

# Chinook Woodturning Guild Newsletter



Volume 2017, number 7

March 2018

Previous issues of our newsletters are available on our web site

<http://www.chinookwoodturning.org>

## President's Message

We woodturners need to have **safety** at top of mind when we go into our workshops.

I have never regarded the workshop as a particularly dangerous place and I often point out that the most dangerous thing most of us do every day is get into our cars and drive down the road. The toll of injury in automobiles is scary, but perhaps misleading as an indicator of danger because there are millions of us driving but relatively few working in our workshops. So on an injury per person basis it may well be that the woodshop is a very hazardous place indeed.



We don't talk about safety very often in our regular meetings, and when we do it is fairly boring because we mostly know what needs to be watched out for. To get everyone's attention one woodturning guild asked each member to relate their scariest workshop mistake. That turned out to be riveting stuff, but maybe not the best approach because the idea is not to scare the socks off the newer woodturners, but to make them aware of what might go wrong if they don't pay attention while they work and how the shop can be a safe environment if a few simple safety precautions become second nature.

Dust, chemicals and loud noise in the work area are long term hazards which are not too difficult to ameliorate with adequate filters, dust collectors and ear plugs, and may not pose too much of a threat to those who turn small objects, infrequently. If you turn a lot and sand a lot and colour and spray a lot, this is very important.

Getting your body involved with power machinery is immediate and shocking but can be avoided if you make a few simple rules into work habits. Make a habit of looking over the wood for flaws and cracks, start your turning by rotating the wood a time or two to make sure it won't hit the tool rest and then start the lathe at low speed making sure you don't have open shirt sleeves or loose hair or anything that could get wound up. Be comfortable wearing face/eye protection, are using the tailstock for stability whenever possible, have sharp tools and those tools are on the tool rest before they touch the wood (my most common source of embarrassment when demonstrating) and don't neglect to remove the tool rest when you sand. Do these things and you are most of the way toward a safe and rewarding journey into the joy of woodturning.

I am not attempting to discuss all aspects of safety. That has been done very well by the American Association of Woodturners on their safety site.

For those who are not AAW members, AAW's safety site – [tiny.cc/turnsafe](http://tiny.cc/turnsafe) – has a 3 page overview of turning safety and a video on personal protection equipment. A longish book on safety as well as a safety guidebook are available to AAW members. Have a look to brush up and remind yourself of the safety procedures you may have missed or let slip.

Turn safely, have fun.  
Dan Michener

## Coming Events Schedule of Meetings, demos and events

**\*\*Regular meetings are held the third Thurs of each month Sept to June**

2018

**Mar** 15 \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Roger Wayman.  
**Apr** 19 \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA, Turned Cabinet with drawers, Kai Muenzer

**May** 17 \*\*Thurs, 7pm, Casa. TBA.  
19 Sat, visiting artist J. Paul Fennell, all day demo  
20 Sun, J. Paul Fennell, full day hands-on workshop.  
21 Mon, J. Paul Fennell, 2<sup>nd</sup> full day hands-on workshop.  
**June** 21 \*\*Thurs, 6pm, Casa woodshop. BBQ.

## From the Editor

Thanks to Dan and André for their contributions.

We are sorry to report that Dennis Delaney's wife, Christine, has passed away.

Our thoughts and best wishes are with Dennis and family at this time.

## Beads of Courage

chairman: John vandenBerg

Greeting from sunny Arizona. I sure hope the snow is melting at home before we get there. I've been busy in the shop making beads of courage boxes, and I'm looking forward to seeing what you have been doing this winter. I received this letter from Rae Perry. They really do appreciate all the boxes that we have sent them so thank you.

John Vandenberg

From Rae Perry, Director of Artist Relations

I am so thrilled to be able to share with you and the Lethbridge Chinook Woodturners Guild a couple of very special pictures of one very happy guy whose treatment journey has been made just a bit less bumpy because of the fantastic bead bowl cement truck that was donated by a very talented woodturner Terry Sutton.

Hi Terry,

I thought you would like to see what your amazing talent has done for one special guy who is collecting Beads of Courage! This is Nash's story in a few words from his mom Chantal:

"At two weeks old, Nash was diagnosed with the genetic, life shortening & progressive disease, Cystic Fibrosis. He started collecting Beads of Courage when he was 6 months old, so has been logging his medical journey from the beginning. At 14 months old, Nash was diagnosed with yet another life shortening, progressive disease called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency, which is completely unrelated to having Cystic Fibrosis. Nash treasures his beads, and takes them with him every time we go to the hospital. He strings and counts his beads, and talks about what each of them mean, and how it encourages him to be brave."

Terry, you can see in these pictures that Nash absolutely loves his truck! It is moments like this that make me so proud and honored to be a part of this amazing program. Being able to bring all the talents of our many Artists to these kids and witness what it does for them is such an amazing feeling. Please know that you have made a difference and are truly Helping with the Healing!??

Thank you for your continued support!

Rae





A reminder that the Beads of Courage 6th Annual Bead Inspired Event is on May 11, 2018. Last year John Vandenberg donated a couple of pens that you had made that were a big hit. We have had Salt and Pepper Mills and Display Boards donated that are beautiful examples of the work the turners are creating!

