

Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2017, number 4

Dec 2017

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

President's Message

Each spring our Guild invites an outstanding professional woodturner or wood artist. The idea behind this is to expand and inspire our imaginations, improve our skills and meet someone from the larger community of woodturners, which we are a little isolated from here in southern Alberta. Until the last few years the invitee was asked to give a full day demonstration and that was all. However, for the last six years we have asked our demonstrators to also present another day or two of hands-on workshop, so some of us could experience one-on-one time with the experts. This has been a success, and for me, the demonstration followed by the hands-on workshop is the crowning feature of each year's Guild activities.



We have had hands-on workshops with Marilyn Campbell (I was so new to the Guild that I was too chicken to attend her workshop), Molly Winton (she taught me how to make my first hollow form and burn and decorate it), Sam Angelo, Cindy Drozda, Andrew Glazebrook and Michael Hosaluk. Look them up online if you don't know who they are. All of these guys were completely approachable, happy to instruct at all levels of experience, helpful with suggestions for form, sharpening, tool use, and all aspects of their particular interest. They also had the tools they use available for us to buy at discounted rates.

This year we are hosting J. Paul Fennell from Scottsdale, Arizona. Check him out online at jpaulfennell.com. He is well known for his intricately cut and embellished hollow forms. He has been seriously woodturning for 46 years so naturally his skills are well honed. I told Paul that we were concerned that some of our members who are interested in his techniques for design, layout, texturing and carving may be rather inexperienced woodturners, and so may be reluctant to sign up for the hands-on workshop. He immediately replied **Please let your club members know that they should not worry about completing a hollow form. I'm used to having students with different skill levels, areas of interest and so forth. I can easily modify the workshop activities to accommodate the situation.** I usually focus on learning to create elegant outside forms on the lathe as a start followed by hollowing techniques regardless of the skill level. Decorative techniques will follow, using work created in the class or something folks have done earlier at home, including bowls or even flat work like platters. For piecing and learning basket weave patterns, I have flat thin sample boards that the students can work on, or hollow forms if they are thin enough. I have methods to create vessel walls that allow piercing and/or carving."

I am excited that J. Paul Fennell is coming to Lethbridge He will be here May 19 for an all day demonstration and May 20 for the hands-on workshop. He has agreed to stay for a second day of workshop if there is sufficient interest.

In this Newsletter there is a poster for Fennell's visit with times and costs.

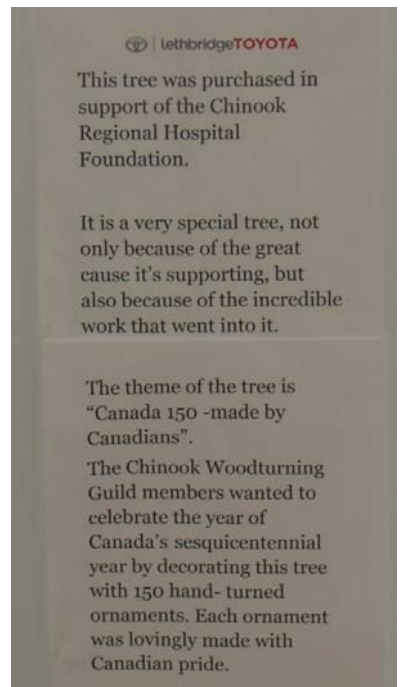
In order for us to make appropriate arrangements, **PLEASE REGISTER SOON FOR THIS EVENT!** by notifying Dan or André

or Norm or Richard (your board of directors) of your interest.



Our tree is proudly on display at Lethbridge Toyota with this poster beside it.

Our Guild can be proud not only of the tree but also that it raised nearly \$20,000 for the Hospital Foundation



Coming Events Schedule of Meetings, demos and events****Regular meetings are held the third Thurs of each month Sept to June**

<u>Dec</u>	21	**Thurs, 7pm. Casa. Social, top making, spin-off, egg nog.
<u>Jan</u> 2018	18	**Thurs, 7pm Casa. TBA, Dennis Delaney.
<u>Feb</u>	15	**Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA
<u>Mar</u>	15	**Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Dan Michener.
<u>Apr</u>	19	**Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Turned Cabinet with drawers, Kai Muenzer
<u>May</u>	17	**Thurs, 7pm, Casa. Pepper mill, Norm Robinson.
	19	Sat, visiting artist J. Paul Fennell, all day demo
	20	Sun, J. Paul Fennell, full day hands-on workshop.
<u>June</u>	21	**Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. BBQ.

