



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2024, NO. 2 · Feb/Mar 2024

Tree of Life



8" plate decorated with random chatter and a Savannah scene with tree-of-life. It's been gifted to our 1st born on her birthday.

Paul McGaffey

4-H Classes

The Guild has been asked to provide wood turning instruction to a group of 4 teenagers from the TNT 4-H Multi Club. Classes will be on 4 **Saturday mornings beginning April 13, 2024 through April 27, 2024 with the 4th session on May 11, 2024** at Casa from 10:00 until Noon. All students have had 12 hours of experience doing spindle work.

We need 4 wood turner volunteers who are prepared to commit to all 4 Saturdays and have an interest in sharing their knowledge with future members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Mar 21, 2024 - Regular Monthly

Meeting. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Brian Oliver will be demonstrating his finishing Technique. Please bring along your recent projects for the **Instant Gallery**.

Apr 6, 2024 - Sawdust Session at Casa.

10 am - noon @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Steve will send out an email to remind and inform us of plans for the morning. Tool Sharpening is encouraged as you require. The grinder will be set up and ready to go. If you have any question as to how to accomplish any task, bring your materials and ask for help. Someone will surely know how to help you.



Remember, the best part is sharing some quality time with friends of like interests. Bring something you have made.

Apr 18, 2024 Regular Monthly Mtg. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Agenda to follow.

June 1, 2 & 3, 2024

Spring Demo and Workshop

Dale Lowe - Woodturner and Artist

See Poster on Page 3. Register early!

The students will list the projects of their choice. I will match the students with a turner volunteer who feels comfortable with the student's project.

Based on my experience with the students at GS Lakie, I got as much out of the teaching as the student did.

Please contact Terry Beaton to volunteer.

(4 0 3)

308-4552.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Ground Hog has spoken, and winter is almost over. I am sure that most of you have spent the entire month of January and February sketching ideas, turning some nice vessels, spindles, jewelry etc. What a wonderful opportunity at the March 14 meeting to share those projects with the members and gather all the praise you deserve. Bring your projects, share your ideas, how you did it and how you finished them.

I am very impressed at the success and attendance at the Saturday Sawdust sessions. Thanks to Steve for putting this together. In attendance you can feel the energy and camaraderie of our members. If you are looking for new ideas, how to, or just a visit be sure to come down.

Lately the Ladybug Arborist has given us several opportunities to get saw felled tree wood. Many of you already have a method of preventing cracks in your logs from the drying process. My method for preventing this is simple. I save all the wax from candles, canning jars etc. Buy a small crockpot at

the Goodwill store, melt the wax to a liquid state and paint the log ends with it. If you are processing the logs to create turning blanks, remove the pit from the log then create your blank. The pit is what causes your blanks to crack and split.

We have a talented Demonstrator for June 1, all day demos. His name is Dale Lowe from Regina. What I can tell you now is that you do not want to miss this opportunity. Put it on your Calendar today. June 2 and 3rd will be hands-on learning at Dan Michener's Shop. I am so excited that he has consented to share his skills and talents with us.

Please sign up for the guilds June Demonstration. By signing up early you give your executive an idea of the numbers we need to plan for. There is a great benefit to watching a skilled turner work. Tricks of the trade, new methods, ideas and possibilities. This is a good deal. Just a note: You need to pay when you register in order to guarantee your spot.

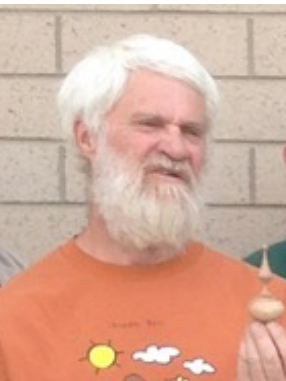
Remie Benoit
President

BEWARE

From time to time there have been attempts to acquire money from the guild by fraudulent means, usually initiated by someone obtaining leadership information from our web-site, then trying to get one of the executive to send money by etransfer, or another means, to someone else at the supposed request of the president.

This a very common scam. Please use your common sense if you receive such a request for money from *anyone for any reason*. If it looks odd, investigate verbally before sending money to anyone, even your grandchildren. Do not let your compassion, or desire to help, lead you into trouble.

IN MEMORIAM



Former Guild member **Jim Jones** passed away on 25 February, 2024.

Jim was our guild President in 2010 when I joined. Subsequently, he was our newsletter editor for a couple of years. Jim was involved in woodturning in the schools, having been a shop teacher himself for many years. After leaving the school system, he travelled to schools with his SUV full of small lathes, and taught students and shop teachers the art of woodturning.

Jim was an enthusiastic participant in guild activities. We have missed Jim since his stroke several years ago and we continue to miss him.

