



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2021, NO 6 · JUNE. 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dan Michener, President

June is the end of our guild's woodturning year. Ordinarily, we would have an end-of season BBQ and I would love to have one this year. However, things are still up in the air regarding pandemic related protocols, and even if larger groups are legally allowed to gather in the next few weeks, that does not mean it is wise to do so and many will still be reluctant to attend.

However, we should have a new woodturning season KICK OFF BBQ whenever it seems reasonable to do so. It will be a great opportunity to get acquainted and reacquainted, show off some of our works from the last year, have a wood raffle (we have some really nice wood on hand, see below) and sample some of Terry's fine barbecuing. All members and their partners are invited! Unfortunately, I don't know when it will be, no arrangements have been made but how about sometime from July to September? The BBQ would not be our September Annual General Meeting and election of officers, that will be 16 September at 7pm either at Casa or on Zoom depending on the situation.

Harold Plumpton, who was a member of the guild from its earliest days, has donated his collection of wood to the guild for our benefit. Harold is coming up on 92 years old and is disappointed that he can't use his lathe anymore because the electromagnetic energy



ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

- There will be **no Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter** in July and August.
- As usual, we do not have general meetings in July and August.
- **7 July, Wednesday, 7pm.** Sawdust Session via Zoom.
- **4 August, Wednesday, 7pm** Sawdust Session if on Zoom: **OR 7 August, Saturday**, at Casa at **10am** if in person. Cross your fingers that we can have safe person to person gatherings by then.
- **16 September, 7 pm** at Casa. Annual General Meeting (AGM) and election of officers.
- **19-20 November, 2021. Christmas At Casa Art and Craft Sale.**



from the motor makes his pacemaker go haywire. A few of us went to Harold's garage last week and loaded up bowl blanks, figured wood, planks of tropical woods, partially turned pieces, pre-cut segments for the segmenting woodturner as well as an assortment of finishes. Harold's stipulation is that it all goes to the benefit of the guild which was important to him for many years. When this is raffled off, many of you will go home with treasures.

FORMER MEMBER DONATION

Harold Plumptre who has been a member of our guild for many years has donated a Crown Tools hollowing outfit and a Crown Tools embellishing wheel to the guild. Thank you, Harold. These tools will be part of the Guild's holdings and will be available for members to use.



How to join a Zoom Meeting

This information is from a previous Central Alberta Woodturners newsletter.

On desktop, tablet or phone by downloading the app.

1. Download the **Zoom desktop app** on your Mac or PC. <https://zoom.us/download>
2. Open the **Zoom app**.
3. Click **Join a Meeting**.
4. Enter the **Meeting ID** and your **name**, and set **audio/video permissions**.

On desktop, tablet or phone via meeting invite link.

1. Click on the Meeting Invite URL that the host shared via email or text.
2. Open the **Zoom app**.
3. **Approve** the request for **permission** to use your computer's **audio and camera**.

Depending on the meeting's set-up:

- you may enter the meeting right away
- you may need to wait for the host to arrive first or
- you may be placed into a waiting room that the host controls.

DAVID ELLSWORTH IRD

David Ellsworth presented a superb IRD to the combined woodturners of Alberta and Great Falls on Saturday, 29 May. David is a true luminary among woodturners. During his decades of work, he has influenced the woodturning movement with his techniques, sense of form and finish and artistic instinct. David has taught in his private workshop, in art and craft schools and at symposia and forums. His work is represented in 40 museum collections, and he is a founder of the American Association of Woodturners and its first President, 1986-1991.

Because of David Ellsworth's prominence in the turning community, I thought it unlikely he would have time or interest in presenting an IRD using relatively unfamiliar video equipment to demonstrate what he has done face to face for decades. However, I was delighted that he replied promptly to my inquiry and said he'd be

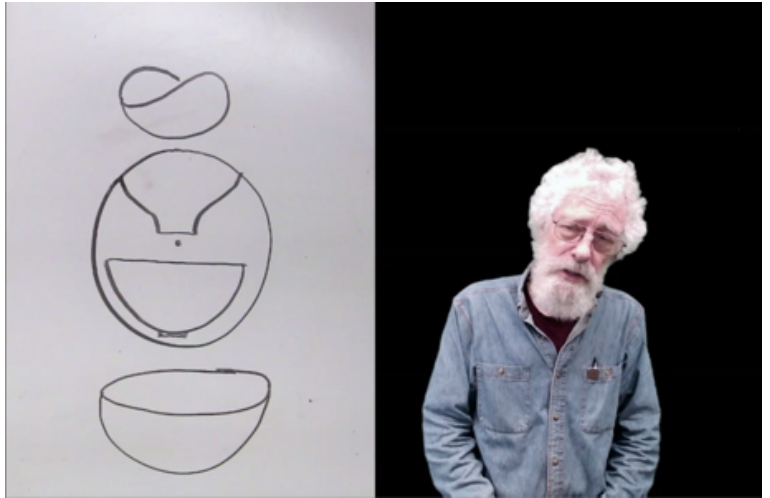
happy to oblige. After a short discussion we settled on a date, double checked the time change from North Carolina to Alberta (2 Hours) and waited for the moment to arrive.

