



Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2018, number 3

Nov 2017

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

President's Message

In November woodturners can feel a bit overwhelmed by demands for product. Ornaments for the tree, tops to sell for the foodbank, items for the Christmas sale and gifts for friends and family. This year November 14, 15 and 16 encompass our monthly meeting, the Christmas at Casa sale and the decoration and display of the Christmas Tree for the Hospital Foundation. After that weekend the pressure to produce will be off and we can relax.



I became hooked on woodturning because of the huge variety of things that can be made from a readily available material. Often when I walk into my workshop I have no idea what I am going to do that day, but something always emerges. Some of it falls apart, some is just plain ugly, some is bizarre and I don't know what to think of it until others have seen it too, but some is just wonderful to me and I can't wait to show it to somebody, just like a child. However, after a while the house gets overloaded with bowls and goblets so I get in the Christmas sale to unload stuff so I can make more.

And here is the rub for me. I discover what people will and won't buy at the sale and then I find myself producing for the sale instead of producing whatever I like. For me this takes some of the wonder and joy away from the woodturning experience. It's like having a job when I thought I was retired. Bummer!

I admire our woodturners who can produce a series of beautiful, similar items, but I haven't the talent or disposition. I go to the sale because I enjoy talking to the kind of people who attend art sales, and it's very gratifying when someone loves the stuff. In future I'll try not to turn with the sale in mind, maybe I'll be successful.

Dan Michener

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

Nov	3	Sat, 9am, Sawdust Session – Making woodburning pens
	15	**Thurs, 7pm, Roger Wayman TBA
	16 - 17	Fri & Sat, Christmas at Casa sale
	17	Decorating the Hospital Foundation Tree
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
	18	**Thurs, 7pm, Workshop Safety
Feb	2	Sat., 9am, Sawdust session

Feb	21	**Thurs, 7pm, Norm Robinson – Finishes and finishing for woodturners
Mar	2	Sat., 9am, Sawdust session
	21	**Thurs, 7pm, Dan Michener – make a quail.
Apr	6	Sat., 9am, Sawdust session
	18	**Thurs, 7pm, TBA,
May	4	Sat., 9am, Sawdust session
	16	**Thurs, 7pm, TBA.
June	20	**Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. BBQ.

Announcements

December 1st 2018 is the next Sawdust Session. We will do tool sharpening and making spinning tops and whatever else comes up. Apologies to those who were at the last sawdust session hoping to sharpen up but found everybody too busy with the burning pen making to help.

New Members

We'd like to welcome Earl Stamm.

Please introduce yourself to him and make him feel welcome.

From the Editor

Contributions for the newsletter from members is always appreciated. They can be photos, write up of an event, a tip that works for you in your shop, an interesting website, etc. - all contributions are welcome.

Thanks to Dan Michener, Jim Galloway, Terry Beaton, Richard Shelson, Roger Wayman, Andre Laroche and Lorraine Mix for their contributions this month. They are appreciated

Meet our Members

Vern Miller member since: Sept 2004



Vern was raised in Toronto, Ontario and always had a strong interest in farming. After graduating from the University of Guelph Vern worked in a variety of farming operations - milking cows, raising pigs, operating a beef feedlot & cow/calf operation and for 6 years training, showing & selling saddle horses.

Eventually he worked for a chartered bank specializing in agricultural finance, moved on to a financial consulting career and for the 20 years till retirement, as the CFO of a medium sized business in Southern Alberta.

Vern has lived in Lethbridge since 1985, was a charter member of the Lethbridge Community Bank and heavily involved as a musician until 2009.

Woodworking has always been a strong interest but not taken up seriously until the early 2000's when I purchased a used lathe from Norm Stelter. That began the addiction and 5 lathes later I still love to turn even though my health is now a restriction.

I believe strongly in our Guild and the value it provides to local

woodturners. I served on the Guild board for 9 years as Treasurer & President. I started the newsletter in 2009 and serve today as Editor. One of the important functions of our Guild is to help new turners develop their skills. Many of our members mentor new turners and I have taught several Beginning Turner courses.

I don't particularly enjoy making duplicates although will make tops. Kids love them and it helps keep tool control current.

My preference is to work with locally harvested wood in its natural state. Defects are just another design opportunity and provide interesting effects, so the more funky the better.

While I enjoy the process of making a piece, I am always focused on creating a form which is pleasing to the eye and begging to be picked up and examined. There is no greater sense of satisfaction than completing a piece which will stand the test of time.

