

# CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2023, NO. 01 · Jan. 2023



Guild decorated Christmas tree from several years ago was on display at Lethbridge Toyota recently. I happened to see it while I was waiting for an oil change. Apparently, they wrap it up for storage but bring it out every year for the holidays. I thanked them.  
Dan Michener

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

**Jan 19 – Monthly Guild Mtg** 7pm - Casa  
(230 – 8Street South, Lethbridge).

Paul McGaffey will provide a light hearted presentation. *“ ...so your doctor suggested that you need exercise. To this, someone who professes to love you added, so get off your butt and do something. In our January meeting we are going to hear a startling presentation about “How much does a Woodturner burn while pretending to work?” What you learn here will change your life. No refunds.*

**Jan 31 – 6:30 to 8:30**

The Guild will be conducting an introduction to the lathe for a group of 5 or 6 high school age students. We need at least 3 or 4 more volunteers. Contact Dan Michener for more information or to volunteer.



**Feb 4 – Sawdust Session - Casa.**

10 am – Noon.

Steve will provide more information at a later date. There will be a round table discussion on the Art of Selling; it is appropriate for anyone who sells, or plans to sell their wares at craft sales as well as anyone else interested. Terry will send out a video next week on selling, which will be the basis of the discussion.

**Feb 14 & 15 – Teach the shop teachers** during Teachers Convention. There will 12 shop teachers so it would be good to have 12 turners available to help with the instruction. We need 9 more volunteers. Contact me if you are interested. Before Covid we had a session with the teachers; it was very well received.

**May 27-28 - Andrew Glazebrook Demonstration - A** weekend of instruction and skill development at the hands of an accomplished woodturner.

Watch for more information to come.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, the busy Christmas season is over. It was a time for Craft Sales and a time to get together with family and friends. Claire and I went to Seattle to visit with our daughter and grand daughter. I don't know how the grand children matured so quickly. She attends UBC and is doing quite well. I would say it is time to relax and take it easy, I haven't experienced it yet. Maybe next month.

If you have any suggestions, comments or concerns; please contact any member of the Executive. I look forward to working with all our members to advance wood turning in our community. We will require demonstrators for our monthly meetings; if you are interested,

please contact me directly. We can discuss it and make the arrangements.

The Executive has decided on a professional wood turner for our Spring Demonstration. More information will be in our news letter and at a later date.

I am working to secure discounts for guild members. Penn State Industries has agreed to give members 10% off their order on all purchases. If you are interested in joining this program, please advise me and I will include your information. I will be contacting several other suppliers regarding discounts. Please watch the news letter for more information.

Terry Beaton  
President

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## INSTANT GALLERY



*Multi axis turned bowls. - Steve Munroe*



*Some excellent colouring from that Manitoba Maple I picked up from Ladybug. - Ryan Kurtz*



## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING



*Paul McGaffey talking about the possibility of making items out of wood that was destined for the fire.*



*Inspectors at work.*

### Tales from Down Under



*"Top" engineers.*



*Is that St. Nick choosing which ones are good enough to give to all the good little boys and girls?*



**All woodturners love burls.** The bigger the better! I found some massive ones on River Red Gum eucalyptus trees while Gail and I were walking in Ikara-Flinders National Park in South Australia this December.

Unfortunately I didn't have my handy pocket chain saw with me!

