



Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2017, number 2

Oct 2017

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site
<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

President's Message

Musings from the Pres.

(aka President's Message)

Last summer my friend expressed surprise when I said there was a lot of organization involved in the Woodturning Guild; "What is there to organize, you are a group of woodworkers". I agreed with her, but pointed out we do a few things as a group:

- We have 10 monthly evening meetings, which feature a look over the Instant Gallery, a view of the latest Bring-back piece and selection of the next guy to do a Bring-back, and we always have a demonstrator doing a hands-on project.

- We have daytime "Sawdust Sessions" one or several times a month in which members can come to the woodworking shop and get down and dirty with wood and tools.

- We sometimes put on beginner woodturning courses for new or hesitant members.

- We sponsor a Christmas Tree for the Hospital Foundation charity auction. Our members produce around 160 hand-made ornaments for the tree (No other tree has hand-made ornaments). This project usually raises several thousand dollars for the Hospital Foundation.

- We hand make turned wooden boxes for the Beads Of Courage Foundation for very sick children. To date we have contributed over 100 boxes in which children can store their beads.

- We make spinning tops, which are sold before Christmas for the benefit of the Lethbridge Food Bank.

- We give a basic hands-on introduction to woodturning to a group of Boy Scouts each year.

- We have a two and a half month show in the Picture Butte Art Gallery in which our members have placed their finest work. This beautiful display has a write up in the Sunny South News.

- We put on public woodturning demonstrations several times each year. These are usually all day events to introduce curious people to the art and craft we love.

- We have a website with lots of information about our Chinook Woodturning Guild. (<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>)

- We participate in the Casa Christmas Sale every November where our members meet with the community and offer their products for sale.

- We bring world famous wood turners/artists to Lethbridge to demonstrate their talents and conduct hands-on workshops. This often attracts woodturners from other cities.

- Most of all, we communicate with one another about our shared passion for the wood and the techniques of woodturning. This is where the real payoff is.

We can be proud of our Guild, we do lots of stuff!!

Dan Michener 10/12/2017

Coming Events

Schedule of Meetings, demos and events

this schedule is also available on our website

****Regular meetings are held the third Thurs of each month Sept to June**

Sept – Nov, 2017 – Picture Butte Art Gallery woodturning exhibition	
Oct	7 Sat, 9am-1pm Casa. Hands-on pen making .
	14 Sat, 9am-1pm Casa. Christmas ornament sawdust session.
	19 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. Tool making workshop.
	21 Sat, 9am-1pm Casa. Hands-on handle making.
Nov	16 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. Twice-turned bowl demo by John VandenBerg.
	17, 18 Christmas at CASA sale
	22 Wed, 9am – 1pm, Casa. No particular topic
	22 Hospital Foundation Christmas Tree sale
Dec	21 **Thurs, 7pm. Casa. Social, top making, spin-off, egg nog.
Jan 2018	18 **Thurs, 7pm Casa. TBA, Dennis Delaney.
Feb	15 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. Turned cabinet with drawers, Kai Muenzer.
Mar	15 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Dan Michener.
Apr	19 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Jim Jones.
May	17 **Thurs, 7pm, Casa. Pepper mill, Norm Robinson.
	19 Sat, visiting artist J. Paul Fennell, all day demo
	20 Sun, J. Paul Fennell, full day hands-on workshop.
June	21 **Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. BBQ.

From the Editor

Welcome to our new Board of Directors

President:	Dan Michener
Vice-President	Norm Robinson
Secretary	Richard Shelton
Treasurer	André Laroche

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Jim Galloway's wife. Laura was battling cancer.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim and his family.

We publish our newsletter for several reasons. We try to send the newsletter out by the Monday evening of the week our regular meeting is being held. This helps serve as a reminder of the meeting which is just 3 days later.

Our newsletter is meant to inform our members and other people who are interested in our Guild's activities of things we have done & things we are planning.

The newsletter also helps document some of the history of the Guild.

When they are available it is also a vehicle for passing on tips, techniques, photos and other interesting items to our members.

We always welcome submissions from our members and thank those who have contributed in the past. Please feel free to write a short article describing or commenting on an event you have attended, send photographs or the address of a website you have found interesting and/or helpful.

send submissions to verntheturner@gmail.com

It takes a lot of work to put the newsletter together and the help of Guild members is appreciated in making the newsletter better.

