CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS Volume NO.3 APRIL 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April is upon us and already people are making summer plans. In the meantime, we have a very exciting Demo in May. Mark your calendars for May 24,25 and 26. Take a moment to read the poster included with this newsletter.

We have some new members and would like everyone to wear a name tag. Steve is coordinating with Norm Robinson to make name tags for those of you that do not have one.

André and I were fortunate enough to attend a presentation and Hands-on by Michael Kehs at Blackforest Wood this month. I find these inspiring and a good way to expand the possibilities in wood turning. **michaelkehswoodworks.com** for his Website.

Our class consisted of: woodburning, carving with a micro motor and using a dry brush technique for coloring our project.

Last year we had Dale Lowe demonstrate and hands-on. This month it is my mission to finish candle project as well as starting and finishing a carved bowl using his technique. How fast memory fades. I will try to duplicate this years project much sooner.

This Meeting. André will demonstrate making a "mini bowl with feet."

Be sure to attend the meeting and bring your projects to share.

Attention: Coyote Flats has offered our members 8 tables to display and sell items on May 17. Contact Dan Michener at 403-331-9177 to book your table. Coyote Flats is located in Picture Butte.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

April 17, 2025 Regular monthly meeting. 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge.

May 2, 2025- Sawdust Sessions at Casa. 10 am – 12 PM @ Casa. 230 8th St South, Lethbridge. Steve will send out an email to remind us of plans for the morning.

Tool sharpening should be done as necessary. The grinder will be set up and ready to go. If you have any questions 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.

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

Again, I 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.

Remiebenoit@shaw.ca

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/

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March Members Meeting. The meeting was well attended with about 22 of our members. Remie demonstrated the use of a skew while building a 3-legged stool. The skew cooperated but a brief pause was needed to locate a ¾ inch wrench. How to make and use a story stick was also shown. Different skew types and grinds are shown and discussed. A premade kit for a 3-legged stool was drawn by Brian Oliver.

We had very good participation in show and tell. I am always amazed at the talent and depth of knowledge of our membership has.

Eucalyptus box with a screw on lid. Wood was drawn at a wood draw.

Dan displays a stool made at a previous stool demo/

Norm Stelter. A laser cut box.

Paul McGaffey Horn made into a knife sheath.

Brian Oliver. I think this is laser drawn. Don't look at it to long, you will spiral out of control.

Remo, Cutting it very thin. Wearing his name tag!

Vern McNeely. Bowl in Hand

Roger McMullin. All turned on a lathe. Amazing combination of Carving, Turning and colors.

Ross Robinson. Amazing work done with a wood lathe and a Rose Engine.

Terry Beaton, A Chess Board.

April Sawdust Session

Vern working on the EDGE. Looking Sharp.

John Johnson and Don Lancaster observing Steve turning a ringed goblet

Terry with Peter Van Katwyk

Terry Beaton has once again organized woodturning classes for the TNT 4H club. We are grateful to Terry for his promotion of young turners.

The pictures are of the first class at Dan's shop. Great group of young turners and all eager to try their hand.

Don Lancaster's Shop, Don has rejoined the club and is back in action. Tip from Don "I found that with the Jackson flip up face mask I can wear my portable oxygen nose piece under my RZ mask and have my safety glasses on and use my lathe."

Don put a skirt on the lathe to control dust and shaving.

Remie's presentation Written by André.

A stool of interest

Remie shared with us how he makes a three-legs mini stool. These stools are very popular with kids and grandkids. So be careful, you might have to make more than one. The stool is based on a demonstration he saw on-line from Rick Rich, a woodturner from Washington state.

Remie came prepared with a rough out disk of about 10" diameter and 1.5" thick, three precut legs 10" long and 1.5" square and a piece 2" long 1.5" square. He selected red oak for the project. Most hardwood would be suitable for this project.

The first step was to draw a diameter around 9" for the exterior of the seat and a second one for the leg's location about 1.5" smaller (7.5" diameter) than the first circle using a compass and then selecting randomly a point for the center position of the first leg. Then without moving the setting of the compass, he did mark the distance of the radius on the perimeter twice in each direction of the first leg position to establish positions of legs 2 and 3. Using a ruler he marked a line opposite to each leg position to help him to line up the drill when piercing the holes for the legs. The holes for the legs are drilled at 15 degrees from the vertical pointing to the outside. Using a sliding bevel and sighting the point opposite to the leg, Remie quickly poked three ¾" holes from the bottom through the seat. One could also use a drill press to accomplish that task. Then, the seat was mounted on a worm screw, the top side facing out. Next, the edge of the seat and its top and part of the bottom were profiled using bowl and spindle gouges, followed by a scrapper as the finishing tool. In his shop Remie would have sanded these surfaces. The next step was to use a bedan gouge to turn a plug to fill the evidence of the worm screw location.

