

Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 16, number 5

January 2017

President's Message

Unfortunately Jim Jones has found it necessary to withdraw as our newsletter editor. We wish to thank Jim for his work and dedication to the newsletter. Jim has been the Newsletter Editor since Nov 2014 and we very much appreciate his work.

The next couple of newsletters will be briefer than they might otherwise be, however as one of the purposes of the newsletter is to document Guild activities, we will do at least that over the next couple of issues.

Bring Back Program



Clair Norton provided the Russian Olive log from which Roy Reti made the covered vessel

Beads of Courage



Brian Matthews



Dan Michener



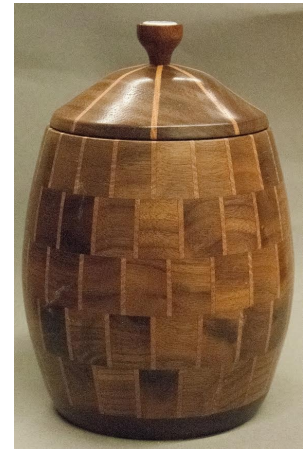
Jim Jones



Jim Jones



John vandenBerg



John vandenBerg



Terry Sutton

Bryan Matthews will be in charge of the Beads of Courage program while John is away. Bryan came up with a new board to stimulate all members to contribute to the Bead of Courage program. We are all eager to see the numbers on this board at our January meeting.



Brian Matthews - talking about the Beads of Courage

December meeting

Now a tradition our December meeting focused mainly on turning tops with a spin off to determine the champion.

This winner this year was Euan Hanchard



The turn off in progress



Euan with his winning top

Congratulations to Roger McMullen on his display at CASA



Thoughts on the Wood/Epoxy Series Roger McMullin

I was asked to discuss what I learned from my recent series using epoxy and wood. Many of you have seen my display at Casa in December and I thank you for kind words and encouragement.

I make these comments as a reflection of my own experience which may or may not have relevance to you, but I would encourage you to at least consider some of these ideas.

This is what was reinforced or newly learned:

1) This was my second experience with doing a series of similar work. By that I simply mean to pick a subject, and work through making 8 or 10 similar objects. This repetitive process allowed me to focus on improving my turning and design skills.

2) I tried to look at each aspect of the work with a critical eye as I proceeded, seeking constant improvement in the design and the execution of the piece.

I believe that form is the most important aspect of a good turning. If form is off the piece loses its appeal. For example, drawing the piece out on a piece of paper proved to be invaluable in deciding how the piece will ultimately look. This way you can make adjustments before you begin the turning process. I also think it's worth taking the time to seek out well recognized examples of good form using reference books, internet etc

From a practical side, I tried to focus on all the other details that make for a well turned piece. Are all the details relating to the form considered? Is the detail crisp and not over sanded? Do I need to speed up the lathe to assure a clean cut? Are my tools sharp? Etc.

3) Seeking input from others proved to be very helpful, as I proceeded along my journey. It's amazing how we miss details that others see so readily.

3) I'm retired, like many of the guild members. If you have lots of time, spending a few extra minutes to be fussy just makes the work better. A few minutes more to shape that form just right, or sand those small imperfections out, is worth it. I think we all will agree, you usually regret not doing so. When you are finished making a project and can stand back and be satisfied and proud it makes that extra few minutes work well worth doing.

4) What specifically did I learn from my recent series?

a) The design of the piece and recognizing that it takes time to get it right is the most important aspect

b) Accuracy is important and don't miss any of the steps in the execution.

c) Epoxy and wood are two different materials and must be treated as such. The right mix of fairing powder and resin must be formulated to yield a similar strength as the wood being turned and sanded.

d) How much colorant was needed for a given amount of epoxy.

e) How does one avoid bubbles in the epoxy and how can you minimize them

f) Experiment with new ideas and design changes, that seem to flow naturally from doing a number of similar pieces.

g) The list goes on, and on.

It would be hard to learn all potential pitfalls on your first attempt, this reinforces the thought that there is value in doing similar work in a series.

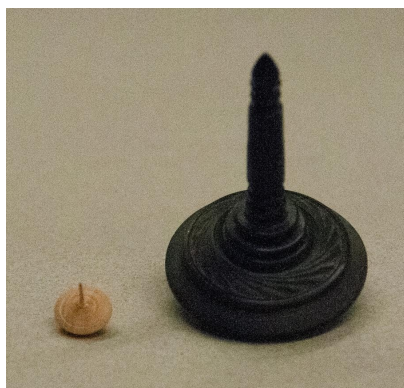
I would like to say that I do not see myself as an expert in this area and I am not sure if I have the credentials to dispense any advice, but I do believe these principals have helped me improve my wood turnings and it certainly has made doing them more enjoyable.

I guess what's most important is to have fun, improve your skills and be proud of your work. Happy turning.

December Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery



Dennis Hooge
handbell



Norm Robinson



Vern Miller - turned & carved seed pod



Roger McMullen



Roger McMullen



Dan Michener



Terry Sutton

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	403-331-9177
Secretary	Norm Robinson	403-404-4428
Treasurer	André Laroche	403-393-5337

Newsletter Editor	Vern Miller	403-892-6729
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Website <http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

the Guild is a member of - Allied Arts Council,