



# Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2018, number 2

Oct 2017

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

## President's Message

For many years our guild has decorated a tree for the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation's Christmas Tree Festival. This is a fund raiser in which local organizations decorate trees to be auctioned, with the proceeds being used for equipment and programs that will enhance patient services and health programs in our community.



The Chinook Woodturning Guild is proud to have been a contributor to this worthwhile program for many years. There are 25 or so trees decorated for the Hospital Foundation each year and they are beautiful to behold. Of the trees on display before the auction, ours is the only one decorated with hand made ornaments and it always draws comments of wonder and appreciation. At last year's auction our tree raised nearly \$20,000 for the benefit of the community, and that is really something!

This year we need at least 150 ornaments and the tree is being decorated on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. If each of us makes a few we won't have any trouble reaching that number. The variety of ornaments is only limited by your imagination.

Lots of us, including me, say its too soon to be interested in making ornaments, and didn't we do that last year, and it seems as if the Board doesn't do anything but talk up Christmas ornaments. Well, that's all true, but it's a great cause and it has to be done ahead of time so here we go again. So lets get going! For inspiration look to the internet and look to your fellow woodturners who have made some.

There are a few things to keep in mind when making an ornament: It should have a loop or hook so it can be attached to a tree, it should be light enough so it doesn't drag the tree over and, ideally, it is shiny and colourful.

Bring your contributions to the October 18<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> regular meetings. Let us see them before they go on the tree.

## Coming Events      Schedule of Meetings, demos and events

**\*\*Regular meetings are held the third Thurs of each month Sept to June**

**2018**      *unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held in the woodshop at CASA*

**Oct**      **18**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm - Beads of Courage presentation; Terry Beaton – make a dibble  
             **20**      Sat, time to be announced, Sawdust Session. Visit to Remington Carriage Museum, Cardston, restoration workshop tour.  
**Nov**      **3**      Sat, 9am, Sawdust Session – Making woodburning pens  
             **15**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Roger Wayman TBA  
             **16 - 17**      Fri & Sat, Christmas at Casa sale

**Dec**      **1**      Sat, 9am, Sawdust Session – Spinning top making in preparation for the Christmas spinoff.  
             **20**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Annual Christmas top making and spin off.  
**Jan**      **5**      Sat., 9am, Sawdust session  
             **17**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Workshop Safety  
**Feb**      **2**      Sat., 9am, Sawdust session  
             **21**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Norm Robinson – Finishes and finishing for woodturners  
**Mar**      **2**      Sat., 9am, Sawdust session  
             **21**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Dan Michener – make a quash.  
**Apr**      **6**      Sat., 9am, Sawdust session  
             **18**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, TBA,  
**May**      **4**      Sat., 9am, Sawdust session  
             **16**      \*\*Thurs, 7pm, TBA.  
             **25**      Sat, All Day demonstration by Ed Pretty  
             **26**      Hands on workshop with Ed Pretty  
**June**      **20**      \*\*Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. End of season BBQ.

## Additional Announcements

1. Saturday sawdust sessions will begin at 10am to give members more time to fit it into their schedules.

2. We are introducing a wood raffle as a fund raiser at the monthly meetings. You bring some surplus wood and we will sell raffle tickets for \$2. If your name is drawn you can choose one lot of wood. If there are several lots we will keep on drawing tickets. Norm Robinson is in charge of the raffle.

3. The guild will have a tour of the restoration workshop at the Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Further notice will be sent out shortly before the event.

4. We need hand made ornaments for the Hospital Foundation's Christmas Tree Auction.

5. Ed Pretty from Langley B.C. will come to Lethbridge to demonstrate and teach hands-on workshops on 25 and 26 May, 2019. Ed has been turning for more than 40 years and was a featured demonstrator at the AAW Symposium in Portland last summer. He does both artistic and practical pieces and he is a specialist in teaching skills enhancement for both beginning and experienced woodturners. Mark these dates on your calendar!

- At the Black Forest Wood Expo and 25th Anniversary Sale, October 19 to 21, the Calgary Guild has a demo area where two Laguna Lathes are set-up. One lathe is a new model that will be officially released by Laguna on 19 October, coincidentally the start of our in-house event.

