

Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2, number 8

May 2010

President's Message

I was totally impressed with all the pieces on the instant gallery table last meeting. I really thought that Roger Olson nailed it when he pointed out how many pieces were a direct result of the demonstrations that we have had - it is great that people are coming away from these with skills that are useful and fun. Once again I would like to thank Claire Norton for the awesome cabinet for our library and Suzi Tomita for both the hollowing rig and the tail stock swing out. What awesome contributions. Hope to see you all on the 21st of May. Jim

Coming Events

- next meeting - Thurs, May 21, 2010

@ Roger Olson shop

a map to the meeting location can be found on our website

This meeting will be a sawdust session. We will have several lathes and a sharpening station set up. Bring your problem tools, turning problems and whatever and we will work together to help solve them and develop techniques.

- June will be our annual bar-b-que, a non-working meeting of food & fellowship.

New Members

We'd like to welcome our newest members, Karen Hoover & Geoff Wallins. At our next meeting introduce yourself to them and make them welcome.

From the Editor

Another month has rolled around - how fast the time flies. Our membership has grown to 39 members this year however attendance at meetings is only averaging in the mid to high teens. It would be nice to have closer to our full membership out to the last 2 meetings of the year, so take a look at the calendar and if possible set the third Thurs of May & June aside so you can get to the meeting. Not only is that an opportunity to learn something new, it is also a good time to get to know the woodturners in our area better and to swap a tale or two.

A couple of members have suggested ideas or information for the newsletter and that is much appreciated. I can always use more help and input to the newsletter, so don't be shy, pitch in if you can.

Talk to Vern at a meeting or email him with suggestions or an article @ pccldt@xplornet.com

Last Meeting

Attendance = 17

At our last meeting (Apr 2010) Al Schaaf discussed and demonstrated the turning of pens.



Our instant gallery table was well populated with turnings of various members, See photos later in newsletter. Three turnings were selected and Pres. Jim gave brief comments of his observations about the turnings.

It is interesting to note the overall improvement of the turnings members are bringing to the instant gallery. It appears that the influence of various presenters and practice is increasing the skill level throughout our Guild. Congratulations to all.

Keep them coming guys, we are interested in what our fellow turners are doing and the progress that is being made.

Website of the month

The following website is the show results of the National Association of Woodturners New Zealand - The Royal Easter Show 2010. There is some incredible work here, take a look.

<http://www.naw.org.nz/galleries/eastershow%202010/index.html>

While not dedicated to woodturning, the following site has a lot of useful information

for the woodworker.

<http://www.finewoodworking.com>

Take a look at the fancy footwork in this video

<http://www.finewoodworking.com/item/26250/fancy-footwork>

This is the website of Andy Dipietro.

<http://www.woodartforms.com/4.html>

His sense of form is excellent. He is doing incredible work with bleaching & colour and also with sandblasting.

Training & Mentoring

We ran our first training course Apr 25, 2010 with 7 participants. It was a full day and while we weren't able to accomplish all that we set out to do, we felt it was a worthwhile day and we learned some things to apply to future offerings.

Below is a review of the workshop by Tyler White, one of the participants.

"Introduction to Woodturning" April 25, 2010

It was a busy weekend for Lethbridge and area wood turners. It started out with the Bowman Arts Spring Sale in which a number of you did very well, but it was the end of the weekend that was good for us all. It was the first ever Workshop/Course "Introduction to Woodturning". It was a great way to learn the basics of turning, using the tools as they come from the store.

The morning started out with a quick introduction to the lathe with safety lesson to follow. Then we got right into it. First off we learned how to mount a piece of wood onto the lathe and different methods of mounting wood. The first tool we learned to use was the roughing gouge. It started out with quick explanation with some diagrams to start out then a demonstration, with practice time after that. We were given a block of wood and were to make it round and to make sure to "Ride the Bevel". After our blank was round, we learned how to use the next tool, the parting tool. There was another explanation of use and a demonstration and then we were supposed to mark lines on our blank and then using the parting tool make grooves in the blank to prepare to make beads. That brings us to the next tool, the spindle gouge. We used the spindle gouge to create a bead by riding the bevel and making a curve on each side. After we had practice time on the spindle gouge and making bevels we learned our next tool which was a doozy to get the right feel for, the skew. You really had to be careful with this tool because if you caught a wrong edge it could go wrong very fast. This for myself took the longest to understand how it works

and how to hit the sweet spot. Following the long practice period, we started to run out of time, so we were not able to practice the bowl gouge but we got a demonstration on the tool and on bowl turning. At the end there was a quick demonstration on using scrapers.

I personally feel this day was a great experience to learn the right techniques for basic turning. Even though I have been turning for about a year now, I learned a lot of good techniques that I did not know before. I would suggest this course to anyone that is starting out or to anyone that is just getting back into turning. This course was a great experience and I think it should be put on again. Tyrel White

Guild Website

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

Dianne Munroe acts as our web master and our thanks to her for all her work in maintaining the site.

Have you posted photos of your work yet? It really isn't that difficult to do.

Firstly you have to be registered as a user on the website. Go to either the Members Gallery or the Events Gallery and click on Register. Follow the process and you will receive an email with your password.

