



GREATER VANCOUVER  
**WOODTURNERS**  
GUILD



CHAPTER 130 OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



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**Special points of interest:**

- **Next Meeting:**  
Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 PM, Sapperton Hall, 318 Keary St, New Westminster BC
- **Food Providers:**  
Peter Hill  
Brian & Nancy Hills  
Gerry Hodgins  
Kees Hof  
Dan Hogan  
Dennis Houle
- **New Members Greeter:**  
Cathy Friesen
- **FoF Speaker:**  
Gary Burns – Gathering Green Wood
- **Main Speaker:**  
Steve Fairbairn – Laser Engraving on Wood
- **President's Challenge:**  
This month – "Flowers"  
Next time (June 2018) - "Bird Houses"

# President's Column

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Steve Fairbairn

As I sit down to write this column I am taking a break from turning a few “canvases” for my laser engraving demo at the May meeting. I am also working on an entry for a Scrap Wood Challenge being conducted by the Vancouver Hack Space as well as a couple of experimental turnings to practise technique. I haven't been doing a lot of turning over the past couple of years but, for some reason, I've been more motivated to step away from my flat woodworking projects and do more turning. I think I must give credit to last month's demonstrations by Ed Pretty and Glenn Lucas. Regardless of the reason, I'm discovering that my tool handling skills have atrophied somewhat so, while this extra practise has been beneficial, I think I need to sign up for Turning 101 for a refresher.

The main presentation at this month's meeting will be a topic that I don't think has ever been presented at a GVWG meeting in the past. I will be bringing a laser engraver and will be talking about laser engraving machines, how they work, artwork creation for laser engraving, specific techniques for using a laser engraver on wood to decorate or embellish wood turnings and where to find publicly accessible laser engravers you can use.

Looking at the calendar for May/June, we have a busy, event-filled month between our May and June meetings. First up on May 26-27 is the demo & class with Steven Kennard, a renowned sculptor and woodturner from Nova Scotia. I didn't get signed up soon enough for his class but I am very much looking forward to his demo on May 26. I'm sure it will be extremely inspiring.

That same weekend is the Richmond Carver's Show which I try to attend every year. The carvings at this well-attended show never fail to impress and amaze my partner and me.

Two weeks later, on June 9-10, Laurent Niclot will be conducting a demonstration and class and I am also looking forward to his demo. Laurent's work is unique and, to me, quite mind boggling and provocative.

Then, of course, is the big event - the AAW Symposium in Portland that quite a number of our members are attending. Sadly, circumstances prevent me from going but I look forward to hearing all about it afterward.

The GVWG member survey has just been launched and the initial response rate has been great. I strongly encourage all of you to take the survey as it will be used to determine the Guild's activities and directions for the next couple of years. Your written comments and

suggestions will be especially helpful. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and we will be having a draw for some Lee Valley gift cards for those who participate.

Lastly, I would like to remind you to renew your AAW Memberships or, if you're not a member, to take advantage of one of the AAW's introductory memberships. The AAW's American Woodturner publication is a high-quality, full-colour magazine with many timely and informative articles. In addition, the AAW website contains a wealth of videos, publications and other resources for every level of turner.

*Steve*

May President's Challenge - Flowers

June President's Challenge - Bird Houses

**Front Cover:  
Vase with Flowers  
By Mark Anderson**

## Editor's Notes

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Bruce Campbell

Our normally raucous pre-meeting of Focus on Fundamentals, Focus on Form and Finish, and Tech Talk were all pre-empted las month for a panel discussion on what can be found at an AAW Symposium. If you missed the meeting or want a refresher check out the write-up inside (What's A Symposium?). And Ed Pretty "practiced" on us in preparation for his presentations at Portland next month. His notes appear inside (Beyond Basics). And we all wish Ed the best of luck at the AAW.

A lot of things go on at each meeting that just seems to "happen". This month we look at the people that make all the parts work (Behind the Scenes).

And we have a double bill of demonstrators coming soon. For all those details check out the information panels below.

