Notes:

Hi fellow woodturners. This issue of the newsletter contains the second installment of our shop tours. Terry Fox has graciously agreed to share his workshop features with us. His shop is well equipped and also very well thought out. I am truly humbled, but my excuse is that I have only been turning since 2017 and Terry has been at it much longer. Please feel free to volunteer to share your shop features with the club whether you are just now starting or have been turning for 40 years. My expectations are that we can all learn from others by presenting our shop circumstances to improve or advance our own turning. But in complete honesty, there is plenty of curiosity as to what other workshops look like and how do they accomplish their projects.



You will notice in this issue of the Newsletter that Board Member information is included in "Club Business". One change actually results in two changes for Board responsibilities. I will be handling the Website which will leave the Newsletter Editor position open. My thoughts are that it is harder to find a Website Director than it is a Newsletter Editor.

Handling the Newsletter is something that I will not drop completely; I am willing to assist the new Editor with advice and technical assistance. You would not be abandoned. I would like to encourage all of you to consider the possibility of taking on the task of Newsletter Editor and contact me or Gene to discuss.

I hope you have enjoyed every issue of the Apple Valley Newsletters that I have produced and you have found value in the publication.

Walt Weidman, AVW Newsletter Editor

## Club Business:

- **2022 Club Dues were due on January 31, 2022. Use the AVW website PAYPAL or pay at the monthly meeting.**
- Board Member Information:
  - Member at Large is a new position in the Apple Valley Board. Jeff Shumaker will be filling this new position.
  - The Secretary position which used to be held by Mike Fraser is now open and needs to be filled.
  - The Website Director Position will be taken by Walt Weidman.
  - The Newsletter Editor position is now open with Walt Weidman moving to the Website Editor Position.
- Our meetings are normally held on the third Saturday of each month; Habitat for Humanity Restore, 400 Battaile Drive, Winchester, VA.
- We are expecting to have habitat home building teams this year where we will participate in building habitat for humanity homes. More information will be provided at a later date. In general, our agreement with the Restore on using their space involves donating material or time to the store. Please keep this in mind, we are able to use this space with this agreement without spending club funds.

## Mike Fraser – Turning Christmas Ornaments (December Demonstration)

At our December meeting Mike Fraser demonstrated how he turns his variety of thin walled Christmas Ornaments and Christmas Trees. Along with his demonstration of techniques he also went over some of his special tooling that he has developed for his process.

His process for creating his ornaments has been refined through the years and has become a very precise practice.



Below picture “Show and Tell” from November



Samples of Mike’s work can be seen in the pictures below





## Show and Tell

Terry Fox:  
Spalted Ash  
Bowl with a  
wax finish.



Mike Fraser:  
Corrugated Cardboard  
Ball finished with  
schellac.



Terry Fox:  
Mulberry Dish with  
a wax finish.

Mike Fraser:  
Hollow Maple  
and Walnut  
Ball finished  
with tung oil.



Dennis Dantro: Goblet  
with a poly finish.



Mike Fraser: Cedar  
Goblet finished  
with tung oil.



Steve Halliday:  
White Pine Bowl  
with a wax finish.

Steve  
Halliday:  
Maple Bowl  
with a wax  
laquer, and  
paint finish.



Jeff  
Shumaker:  
Ash Bowl  
with oil and  
wax finish.



Jeff Shumaker: Ash Hollow Form and Walnut Lid with oil and wax finish.



Mike Fraser: Yew Hollow Form with tung oil and wax finish.

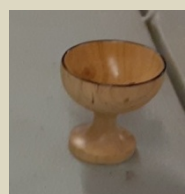


Terry Fox: Wormy Ash Bowl without finish.

Mike Fraser: Walnut "Kiss" with tung oil and wax finish.



Larry Mauck: Bolt Action Pen with Pheasant Feathers finish.

