



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS • VOL 2020, NO 5 • MAY 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2020

We are slowly accommodating to the new reality of not being able to have meetings. So far our guild has had a virtual monthly meeting and a virtual Sawdust Session. As we get used to this, I think the Zoom sessions will get a little smoother while we figure out the technology, see what we look like to the others and get comfortable with speaking up to a computer or cell phone instead of to a nearby person. It does feel a little weird meeting like this and it's a new experience for me and many others, but we adapt. If we couldn't adapt we wouldn't be woodturners for very long!



AAW is offering a ton of material to keep woodturners engaged and informed. There is information on using Zoom for meetings, an introduction to using remote demos and a large list of demonstrators who do interactive live remote demonstrations. Recently AAW has been releasing a series of videos called 'Voices' in which world class turners discuss topics close to their hearts. If you were able to view and read all that AAW has to offer, you would never have time to turn wood, but you would be mighty well informed.

It is spring time (finally). When you can't summon up the drive to go to the workshop, go outside. The days are warm and usually sunny. The migrating birds are back and building nests, their song is in the air and the coulees are full of the early native flowers. A bit of rain might be good for the grass but that warm golden sunshine livens the spirits, even for woodturners who don't see much of each other.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will have our monthly meeting for May at 7pm on Thursday, the 21st. This is a virtual meeting using Zoom on your computer or smart phone. Watch for an invitation in your email in the next few days.

Maureen Sexsmith-West, of Ladybug Arborists, sent us a message recently: "We have some larger diameter lilac and other interesting pieces at the shop waiting to find a tool to gouge them. Let Maureen know what kind of wood you are looking for so when it becomes available she can contact you".

Maureen Sexsmith-West
ladybugarborists@gmail.com

Phone: 403-634-3062.

Ladybug Arborists shop: 253 15 Street N.

Thanks, Maureen.

DON'T FORGET

The American Association of Woodturners is offering **FREE 3 month memberships** to woodturners who are members of affiliated guilds.

The Chinook Woodturning Guild is an affiliate of the AAW so any of you who are not AAW members already can sign up for the free temporary membership. This will give you access to a **HUGE** set of woodturning resources including videos on every subject you can think of and some you may not have thought of, access to all past and current issues of American Woodturner magazine and

Woodturning **FUNDamentals** magazine, and tons of other stuff.

Go to this link to get your free membership:

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Join-Pages/Affiliate-Membership.aspx>

Once you start looking through the AAW website you will forget the world around you and be raring to get out and get turning!

Kai Muenzer's visit to the Chinook Woodturning Guild for a demo and hands-on class is rescheduled for September 24-25, 2020

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

The date of the September monthly meeting is changed from the 3rd Thursday of the month to the 4th Thursday, September 24, in order to accommodate Kai Muenzer's schedule to demo that evening. Kai's hands-on class will follow on the 25 and 26th.

CASA remains closed for May. If you have items there which you want to get, you must make arrangements with Casa to let you in. Call them at 403-327-2272.



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.

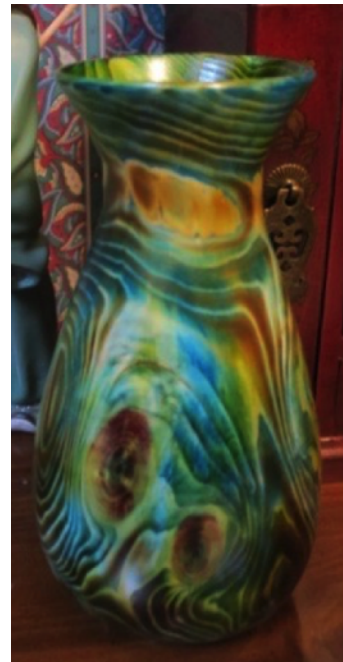
Guild Meetings are cancelled due to the COVID-19 health crisis. CASA is

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY



Last week on my lathe, I started carving an Urn commissioned by a friend - my third cremation urn. In spalted Birch, here is the initial rough exterior design. The bottom contrasting piece is an adjustment fudge to ensure the interior capacity is enough. It may eventually be carved from a 3" piece of Stained cherry, Walnut, or carbonized Maple.
- Paul McGaffey

From a knotty spruce log, I had quite a time of drying it to keep it from splitting, and even then the pockets of sticky sap continued to ooze. As you can see, I experimented a bit with colour, thus the end result.
- Kenn Haase



I wanted to make a wedding gift for my niece (it's been postponed!) and spoke to Roger Wayman about it. He made me a nice little drawing and that's what I used. (Thank you so much, Roger!) The wood is walnut and toasted oak in the centre and walnut around. The finish is Parfix (I am definitely a believer).
- Remo Brassoletto



A quick project today. Replacement for the pusher of a meat grinder.
- Roger Wayman



A couple of bowls I've been working on in my free time.
- Kent Hansen

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Thought I would share a few pictures of a Japanese lantern I just completed which will be part of a display at Casa in November assuming it will be open at that time.

It was made in 5 pieces from 5 different types of wood. The inset traditional gate is a symbol of welcome. It provided a few challenges trying to get the proportions right but stubbornness hopefully paid off. – Roger McMullin



The little cup made from a tree fork seemed a good fit for a little birch vase I had. They were looking fondly across the workbench at each other so I fitted them up with a bit of glue. Totally useless for anything so it must be art!

