

Calgary Woodturners Guild Newsletter

June 2009

Next Meeting June 2/2009

Wilf Talbot will present a slideshow detailing his trip the Mesa, Arizona Desert Woodturning Roundup which was held at the Mesa Convention Center earlier this year.

Minutes of meeting May 5/2009

Meeting was opened by Carl Smith who introduced some of the guests of the evening. Present were Mary Lou Poniecki, Laura Poniecki and Phil Morrow who presented a video showing the distribution of the tops that were made and donated by our members for a school in Guatemala.

The video was "Tactic 09 Mission to Guatemala", and was quite a cultural experience for everyone. Following a close call where all the tops that were to be donated went missing for a while, but were thankfully recovered later. The video showed the tops being handed out to the children there and there were a lot of smiling faces when they received them. In addition to playing with their new tops, they also enjoyed playing soccer, watching some puppet shows and singing. In an effort to also improve health conditions, the group has already raised \$4000. for penicillin and is planning a return trip in the future.

The meeting was then turned over to Don James.

To start the evening, Mike Swenson announced a Sawdust Session to be held at Black Forest May 16 from 9AM to 4:30PM. Everyone was invited to bring their own tools, wood (or to purchase while there of course) and to participate in these fun sessions. Jim Osenton added that if there was anything special that anyone was interested in seeing demonstrated to contact him and make their requests known.

Don then announced that Lyn Leslie has resigned her newsletter post and she was then given a round of applause for her efforts.

Kevin Welch said that he had made a visit to Armstrong and Penticton B.C to visit family and a fellow turner from Armstrong that he met last year by the name of Bob Coombes. Bob has been stockpiling some various woods from the area and would like to sell some of it off to make way for new arrivals. A partial list of what is available is listed at the end of this newsletter.

Don James then introduced our guest speaker of the evening, Richard Raffan. Who then gave a presentation in the form of a slide show of some of his fine work, both new and old. He discussed the finer points of form and design by critiquing much of his own work including what he liked and various aspects that did not work. By talking about both, Richard was able to impart a sense of form that also included some practical

areas as well. For example, he found that bowl design that have rims turned slightly inwards seem to sell better. Larger bowls that were designed with grooves on the outside gave a subtle sense of security when held. Some bowls he described had been in use for up to 30 years, and have developed a patina and sense of familiarity that only is possible over a period of time.

Richard also described some bowls that were turned green and had the pith running through the center causing them to warp inwards when drying, which resulted in a pleasing shape when completely dried.

While describing scoops which formed much of Richard's early work, he mentioned the scoops of approximately 2 inches in diameter were the easiest to make. When smaller than this, thickness was more critical. If much larger than this, hollowing became more of an effort.

He also showed some impressive nesting bowls. Richard uses the McNaughton center saver for removing cores from blanks. In addition, a variety of bowl design features were shown and discussed from the perspective of shape, rim design and curves. The latter point was emphasized by showing several that were band-sawn in half after turning which graphically showed both what worked and what didn't. Rims and their design can add a lot to a bowl and some techniques that can be used to highlight this could include undercutting, adding grooves, painting and other similar embellishments.

In order to describe various methods of finishing his turnings, Richard showed pictures of bowls including some that had been blackened with a propane torch, dipped in indigo ink and then partially sanded. Some that were finished with copper wax which gave a glittery appearance.

He then showed some of his turned boxes, and mentioned that the taller ones seemed to look better in groups of 3 or more. Richard also had a series of what he called stacked pipes; these were band-sawn cores with the grain running sideways ie: not endgrain. These were turned and drilled and since they were turned green, warped in wonderful ways when dried. Most were finished in Verdigris, which is the common name for the particular green coating or patina formed when copper, brass or bronze is weathered and exposed to air over a period of time. For more information on this wonderful finish, see <http://www.langridgecolours.com>

Richard then answered questions regarding pricing his work. He said that it does not help our craft if some sell their work simply to recoup costs as this acts in driving prices down and makes it more difficult to sell work for those that make a living from it. It is far better to give pieces away than to sell them below cost of production or to make a reasonable profit. His rule of thumb was to try to decide on an hourly wage. Using an example of \$60/hour, then try to estimate how long it takes to make a particular piece. One method used is to multiply the wood blank height vs. depth in inches and translate this into minutes to make the piece. So in the case of a 12 X 3 inch blank, roughly 48 minutes would be required. This would break down into 5 minutes to rough the blank, 30 minutes to turn and the remainder to sand and finish. He noted that if it were sold through a gallery, they

may double this price and add GST to arrive at their selling price. Other factors that influence price in addition to the above is the cost of the wood. If it is a spectacular piece, a burl for example, then the selling price may be a bit higher. Richard then left us with a pamphlet of the upcoming woodturning conference to be held in Brisbane, Australia next July. Details for those that may be interested in attending can be seen at the end of this newsletter.

