

CALGARY WOODTURNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER



February 6, 2018

Issue 78, February 2018

Casting and Working with Resin to Make Distinctive Pens by Branden Wong

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February 7, 2018 Meeting

Norm called the meeting to order at 7:00 Precisely.

Guests

Guests were Gord Rock (from Red Deer Turners), Lorne, David, another Gord, and Jean (my lovely wife).

Sawdust Session

It was announced that our February sawdust session would take place on February 24th.

Beads of Courage

Graham informed the guild that the Beads of Courage people were looking for blocks, approx a 2 1/2" cube, with Beads of Courage lasered into them. Any volunteers to make these?



Spruce Meadows and Festival of Arts Discussion

Kai could not make the meeting, so he asked Norm to ask the question "Would we consider a change in venue other than Spruce Meadows?" The sales last year at Spruce Meadows were disappointing. Spruce Meadows cost us \$2,700 for the 3 weekends. The Festival of Arts held at the BMO Center at the Stampede would only cost us \$820 and would be for 4 days instead of 3 weekends at Spruce Meadows.

A discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of Spruce Meadows, our booth, and the type of articles for sale at the booth. Also raised was the question of if the booth was to promote the Guild, sell product, or a mixture of both. Most felt the purpose was to sell product.

Terry Golbeck moved and Sherry Willetts seconded that we no longer participate in the Spruce Meadows sale and instead find an alternate venue. The vote was carried with 26 voting to drop Spruce Meadows, 8 against.

Don Tinney moved and Ken Kindjerski seconded that we apply to take part in the Festival of Arts at the BMO Center. The motion was carried.

Chair Spindles to Duplicate

Gord Barker brought 2 spindles from a chair that he'd duplicated. Anyone want to do this work? Herm Stolte said he would do the job.

Casting and Working with Resin to Make Distinctive Pens by Branden Wong

Branden Wong gave a demonstration how he casts the blanks to make some of his stunning distinctive pens. Branden started with a slide show of some of his pens and explained that his pens start with a pen tube that has had items glued to it and then the whole tube is cast in clear resin.



Branden starts the casting process for his pens by sanding the pen tube to roughen it so glue will stick. Branden then wraps the pen tube in a piece of Chiyogami Paper (also sometimes called Origami Paper). He has a piece of cardboard with a window cut in it the size needed to wrap the pen tube. This way he can pick the part of the Chiyogami Paper we want for the pen. He cuts the paper out (with a new blade in a hobby razor knife) and using a glue stick coats the entire back of the pen tube. He likes the purple color changing glue sticks so he can tell where he has been and that he has coated the entire back of the paper.

The piece of Chiyogami paper is then glued to the pen tube by rolling the tube onto the paper. To ensure adhesion all round the blank he rolls the tube on a board. Once the glue has dried (overnight) he trims the end of the tube with his razor knife. Sometimes instead of Chiyogami paper Brandon will glue other things to the tube, such as plain paper and then feathers.



Once the tube has prepared he plugs the ends of the tubes with Play Dough and then casts the tube in resin so the tube is suspended. Brandon has some molds that have holes in the ends. Into these holes he can put a small rubber stopper that fits into the end of the pen tubes. With the tube suspended in the middle of the mold resin is mixed and poured over the pen tube until the mold is filled. Brandon has been using Crystal Clear resin from Industrial Plastics but has recently been experimenting with EcoPoxy. He has also used resin from Michaels (expensive for large quantities but not bad for small amounts to just try the method out).



BREAK



Brandon also casts solid pen blanks that he will later drill for insertion of the pen tube. For these he uses 3/4" inside diameter plastic pipe as a mold. He first coats the inside of the pipe with his own mold release (1 part Vaseline to 10 parts mineral spirits). He mixes his resin in small plastic cups, stirring very gently so he does not introduce air bubbles to the resin. **Note:** When resin cures it is an exothermal reaction, in other words it gives off heat. The larger the amount of resin, the more heat. When using plastic cups to mix your resin, make sure the recycle code of the plastic is a 5 or under otherwise your plastic cup may start to melt, leaving you with a very sticky mess. While casting the solid blanks Brandon unintentionally give us a live demonstration of the melting cup of resin.



After stirring for about 2 minutes Brandon has found he has about 30 minutes of working time before the resin starts to set. After stirring for 2 minutes Brandon adds dye a few drops at a time until he gets the color he wants. He also has a bunch of shredded money, so this would be added, or perhaps other materials. Play and experiment. The mixture is then added to the mold. If a multi-colored blank, one color is poured into the mold first, and then a second color poured on top, then then gently mixed in the mold. Brandon made two colored solid blanks, and one with the shredded money. The results of the 3 pours Brandon did at the meeting are shown to the right.



Pause in Demonstration

As it was starting to get rather late, Dave Beeman (with assistance) did his raffle draw while Brandon was getting set up the the last part of his demonstration. Many rough turned bowl blanks and other pieces of wood found new homes. Emil Arsenault won \$57 in the 50/50 Draw.

