



# CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS • VOL 2020, NO 7 • September 2020

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The guild's meetings and events run from September to September each year. In addition to our regular monthly meetings and sawdust sessions the 2019-2020 year saw our guild participate in 'Art Days' in September, with live demonstrations for the public, and in the 'Christmas At Casa' sale where we collectively sold \$5000+ worth of our products, and collected \$315 for the Lethbridge Food Bank from the sale of handmade wooden tops. We participated in the annual 'Christmas Tree Festival' – a benefit for the regional Hospital Foundation. We asked our woodturners to produce 170 handmade ornaments to decorate our tree. As usual, we produced more - 217 beautiful decorations. The tree was auctioned for \$2400 to Advantage Financial. Advantage is storing the tree for display in their offices again this season.

In February, 8 of our members mentored 13 school shop teachers for 2 days at the wood-shop at GS Lakie school. Everybody had a wonderful time and we were asked to do it again next year.

Our March 7<sup>th</sup> Sawdust Session was well attended, then Covid-19 came knocking and the world changed! Everything closed.

No meetings, demonstrations were out of the question. Our formula for a guild had been based on bringing like-minded people together for demonstrations, unstructured sawdust sessions, the instant gallery, the bring-back challenge, the wood raffles – everything went out the window.

We were faced with the question of how to maintain interest and engagement among members who cannot meet? Well, if we aren't adaptable we aren't woodturners, so we turned to the tools which we have, namely the internet and email.

Aiming to keep everyone up to speed, I send out lots of emails to the whole guild, maybe too many, but you can delete them if you wish. We have shifted the Instant Gallery to an email based 'Distant Instant Gallery' with members sharing photos of their work, and collecting the photos for publication in the newsletter.

Although, as a whole, we are not generally the youngest or most tech savvy group, our monthly general meeting and

(cont. on Page 2)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



- All members of the Chinook Woodturning Guild are urged to attend the Annual General Meeting on 17 September 2020 at 7pm.

The Annual General Meeting is where the members are brought up to date on the Guild's financial position and review our club activities during the past year. This is when the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are elected for the forthcoming year. This is also an opportunity for members to express their thoughts on the direction the guild is going and what they like or would like to change.

- The meeting will be via Zoom, an invitation will accompany further reminders.
- Membership fees: The Board of Directors has decided to have a "Covid 19 Pandemic Discount" in the amount of \$25.00 per Regular membership for the 2020/2021 Membership Year. This 1/3rd reduction would result in an annual fee of \$50.00 for regular members, \$32.50 for students and \$84.00 for family memberships. The fees will return to the 2019-2020 rates for the 2021/2022 membership year.
- Following the Annual General Meeting we will have a Zoom demo presented by Kai Muenzer. Kai will show us how to make a "touchless turned lamp". This demo is for our guild only. Lucky Us!! Kai would appreciate feedback following the presentation so that he can fine tune future virtual demos.
- Christmas At Casa art sale is being completely restructured due to the pandemic. We await further decisions from the Allied Arts Council.
- Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation Christmas Tree Festival is in the planning stages. As of 8 September they are unable to say if they will have physical Christmas trees this year. Never the less, it's always a good idea to make Christmas ornaments.

## COMING EVENTS

Schedule of Meetings, Demos and events

SEPTEMBER 17

AGM on ZOOM

7 PM Everyone needed.

OCTOBER 3  
22

Sawdust Session on ZOOM  
Monthly Guild Mtg on ZOOM

10 AM  
7 PM

NOVEMBER 7  
19

Sawdust Session  
Monthly Guild Mtg on ZOOM

10 AM  
7 PM

**Guild Meetings are cancelled due to the COVID-19 health crisis. CASA is closed to group gatherings.**

sawdust sessions are now virtual where the members connect via the internet using Zoom. Modern technology has allowed us to host excellent demonstrations by Rudy Lopez and Art Liestman. Our association with the other four guilds in Alberta have made possible dialogue and demos previously unavailable to us. Many professional woodturners are offering classes and demonstrations on line. However, these have a cost.

I believe that your board of directors' job is to provide the guild members with as many opportunities as possible to explore woodturning in whatever direction suits their fancy, and I think your membership fees should be used accordingly. As long as the guild can pay its fixed costs,

whatever is left over is to be used on woodturning related teaching, learning and entertaining.

Of course, I worry that members will lose interest and drift away during this difficult time, but I encourage our members to stay in contact where feasible and sensible, turn some wood, watch some demos and send in pictures of your works so we can share .

One day we will be able to have face to face meetings again. When we do, we'll have the largest instant gallery ever! Until then, relax, make some shavings, stay in touch.

