CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS Volume NO.6, September 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year begins. The guild has offers opportunities for learning both at our regular Thursday meetings and sawdust sessions. The added benefit is the chance to meet with fellow turners and exchange ideas.

If you have any suggestions for Demos or ideas that would be of interest at our meetings, please share them with your executive.

The guild had its AGM on September 18, and it was good to see so many familiar faces.

Once again, our guild was able to find 4 willing members to be on the executive. These are noted later. This year better than ever we had 21 members with paid up dues! Outstanding.

This month, we focus on our Christmas tree decorations for the CRH Foundation. André comments later in the newsletter. Challenge yourself to make at least 10 ornaments for our next meeting October 4, we also require 100 tops for sale at the CASA Christmas Sale. The proceeds go to the foodbank.

I have found some inspiration for Christmas ornaments on YouTube. My go to site is: AS Wood Turns with Allan Straton. Great videos and many ideas.

www.aswoodturns.com

I am looking forward to your creations, ideas and suggestions. Help me out by volunteering to do a demo at one of the meetings. Remie

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*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT CASA

230 8th St South, Lethbridge

October 4, 2025- Sawdust Sessions at Casa. 10 am – 12 PM

October 16, 2025- Guild Meeting at Casa. 7 PM-9 PM.

November 1, 2025- Sawdust Sessions at Casa. 10 am – 12 PM

November 20, **2025, Guild Meeting**

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

November 14 and 15, CASA Christmas sale. Call Terry for space at a table.

Sawdust Sessions.

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.

Membership Dues

Dues remain the same as 2024.
$75 for in town and $50 for out of town.
Take the opportunity to pay at the October 4 meeting.
E-transfer. Payment to:
Cwgtreasurer021@gmail.com

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.

rbenoit@chinookwoodturning.org

ABOUT THE GUILD

http:// www.chinookwoodturning.org/

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 at the Casa building on 8th Street South in Lethbridge

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

A map to the meeting location is found on our website

President: / Newsletter editor
Remie Benoit 403-394-5750
rbenoit@chinookwoodturning.org

Vice President Steve Munroe
403-331-7506
Saturday sawdust session organizer
smunroe@chinookwoodturning.org

Secretary
Andre Laroche
587-821-0706
aplaroch@chinookwoodturning.org

Treasurer, Terry Beaton
403-308-4552
tbeaton@chinookwoodturning.org

Beads of Courage
Chairperson
John Vanderberg
403-380-0141

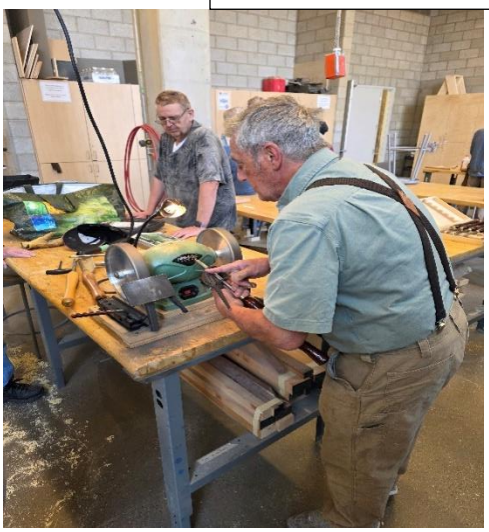
September 6, 2025, Sawdust Session

Learning the thrill of turning. Smiles.

Guests examining a bowl.

Steve and Rob. Getting technical

Earl and Roy



Roger getting
that perfect edge.