Happy reading and, and remember, we are always looking for content for the newsletter so please let us know if you have story ideas, announcements, success stories and so on. Send then to [editor@gvwg.ca](mailto:editor@gvwg.ca)

*Bruce Campbell   Robert Carlson*

Bruce Campbell, editor and Robert Carlson, publisher

# What is the AAW Symposium?

## What is the AAW Symposium?

*sym·po·si·um* (noun)

*a conference or meeting to discuss a particular subject.*

*a collection of essays or papers on a particular subject by a number of contributors.*

*a drinking party or convivial discussion, especially as held in ancient Greece after a banquet*

Each year for the last 32 years the American Association of Woodturners has held a “symposium” where people who love woodturning gather together to share and enjoy. As we prepare for the event this year in Portland, OR many are taking advantage of it being near by to attend for the first time. To help folks appreciate all that happens at these events we formed a discussion panel to talk about the event and to answer questions. The panel was made up of Art Liestman (frequent presenter at AAW), Bruce Campbell (AAW panelist 2009), Ed Pretty (Presenter this year), and Larry Stevenson (regular attendee).

The annual symposium takes place in a different city each year roughly following a pattern of East, Central, East, Central, West of the continental USA and this roughly corresponds to the distribution of the membership of the AAW.

### The Rotations

The core of the event is the “rotations”. These are 90-minute demonstrations or discussions and as many as 11 are happening at the same time with four sessions on Friday and Saturday, and three on Sunday. Fortunately, most presentations are given more than once so if you want to see two things

that are scheduled the same time you can up the second at another time.

You do not need to “reserve” or “book” a space for these events. They are on a first-come-first-serve basis but the more popular events can be very full.

It is not possible to see all the presentations and you may find yourself in something that is not what you expected. It is OK to quietly leave or even drop in for a few minutes and then move on.

### The Instant Gallery

One of the truly outstanding parts of the AAW is the Instant Gallery. This is just like our club event except that each attendee may put in three (3) items. With as many as 2,000 attendees there could be up to 6,000 pieces on display but “usually” there are 1,500-2,000 items. Just simply walking through the room is inspirational and it can take a number of hours to give it the time it deserves.

Picture taking is allowed normally but if there is a NO PHOTOS sign please be respectful. And please no not touch!

### The Trade Show

All the manufacturers and vendors of woodturning gear strive to attend this show. Over 70 companies have already booked for this year and you see many of the products that you have seen in magazines or on the internet. You can also talk to lots of talented and informative representatives in the booths.

### Thursday Night (Opening Remarks and Special Interest Presentations)

Opening remarks take place Thursday night at

6:30. Afterwards there are a number of sessions dedicated to special topics like pen turning, segmented work, ornamental turning, gadgets and gizmos, Women in Turning and so on. This year, long-time turner Christian Burchard will give a talk entitled “*A life made with these hands*”.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

There are a range of volunteer opportunities that can help to enrich your visit. These include being a gallery volunteer to the two special exhibitions or the instant gallery, being a room volunteer for one or more rotations, working in the Tool Room, helping with the hands-on classes, and so on.

### **Networking and Recharging**

The symposium is a great way to meet people and exchange ideas. It is also a place to recharge your creative energies and fill your brain with new ideas. Whether in the Instant Gallery, at a booth in the Trade Show, or simply over lunch, opportunities to network are everywhere.

### **Fund-raising Events**

We all know about Beads of Courage thanks to the work that Brian Lunt has been doing. If you make a box you can deliver it at the Symposium

You can donate a bowl to the Portland-area “Empty Bowl” project. Art mentioned that you should watch this sales table because special “Easter Eggs” can appear – like bowls made by famous turners. It can be a chance to pick up a “name” piece for a song.

Finally, if you have a few tools lying around that you never use, consider donating them to the AAW Tool Bank. They will be given to selected chapters, educators, and non-profit groups for the purpose of teaching the art and craft of woodturning to youth and under-represented groups.

### **Social Hour and Live Auction**

On Friday afternoon there is a social hour (4:30 –

5:30) followed by the ever-popular Live Auction. At this event, live and on-line bidding takes place on museum-quality work at the AAW Live Benefit Auction. It is fun to watch the action or bid yourself. Funds raised will be used by the AAW to develop and deliver woodturning education and service programs for our member community worldwide.

