

# Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Chapter

Volume 2019, number 1

Sept 2019

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

## President's Message

I joined the Chinook Woodturning Guild in September, 2010. Once a month meetings were held in Roger Olson's cabinetry workshop, near McNally school, on the outskirts of Lethbridge. Jim Jones was the new President; Denis Delaney was there with both his pinky fingers in huge bandages. About 15 other people were there, none of whom I knew; there were 3 beautifully done items on the instant gallery table which I looked at, and I said to the other guy standing there (who turned out to be John VandenBerg) "I will never put anything here" because they looked so perfect and beautiful, (and John said "Me neither") and whereas I owned a lathe, I hadn't figured out how to use it except to make ragged, rough roundish things. By the time the December meeting came along I could turn a little bit. The annual top spinoff had 3 tops in it; I was proud to come in 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Dan Michener

A lot has changed for the guild. We now meet in at the Casa art centre, so I guess we must have become artists. At the end of the 2018-2019 season we had 45 paid members. We still have the regular Thursday evening meetings, but now we also have the more informal Sawdust Sessions on a Saturday morning once a month. We had to learn how to do them, but they have become popular because they allow us woodturners to interact in ways that an organized meeting cannot. And if there is anything woodturners seem to like its talking and working with other woodturners.

This Guild has always brought in a well known professional wood artist every year to demonstrate their craft, but for the last 8 or so years we have asked that artist to stay an extra day, or more, to give hands-on personal instruction to small groups of 5 or 6. This has been increasingly popular; the last artist, Ed Pretty, stayed 3 days beyond his demonstration to instruct hands-on classes.

Last year we started to have bimonthly wood raffles at the meetings. These allow members to redistribute their surplus wood, snag something just right for their current project or stimulate the imagination for the next bit of art. It is rewarding when wood from the raffle shows up in an instant gallery. Also, the raffles have raised some money for the guild's coffers.

The newsletter, edited and published by our past president, Vern Miller, has morphed into a highly readable collection of articles on our activities, upcoming events, member profiles, tips, opinions and pictures of everyone doing things.

Nowadays the Instant Gallery has become a regular part of the meetings. It is better named Show and Tell because each artist is encouraged to say a few words about what they have produced. And what they have produced is varied and good. Everybody crowds around the display table and can ask about the 10 or 15 items that have been brought in. Show and tell goes along with the popular Bring back program in which a member's name is drawn to receive a chunk of wood and bring it back as a turned piece to the next meeting.

Recently the Guild has purchased CBN wheels for our grinder, and improved the jigs used in tool sharpening. Members can use this to get instruction and to keep their tools in good shape. Another purchase has been 2 new King Canada variable speed lathes to replace the aging small Pioneer and Jet lathes which we have had for many years. The new lathes will be used in teaching and demonstration. We plan to keep the old lathes and are developing a policy to make them available as loaners to members.

Our guild activities have attracted some attention, so we have been asked to put on demos and hands-on turning for the Casa woodworking class a couple of times, and for Scouts a couple of times. We seem to be regular demonstrators at Coyote Flats Pioneer Village with lots of onlookers and questions, or not.

Finally, we have our website, which I have been delinquent in keeping fresh, but which has the necessary information about our guild, all our newsletters, and our schedule of events. I know people visit the website because they phone me about the guild, often asking if we give lessons, admit children, cost of membership.

Yes, a lot has changed for the guild since I joined, and with our enthusiastic members, I know we ain't done yet!

»»» <<<

## Coming Events

## Schedule of Meetings, demos and events

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

**2019** unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held in the woodshop at CASA  
- a map to the meeting place can be found on our website

<b>Sept</b>	7	Sat, 10am, Sawdust Session –
	19	Thurs, 7pm - Annual General Meeting, Financial report, Election of Officers **- Regular Meeting follows the AGM -
	28-29	- Art Walk demos at CASA
<b>Oct</b>	5	Sat, 10am, Sawdust Session –
	17	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>Nov</b>	2	Sat, 10am, Sawdust Session –
	15-16	Fri & Sat, Christmas at Casa sale
	21	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>Dec</b>	7	Sat, 10am, Sawdust Session –
	19	**Thurs, 7pm, Annual Christmas top making and spin off.

## 2020

<b>Jan</b>	4	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	16	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>Feb</b>	1	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	20	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>Mar</b>	7	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	19	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>Apr</b>	4	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	16	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>May</b>	2	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	21	**Thurs, 7pm -
<b>June</b>	6	Sat, 10am, Sawdust session -
	18	**Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. BBQ.

»»» <<<

## Announcements

🔊 On Thursday, September 19th, 7pm at Casa (230 8th St. South, Lethbridge AB) we have our first meeting of the 2019-2020 woodturning season. This will be our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** followed immediately by a regular monthly meeting.

