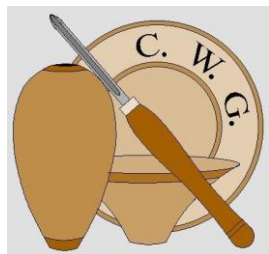


Chinook Woodturners Guild

Monthly Newsletter



Volume 15 – Number 5, Jan. 2016

President's Message:

A new year is upon us and 2016 looks to be a promising year. We are starting the year with a 2 day workshop for beginning turners and working to finalize arrangements for the André Martel demonstration and hands on workshop May 14 & 15, 2015. If there is enough interest we will run a second hands on workshop on the Monday. Our Beads of Courage Project is up and running and by the time you read this the Beads of Courage page on our website will be up and running as well.

As well 2016 brings a couple of woodturning symposiums fairly close to hand. July 22, 23 24, 2016 the South Saskatchewan Woodturners Guild symposium will have an impressive lineup of turners including David Ellsworth, J Paul Fennell, Jack Vesery and others. September 24 & 25, 2016, Great Falls Woodturners will host Trent Bosch. If you haven't been to a symposium, consider one for 2016. This is a great way to meet other turners, get new ideas and learn new techniques.

Being a new year is a good time to think about expanding our woodturning experience and projects. It is a time to consider stepping outside our normal comfort zone and turning space. I would encourage each of us to pick a turning project that is new to us, either something we have never done before or to take something we have done in the past but take it to a whole new level. For me, I thinking of a project that will force me to do more planning and incorporates several different techniques. It won't be a one session project but will rather take quite a bit of thinking and development time, (not a simple bowl for example). I don't

yet know what it will be but it will be a challenge and one that I hope will expand my horizons.

Best wishes to all for a very satisfying year.



Dan Michener – Lidded Box with Finial

Coming Events:

Jan. 21st - Regular monthly meeting at CASA
May 14 – 15th – Demo and workshop by Andre Martel – details to follow

Beads of Courage:

Thank you to all who made boxes for Beads of Courage. Those submitting boxes were: Bryan Matthews, Roy Reti, Suzi Tomita, Ross Robinson, Norm Robinson and John VandenBerg. These were all done and handed in

by the December meeting and have been sent off to Calgary. I am sure there will be some new boxes brought to the January meeting and I can't say enough about the efforts of our group to help make things just a little brighter for some sick child – this is just a great project and I encourage all of us to get involved. I know that I have tried twice this month to make one but unfortunately I blew them both up. It just goes to show us that we need to keep trying and that we are all going to have some mistakes happen every once in a while.



Roger Wayman – Coloured bowl

Editor's Message:

I would like to take a little time to thank Vern, Dan, Andre and all others who have helped me by sending in an article or information for me to include in the newsletters. Without Andre's pictures I would have a much more difficult time in putting it all together.

I am sorry that I missed the top turn off in December but hope that all had a good time and I congratulate the winner – Norm Shelter.

I also would like to thank all those who have taken on a box for the Beads Of Courage program – I am so impressed with this that I will no doubt be reminding you many times in the future about it and its worth.

Well the month of February will once again be a bit of a gong show for me as I will be doing 8 different workshops at 4 different teacher's conventions over the month. Lots of miles and a

lot of sawdust later I will be very relieved that it is over. I love it but seem to find the need to whine about it a little just to feel justified. So, I will not see you in February but hope to see you in March.



Roy Reti – Segmented Bowl

Email Addresses:

As with any organization, keeping an up to date email list is a challenge. Please try to keep us in the loop if you change emails – other wise you may end up missing this newsletter or other information that the executive decides they wish to share with you. If you do not get a newsletter (we will try and send it out a week before the monthly meetings) then please get ahold of me and make sure I have your correct email address. Thanks, Jim

Guild Website:

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

Diane Monroe still acts as our web master and our thanks to her for all her work in maintaining the site. It always worthwhile to take the time to add a few of your own pictures of new work. Having said that I need to do that myself and this time I will really try and actually do it. I said I would do it last month but have not gotten there yet. I did, however, find the time to go and visit the web site. It looks great.

The addition of the Beads Of Courage program to our web site is a great addition and I am happy to see it up so soon.