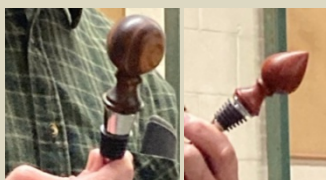
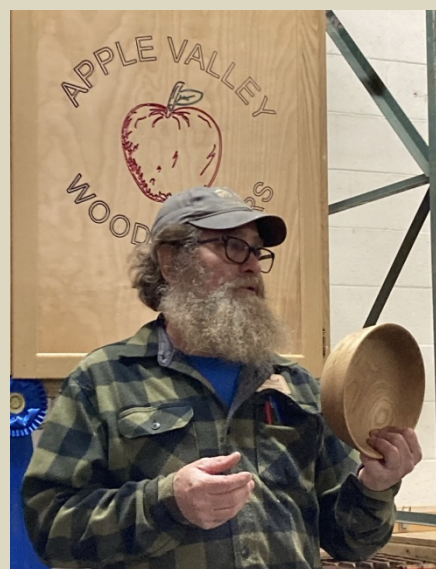


Mike Fraser: Cherry Tiny Goblet with wax finish.

Larry Mauck: Various Pens.



Chris Renteria: Cherry Bowl with walnut oil finish.

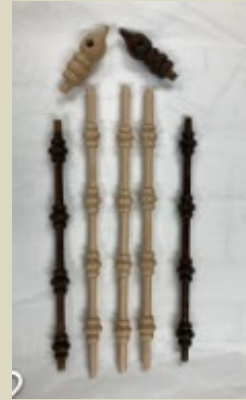


Jeff Shumaker: Bottle Stoppers, unknown exotic wood, poly finish.

Chris Renteria: Handles made from Olive Wood, Cocobola, African Blackwood, Pink Spectraply, Mulberry.



Gene Lockhart: Oak Spindles, replacement for antique shelf, unfinished.

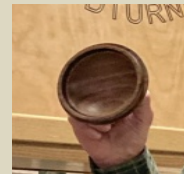


Terry Fox: Spalted Maple, Plum, Cocobola finished with laquer.



Jeff Shumaker: Elm Bowl with walnut oil finish.

Jeff Shumaker: Lidded bowl – Beech and Walnut with a walnut finish.

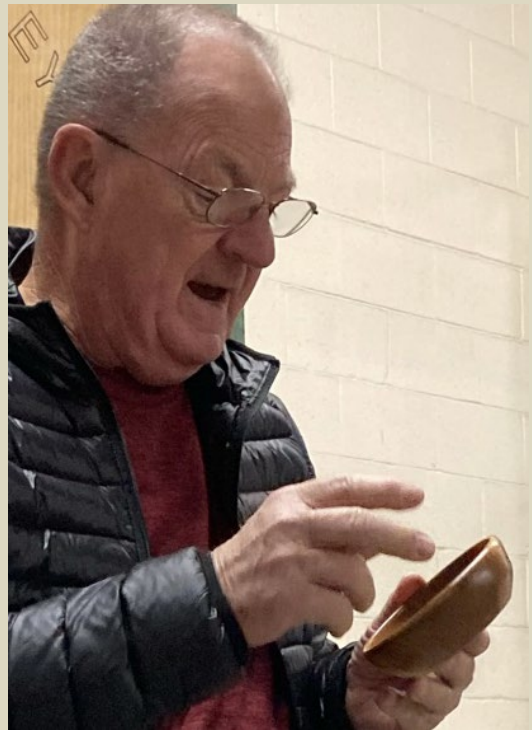


Mike Fraser: Hickory Burl desk holder with tung oil finish.





Mike Fraser: Natural Edge Pear Hollow Form with tung oil and wax finish.



Tom Logan: Cherry Bowl with beeswax finish.

Steve Allenson: Oak Norway Christmas Trees.



# Understand Your Woodworking Equipment

## Part 1 of 2

Dennis J. Dantro, November 2021

Contents: Bandsaw and Chainsaw

This article describes the basic fundamentals of woodworking equipment. As a competent hobbyist woodworker it becomes your responsibility to understand the equipment, keep it in good working order, learn the nuances of each piece and protect yourself from hazardous conditions that are inherent to the trade of woodworking.

### Brief bandsaw basics:

When it comes to band saws for cutting wood there are two basic models - a floor model and a bench top. The model you choose depends on your type of work, hobby vs. production, your floor space and your budget.



floor model vs. bench top model

They are all basically the same tool. A band of steel with rotating teeth on an upper and lower wheel that pass through a fixed table.

Guides and bearings located above and below the blade hold it in position as it cuts through the wood. You simply place the work piece on the table and push it through the rotating blade.

