



# Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 3, number 9

May 2011

## President's Message

It seems like summer is suddenly upon us - no spring just jumped right in to summer. Too weird but I am sure happy not to be dealing with snow anymore, although the cold wind of the last couple of days makes me wonder what season this is. I really had a great time at the Doug Fisher demo and I was also lucky enough to attend the workshop the next day. What a great time - hopefully I will have my workshop piece actually finished in time for the June meeting. As summer approaches, the executive is trying to get at least one demo/workshop signed, sealed and delivered before the end of June. We are trying to coordinate with both the Calgary and Edmonton clubs to try and keep the cost down some. Vern and Al will discuss things with you on the 19th as I will be looking after my grand kids for a week and then will head out after that for a week of holidays. Looking forward to that but we still have lots of garden to do and I am in the middle of three major new pieces. Good turning to you all and I hope to see all of you at the wrap up BBQ on the 23rd of June. Jim

## Coming Events

- next meeting - May 19, 2011 @ Roger Olson shop

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

At this meeting we will explore turning a bowl from green wood and have a discussion on design & form.

We look forward to seeing all of you there

- June 23, 2011 windup BBQ at the Research Station picnic grounds

## From the Editor

I recently learned of a serious accident to one of the turners who participates in the World of Woodturners website. Joan is an experienced turner who is known for her focus on safety. On May 4<sup>th</sup> her husband found unconscious on her shop floor. It appears that a bowl blank she was working on exploded and struck her in the head causing serious head & eye injuries.

So far as I know she is still unconscious and if she is to make a full recovery it looks like it may well be a long hard battle. Of course the prayers and best wishes of the woodturning community go out to her.

Unfortunately this is a stark reminder to all of us. Working with power tools can be dangerous and there are always risks involved. Part of our job as turners is to

understand the risks, minimize or avoid them where possible and to use safety equipment at all times.

Many of us I'm sure have an Oh D\*%@! moment - sometimes we've been lucky and sometimes not so lucky. It is easy to become a little complacent and ignore what is prudent but the truth is you seldom know it is going to go wrong until after it happens.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the AAW safety rules, we should all review them from time to time and strive to practice safe turning.

A few things to remember - make use face shields and dust protection. Check your wood for defects and potential missiles that could break loose. Be extra careful when trying something beyond your normal comfort zone,

I know that some turners advocate turning at high speeds but remember the higher the speed, the more force is unleashed when something breaks away or goes wrong. There is much less time to react and the resulting damage is much greater.

Safe turning and keep safety in the forefront of your thoughts.

I am always looking for ideas and writeups for the newsletter, if you have an idea, or can help, talk to Vern at a meeting, give him a phone call or email him with suggestions or an article @ [pccltd@xplornet.com](mailto:pccltd@xplornet.com)

Previous issues of the Newsletter are available on our Guild website.

## Last Meeting



Dennis Delaney discussing a turning from the instant gallery

Last meeting Jim Jones demonstrated the turning of a bowl from a typical bowl blank



## Website of the month

I think I may have referenced this video before but it is worth another look or perhaps you missed it before.

This video shows a fellow using a bow driven lathe & a rather unique tool presentation.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnv0DAR\\_gWA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnv0DAR_gWA)

From Wood Central a page illustrating various grinds you might use on your tools. <http://www.woodcentral.com/newforum/grinds.shtml>

## from The Board of Directors

The Board passed a policy motion stating that the Guild will respect and copyrighted material. This means that we will not hold in our library or distribute in our resource binder copies of material or articles unless we authorization on file from the author or producer of the material.

## **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.

Did you know that each member of the Guild has a photo page and you can post photos of your work in your own gallery. Please take advantage of that and contribute to the growth and value of our website.

## **Guild Library**

This month we are reviewing a recent addition to the library, "The Art of Turned Bowls" by Designing Bowls with World Class Turner Richard Raffan.

The contents of the book include the following: Wood, Preparing Blanks, Form, Rims and Bases, Green - Turned Bowls, Surface Decoration and Decorative Reshaping.

An excellent publication covering tree to finished product, the information is the most detailed I have seen and due to the amount find it impossible to review in detail, each section is full of the most useful and descriptive information and is without doubt an up date of past methods and a modern approach to turning and finishing bowls.

The dozens of photographs, designs and methods of work are most interesting and challenging and the techniques and designs would be of great value to turners of all levels.

I would recommend that members interested in studying bowl turning techniques and finishing sign this book out of the library for a month or less. Due to the expected interest in this publication it may be necessary to have your name placed on a waiting list so that all interested members have the opportunity to study its contents.

The Library is available for your perusal at our regular meetings. Take advantage of this Club resource.

Harold

## **Doug Fisher Demo in Calgary**

5 of our members attended Doug's demo in Calgary and an excellent day it was.

Doug is well known for his turned, carved, textured and coloured wall hangings. He took us through the steps from the beginning of a blank, mounted on a face plate, to offset turning while using a vacuum chuck. Then pyrographing (burning) and carving the design to applying colour and finishing.

Here is a photo essay of the day.



## **Instant Gallery**

This was our instant gallery (show n tell) from our Apr meeting







#### Fund Raising Ideas

- we can collect empty inkjet and laser toner cartridges to help with fundraising for our Guild. Bring them to a meeting.