Thanks to Dan Michener, Andre Laroche & John vandenBerg for their contributions to this newsletter.

Email addresses

Keeping our email address data current can be a challenging job. If you have changed your email address please let the newsletter editor know so we can keep our records up to date and so that you will receive newsletters and announcements in the future.

Guild Website

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

Beads of Courage

chairman: John vandenBerg

.Our club has made 115 beautiful boxes to date, and we appreciate any more you turn for the kids. Our next delivery to Calgary will be in mid December so keep them coming.

It's great to see our guild supporting this program and a special thank you to the members who have made Beads of Courage boxes to date. If you need more beads I will have some at the meetings or call me at 403 380-0141.



BofC-Sept-2017-Arnold Siemens



BofC-Sept-2017-John VandenBerg



BofC-Sept-2017-Remie Benoit



BofC-Sept-2017-Remie Benoit



BofC-Sept-2017-Roy Reti

Bring Back

Bring Back is a Guild program where at each meeting a member is given a block of wood to turn. The member turns something from the block and brings the result to the next meeting along with a block of wood which is given to a different turner to take home and produce a turning for the next meeting.



BB-Sept-2017-Harold Plumpton



BB-Sept-2017-H Plumpton Russian Olive for John VandenBerg

Guild News

by Dan Michener

Our Dennis Delaney has performed a Herculean feat! Last summer Dennis was approached by a representative of the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce who asked if he would like to make Lethbridge themed wooden cups for the participants in one of their events. Always the obliging guy, he said OK and produced a few prototypes. One pattern was selected and an order for 90! cups was placed. Many would have said 'sorry I can't do that, life is too short, my attention span isn't what it ought to be'. But not Dennis!! In production mode, full speed ahead he produced 108 perfect turned pieces.

Truly this is one for the record books.



Dennis Delaney-bridge vases

Sawdust Sessions / Hands-on Workshops

This season the Woodturning Guild is scheduling occasional “sawdust sessions” or hands-on workshops which will run at Casa, often, but not only, on Saturday mornings, in the week or two following the regular evening meetings. Sometimes the workshops will be oriented to the most recent demo or some particular project, but we hope sometimes they are unstructured times to get together and talk about or explore a variety of woodturning topics. This is sort of an experiment and we may make changes as the year progresses.

Casa has a program in which they will allow any of us to use the workshop without paying the \$20/hour fee if we have each undergone a safety orientation and signed a waiver to become a Daily Member. There is no cost for this, but there is a charge of \$5/day per person who is using the workshop. This is enormously cheaper than the Guild paying \$20/hour. Therefore, whoever attends a hands-on session will pay \$5. Casa has agreed to reserve half-day time slots for us. The normal monthly evening meetings will continue as before.

During the first meeting of the season, on 21 September, about 22 members received the Casa woodshop orientation and signed waivers. Members who missed this must make arrangements to sign up and get oriented if they want to attend the daytime sessions. This can probably be done at the time of the workshop without delaying the start time. Talk to a Casa staff member or a board member of the Guild to set this up.

When you come for a morning sawdust/hands-on session you must sign in at the front desk before joining the woodturners in the workshop. Pay the \$5 fee to André in the woodturners. Casa will invoice the Guild at the end of the month.

I hope these open sessions will encourage members to further explore their interest in woodturning and add to the enjoyment we have in our woodturning passion.

Dan Michener

Too bad some of you couldn't come to the Thursday night meeting in Sept. We had a mass orientation to the woodshop by a CASA staff member. This allows each of us to attend the daytime sawdust sessions and workshops at Casa.

If you were not at the meeting and want to attend any of the new sessions you must have the woodshop orientation (mostly safety procedures) and sign the Casa waiver.

Please go to Casa on your own time, tell them you are with the woodturners and request a woodshop orientation. Otherwise you may not be admitted to the daytime sessions (Casa's rules, not the Guild's). Casa staff are very friendly and helpful and the orientation takes about 15 minutes and costs nothing.

Thanks,
Dan

Sept 2017 meeting

I was unable to attend the Sept meeting. From all reports Terry Beaton gave an excellent demonstration on pen turning.



