



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2022, NO9 · NOV. 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been very busy since my last message. I am the chair of our condo executive committee (in Elkford, BC) with our AGM and dealing with the condo concerns.



The Guild concerns are also an important part of my activities; I want to thank Steve and Roy for helping out when I can't participate.

CASA Christmas Craft Sale

November 18 (5:00 to 9:00 pm)

November 19 (10:00 to 5:00 pm)

If you have some time and would like to help the Guild sell tops for the Lethbridge Food Bank, please contact me. If you have time, please turn a few more tops for the sale. Drop in and visit with the sellers.

If you have any suggestions, comments or concerns; please contact any member of the Executive. (contact info on last page)

We are going to have a busy fall. The Guild is participating in the Christmas Tree Festival with the proceeds donated to the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation. I am sure that André Laroche would appreciate more ornaments this year.

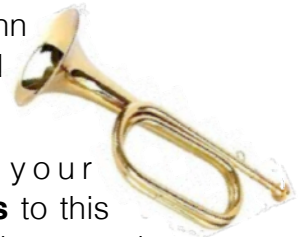
This is a chance to demonstrate your creativity and professional ability. This is a way the Guild can give back to Community. There is just 1 week left to complete the ornaments and tops. Please bring what you have completed to our meeting on November 17, 2022.

I look forward to working with all our members to advance wood turning in our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

November 17 7:00 pm

General meeting of the Guild (Casa - 230 - 8 Street South, Lethbridge). There will be a discussion on the considerations of turning a top. There are numerous design considerations in the process. After turning many tops I have come with quite a list. I am issuing a challenge to our members: turn at least 10 tops to bring to our December meeting. We give them to John Vandenberg for his bead boxes.



Remember to bring your **Christmas Tree Decorations** to this meeting so that André can decorate the tree for the **Christmas Tree Festival**.

December 3 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sawdust Session

December 15 7:00 pm

General meeting of the Guild (Casa - 230 - 8 Street South, Lethbridge).
Details to come.



Lest We Forget

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President's Message - cont. from page 1

We will require demonstrators for our monthly meetings; if you are interested, please contact me directly. We can discuss it and make the arrangements.

We tried something different for our October meeting, we sat in a large circle, it felt completely different. It was much more relaxed and we each got non-verbal clues to what was being said. I think we will do it again. I want to

thank Roger for an informative discussion regarding the design considerations, planning the projects, finishing and completing the project. I have only one criticism of his presentation; Roger said "the wood doesn't speak to you"; I disagree – the wood speaks to me all the time. Maybe Roger just isn't listening. Only my observation.

Terry Beaton, President

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Roger McMullin lead a discussion on considerations in designing a turned object. He suggested drawing a sketch of the object that is intended to be turned. The sketch will help give a visual presentation of the proposed turning and adjustments to form and balance can be made to the drawing before working on the lathe.

Roger also discussed the Golden Ratio/Mean which is about 1.62. This is a mathematical calculation derived from old civilizations and their architectures. Using the ratio will assist in making a pleasing form.

He suggested not to have a dead flat bottom of any turning but give it a slight chamfer or radius on the edge of the base. This would allow the turning to stand out from the display platform.

Members brought in objects that they may or may not be proud of. These items were discussed, suggestions were made on how to make improvements and forms that were pleasing were applauded. The group was able to glean good ideas from Roger's presentation.

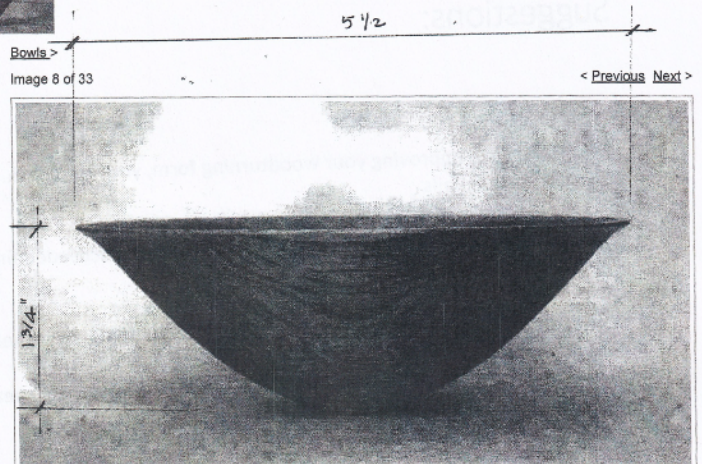


Suggestions:

1. Commit to improving your woodturning form, your turning & finishing details
2. Emulate work you find attractive (once you have succeeded find your own voice)
3. Plan your next project carefully (sketch it out with measurements)
4. Remember you are in control not the wood (wood doesn't speak to you)
5. Work in series
6. Be hypercritical of your design & the turning process
7. Concern yourself more about quality than quantity
8. View turning off lathe (on the chuck) before completing outside form (make adjustments as required)
9. Remember you are on a journey of improvement. There will be setbacks but thankfully successes
10. Enjoy your journey



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Bowls >
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Winner

This bowl won Best in Show and First in the Senior Class at the 2005 Ottawa Wood Show. At the 2006 convention of the American Association of Woodturners in Louisville KY, John Jordan (one of the world's top woodturners) held this bowl up and said: "This is about as good as it gets." When I posted it on the World of Woodturners website, Clay Foster, another international woodturner, wrote: "This is the archetype of a graceful bowl. Beginning woodturners should print this photo and hang it on the wall by the lathe as their model. A lot of woodturners are still looking for what you have found." The bowl also appears on the front page of this site. It is Butternut, and is 17.5 inches wide and 6 inches deep.

