



# CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2022, NO 7 · SEPT. 2022

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have been a guild for 18 years and currently, we have 42 members. This month marks the beginning of a fresh woodturning season for us. At a time like this it is appropriate to review what we did during the past season. It can be tricky to remember our guild activities, particularly during the periods of social isolation, and no face-to-face meeting, brought on by the pandemic, but our guild did a lot of things never-the-less.



We published ten monthly newsletters and had regular monthly meetings using Zoom until March when face to face meetings began. Sawdust Sessions began in April.

Despite the required masking for all, the Christmas At Casa sale saw our members sell over \$8000 of woodturnings. Also, we sold spinning tops for the benefit of the Lethbridge Food Bank, generating a donation of \$420, and \$560 worth of tree ornaments for a donation to the Regional Hospital Foundation.

In November Kai Muenzer presented an Interactive Remote Demonstration (IRD) on how to turn a dented box. In February, in collaboration with the other Alberta guilds, we had marvelous IRD's with Eric Lofstrom and with Malcolm Zander.

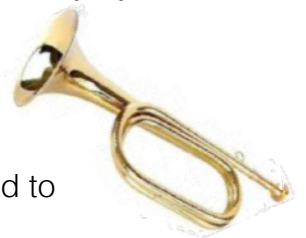
In April, the Casa Introduction To Woodwork class asked us to give their students an introduction to woodturning, which was a great success. August had us doing a two-day outdoor demo at Coyote Flats Pioneer Village. The crowd was thin and the turner

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

### September 15 – Annual General Meeting.

On Thursday 15 September 2021 at 7pm at Casa (230 8<sup>th</sup> St. South, Lethbridge, AB) we have our first meeting of the woodturning season. This will be our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** followed immediately by our regular monthly meeting.

The Chinook Woodturning Guild's AGM is an opportunity for the members to review the financial position of our club and to elect the guild officers for the upcoming year. It is also a good time for members to express concerns and make suggestions about the future direction of the guild. Please be there.



Nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary are now open, and will remain open during the AGM until voting time. André Laroche has agreed to act as the Nomination Committee. If you wish to nominate yourself or some other guild member contact him [gplaroche@telus.net](mailto:gplaroche@telus.net) or 403-393-5337. There will be a call for nominations from the floor during the meeting. The current Executive is Dan Michener – President, Norm Robinson – Vice-President, Terry Beaton – Treasurer and Roy Harker – Secretary.

**President Dan Michener and Vice-President Norm Robinson will not be standing for re-election. Filling these positions is mandatory for the survival of the guild.**

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## President's Message cont.

turnout a little spare, but those on hand had a pretty good time, and maybe we will have attracted a new member or two.

In the spring we began to have in-person guild meetings after two years. We had live demos, and two magnificent wood raffles from Harold Plumptre's donation and we got to see each other again after a long interruption. We also introduced programs featuring reciprocal workshop visits, occasional Saturday hands-on teaching sessions at Casa and Workshop

sawdust visits in which participants choose their own project. An end of woodturning season (whatever that is) BBQ at Indian Battle Park was a great finale and opportunity for me to catch up with so many of you.

The Annual General Meeting is upon us on 15 September. Our members must choose a new President and Vice-president. It will be an interesting meeting.

Dan Michener, President

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## SINCE JUNE

As usual, we didn't have any formal meetings during July and August. However, we had a couple of Saturday Sawdust Sessions when we could get together, swap tales of woodturning and try to show each other pictures of our creations on our little cell phone screens. Dan brought in his Vicmark captive hollowing tool holder so people could stand around and watch how it worked. André was the only one brave enough to have a go at using it. Terry showed a couple of turners the right way to use the roughing gouge. Dan also had some captive ring cutting tools to practice on. They worked well on a piece of Yellow Poplar. The watchers had lots to contribute, but nobody wanted to try using the tools. I don't know why it is so difficult to get woodturners to turn wood at our meeting place. We are all learners all the time.

Later in August we had a public demonstration at Coyote Flats Pioneer Village as our usual contribution to the annual Harvest Days. Thanks to Norm Robinson, Terry Beaton, Roy Harker, Suzi Tomita and Earl Stamm for helping to load up and set up the lathes and equipment. One member who hadn't been asked to help showed up to help do some woodturning. Thank you, Paul McGaffey. Special thanks to



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## Since June cont.



Dorothy Shelson who came on the Sunday and stayed until the bitter end, talking with those who stopped to admire the gallery table. Mostly we made spinning tops and other small things which we gave out to the kids passing by. The crowds were thin, perhaps because of the hot weather, but we met and talked with several wannabe woodturners who we may see at our meetings in the future. Norm and Terry returned all the equipment to Casa unaided.