Demonstration Resumed

Brandon put a turned but not finished pen blank in the lathe and demonstrated how he finishes his pens. He sands through the grits (400, 600, 800, 1000) and then polishes with a headlight scratch remover that he gets from Industrial Plastics.



Side Advertisement - Anyone want to try casting solid pen blanks and needs some 3/4" plastic pipe for molds? Please contact Doug Drury (druryd@telus.net, 403-254-9063, or talk to Doug at the next meeting). Rona/Home Depot/etc. sell it, but it comes in 8/10/12 foot lengths. Much more than one person needs, so if you'd like to split a length with 2/3/4 people, let Doug know and he will coordinate a mold making session.

Our next meeting is at 7:00 PM Tuesday March 6th at Black Forest Wood Company

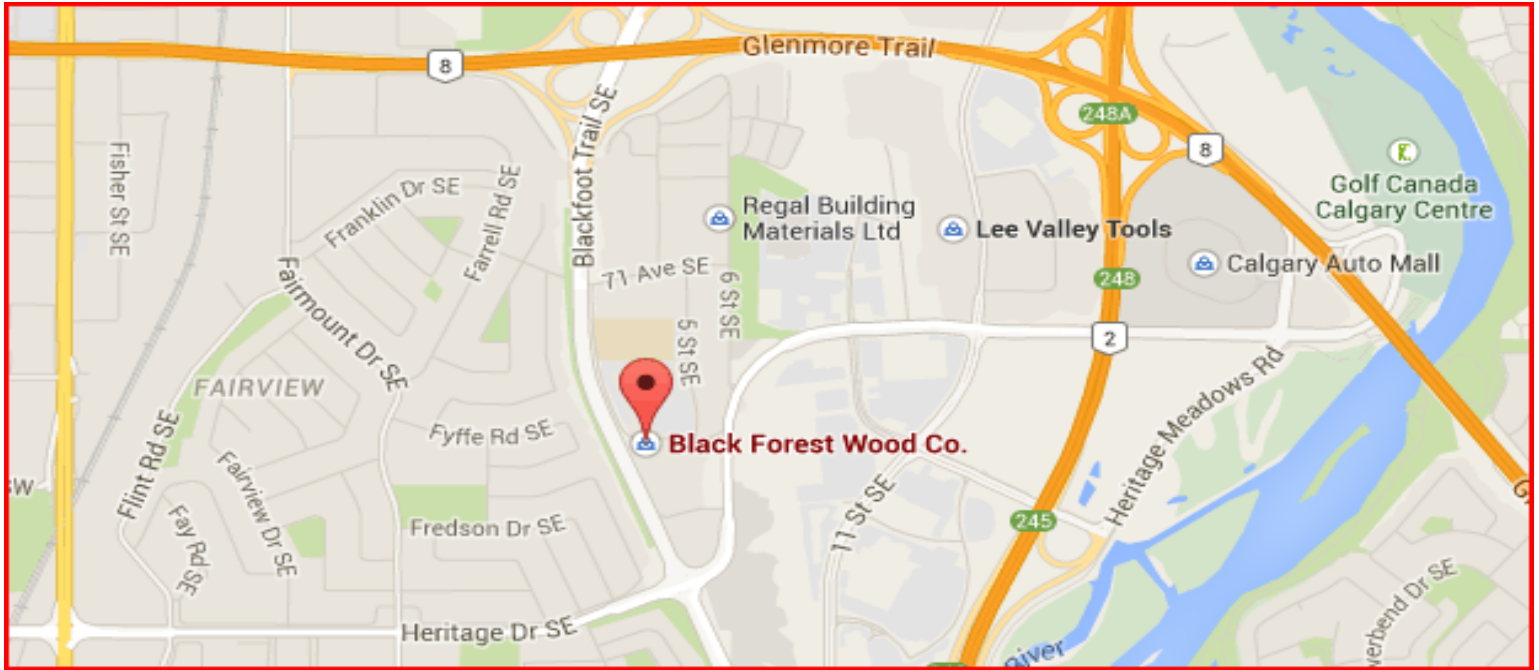
Instant Gallery





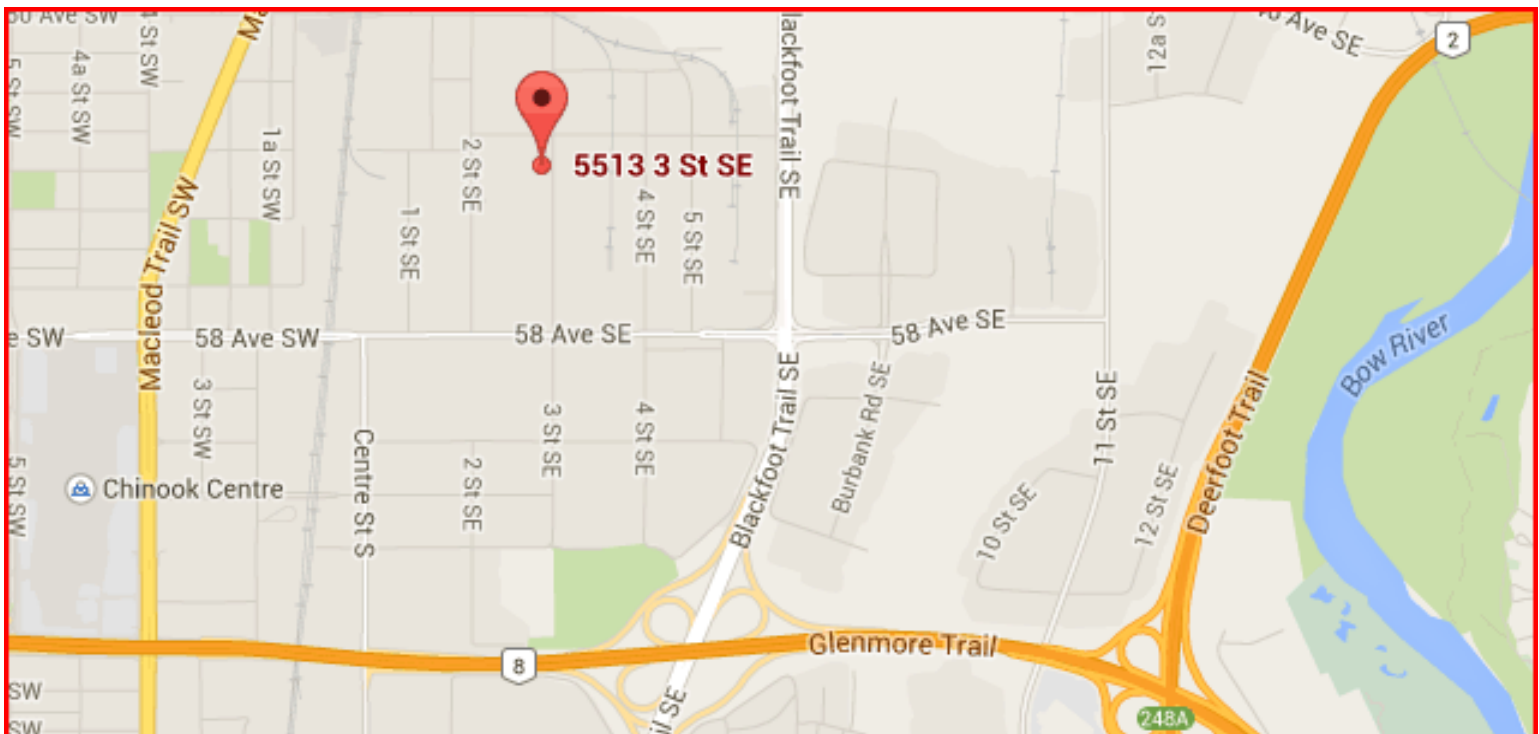
Guild Meetings

The Calgary Woodturners Guild meets at Black Forest Wood Company (603, 77 Ave SE, Calgary) the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM except for July and August. Visitors are always welcome.



Sawdust Sessions

Sawdust sessions are held at the Calgary Drop-In Woodwork Shop (5513 3 Street SE). Come turn and talk wood with your fellow guild members, learn or try something new. There are always people available to answer questions and give help, and lathes to turn projects on. Visitors are always welcome, and lunch is available for \$5.00 for those who work up an appetite and want to stay.



