



# CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2024, NO. 4 · April 2024

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello, my Fellow guild members. If you are reading this it means that you have made it passed April Fool's day, Easter, and Easter Break if you have school age children. Hopefully during that time, you have had a chance to explore and perhaps create a turning to share at our next meeting.

A few years ago, after taking a class, I purchased an Arbortech Turbo plane. It attaches to a handheld grinder. An apple tree branch with a nice knot in the center presented a challenge for a winged bowl. Because of the shape of the branch and the location of the knot, I could not find a safe way to mount it on my lathe. While looking for an alternative, my Arbortech seemed to be the best option. Make no mistake, this tool will remove a lot of wood in a very short time. With the Brian Oliver demo last week, I was able to successfully remove more bark with an Air Sander and 80 grit paper.

I will bring the piece to the next meeting.

I am hoping that all of you are preparing to sign up for our June 1 Demo with Dale Lowe. This is an important undertaking by your club for you. We are only 8 weeks away from that event.

We are looking for someone to come forward and share their talent, challenges, and projects with the group at our meetings. It is difficult to approach everyone individually and ask if they would like to do a presentation.

Happy turning, remember: log on, log off? What did you make?

Remie Benoit  
President

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

### Apr 18, 2024 - Regular Monthly Meeting.

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Ray Routhier will demonstrate his bird and relief carving. His tools, techniques and painting. The decorative techniques could be transferable to our turnings.

Please bring along your recent projects for the **Instant Gallery**.

### May 4, 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.



### May 16, 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 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 - 8<sup>th</sup> St. South  
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 5H2, Canada**

### **Registration:**

Terry Beaton 403-308-4552 ([terry\\_beaton@shaw.ca](mailto:terry_beaton@shaw.ca))

Remie Benoit 403-394-5750 ([remiebenoit@shaw.ca](mailto:remiebenoit@shaw.ca))

(Registration will also be accepted at the door)

### **Hands-on Workshops - Open to All skill levels**

**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.

Classes will have about 6 participants and will be held in Dan Michener's workshop, about 20 minutes north of Lethbridge. Every participant will have a lathe to work on.

Bring your tools, face shield and smock, we will have spares if you don't have them.

Wood will be provided. Lunch is included.

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

## MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

During our meeting Brian Oliver demoed his method of finishing/polishing a bowl. His method relies highly on his auto body experience. He came prepared with a bowl that had already been finished with an automotive clear-coat finish. The bowl had been pre-sanded in readiness for the next steps. Brian demonstrated his finishing method on that bowl. On hand he had Meguiar's mirror glaze car polishes. He had medium cut and



swirl remover 2 , as well an air driven polisher. He took us thru the steps using the polish and the different buffers on the sander. The sandpaper disks are available at the body shop supply, such as Silver Automotive.

### Polishing Imperfections in Topcoats

Brian Oliver

If possible, leave the finish 7-10 days to cure before polishing. The harder the topcoat, the better the gloss.

If the imperfections are large:

- Severe orange peel.
- Large dirt or brush marks
- Craters or pits

start sanding with 400 grit sandpaper. I prefer wet and dry sandpaper with water, as the

water cleans the sandpaper and it lasts longer. The coarser the sandpaper, the more steps needed to achieve perfect gloss finish.

Proceed sanding with 600, 1000, 1500, 2000 and finally 2500 grit. Sanding with any finer sandpaper is not necessary as the automotive polishing compounds will remove the 2500 grit scratches.

With a course pad on a polisher start with a medium compound. Dampen the pad with a little water. This helps spread the compound.

With a fine pad on a polisher use a fine compound and polish. At this point the finish should be glossy. As the gloss increases lighten the pressure used on the pad.

With a clean fine pad, use a swirled remover and polish. If desired, you can finish with a wax.

