



CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS · VOL 2024, NO. 5 · May 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hi, fellow guild members. We are at the end of our regular Monthly meetings until September. Without a doubt this year has been interesting with demonstrations, sawdust sessions and opportunities to participate in public events.

For me as a 1st year president it has been a challenge as well as an opportunity to meet more of our members on a personal basis. I would like to thank: Terry Beaton, Steve Munroe, Kenn Hasse and Roy Harker for their support and suggestions during the past year. I also need to thank Dan Michener and Andre Laroche, I have called on them for past knowledge, contacts and morale boosts when I got discouraged.

For this coming fall-winter, I would ask that you send me suggestions of what you personally would like to learn, share or commit to for demos at meetings. In planning for next season, I would like to have 7 members commit to do 1 demonstration each. Plan a demonstration, tell me what meeting you could present at and your project. I would like to have this in place by the AGM in September. Thank you for your support.

Dale Lowe's demonstration was a great success. We had good attendance at both the Saturday demonstration and the hands-on sessions. For those of you who could not attend please consider marking your calendars for May 10,11,12 in 2025 for another weekend of learning. The opportunity for increasing your skill and creating new opportunities is too good to miss. If you have a suggestion for a demonstrator, please submit your suggestion.

Soon, I will be challenging you to a summer project to be ready for show and tell at the September 19 Meeting.

I have other commitments for the June Social June 19, so I will not see you then. Wishing you happy trails and good turning, have a great summer.

Remie Benoit
President

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

June 20, 2024 - Year End BBQ. 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm @ Baroness Picnic Shelter in Indian Battle Park, Lethbridge.

July 6, Aug 3 & Sept 7, 2024 - Sawdust Sessions at Casa. 10 am - noon @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Steve will send out an email to remind and inform us of plans for the morning.

Tool Sharpening is encouraged as you require. The grinder will be set up and ready to go. If you have any question as to how to accomplish any task, bring your materials and ask for help. Someone will surely know how to help you.



Remember, the best part is sharing some quality time with friends of like interests. Bring something you have made.

Sept 19, 2024 - AGM and Monthly Mtg 7:00 pm - 9:00pm. @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge.

Reminder!

Sawdust Sessions will continue through the summer. July 6, August 3 and Sept 7, 2024. 10:00am - 12:00pm @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge.

URGENT

Help Needed

Due to personal reasons, I will not be available for at least the first half of next season. Therefore, I will not be able to continue as the Newsletter Editor. I informed the executive of my decision last week.

We need someone to step forward and offer to assume the newsletter responsibilities. I am willing offer assistance in sharing whatever knowledge I can with the new candidate.

Come forward as soon as possible to allow time to prepare for the Newsletter in early September.

Please contact Remie if you are willing assume this task.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

John Vandenberg demonstrated the Basket Weave Illusions which are in awe of.

He showed all the steps needed for a finished project. It is a time consuming project, but he gets a lot of enjoyment working on them.

He showed how to do the beading, the burning of the valley beads and the design sections. He briefly showed how to do the pattern transfers and the coloring. He also showed us how he decorates the inside of the hollow forms.

If people are interested in doing one they can call him for more help.

John Vandenberg



These pictures include many that were displayed at the demo, as well as one of the design sheets he creates.