Sixty-six woodturners participated, 15 from our Chinook Woodturning Guild, and we all had front row seats because the camera setup was so good. Alan Zenreich, whom we know from an IRD in February, acted as one of the co-hosts at David's request. I didn't think that was necessary, but it turned out that it was because Alan is very familiar with the Ellsworth video setup and he was able to quickly fix a couple of bugs that arose.

This demo, making a natural edge bowl, began with a chainsaw lesson on cutting the blank, mounting, and rounding on the lathe. David explained that he usually doesn't predetermine the form of the vessel but takes cues from the characteristics of the wood as it is revealed. This was a great relief to those of us who often don't know what the final outcome will be when we put a piece of wood on the lathe. David described procedures for keeping the bark intact while the outside of the bowl is formed and explained his use of his signature Ellsworth bowl gouge for roughing, forming and shear scraping to obtain a surface that doesn't require much sanding.

Refining the outside, making the foot and a tenon on the bottom, reversing the piece for hollowing and achieving an even wall thickness using his low tech piece of bent wire resulted in a beautifully completed natural edge bowl. It was a joy to watch this master at work. David Ellsworth has spent a career teaching and it showed here as he knew what needed explanation before being asked and approached each step in the process as the natural result of the last step. Any woodturner, whatever their skill level, could take something away from this demonstration and use it in their own work.

Thank you, David Ellsworth!!



INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY



The most recent piece I finished. It was a lot of firsts for me and I'm pretty happy with how it turned out.
Hugo Schenkel



My first "Live Edge".
Apple crotch from Duane VandenBerg. 6" diameter - 4" tall about 1/8" thick. Walnut Oil finish.
Roy Harker



I believe this is Apple with Watco Danish Oil and buffing with some wax.
Remo Brassolotto



My first burl.
6" diameter 3" height. Manitoba Maple/Box Elder. Cut down 17 years ago. A bit punky and a challenge. Finished with CA glue.
Roy Harker



An afternoon project. Spalted apple 4.5" by 9.75. Just sanding sealer right now.
Roger Wayman



I made another kaleidoscope as a gift for Kasia (Manager of AAC Store) who is going back to school. I used canary wood, purple heart and maple. Approx. 10" long and 2 1/4" round. The stand is canary wood and maple.
Terry Beaton



2 vases I made a few weeks ago. One is maple the other birch.
John VandenBerg



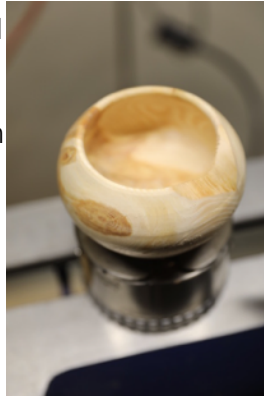
This isn't the best picture to show the colour but it is a burgundy acrylic.
Rob Thomsen

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



Had a wonderful time in the shop and dinner, then came home with this small turned pine bowl.

On June 8/21 went over to Albert Weik's shop for an enjoyable afternoon of woodturning, went with tools and a piece of pine ready on my chuck.



Albert had just finished a fine Birch bowl (approx 7" D) that he had turned and was accenting end grain cracks with his wood burning tool after staining with a Chestnut colour.



I put a finish on the pine bowl I had turned at Albert's shop. Missing bark on the top stained with Saman wood stain, Paprika. Old Master Wood Stain "Espresso".



I used one of my Canon cameras which has a special setting with an artistic option for a photo.



Unknown Wood:
Picked up from Lady Bug from trees trimmed in Coaldale. From studying my books I concluded it might be American Beech. If you can help, please contact me.

All photos on this page submitted by Jim Galloway.

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.



I made this feeding station for my daughter's dog, Tundra. It's walnut and I turned and fitted the legs into the top.

Remo Brassolotto



My first Beads of Courage Box. The box is Birch from Ladybug Arborist. Waxed at both ends with bark still attached - cured for about 3 years. The lid is Purple Heart which is a first for me. Initially, I thought I would never want to turn another piece of purple heart, but by the time I finished the lid I was looking forward to using it again. I burned the kitten on by photocopying the image on Pyro paper and taping the image on the box. The finish is Osmo Top Oil (which is food safe) and buffed with the three wheel system.

Lorraine Mix



Vase 22" High
Norm Stelter



John Vandenberg completed the turning of this bowl for Harold Plumptre. Maple with an oil finish, approx. 10" diameter.



Pyrography - on a slice of basswood. Have done a fair amount of this recently.