Dan Michener

The Chinook Woodturning Guild of Lethbridge presents:

Dale Lowe

WOODTURNER and ARTIST



Saturday 1 JUNE, 2024

Dale Lowe is a Regina based woodturning artist whose work is strongly influenced by his Saskatchewan roots. His embellished woodturnings are in many private collections and are part of a gift from The Government of Canada to Queen Elizabeth II.

Demonstration

Saturday 1 June 2024 9am - 4pm

**Registration: (includes lunch) \$60, Students \$30,
nonmembers \$75.**

**Location: Casa Building 230 - 8th St. South
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 5H2, Canada**

Registration:

Terry Beaton 403-308-4552 (terry_beaton@shaw.ca)

Remie Benoit 403-394-5750 (remiebenoit@shaw.ca)

(Registration will also be accepted at the door)

Hands-on Workshops

Sunday & Monday, 2 - 3 June 9am - 4pm

Turn a candle stick and then carve, texture and colour it.

Registration for Dale's full-day hands-on workshop is \$150. Nonmembers \$175.

**Do not miss this opportunity to learn from and be inspired
by a fine Canadian artist!**

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

A special thanks to Leigh Pylypiuk at Windsor Plywood for hosting our January 18th monthly meeting. We were made to feel very welcome with presentations, treats and prizes. It was well attended by about 15 or more guild members.



We received an informative demonstration by Antonio Reimer introducing us to the preparation and pouring of resin.



Rob Thomsen also demonstrated Osmo, his finish of choice. He applied it to a recently turned bowl created by Steve Munroe.



The remainder of the Osmo was added to the other door prizes which included gift cards, etc. Duane Thomson was the lucky member whose name was drawn first and he chose the Osmo. No surprise there.

We had a small Instant Gallery to share as well.

We were allowed to look around at inventory and ask personal questions. of our own interests.



JANUARY INSTANT GALLERY



Elm bowl - Roy Harker



*Steve Munroe's Vortex Bow
gifted to Windsor Plywood.*



*Dizzy bowl and small vases.
Steve Munroe*



4 Turned legs - oak.



Manitoba Maple - John Vandenberg



No explanation attached,

FEBRUARY SAWDUST SESSION

Fifteen of our guys showed up at Casa on Saturday for the February Sawdust Session.

Terry Beaton was making a pen and demonstrating the steps from roughing out up through polishing the finished piece.

Meanwhile, Steve Munroe demonstrated how his home-made donut chuck can be used to securely hold various shaped bowls or vases so the tenon can be turned off and the bottom finished. Steve says to modify the chuck to suit the task at hand.

Remie brought his Beall Buffing System for us to try. His is the 3 buffing wheels on a single shaft. The shaft goes on any lathe with an M2 taper while the 3 wheels each have their own buffing compound. Polishing involves buffing finely sanded objects sequentially, ending up with a brilliant carnauba wax finish.

Kenn Haase showed us his latest beautiful works and Paul McGaffey presented two amazing burl bowls. Everyone had lots to see and discuss.



Terry Beaton works on a pen body while Kenn Haase look on.



Remo Brassolotto tries his hand at the donut chuck.



Roger Wayman and Remo Brassolotto talk at once while Steve Munroe adjusts his donut jig.



Woodturners solving the problems of the world. Paul McGaffey, Remie Benoit, Norm Robinson.



Remie Benoit checks out the Beall Buffing System.

FEBRUARY SAWDUST SESSION cont.



Steve Munroe



A justifiably proud Paul McGaffey with Manitoba Maple burl bowls.



Solving all the problems: r. to l. Norm Stelter, Norm Robinson, Remie Benoit, Ross Robinson, Ken Bly.



His & Hers cremation urn, Birch with Sapele accent. Italian Olive Lidded Bowl and a turning twist of stained Cherry. - Kenn Haase

MARCH SAWDUST SESSION

Thirteen woodturners braved the winter storm to come to our February sawdust session. There were 2 lathes set up and Steve Munroe demonstrated turning a square platter without banging his fingers. As a bonus, Steve also demonstrated how to recover from the cross grained tenon breaking off while the piece is not quite complete. A broken tenon is not an uncommon problem but it is good to know what to do to salvage the piece, when, not if, the tenon lets go.

On the small Pioneer lathe Remie assisted John Austie with a burl'd bowl blank. Once the bowl gouge was sharpened they made good progress until the lathe decided it had had enough and it stopped. No amount of persuasion would convince it to restart, so the guys switched to one of the newer King lathes. They put it on a workbench to save the time of setting up the custom-made stand. That worked great until rot in the blank gave way and about 25% of the bowl went flying. No casualties, but no bowl either. By the time the blank was turned down enough to make it round again it was but a fraction of its original size and a little underwhelming compared to its promise when it left the wood store.