Thanks to Richard Raffan for a memorable presentation.

Cheryl Samuel from the Edmonton Woodturners then gave a short presentation on a bowl turning challenge done by their members. They had made a series of 5 templates of which were given to their group. The idea was to make bowls that had the exact curvature of the templates as a learning experience. The members then brought the finished result to the next meeting and all were displayed and discussed. Samples were passed around to the group and a short discussion of this approach followed. She also described tree dyeing; a way of injecting dye into a tree as it was growing. This interesting technique can be seen on her website at <http://www.ravenstail.com>

Thanks to Cheryl for an interesting presentation.

The \$80 50/50 raffle was won by Ron Gilbert. The remaining \$80 was donated to the fund to provide penicillin to the people in Guatemala.

At the time of writing this newsletter, the year end BBQ is tentatively planned for June 20. This date will be confirmed at the next meeting.

Summary of various wood available from Bob Coombes. Anyone that is interested can either call him @ 250-308-5049 or e-mailing him @ coombes@sunwave.net if you have any questions. He also welcomes all visitors if you so desire to go for a load!

Russian Olive 14" plus in 2' lengths
Juniper 5-8" in 4'-6' lengths
Black Walnut 4"-10" in various lengths, plus some larger that is cut in halves.
Black Walnut root in various sizes
Catalpa 14"-18" in 3' lengths
various kinds of Burls (mostly maple, some pine and yellow pine)
Butternut 16" in 16' lengths
Butternut Blanks 6"-16" with bark
Crabapple 20" in 3' lengths
Oak 1" X 1" for segmenting (has 20,000 feet)
Mb. Maple Blanks various sizes up to 12" X 10" and 11" X 9"
Acacia Blanks 6" - 8"
Ash Blanks various sizes
Birch Blanks various sizes
Bing Cherry Blanks 6" - 8"
Copper Beach Blanks 6" -8"
Pine beetle kill Pine Blanks various sizes
Elm Peppermill Blanks 3" X 3" X 9"
Hornbeam 4" -10" in 2 foot lengths
Teak 1 1/8" X various widths and lengths
English Elm 1/2" X 4" X 24"
Maple Burl 1" X 2-3" X 14"
All sizes of Cherry Burls

2010. Australian Woodturning Symposium.

REGISTRATION FORM

This Registration Form is to be sent with your deposit or payment in full. Deposit of \$150.00 Au by 1st March 2010. No Refund will be granted after 1st March. 2010. A cancellation fee of \$50.00 will be accessed if cancellation after 1st Feb. 2010.

Send this form with your payment to; 2010 Australian Woodturning Symposium. P. O. BOX 7823, Mail Center, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia, 4352. *Cheque, money order or direct credit to bank account please* (please ask for details).

Name: _____ Known as: _____

Attending spouse/dependent/student: _____

Address: _____
Post Code _____

Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Email: _____

STANDARD REGISTRATION FEE: (Includes all lunches and smoke's/coffee breaks)	\$ 395.00
ACCOMPANIED SPOUSE/ DEPENDENT/STUDENT:	\$ 295.00
(DAY ATTENDEES ONLY) DINNER; If you plan to stay for the 7.00pm to 9.00pm informal presentations and wish to stay for dinner, you will need to purchase dinner tickets. Dinner tickets are \$15.00 each. Please indicate number required. () x \$15.00 = TOTAL	\$
BANQUET Saturday 17 th July 7.00pm	The cost is: \$45.00 PER PERSON =TOTAL
TOTAL REGISTRATION PAYABLE:	\$
Deposit Enclosed Non Refundable after 1 st March 2010: \$150.00 Au. pp.	\$
Balance due by 15 th May 2010:	\$

FULL ACCOMMODATION OPTION:

ALL THE ACCOMMODATION PACKAGES CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

Accommodation: 4 nights from, Wednesday 14th July to Sunday morning 18th July inclusive.