MAY INSTANT GALLERY



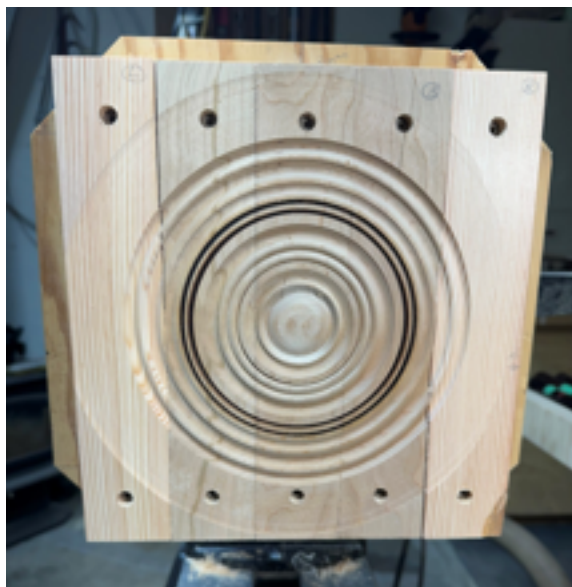
Steve calls these Items Saueracker shells. Mahogany. The offset jig shown to the right is used to turn the items. Steve explained how he used the jig. The blank has to be rotated while in the offset jig to the right after each cut. Steve Munroe

JUNE SAWDUST SESSION

by Steve Munroe

We had a minimal turnout at our Sawdust Session on June 8. 5 people.

Steve brought in a Jig which is designed to turn the 4 sides of equal dimensioned blanks. The intent is to create a different pattern on each face.



John eagerly used the session with Remie on learning the proper use of turning tools.



The resulting patterned blanks by Dan and Steve. The next step is to mount the blanks between centres and turn them into weed pots/bud vases.

Steve will finish the project before the next Sawdust Session.



Dan work on the Jig created by Steve while Kenn watches closely.

ANNUAL GUILD GUEST DEMONSTRATION 2024

Three days of woodturning demonstration and classes. 1-3 June 2024

by Dan Michener



Dale Lowe

What a wonderful Woodturning event!! Congratulations to the Executive board for having the wisdom and persistence to arrange an all-day demonstration and two days of hands-on classes with Dale Lowe; and a big thank you to Dale for taking three days of his time (five if you include travel) to drive from Regina to instruct and entertain (YES!) our guild.

Dale Lowe is a Regina based woodturner whose beautifully embellished pieces are in many private collections around the world. Dale has a history of teaching in Regina, but hasn't traveled to teach until he came to visit us in the Chinook Woodturning Guild.

You would never know that he hasn't done much of this sort of thing because he was perfectly organized, had the tools and materials for the demonstration at hand and knew where to find them.

Dale's friendly, affable personality makes him approachable for questions and he has the ability to talk about his woods, tools and turning decisions, about form and orientation, how the grain lies with respect to the cutting edge, what type of finish he is expecting to use when the piece is turned or carved, all while making a beautiful work of art. His answers and explanations are absolutely clear and easy to understand. This is a rare gift and it keeps the audience with him. (Except maybe just after lunch when Remie had to shake us all up, making us do a quick stand, stretch and shake. Thanks Remie).

We had about 23 woodturners attend the demonstration. Two large screen monitors made it so everyone could see what Dale was doing all the time. With a couple of short breaks the day flew by and everyone could take home something to improve their woodturning journey.



The ice cream cone Dale Lowe turned. Lorraine won it in the draw.

Nobody left early!



Big screens show what Dale is explaining; nobody is asleep.

A big thanks for supporting your guild to all of you who came to the Saturday demo.

A special thanks to Remie, Ron, André, Lorraine, Steve, Earl, Roger, Derek and Jeff for coming to the hands-on class. I believe hands-on is the very best way to advance as a woodturner and artist, so hurray for you all!

GUEST DEMONSTRATION - cont.

by Dan Michener

The hands-on classes in Dan Michener's workshop were not full. We had hoped for 6 participants each day, but when we had vacancies, we let the guys have a relaxed schedule by coming again on the second day or splitting time between days. This worked out just fine, filling the workshop most of the time and giving full value for money to those who could manage it. Nine of our members took the classes and Dan, Ken and Dale himself were there most of the time too, so it seemed pretty busy all the time.



Dale Lowe, Earl Stamm



Remie Benoit

The class approach was to turn a "funky" candle stick in the morning and carve and decorate it in the afternoon. If time allowed, do a smaller complimentary candlestick as well. Dale had demonstrated the basic candlestick the day before so minimal instruction was needed to get started.