Dan Michener, President

## Demonstrations

Rudy Lopez, from Tampa Florida, came to our guild, virtually, on 22 June 2020, providing us with an excellent, organized demonstration on how to make a winged bowl from a crotch on a branch.

The camera setup was just right. Affording us the behind the lathe view which we rarely get in a non-virtual demo. Rudy made clear explanations of tool use. Some of our members don't do much larger than pens so they don't get exposed to the why's and wherefores of gouges. Perhaps now they'll sneak out in the back yard with a pruning saw and harvest a branch or two to work on. It's called branching out. Some of us are out now making winged bowls!

Rudy's relaxed but informative style kept sixteen of us glued to our computers.

Thank you, Rudy!



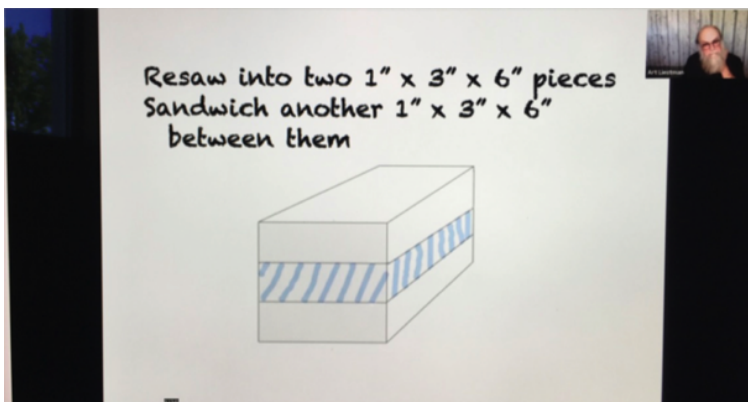
Art Liestman, from Coquitlam, BC, paid a visit to Alberta, via Zoom, on 27 August. Art is an internationally known artist and maker of "stuff". "I Just Make Stuff" being his job title.

Art's visit was sponsored by cooperation of all four of the woodturning guilds in Alberta. We were pleased that 65 woodturners tuned in.

The demo of The Lost Wood Process differed from most other demos in that it consisted of a slide show and video with Art narrating. This turned out to be a highly successful approach because it permitted perfect views of the process, prepared ahead of time, while allowing the viewers to ask questions while Art could stop or back up or emphasise whatever needed extra explanation. This approach also allows demonstrations which can't be done in a 90-minute time slot because of glue ups and prep time. In the Lost Wood Process the initial glue up is critical, can't be glossed over, but is time consuming so diagrams and pictures tell the story efficiently.

This was a highly organized, informative and entertaining demo.

Thank you, Art.



Art Liestman hiding in the top right.

To try to stir up enthusiasm, the Chinook Woodturning Guild made the Lost Wood Challenge. Albertans who send pictures of pieces they have made using Art's techniques are entered in a draw for sandpaper. We'll see how that turns out.

Dan Michener



## INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY



My latest bowl thanks to some inspiration and advice from Dan. Flame Manitoba Maple burl with inclusions live edge and resin. It was given to me a few years ago by a wood turner in Calgary and sat on my bench until I got some advice and inspiration. Rob Thomsen



Kenn Haase – Purple Heart



Terry Beaton was kind enough to give me a green crotch of Russian Olive and here's the resultant turning. I showed the roughing previously, a month in a paper bag with shavings, a couple of weeks in alcohol, and finished drying slowly in a microwave for a week or so. I still struggled with it wanting to split but patched it up a bit with resin. A simple bowl. Great character in the graining that originated from the natural crotch. Kenn Haase



John VandenBerg



## INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Here is a picture of a bud vase I am almost finished with. There's a lot of wood burning on it and iridescent paint on the squares. Still want to do some application of paint on the underside that is all still black. It was made from ash and oak, each four by fours that I swear I were petrified. Was the real challenge turning this piece. And then making the design took quite some hours. Overall I'm happy with it. And I should bring it to our spinoff for Christmas because it does a wonderful job of spinning. I intentionally left the bottom just very slightly round. Lorraine Mix



Roger Wayman with Alaskan Chainsaw Mill



Russian Olive  
Kenn Haase



## INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



I picked up some of what I believe is City Elm that I gathered behind Maureen's shop. Tried my hand at 'live edge' with a chunky bark.  
The top one is polished with just Orange Oil and Bee's Wax, the next with a couple coats of lacquer.  
Kenn Haase



Our son sent me a beautiful piece of spalted maple from the West coast for Fathers day. It turned out to be powder dry and quite funky inside, but I manage to work out this piece. It was a new experience for me because of the multiple textures in the wood it seemed to want to bubble instead of turning smoothly, and the more I tried to sand it the worse it turned out. Anyway here is the result of my effort.  
Kenn Haase