Breakfast from Thursday 15th July to Sunday 18th July

Dinner from Wednesday 14th July to Saturday 17th July (Excludes banquet)

1. SINGLE ACCOMMODATION – COST \$ 280.00 Standard room single bed with shared facilities (4 bedrooms to 2 toilets & 2 showers)	\$
2. SINGLE (Shared en suite) ACCOMMODATION – COST \$ 350.00 2 separate lockable rooms with a shared bathroom.	\$
3. SINGLE En suite ACCOMMODATION – COST \$ 400.00 Single room with en suite.	\$
4. DOUBLE En suite ACCOMMODATION – COST \$560.00 Double room with en suite.	\$
DEPOSIT ENCLOSED Non Refundable after 1 st March 2010: \$50.00 Au pp	\$
Balance due by 15 th May 2010:	\$

Special Dietary Requirements: Please attach any special requirements to this form (Extra charges may apply)

Participate and learn from experienced woodturners in Australia and around the world, Richard Raffan, Terry Baker, Tim Skilton (AUS), Benoit Averly (FRA), Bob Neill, Stuart Mortimer (UK), Don Russell, Dixie Biggs (USA), John Wessels (Sth Africa).

None of the International experts have demonstrated in Australia before.

VENUE: St. Leo's College, Queensland University, College Road St. Lucia, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Attendees can stay on site in comfortable rooms with meals provided.

REGISTRATION: Packages start from \$295.00. See registration forms for details

PROGRAMME: Set up will be Wednesday 14th July, 2010. Presentations will start 9:00am Thursday 15th through 18th July, 2010. There will be something for everyone in the more than sixty 90 minute presentations and demonstrations, with plenty of time to chew the fat in between.

BANQUET & AWARDS: Saturday night 17th July for fellowship, discussions & presentation of awards and prizes.

EXHIBITION: Attendees are invited to participate in a public exhibition with up to five pieces of their best turned work, which can also be available for sale. The exhibition will be held 9:00am to 5:00pm, 15th July through 17th July. A public choice award will be given for the best of exhibition.

HANDS-ON EDUCATION PROGRAMME: Three separate programmes on offer. **YOUTH:** Several sessions for youth, 10 to 17 years. Open to the public. (See separate registration form)

BEGINNERS: For those who would like to try "making the chips fly" Open to the public. (See separate registration form)

ATTENDEES HANDS-ON: Attendees will have the opportunity to try some of the techniques they have seen the presenters use during the symposium.

TRADE SHOW:

Several companies including the symposium sponsors will have timber, equipment, and associated accessories available for display and sale. Open to the public hours 9:00 am July 15th to 3:00pm July 17th.



REGISTRATION & ENQUIRIES.

Bruce Bell
PO Box 7823 Mail Center Toowoomba, Qld Aust 4352
Phone / fax + 61 7 46 303 525
Email : bruce@tymba.com.au
Web Site: www.tymba.com.au



"MAKING THE CHIPS FLY."

2010 Australian Woodturning Symposium

July 14th to 18th, 2010

LEARN with the EXPERTS!