Website by CityMax.com [Website Builder](#)

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING - Cont.



OPPORTUNITIES

Reciprocal Shop Visits. To broaden our horizons and promote camaraderie among our members, we have started a program of drawing names of pairs of willing woodturners, who will arrange to visit the other one's workshop and see the tools and tricks of the workspace. Contact Norm Robinson to agree to a shop visit (text or phone 403-404-4428)

Terry Beaton

NOVEMBER SAWDUST SESSION

Our regular monthly sawdust session was held on Saturday, November 5, 2022.

Roy Harker demonstrated turning bird ornaments. They are made from small scraps of wood, preferably with some sapwood. Minimal tools are required and the head and body have a small sanded spot on each where they can be glued together with a small dab of CA glue. There is a possibility they will be demonstrated again at our meeting this Thursday. The group found this was a very interesting demonstration.

Rob Thomsen showed us how he turns spin tops.

Dan Michener demonstrated how he sharpens various tools. It was good teaching lesson for the turners new to the art of woodturning.

It was a cold and snowy day. A good day to be inside at the sawdust session and learn new techniques from fellow wood turners.

Steve Munroe



Some good fellowship!



INSTANT GALLERY



From the Sawdust Session.



Do you think John has little minions working for him? How can one guy do all of this?

ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

To keep up with the work of German turner **Björn Köhler** (<https://bjoern-koehler.de/en/>) that was referred to by UK turner Colwin Way (www.colwinwaywoodturner.com) last month, you can start by clicking the Christmas tab to discover modern Nativity Scenes with a barn and an amazing collections of figurines, these being inspired by traditional German depictions. The large collection of Santa's' statuettes in different environments is just remarkable and the skier and snowboarder representations made me laugh.

Björn leads the company Köhler Kunsthandwerk located in Eppendorf (Hamburg area), Germany that appears to employ about 24 workers, amazing for a woodturning outfit. From what I could gather, women's contributions are very much appreciated as there was a comment about much needed patience to glue up all the parts that make a complete figurine. It appears that a woodturner is required for turning different kinds of noses. If you are ready for some specialization....

I was captivated by the slide showing the woodturners' tools waiting to be put at work. These can be found under the Art and Craft section of the Manufactory tab. A simple set of 5 tools including 3 tapered skews and 2 spindle roughing gouges. In a production mode, I assume that you do not want to change tool too often to minimize waste of time.

All the other tabs include astonishing depictions of traditional people at Easter and

other times of the year. There is a musician series and the saxophone player is the best one. The well-wisher series is just amazing and the fisherman and the clown with a balloon are irresistible. Have a fun and relaxing time exploring this website that is so different than what you can usually encounter. And do not forget, there is a job opening for a turner specializing in turning noses.

Sally Ault is an Art major graduate who lives in San Diego (<http://www.sallyault.com/>). She discovered wood turning during a wood furniture class and never looked back. She turns beautiful boxes and her series with sea urchins are one of a kind. Make sure you see them under the Gallery tab. She also turns beautiful hollow forms with amazing finials made from branches. You must look at these vessels. They are astonishing. Sally also offers classes and demonstrations.

Bill Clark (www.instagram.com/bill_clark_woodturner/; www.woodsymphony.com/bill-clark/) is a wonderful turner who produces exquisite and unique boxes. His distinctive work includes relief carving and pyrography. Two of his preferred themes are dragon flies and cattails inspired by his youth while camping with his family in Maine and with ginkgo leaves in a variety of arrangements. If you are to look at a single website this month, this is the one to start with, you will have a few minutes of pure joy while scrutinizing Bill's elegant work.

Enjoy the websites.

André

RE“TURN” of the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

With the re“turn” of the **28th Annual Christmas Tree Festival**, November 20 – 23, we will need many ornaments made by the members as our Guild will be decorating a tree. In the past, we had a beautiful tree with 150-200 ornaments. This year, to no surprise, the slim tree is not available due to the ever changing chain-supply issue, we will have a full tree to decorate so I believe that we might need 250 ornaments to fill the tree. It would be great if you could bring your ornaments at the regular meeting on October 20th to get the momentum going on our Guild activity. May I remind you that the profits of this activity are going to the **Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation** and we will all benefit from this as soon or later in our life we will need to stop by the hospital for us or a loved ones. In 2019, our tree went for \$2400 which is a very nice contribution to the Foundation. I will take ornaments also at the regular meeting on November 17 as well and at home if you are absent from the meeting. If you are running late, let me know how many ornaments you will be supplying. But you can imagine that the stress level always decreases a lot when we have several ornaments in October. This year I am the Captain for the CWG team. If you need inspiration, please look at my website chronicle, there are suggestions for different ornaments although a nativity scene might be too heavy for the tree. A few volunteers will also be needed to set up the tree on Saturday morning, November 19 from 9:00 am until 11:30 or so for a lot of fun setting up the ornaments. Please let me know if you can help.

André 403-329-6414 (h)

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

No business advertising!

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

BEADS of COURAGE

I am ordering more beads for the beads of courage boxes, so if anyone wants to make some boxes for the program I will be ready. We received some boxes in the last months and also some tops.

Thanks to all who donated them.

John VandenBerg

Beads of Courage Coordinator



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: $\frac{3}{4}$ + " with a thickness of $\frac{5}{16}$ " or $1 \frac{1}{4}$ " with a $\frac{3}{16}$ " thickness. There is a rectangle bead that is $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{15}{16}$ " with a thickness of $\frac{5}{16}$ ".
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

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:
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230 - 8 Street South
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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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