The Chinook Woodturning Guild's AGM is an opportunity for the members to review the financial position of our club and to elect the guild officers for the upcoming year. It is also a good time for members to express concerns and make suggestions about the future direction of the guild. Please be there.

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary are now open, and will remain open during the AGM until voting time. André Laroche has agreed to act as the Nomination Committee. If you wish to nominate yourself or some other guild member contact him [gplaroche@telus.net](mailto:gplaroche@telus.net) or 403-393-5337. There will also be a call for nominations from the floor during the meeting. The guild's current directors have agreed to serve another year in the event that no others stand for election. These directors are: Dan Michener - President; Norm Robinson - Vice President; André Laroche - Treasurer; Richard Shelson - Secretary.

The meeting will include:

Review of the 2018 AGM minutes  
President's Annual Report  
2018-2019 Financial Report  
Election of Officers for the upcoming year  
Invitation for comments from the floor

🔊 Membership dues will remain unchanged: Regular member \$75, Family membership \$125, Student member \$40.

Dues are due at the conclusion of the AGM. Our Treasurer, André, can only deal with one person at a time when processing payments. Give him break by paying with a cheque so he can prepare a receipt when he has more time and give it to you at a later date.

🔊 The guild will be participating in ArtDays on Friday and Saturday, Sept 27th and 28th. We will set up lathes in the ATB room at Casa and demonstrate woodturning for the passers by.

➤ ➤ ➤ ➤ ➤

## From the Editor

Thanks to Dan, Richard, Jim Galloway and Lorraine for their contributions to the newsletter.

➤ ➤ ➤ ➤ ➤

## A word from Dennis Delaney

I'm adjusting fine to new home. Institution living does take some getting used to. The wood shop makes it much easier.

I do miss the old gang of wood turners, and a number of other groups and folk.

I appreciate getting the news letters and updates from Lethbridge.

Hi to ALL, and many happy turnings to everyone.

-- Dennis

I understand Dennis was able to move his woodworking equipment into an under utilized shop where he now lives. Here are some photos of his setup. We will miss Dennis at our regular Guild activities. Dennis is a chartered member of our Guild and we wish him well in his future endeavors.



➤ ➤ ➤ ➤ ➤

## Summertime woodturning

The traditional June BBQ saw lots of members with their spouses. Terry Beaton, our acknowledged BBQing expert, did the honours outside in lousy weather while the rest of us partied within. There was plenty of food and lots of cheerful chatter.

Traditionally the June BBQ marks the end of guild activities until September. However, that isn't the case anymore because now we have Summertime Saturday Sawdust Sessions in July and August, and we seem to have a regular date with Coyote Flats Pioneer Village to demo during Harvest Days. Also, this summer Terry Beaton put on a one man public demo on the sidewalk in front of the Allied Arts Council store on 7<sup>th</sup> St., and Suzi Tomita put huge energy, effort and ingenuity into making lathe stands and restructuring our storage space in the Casa woodshop.

It's great to get together a few times during the off season to keep up enthusiasm, practice, trade woodturning tips and make setups that can't be done at regular meetings.

This summer at the July 6th sawdust session we unpacked and set up our two new King Canada lathes. While some were trying out the lathes, we also installed CBN wheels on the sharpening system, which now runs as smooth as honey and is a treat to use.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> saw us trying out Suzi Tomita's fabulous, heavy lathe stands, which can easily be disassembled for storage and transportation. Al Schaaf's small General lathe was set up and used by a guild visitor, Mariel Ramp, who made a very credible spinning top. Bert Kadijk purchased the lathe and took it home afterward. Lorraine practiced hollowing on one of the King lathes using Roger Wayman's ring tool.

Dan Michener

August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> saw the Chinook Woodturning Guild in Picture Butte at Coyote Flats.

It was nice to see so many of our woodturners showing up and participating in the demonstrations. It was also very enjoyable to be able to sit down and chat in such a beautiful venue.



It is always appreciated that our Executive members are active in leading by example in their attendance and participation in these events. Our Vice President Norm Robinson was there to champion the set up both days, and guild secretary Richard Shelson was also out to demo.

Terry Beaton was enthusiastic in presenting many of his beautiful turnings and made some sales as well, as well as doing demos. Other turners that attended include Earl Stamm, Jerome Veenendaal, Norm Stelter, Roger Wayman, Remo Brassolotto, as well as Ken and myself. Please accept my apology if I have missed anyone, as we were not there for the full days. . .

As can be seen in the pictures there were many adults and children that were enthralled with the demos and display. I believe the weekend was a great success for both Coyote Flats and our Guild.