Dale spent his time bouncing from one turner to another, observing and instructing. Some sharpening issues were dealt with and there were tool use questions, but by noon most had a good looking piece to begin decorating.

Decorating was the tricky part with making a spiral pattern, burning, carving and sanding (and sanding and sanding some more!)

There were great results and everybody took home a candlestick they can enjoy sanding for quite a while yet.



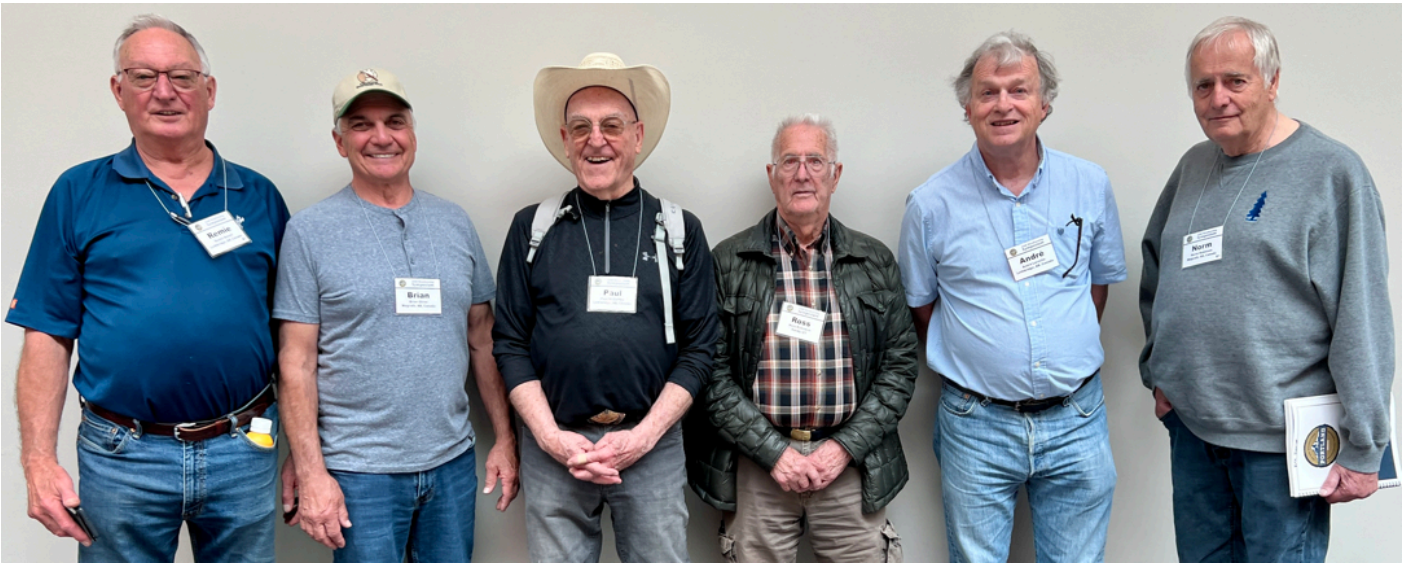
Examples of carved candle sticks.



The end of day 2



End of Day 1



As Paul said... 6 Desperadoes in Portland.

My 1st AAW Symposium -Portland 2024- was a humbling experience. I see myself as an experienced woodworker (and a bit of an artist in woodturning), struggling to learn new stuff all the time. Portland changed all my ambitions with its huge exhibition of awesome woodturning art.

In our Chinook Guild we have woodturners whose work would win awards – in Portland I saw thousands. I don't have enough years left to up my skills as much as I'd hoped before attending at Portland. Now I'm more relaxed about my dabbling – carving wood on a lathe the way I do is just fine!