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA



SYMPOSIUM WEB SITE: www.tymba.com.au

SUPPORTED by VICMARC MACHINERY & SUTTON TOOLS - P&N

PRESENTERS

	Richard Raffan (Aust): Began woodturning in England in 1970 at the age of 26 and has earned his living turning wood ever since. Largely self taught, he has established himself as a leading figure in woodturning around the world. Today Richard is probably the world's best known woodturner, famous as a bowl & box maker, teacher, demonstrator & author of classic woodturning books & videos.
	Terry Baker (Aust): Terry began woodturning in 1983 after 15yrs teaching industrial arts. He first worked with Richard Raffan before developing his own techniques & surface Designs inspired by a range of cultures. In 1995 he received a Churchill Fellowship to study with influential artists & craftsmen around the world. Terry is an inspiring & energetic teacher, with his works having formed part of collections around the country.
	Tim Skilton (Aust): After a career in the mining & construction, Tim has been a full time woodturner since 1990. He specialises in turning Australian native timbers including red gum platters and lidded boxes. Tim has been involved with the "Come Try Woodturning" sessions at timber shows with over 500 students introduced to the craft. Tim will head the hands-on education programmes at the symposium
	Bruce Bell (Aust): Old. Apprentice of the year 1971. Began woodturning in 1972 specialising in Australian outback timbers. In 1992 he designed and built the first "Travelling Woodturning School" to make classes available to both city & country people alike. He has presented at various wood shows around Australia and many times in the USA. Bruce is the convener of this symposium.
	Benoit Averly (France): After leaving high school and working in various fields, he began woodturning in 2002. He became a full time professional turner in 2003, with Richard Raffan as an inspirational mentor. He has been Richard's workshop assistant at various locations around the world. In 2006, Benoit won the national contest for young craft artists "Concours Jeunes Createurs" and later that year the "Prix Departamental de la SEMA".
	Dixie Biggs (USA): Has been a full time studio woodturner/artist since 1989. Her interest in woodturning began when she taught herself to use a wood lathe to duplicate a chess set her grandfather had made. Having worked as a biologist, much of her work incorporates botanical themes. She is best known for her meticulously carved "leaf wrapped" vessels. Dixie has demonstrated at both regional and national symposiums in the USA.
	Don Russell (USA): Don has been a woodworker for over 40 yrs making items from toys to museum exhibits. He has taught woodworking and woodturning in various locations across the USA. Don is a specialist in making segmented turnings and has developed a system for the construction of unique polychromatic style staved type turnings.
	John Wessels (Sth. Africa): Is a retired airline pilot with an engineering background. He did sheet pewter classes at the age of 10. At school his favourite subjects were industrial art, woodwork & metal work. He was 15 when he first started woodturning. Now at 63 he is putting his various experiences together combining both wood and pewter to create pieces with a difference.
	Bob Neill (UK): Taught art at secondary school for over 20yrs and was a leader in developing 'basic design ideas' in art education. In 1975 he was awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Scholarship in order to exchange ideas with toy designers in the USA & Canada. Bob was part of the pyrographic revival in the late 70s. In 2003 he was awarded a Shackleton Trust Scholarship teaching pyrography in the Falkland Islands.
	Stuart Mortimer (UK): A retired police officer, Stuart is a self taught woodturner and has been turning since 1968. Beginning in the 1980's, he has decorated work with spirals using hand held power tools as well as traditional tools. In 1997 he turned the world's largest bowl in the USA. He has recently add a new dimension to his turning by incorporating the use of silver & gold in his work.

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 14th July		Saturday 17th July
12:00 noon - 8:00pm Check-in Main foyer St. Leo's College		7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast
6:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner		8:00am - 9:00am Free time
7:00pm - 9:00pm Fellowship. Bar will be open.	Friday 16th July	9:00am - 10:30am Demonstrations Rotation #8
	7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast	10:30am - 11:00am Smoko on the open deck area
Thursday 15th July	8:00am - 9:00am Free time	11:00am - 12:30pm Demonstrations Rotation #9
7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast	9:00am - 10:30am Demonstrations Rotation #4	12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch
8:00am - 9:00am Check-in Main foyer St. Leo's College Free Time for Wednesday arrivals	10:30am - 11:00am Smoko on the open deck area	1:30pm - 3:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #10
9:00am - 10:30am Welcome, orientation and slide presentation Instant Gallery and Trade Show open	11:00am - 12:30pm Demonstrations Rotation #5	3:00pm - 3:30pm Smoko on the open deck area
10:30am - 11:00am Smoko on the open deck area	12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch	3:00pm - 5:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #11 Close of Trade Show & Exhibition.
11:00am - 12:30pm Demonstrations Rotation #1	1:30pm - 3:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #6	5:00pm - 6:00pm Fellowship. Bar will be open
12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch	3:00pm - 5:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #7	7:00pm - 9:00pm Banquet and presentation of Awards & Prizes
1:30pm - 3:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #2	5:00pm - 8:00pm Fellowship. Bar will be open	Sunday 18th July
3:00pm - 3:30pm Smoko on the open deck area	6:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner	7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast
3:00pm - 5:00pm Demonstrations Rotation #3	7:00pm - 9:00pm Informal presentations/ Discussions. Chat time.	8:00am - 9:00am Free time
5:00pm - 6:00pm Fellowship. Bar will be open		9:00am - 10:30am Rotation #12
6:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner		10:30am - 11:00am Smoko on the open deck area
7:00pm - 9:00pm Informal presentations/ Discussions. Chat time.		11:00am - 12:30pm Hands - on with presenter of your choice
		12:30pm - 2:00pm Lunch & Wrap up.