If it is true that mistakes and difficulties are learning opportunities, then this was one of the "learningest" sawdust sessions I remember. We all took home something from the morning.

There was much collegial discussion and a small instant gallery.



Kenn Haase looks on as Steve Munroe adjusts his chuck while the others are solving world problems.



Kenn Haase looks on as John Austie gets pointers from Remie Benoit.



John Austie, Remie Benoit and Earl Stamm review the finer points of bowl making.



Ken Bly's caragana lighthouse on top of a bundle of cutoffs from K.C.Doors Ltd in Stavely.



Brian Oliver and his beautiful bowl with the incredible finish.



Remie's lidded box.

BITS & PIECES

Ken Bly reports he has purchased good bundles of cutoffs from a facility in Stavely:

"I have gone there two times enroute to or from Calgary. It is K C Doors Ltd, a cabinet door manufacturer just off the highway in Stavely. They sell them for five dollars per bundle as "firewood". Go to the main office door on the south side of the building and ask for the "firewood". Some of the pieces in the bundle are just that, but there can be some good pieces."

Dan

GUILD BUY & SELL

Dick Wendel, who has quit woodturning, has **pen and pepper grinder mechanisms** for sale. He invites offers. Call Dick Wendel 403-327-2878.
Submitted by Dan Michener.

I'm in the market for a used chuck - Stronghold?
Or any larger chuck...
Paul McGaffey 587 220 6098

This is for personal equipment of individual members of the guild.
If you have items to include, please send an email to Roy Harker: nlharker@gmail.com
No business advertising!

Please notify [Roy Harker](#) if your item sells so that it may delete it from the list.

OPPORTUNITIES

Reciprocal Shop Visits. Lets broaden our horizons and promote camaraderie among our members. If you are willing to visit other turner's workshops and see the tools and tricks of their workspace, contact Norm Robinson to arrange a shop visit (text or phone 403-404-4428).

ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Scott Grove, a third generation artist (www.scottgrove.com, www.imaginegrove.com), is a woodworker, sculptor, and business man with multiple talents. His studio is in the Finger Lakes Region in Upper New York State. He also has a YouTube channel (ImagineGrove Woodworking). Scott has been around for a while and he is well known for his woodworking embellishment using mother of pearl, abalone, synthetic opal or silver. His work has been displayed around North America and he has published in American Woodturner and Fine Working magazines to name only a few. His first website (www.scottgrove.com) is a display of his different activities. Under the "Recent Work" tab you can appreciate the wide variety of his work. The urn and tallboy dresser forming the "Resting Place" is very interesting, creating for me mixed reactions. The size of his "Chair with a View" offers you the best seat in the house. His second website (www.imaginegrove.com) is highly commercial and is more a display of the products he sells and the instruction courses he provides. However, scrolling through these, you see numerous spectacular examples of his inlay work. I found more examples of his stellar work on a third website (www.easilyinlay.com) under the Gallery tab. I particularly like the stunning blue and black butterfly, the four-foot red and black bowl, and the wide rim plate with silver, blue, purple and black stone inclusions. Scott has been promoting the utilization of UV-catalysed resin (epoxy) which sets and cures quickly when you shine a UV light on it, or alternatively placing your work under the natural sunlight. UV-cured resins are available from many different suppliers but all offer quick and very strong binding, a major advantage for any busy woodturner. The placement of a few opal chips at the end of an ice cream scoop handle brings class to the utilitarian article. What a wonderful way to spruce up some work. On the different web pages and the YouTube channel, you can find different free tips on how to do different techniques. Of interest for us, some of his products are available from two suppliers in Canada (Simple Inlay in BC (www.simpleinlay.ca) and William Wood-Write in Ontario (www.penblanks.ca)). Scott will be at the AAW Symposium in May in Portland (www.aawsymposium.org). I am looking forward to seeing woodturning works with inlays from my fellow guild members in the coming weeks.

A recent initiative among woodturners, is the common monthly project where four turners produce a work under the same theme and present their respective work on their YouTube channels. The four turners are Richard Raffan (September 2023; www.youtube.com/c/RichardRaffanwoodturning/videos), Mike Peace (October 2023; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9yewJIUwUU>), Sam Angelo (May 2020; www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1zQH6_YjdM) and Tomislav Tomasic (future presentation; <https://youtu.be/F6-oPhd4-lc?si=hpJX2dxtK91hcHh2>). The YouTube links provided are related to the January 2024, for which the theme was a chess piece. Completely four diverse ways to see the challenge. If you follow the YouTube channel of one of these turners, we will see the 4-way new project at the beginning of each month and a link to the other corresponding works. It is very interesting to find out four different version of the same work. We had a glimpse of human creativity under a given theme when there was a President challenge in our guild a while back. However, I must admit that I did not contribute much to that monthly challenge.