CRA Hospital Foundation Festival of the Trees

The decorators - LtoR - K Mix, L Mix, A Laroche, NRobinson, R Shelson, H Plumpton

Lorraine attended the tree auction and what better way to describe the results than in her own excited words from her email the following day.

Hello ALL,

I hope you are sitting down and hang on to your socks because they are about to get knocked off!

As you know this is the 25th year of the Christmas Tree Festival, and OH WHAT A NIGHT IT WAS!

Our Canada 150 tree sold for a total of \$19,250. No, that is not a typo.

Our tree brought in the highest single sale price. Cor VanRay bought several trees which were followed by the words, "Sell It Again" more than once on several of the trees. Our first purchased price on our tree was \$4,750 the second go was \$5,250 and the third sale was \$5,000 (this time by Charlton & Hill) who also said those beautiful words, "Sell It Again"! The final and fourth sale of our tree was to Lethbridge Toyota and brought in \$4,250

There were a couple other trees that sold very high with the "Sell It Again" with the highest total purchased price for "Winter Walk At Midnight" at between \$22,050 to \$23,800 and "Christmas Music" with a cumulative price of around \$17,700.

I am so ecstatic about the whole sale! What generosity of the crowd for the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation

Thank you ALL for your wonderful contributions to making our tree such a

valued contender.

Lorraine & Ken Mix

Lorraine also sent thank you cards to each of the purchasers with the following message in each card:

The entire membership of the Chinook Woodturning Guild wishes to Thank You so very much for your kindness and generosity of the purchase of our Canada 150 themed Christmas Tree, raising an amazing donation to the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation.

President: Dan Michener
Vice President: Norm Robinson
Secretary: Richard Shelson
Treasurer: Andre Laroche

**New members**

We'd like to welcome Bert Kadijk. Introduce yourself and make him feel welcome.

From the Editor

Thank you to Richard Shelson, André Laroche, Dan Michener and Lorraine Mix for their contributions to the newsletter

Website of the month

This is not an endorsement for this web site or company but you may want to check them out. They seem to have items for woodturners which are not readily available elsewhere.

<https://woodturnerswonders.com/>

Meet Your Board of Directors

President Dan Michener

I wasn't a woodworker for most of my life. When I decided to sell the farm in 2009 I took a night school course in woodworking at Lethbridge College where I learned how to use most of the common shop tools. I enjoyed that, so I bought tools and started to make small tables, my desk, shelves, etc. Then I decided to make a gliding chair. The plans called for spindles for the back and arm rests so I figured I'd make them and anyway I love tools so it was a good excuse to buy a lathe.



Little did I suspect that woodturning would become my obsession. When I made a deal on a General lathe, Art at Windsor Plywood, told me the lathe was the cheapest part of being a woodturner. Naturally, I didn't believe him. But he was right.

I immediately discovered that I couldn't do anything on the lathe. However, I had heard of the Chinook Woodturning Guild so I went to a meeting and stood around not knowing anybody in Roger Olsen's shop. I was in luck because I saw Dennis Delaney standing around with his two pinky fingers in bandages. I introduced myself and said "I bet you've got a story" He did. Then he said he could help me with woodturning. Over the next few weeks I spent two Saturdays at his shop, which gave me the self confidence to carry on by myself.

I never looked back. I now like to turn found wood rather than kiln dried, I don't buy exotic woods; there seems to be lots of wood growing in southern Alberta. I have fun experimenting with wood dyes, different finishes, unlikely looking pieces of trees. I love large pieces but do smaller items as well.

The Chinook Woodturning Guild has been wonderful for me because of the connections. I have discovered that no two woodturners do things the same way so there is always something to learn.