A hobbyist's benchtop saw offers a price tag and portability over cutting capacity (maximum cutting width and height). Their lightweight construction will allow some vibration. Adjustments can be finicky and blade choices are limited. Cutting thick hardwood can push them beyond their limits. These 9" and 10" saws are designed for light-duty use.

Floor-model 14" band saws typically have heavy construction with vibration-dampening cast-iron components, induction motors, substantial blade guides, tensioning with tracking systems and a full range of blade choices. They have larger cutting capacities with larger tables. If you're an avid woodworker, the combination of capability and stability that these saws offer may be worth the cost, especially if you want to try your hand at re-sawing.

### Added bandsaw info:

- Cut on the outside edge of the line to allow for sanding.
- You can cut nonferrous metals such as brass, copper and aluminum.
- A zero clearance throat plate prevents jammed cutoffs.
- Bearings, blade guides and blade tension are crucial to proper set up.
- To store a blade just twist and coil.
- Make and install a larger tabletop for greater saw cuts.

## Brief chainsaw features:

**Best practice dictates that the operator inspect the saw before starting and only operate the saw if all the safety features are functioning properly.**

A small gas powered chainsaw.



The chain must be properly matched to the guide bar and the saw. Chainsaw manufacturers specify a selection of suitable chains for each of their models. It's a powerful instrument and its operation depends on much force, torque and speed.

A safe saw requires the chain to be properly sharpened. One key sharpening parameter is the depth gauge setting. The depth gauge is the small steel protuberance in front of each cutting tooth. If the depth gauge is too low the cutter takes too deep a bite from the wood. The saw becomes difficult to control and the chance of kickback increases.

Chainsaw kickback occurs while the chain is under power and when the tip of the bar contacts a large or immovable object. For instance, if the tip of the chain meets a log the chain will initially cut the wood, but it will also produce a reaction force that pushes the bar upwards. As the bar rises, the chain is forced harder into contact with the wood and it climbs upwards with great speed.

A chainsaw has an on/off switch. The switch prevents the ignition coil from firing, thus the engine will not run. Some saws have integral kill switch handles.

The front and rear handles of a typical chainsaw are widely spaced to provide enough leverage for good control and to provide some degree of control in the event of a kickback.

The majority of chainsaws are designed to be used by a right handed person. Using such a chain saw in a left hand manner constitutes a safety hazard.

Chainsaw briefs:

- A chain brake stops the chain if a mishap were to occur.
- Kickback happens when the chainsaw suddenly and forcefully kicks back at the operator. It can cause a potentially devastating injury.
- The safety throttle is designed to prevent accidental acceleration of the sawblade.
- A scabbard is a sheath that covers the chain/blade when not in use.
- Chainsaw safety clothing has been specially designed in such a way that the clothing can withstand and slow down the chainsaw's rotating speed and help reduce the risk of injury.

Credits:

Family Handyman Updated: Sep. 26, 2017.

Chainsaw, Wikipedia, encyclopedia, 2021.

<https://www.familyhandyman.com.>, 2021.

<https://www.toolsowner.com.>, 2021.

<https://www.wikihow.com.>, 2021.

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com.>, 2021.

<https://www.schoolofwoodwork.com.>, 2021.

<https://www.landscapemanagement.net>, 2021.

The end

## Dewalt tool kit loan program

### DeWalt Corporation

awarded AVW a wood working grant for 2 tool kits to be used by club members. Any member of the club may borrow a complete tool kit at any time for any wood working project.



**The goal:** There is an apparent danger in using power tools aka: high speeds, torque, rotating blades, sharp edges, etc. The goal of DeWalt Corp. and Apple Valley Woodturners is to improve and increase the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to use power tools. AVW's participation will help strengthen our local wood working community and members of the club.

**Contents:** Each 20 volt battery operated compact tool kit contains: one carrying case, one circular saw, one variable speed drill, one impact driver, one flashlight, two 20 volt batteries and one battery charger.

**Scope of the AVW program:** The tool kit may be borrowed for up to 30 days. Mentoring is available.

### Email To borrow the DeWalt toolkit:

Dennis J. Dantro at [dennisjdantro@gmail.com](mailto:dennisjdantro@gmail.com)

Gene Lockhart at [genelockhart16@gmail.com](mailto:genelockhart16@gmail.com)

Terry Fox at [tfox1042@yahoo.com](mailto:tfox1042@yahoo.com)

### Stipulations on the Borrower:

- Must be a member of the club.
- A short project description and time frame is requested.
- Must have personal liability insurance.

