



CHINOOK WOODTURNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

January 2009

With its January meeting, the Club will enter its sixth year - how time flies!

The Club was quite active during the Fall, starting with the Allied Arts Council Art Walk on 12 - 14 September. We had displays and demonstrations at the Lethbridge Public Library and the Galt Museum. Both venues attracted a good deal of interest. Demonstrators at the Galt were challenged to produce athletic spinning tops; initial efforts behaved in a somewhat drunken fashion, but by the wind-up, they appeared able to invert themselves on command! Thanks to Jena and Teresa with the AAC and to Rosemary Fodor for the invitation and Wendy Aitkens and her staff for providing the space and support at the Museum.

The regular September meeting featured a comprehensive presentation on tool handle design and construction by Vern Miller. Jim Farr introduced members to the Point Tool - a sort of “no catch” skew. Members also made some tools.

The Club was able to complete its Tree Ornament Project, started in 2007. Prior to the October meeting we had about 3 dozen ornaments. The number was nearly double that following the October hands-on session. Enmax agreed to sponsor a large tree for us at the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation Tree Festival. With this encouragement Club members turned over 135 ornaments! The Tree generated much public interest and many positive comments. It sold at auction for \$600, a bit of a disappointment, but with the Enmax sponsorship, it generated \$1600 for the foundation. This was a learning experience for all of us. If members decide to be involved next year, the executive will solicit bids from businesses prior to the auction. Ornament turners included Doug Campbell, Bryan Matthews, Harold Plumpton, Vern Miller, Dennis Delaney, Allan Schaaf, Jim Jones, Warren Wilde, Claire Norton, Norm Stelter, Jim Farr, Terry Beaton and Roger McMullin (Apologies to anyone missed!) Special thanks to Laurie and Tom MacLaughlan (chair, LRH Foundation), purchasers of our tree!

Jim Osonton was our guest for the October meeting. He demonstrated the finer points in turning captured-ring goblets and lidded boxes.

The November meeting introduced members to diverse ways of cutting threads in wood. Roger Olson, who hasn't chased a skirt in decades showed us how adept he has become at chasing threads!

Five Club members participated in the Bowman Arts Sale at the end of November. Total sales were \$2295, our best to date and a reflection of the improvement in members' skills and the public perception of our work.

The December Club session gave the members an opportunity to demonstrate and improve their

top-turning skills. Dennis Delaney made it clear that he had engaged in secret post-graduate sessions since his debut at the Galt Museum and won the spin-off.

The Lethbridge Public Library again made display space available to the Club. Over 2 dozen samples of members' work was on display there during December. Special thanks to Bernice duGuay and her staff for the opportunity.

MEETINGS IN 2009

Members get together at Roger Olson's cabinet shop, near the McNally School, just beyond Stewart Siding on the third Thursday of each month. The January session will be devoted to small scale turning. This could include jewelry, pens, gifts for grand kids (tree ornaments??) Etc.

In February, Robert Martin will do a presentation on photographing your work.

In March we will discuss woodturning design with opportunities for comment on samples of members work.

Trent Bosch, a highly innovative turner from Colorado will be our Guest Turner at the April meeting.

Possible future subjects for meetings include: -tuning your bandsaw/ chainsaw and pricing and marketing your work. As well, we hope to organize a field trip to see Cameron Farm's copy lathe in action. The executive plans to observe the annual turning demonstration which Jim Jones has been organizing in Okotoks for several years now. Hopefully this will assist us in organizing similar projects in our area.

-The Club's website would benefit from your updates! Use the Contact Webmaster link at the bottom of the Contact Us page if you have photos.

- Did You Know ? that Woodchuckers' Turning Supplies records a small credit (3%) toward future Club purchases if you mention it in your order.

- Here is a website chock full of useful turning tips:<http://www.laymar-crafts.co.uk>

PLEASE CONTACT AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

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