Dan

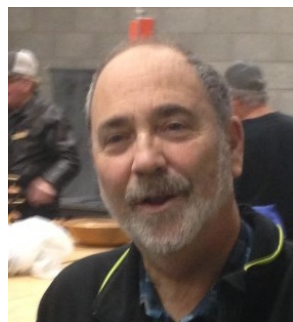
Vice-President Norm Robinson

Looking forward to a profile in the future



Secretary Richard Shelton

Years ago I was canvassing for a charitable organization and stopped at the house of a man I knew. He collected spindles in alleyways and used them to repair broken chairs. He was also a turner and when I asked him to help me find some legs for a chair which did not have any he suggested we turn them instead. I did that and caught the turning bug at that time. A few years later I met Dr Jim Farr (who taught me to turn) and purchased a Rockwell-Beaver lathe which I used for a number of years before replacing it with my current Nova lathe. Very early I was put in touch with Roger McMullen and my connection with the CWG began. While I may not be viewed as a founding member I believe I was a very early member. I have been on and off the Board for the last 6 years or so. I am currently the Secretary.



I enjoy turning though I do not view myself as a tremendously accomplished turner. Finding the time to get out and turn is my greatest challenge as it

probably is for many of us. I enjoy both spindle turning and bowl turning. Some of my current projects include making my way through a huge pile of Russian Olive (mostly bowls but I have also turned the handles for a set of scrapers I made during a recent CWG General meeting) and making a set of chess pieces for my younger son from Purpleheart and Movingui.

Richard

Treasurer André Laroche

I moved to Lethbridge in 1989 when I accepted a position at the Lethbridge Research Station as it was known at that time. I am still employed at the same Institution.

I always had been interested about woodworking and did different "flat" project for the house and the cabin over the years. My dad is a very talented woodworker and no project could stop him despite limited time.



One day, one of my friends told me that he had purchased a lathe at a garage sale in his neighborhood for me and that he would deliver the lathe in a few days. After getting the lathe (a classic Beaver Rockwell) I purchased some gouges and other accessories such as a grinder. I then joined the club in 2008. My main issue was that I am a member of the Gold Community band and rehearsals were on Thursdays night, the same night than the woodturners so I did not make many meetings for a few years. I took a course with Jim Farr where I really got the bug for woodturning. Jim is at a wonderful and great teacher. I am afraid that Jim never got recognition for his great talent as a teacher and his ability to develop some skills in his student... I still do not turn a lot but I surely enjoy every (in fact most) moment when I do it. Then when the rehearsals of the Gold Band were switched to Wednesday night a few years ago, it was the window that allowed me to attend the CWG meeting more regularly.

I have known Vern for many years with the Community Band. I was approached by Vern if I would serve on the Board. I said yes and was elected at the Treasurer position since. One thing that I was told after my election was that the Board members have to be a member of the AAW as we are a chapter of this great organization. This was a great thing as although I was buying American Woodturner on a regular basis at Chapter, I had never thought becoming an AAW member. This was the best thing as the resources made available to members are just astonishing. I am planning to go to Portland next June at the AAW Symposium. Serving on the Board has been mostly fun but stressing at some times. The greatest rewards for a Board member are when members are all pulling together behind different projects, would it be the Christmas Tree Ornaments for the Lethbridge Regional Hospital Foundation, the wonderful bowls for the Bead of Courage Program or attending in large numbers the annual Demonstration and Hands-on weekend with outstanding acclaimed woodturners.

André

Beads of Courage

chairman: John vandenBerg.

Hi. I have sent all the Beads of Courage boxes to Calgary. Our library box is empty waiting for some new boxes, so hoping to see it get filled with new ones.

Thanks John VandenBerg
Beads of Courage
Coordinator

Here is picture of the ones I have sent



Rae Perry, Canadian Co-ordinator for Beads of Courage distributions receives our newsletters. Below is an email recently received from her.

Hi Vern,

Thanks for the BOC update. That is awesome that the guild has donated 118 bowls so far. With several of them going to Lethbridge Hospital.

We are planning for 2018 Bead Inspired Fundraising event already so mark it in your calendar the day is May 11, 2018. We will be looking for donations for the silent auction again so maybe mention it in your next meeting. Things that get attention are display boards, s/p mills, salad bowls and if they are made in sets (all matching wood) that is even better. John's pens were a real good one last year.

