



# Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2, number 9

June 2010

## President's Message

As the current year comes to a close your executive hopes that you will be able to attend the BBQ on June 17th at the Research Center east of Lethbridge. Starting time will be 7PM. For me the year has been a bit of a blur as I have had many new tasks to learn how to do and many new ideas to incorporate in to my monthly routines. I have enjoyed the year tremendously and hope that you have as well. Your executive hopes that you will take the time to fill out the short survey and return it to us. We also hope that as the club continues to grow in membership that we will also continue to grow as turners and individuals. I have made many new friends through this group and enjoy my time with you immensely. I think we have done well to increase our membership to about 39, to have initiated our first mentoring course, to develop a monthly news letter and to have built upon what was already a great foundation. As we begin to plan for next year we are excited about some of the new initiatives that we would like to pursue and would love to hear what you guys think we should do as well. I wish you all a great summer and hope that it is filled with many days of turning, holidays and family.

## Coming Events

- Last meeting of our turning year at the Lethbridge Research Centre picnic area (East of the main buildings) at 6:00pm.

There will be an instant gallery table.

## From the Editor

As Jim has mentioned, he sent out a survey to our members. We hope each of you will respond and send suggestions for next year's programs.

It is through your input that the executive is able to work towards meeting the needs of our membership.

## Last Meeting

Last meeting was a sawdust session with several lathes and a sharpening station in use solving problems and exploring techniques. There were 20 members present and 2 guests. Barry Robinson from the Calgary Club and Mike Deridder.

## Website of the month

<http://woodturningwiz.com/>

this website is loaded with tips & techniques.

<http://www.timberly.co.nz/>

This website is by 2 top level turners from

New Zealand. There is lots of inspiration to be found in their work

## Recap of the 2009-2010 Guild year

As this is the last issue of the current Guild year we thought it might be useful to recap how the year went.

Membership - this year we welcomed 11 new members to the Guild and ended the year with 35 paid members.

Newsletter - this year we implemented a regular newsletter and published 9 issues. Some issues have been shorter than others but we have tried to keep you informed and provide useful information about the guild and its activities. Unfortunately we did miss one month during the year.

Training - in addition to demos at meetings and sawdust sessions, we had 2 outside demonstrators - Ron Falconer & Jimmy Clewes. We also documented and held a 1 day Introduction to Turning course for beginning turners. This is the 1st course we have developed and the beginning of a series of courses we want to develop and have available for the future. The course outline is now in a training binder and we plan to try to develop at least 1 additional course each year so that over time we will have a library of courses that can be offered as needed.

Resource Binder - this year we developed and distributed a resource binder with 29 of our members choosing to participate. During the year we distributed 13 additional articles for the binder.

Equipment - thanks to Clair we now have a cabinet to house and organize our Guild Library. Also thanks to Suzi we have a tail stock swing out for our General lathe. We also acquired another chuck so that all our lathes now have a chuck.

Community Involvement - This year we again participated in the Art Walk in conjunction with the Galt Museum. We participated in the Bowman Arts Fall & Spring sales, with very satisfying results.

We began collecting Christmas tree ornaments for the Hospital fund raising event. Unfortunately the event was canceled because of flu epidemic protocols at the hospital. The ornaments we collected will give us a good start for the 2010 fund raiser.

At the fall Bowman sale we sold tops and raised about \$84 for the food bank.

## Guild Library

One of the books I recommend for Wood Turners of all levels is "The Fundamentals of Woodturning by Mike Darlow. As the title implies it covers woodturning from how to start to hollow turning, the eleven chapters are full of information on how to proceed and there are lessons on just about every aspect of the craft with much attention to detail. There are several exercises which give the beginner in depth instructions on the use of tools which can be applied to all woodturning projects, the information is such that it can also be useful to turners who wish to revisit some of the fundamentals of turning to hone their skills in long forgotten techniques. It covers mistakes that are made in the turning process and gives detailed instructions on correcting them.

The information goes from basic needs like lathes and equipment, safety, wood selection and tools to producing satisfying works of art. I have a personal copy that I used when I first started turning and have found it to be an excellent reference for maintaining the ability to perform the correct techniques. It is without doubt a publication worthy of a place on any woodturners library shelf.

The Guild Library copy is available to all members and is definitely a must for beginners who will find it an excellent learning tool, especially as an addition to Hands On instruction. Harold

## Tip of the Month

When applying a finish to your turning on the lathe, use paper towels rather than a cloth or rag. Paper toweling will break apart if it gets wrapped around the turning while the lathe is spinning whereas a rag or cloth will not. The cloth will act like a rope and if your fingers get caught up in it, will drag your hand into the turning with drastic results.

It is also a good idea to spread out the applicator (cloth/paper towel) until it dries rather than scrunched up into a ball, then store it in an air-tight container until properly disposed of in order to avoid a fire from spontaneous combustion.

If you use steel wool, be aware it is flammable & care should be taken with it.

Spontaneous combustion can ruin your day.

Perhaps we'll end the year with a chuckle.

Our teacher asked us what our favorite animal was, and I said, "Fried chicken." She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right, everyone else in the class laughed.

My parents told me to always be truthful and honest, and I am. Fried chicken is my favorite animal. I told my dad what happened, and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animals very much. I do, too. Especially chicken, pork and beef.

Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened, and he laughed too. Then he told me not to do it again.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was. I told her it was chicken. She asked me why, just like she'd asked the other children. So I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken. She sent me back to the principal's office again. He laughed, and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today, my teacher asked us to tell her what famous person we admire most.

I told her, "Colonel Sanders".  
Guess where I am now...

### **About the Guild**

mailing address: c/o Bowman Arts Centre  
811 5<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
Lethbridge, AB  
T1J 0V2

Meetings are at 7:00pm  
the third Thursday of the month  
Sept thru June  
at Roger Olsen's Shop, near the old McNally School  
a map to the meeting location can be found on our website

### **Executive**

President:	Jim Jones	403-687-3111
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Secretary	Clair Norton	403-758-3621
Treasurer	Vern Miller	403-892-6729

Newsletter Editor Vern Miller 403-892-6729

Website <http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

the Guild is a member of - Allied Arts Council, Lethbridge  
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