Dan Michener



*Terry could teach you how to stuff those things in your carry-on baggage.*

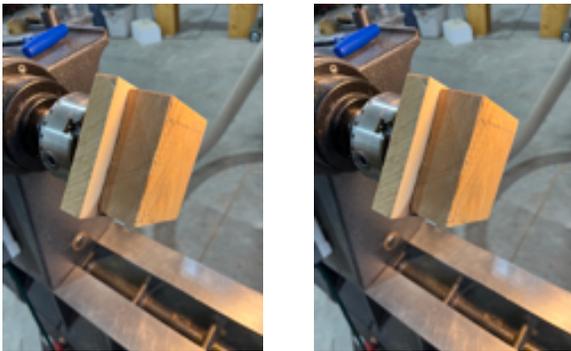
## DECEMBER SAWDUST SESSION

### Making Bangle Bracelets

Dan Michener

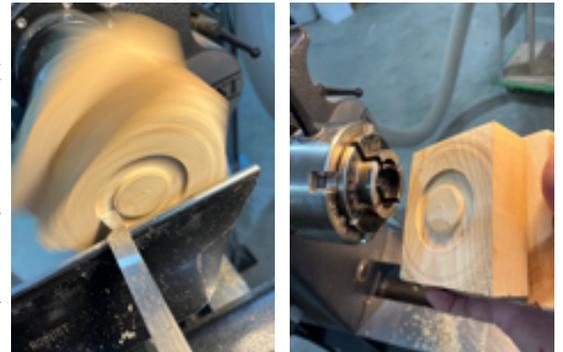
I showed the guys at the January Sawdust Session how I use hardwood scraps to make wooden bangles. This is an easy project and can be done in various ways, but here are the steps I use.

#### Mount the wood on the lathe:



Select an un-cracked piece of hardwood, at least 4" wide, and glue a sacrificial waste block to one side. The block will hold the piece securely away from your turning tools when you hollow the centre. Drill a hole in the hardwood scrap and mount the piece on the lathe using a woodworm chuck.

Turn a groove in the sacrificial block so it can be mounted on the 4-jaw chuck. Remove the woodworm screw and remount the piece in the chuck by expanding the jaws in the groove.

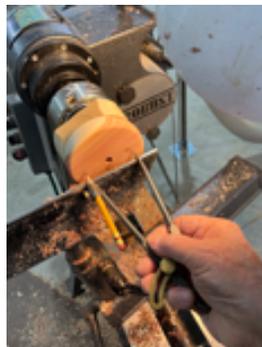


#### Prepare the hardwood piece

Round off the glued-up piece and smooth the hardwood face. There are numerous charts on-line with tables for bangle sizes. Decide on the diameter you like and mark a circle on the smoothed off face of the hardwood using dividers.

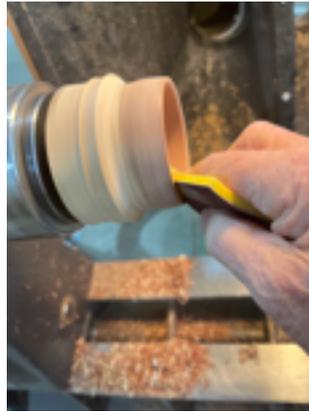
#### Make the Bangle:

I like to define the circle with a parting tool and cut out the centre of the bangle with a bowl gouge.



Try to make the inside of the bangle parallel with the lathe bed so it isn't tapered inside. Now reduce the outside diameter of the bangle with a sharp gouge until the desired wall thickness is achieved.

## DECEMBER SAWDUST SESSION cont.



Sand the inside and outside while the bangle is still attached to the waste block. I sand up to 320 grit.

### Make it beautiful:



Whatever polish you like. I use the Beall Buffing system to impart a luster and protective coat. I use tiny buffs on an extension to polish the insides of the bangles.



Part off the bangle, holding a finger inside the circle to catch the circle of wood. If you poke your finger with the parting tool you know you have successfully parted off your bangle.

Discard the waste block from the lathe; reverse the bangle and mount it so the chuck expands within it (Not too tight, the bangle can break!) and you can work on the unfinished edge. Now light scraping and sanding will complete the lathe work.