- If ordering from <http://woodchuckers.com/> tell them you are from the Chinook Woodturning Guild and a small credit (a percentage of your purchase) will be credited to an account for the Guild's use

#### Classified Advertisements

##### Turning Supplies for sale by the Guild

We still have some log end sealer available

- we have obtained some cherry and some beech which we have cut up into turning blanks. Priced at our cost + 20% to the nearest dollar in order to cover gst, wastage and perhaps a small profit.

Here is what is available:

Cherry 8.5"x8.5"x2" - \$9.00 each

Beech 8.5"x8.5"x2" - \$6.00 each

Beech 10"x10"x2" - \$9.00 each

available at our next meeting

#### 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
Vice-President	Allan Schaaf	403-328-8426
Secretary	Scott Copeland	403-360-4384
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

## WOODCHUCKER'S SUPPLIES

1698 Weston Rd; Weston, Ontario; M9N 1V6; CANADA

OWNER: John Buccioni  
WEBSITE: <http://www.woodchuckers.com>  
E-MAIL: [sales@woodchuckers.com](mailto:sales@woodchuckers.com)

TELEPHONE: (416) 241-8654  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-551-0192  
FAX: (416) 241-8656

#### Store hours:

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:30pm  
Sat 9:00am to 5:00pm  
Closed on Sundays

**1 - 2 - 3**  
Exotic Wood  
Squares Sale

**AAW Lathe Safety Guidelines** (updated March 2009)

Safe, effective use of a wood lathe requires study and knowledge of procedures for using this tool. Read, thoroughly understand and follow the label warnings on the lathe and in the owner/operator's manual. Safety guidelines from an instructor, video or book are also a source of important safety procedures.

1. Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses that include side protectors. Use a full faceshield for bowl, vessel or any turning involving chucks and faceplates.

2. Fine particles from a grinder and wood dust are harmful to your respiratory system. Use a dust mask, air filtration helmet, proper ventilation, dust collection system or a combination of these to deal with this serious issue. Be especially mindful of dust from many exotic woods, spalted woods or any wood from which you notice a skin or respiratory reaction.

3. Wear hearing protection during extended periods of time.

4. Turn the lathe "off" before adjusting the tool rest or tool rest base (banjo).

5. Remove chuck keys, adjusting wrenches and knockout bars. Form a habit of checking for these before turning on the lathe.

6. Tie back long hair, do not wear gloves, and avoid loose clothing, jewelry or any dangling objects that may catch on rotating parts or accessories.

7. When using a faceplate, be certain the workpiece is solidly mounted with stout screws (#10 or #12 sheet metal screws as a minimum). Do not use dry wall or deck screws. When turning between centers, be certain the workpiece is firmly mounted between the headstock driving center and tailstock center.

8. Make certain that the belt guard or cover is in place.

9. Check that all locking devices on the tailstock and tool rest assembly (rest and base) are tight before operating the lathe.

10. Make sure the blank is securely fastened.

11. Rotate your workpiece by hand to make sure it clears the toolrest and bed before turning the lathe "on". Be certain that the workpiece turns freely and is firmly mounted. A handwheel on the headstock simplifies this process of spinning the lathe by hand before turning on the switch.

12. Be aware of what turners call the "red zone" or "firing zone." This is the area directly behind and in front of the workpiece—the areas most likely for a piece to travel as it comes off the lathe. A good safety habit is to step out of this zone when turning on the lathe, keeping your hand on the switch in case you need to turn the machine off. When observing someone else turn, stay out of this zone.

13. ALWAYS CHECK THE SPEED OF THE LATHE BEFORE TURNING IT ON. Use slower speeds for larger diameters or rough pieces, and higher speeds for smaller diameters and pieces that are balanced. Always start a piece at a slower speed until the workpiece is balanced. If the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the workpiece vibrates, always stop the machine to check the reason. As a starting point, consult your operator's manual for recommended speeds for a particular lathe. Make sure the lathe speed is compatible with the size of the blank.

14. Exercise extra caution when using stock with cracks, splits, checks, bark pockets, knots, irregular shapes, or protuberances. Beginners should avoid these types of stock until they have greater knowledge of working such wood.

15. Hold turning tools securely on the toolrest, holding the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner. Always contact the tool rest with the tool before contacting the wood.

16. When running a lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened or locked on the lathe spindle.

17. Know your capabilities and limitations. An experienced woodturner is capable of lathe speeds, techniques and procedures not recommended for beginning turners.

18. Always remove the tool rest before sanding, finishing or polishing operations.

19. Don't overreach, keep proper footing and balance at all times.

20. Keep lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, alignment, binding of moving parts and other conditions that may affect its operation.

21. Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Don't force a dull tool. Don't use a tool for a purpose it was not designed or intended.

22. Consider your work environment. Don't use a lathe in damp or wet locations. Do not use in presence of flammable liquids or gases. Keep work area well lit.

23. Stay alert. Watch what you are doing, pay close attention to unusual sounds or vibrations - stop the lathe to investigate the cause. Don't operate machines when you are tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

24. Guard against electric shock. Inspect electric cords for damage. Avoid the use of extension cords.

25. Never leave the lathe running unattended. Turn power off. Don't leave lathe until it comes to a complete stop.

26. A significant number of accidents to woodturners occur while using saws, especially band and chain saws. Learn and follow the safety guidelines for these machines before operation.