

CALGARY WOODTURNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER



March 1st Meeting

"Instant Gallery" picture of the month

From our last meeting:

A unique bowl by Don James.



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From the Editor...

This edition continues with the last of a multipart series on design. Thanks to Barbara Hall of the Northwest Woodturners in Oregon for passing this on to us. Hope everyone has enjoyed the series.

We have a new member, Bert Delisle. Welcome to the club, Bert!

Also we are sad that Bob McCullagh will not be rejoining; he is not able to drive at night anymore.

Usual reminder: you can send me items anytime to include here such as announcements of some event, items for sale, items wanted, tips, or even an interesting website you have come across.

From the Instant Gallery



March 1st Meeting

Minutes of CWTG AGM – March 1, 2011

Dennis Milbrandt presiding and called the meeting to order at 7PM.

We had two visitors Bert and John, who were welcomed by Dennis.

Motion to accept last months meeting minutes was moved and seconded.

Dennis mentioned that Jim Osenton's father passed away last week. Mike Swendson moved that we send a card and flowers to Jim and his family. This motion was seconded.

Carl asked if there was any news about Bob McCullagh.

Dennis asked that we defer the finance report until Jim Osenton returns next month.

Dwayne Sims mentioned that more charitable donations are needed. Remember that items donated do not necessarily need to be turned. We are reminded that one of the mandates of the club is to provide charitable benefits to the community.

Carl provided a library report: there have been some DVD's added to the collection and he asked that if anyone has an idea or request for any library material to be purchased, it will be considered. Please send ideas to Carl. He also reported that to date 23 members have not renewed.

Tim Dorcas was not present for a web site update, but the site appears to be operational.

Mike Swendson asked about ideas for activities for next year. He also proposed a "Richard Raffan Shape Challenge". He proposed to purchase 50 sets of bowl templates and pass them out at the next meeting. The idea is to make 4 bowls and bring them to the next meeting for a "show and tell." The motion to purchase the templates and proceed with this was moved and seconded. Gord Langer will be demonstrating next month and will bring the templates.

Mike would also like to propose a sawdust session for March 19th.

Ron Falconer has updated our displays and they are all excellent. These are located at Lee Valley, Canadian Woodworker and Busy Bee. If anyone is interested in displaying an item please remember that they must fit in an area of 11" X 11" X 11".

The Dave Beeman raffles are always well received at the monthly meetings and raise approximately \$1000 per year. If anyone has any wood to donate to a raffle, please notify Dave Beeman.

Jim Jones mentioned that the Okotoks Symposium is currently set for April 2nd with an alternate date of April 9th. The cost is \$10, which includes lunch.

Spruce Meadows: a quick report was presented by Dwayne Sims. He mentioned that the 1st weekend was better than the 2nd weekend but we made enough to cover costs. We have already paid for this year. Neil reminded us that we need to make 2 items per month to be ready for the event this year. We have been assigned the same booth #306. We asked about the possibility of doing a demo there, but we are not able to do so at the current location. He asked that we set aside some time – 4 hours at least - to volunteer at the booth this year. Jim Jones mentioned that with the small size of the booth, displaying 20 pieces per person makes it a bit crowded. Dwayne said that with the new display shelves, a big difference was realized and that was not so much of an issue anymore.

Old Business:

Regarding insurance, we are covered only when we do events as a club. We are not covered for events undertaken that are not under the auspices of the CWTG.

Carl had only 3 replies for interest in the Kingsland Market endeavor, which were insufficient to pursue.

Don James is handling “Special Projects” for the club this year. He will also send a piece to the AAW conference in St. Paul. Please let Don know of any possible similar events for him to follow up on.

Dennis Milbrandt then held the election and appointment of club officers for 2011-2012. Congratulations to our new president Duncan Robertson! Please see the updated roster on the last page of this newsletter for all the newly elected and appointed positions.

Neil mentioned that Dennis should declare all directors elected, which he did.

Dennis proposed that the club rent a PO box in order to receive all mail to the club. The cost is \$75/year. This was moved and seconded.

Terry Golbeck announced that Douglas Fisher will be holding a demo and workshop at Black Forest, Saturday April 30th and Sunday May 1st. The demonstration on Saturday will be how to turn, carve and color a double sided, off-axis sculpture. On Sunday the hands-on workshop will be on turning off-axis, surface enhancement and color. This promises to be an excellent, thought provoking event to attend. Contact Terry at Black Forest for additional information and to register.

One other piece of new business before the break was by Don James that suggested we look into the acquisition of a protective screen for any demos we may do. A motion to pursue this possibility was moved and seconded.

All business concluded, a break was then called.