### Now find someone with the correct sized hand!



*Terry Beaton introducing the lathe to possible new turner Doug.*



*Steve brought a bowl blank to see if anyone wanted practice. Lorraine Mix took him up on it and practices controlling the bowl gouge. After 20 minutes Steve said she showed great improvement.*

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## ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

With the return of the in-person activities, I was able to re-discover the amazing and unique work that Ross Robinson does with his two ornamental lathes also known as Rose engines that he has built and continues to perfect on a regular basis. I am always in awe with my jaw dropping when I see the work he is producing. It is always a beautiful experience to stop by Ross' shop and get a live demonstration of the Rose Engine. The dictionary definition of a Rose engine is: "*a machine or a lathe attachment for producing an eccentric relative movement between the rotating mandrel and a cutting point so as to form on the work a variety of curved lines resembling a rosette possibility*". Early December at the saw dust session, I also saw some tops with an ornamental design from Suzi. It is overdue to present some amazing turners that use ornamental lathes to express themselves.

**Jon Sauer** ([www.jonsauer.com](http://www.jonsauer.com)) is an amazing ornamental woodturner from Pacifica, California. He states that by 1968 he was an avid woodturner and became exposed to the ornamental work by Frank Knox. In 1986 he imported a beautiful lathe made by Holtzapffel & Company in 1868 from the UK. This was a manual lathe and, later on, he added a motor to the museum grade unit that he still owns. Since then, he has built himself a few units and continues to improve them. It seems to be a reality for all ornamental turners of always tweaking and improving their amazing lathes. Jon uses very hard and tightly grained wood species such as boxwood, African blackwood, cocus and kingwood. I really like the exquisite tops, their holders and boxes that Jon creates that you will find under the tabs of his website. The tops with the betel nuts are just marvellous. Be sure you check the three sub-tabs to see all the tops. You will be impressed! Perhaps a next increment to our guild spinning top activity could be a "Top Beauty Contest". Jon's undulated boxes also impress me very much and I am sure that you will like them as well. Make sure you check all the other tabs. His SpretraPly bottles with a spiral are remarkable as well. Enjoy your time on this amazing website.

**Jean Claude Charpignon** is an ornamental turner from a small village 60 km southwest of Paris, France. He is a retired engineer who builds some of his tools including his lathes to enable pursuit of his passion of ornamental turning. He particularly enjoys reproducing works from the German turners from the XVII and XVIII Centuries who were using ivory then. He uses exclusively boxwood (buis in French) and African blackwood as contrasting colours when needed. For ornamental turning, European boxwood is the best due to the tiny pores and it's hardness. His wooden "post-gothic" European cups and boxes are completely stunning and purely marvelous. He also does incredibly beautiful tops and concentric spheres. One of these concentric spheres contains 13 detached concentric spheres in an outside diameter of 4". The issue with Jean Claude is it is difficult to find his work on open sites. I could only find one site where some information and works of this amazing turner are presented (<http://robert.bosco.pagesperso-orange.fr/charpignon.htm>) and one relevant video on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/-VHjbSVXmJw>) which is an interview from 2012 where you can discover his work and his shop. Look at his wonderful cup between 10 and 20 min. You will be shocked! There are other videos but they are related to the construction of his ornamental lathes. If you have a subscription to the World of Woodturners you could discover numerous examples of the work created by Jean Claude.

The **Ornamental Turners International** is now a virtual chapter of the **American Association of Woodturners** and you can have additional access if you are a AAW member. However, a public website is available at [www.OrnamentalTurners.org/](http://www.OrnamentalTurners.org/) where you can find a very informative description of the history of this very ancient art. The precedent website (<http://www.ornamentaltturners.com/>) containing a lot a legacy image is still functional.

Enjoy the websites and be safe with your turning!

André

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## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

**R**eciprocal Shop Visits. To broaden our horizons and promote camaraderie among our members, we have started a program of drawing names of pairs of willing woodturners, who will arrange to visit the other one's workshop and see the tools and tricks of the workspace. Contact Norm Robinson to agree to a shop visit (text or phone 403-404-4428)

GS Lakie middle school has requested assistance in introducing their students to the lathe. The classes are 37 minutes long, there are 3 classes each morning or afternoon. Each student gets an introduction to the lathe and learns to use the roughing and spindle gouges and the parting tool. The second class we turn and finish a top. The students are very interested, thankful for our help, and excited about the lathe. If you can spare 2 hours twice a week, please contact me.