If there is anything else any of the woodturners would like to donate for this fund raiser, contact John Vandenberg

Also thanks to Norm Robinson we have been able to assist Beads of Courage with these wooden bases



**Bring Back**

Bring Back is a Guild program where at each meeting a member is given a block of wood to turn. The member turns something from the block and brings the result to the next meeting along with a block of wood which is given to a different turner to take home and produce a turning.

Richard Shelson produced this small hollow form from the cube of Red Oak he received at the last meeting.



Richard brought this Russian Olive log for Jim Galloway to work his magic on.



**Guild Website**

<http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

**Feb Meeting**

**Turning salt and pepper grinders with Norm Robinson - demo**

Norm has turned 100s of grinders and it was a real eye opener to see how. First he showed us many different shapes from a classical form to custom designs for the wine industry in the Napa Valley in California. Norm suggested looking on the Internet for inspiration on grinder shapes. One very attractive grinder was made with sixteen 8" long segments, cut with sides at 22.5°, glued up with Gorilla glue, rolled with duct tape and secured with a few hose clamps. Veneer could be added between the segments to generate variation in color and grain. The advantage is the segments can be cut from a 1" thick board rather than a 3"x3" turning square. Norm also likes to use baseball bat seconds from maple or ash for making grinders. This is an advantage when you are a production turner as you do not have to round a square blank.

An important consideration is the mechanism used for the grinder and knowing what size of the holes to bore. Different makes of mechanisms require different hole diameters. If it is a salt grinder, stainless steel or ceramic mechanisms must be used to prevent corrosion. Norm prefers to use CrushGrind mechanisms as they can be used for salt, pepper or spices. These Danish mechanisms are also present in IKEA salt and pepper shakers. Strangely enough, you can purchase a complete IKEA grinder cheaper than the mechanism itself.

Once your design is completed and you have identified the different hole diameters required, round your blank with tenons at both extremities. Place one tenon in the jaws of a scroll chuck and bore the first hole (1 3/4" diameter) deep enough so the mechanism will clear the bottom of the shaker, bore the next hole (1-9/16" diameter) to the desired depth followed by a hole of 1-1/16" diameter as deep as necessary. If you do not have the exact bit size for the first hole, it can be enlarged to the appropriate diameter using a skew, parting tool or gouge. Then part off the base of the grinder.



The next step is to mark the size of the drill bit (1-1/16") on the end of the upper half and cut the tenon to the diameter of the drill bit. At this time adjust the tenon for a tight fit to facilitate the shaping of the grinder then bore the hole for immobilizing the upper mechanism. Next reverse the upper half using the new tenon to complete the shape of the top. Once completed, mount the base in the scroll chuck using the expansion mode (be careful not to crack the shaker), secure the upper half in place and use a cone in the tail stock to immobilize the body and shape the outside of the shaker according to your design. Once the design is completed, you might have to readjust the tenon to make sure the upper portion turns very smoothly in the lower section. Your first grinder is complete. Now you have to make a second one to complete the pair.



Roy Harker - cup & ball toy



Norm likes to use two coats of lacquer to finish his grinders but different finishes can be used.

Thanks Norm, it was a great demonstration and with the many small tricks you showed us, I am ready to get back to the shop and turn a set of grinders. André Laroche



Ross Robinson - lidded Birch Plywood box



Jerome veenendaal - Mountain Ash

some of Norm's work



**Show and Tell table/ Instant Gallery**



Richard Shelson leads the IG discussion



Jerome veenendaal - maple



Terry Sutton - birch plywood vase



Richard Shelson - Russian Olive



Bryan Mathews - Iron Wood vase

**About the Guild**

mailing address: c/o CASA  
230 - 8 Street South  
Lethbridge, AB  
Canada  
T1J 5H2

Meetings are at 7:00pm  
the third Thursday of the month  
Sept thru June  
at the CASA building on 8<sup>th</sup> Street South in Lethbridge

*a map to the meeting location can be found on our website*

**Executive**

President:	Dan Michener michenerdan@gmail.com	403-331-9177
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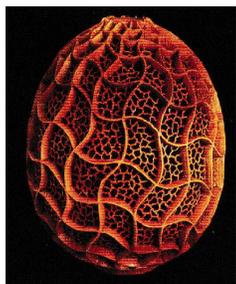
Website <http://chinookwoodturning.org/>

the Guild is a member of - Allied Arts Council, Lethbridge, the Society of Canadian Woodworkers and a chapter of the

The Chinook Woodturning Guild of Lethbridge presents:

# J. Paul Fennell

## WOOD ARTIST



Saturday 19 May 2018

J. Paul Fennell hollows and carves wood to create forms inspired by nature

### Demonstration

Saturday 19 May 2018 9 am – 4 pm

Registration: \$60 (Students \$40) includes lunch

Location: Casa Building 230 8<sup>th</sup> St. South  
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 5H2, Canada

To pre-register contact:

Dan Michener 403-331-9177 ([michenerdan@gmail.com](mailto:michenerdan@gmail.com))

André Laroche 403-393-5337 ([gplaroche@telus.net](mailto:gplaroche@telus.net))

(Registration will also be accepted at the door)

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### Workshop

Sunday 20 May 9 am – 4 pm

Registration for Paul's full-day hands-on workshop is \$200.

Space is limited so please contact Dan Michener or André Laroche, as above, if you would like to attend the workshop

Do not miss this opportunity to learn from and be inspired by one of the great artists of our time.