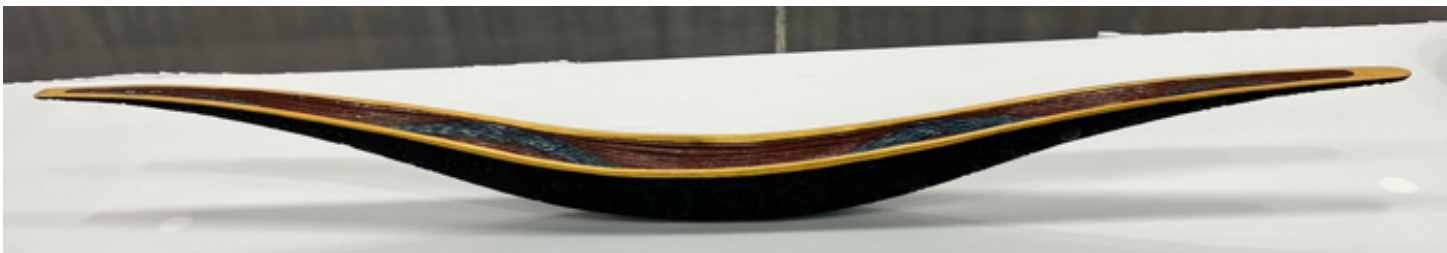
Prices paid for the woodturnings at the Symposium were mind-blowing high! I saw an elegant 5" bowl sell for \$3000 – it was made by an invited Japanese Demonstrator who appeared to have a rock-star following in Portland.

Why did these prices strike me so? They are evidence of the confidence of the woodturners in their work – no bragging, just a quiet acceptance of the beauty they helped create. The simple natural-edge Ash crotch bowl pictured below is a good example – it sold for \$500. Such celebration of the beauty of creation highlighted the entire experience for me.

Humour was evident in many works in Portland. Outstandingly, Mark Sfirri featured a playful Baseball Bat Series that all woodturners understand took huge multi-axis skill. Mark won the AAW MVP this year, after 40 years makin' shavins.



Some pictures of work I so admired in Portland.



And a few more pictures from AAW in Portland



I was green with the need to be able to do something like this awesome bowl! Turned and carved by the justifiably famous Donna Zils Banfield: "Cherry heartwood turned green, pyro-carved pattern, textured, negative space". I've already spent time on the first steps towards something a bit like this airy bowl.



Rift-sawn White Oak Platter by Mike Mahoney. Sold for thousands of dollars at auction. Mike is dedicated to letting the beauty of wood shine through without embellishment.

GUILD BUY & SELL

Dewalt 735 13" Thickness Planer
6" capacity.
Knives decent but includes 1 new set of knives.
A very nice portable planer.

Make me a reasonable offer.

Roy Harker txt 385-245-9449 call 587-316-0255
 nlharker@gmail.com



For Sale - Laguna 18/36 Revo Lathe \$3400
220 v - moved to a condo - can't use.

Lorraine Mix 403634-6347
 hobbybug@hotmail.com



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

No business advertising!

ANDRÉ'S PREFERRED WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Kevin Jesequel is an amazing emerging woodturner from Portland, OR who started turning in 2020 and he presented some of his beautiful hollow forms under the POP Artist Show Case Exhibition, at the AAW Symposium in Portland last month. He was the second artist honoured this year. I presented the other selected artist, Heather Marusiak, in my April column. Seeing his beautiful works was a wonderful opportunity. His hollow forms are known to have a small opening and perfect shapes. However, I realized that the openings were even smaller than what they are on the photos. You can find his works under his website, www.forloustudio.com, under the Shop tab. It is difficult to select my preferred pieces but the Root Vessel, Well Dressed Walnut, She looks Good In Curl are just beautiful and amazingly the middle hole is smaller than they appear on the pictures. It was very difficult not to take them in my hands at the exhibition in Portland to see how light they were as all the vessels are less than a 1/4" thick. He also does surface treatment in some of his works and you must see Éclair Noir and Bijou Noir. Like their names suggest, they are painted black over textured and smooth areas. They are just lovely. Too bad that only 16 pieces are presented on his web site. You can also discover the explanation of his website name under My Story tab.