Terry Beaton

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## GUILD BUY & SELL

### **New to our newsletter.**

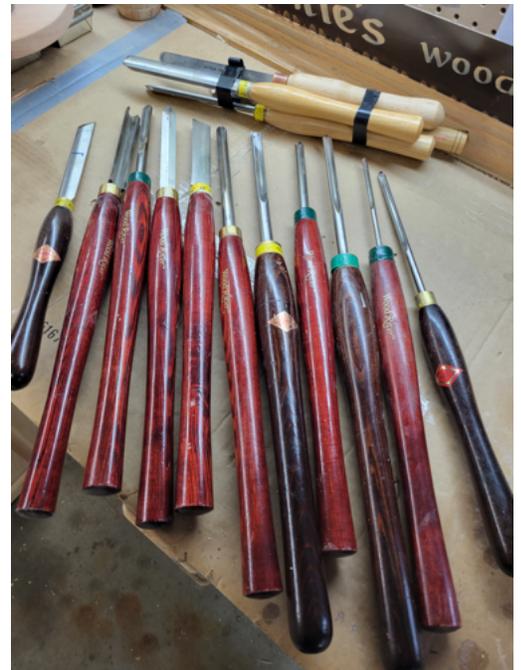
This is for personal equipment of individual members of the guild.

If you have items to include, please send an email to Roy Harker: [nlharker@gmail.com](mailto:nlharker@gmail.com)

**No business advertising!**

I have these gouges, etc. as surplus to my needs.  
Selling for \$30 each.  
Will bring to the next meeting.

Remie Benoit



Please notify [Roy Harker](#) if your item sells so that I may delete it from the list.

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## BEADS of COURAGE

Thanks to all that donated 53 tops we received at our last meeting. I delivered 24 of them to the Beads of Courage program and also 4 boxes they asked for. They really appreciated the tops to give to the children before Christmas.

Thank you.

John VandenBerg

Beads of Courage Coordinator



### Guidelines for Turned Treasure Boxes:

1. In order to hold the beads, turned boxes for the Beads of Courage program need to be about 6 inches in diameter (5 inches minimum) and 5 inches deep (4 inches minimum).
2. If possible, have "Beads of Courage" engraved or burned in the lid, or leave a place to insert a bead.  
The round bead sizes are: 3/4 + " with a thickness of 5/16" or 1 1/4" with a 3/16" thickness. There is a rectangle bead that is 3/4" x 15/16" with a thickness of 5/16".
3. Make sure the lids are easily removable. Any finials should be easy for a small child to grasp and not too elaborate.
4. Finishing:  
Children who receive these boxes are susceptible to germs/infections/mold. Bowls that have not been properly sealed can harbor mold. Ensure you are using a safe finishing process that does not contain toxic materials. Do not use finishes like linseed or walnut oil that take a long time to outgas.  
Do not paint Beads of Courage boxes. Instead, highlight the beauty of the wood with clear varnish, stain, and/or burning.
5. John (John VandenBerg [fajohn@shaw.ca](mailto:fajohn@shaw.ca), ph. 403-380-0141) has the beads to be glued on after the box is finished. He has a limited number of them so will give them out, one per box, when you have a box ready. Contact him to request a bead.
6. Please complete a donation form with your finished box or bowl. You can get the forms at the Beads of Courage Canada website, or John VandenBerg will have copies of them.

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## 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

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### 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.

Roy Harker - [nlharker@gmail.com](mailto:nlharker@gmail.com)

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### ABOUT THE GUILD

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

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Canada T1J 5H2

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/](http://www.chinookwoodturning.org/)



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