## Our Sponsors:



<http://www.mcfarlandsmill.com/>

587 Round Hill Road, Winchester, VA 22602  
Phone: (540) 667-2272  
FAX: (540) 722-6261  
Hours: Mon-Fri 7:00-3:30; Thu 7:00-6:00; Sat 8:00-1:00

We all know and appreciate what McFarland's Mill does for our club. Please stop by to thank them for their help and, even better, purchase your turning supplies from them to support them for supporting us! Stephanie and Robert would appreciate your patronage, for sure. In case you don't already know, they carry a variety of items from the Rockler catalog and, if they do not have something in stock, they will order it for you (sale prices, discounts, and specials apply) and you will not have to pay for shipping... a good deal! Contact Stephanie by phone or email...

[mcfarlandsmill@comcast.net](mailto:mcfarlandsmill@comcast.net)





<http://www.exoticlumber.com/>

329 East 2nd Street, Frederick MD 21701

(301) 695-1271 Toll-Free: (888) 262-7338

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30; First/Last Sat each month 9:00-1:00

Exotic Lumber operates as a specialty lumber yard with two operations to serve the Washington/Baltimore area. We ship lumber to customers throughout the United States and, with over 130 species in stock, we have one of the widest selections of lumber available on the East Coast. Our customers include cabinet makers, furniture makers, millwork shops, boat builders, woodturners, etc. We have no minimums - purchase 1 board or 1000bf. Have a look through our website as we constantly upload new images... email us, phone us or visit us at either our Annapolis or Frederick warehouses where you are most welcome to select your own lumber. You can also find us on Facebook! Show your AVW Membership Card to receive a 10% discount!



<https://nilesbottlestoppers.com/>

(717) 486-5232

Niles Bottle Stoppers supplies turning items for bottle stoppers and openers. There are additional items as well that assist in the project, or hardware for completing various turned kitchen objects. Bulk buys from the club will receive discounts.



<https://www.starbond.com/>

(800) 900-4583

Starbond glue comes in several consistencies for varying applications. Their website details the projects you can get from them as well as instructional information on how to make your project better.



<https://www.packardwoodworks.com/>

(800) 683-8876

Packard Woodworks is a contact and supplier for seven different Lathe brands. Additionally they supply woodworking support items ranging from turning to wood burning and carving.

## Shop Tours

### Workshop Tour – Dad’s Workshop (Terry Fox)

#### Front Royal, Virginia

When I was looking for a new home in Virginia, the main criterion was that the house had to have an un-finished basement with access to the outside. I found it but it had one problem – the basement leaked badly in heavy rains (a fact not disclosed by the realtor). But everything else was good and the price was low so I bought it. After three or four years of trying to fix the leaks I had an inside perimeter drain installed and have had no water since.

I divided the space into two with a dividing wall and insulated and wall boarded the ‘downhill’ half (and walled out a laundry room). At the bottom of the steps, the right half (behind doors) is the workshop. The left side is used as a finishing area and general storage.

Because I had an open area and open ceiling I was able to plan for and install lights where I needed. I created as many circuits and outlets as I thought I needed with appropriate amperage for each one. The only piece of equipment to be hard wired is the dust collector, which has a dedicated 220 volt circuit. All the other tools are plug-in, even those on designated circuits so they can be moved if necessary. One thing that is not there is a heating system. Today the temperature outside is 17 F and the shop is 42! My two small electric heaters cannot do much.



I installed fluorescent tube lights initially but as they fail I have replaced them with LED lights. I had intended to put a drop ceiling into the space but ran out of patience and got the shop going first. I’m glad I didn’t do it because it’s easier to replace lights or move or modify the circuitry. Of course it’s really dusty and cobwebby up there.

Right in front through the doors is a shelved wood storage area. Much of the wood in here was brought down from Pennsylvania when I moved here. The bulk is Cherry and Walnut plus Apple and Osage Orange. There’s also Cedar, Holly, Maple and others.



To the right of the Woodstock is the entry to the workshop proper. The table saw is usually folded up and stored so that there is more room to get past the band saw (Pictured to the right).