André

WOODTURNER/WOODWORKER

for Paul

(To the tune of "matchmaker" from Fiddler on the Roof)

WOODTURNER, WOODWORKER, TURNING A BLOCK
LOOKS LIKE A STUMP WITH TWO GIANT KNOTS
CHANGING, TRANSFORMING ITS SHAPE, NOT ITS SOUL
SO NOW ITS A BEAUTIFUL BOWL!

FOR ELDERS MAKE AN URN FOR CREMATION
FOR YOUNG ONES MAKE THEM CUTE LITTLE TOYS
FOR OTHERS BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK
THAT BRINGS THEM YOUR PRESENCE
AND ARTFUL JOY!

WOODTURNER, WOODWORKER, SPINNING YOUR WHEELS,
FEET FULL OF CHIPS, FORMING WITH STEEL,
WOOD TURNING, LIFE'S BURNING, SHAPING WITH ZEAL,

FILL CRACKS SO THEY RING!
MAKE WOODGRAINS SING!
THEN POLISH THE WHOLE THING!
UNTIL ITS A MATCHLESS CRAFT!

your friend,
bob

Paul McGaffey requested this to be entered into the newsletter. At our next meeting he will sing this to us A Capella.

BEADS of COURAGE

October 31 2023 is our year end report. We have 5 new boxes for a total of 241 to date. We have a few boxes in storage so for now we ask you to donate Tops for the children. In 2023 we had 48 Tops donated to the program "Thank You" to all of you that have donated.

John VandenBerg
Beads of Courage Coordinator



**There seems to be an abundance of boxes for the time being so
keep those tops rolling in.
We await further information regarding Beads of Courage Boxes.**

Guidelines for Turned Treasure Boxes:

1. In order to hold the beads, turned boxes for the Beads of Courage program need to be about 6 inches in diameter (5 inches minimum) and 5 inches deep (4 inches minimum).
2. If possible, have "Beads of Courage" engraved or burned in the lid, or leave a place to insert a bead.
The round bead sizes are: 3/4 "+" with a thickness of 5/16" or 1 1/4" with a 3/16" thickness.
There is a rectangle bead that is 3/4" x 15/16" with a thickness of 5/16".
3. Make sure the lids are easily removable. Any finials should be easy for a small child to grasp and not too elaborate.
4. Finishing:
Children who receive these boxes are susceptible to germs/infections/mold. Bowls that have not been properly sealed can harbor mold. Ensure you are using a safe finishing process that does not contain toxic materials. Do not use finishes like linseed or walnut oil that take a long time to outgas.
Do not paint Beads of Courage boxes. Instead, highlight the beauty of the wood with clear varnish, stain, and/or burning.
5. John (John VandenBerg fayjohn@shaw.ca, ph. 403-380-0141) has the beads to be glued on after the box is finished. He has a limited number of them so will give them out, one per box, when you have a box ready. Contact him to request a bead.
6. Please complete a donation form with your finished box or bowl. You can get the forms at the Beads of Courage Canada website, or John VandenBerg will have copies of them.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

The American Association of Woodturners is a huge source of information on all things related to woodturning. This is a worldwide organization encompassing woodturners of all interests and skills. Many benefits accrue to members. If you are not a member you can check out their website here <https://www.woodturner.org/>. *We recommend membership to all our members.*

SUBMISSIONS REQUEST FROM GUILD MEMBERS

I again want to encourage any of you who have a story regarding wood and turning, or anything related, to feel welcome to write up your experience and submit it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.

It has also been quite some time since anyone has written an introduction of themselves to the Guild. Several new members have joined while we have not been able to meet. Please take a few moments to tell us about yourself, your experiences and your dreams and I will include it in an upcoming newsletter. (New members encouraged).

If you are not comfortable writing, contact me and we will work on it together. We would like to know you.

Roy Harker - nlharker@gmail.com

ABOUT THE GUILD

The **Chinook Woodturning Guild** was formed in September, 2004. The Guild's main emphasis is skill improvement and camaraderie.

mailing address:
% Casa
230 - 8 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
Canada T1J 5H2

Meetings - 7 pm - 3rd Thursday each month, Sept through June @ Casa building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

Sawdust Session - 10:00 - 12:00 1st Saturday each month @ Casa. Interested individuals are Welcome.

A map to the meeting location is found on our website.

[http://
www.chinookwoodturning.org/](http://www.chinookwoodturning.org/)



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