Oct 2018 meeting

by Richard Shelsen

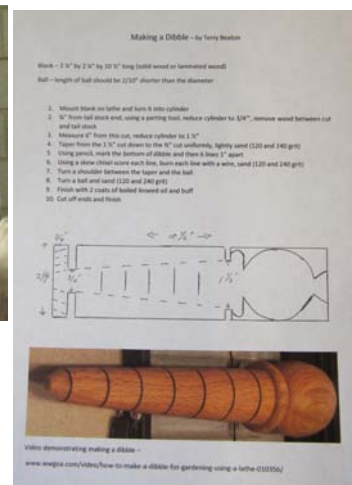
Our October 2018 meeting was a busy one. We initially viewed a video - "More Miscellaneous Tips" (see the link below)

That presentation was followed by a discussion about the "Beads of Courage" program which we participate in. John Vandenberg invited Maria Malcolm (Child Life Specialist at the Chinook Regional Hospital. Maria's presentation was very enlightening and, I believe, helped all present to have a much better understanding of the impact our work on this program has on some very deserving children.



John Vandenberg introduces Maria Malcolm

That presentation was then followed by a demonstration by Terry Beaton on how to turn a "dibble" (an implement which is very useful when planting bulbs in a garden which allows the gardener to plant the bulbs at a specific depth each time.). Not only did Terry provide us with a clear demonstration by he also provided us with written instructions as to how this might be accomplished.



We then moved to the wood raffle and then to the Instant Gallery where some very interesting pieces were showcased not the least of which was a plaque presented to Vern Miller, our immediate Past President (as well as having filled a number of other roles) thanking him for the years of service which he has provided.



Dan Michener & Norm Robinson with plaque



Oct Wood Raffle

The wood raffle at the October meeting was a surprising success. We will continue these raffles every second month. The next one is December 20. Bring some wood.



Website of the month

Link of video presented at the October meeting. The video was entitled 'More Miscellaneous Tips' by Reed Gray aka Robo Hippy and included exercise about gouge control (to be practiced while turning at low speed) and sheer scraping and can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_uzjinPaiE
Enjoy!

Christmas at CASA Sale

Our guild is participating in the Christmas at Casa sale in the Casa woodshop on November 16th and 17th. Sale hours are Friday 5-9pm and Saturday 10am until 5pm. Come by and support our vendors and see what they are making.

At the Christmas sale we sell simple tops with the proceeds going to the Food Bank. Please help support this initiative by turning a few tops and bringing them to our Nov meeting.

Beads of Courage

chairman: John vandenBerg

We welcomed Maria Malcolm to our last meeting. She is the child life specialist at the Regional Hospital, in charge of children's health and palliative care. She talked to us about the program at Chinook Regional Hospital. She told us that each bead colour is for a specific procedure. The beads record each child's journey, and tell a story of courage, honour and hope. Many of the boxes we donate are kept in Lethbridge, and the children are happy to choose the one they want.

We have been involved in the program for 3 years and have donated 143 boxes to date. Hopefully Maria has inspired us all to make a few more boxes. Thank you to all who have made boxes for Beads of Courage.

John VandenBerg - Beads of Courage Coordinator.



Maria Malcolm



Oct boxes

Guild Website

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

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.



Nanking Cherry from Remie Benoit to Terry Beaton



Terry Beaton from nanking cherry bring back



Oct bring back -Terry Beaton to Dennis Hogie



Notes of Interest

Roger McMullin has a remarkable display of some of his work on the upper level at Casa. Be sure to take it in before it is taken down.



Looking for a new lathe, this one might not fit in your garage.



The picture was taken in Las Vegas at a trade show. It was for sale for \$1,500,000.00, if any one is interested. The centre part where the operator stands moves left and right.

Terry Beaton

Lethbridge Hospital Tree Project

We need ornaments for the Hospital Foundation Christmas Tree. Bring them to the November 15 meeting. The tree is decorated on November 17th so all the ornaments have to be in the hands of the decorators before then.

This is a project we have been involved with for many years. The project raises funds for the Hospital Foundation and over the years our efforts have raised significant funds. Last year our tree raised just under \$20,000, a result we can't expect every year. To be successful we need the help of all members.

A few ornaments from our Oct meeting



Bryan Matthews



Bryan Matthews



Dan Michener



Remington Carriage Museum field trip

On October 20 the Chinook Woodturning Guild had a field trip to the restoration workshop in the Remington Carriage Museum located in Cardston, Alberta.

Twenty of us showed up and were welcomed by Jeremy Masterson, head of the restoration section, who explained that his workshop aims to return horse drawn vehicles from the 19th and early 20th century to like-new condition. This is different from the conservation/preservation section whose objective is to preserve antiquities in their current condition to prevent further deterioration.