- On November 3rd the Edmonton Woodturners Guild is hosting a full-day demonstration by noted Canadian woodturner and artist Michael Hosaluk. All are welcome to attend. For details contact Bill Nester at [billnester73@gmail.com](mailto:billnester73@gmail.com)

## New Members

We'd like to welcome Baz Skinner, Remo Brassolotto, Schuyler Robinson.

Introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome.

### From the Editor

Thanks to Dan Michener, Jim Galloway and André Laroche for their contributions to the newsletter.

I'm still looking for personal profiles or biographies so that we can continue introducing our members to each other. Please send me your profile if you haven't already done so, as soon as you are able. If you need some help with it, let me know and I'll help as much as I can. Thank you for your help.

### Email addresses

If you are not reading this that is because I don't have your current email address. Of course if that is true you won't be able to read the newsletter until you go to our website and look the newest one up.

We really would like you to be able to read the newsletter as soon as it is published and distributed. We think the newsletter has several important functions. We try to distribute it a few days before the next meeting as a reminder the meeting is coming up. It helps all members stay in touch with Guild activities, encourages fellowship and participation, and becomes a way of preserving Gild history.

If you are changing your email address please let me know at [verntheturner@gmail.com](mailto:verntheturner@gmail.com) Also let the executive know so they can keep Gild records up-to-date

### AGM 2018 Report

Our Annual General Meeting was held on September 20, 2018 at the Casa Wood shop prior to our regular September meeting. A total of 23 members and two guests were present. President Michener presented his report followed by the Financial report for the 2017-18 year. We had a small surplus on our operations at the end of the year and our situation is stable. Thanks to John VandenBerg and Kenn Haase for reviewing the books.

As no nominations, previously to the meeting or from the floor during the meeting, were received, the current executive was re-elected for one more year. They are President – Dan Michener, Vice President - Norman Robinson, Secretary – Richard Shelson and Treasurer - André Laroche. Thanks for your support.



### Regular Sept 2018 meeting



Link to website for the presented video 'Shear Scraping' by John Lucas <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oeiVQLcOd4>

Roger McMullen presented a follow-up of his previous demonstration on building a wood burning system using a battery charger. If there is interest he is prepared to lead a sawdust session to help others build their own.



Demo\_RogerMcMullen-12volt wood burning system



### Beads of Courage

chairman: John vandenBerg

Our library has lots of space for some new BofC boxes to be made by our members. It is great to be part of this program to help with the healing of the children, they really love the boxes. This coming meeting we will have a Guest speaker from the Beads Of Courage program to inform us all about the program, Hope to see you all there.

Thank you Beads of Courage co-ordinator John Vanden Berg

### 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.



May 2018 \_From Jim Galloway to Remie Benoit



Remie Benoit\_nicely finished wood box and bowl





Nanking Cherry from Remie Benoit to Terry Beaton

**Guild Website**

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

**Theme and Ornaments for the Christmas Tree 2018**

Hello Turners,

We will participate in the 26th Annual Christmas Tree Festival organized by Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation. Last year our Tree raised more than \$20,000 and the theme was "Canada 150 with 150 ornaments made by Canadians". Our tree had a total of 181 ornaments.

This year, we still have a week to settle on the theme and your suggestions are sought. Please let's your Executive members (Dan, Norm, Richard and André) know about your ideas. The theme can influence the interest of the bidders. Previous themes were "One Good Turn Deserves Another" in 2016 (161 ornaments) and "Twelve Months of Christmas" in 2015 (136 ornaments).

We will receive your ornaments at the October and November meetings as the tree will be decorated on Saturday, November 17th (9a – 3p). How many ornaments can we contribute this year? Last year we collectively made 181 ornaments. It would be nice to have a similar number this year again. I am looking for your generosity to make it a success. The profits for this event are going to the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation which is a great cause.

Please also let me know if you want to help with the decoration as 3-5 volunteers are needed.

The free public viewing days for the Christmas trees will be Sunday, November 18th (12p - 4p), Monday, November 19th (12p – 5p) and Tuesday, November 20th (12p – 8p).

Looking forward to hear from you.

André

**Are you a member of the AAW**

If you aren't it is well worth considering. Aside from the bi-monthly Journal (magazine) and the alternate monthly digital magazine, there is a host of resources focused solely on woodturning and related topics.

Videos, articles and books, as well as tips and tricks are all available to members on-line. Just some of the topics...