On his Instagram site (www.instagram.com/kevinjesequel/ (@kevinjesequel)), you will find many more beautiful works. I like all the works but I am particularly touched by Echoes, a spalted and bleached big leaf maple stunning hollow-form. When you click on Echoes, you will see 17 hollow-forms going by. The cocobolo one is just stunning as well. There are also some burls with massive side opening that must be seen as the final result is always spectacular. I am sure that, like me, you will enjoy Kevin's work very much.

Anthony Harris is a wonderful turner from Overland Park, KS, near Kansas City (MO) that I discovered in Portland last month. He turns high-end boxes, off-centre spoons, pipes, chopsticks and almost anything you can think about and has a deep sense of humour. For example, he has defined his own Five Laws of Woodturning:

- First: It ain't the tool.
- Second: You can take it off, but you can't put it back on.
- Third: You can't make the inside bigger than the outside.
- Fourth: The bevel never cuts.
- Fifth: Cuttin' what don't need cuttin' will not get cut what needs cuttin'.

Very funny but so true and that they are easy to remember once you read them.

I believe you need to be a one-of-a-kind character to cut threads in banksia pods just to demonstrate that he can. In a previous life, he was a computer engineer but when designed system changed, he decided to abandon his web site. So it is difficult to find something about him. The best source I found, is YouTube. I have a few demo suggestions: 1) Five woodturning spindle cuts https://youtu.be/MdZwq-gE_vc?si=O5N_MvRKnYd1aed3; 2) Basic tool control part 1 <https://youtu.be/GKEJQLsEC-k?si=1ZtM4O9Qa9ql072h>; 3) Basic tool control part 2 https://youtu.be/ITVi52pvTd0?si=y4b_7DIADgMpj8Xb; 4) Thread chaser https://youtu.be/dRIYZ9X8I80?si=5OLNdnzqRLI_KLJa; 2) and a more recent one from 2023 about a tree ornament https://youtu.be/cLbhTnCj_a8?si=8FaLh1sftSf7trKD. Most of these videos were taped during Anthony demonstrations at his home woodturning club in Kansas City. I am sure that you will note that donning basic personal protection equipment is lacking. You can find more videos of Anthony's on YouTube if you want to further explore. One of his live demonstrations in Portland was about making a box with a threaded lid on a large banksia pod, it was a hoot in the room. The second was about an eccentric scoop. Anthony is a fine turner with a superb control on his tools.

Enjoy the Instagram link, the website and the YouTubes. Please stay safe while you are in the shop.

André

Yellowstone Woodturning Symposium

September 20, 21, 22-2024

At the Roaring 20's Auto Club- 7400 Grand Avenue-Billings, Montana

Early Registration must be received by mail Before September 1st _

Lunch will be provided Saturday and Sunday: Fabulous door prizes!!!

Michael Roper Demonstrator

Registration Form:

Name _____

Address _____ City-State _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Check One of the options below:

Early Registration \$90.00 _____ Due before September 1st 2024

Non Turning Spouse ½ Price \$45 _____ Due before September 1st 2024

One Day Registration \$45.00 _____ (Either Fri, Sat, or Sun)

Late registration \$100.00 _____ (Paid After 9/1/24 or at the door)

Payment: Make Check payable to Yellowstone Woodturners Club

Mail to: YWT Registration
 Post Office box 21836
 Billings, Mt 59104

If you have questions, please call Sam Angelo club President
1-307-431-5395 or email samandcheryle@gmail.com

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.

Roy Harker - nlharker@gmail.com

ABOUT THE GUILD

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

mailing address:
% Casa
230 - 8 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
Canada T1J 5H2

Meetings - 7 pm - 3rd Thursday each month, Sept through June @ Casa building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

Sawdust Session - 10:00 - 12:00 1st Saturday each month @ Casa. Interested individuals are Welcome.

A map to the meeting location is found on our website.

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



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