

# Central Alberta Woodturners Guild Newsletter

May 2025

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



Thanks to Merv Krivoshein for his demo around turning involuted eggs shapes. A lot of good discussion came out of this demo, along with prize draws! Merv always brings his quick wit and great sense of humour to his demos!

Stew Bremner and Bert Delisle, from the Edmonton Woodturners Guild, attended our April meeting. Thanks for coming by and seeing what we're up to.

Bert and Stew will be coming to our next meeting on May 1st.

At our May 1st meeting, Stew will be demoing his method to get those extraordinary epoxy finishes on his projects.

\*Stew has offered to demonstrate on members bowls. If you wish to bring a bowl for Stew to work on please do. Please note you need to transport it home so bring something to carry it in. Plastic bag or box etc.

Barry Ellis has bought out Bob Beckwith's shop. There are a lot of tools he doesn't need. He will be bringing some to the meeting, in hopes that people will find something they need.

### **Guild Library**

We still have many resources for the members, including magazines, books, and DVDs. They are housed in the filing cabinet at Safety City. If you are interested in looking at and borrowing these items just ask one of the board members at the meeting.

### **April 26 Sawdust Session**

The guild had another sawdust session last weekend. It was attended by a number of members, with folks coming and going. A number of turnings were worked on. One member was looking for some assistance on using a particular ring style hollowing tool.

Another member turned a couple of spurlles and then finished them using Terry's homemade finishing recipe. They looked great!

John Chrenek - provided a great demonstration of the Blocklayer site at the sawdust session. Thanks John. You did a great job with this.

[Blocklayer.com](http://www.blocklayer.com) is an online collection of calculators related to wood and metal working. It has the ability to create printable templates that can be saved to PDF files. It is heavily saturated with ads and does not work well with ad blocker programs. The ads are what keeps this site a free site.

[Link to the Main Program: From here you find the calculator that suits your needs.](http://www.blocklayer.com)

<https://www.blocklayer.com/>

Direct links to a couple of the calculators that I have used.

Segmented Turning Calculator:

<https://www.blocklayer.com/woodturning-segments>

Circle templates: <https://www.blocklayer.com/circle-templateseng>

If anyone would like help using the website, John Chrenek is willing to help. His contact information is in the CAWTG Membership List or contact one of the board members for his info.

### **Harvesting Elm wood.**

At the sawdust session, one question came up around the harvesting of Elm wood in Alberta. This is due to the risk of the spread of Dutch Elm Disease. Alberta is, fortunately, Dutch Elm Disease free, but we need to make sure that it stays this way.

Barry Green has knowledge of this issue when it comes to harvesting Elm for turning etc.

To help keep Alberta Dutch Elm Disease (DED) free, the [Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease](#) encourages everyone to pay attention to the provincial elm pruning ban between April 1 and September 30. To help eliminate beetle habitat, it is important to properly prune all dead wood out of your elms and dispose of all pruned elm wood and elm firewood by burning, burying or chipping **by March 31 each year**. Stored elm wood can harbor the elm bark beetles that can carry Dutch Elm Disease. -Barry Green

### **Year End Picnic**

It is that time of year to look forward to the year end picnic. We are looking at this for June 19th at the Red Barn near Lacombe.

### **Members turnings**

We would love to showcase your work in the newsletter and on the guild's website. If you would be happy to have people view your work, please send a picture along with a short description of the piece(s) to [centralalbertawoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:centralalbertawoodturners@gmail.com)

In the description you can include anything such as the inspiration for the piece, the wood used, and the finish. A photo taken with your phone would be great!

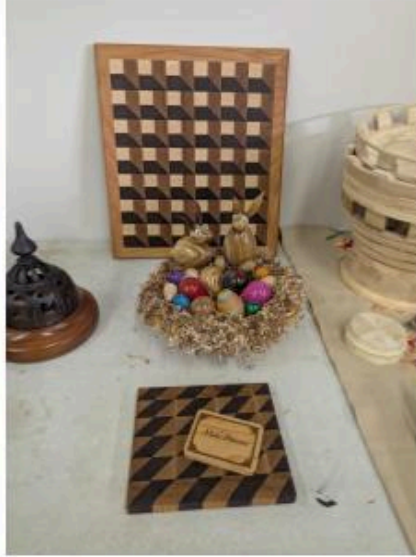
\*Keep scrolling after the pictures for a new segment in our newsletter!

Show and Share at the April meeting.

It was another great showing of members' work in April, where the President's challenge was turning adorned egg shapes. Very fitting for the Easter season.

A special note. Terry Hurst brought in the urns that he turned for Rod Mills who passed away last December. Terry worked with Rod's wife Karin on the design. Very nice work Terry.







Stew Bremner from EWG and Scott Medori brought in their own designs for slow rotation units to allow flood epoxy coatings to dry without running. Very ingenious.



### Interesting Websites

From time to time, we come across various websites that we find helpful in our craft. Other groups have this as part of their newsletter so we have decided that when sites become known that are interesting, we'll include them here for all to check out. If you come across any interesting website that pertains to our members, please forward the info to me for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

**\*The content of this list of websites is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement by CAW'TG. Always make sure that websites are suitable for your own purposes.**

[Blocklayer.com](http://Blocklayer.com) - Various geometric online-calculation tools for concrete blocks, stairs, and other construction design tasks. Many of these are for us woodturners and woodworkers!

[www.penblanks.ca](http://www.penblanks.ca) - William Wood-Write. Canadian site for small projects, pens, seam rippers and many other items.