CWG Beginner Woodturning Course January 9 & 16, 2016

The first day of a two-day beginner woodturning course under the very able leadership of our President Vern Miller assisted by Jim Farr started on January 9 with five students. Given the outside freezing temperature everyone was very happy to be inside in the CASA workshop. The five enthused students were: Geri Chernezsky, Jarrett Bozzi, Jonathan Mah, Mike Deridder and André Laroche. The lathes were set-up by Jim and Vern Friday pm so we were ready to roll a few minutes after 9:00 am. All students enjoyed the instruction, passion, skills and explanations of Vern and Jim and numerous hand-outs. We had a lot of turning time on mini-lathes which was greatly appreciated. Suddenly, it was already time to clean the shop and store the equipment away for next week. Finally, thanks to club members Suzi Tomita, Allan Schaaf & Vern Miller for lending their mini-lathes to the students. This greatly contributed to the wonderful turning experience.



Top Turning Competition – Dec. 2015:

December 17 was the date of the annual Chinook Woodturners Christmas meeting.

After a few announcements and introduction of guests by the president, Vern Miller, and an update on the Beads of Courage project from John VandenBerg, the Guild settled into its Christmas meeting.

As is the custom, no demonstration was presented. Instead, the woodturners, willing and not so willing, turned small spinning tops from supplied maple blanks. The guild's three lathes were set out and turners took turns producing their personal style of top.

This top making was not a mere exercise in turning technique, but the first step in a cut-throat competition to see who could make a top which would spin longer than any other. Coveted and valuable trophies for the 1st place and 2nd place spinners were up for grabs, as well as a beautiful trophy for innovation.

Making the tops took about an hour. As contestants finished their pieces and gave up their positions at the lathes to the next turners, mini trial contests, with attendant grunts of dismay or quiet satisfaction, could be seen taking place around the coffee and donut station.

At last all the tops that were going to be made were made, and it was time for the final spin-off. Tension mounted as Vern announced the rules: Contestants would pit their tops and skills in pairs, starting with two volunteers. The top which spun the longest would then be paired with the next volunteer's top, while the loser was out of the contest. This was brutal stuff!

As the spin-off got underway nobody would have predicted what happened next. Norm Stelter's top spun long and true, time after time, defeating all challengers. Although there were some tense moments, Norm's technique on the lathe and in the spinning won the day. Congratulations Norm!!

Norm will get to hold onto the Golden Top Trophy until next Christmas. Vern Miller was



runner-up and received the Silver Top Trophy, Well done Vern! The much sought after Blue Top Trophy for innovation was awarded to Roger McMullin, whose long stemmed top allowed him to launch with two hands, thereby generating great speed. Great engineering Roger!

Following the competition members relaxed and discussed items in the instant gallery and plotted strategy for next winters top spinning competition.

Dan Michener

31 December, 2015



Interesting Links:

These are both links to articles written by the AAW. Mike Hosaluk has demonstrated for our guild at least once – myself I have seen him 6 or 7 times over the years and he is great.

Segmented Woodturners Symposium

The Segmented Woodturners, an online chapter of the AAW, is holding it's the 5th symposium on Oct 27 - 30, 2016 in Quincy, MA. Rotations and panel discussions, geared for the novice to the accomplished, will cover all aspects of segmented turning from tools to marketing. Additionally, there will be an Instant Gallery, raffle, Saturday night banquet and awards, turning exchange, vendor area, and spouses' activities.

Demonstrators for 42 rotations are;

- John Beaver
- Malcolm Tibbetts
- Jerry Bennett
- Bruce Berger
- Andy Chen
- Robin Costelle
- Ray Feltz
- Tom Lohman
- Mike McMillian
- Wayne Miller
- Al Miotke
- Jim Rogers
- Bob Benke
- Gary Woods

Panel Discussions;

- Marketing Your Work
- Photography - Making your Artwork Stand Out
- Creating Effective Designs

Full Brochure and Registration can be found at www.segmentedwoodturners.org or by contacting Wayne Miller at wayneomil@segmentedwoodturners.org.



Roger Wayman's Bring Back Piece



Alan Schaaf – Lidded Box

Anniversary Profiles

Michael Hosaluk, Member #487



What motivated you to join the fledgling AAW?

I was at the original meeting at Arrowmont in 1985 where the idea was conceived to start the AAW. I remember there was Dale Nish, Albert LeCoff, Ray Key, David

Ellsworth, Bob Rubles (the first director) myself and a few others talking about starting an international organization and look where we are today!