**MARCH INSTANT GALLERY**



*Masterpieces by Roger McMullin.*



*Baltic Birch Plywood Bowl  
Terry Sutton*



*3-Cornered Bowl  
Remo Brassolotto*



*2 more Illusions - I'm sure he has  
trained minions that work all night.  
John Vandenberg*



*Ring Bowl, Bowl  
Remie Benoit*



*A Dabblewood  
Turning.*



*Three in One*



*Paul McGaffey*

*Live Edge Bowl with Wings*



*Manta Ray Bowl, Plumb Bob Vase, Wobble Box  
Steve Munroe*

## APRIL SAWDUST SESSION



Steve's mostly completed wobble box.

This month Steve Munroe invited the turners to try out his "wobble box", involving 2 tenons on the same blank to create a circular, off-centre, cup. Ron Kisko took the challenge and the two spent the morning carefully shaping and re-chucking the piece to produce the desired effect. This is a project which requires concentration and a steady hand, but it yields eye catching results.



Steve measures Ron Kisko's practice piece. Notice the blank is completely off centre on the face plate.



Terry Beaton makes the shavings fly. Maybe there was a shortage of face shields that day.

Meanwhile Terry Beaton and Remo Brassolotto Set up a small Delta lathe and practiced roughing out and shaping a small piece.

Dan Michener



Ron Kisko trims the eccentric. You can see the wobble on the spinning piece.



Ken Bly showed his Caragana lighthouses and his large poplar lighthouse with an internal light.



John Vandenberg is pleased with his beautiful Manitoba Maple burl plate.

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## ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Heather Marusiak is an amazing woodturner coming from the visual arts background. Her work is simply stunning! She shows some of her production on Instagram (IG @heathermarusiak) and on the AAW and WOW sites. She turns her initial work then cuts it, reassembles it, then carves it, burns it and paints it. She does it all with amazing forms and great success. Open her Instagram page (put the above link in your browser) and you will be travelling into a different but beautiful world. Her marine-like fantastic organisms are beautiful but at the same time un-stabilizing. Could they be new live biological species? These are the ones I prefer among her works. What are yours? When you click on an Instagram image, you get a title and an explanation of the work. I am sure you will be very happy that you did visit her Instagram page and that you will conclude that she is a remarkable wood artist. Heather's works will be presented in Portland in May under the POP Artist Show Case Exhibition, an opportunity given to only two emerging artists every year. She will also demonstrate two sessions: the first one about constructing and carving and the second about color theory to enhance forms. Quite an achievement for an artist who started turning only a few years ago.

Roy Harker reminded me at the last meeting about the videos present on the Craft Supplies USA website ([www.woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com)). There are about 130 videos from staff members and the number is always expanding. The goal of each video is very clear and each step of the project is systematically and carefully explained. It is a great source to get a feeling on "How could I turn this or that". The projects are numerous and their range is very wide including bowls, pots, hollow forms, boxes, plates, pepper and salt mills, mallet, sphere, tree ornaments and many different options for finishing your work. A marvellous resource site under the subsection [www.woodturnerscatalog.com/blogs/blog](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/blogs/blog). There are also tips on how to use different gouges including my friend, the skew. There are also videos on some of their products but those are limited. I am sure that you will find their instructional videos very well done and covering a lot of topics of interest.

In January, I told you how I relaxed about my lathe following the discovery of Shannon Berry and her foot powdered pole lathe. A few weeks ago, I had a moment of great humility when I discovered the astonishing work from a physically challenged woodturner from Australia. Dale presents his works on YouTube and his channel name is "Delbasid Timbers". I have two links for you: An introduction to Dale <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EY7-dot2pjU> and a beautiful turned mahogany crotch bowl <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoAi6RUpy0c&t=15s>. He has a few more videos on YouTube that you can easily find using the name of his channel. After these videos, I believe everything is possible. Let me know what you think.

Enjoy the Instagram link and the websites. Stay safe while you are in the shop.

André

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## 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 at the time being so keep those tops coming in. We await further information regarding Beads of Courage Boxes.**

### Guidelines for Turning 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](mailto: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.

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## 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.

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### 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](mailto:nlharker@gmail.com)

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### 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/>



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