Terry Discussing different pen types

Ken Cherry wedding chalice

Christmas Tree 2025

The Guild and membership will again contribute to the 2025 Christmas Tree Festival, the 31st, put on by the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation. Participation to the Festival was initiated as a special project in 2007 by the Executive Board and the first tree decorated in 2008 with about 135 ornaments. It was sold for $600. The plan for the 2009 Festival was to go for a mini tree of three feet displaying 30-50 ornaments. However, that year the Festival was cancelled due to the H1N1 flu epidemic. By 2010, the Executive Board appointed Dr. Jim Farr as the chair of the annual Christmas Tree project. The location for the Festival moved from the Hospital to the Barn at the Lethbridge College. The tree exhibiting about 150 ornaments was sold for $1900 at the auction. Very Successful. You can find pictures of the tree in the December 2010 Newsletter on our website. Please note the red bird perched on top of the tree. Jim chaired that committee for numerous years.
Your ornaments support a great cause toward improving equipment and quality of care at the Regional Hospital which positively affect the entire population of Lethbridge and surrounds. Further, it provides a unique way to promote our Guild activities. Many people visit the Festival to primarily see our Christmas tree and on the day of setting many other decorators make the point to stop by our tree to express their joy of seeing the Turners' tree again. Please be assured that your contribution is always greatly appreciated by many people and by the Foundation. Make sure you participate in the project as our objective is to hang at least 225 ornaments. This year the tree will be set up on November 15. You can hand in your ornaments at any meeting before that date. Steve Munroe will be collecting your ornaments. This year, the event will be at a new location, the Agri-Food Hub & Trade Centre.

André

André's preferred websites of the month

Yann Marrot (www.yannmarot.com) is an internationally known woodturner. His studio is located in Salernes, southern France about 30 min drive from the Jean-François Escoulen Woodturning School, situated in Aiguines (about 2 h drive from Marseille). Yann is now the main teacher at the school and spends about half of his time teaching. His "a la carte" course is one of the most popular courses at the school. His website provides an excellent reason why courses with him are highly demanding. When you log in, it might be easier if you select the English Version of his site. Then, Click on Gallery to select a subset of his works. You will find a magnificent collection of hollow forms, bowls and other vessels. Click on the individual images to find a description of the work including the title, size and wood species. Yann was one of the first in the woodturning world to include square openings to some of his works. You will find examples of this starting halfway in the gallery. A square/rectangular opening gives a unique impression on roundish hollow forms.

“Nuage” collection of bowls made from green fig tree wood are very appealing to me. The fig tubes with the rectangular/square openings named “Through the window” are unique. The spalted beech work entitled “Raindrop box” is just beautiful. There are also numerous beautiful examples on how surface texturing, coloring or addition of feet can change the aspect of a vessel. Yann has a scheduled tour in October on the Westcoast with a demonstration stop in Vancouver on November 1st. I am sure that you will enjoy the time spent discovering his work.

Interesting fact: Kai Muenzer during his visit to Lethbridge in May mentioned that he took a course at the Escoulen School when he was starting to turn. He greatly enjoyed his stay. Students were staying in the same building where the shop is located. He said that they had a different dinner menu every night and that in addition to improving his woodturning, he also did perfect his abilities in the kitchen as the students had all the ingredients and the instructions on how to prepare their nightly fest. An additional way to create connections with the other students and to further brush up on his French language abilities.

Rabea Gebler, is a German artist and woodturner, who has set her studio “Sentomono” in Japan after graduating from a Lacquerware program in Yamanaka. Her studio was set up with her partner, a clay artist. She produces beautiful cups and plates using Japanese turning and finishing techniques. To find her work click on her website www.sentomono.com/shop/rabea and you will see some of her work. The grain of her cup and plates is just spectacular, and each ware takes advantage of the grain orientation. Her curly maple plate is beautiful with spectacular curly figures. Click on each image and you will get additional photos and dimensions of the work. Like many younger artists, you can find most of her works on her Instagram account Rabea Ferber(@rabea.ferber) • Instagram photos and videos
Her collection of bowls and plates is very impressive. The carved oak leaf plate is simply beautiful. It is very interesting how she displays the grains of her bowls and cups. You must look at those photos on Instagram to get a good glimpse of her work.

Enjoy the websites. Please stay safe while you are in your shop.
André

A side note. If you press CTRL and click on the website it will take you to the site. Remie