Once you are a registered user you can go to the Members Gallery and Login.

Then select upload and select files to be uploaded.

The first time you upload files you will need to create a Gallery in your name.

There are a number of steps to follow. If you need more detailed instructions, contact Jim Jones or myself and we can email you more detailed instructions.

The second issue is file size. The file size straight off your camera is too big and needs to be downsized. If your camera software is not easy to use for resizing there are free resizing programs available. Drop Jim or me an email and we can send you instructions on how to get an easy to use resizing program.

If while you are using our website you have any comments or observations about the site, please send us an email and let us know so that we can address any issues that may arise.

Bowman Arts Spring sale

The Bowman Arts spring sale was held Sat, Apr 24/10 at the Bowman Arts Centre. Dennis Delaney, Scott Copeland, Norm Stelter, Al Schaaf & Joe van Rijn

participated in the sale.

From all accounts it was a successful day with sales totaling \$1,765.

Tail stock swing away attachment

As Jim mentioned, Suzi built a tail stock swing away attachment for our General lathe. Many thanks to Suzi.



Are you a member of the AAW

Have you looked into becoming an AAW (American Association of Woodturners) member yet. At \$38us per year for the electronic membership it is good value. The website has a ton of useful information, you would have access to all issues of the American Woodturner Journal back to 1986 as well as monthly & annual draws from the membership roster for various gift certificates.

Check out the recent email Jim sent to our [members &/or check out the AAW website. ttp://woodturner.org/](http://members.aaawoodturners.org/)

Guild Library

Our Library includes a great book on projects and instructions which is suitable for the Woodturner who is looking for new and challenging ideas.

The book is "Woodturning Projects" a workshop guide to shapes by Mark Baker. Part one covers techniques and materials, Safety, Ideas, Tools and Equipment, Woods and Finishing. Part two is Projects which covers Boxes, Bowls, Platters, Hollow Forms, Natural Edge work and includes a gallery of woodturnings.

Each section commences with graphic instructions on how to proceed and also provides a list of tools required. There are photographs of numerous projects accompanied by hints and dimensional drawings for design accuracy and also provides an alternate design.

An excellent educational publication with sound and imaginative projects to challenge and enhance our woodturning skills.

Sign it out, take it home for a month and

bring your project to "Show and Tell".

We encourage all members to take advantage of the Library which contains many interesting, challenging and educational items in both books, CDs and DVDs. Your use and feedback will be appreciated. Harold

Notes of Interest

I don't know if everyone is aware, but there is a ½ hour woodturning show on TV most Saturday mornings at 8:00am. It is hosted by Tim Yoder and he usually turns something each show. It is well worth the ½ hour investment. You might want to let everyone know. Chanel 81 (in Taber) WTVS "Public TV", in Detroit.

Arnold Siemens

Tip of the Month

This month there are 2 for the price of one.

1) Have you ever sanded a piece and just as you are finishing up, discovered a deep scratch you are sure wasn't there a moment ago and had to go back and start over again. The scratch probably came from a loose piece of grit from a courser paper used earlier. As some sand papers are used they self sharpen by fracturing the grit particles. Sometimes particles are torn off the surface off the paper. The fractured or loose particles are shed off and get mixed in with the sanding dust or sometimes are imbedded in the wood. Later these particles are picked up by the finer grade of sandpaper and create those mysterious and unexpected scratches.

It is a good idea to clean off sanding dust & from inside bowls and to inspect for any imbedded grit between grits, particularly when using the courser grits of sandpaper.

2) laser caliper.

Many turners have a number of calipers he uses to measure wall thicknesses of bowls and hollow forms, even if it is only his thumb and fore finger.

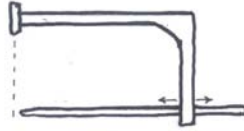
Sometimes the right shaped caliper to reach into a form isn't available or doesn't allow the arms to line up at 90 degrees to the wall resulting in a misleading reading. In the bottom of a hollow form or bowl, calipers are useless because the tenon and supporting (unturned bulk) interfere with the outside leg of the caliper.

This laser caliper is very flexible. It is a simple U shape with a laser pointer fixed to the end of one arm and the other arm adjustable in length. (See sketch below) It can either be set for the desired wall thickness or set to the thinnest wall

thickness of the piece being measured. By tracing the inside arm around the inside of the bowl, the pointer shows a visual comparison of the inside form to the outside wall so that you can determine what needs to be made thinner for a consistent wall thickness. It is particularly useful in the bottom or foot area in determining how deep the bottom is into the tenon. It helps visualize the bottom of the bowl and helps to avoid the "dreaded funnel"

This is not a replacement for more conventional calipers but rather an additional tool for your bag of tricks.

The laser pointer is available from the Dollar Store for \$1.25 and the frame made from doweling and scrap lumber.



When using this tool it is important to keep it level and at the centre of the bowl (at spindle centre) otherwise you will get an inaccurate measurement

April Instant Gallery





Bowman Arts Spring Sale



About the Guild

mailing address: c/o Bowman Arts Centre
811 5th 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
Vice-President	Allan Schaaf	403-328-8426
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