Here's the story . . . our son Randy sent me a two-toned piece of Granadillo wood. So my objective was to try and do something in such a way to show both the natural wood colors. I decided to try my hand at a triple axis turning, so I paper glued up a square and used a worm screw, but Granadillo is a very hard and heavy specimen and I didn't have any wood of equal density and weight to balance. So that proved to be my problem, I wasted a lot of wood trying to turn and keep a semblance of balance. Anyway, here's my apologetic result, plus a few cracking problems, it looks like an ash tray instead of a square bowl.  
Kenn Haase



Here's a sample of a recent turning from an Ornamental Crab tree that succumbed to weather in my neighbours yard. A very colourful and figured wood, About 6"W x 4"H. – Kenn Haase



## INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Rudy Lopez was demonstrating making a thin stemmed natural edge goblet at the AAW Symposium, so I thought I'd have a go. It happens I was pruning Green Ash and Mountain Ash so I had the nice fresh green wood.

Here are the results. I had to make bases because they won't stand up for themselves (cowards!).

Dan Michener



Had some time in my shop. Thanks to Dan I made a few of Rudy's projects the tall one is 10". Juniper wood.  
John Vandenberg.



A chunk of Ornamental Crab, dried in paper bag, alcohol, and finished in the Microwave, total of about 4 weeks. I was experimenting with some cross-hatching done with a Robert Sorby Texturing Tool and was somewhat sorry I did because it's a little heavy and kind of takes away from the natural beauty of the wood. I added some dye to the band. It measures 5" in diameter and 4" H. Finished with up to 800 grit sandpaper Orange Oil and Bees Wax.  
Name not submitted.



I cut up the Manitoba maple burl that I had. The ones on the left are burl the ones on the right are maple.  
Rob Thomsen



**INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.**



Roy Reti



Roy Reti



Roy Reti



Russian Olive  
vase. 12" H 5"  
in girth.  
Finished to 800  
grit, Orange Oil  
and Bees Wax.  
Kenn Haase

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**INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.**



I was given some juniper branches in the past week or two:



Juniper



Juniper



And some Scot's pine.



And some Elm.  
Dan Michener



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## INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



I saw Art's demo a few weeks ago and I thought I would try a few tea pots.  
Fun to do.  
John VandenBerg



Terry Beaton



Terry Beaton

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## ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

The event of the summer in the woodturning world for me was the AAW virtual symposium. Great weekend it was and being able to go back to the recorded presentations for a couple weeks was a nice feature.

Glenn Lucas from Co. Carlow, Ireland demonstrated turning and embellishment of one of his famous bowl. His demonstration was great and very smooth with great explanations on how to cut wood. He was very conscious of the audience and was responding to the questions. He did not show much of his shop as a new shop was under construction. You can find information on his work, his classes and his tools on his web site at <https://www.glennlucaswoodturning.com/>. He is also equipped for interactive remote demonstration. Perhaps we could have one of his demos for the Alberta clubs later this year.

We had Cindy Drozda in Lethbridge five years ago and she had an outstanding demo and a great hands-on class the following day. Great memories. She was also presenting at the AAW virtual symposium. Her presentation was impeccable and so well organized. An obvious model for many demonstrators on how to run a demonstration. Despite a minor mishap, she had a perfect sized spare part (in case...) so she could pursue her demonstration right away without any flaw. A mishap is always a unique opportunity to see how a demonstrator will figure out how to fix the issue. This is always a unique occasion to learn a lot

more about fixing an issue. Perhaps mishaps should become a part of any demo so we can learn how to fix things from an expert. I always benefit from these unplanned events. Her web site entitled "The Fine Art of Woodturning" can be found at <http://www.cindydrozda.com/>. In addition to her exquisite artwork, you can find her signature tools and many other supplies if you wish. Of interest, she is also a rep for a company selling a motorized respirator as health is important for all woodturners.

Rudy Lopez was another enthusiastic woodturner presenting at the AAW virtual symposium. Of course, we were spoiled when he presented an interactive remote demonstration for the Chinook Woodturning Guild members (<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org/>) at the end of June. His website with his artwork is found at <http://rudolphlopez.com/>. If you misplaced the handout for his presentation on the wing bowl, you could find it on his site.

Hope you had a great summer. I saw some very nice turnings from many members in the Email Instant Gallery during the summer. Keep these coming as I really enjoy seeing your work and it encouraged me to turn some items as well.

Enjoy the websites and happy turning!

André

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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

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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/>



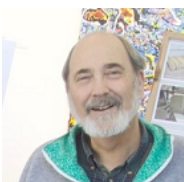
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