Remie told us that this project was an exercise for him to increase his confidence in using the skew. This is a goal that would be particularly useful for many of us. So, he started rounding one leg blank between centres using a roughing spindle gouge. Then, he pulled out his story stick to mark locations for the tenon, coves, beads and length of taper. The story-stick also includes information about diameters. This way, it is quick to make matching legs. Remie was very successful in the execution of using the skew to turn the three legs with a very smooth finish. For sizing the tenon, he used a modified ¾" wrench (which is just slightly over 3/4") and then you can adjust for a perfect fit using the skew on the side or sandpaper. The next steps were to cut a kerf parallel to the grain lines in the center of each tenon (using a hand saw or a band saw) then adding glue and inserting a wedge. It is important to correctly orient the kerf so the wedge will push against the end of the grain. Once the glue is dried, use a flush cutting saw to remove the excess of tenon and sand. Voilà! Remie, you were very successful on at least two counts: it was a very interesting demonstration and you surely show us that you can master the skew!

In addition, you had a kit to make a stool so that one could put into practice what you taught us. Vern was the happy winner of the kit.

A few more lessons that we learned: 1) that a nice angle for the skew is about a bevel length of about 1.5X the thickness of the skew which in this case corresponded to a 25 degrees angle, and 2) if there is a light reflection at the tip of your scrapper, it is not sharp enough to do a good job. Go back to the grinder.

At the Instant Gallery session following the demonstration, Dan talked about a mini stool he did many years ago. The design was very similar to what Remie presented with a slight modification. There was a slight angle on the underside of the seat so that all the tenon's shoulder is supported.

André's preferred websites of the month

Sanding is always a challenge for me and a challenge that I do not particularly enjoy but that must be carried out to complete the work. My interest was sparked by an article in the March issue of the Greater Vancouver Woodturners` Guild (GCWG) Newsletter (https://gvwg.ca/docs/LatestNewsletter/GVWGNewsletter.pdf) (please note that the link will be different by the end of April and you will have to look it up in the Newsletter section) about a reference to a 2022 YouTube presentation of Iowa woodturner Steve Sinner (https://advancedlathetools.com) about "Choosing and Using Sandpaper for Lathe." Steve is a lathe tools maker and a highly skilled turner producing astonishing very large urns and vases, all with impeccable finish with his colleague Joe Meirhaeghe. It is obvious that sanding is well used to obtain those amazing finish on these giant vases. Make sure you click on the Gallery tab to see some of their magnificent work. The works are all stunning. Although it is hard to pick favorites, I very much like the two on the right at the bottom two rows. They are just gorgeous. What are your preferred ones?

To come back to sanding, I found the video (https://youtu.be/6Er5HGt8MLk?si=skOIPeVMkaN3WnGS) by Steve Sinner very instructive and learned about the impact of the pad resistance under your sandpaper on the final results. I was impressed to hear that Steve has zero tolerance for dust in his studio, and he demonstrated with a system to capture some of the dust. The utilization of a piece of carboard on top of the bed to increase dust capture efficiency was an important news to me. An interesting comment somewhere else was what do you do with your clothing handling once you have been exposed to dust? Do you scatter it throughout the house? After the video, I have a better understanding about sanding and abrasives. I have updated how I do this.

In the March GVWG Newsletter, you will also find a very comprehensive table about grit comparison and an explanation why it is not always a good idea to mix P series and US (ANSI) ratings of sandpapers. Of interest is the column with the average size grit of the sandpaper in micrometers (0.000001 meter). High quality sandpaper is related to the minimum variation in the size of the particle and how they are immobilized to the surface of the support. This was well explained by Steve in his presentation. Make sure you print a copy of this table for your usage.

The GVWG website contains a lot of information. The tabs about Learning and Safety have an emphasis about Safety and to quote them "**Safety his YOUR responsibility!**". A gold mine about Personal protection equipment, machinery, food safe finish, fire and chemical hazards, allergies, fatigue and related to the sanding topic of above, air borne hazards. Given the recent accumulated knowledge, we need to see how we can improve our own protection against multiple hazards inherent to woodturning including dust as technology is available to protect us. Under the Learning tab, you can also find information on fundamental knowledge and a list of videos. The Resource tab included a lot of info where to find some less-common supplies and an exhaustive list of suppliers including numerous Canadian outfits. You can also target your search using the filters option located on the left column.

The GVWG website was selected as the best website among all the American Association of Woodturners' chapters a few years ago. This is a great site! Mark it down and make sure you take advantage of it.
Enjoy the websites and the video. Please stay safe while you are in your shop.
André

The Chinook Woodturning Guild, Lethbridge, Alberta presents:

Kai Muenzer

Kai enjoys crafting wood, combining its possibilities with ideas for practical and useful or just interesting designs. Sharing ideas has been important to KAI since the beginning of his wood-turning career back in 2008. Kai is equally drawn to help new turners succeed with the craft as well as experienced turners who are interested in exploring new ideas.

Join us for an entertaining and informative

Woodturning Demonstration

Saturday, May 24, 2025, 9am – 4pm.
Location: Casa building, 230 8th St. South, Lethbridge, Alberta

Registration: $40, including lunch

Non-members $50: 18 and under $25

Hands-on Workshop with Kai Muenzer

Sunday, 25 May, 9:30 - 4pm in Dan Michener's workshop, Picture Butte
Monday May 26, 2025, 9:30-4 PM
Registration open to all skill levels
$60 for members lunch included.
$75 for non-members lunch included.

This workshop is limited in size to allow personal instruction.
Register early to be sure you get in.

For information and registration contact:
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