Terry's pen from the demo

This was followed up by a sawdust session with Terry on pen making

Pen Making with Terry Beaton

Following Terry's pen making demonstration at our Sept meeting, a Sat sawdust session was lead by Terry. Each of the 5 attendees made a pen from pen kits and pen blanks Terry made available from his personal supply

Terry did an excellent job of guiding and helping each participant through the various steps and procedures of making a pen.



LtoR -Richard Shelson, Terry Beaton, Dan Michener, Terry Baker



Pen blanks



Some of Terry's pens



Dan Michener, polishing his pen



Terry Baker working on his pen



Vern Miller working on his pen



Terry Beaton explaining how to select the orientation of pen blank

Art Walk 2017

Participation in the Art Walk weekend is a long tradition for our Guild. With this activity, participation of the membership is needed. This year participation of the membership was limited and your thoughts and interest about this event are needed to see how and if we will participate next year.

Like every year we did get a lot of smiles and thanks from kids and their parents for the turned tops. We did hand out brochures to prospective members, explained wood turning to bystanders and publicized the upcoming Christmas market where many of our members participate.

The contribution of member turners Dennis Delaney, Richard Shelson, John VandenBerg, Jim Farr, Ross Robinson, Norm Robinson and André Laroche was greatly appreciated. Finally we did demonstrate only on the Saturday as I did not get enough volunteer to do so on Friday afternoon. Saturday we did enjoy turning outside sheltered from the wind under the tent provided by Norm Robinson. Thanks for the tent and set up and take down Norm. It was unfortunate that we lost our previously assigned inside spot on Sunday within Casa.

I am looking to your feedbacks and comments about this event before we initiate our discussion with Casa for next year.

André Laroche
gplaroche@telus.net

Lethbridge Hospital Tree Project 2017

This year the theme of our Tree will be "Canada 150 with 150 ornaments made by Canadians". We want to celebrate the sesquicentennial year of our country by contributing 150 hand-made turned Christmas tree ornaments representing each year of our beautiful Country. Since we are a federation of 10 Provinces and 3 Territories, our tree will exhibit at least 163 ornaments. As for the previous years all the members of the Chinook Woodturning Guild are invited to make tree ornaments with Canadian pride to celebrate a century and a half of collaboration. The number of ornaments, 163, is high but only slightly higher than the record number of 161 ornaments that we made last year. So the challenge is on to get to 163 ornaments this year. We have only a few weeks to reach this objective, we are holding a sawdust session October 14, 2017 at Casa starting at nine where the lathes are out for making ornaments,. Hopefully you will be very numerous to show up and kick start the making of tree ornaments. Then we will collect ornaments next Thursday October 19 at our regular meeting. Last day to contribute ornaments will be November 16.

This will be the 25th Annual Christmas Tree Festival and your individual contribution is needed to make it a success. The profits for this event are going to the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation which is a great cause.

Volunteers to help setting up the tree on Saturday morning November 18 will be needed. Please let me know. Viewing of our tree and the other trees will be from Sunday, November 19th until Tuesday, November 21st.

Picture Butte Art Gallery exhibition

The Guild has an exhibition of our members work in the Picture

Butte Art Gallery from Sept through to early November. It is an excellent display of a broad range of member's work and is being well received by the community. Here are a few photos of the display which takes up a fairly large room.

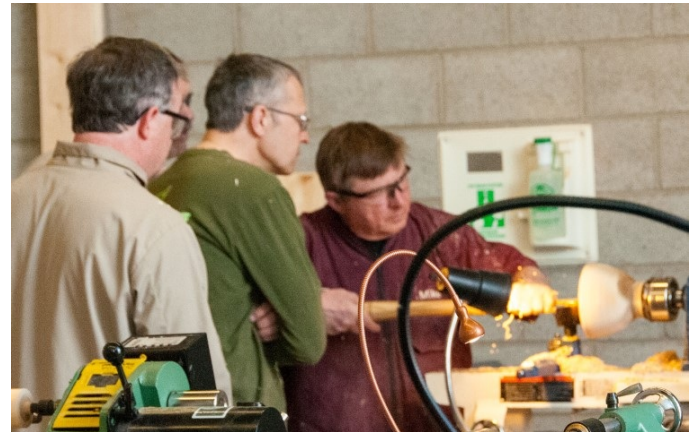


There was a very nice writeup of the exhibition in the Sunny South News (a copy of the text is at the end of this newsletter)