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## ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

**Derek Weidman** is an amazing multi-axis wood turner (<http://www.derekweidman.com/>) capturing amazing representations of human and animal forms. His studio is located in Southeastern Pennsylvania where he concentrates on his hard to believe sculptural pursuits using a wood lathe. I am particularly impressed by his representation of his Doberman dog and of a zebra that you will find under the Gallery tab. Most of the work is done using multi-axis mounting of his work. I have difficulty seeing which order you would start the multi-axis work to end up with a representation of your favourite dog. Excellent puzzles for when it is difficult to find sleep. Please note that for many of the pictures presented under the Gallery tab, when you click on the picture you have access to representations from different angles for most of the works. He describes his approach by saying, "What would this look like if rendered through the lens of a wood lathe?" and he briefly explains his conception and approach to his work under his blog tab. It might help you to sleep...faster. I read from many different turners that a class with Derek will change your life as a turner for ever. He would clearly provide an out-of-the-box demonstration if he were invited for a hands-on session in Lethbridge. He also offers classes in many of the turning schools of the USA.

**Alain Mailland** is a unique turner mingling woodturning and sculpture in which the three dimensions and space around are very important in his very creative work. His studio is located north of Montpellier in southern France. Alain has been turning since 1987 and has had exhibitions in France and in North America since 1999. Over the years he has taught in Canada, USA and in many European

countries. Once you are on his website (<https://mailland.fr/en/alain-mailland-woodturner/>) click on the first tab, Retrospective, and you will be splashed by an amazing collection of different but exquisite and delicate works. Under the second tab, New, you will find a more recent collection of his amazing work. Do not miss the third tab, Texture, in which using close-up pictures of the surface of his brilliant work, he provides a strong lasting impression of the quality of his work. I was very overwhelmed by this section as well. Alain offers classes in his own studio as well as teaching in Europe and USA.

The third web site presents **Elisabeth Mezières**, a woodturner from France who use exclusively locally grown green wood. Her studio is located north of Montpellier in southern France approximately 100 kms from Alain. Her web site is in French so you might have to follow the instructions here. The second tab of her website (<https://www.elisabethmezieres.com/accueil/>) named, "À table", presents her unique collection of kitchen related utility objects displaying lovely forms. I particularly like the feet on her salad bowls and the spouts on some of them. The third tab, "Transparence", presents forms that are transparent and in many pieces you would be sure this is lace but it is beautiful, very thin, turned wood. This is real eye candy and my favourite section of her web site. I particularly enjoy the work done using the Mediterranean hackberry (*Celtis australis*, micocoulier in French). It is just so delicate. Elisabeth offers courses in her studio.

Enjoy the websites. I am looking forward to meeting you in a few days for our in-person September meeting.

André

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## LETTER to the EDITOR

I would like to share a few suggestions with the membership of the guild for some activities for the coming year.

I would really enjoy the following demonstrations: from Paul who generously volunteer for a "wild wood" demo, a turned baseball cap from John, the emerging bowl and the off centre double bowls from Steve, a session on wood placement for a bowl to get optimum figure and a demo on the off-center tool handle from Dan, the wedding wood wine glass of Remo, Roger W had photos of many different projects he did in the last year, any would be exciting. I have not seen the recent work of Roger MM, but I am sure we could have another exciting presentation, Remie had beautiful wing bowls. a hands-on session from Ross about cutting staves to make a vase, bowl or cylinder would be stimulating. Also, as I am expecting that the Christmas Tree Festival will resume this year, we will need a demonstration from 4-5 different members about their favorite Christmas ornament for the October meeting. Setting an active hands-on session to make ornaments as a group in early November would be very timely and fun. I realize that I have listed options for more than the year but it is nice to have options.

I am looking forward for a demonstration and hands-on weekend in next May and I would like to suggest Tim Soutar from Victoria BC (<https://www.timsoutar.com/>) who does beautiful turning and 'just enough' surface embellishment in his exquisite work. A Canadian would be safer for this year as the virus, whether we recognize it or not, is still around.

André

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## BEADS of COURAGE

### 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](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.

## GUILD BUY & SELL

### New to our newsletter.

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](mailto:nlharker@gmail.com)

**No business advertising!**

**Beaver Rockwell lathe** model 3400 in top condition with 1 hp motor.

André Laroche

403-329-6414



**Steady rest** - will fit 12 inch swing or smaller. Too small for me. They are fifty bucks new this one has never been used just collecting dust.

\$25

I live in Vulcan so email if interested.

Ron Kisko

[ronkisko@gmail.com](mailto:ronkisko@gmail.com)



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

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## THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

**T**he 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

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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.

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Canada T1J 5H2

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

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

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



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