Jeremy Masterson Introduction to the restoration workshop

Jeremy and his co-worker not only work with wagons and carriages from the museum's collection but also take on custom restorations from all over Canada and the United States. A restored vehicle has as much of the original material as possible, but the broken, deteriorated or missing parts are rebuilt or replaced in so far as is possible using the techniques which would have been used at the time of the original manufacture. For that reason the workshop has a huge assortment of machines and tools which few of today's tradesmen know how to use, but were essential in our grandparents' time to make the wheels of commerce and daily living go around.

Jeremy led us through the front shop where the wooden, spoked wheels are made; past the iron tire shrinkers, the welding forge, the specialized 19th century lathe for making dead centre tapered holes in new wooden wheel hubs, around the machine which can put solid rubber tires on wooden wheels. Eventually we were taken into the back where a modern machine shop allows them to make specialized parts, and into a modern welding shop.



An assortment of hubs



Explaining several methods of cutting wheel hub mortices

Throughout the tour, Jeremy enthusiastically explained how the various machines were used 150 years ago to speed up business. It is clear that he is devoted to his hands-on work and to understanding the history and mechanics of horse powered transportation. We at the Chinook Woodturning Guild thank him for his time and expertise.

The Museum Café opened just for our group and we talked and ate good freshly cooked food for another hour.

Although this visit was not primarily concerned with woodturning, we all work with our hands and solve problems along the way just as the carriage builders do. This was a really good tour. Thank you to

all who came along and thank you to Jeremy and the staff at the Remington Carriage Museum.

Besides the restoration workshop, the carriage museum sports a magnificent collection of horse drawn vehicles in perfect condition and has videos and guided tours throughout the year. This place is a gem in southern Alberta and should be on your list of places to visit; bring the kids.

Dan Michener



Jeremy Masterson discusses a british coach brought in for restoration



Tools and wheels, what's not to like

Volunteers are welcome at the Remington Carriage Museum!

If you have some time, hours or days, and you would like to participate to the restoration activities on the shop at the museum, you are invited to communicate with Jeremy Masterson, Head of Restoration Services at jeremy.masterson@gov.ab.ca or 403-653-5160 at the Museum in Cardston. As we have seen during the visit, restoration of vehicles from the past involves many different skill sets. I am not aware of any other opportunity where volunteers can participate in work carried out in a professional shop. Volunteers might be able to access specialized equipment to complete personal projects.

Nov Sawdust Session - Making Wood Burning Pens

Roger McMullan presented his design for an inexpensive woodburning/texturing tool to one of the best attended sessions that I have been involved in. There were about fifteen members who were making the pens. Five of those were also planning to make the burner controller, as well.

Roger provided the materials for making each pen at his cost (\$8.00). Included were ½" plastic pipe for a handle, wire and couplers for the electrical connections, and nichrome wire for the burning wire. Members were asked to bring 4 feet of electrical wire with plug for each burning pen they planned to make.

Roger demonstrated each step in the construction with the members following his lead. After threading the completed wire,

and connectors into the handle, a small piece of cotton was packed into each end of the handle around the wires and pushed about 1/4" below the end so that 5 minute epoxy could be wiped into each end to stabilize everything.

Roger demonstrated several ways to shape the burning wire for different effects. Several of the pens were fully completed, and tried out during the session. Some of the effects were rather dramatic with flame, and smoke due to inexperience with how much current to apply from the power controller.

We also found out that one had to use one of the older chargers for a Power control since the newer electronics would not function properly. So, I personally, had to wait until going back home for an old charger that would be compatible with Roger's design.

Many thanks to Roger for his generous sharing and instruction for this session.



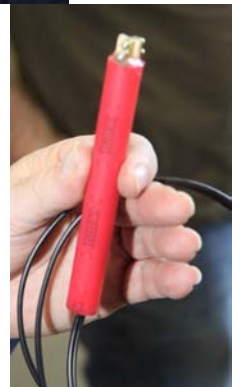
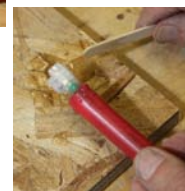
Rob Thomsen, Ross Robinson, Jerome Veenendaal, Roger Wayman, Norm Robinson, Roger McMullin, Dennis Delaney, Suzi Tomita, John vandenBerg, Dan Michener



Andre Laroche, Roger McMullin



Jerome Veenendaal, Roger Wayman



Oct Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery

Jim Galloway_Russian Olive



Dennis Hogie



Earl Stamm



Remie Benoit



Roy Retti



Roger Wayman-lidded box



Coffee Grinder-Andre Laroche

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

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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