Photos from our Guild demonstration at Coyote Flats Pioneer Village last summer (2017)





Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery - Sept 2017

Here are a few photos from the Mike Hosaluk demo & the hands on workshop last spring



Norm Stelter

Woodturners display work in Picture Butte

Posted on October 11, 2017 by Sunny South News

A final reminder

We need tops for our November sale at CASA Nov 17. They don't need to be fancy, in fact plain with a little colour & or texture is perfectly good. All the proceeds from sale of these tops is donated to the Food Bank.

Please make a few and bring them to our next meeting or get them to the sale on Nov 17, Thank you

Christmas Ornaments needed

Please make at least 2 or 3 (more if you can). It is best to get them to André either at our next meeting or as soon thereafter as you can. It is pretty nerve racking if we have to wait until the last minute not sure whether we have enough or not.

Photo
by

Nikki Jamieson

article By Nikki Jamieson

Sunny South News

A new art exhibit in Picture Butte shows off the beauty of wood.

The Chinook Woodturning Guild is displaying their favourite wood pieces. With ten different wood turners displaying pieces such as ring, bowls, vase, decorations and mugs, if you can think it, they've probably done it.

Jessie Malmberg, member of the Picture Butte Art Gallery association, was invited to a guild meeting to demonstrate illustration techniques. She got to know Dan Michener, president of the Chinook Woodturning Guild and she and other member of the art gallery association asked if the wood turners would be interested in showing their work in the gallery. Thinking it was a good idea, the guild accepted the invitation.

"We didn't know we would have such a beautiful display set up," said Michener.

"Talking with Dan (Michener), we thought it would be so interesting for people to know what different things could be made out of different types of wood, and whatnot," said Malmberg.

"You can look at a bowl and say, 'Well, I don't know what kind of wood that is or how it's done', and by bringing them in, they can explain to us how it's made, what type of wood and everything. It makes it very interesting for the people."

The display went in the beginning of September, in a somewhat chaotic mess of crates as everyone figured out where everything should go. Michener described it as a zoo, with everyone bringing their own things.

The gallery also gave the wood turners an opportunity to view each other's stuff. Each artist personally chose what they wanted in the gallery, with Michener noting that he believed most of them chose the pieces they were proudest of.

"With a machine that turns the wood, you can get shapes and forms that are difficult to do in any other way. There is something that is pleasing about wood turning, and we're holding the tool, which is completely different from ordinary woodwork, where you push the

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:	Dan Michener	403-331-9177
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Newsletter Editor Vern Miller 403-892-6729
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

wood through a tool, through a saw or something like that. This is not like that," said Michener. "This is all hand done; a hand-held tool against the wood as it turns, to carve away the bits that we don't want, to form the surfaces and concavities.

"That really appeals to a certain group of people, especially the feel of it. The feel of the curve of the wood, the feel of the wood itself is very appealing."

Describing wood turning as a "solitary, satisfying process", Michener spoke of the joy of going into his workshop and crafting something, and being pleasantly surprised at the results.

"You don't know what you've got until you've started crafting it... It really reveals the inner beauty of the wood."

In addition to the lathe, a tool that rotates a work-piece around an axis, and a workshop or space to work, wood turning requires an enjoyment of doing things by hand, eye hand coordination, and above all, patience.

Wood turning does take practice to get good at it after all, and a piece, from start to finish, could take months to finish.

"In an hour or so, I can have a rough turned bowl. It's thick and ugly, but it's greenwood still, so that has to go on the shelf for six months to dry, during which time it warps, because wood always changes shape. Then it goes back on the lathe, and is re-rounded, and made thin and beautiful. That would take probably a couple of hours. And then the finishing, another couple of hours. If everything were added up together, about a day of hands-on work, and six months of sitting around, maturing."

Greenwood refers to when wood is fresh off the tree and still has moisture inside. When shaping greenwood, water flies everywhere. As it dries out over time, the wood warps, so before you can produce the final product, you need to wait for it to dry out.

The gallery will be hosting a Meet the Artist event with the wood turners on Friday, Oct. 13. Their work will be available for viewing at the gallery until early November.