



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS • VOL 2020, NO 6 • JUNE 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The June meeting is ordinarily an end of year social BBQ and an opportunity to meet each other's family members, sit around and chat and appreciate Terry's unchallenged skill at the grill.

Unfortunately, that isn't going to happen this year. Casa won't let us in, social distancing recommendations mean we would need about half an acre of space if we meet outdoors and burgers are notoriously difficult to eat if you are wearing a facemask. The province is relaxing some rules around gatherings, but since the majority of us woodturners are in the risky category, your Directors are not inclined to push our luck.

In lieu of our June social, we are having a Zoom demonstration to put a cap on the year. On Monday, 22 June, Rudy Lopez, from Tampa, Florida, will show our guild how to make a winged bowl out of a crotch piece of a tree branch. Several of us have met Rudy in the past and are looking forward to reconnecting.

When pandemic precautions took over our lives in March, many clubs and societies wondered how to maintain interest and enthusiasm among their members. Woodturners always depend on demonstrations by other turners, so we are well positioned to take advantage of modern technology to bring demos into our homes via Zoom. In fact, modern technology is so appropriate for us that all of a sudden there are a plethora of live interactive woodturning experiences available. Our group has its monthly meetings and sawdust sessions on Zoom. We have a Rudy Lopez interactive Remote Demo (IRD) upcoming. The Edmonton Woodturners kindly invited us to a Bert Delisle demo and two more IRDs coming soon.

Trent Bosch has turned remote demos into a business and has scheduled a whole list with various renowned turners. Ed Pretty is offering IRDs and so are scores of others. To top it all off, the AAW is having its 2020 July Symposium entirely on Zoom, so 3 days in July and for U\$20.20 any of us can take in more demos on more topics than we can possibly watch. You can't go wrong with that!

Strange days. We have more opportunity to connect with woodturning than ever before. How much can we watch? It's the real thing but somehow it isn't satisfying like a live human being standing at the lathe in front of you. With luck these virtual demos will stimulate us to go on out to the workshop and make some real shavings!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This is the end of our woodturning season. A new season starts on September 24th, with the **Annual General Meeting** (reports, elections, discussion) followed by a demo by Kai Muenzer.

- We will have **Zoom Sawdust Sessions** July 4th, August 1st and September 5th at 10am. There will be email remainders.

- The next **Newsletter** will be in September. Watch for it!

- **Art Liestman** is scheduled to visit us for a demonstration and hands-on class **October 17-18**. See the poster at the end of this newsletter.

- **Rudy Lopez** is presenting an IRD for us on **22 June** at 7pm. He will show us how to make a winged bowl from a log or crotch piece. We will send out information before the event.



- Ladybug Arborists

often has nice wood to give away to woodturners. Let Maureen know what kind of wood you are looking for so when it becomes available she can contact you. 403-634-3062

- The **American Association of Woodturners** is holding their 2020 Symposium via Zoom July 10, 11 and 12. Register to get access to 3 days packed with demonstrations, panel discussions and critiques by the best wood artists in the world. Also, you can see the huge instant gallery and trade show. Cost is **U\$20.20**. You cannot beat that! Register at <https://www.woodturner.org/>.

COMING EVENTS

Schedule of Meetings, Demos and events

JUNE

All Meetings and Activities have been cancelled for the month of June.

SEPTEMBER

September's monthly meeting has been changed from the 3rd Thursday to the 4th Thursday, September 24, in order to

accommodate Kai Muenzer's demo that evening. Kai's hands-on class will follow on the 25th and 26th.

OCTOBER

Art Liestman's visit to the CWG for an all day demo and hands on class is rescheduled for October 17-18, 2020.

Guild Meetings are cancelled due to the COVID-19 health crisis. CASA is closed to group gatherings.

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY



Birch vase almost finished. 17" deep x 7" wide.
Dan Michener



After seeing the Sam Angelo video at the May meeting on Thursday night I was inspired to build a chainsaw log stand similar to the one Sam used. It works fine. For smaller logs I need a narrower 'V'.
Dan Michener



Roger Wayman's outboard tool rest.

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.

COVID-19 spin offs that
had a problem with
distancing from yard
work . . .
Kenn Haase



My recent turning,
from a chunk of Lilac.



Yes, some of COVID-19
Disasters that I haven't burned

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Norm Stelter



Norm Stelter



Five birch chunks. A lot of figure and some spalting.
Rob Thomsen



Three corner bowl.
Roy Harker



Lorraine Mix is our undisputed master of scroll saw work.

Dustless Sawdust Session June 2020

The Chinook Woodturning Guild had a dustless Sawdust Session on the morning of June 6th. Naturally we were restricted in what we can actually do when everything is Zoomed. However, we were treated to a great video tour of John VandenBerg's workshop. This is the first of what we hope will become a series of shop visits. John's shop is impressively tidy, with tons of storage cabinets that many of us can only dream of. He has under the floor dust collection ducts, which speaks suspiciously of pre-planning. Most of us already had the floor before we got bitten by the woodturning bug so dust collection ducts are something you get used to stepping over. Thank you, John, for kicking off the shop visits.