On the left wall are the band saw, a small jointer on casters and an old (Montgomery Ward) radial arm saw from the 1970's. It has a high speed shaft and I use it to sharpen my Termite tools. Otherwise, as you can see, it is a 'shelf'.



Moving round, there is a space for my shop-vacuum with a cyclone-type bin and a hose long enough to reach both the band saw and the table saw. Next is the main work bench in front of a wall of tools, with a bench-top drill press on one end. The bench was recovered from the company that I worked for in Colorado in the 1970's and has been through three moves since then. It's been disassembled a couple of times to get down basement stairs. Under the bench are my power tools, including a small router table and router that I intend to become familiar with one of these days.



Further round, the cabinets were salvaged from a friend who remodeled her kitchen. The bench top was the kitchen countertop upstairs when I moved into the house. It would not have been my choice



for the kitchen so I was happy to move it down to the workshop. Even though there are a lot of cabinets, I have mostly been able to fill them with 'stuff'. In the corner behind the heater are my coring system components, my carving vise and Cole jaw chucks. For neatness they should be in one of the cabinets but. . . On the wall above there are shelves for various jigs and tools. At one end of the long shelf is a charging station where I have gathered all the chargers for the many and varied battery powered tools.

In the middle of the floor area is a portable work bench which is indispensable for so many tasks in the shop. Also I have two rubber mats, one in front of the lathe and one in front of the workbench, to help my legs and back.

At the far end of the bench are two sets of small drawers, painted blue. They contain most of the small items used on and around the lathe, such as drive and live centers, chuck jaw sets, Forstner bits and sanding supplies. I mostly use an angle drill with 2 inch discs for power sanding. Each grit has a designated backing pad and these are kept in a tilt-out unit mounted on the front edge of the bench next to the lathe.







My turning tool storage system is a plastic bucket with a holed wooden divider to keep the tools apart. I now have two of these units because of a recent accumulation of more tools. I moved the less used tools to the second unit and re-arranged the tools in the first bucket. Now I have to re-learn the new tool positions.

My lathe is a Jet 1642 with variable speed control. It is bolted to the floor to help reduce vibration when turning odd-shaped items. At the left of the lathe is a vacuum chuck set-up. The pump came from Harbor Freight and the other components were purchased from Frugal Vacuum, including the 4 inch diameter chuck. I've been very pleased with the efficiency and ease of use of the vacuum chuck and wish I had set it up years ago. To the right of the lathe is a table with a disc/belt sander. Under the table is the place for the air compressor. I recently upgraded to a California Air unit, which is very quiet (for an air compressor) and is highly recommended.



The divider around the lathe is my most satisfactory 'find'. This one to the right and two others were salvaged from an advertising displays company that went out of business. They were intended

to be portable, flexible, display booths. The unit folds up into a 40" x 30" x 8" portable block. I was fortunate in that one of the units had clear upper panels that allow extra light into the lathe area from the sliding doors at the end of the shop. It is easy for me to fold the screen aside to allow me to remove the pile of shavings from under and behind the lathe.



I also have a shower curtain that goes behind me when I am at the lathe to further contain the wood chips and shavings. My dust collection system is comprised of a Big Gulp hood mounted on a roll-around unit that also extends and retracts, allowing me to be flexible in positioning. It is connected to a conduit that goes up into the rafters and across and through the outside wall to the dust collector which is in a small storage shed outside. There is also ducting to where the table saw used to be, but the collector did not have the power to pull enough air to be useful.



Along the fourth wall are more cabinets and a storage spot for the bench top planer. The cabinets house fasteners, a selection of tapes, adhesives and some electrical supplies.



In the other half of the basement is my finishing area with a work table and shelves for the various finishing supplies. (What air-brushing that I do is done in the main shop because that's where the compressed air is). At the end of the table is my Jet mini-lathe where I use my Beall buffing system. I also use the lathe for remote demonstrations, and such.



Finally, I have a small photo booth where I photograph my work. It has a plastic piping frame, a white roll-up blind as a back drop and white and foil panels for light dispersal. It's easy to dismantle and move when the space is needed for something else.



I'm happy with my workshop. Like every shop, there's probably (certainly) a lot of stuff that I could get rid of, but there's enough built-in flexibility that rarely do I find myself prevented from doing what I want to do. Now if only it were heated!

I hope you enjoyed this tour of my world. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Terry Fox,

tfox1042@yahoo.com