If you have any questions please just ask. Once the invitations are completed they will be emailed out to whomever is in the system.

Thanks again for your continued support and helping with the healing. The kids really do love the bowls!!!

Rae Parry

Beads of Courage boxes from our Nov meeting



Bring Back

Bring Back is a Guild program where at each meeting a member is given a block of wood to turn. The member turns something from the block and brings the result to the next meeting along with a block of wood which is given to a different turner to take home and produce a turning.

Unfortunately Roy Harker Was ill and unable to bring his work to our Nov meeting - he expects to bring it in Dec. He did send this piece of Koa for Terry Baker to work with



Guild Website

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

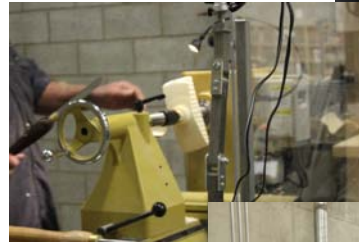
If you haven't you should visit our website. If you are a member there is a page waiting for you to showcase your work.

Nov Meeting

John vandenBerg gave an excellent demo of what he calls a twice turned bowl - something he learned from Rudy Lopez. He discussed and demonstrated the process and aspects to be considered from beginning to end.



From start



To finish

American Association of Woodturners

Are you a member of the AAW?

Some, but not all, members of our Guild are also members of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). I encourage anyone who is serious about woodturning to join this organization.

If any of you are thinking of joining AAW, but aren't sure if it is worth it, check it out at this website: <http://www.woodturner.org/default.asp?>

Here is a new AAW membership promotion.

AAW's new membership promotion began December 4, 2017, and is a perfect opportunity for chapter members to give them a try - especially those who have been sitting on the fence about joining. This new introductory membership enables chapter members who have never been AAW members to test the waters of a full membership for 3 months for U\$20. If they wish to continue their membership, introductory members will be automatically renewed one time for an additional U\$40. Those who have never been members of the American Association of Woodturners may sign up for a 3-month introductory membership using a credit card at tiny.cc/ITM2040.

Dan

A Blast from the past

Do you recognize this?



Do you remember Molly Winton's visit to our Guild in 2013. She put on a great demo and hands on workshop



It does us good to look in the past, to our history of things we have done and accomplished.

If you have photos from our history send them to the newsletter editor. Verntheturner@gmail.com We will share them in future newsletters and we will also put them in our photo gallery archives so that our history is not lost.

When sending photos please give a description, approx date and names of people in the photo.

Photo naming protocol

Over the years there have been thousands of photos taken at Guild events etc. Many of them just have a number as the file name assigned by the camera. As a result it can be difficult to find photos of a particular event or even to know what the photo is about.

We have a large hard drive for our computer and want to collect photos of past events if they are available. To help with sorting and identification we have agreed to a photo naming protocol. Using the windows capability to have very long file names we can get a lot of information stored in the file name. By consistently using the same file name structure the photos can be stored in one directory and more easily searched because they will be grouped together.

The name will be structured into 4 sections with each section separated by an underscore _

- 1) event name/ description
- 2) date (at least month & year) eg: Oct 2017
- 3) description of the photo content, name of individuals (names would be separated by commas,)
- 4) any other useful information
- 5) additional sections could be used if necessary

eg file name -> event name_Nov 2017_LtoR-John Doe, Jane Doe, Jake etc..putting box together

You may want to use a similar protocol for your photo collection.

Saw dust sessions

This season we have begun to have informal "sawdust sessions" at Casa. These are scheduled in the morning and may or may not have a theme. All members are welcome.

The point of a "sawdust session" is to give members an opportunity to talk among themselves about woodturning issues and to do hands-on work with casual mentoring by others in our group. This is something we cannot do in the more formal monthly evening meetings where we have to follow a set agenda or the meeting would run all night!

So far the "sawdust sessions" have been pretty successful in that a group of our members show up and appear to enjoy their experience. There have been five

such "sawdust sessions" so far and all have been successful in that some of you guys showed up and talked woodturning with each other and did hands-on work..