We also discussed respirators because we had heard that Woodchuckers.com was now selling the PowerCap brand. Richard and John each have one and they think they are great. We encouraged each other to take dust protection seriously. When your lungs are shot you are on the way out!

There was chat about available wood, Casa scheduling, plans for remote demos, and the Edmonton Woodturners Guild's testing the waters regarding joint participation of the four Alberta guilds in arranging and financing remote demos. Everybody thought that was a great idea.

Sawdust Sessions will continue in July and August on the 1st Saturday at 10am.

This Sawdust Session ended in time for lunch.

The Edmonton Woodturning Guild hosted an IRD (**Interactive Remote Demo**) for all the Alberta guilds on 11 June. The host and demonstrator was Bert Delisle of East Slope Woodturning. Bert is also VP of the Edmonton guild and kindly presented the demo free of charge. Somewhere between 55 and 65 woodturners signed in to see Bert show us how to use a threading jig to make a screw-on cap for a wooden box, and then how to modify the threads to make a bayonet style lid which can be closed with only a ¼ turn. Very clever.

Twelve members of the Chinook Woodturning Guild were present and Richard Shelson acted as our co-host. We enjoyed the presentation and hope the All Alberta Demos continue.

Beads of Courage

This month we have three boxes to give to the beads of courage program.

Thank you.

John VandenBerg
coordinator

Tribute to Vern Miller from Beads of Courage



Rae (Director of Artist Relations - Beads of Courage Canada) mailed me a butterfly to present to Sandy Miller in appreciation of all that Vern has done for the Beads of Courage program.



Ross Robinson



John VandenBerg

Zoom General Meeting

We held a regularly scheduled meeting of our Guild through Zoom on May 21, 2020. The attendance peaked at around 17 members and for most of the meeting we had approximately 14 members present. It appeared to me as if some were having difficulty connecting or staying connected.

Dan pointed out that the most recent edition of our monthly Newsletter had just been released and thanked Roy Harker for being willing to step in and act as Editor. While not everyone online had yet had the opportunity to see the Newsletter, those of us who had, felt it was very well done and thanked Roy for his willingness to step in.

For a number of reasons, not the least of which is the current climate around COVID-19, there was a discussion around having demonstrators present through Zoom. Suggestions for who we might engage included Rudy Lopez, Carl Jacobson, Lyle Jamieson, and others. The estimated cost was likely around \$200-\$300 for a session of up to about 3 hours. Dan and several others had attended a Zoom presentation done by Rudy Lopez a couple of days before and felt it had gone very well. Those of us who were online felt it might be a good thing to try. The CWG Executive will discuss this at greater length in a future meeting.

During the meeting we were able to watch a YouTube video by Sam Angelo (The Wyoming Woodturner) in which he demonstrated milling logs with a chain saw. This video was the first in a series of 4 during which Sam says he takes the wood from milling it as a log, to turning bowls from it. Most people online felt it would be interesting to see the other videos in the series and we will likely review these in the future meetings.

Several of us participated in an online workshop sponsored by Busy Bee Tools on using the bandsaw. Apparently Busy Bee has other training videos also, though it may take some investigation to find them.

We have been contacted by Maureen from Ladybug Arborists to offer us freshly cut wood. André has, on occasion, sent out notices about this but Maureen has gone further than this, and in

a conversation with Dan has told him that if we are interested in specific types of wood we need only contact her at her office and make those needs known and she will keep her eye out for wood for us when she cuts some down. She would much rather give it to us than send it to a chipper or to a fireplace.

Norm Robinson has said that, in his woodturning Club in California visits to various members' shops was a very big feature in their meetings. We had some discussion about how we might arrange for virtual tours of member's shops. Again, those present thought it might be a good idea and John Vandenberg has volunteered to offer a tour of his shop, possibly for our next meeting.

Dan wondered why more of our members are not joining us in this virtual venue. We count approximately 40 members and yet, today, as stated earlier, we are barely 15 members. The lack of familiarity with the technology could well be a limiting factor. It could also be that people have other things to do and they have simply forgotten to sign on. We agreed there is little we can do about it but we will track things as time goes on, especially if the social distancing continues for a long time to come. It was noted that the last sawdust session actually had quite good attendance while today's meeting was less well attended.

We closed the meeting with an opportunity for members to show what they have been doing at their lathes. While I did not capture a full list of them a few of them included Dan showing some thin pieces which he has been practising on, John Vandenberg showing some Beads of Courage boxes (from other members I think) and several of his vases, Kenn Haase showing a bowl made from Russian Olive which was "a work in progress" and which he will bring back to a future meeting when it is finished, Norman Stelter showing us one of his segmented bowls, and Roger Wayman talking about a vase which is also in progress.

