

Central Alberta Woodturners Guild

Issue #21 January 4, 2018

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Happy New Year everyone, I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday. We are off and running with another year ahead of us as a well oiled machine. Our membership keeps growing and our meetings are productive and educational. That is, in no small part, thanks to those who attend the meetings and have stepped up to provide great instructional guidance. It is because of everyone's participation that our club remains vibrant and active. Thanks to those who provide monthly information articles for the news letter. Without your help the newsletter would not be what it is. Don't forget to provide Announcement articles as well as Buy and Sell articles to be posted as it is our way of reaching out to each and every member. Let's have a productive 2018 and keep on TURNING! Bob Beckwith.....Editor

from the President

On behalf of the Guild Board, it is my pleasure to wish each of you a Joyous New Year. I hope you have had a fine Holiday Season, which may have included some turning, as did mine. We have every reason for optimism into 2018. Our Guild is on a roll and there is lots happening.

My last couple weeks, however, were punctuated by an ongoing cold, flu, or whatever. Hot toddies didn't seem to do the trick this time. Maybe not strong enough! Lots of "down" time saw me gazing at my computer, watching several videos and U-Tubes about turning. There is a huge pile of resources on-line. Some are individual "posters" to U-Tube, usually describing projects. Others are by turning equipment companies or suppliers such as Craft Supplies USA, Carter & Son, or Thompson, often quite instructive on techniques, tool use, sharpening, etc. Some are associations such as the Woodworker's Guild of America, our own American Association of Woodturners, and the list goes on. So, despite lots of downtime, trying to overcome the "grip", I have added to my learning and I've made lots of notes and diagrams, some ideas and challenges for new projects in my shop.

I expect some of you have done similar "research" and will have a few favorite online sites. I throw out a challenge. Let's get a list going of our preferred online sites and publish it in our next newsletter. Please send me your top four or six sites and I'll compile a list -- doneill@shaw.ca.

Don O'Neill

Treasurers' News

Guild Members,

Hoping that everyone had a good Christmas with Family and/or Friends! And that everyone is looking forward to the coming new year.

As a club, we ended the year with a paid membership of 49. If you're one that hasn't paid yet – please do, as we move into the new year. Many have brought friends to (and into) the club, and they are most welcome. If you see somebody you don't think you know, introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

If you haven't yet received your CAWGT Name Tag, or your current membership card, please let me know! With work travel, and Christmas project overload this past month, I think I have missed a few.

Thanks to everyone who has supported or 50/50 draw, and our wood sales activities. Through the generosity of Shawn at Trimmed Line, amazing wood is available for our club members. Please remember to “bring something back” for the front office at Trimmed Line, they love to show and talk about it.

Going into our 3rd year as a club, we thank and appreciate the members we have, which make the club what it is. Suggestions and comments are always welcome as it helps us keep the club strong.

Wishing everyone the best in the coming year... Keith Westfall, Treasurer

Library News by Scott Medori

Our Librarian Scott advises he brings Videos, Magazines and books to each meeting for our members to borrow. Please take advantage of this wonderful resource. Thank you for your contribution to the Guild.

Scott Medori, Guild Librarian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This month's demonstration for Jan. 4th. is by Andy Brooks from Alabaster Artworks in Edmonton.

Andy Brooks, has lived the majority of his life in Edmonton, and has formally studied technical drawing, graphic arts, and holds a teaching degree from the University of Alberta. Andy is essentially a self-taught craftsman in wood and stone, following the techniques and innovations of other wood and stone turners, finding satisfaction with a mixture of Alabaster stone and wood.

Alabaster is a relatively soft stone which is shaped with a variety of steel and diamond tools, then sanded to a fine luster. Alabaster stone displays a variety of colours and grain patterning, being very different from one region to the next. This Alabaster stone has been chosen expressly for its translucence, marbled figure, and micro-crystalline structure which allows the finished vessel to ring when lightly struck.

Andy's Alabaster vessels are sealed with a finish that requires no special care other than dusting with a dry or damp cloth. Filling this vessel with water is not recommended for anything but short periods of time.



Check out some of Andy's work at this web site:

<http://www.albertacraft.ab.ca/brooks/>



Sets versus Individual Chisels

Recently I was exposed to the debate over having sets of wood turning chisels versus individual wood turning chisels. This is my opinion on the topic. All wood turners start out with a set or a selection of chisels. This gives them a chance to try different cuts and shapes while turning wood on the lathe. Most turners start with a simple lathe for turning spindles and bowls. They find out which tools work best for the turning they like to do.

I once went to a wood working show in Edmonton a few years ago. One of the general demonstrations was by Terry Golbeck of Black Forest Hardwoods in Calgary. He was showing the audience how a person could do most of their spindle turning with the skew chisel. His skill level was off the charts. I found it interesting but not recommended for novices. If you have 8-10 different chisels why would you do it all with a skew chisel. Sure, it makes a very smooth cut but it is a high skill tool that has a very high-risk factor. I can't do it and I have been turning for over 40 years.