There is always a considerable interest in sharpening. For me sharpening is the most difficult aspect of woodturning to grasp, but without sharp tools woodturning is harder, messier and often leads to unsatisfactory results and less devotion to the craft. Sharpening is not much of a topic as a demo because it requires individual attention, but in a hands-on situation we can learn quite a lot. I think practical sharpening will always be available to whoever shows up at the "sawdust sessions".

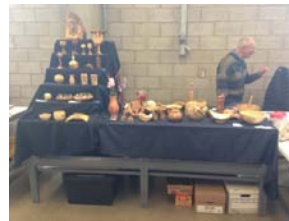
So far we have scheduled sawdust sessions on an as needs basis. However, if members like, we can regularize them. Currently there are no "sawdust sessions" scheduled through the holiday season but we hope to announce a series in the New Year. Dan

Christmas at CASA sale - Nov 2017

This was a successful event for both the Guild and our members who participated with sales in excess of \$5,000. We also generated \$180 from sale of tops for the food Bank.



Terry Beaton



Dennis Delaney



Roger McMullen



Dan Michener



Norm Stelter



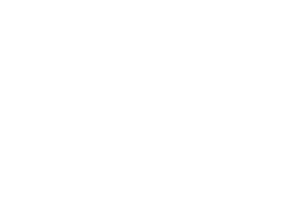
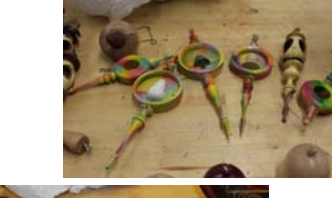
Lorraine Mix



Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery

our members really stepped up to the plate to provide ornaments for the Christmas tree project. As a result most of the instant gallery was tree ornaments.

I know the Board wishes to thank all members for their contribution.



Brian Matthews with his scraper



Tops for the Food Bank



Dennis Delaney with his curling rocks



Roger McMullen - front



Roger McMullen - back



It is also noted that our display at the Picture Butte Art Gallery closed in mid November. It was very well received. We received a letter from the gallery, the text of which is as follows:

The Friends of the Picture Butte Municipal Library Society

November 10, 2017

Dear Members of the Chinook Woodturning Guild,

WOW what a show! ! ! Your amazing exhibition in our Gallery has thrilled more visitors that we have ever had! Each display demonstrated the range of creativity in woodturning. Our visitors frequently voiced the wonderment at what can happen when a person with a vision finds a piece of wood! !

We thanks you so much for coming to our Gallery, we hope that you will come back

Sincerely,

Elaine King

For the Friends of the Picture Butte Municipal Library Society

About the Guild

mailing address: c/o CASA
230 - 8 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
Canada
T1J 5H2

Meetings are at 7:00pm
the third Thursday of the month
Sept thru June
at the CASA building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

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

Executive		
President:	Dan Michener	403-331-9177
	michenerdan@gmail.com	
Vice-President	Norm Robinson	403-404-4428
	normrobinson@hotmail.com	
Secretary	Richard Shelson	403-381-6670
	rshelson@shaw.net	
Treasurer	André Laroche	403-329-6414
	gplaroche@telus.net	

Newsletter Editor Vern Miller 403-892-6729
Website <http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

the Guild is a member of - Allied Arts Council, Lethbridge, the
Society of Canadian Woodworkers and a chapter of the
American Association of Woodturners

The Chinook Woodturning Guild of Lethbridge presents:

J. Paul Fennell

WOOD ARTIST



Saturday 19 May 2018

**J. Paul Fennell hollows and carves wood to create
forms inspired by nature**

Demonstration

Saturday 19 May 2018 9 am – 4 pm

Registration: \$60 (Students \$40) includes lunch

**Location: Casa Building 230 8th St. South
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 5H2, Canada**

To pre-register contact:

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

André Laroche 403-393-5337 (gplaroche@telus.net)

(Registration will also be accepted at the door)

Workshop

Sunday 20 May 9 am – 4 pm

Registration for Paul's full-day hands-on workshop is \$200.

Space is limited so please contact Dan Michener or André Laroche, as above,
if you would like to attend the workshop

**Do not miss this opportunity to learn from and be inspired by
one of the great artists of our time.**