- "weed pot" or natural edge bud vase
- "Spalted Wood: Health and Safety,"
- a toast to goblets!
- inspiration and translating ideas into woodturning
- natural-edges and using green wood
- using multiaxis/offset techniques
- techniques from several pros that will help you to strengthen your skills and improve your woodturning experience.

This is just a small list of what is available to members. The list is almost endless.

**Artwalk 2018**

While we had planned to participate as we have for many past years, we were assigned an outside location for our demonstration, consequently we declined & did not participate at Artwalk this year. We wished it could have been otherwise but we simply did not want to be outside.

Hopefully the situation will be different in future years so that we can again participate.

**Woodturner's field trip, 20 October**

We have made arrangements for our guild to visit the restoration workshop at the **Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston**.

Jeremy Masterson invited us to a special Saturday tour of his professional workshop where he repairs and restores horse drawn vehicles from the 1800's and early 1900's. His restorations use the tools and techniques which were used at the time, and the workshop is filled with specialized, antique tools in working condition. Jeremy makes replacement, like new, wooden spoked wheels with tight steel tires; steams and bends wooden carriage pieces; welds with a blacksmith's forge and hammer; reupholsters seats and paints and pinstripes the beautiful antique carriages and wagons. There is also a modern machine shop behind the scenes.

We will meet at the Remington Carriage Museum entrance (or just inside the entrance):

10am

20 October 2018, Saturday.

The cost to you is \$10 per adult. Before starting the tour we will count you and pay the entrance fee in one lump sum, then we will collect the \$10 from each of you.

Late arrivals will have to pay \$10.40 at the ticket counter. Be sure to tell them you are with the woodturners group tour or it will cost you a little more.

Your entrance fee entitles you to all the museum displays until closing time. There is a lot to see even if you don't tour the workshop, so feel free to bring family members for the same price. I believe that children 6 and under are not allowed in the workshop.

There is a restaurant in the Museum.

Transportation: It takes about an hour to drive from Lethbridge to

the Carriage Museum. There are many things to see and do in the Museum and everybody will want to stay for different lengths of time.

I think it best if we simply agree to meet at the museum just before 10am. If possible share rides. If you don't have a ride or want to share, let me know.

There will be a followup email and a regular Thursday evening meeting on 18 October when we can discuss arrangements.

Dan

Editor's note: Being able to visit the workshop is a once in a lifetime treat. That is not available to everyone and it would be shame to miss it.

### **Volunteer Demonstrators wanted**

Even though most meetings are scheduled for this year, the Guild can always use new demonstrators for meetings. This is an opportunity to share your skills and gifts and you will learn in the process of putting together a demonstration.

We have a new woodturning season approaching and I know everyone has been turning like crazy all summer. However, in the unlikely event that some haven't had a chance to make much on the lathe lately, we will be presenting demos to help tune-up and broaden everybody's turning skills at the monthly meetings starting in September. At some meetings we may have several short presentations and other times a single project might take an hour or more.

We need volunteers to demonstrate. All topics related to woodturning are desirable from workshop safely to sharpening to top making to finishing. Short projects and helpful tips are welcome contributions. Some projects are a bit more involved and we might decide to do those in the monthly Sawdust Sessions on certain Saturday mornings.

Please step up!

Dan

### **32<sup>nd</sup> international AAW International Symposium 2018, Portland, OR**

It was my first occasion to attend an AAW meeting and I was somewhat apprehensive. It turned out no need to be apprehensive. From the first moment at the registration until the last minute of the gathering it was a very friendly atmosphere all along. I was greeted with 'International Guest and '1<sup>st</sup> time attendee' stickers with my badge name, I manage to get along only with the first sticker. There was a lot to see and a lot more than I expected. The symposium started on Thursday night at 7:00 pm and the last rotation ended on Sunday afternoon at 3:30 for a total of 11 rotations and it was packed with different options as there were up to ten presentations per rotation in addition to the Instant Gallery with over 1500 works by turners and the vendor area filled with everything you can imagine and more.

We were four members from the Chinook Woodturning Guild: Dan Michener, Norm Robinson, Ross Robinson and I attending the symposium. Although we flew into Portland at different times, our paths did cross during the meeting and we went out for a few meals together. Although I had looked at the program ahead of time and pre-selected some sessions I wanted to attend, I changed my mind on some while going through the Instant Gallery where the works of demonstrators as well as attendees were on display. There was all kind of works but for some I wanted to see the makers in person. I was surely impressed about the quality of the finish of all the items.