Following the break, Jim Jones mentioned one other piece of new business. Clinton Biggs will be hosting a demo in Lethbridge on March 26th. Please see "Upcoming Events" on page 7 of this newsletter for additional details.

As Carl Smith was missed for election prior to the break, he was declared re-elected.

The critique portion of the meeting was then held; shown was a beautiful bowl by Jim Summers, some very thin turnings by Jim Jones (see the picture on page 2 upper left), and an excellent bowl by Don West.



Don James had an unusual bowl (which can be seen on page 1 of this newsletter). Don had reground the parting tool for each cut to maintain the interior profile of the bowl.

Mike Swendson had made a hollow vase with various threaded finials. A vote was taken to see which of the colors went better with the vase, and the consensus was the black one did.



Dennis Milbrandt gave a terrific presentation on airbrushing. He covered the history of airbrushes and the modern counterparts. Dennis described the airbrush types such as internal mix, external mix, single vs double action and feed types. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

The Dave Beeman draw was held and many lucky members won some wood. This month, the 50/50 draw pot of \$77.00 went to Peter Eddy.

Design - Part 7

Principles of Design

By Barb Hall – Northwest Woodturners

I've been trying to emphasize the role of emotional response in design. This is an area foreign to many people, particularly those that strive for functionality in their design. Many turners fall into this category. For these designers, the primary considerations are efficiency and functionality. These are indeed worthy design considerations, and necessary ones when designing something that's primary role is one of daily use. Platters, bowls, scoops, honey dippers, mortar and pestles, all are examples of the turners craft where the object's primary purpose is to fill a functional need. I will argue however, that the most successful designs either incorporate the emotional concepts I have been discussing directly, or are applied artificially by the most successful designers.

Lets take architecture as an example. To me, architecture is one field where practicality and efficiency reign supreme. After all, you have to design a space that provides the most area for the least cost that provides the areas that fulfill the most important and required functions in the locations that are the most efficient. How many different designs can really fulfill these basic requirements? Not too many really, if you discount the size of a room, or the fact that one designer makes the kitchen longer than another. Discounting these "tweaks", how many ways can you really do it? Why does my house have a stairwell and hallway set at 45 degrees to the rest of the house? That is the epitome of inefficient design. It wastes space, rendering some square footage totally unusable. Why does my living room ceiling go all the way to the top of the second floor? If the builders had just added a few more joists, at minimal cost to the overall structure, I would have an additional 400 square feet of living space, at essentially the same cost. Why do we have federal, prairie, art deco, Victorian, mid century modern etc. design styles? The most cost effective and efficient design would clearly be squares or rectangles fitted neatly together in some pattern that promoted the efficient execution of living function. Why are houses built with materials that cost way more than they need to for the function they fulfill, or designed so that construction is way more difficult and costly than necessary. It is because these extravagances are intended to add beauty (what a nebulous concept!!), to add pleasure, to add distinction. These are all emotional needs, but they serve to increase our pleasure (and therefore our satisfaction) in owning something like a home. 'Falling Water', Frank Lloyd Wright's elegant creation satisfies all these emotional needs and is well known. If you look at industrial architecture, what is the difference between a public housing project building of the 60's and something like the Empire State Building, or the Chrysler building, or the Hirshhorn Museum. The former are clearly more efficient, but the latter are clearly more successful. It is because the designers of the latter group recognized the requirement to meet the emotional needs of people working in or using the buildings.

So how do we apply these ideas to our own practical turning? First we need to understand the different avenues we could take to generate emotion. I can see several ways we could approach the problem, and I'm sure there are many more. I look at this in terms of the kinds of emotion we could evoke. For example, we could evoke desire - perhaps by making the viewer wish to touch or feel our piece. If we can make the viewer want to stop and touch our piece, we have made a connection with the viewer that is beyond simple admiration or appreciation. How about evoking intrigue. We could do that by using something unexpected - a sound, a movement, perhaps a hidden mechanical function, or a design that transforms. We could evoke imagination - I could see doing this using methods of surface decoration such as carving, painting, wood burning, piercing to create a design that is unexpected, or that catches the whimsy of the viewer. Another emotion is humor. By using the unexpected, or by the use of exaggeration as for example a caricature, we can catch the viewer by making them chuckle or laugh. A more difficult approach would be trying to capture a viewer's personal feelings, through a cultural tie or a personal memory or experience. This might be accomplished by using cultural design motifs, or by referencing events that could have emotional ties. Here however we tread more in the unknown, for we can't know how any person might respond, if at all, to this sort of suggestion. But perhaps that is not as important as the emotional response

WE get while creating the piece. And there lies the true secret. If we respond to our piece while creating it, we can be sure that others will respond to our piece while viewing it.