Dennis Hooge

INSTANT DISTANT GALLERY cont.

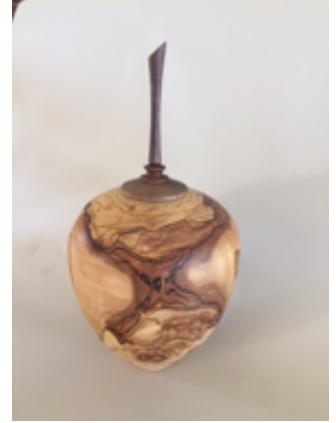


These top two pieces are from ladybug arborist and are spalted apple. Amazing grain.

They are all about 4-5" tall

The bottom piece is an offset turning using wenge and maple.

Roger McMullin



Walnut wing bowl. 10.5" x 4.5" x 1.5".
Finish - Osmo Polyx-oil and Conservator's Wax.

Inspired by Craig Timmerman

André Laroche



Cherry wing bowl. 7 1/4" x 5 3/8" x 1 1/2".
Finish - Osmo Polyx-oil and Conservator's Wax.



Scots Pine wing bowl. 9" x 4 5/8" x 3".
Finished with Mineral Oil.
André Laroche



Apple bowl. 5 1/8" D. x 2" H. finished with Mahoney's Walnut Oil.
André Laroche



ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Many of us have enjoyed one, a few or many virtual demonstrations by Theo promoted by Record Power. Theo Haralampou, a professional drummer from Australia came to woodturning by accident as he wanted to save \$ on drumsticks and decided turning them would be cheaper and better long lasting. This was over 20 some years ago and he is now well known as an excellent turner and a great entertainer worldwide. Theo makes a large variety of items as you can find on his web site Theo the Woodturner (<https://www.woodturner.com.au/>) and on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/theothewoodturner/>). The variety of his work matched the large variety of demonstration he has offered us online. I find his turned banksia pod items extremely attractive. Of course, banksia pods are very abundant in Australia but a relatively high value imported good here in Canada. He was also a contributor to past Woodturning cruises that run off the Norwegian coast every four years. If you are getting itchy to travel with your gouges, please note that the next cruise has been postponed to 2023 and it is time now to get onto the waiting list in case some cabins become available (post@woodturningcruise.com). Who knows, you could, perhaps, meet one of our fellow guild colleagues on one of the decks.

In one of his recent demonstrations, Theo had a Canadian guest, Ruby Cler, a very gifted woodturner

who resides in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. I was not aware of her before although she has been a professional turner for almost 50 years. Ruby's web site (<https://rubycler.com/>) reveals a variety of beautiful works including vases, bowls, goblets, and eccentric turnings but my preferred items are the turned hats. My preferred one is the ambrosia maple one. Take a few moments to visit her web site and time will just vanish. Unfortunately for us, it appears that she is not travelling anymore to demonstrate, although she is still offering classes in her studio.

Neil Turner from Western Australia is a spectacular turner with an interesting story. After a few generations of Turners farming sheep and wheat under challenging conditions, Neil after 50 years of farming, moved from the family farming location to the western coast of Australia to set up his woodturning studio and become a full-time turner. On his web site (<https://neilturnerartisan.com.au/>), you will discover lovely bowls and exquisite pierced shapes that beautifully fill the space. As a woodworker, he also develops remarkably interesting 2D wood items including elegant boxes and furniture. Of special interest, he sees timber as living breathing organisms in which he must express his thoughts. Much faster than flying under, you will be glad that you went through his Gallery.

Enjoy the websites, happy turning and remain safe!

André

BEADS OF COURAGE



Beads of Courage Report - Lorraine dropped this BofC box off yesterday. We're looking for more boxes over the summer if you have spare time. It will make some child happy. Thank you

John VandenBerg - Beads of Courage co-ordinator

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

The American Association of Woodturners is a huge source of information on all things related to woodturning. This is a worldwide organization encompassing woodturners of all interests and skills. Many benefits accrue to members. If you are not a member you can check out their website here <https://www.woodturner.org/>. *We recommend membership to all our members.*

SUBMISSIONS REQUEST FROM GUILD MEMBERS

I again want to encourage any of you who have a story regarding wood and turning, or anything related, to feel welcome to write up your experience and submit it to me for inclusion in the newsletter.

It has also been quite some time since anyone has written an introduction of themselves to the Guild. Several new members have joined while we have not been able to meet. Please take a few moments to tell us about yourself, your experiences and your dreams and I will include it in an upcoming newsletter. (New members encouraged).

If you are not comfortable writing, contact me and we will work on it together. We would like to know you.

ABOUT THE GUILD

**During the pandemic our reduced membership fees are:
Regular membership \$50, Students \$32.50 and Family memberships \$84.**

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

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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/>

Guild meetings are being held on line via Zoom until it is deemed safe to meet face to face again.



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