They were all just impeccable.

There was a large spectrum in the scopes of the sessions presented ranging for discussion about Art to how to do it. There were a number of international contributors bringing their slant on many different projects which was very enjoyable. The complete program can be accessed at

<https://www.woodturner.org/page/2018PortSchedule>.

The demonstrators were all top notch and I learned a lot. It went just too fast.

The meeting was also a nice occasion to become re-acquainted with demonstrators that visited Lethbridge in the recent years including J Paul and Judy Fennell, Cindy Drozda, Molly Winton and Marilyn Campbell.

I was also impressed with the vendors displaying everything you can imagine and even more but all indispensable tools for a woodturner. It was not possible to come back home with a few items. It was particularly fun to walk the vendor area with Norm as he knew a lot of vendors and he pointed out many unique things that I had missed.

Being in Portland and despite the packed program of the symposium, I was able to discover some of the numerous walking and bicycle paths, the Art Museum, some of the beautiful parks including the famous Rose Garden in Washington Park, the food trucks and breweries and the giant Powell's Books store selling new and used books and filling a full block with 6 stories of books, all this using Portland's super and inexpensive transit system. I had a great time at the AAW symposium and in Portland. I saw and learnt a lot. Based on my great experience, I would wish to any turner the pleasure of attending such meeting. For myself, I hope that I will be able to attend another symposium soon despite the fact that I have ideas and things to try for a number of years ahead of me just from this one. André

### **Was it rectangular? No! Was it square? No!**

How do you acknowledge the members' appreciation to a Charter member of the Guild (Fall 2005), to a past Treasurer (2008-2011), to a past President (2011-2017), to our newsletter editor (2009-2014) and (2017-present), to a woodturning teacher, to an excellent woodturner and to a friend? That was the task given to your Executive Board at the September 2017 AGM. Such a demanding task needed a bit of time to be completed. After much deliberation, it was pointed out by Master framer Norm Robinson that only a turned frame would meet the expectation of the Guild members. Dan Michener had a special piece of Manitoba maple burl that he was keeping aside for a very special occasion. Suddenly, we have a unique and beautiful frame that was engraved by Norm using his high tech laser tool.

Voilà! It was that simple after all.

The plaque and a gift card were presented to Vern Miller on October 10, 2018. Thanks Vern for your many contributions to the Guild that are recognized by all present and past members as well as your friends.





Pres Dan Michener presenting to Vern Miller

### Vern's Comments:

Thanks for the kind comments. It was a pleasure serving the Guild. Those who do, do so because there is a need and because they hope to help the Guild improve, be stronger and more beneficial to its members. It was a privilege to serve with the many fine gentlemen who served on the Board and all that they contributed. There were many times when they stepped in to help me when it was needed and I appreciate that very much.

While being acknowledged is gratifying and appreciated, that is and should be shared by all who have served on the Board and through their service made me look even better.

Thank you one and all.

As my health interferes with my being active in the woodturning community, I know I will miss the many friendships and activities we have all shared.

### Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery - Sept 2018

Jim tells me that there were so many turnings he simply didn't have time to photograph them all. For those who are missing, we apologize.



Dennis Delany's inspiring matching bowls, one piece of maple burl



Dennis Hooge's four segmented tops and maple bowl with inspiring feathers



John VandenBerg\_burl bowl



Dan Michener\_ colourful bowls (wood unknown and milk paint) and a Scottish Quaich (oak) drinking cup (scotch whiskey I guess)



Norm Robinson\_start on a unique Christmas decoration, a wonderful rustic idea, the centre is a laser cut nativity scene



Baz Skinner\_Manitoba Maple bowl



Terry Beaton\_Dibbles



Roger Wayman\_lidded box, poplar bowl (experimenting with stains) lid paduk finial and African black wood



Norman Stelter\_segmented bowl, maple and purple heart with walnut

### **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 8<sup>th</sup> Street South in Lethbridge

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

#### **Executive**

President:	Dan Michener	403-331-9177
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Secretary	Richard Shelson	403-381-6670
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Treasurer	André Laroche	403-329-6414
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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