Lorraine Mix

»»» <<<

### **Terry Beaton demo at Allied Arts Office store front**

Terry Beaton demonstrated his woodturning at the Allied Arts Council Store front on Friday, August 2nd . Not only did Terry represent skills from our Guild promote awareness of the Guild, it was a successful outing for Terry in that he received a commission for pens. In Terry's words "The Director of Operations saw one of my pens at the Allied Arts Council store and I was commissioned by Economic Development Lethbridge to provide 28 Lilac pens. These will be presented to the Ministers of the Alberta Government in November".



»»» <<<

### **Guild Website**

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

»»» <<<

### **Beads of Courage**

chairman: John vandenBerg

You can find a selection of boxes we have donated to the program on our website

Welcome back to another year of wood turning. Our beads of courage library is empty, because I delivered 30 boxes to Calgary in July. They will be sent to hospitals across Canada to children that need them.

Thank you to those of you who have turned these beautiful boxes. They are sincerely appreciated. Please keep turning as they can always use more. This shows some of the boxes I sent. Thank you



John VandenBerg Beads of Courage coordinator

### **CWG Soap Box**



There is room for you on the soap box. All you have to do is send your thoughts to the editor in an email.

[Verntheturnr@gmail.com](mailto:Verntheturnr@gmail.com)

»»» <<<

### **Musings by the editor**

This newsletter is yours, not only does it help to record the history of our Guild and its activities, it also informs and keeps our members and other interested people up-to-date.

Your help by providing information and photos is not only appreciated, it is important in making the newsletter as useful and beneficial to all. I thank those who have contributed in the past and look forward to future contributions from members.

Please take a minute to contribute from time to time.

»»» <<<

### **Are you a member of the AAW**

As an AAW member one of the benefits is regular emails in the form of a newsletter, each focusing on various topics. The Sept 12, 2019 newsletter focused on understanding the influence of wood grain and contains numerous links to articles and videos on the subject. These are great learning tools.

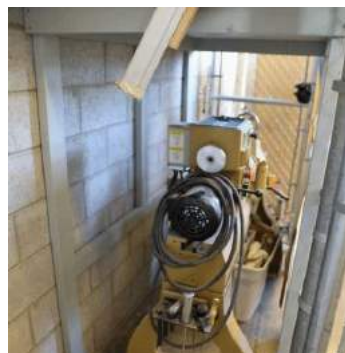
If you are not already a member give some consideration to becoming a member. Membership will help broaden your horizons, improve your skills and stimulate your creativity.

»»» <<<

### **Guild Storage Lockup**

It is amazing how much stuff we have accumulated over the years. Every year it has become more and more challenging to fit everything in and with the purchase of 2 more lathes and their stands the challenge prompted action. Thanks to Suzi Tomita for lots of hard work, our new lathes have stands and our storage area has been improved, capacity increased and made more functional.

Thanks for all your work Suzi





»» <<<

### Great Falls Symposium with Sam Angelo

Four members of our Guild joined about 20 members of the Great Falls Woodturners Club for their Annual Symposium September 7 & 8, 2019. The presenter was the “Wyoming Woodturner” (Sam Angelo) a name that will be familiar to many of our members who attended Sam’s presentation here in Lethbridge several years ago.

There was not a hands-on portion to the symposium. Sam presented on various topics over the two days starting with rough turning and turning green wood and turning boxes Saturday and then covering thread chasing (even demonstrating it on a candle!) and embellishing on Sunday. Along with the different demonstrations Sam shared a large number of tricks that he learned or developed over his years of turning. Sam is still using his mixture of Shellac/mineral oil he was using when he came to Lethbridge. It is the perfect intermediate product to apply before moving to either a water-based or oil-based finish. A new trick was wet sanding using a citrus cleaner (degreaser) as this does not raise the grain, enables seeing sanding scratches more easily and perhaps above all does not generate any dust. In general I believe all of us found it quite useful.

Sam had a great sense of humor and did a good job kibitzing with the group. The first day was a review for more advanced turners but certainly of benefit to newer turners. I thought he did a great job of chasing threads, something I have never done, but certainly a good introduction for me. I am always inspired by someone else and felt enriched by his demo on embellishing turnings. I thought it was a very worthwhile event and congratulations to the Great Falls turners for a learning event.

We had also an opportunity to share Saturday night meal with Sam and some Great Falls turners including their President Roger Wayman. It is always very interesting to learn more about the people.

During the symposium a silent auction was held with a number of objects, including a bench grinder, through several negative rake scrapers and a number of pieces of wood. Both André and Remi were able to purchase pieces of wood. On the Sunday a trailer of wood was parked in front of the venue and members were encouraged to pick through it and select pieces they might want. Apparently, a former member of their club had moved out of town and left the wood for anyone to use. I believe all four of us found some pieces to take with us. There was also a small “instant gallery” which Dan and Richard participated in.