In general the meeting went very well and we finished around 8:15 PM. Hopefully we will be able to do this in the future also. Perhaps we will have our Sawdust session on June 6/20 and our regularly scheduled General meeting on June 18/20 this way also.

Richard Shelson



Buttons Against COVID-19

By Rob Thomsen, Terry Beaton and André Laroche

For this project over 350 wood buttons about 1.2" in diameter (Photo 1) were turned by seven members of guild (Rob Thomsen turned the larger portion) to help in the fabrication of extenders to hold masks rather than around the ears for hospital workers.

An initial call came from Glenna Gordon (Glenn-Artistry Crochet & Photography) and was fielded by Rob Thomsen. A second call from Diane Herrick from the Stitch It Forward Society was identified by Terry Beaton. Buttons were distributed to both groups to complete the crochet face mask extenders.

An example of the extenders (or ear savers) is those made by Ali Goater, a teenager who did put her crochet skills toward a good cause with buttons supplied by Dan Michener (Photo 2). These were also distributed to health workers.

The contribution of the buttons was greatly appreciated by the different organizations and have help some of our health workers to have more pleasant working days.

Thanks to the turners who stepped forward.



Photo 1: Sample of buttons turned by Rob Thomsen



Photo 2: Mask extenders made by Ali Goater.

ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Gord Rock, our woodturning and woodworker friend from Red Deer has owned his YouTube channel for quite a few years now. He always reports on interesting and useful projects. Make sure you have a good look to Gord's channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChd8tg-PwwwUj7vll4C9ykKQ> for one of his wood turning project. He has a new video almost every week. Have a look and subscribe to his channel.

A very useful jig that we could have use a few weeks ago when we had a call for large request of wood buttons is the jig developed by Allan Stratton for making button with equally distant 4-holes at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYL9aJtQ84>. This is the ultimate jig for piercing holes in square pieces of wood before turning the buttons. Hopefully, this will not be needed next year.

Allan has a beautiful and well-organized web site at <https://www.aswoodturns.com/>. He has a new woodturning video every week and his videos are very well done, usually under 10 min and always a pleasure to watch as he is a highly creative turner and his

videos are quite different every week. I did appreciate very much his recent videos on treading different domestic wood species. All his videos are also on his YouTube channel.

Finally, the preferred video of my wife (no dust to move inside the house...) on a stunning woodshop without a spec of dust at this site. The size, collections of tools (why reset your tool when you can have 3 or 4 units of the same tool), the organization and all the stunning cupboards are all impressive. You can discover it <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBNkCm2-JTY> but be warned that this video last almost 53 minutes but it is surely one of a kind.

Enjoy your discoveries and happy turning!

André

As always, please inform me of omissions or errors.

If I have changed your name inadvertently, you can either accept it and change it legally or inform me of the correct spelling and I will try to improve month by month.
Constructive suggestions are always appreciated.



Roy Harker
nlharker@gmail.com

ABOUT THE GUILD

The Chinook Woodturning Guild was formed in September, 2004. The Guild's main emphasis is skill improvement and camaraderie.

mailing address:

% CASA

230 - 8 Street South

Lethbridge, AB

Canada T1J 5H2

Meetings are at 7 pm the 3rd Thursday each month, Sept through June at the CASA building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

A map to the meeting location is found on our website.

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org/>



President

Dan Michener
403-331-9177
michenerdan@gmail.com



Treasurer

André Laroche
403-329-6414
gplaroche@telus.net



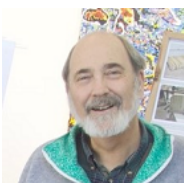
Vice-President

Norm Robinson
403-404-4428
michenerdan@gmail.com



Beads of Courage Chairman

John Vandenberg
403-380-0141
fayjohn@shaw.ca



Secretary

Richard Shelson
403-381-6670
rshelson@shaw.ca

Newsletter Contributors:

Dan Michener
John Vandenberg
Rob Thomsen
Roy Harker

André Laroche
Richard Shelson
Terry Beaton

WOODTURNING DEMONSTRATION

The Chinook Woodturning Guild
is pleased to host

Art Liestman

Expert woodturner, artist and teacher from Vancouver, BC
Saturday 17 October, 2020

Art Liestman has spent a lifetime as a maker of artistic wood creations. His work is available in galleries across North America. Art has contributed many articles to woodturning publications and taught and demonstrated at arts and craft schools, woodturning symposia and local clubs. You can see his work and much more on his website: <http://artliestman.com/>

There will be an all day demonstration
Saturday, 17 October 2020, 9am – 4pm
Registration: \$60 (Students \$40) includes lunch
(Non-members \$70)

Location:
CASA Building
230 8th Street South
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1J2H2, Canada

Please register to attend by contacting :
Dan Michener 403-331-9177 (michenerdan@gmail.com)
or
André Laroche 403-393-5337 (gplaroche@telus.net)

On the days subsequent to the demonstration, Art will be instructing hands-on workshops covering The Lost Wood Process for all skill levels.
If you want to participate in the workshop, call to inquire.