– Dan Michener



I was working on a thin walled natural edge bowl. I used the brightness of the transmitted light to judge the wall thickness. This works best with the shop lights turned off. The bowl is fresh birch, 3/16 in. thick, 14 inches across. Still drying, I'm hoping to control cracking. - Dan Michener

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Birch vase. 11" high
- Dan Michener



Dennis Delaney has been busy making small chess sets. These use snowman figures with individualized hats to distinguish the types (King, Rook, Pawn etc.) Magnets hold the pieces in place so the game can be hung on a wall.
Dennis doesn't live here anymore, but he is here in spirit!



Just made this bowl.
-Norm Stelter

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Some while back Norm Stelter gave me a chunk of "Russian Olive", so I decided today to see if I could create something from it. So here it is; a hollowed out Lidded Goblet, it had some splitting and 'knotty problems' but with the help of some CA glue it held together fairly well . . . sanded to 800 grit, finished with Orange Oil and Bee's Wax.
- Kenn Haase

A piece of "Linden" from my neighbours felled tree. Roughed out with water spinning out of it like a fountain, and cured somewhat in shavings in a paper bag and then finished drying in the kitchen microwave, 30 seconds at a time then cool and repeat for about two weeks. Sanded to 1500 grit and feels like porcelain china. I understand that it is virtually a Bass Wood like I used for carving, so no strong grain entailed. Plain and simple no segmental challenge, I liked it! Thought I would share with our gallery.
- Kenn Haase



Made this hat for my Grandson. He loves the Canadians and has a hat collection. 5" hat, 2.5" rim, 2.5" height.
- John Vandenberg

Sawdust Session May 2020

We had a Zoom sawdust session on May 9th. There wasn't much sawdust and precious few shavings to be seen, but thirteen of us were able to see each other and talk and show off some of our works. Sawdust Sessions are unstructured and serve as an opportunity for members to talk, trade tips and maybe turn a bit of wood in the presence of other woodturners. In the Zoom sawdust session things need to be a little different so we had a number of topics to toss around.

In the discussions we agreed that it is a good idea to try a remote live demo from one of the

many high profile turners available. We discussed using respirators because Woodchuckers.com is now selling PowerCap brand PAPP equipment. We considered an offer from Half Hitch Woodworks in BC. Half Hitch is willing to select, seal and ship figured wood from the Vancouver area. The general feeling was that the cost of the wood is prohibitive for large pieces unless someone has a special project in mind. A pallet of figured wood appears to cost in the realm of \$6000 and we don't have a large enough membership to absorb either the cost or the wood.

Rob Thomsen and Terry Beaton gave us an update on the 'Buttons' project.

Terry has discovered that Craft Supplies offers discounts to AAW affiliated club members on abrasive disks and finishes, also on large orders. Roy Harker pointed out that it is possible to collect parcels from Address USA, near Del Bonita. The general feeling was that it would be a good idea to make sure you don't have to do a 14 day quarantine upon returning!

Several members showed items they had made and told us a bit about them.

There was talk of COVID-19 and weather and rock dust and whatever else came up. All in all it was a successful meeting.



ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Since the visit of Cindy Drozda in Lethbridge five years ago, I have developed a taste for beautiful finials. We have some members in the Guild who excel producing beautiful finials. This month my preferred web site is the one from Keith P. Tompkins (www.keithptompkins.com) who has a studio in Tivoli, NY, about half way between Albany, the capital, and New York City. Visit his web site and you will find the description of a perfect finial based on Keith's opinion. His site displays other beautiful work as well. You can see some of Keith's work on The World of Woodturners (WOW) site on a regular basis. Just in case you

might need one or a few tools, Keith has developed a unique V-shape skew and the GAGE'T, a high precision thickness gauge for bowls.

Every week, it is always nice to see what Sam Angelo has produced on his YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/WYOMINGWOODTURNER>). Sam was in Lethbridge in 2014, I believe, for demonstration and hands-on sessions and more recently in Great Falls, MT this past September for a demonstration. I had the privilege to attend Sam's presentation in both Lethbridge and Great Falls. Sam is a

very well-organized and very skilled demonstrator and it is always a pleasure to discover his new work every week. He also hosts a monthly session "Notes from the Turning Shop" where he responds to some comments made on his presentations from the last month. It is always a great learning and very enjoyable time to watch and learn from Sam. You can find more information about Sam on his web site at <http://wyomingwoodturner.com>.

Enjoy your discoveries and happy turning!

André

Beads of Courage

Thanks to all who made boxes for the Beads of Courage program. This is an ongoing program because it is such an important cause. Members are encouraged to make a box or boxes to donate. This is a reminder of instructions for them.

Turned Beads of Courage Boxes:

Turned boxes for the Beads Of Courage program need to be about 6 inches in diameter (5 inches minimum) and 5 inches deep (4 inches minimum).

Make sure the lids are easily removable.

Any finials should be easy for a small child to grasp and not too elaborate.

Finishing:

Children who receive these boxes are susceptible to germs/infections/mold. Bowls that have not been properly sealed can harbor mold. Ensure you are using a safe finishing process that does not contain toxic materials. Do not use finishes like linseed or walnut oil that take a long time to outgas.

Do not paint Beads Of Courage boxes. Instead, highlight the beauty of the wood with clear varnish, stain or burning.

The beads for the boxes are available from John VanderBerg . They are in limited supply, so one per box please.

Please complete a Donation Form.

John vanderBerg

As this is my first attempt at the newsletter, please let me know if I have omitted anything you deem important. If I have misspelled your name or misrepresented you in any way, tell me *kindly* and I will try to improve for next 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

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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/>



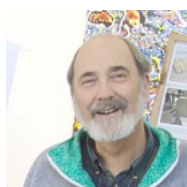
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