In each of these ways, by grabbing the attention of the viewer through their emotion, we establish a connection that makes our piece stand out among all the other pieces. We will have been successful! Try it for yourself.

Upcoming Events

Jim Jones advises that the date for the Okotoks Symposium is tentatively set for Saturday, April 2. Confirmation and further details will follow.

The Lethbridge club is hosting Clinton Biggs for a demo on March 26th. It will be held at Fort Whoop Up and will run from 9 AM to 4 PM. One of things he will be demonstrating will be a multi-axis box with a threaded lid. Clinton is an accomplished turner despite his young age as he has demonstrated at the Utah Symposium a number of times. Cost for the day will be \$45 pre-registration and \$55 at the door. This includes lunch. If you are interested in attending please email Jim Jones directly at burlwood@platinum.ca by the 17th of March.

Note that Jim will be away from March 7 until the 13th so please do not expect a reply during that time.

Interesting Websites

Some good info on airbrushing:

<http://www.airbrush-iwata.com/>

Airbrush lessons for beginners:

<http://www.angelfire.com/oh3/pmodels/paasche.htm>

Turned pens, some worth thousands (check the Shuten-Dojii marked down from \$22,000 to a mere \$15,000.)

<http://www.internetpens.net/page/page/1404798.htm>

About the guild...

GUILD PURPOSE

TO PROMOTE THE ART AND CRAFT OF WOODTURNING IN A WAY THAT EXPANDS THE KNOWLEDGE, SAFE PRACTICE, AND ENJOYMENT OF WOODTURNING THEREBY BENEFITING BOTH MEMBERS AND ALSO THE COMMUNITY.

FOR THE MEMBERS:

- TO PROVIDE ALL MEMBERS WITH A METHOD OF REGULARLY EXCHANGING IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE IN WOODTURNING
- TO PROMOTE SAFETY IN WOODTURNING
- TO BENEFIT FROM GROUP SIZE IN ACQUIRING PUBLISHED RESOURCES & MATERIALS

FOR THE COMMUNITY:

- TO BRING AN AWARENESS OF WOODTURNING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC
- TO PROVIDE CHARITABLE BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

MEETINGS

The Guild meets on the first Tuesday, each month (except July and August) at 7:00 PM at Black Forest Wood Co., Bay 7, 603 – 77th Avenue SE, Calgary. Visitors are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP/DUES: Annual Dues - \$30.00 with E-Mail, otherwise \$35.00 on a calendar year basis.

WEBSITE <http://www.calgarywoodturners.com>

CLUB OFFICERS

President and Director	Duncan Robertson	403-870-7331
Vice President and Director	Mike Swendsen	403-651-4806
Sec-Treas. and Director	Peter Eddy	403-650-4979
Assistant Secretary		
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Osenton	403-286-3667
Director - Newsletter	Jim Leslie	403-226-5933
Director - Technology	Tim Dorcas	403-650-9177
Director - Com Engagement	Mike Swendsen	403-651-4806
Director - Club Sales	Neil Proctor	403-934-4985
Director - Charitable	Dwayne Sims	403-242-4227
Director - Programs	Norm Olsen	403-295-2230
Director - Marketing	Jim Somers	403-293-5134
Director - MAL	Vern Steinbrecker	403-281-2077

COMMITTEES

AUDITORS: Henri Lefebvre, CGA, and Lyle Cuthbert
 BAR-B-QUE (ANNUAL): Ron Falconer
 CHARITABLE CO-ORDINATOR: Dwayne Sims and Andy Lockhart
 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Mike Swendsen and Don James (including sawdust sessions)
 LIBRARIAN: Carl Smith
 MARKETING: Dennis Milbrandt, Jim Somers, Vern Steinbrecker
 MEMBERSHIP RECORDS: Carl Smith
 NEWSLETTER: Jim Leslie
 PHOTOGRAPHER ??
 PROGRAMS: Norm Olsen, Mike Swendsen
 PUBLIC DISPLAYS: Ron Falconer and ??
 RAFFLES : Dave Beeman, Vern Steinbrecker
 SCHOOL LIASON: Jim Jones
 SPRUCE MEADOWS SALE: Neil Proctor, Dwayne Sims, John Simard, Dave Beeman, Jim Edwards.
 TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/WEBSITE: Tim Dorcas and Norm Olsen
 TOOL SWAPS: Jim Edwards
 WOODWORKING SHOW: Dennis Milbrandt
 MEMBERS AT LARGE: Vern Steinbrecker, Glenn Summers, Dave Beeman, Ron Gilbert, and Ken Kindjerski, Don James