The debate comes down to what kind of turning you do. I am a general woodturner. I turn bowls, spindles, musical instrument components, furniture parts, toys and decorative objects. For me a set of turning chisels has been the way to go. I have a complete set of Buck 808's that I gathered from eBay. They have been great. I frequently use 8-10 chisels on one project. This gives me flexibility to make all the different shapes I turn with different types of wood.

Now the specialist turner, green wood turner, bowl turner, furniture or clock turner will favor one or two specific chisels which they swear by. The person that started the debate made the point that you should buy one or two of your favorite chisels and get good with them. OK, I get that but here's a few other points:

1. It's very expensive to buy specialty chisels one at a time, most cost over \$100 each.
2. Most specialty chisels are carbide and cannot be sharpened easily in the home shop.
3. You don't have a variety of shapes and sizes.
4. Most individual chisels require you to make special storage for them.

So..... I favor sets. For the novice turner, COOP in Innisfail was selling a King Canada Woodturning set of 8 chisels for \$99. That works out to under \$12 per chisel. They are pretty good quality with a decent handle, ferrule and high-speed steel that you can sharpen easy and have a nice case to store them in. If you want a better set Busy Bee in Calgary sells a Sorby set of 6 chisels. It is a much better quality but a lot more money. I have a few specialty chisels that I use, but I started with a set of eight Buck Brothers chisels for \$50 USD. I added another 10 for another \$60 USD. So far, I have used my set for over 40 years.

If you turn only one or two types of projects, large hardwood bowls or bed posts then buy one or two special chisels but for the average turner I weigh in on sets. Just saying....

Barry Ellis

Instant Gallery



Bob Duce with his Celtic knot

12 14 2017



Mike Peterson



Gord Rock



MERV Krivoshein



Red Cedar Wave box
Bob Beckwith

Instant Gallery



Scott Medori



Dick



Wiebe



Dick



Jim Bull put on a very well prepared demonstration of making his segmented rolling pins.

The hands on demo showed all the steps with the necessary pieces assembled.



BUY and SELL

Cremation Urns

We have received an inquiry from someone to turn a cremation urn for the interment of his son's ashes as well as for two similar but smaller urns to retain some ashes for the son's children. The inquirer prefers a locally made product and is willing to pay for the service. If anyone is interested in doing this, please contact Don O'Neill, 403-346-5486.

FOR SALE

I have 21 Stanley Tools for sale. Ranging from Planes, scrapers, routers and squares. Here is a list of the Stanley numbers I have for sale: 6,9 1/2, 12,20(6"),20(8"),20(12"), 40, 60 1/2, 71 1/2, 78,79,90,92,93, 110,190,220,386,605C and a 605. Any of these item numbers can be researched if you simply type in the number followed by "Stanley" on a Google search. It should show you a picture of the tool along with its intended use. As to prices for each tool please see me if interested and I can give you more information such as age, condition and price. I can also send pictures of the tools if need be. Bob Beckwith



Central Alberta Woodturners Guild – About Us

We are a non-profit woodturning guild who share interest in and enthusiasm for woodturning. We meet in a safe, relaxed and informative environment to share ideas, experience, and information to advance our knowledge and skill in the art and craft of woodturning.

Purposes of the Guild

The overall purpose of the Guild is to provide information and education about woodturning to its members and the public. The Guild will stimulate interest in woodturning in the community and advance woodturning as a creative craft and unique art form. More specifically, the Guild is organized to:

- a. promote and facilitate the sharing of woodturning-related information and ideas among members,
- b. create and coordinate learning opportunities for skill development of members,
- c. promote wood turning in the community,
- d. organize learning events such as bringing in skilled instructors for workshops,
- e. develop an information base and library for the membership,
- f. promote members meeting in special interest groups to further specific interests,
- g. promote safety in woodturning, and
- h. support pooling of effort to acquire materials, tools, equipment, or supplies for woodturning.

We meet at 7:00 pm the first Thursday each month, except July and August, at Trimmed-Line Tree Services shop at 4601– 62 Street, Red Deer.

We welcome visitors. Annual general membership is \$ 60.00 per year.

For further information contact any of our Board of Directors:

President - Don O'Neill , doneill@shaw.ca tel # 403-346-5486

Vice-President -Program- Jim Bull, jim_connie@shaw.ca tel# 403505-1384

Vice-President -Finance and Membership – Keith Westfall, keith@westfall.net tel # 403-350-5280

Vice-President /Secretary - Terry Hurst, turningsandtenons@gmail.com tel # 403-302-7129

Vice-President - Safety and Technical – Dick Wiebe, wieones5@telus.net tel # 403-963-2852

Vice-President– Communications and Marketing, Barry Ellis, gbarryellis@gmail.com, tel 403-396-2640