When you look at your pieces from 1986, what do you see?

I see pieces that challenged woodturning and stretched the limits of interpretation of woodturning. Important for our field to grow.

Who or what was your greatest teacher?

Del Stubbs and my father, not for woodturning but making things.

What was your funniest turning moment?

Mark Sfirri turning a baguette with his French hat on. There are many! Another funny moment, also when teaching, was when Betty Scarpino and cohorts made a piece titled *Blue Balls* in response to a piece Bob Bahr and cohorts made of a female figure. You had to be there to appreciate the fun and laughter that ensued.

What was your happiest turning moment?

There are many but it was at Emma Lake and Del Stubbs and I woke up early, 6AM to get on the lathes before anyone else and David Ellsworth was there also so here I was, turning between the two people who have had the greatest influence on me in woodturning.

What is your favorite tool and/or wood and why?

A 1/2" detail gouge because I can do so much with it, and arbutus/madrone because it makes any woodturner look good.

What do you see as the biggest change in the field?

That is has become international and as a teacher I have travelled the world sharing knowledge with an amazing bunch of people and the introduction of any material to explore new designs and concepts.

If you couldn't be a woodturner, what would you be instead?

A chef.

Do you still have American Woodturner back issues? Where do you keep them?

I donated them to the library of our local Woodworkers Guild but kept the ones that I am included in.

Has being a part of AAW affected your life and work? How?

I have lifelong friends because of the AAW. It has allowed a forum of exploration and experimentation in my work and a support group to discuss ideas of education and anything else in life.

What's your favorite project/piece?

It is hard to define a favorite piece but there were some pivotal ones. I was teaching at Arrowmont in the late '80s and cut up blanks for everyone to turn a piece and add one other material to the bowl each would turn. By the time I chose a piece it was the worst out of the bunch but proceeded to make a vessel. I always encouraged students to see what other classes were doing to try and generate new ideas. Dorothy Gil Barnes was teaching basketry and I was taken with the notion of incorporating willow into my bowl. The piece travelled with me from Tennessee to Australia and along the way many objects were added as I travelled. When it was finished I titled it *Travelling Bowl* as it represented many experiences and objects collected on this journey. The significant aspect of this piece was not the beautiful wood, as it was a junky piece of sassafras, but more the ideas that we possess that can transform nothing into some of great value(not only monetarily) and beauty. I still make pieces in this series as I travel and it opened new doors to my making of objects.

Favorite piece turned by another artist?

Again there are many pieces in my collection that I cherish and hold dear as the friendships that come with the history of the objects. There is one that stands out and I don't own it or know the name of maker. I was teaching an advanced class and the school to make

enrollment asked if a person could take the class who had no experience and I welcomed him as we all have to start somewhere. My beginning classes is to learn the basics, my advanced is to use the basics to advance. This person although roughly hewn made a piece that represented place, the school where we all were, the students who collectively helped each other and me as the teacher. The piece brought a tear to my eye and taught me that everyone counts no matter and the essence of a piece can trump skill and material. I think sometimes students are sent to teach the teacher.

If you could give your 30 years-younger self some advice about being a turner what would you say?

Never stop learning, try everything that comes to mind and have fun.



Norm Stelter – Segmented Bowl



Suzi's Bring Back Piece – Nov. 2015



**Roger Wayman's Bring Back Piece
From Suzi**




Roger Wayman – Natural Edge Platter


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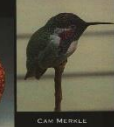
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JBMILNE@ACCESSCOMM.CA

AAW AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS



Dan Michener – Winged Bowl



Roy Reti – Segmented Bowl



Dan Michener – Natural Edge Bowl



About the Guild

mailing address: c/o CASA
230 - 8 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
Canada
T1J 5H2

Meetings are at 7:00pm
the third Thursday of the month
Sept thru June
at the CASA building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

a map to the meeting location can be found on our website

Executive

President: Vern Miller 403-892-6729
Vice-President Dan Michener 403-3319177
Secretary Mike Deriider 403-223-5893
Treasurer André Laroche 403-3935337

Newsletter Editor Jim Jones 403-687-3111

Website <http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

the Guild is a member of - Allied Arts Council, Lethbridge, the Society
of Canadian Woodworkers and a chapter of the American Association
of Woodturners

the Chinook Woodturning Guild is incorporated under the Alberta
Societies Act and is a non-profit Society