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 benefitting 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 - 77 Avenue SE, Calgary, AB. Visitors are welcome

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual Dues - \$30.00 with Email, otherwise \$35.00
Dues paid on a calendar year basis

MAILING ADDRESS

Calgary Woodturners Guild
c/o Black Forest Wood Company
Bay 7, 603 - 77th Avenue SE
Calgary, AB, Canada
T2H 2B9

WEBSITE www.calgarywoodturners.com

CLUB OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President:	Norm Olsen
Vice President:	Garry Goddard
Treasurer:	Steve Olson
Secretary:	Doug Drury
Director - Website Administrator:	Sherry Willetts
Director - Program Manager:	Terry Golbeck
Director - Sawdust Session coordinator:	Ken Kindjerski
Director - Sawdust Session coordinator:	Albert Daniels
Auditors:	
Bar-B-Que (Annual):	Albert Daniels
Charitable Co-ordinator	Dwayne Sims
Librarian:	Carl Smith
Membership Records:	Carl Smith
Newsletter	Doug Drury
Photographer:	Vacant
Programs:	Terry Golbeck
Public Displays:	Graham Dolby
Raffles:	Dave Beeman
School Liason:	Jim Jones
Spruce Meadows Sale:	Kai Muenzer
Webmaster:	Sherry Willetts
Members at Large:	Jim Leslie, Vern Steinbrecker