It was also interesting to discover how the Great Falls Woodturning club is installed and how their equipment is organized at their meeting place.

The hospitality of the Great Fall club members was exemplary with their friendship to the people from the North, lot of food and goodies and door prizes. Congratulations to Organizing Committee Members for a very well designed and run Woodturning Symposium.

I certainly felt it was a worthwhile experience and would certainly consider participating again in the future.



Part of Great Falls instant gallery



It wasn't all hard work



Sam Angelo using a flame to embellish

»» <<<



## Sept 7, 2019 Sawdust Session

Twelve or thirteen enthusiastic woodturners showed up for the September Sawdust Session.

Norm Robinson was on hand to open up the equipment cage and help set up one of the new King lathes and the tool sharpening grinder. As usual, sharpening was a hot topic and several members got help using the jigs and platforms to tune up their turning tools. Saeedeh Hashemnia (Sadie) dropped by and received woodturning instruction from Terry Beaton. Everybody talked about wood, glue, tools, etc.

Around noon a group of turners continued their discussions over a fine lunch at the A&W.

The consensus was that it was another worthwhile morning for woodturners.



Norm brought some magazines for members



Sadie had a good time

»»» <<<

## Show and Tell Table/ Instant Gallery

Aug 3, 2019 - Sawdust Session



Dan Michener Manitoba Maple



Norm Robinson\_lazer cut tree



Dan Michener\_Manitoba Maple

»»»

<<<



Norm's tree in Dan's bowl



Dan Michener\_Manitoba Maple



Lorraine Mix\_Cedar



Dan Michener\_Manitoba Maple



Lorraine Mix\_Cedar

## For Sale by members

This section is available to members and past members who want to list items they want to sell. If you have something you wish to post to this section & on our website, contact our President to make the necessary arrangements.

Eileen Jones is selling off Jim's stock of wood on Saturday, 21 September. For more detailed information and driving directions contact Eileen at [eenyjones63@gmail.com](mailto:eenyjones63@gmail.com)

»»» <<<

## Photo essay of year-en BBQ & Summer Activities

### Year-end BBQ







Wood for the raffle

## July 6, 2019 Sawdust Session



## Aug 3, 2019 Sawdust Session







## Aug 2019 Coyote Flats demo

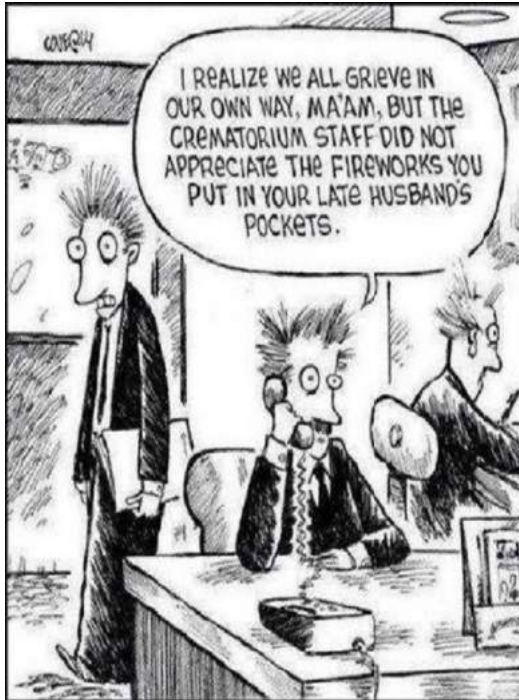


## Call for demos.

Demonstrations are the focal point of our monthly meetings. The guild needs members who are willing to show or demonstrate some technique or project.

Demonstrations can be anywhere from a short 10 minutes to a full meeting in length.

If you have something you can demonstrate to our group, please say so - let a board member know.



### About the Guild

The Chinook Woodturning Guild was formed in September of 2004. The Guild's main emphasis is on skill improvement and camaraderie.

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
	<a href="mailto:michenerdan@gmail.com">michenerdan@gmail.com</a>	
Vice-President	Norm Robinson	403-404-4428
	<a href="mailto:normrobinson@hotmail.com">normrobinson@hotmail.com</a>	
Secretary	Richard Shelson	403-381-6670
	<a href="mailto:rshelson@shaw.net">rshelson@shaw.net</a>	
Treasurer	André Laroche	403-329-6414
	<a href="mailto:gplaroche@telus.net">gplaroche@telus.net</a>	
Newsletter Editor	Vern Miller	403-892-6729
	<a href="mailto:verntheturner@gmail.com">verntheturner@gmail.com</a>	

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 is incorporated under the Alberta Societies Act and is a non-profit Society