### **Special Exhibitions & Auctions**

There are several juried exhibitions at each symposium. Any AAW member may apply to these shows and those that are selected have their work on display, appear in the show catalog and, optionally, have their work sold at a live or silent auction.

The AAW’s Professional Outreach Program (POP) 2018 juried exhibition is *Out of the Woods*.

The works will showcase a mix of imaginative and individual interpretations of the theme, ranging from wryly humorous to highly personal.

*Dia•Log* is the juried Member Exhibition this year reflecting the city of Portland’s and the state’s long logging history. The exhibition will showcase a wide range of interpretations, from philosophical to down-to-earth.

AAW Silent Benefit Auction - Participate in the slower pace of silent bidding on a variety of turned works and other items. Funds raised will be used by the AAW to continue to develop and deliver woodturning education and service programs for our member community worldwide.

### **Instant Gallery Critique and Intimate Critiques**

Sunday at 11:00 there will be a panel critique of selected pieces from the instant gallery. This is a great chance to hear world-class artists discuss the pieces they have selected and why they feel each piece stands out.

If you want a critique of one of your pieces you may sign up for an “Intimate Critique”. Here you can discuss your work with a small group lead by a well-known turner.

**Conclusion**

To summarize, there are a LOT of things happening over the 3½ days of the symposium and as with most wood turning events, people are just as curious and willing to share as you are. And, as with most things, the more you put into the event the more you will get back.

For lots more details, visit <https://www.woodturner.org/page/2018Portland?>



# Steven Kennard

Steven Kennard is a woodturner and sculptor living and working in Nova Scotia, Canada. From exotic and indigenous woods he creates turned, carved and textured pieces as sculptural boxes in one of a kind and limited edition work. Wood turning is more often than not just where the process begins.

Steven has taught and demonstrated as a featured presenter in prestigious American Association of Woodturners symposiums in the USA and is an alumnus of the Center For Furniture Craftsmanship in Maine, where he frequently holds workshops on turning, surface decoration and box making for advanced turners. He tours the USA and Canada, demonstrating and holding workshops for guilds. He teaches visiting turners from around the world in his own studio in Canning, Nova Scotia.



- ‘I’m obsessive about detail and finish’
- ‘I love nicely figured wood, but not when it competes with the form of what I’m making’
- ‘I look for patterns and find negative spaces in the world around me’
- ‘I like to leave the studio with my next day’s work clearly in mind, and the bench set up and ready’



- ‘My inspiration comes from every single thing I look at - nature, man-made structures, etc.’
- ‘I’m constantly exploring new shapes, materials, textures and working with colour in my box designs’

~ Steven’s Website ~  
<http://stevenkennard.com>

**Full Day Demonstration - Sat. May 26th ~ Hands On Class - Sun. May 27th**



**Location:-** Lower level of Sapperton Pensioners Hall  
 318 Keary Street, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 3L2

**Time:-** Demonstration Starts at 9 a.m.

**Cost:-** Open to everyone. \$35 at the door

# Behind the Scenes

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## Bruce Campbell

Around sixty members attend each Guild meeting but may overlook or miss all that happens behind the scenes to make a successful meeting.

About 10 days before a meeting, Dan Breck sends out an email announcing the meeting and telling us the details of what will happen. That notice also indicates the food contributors for the meeting. That announcement starts a chain of events that links forward right to the end of the upcoming meeting.

Four or five days before the meeting I finish pulling together all the information for our newsletter. In the main this is a record in prose and pictures of the activities of the Guild in the previous month and a look ahead at things to come. Once I have the text compiled I pass it over to Robert Carlson who does a masterful job of layout and posts it to our website.

Steve Hansen continuously maintains and updates our web site ([www.gvvg.ca](http://www.gvvg.ca)) with upcoming events, interesting links, connections to other guilds, guild policies and procedures, an archive of all our newsletters, and much more. It is well worth a regular browse.

And then the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday rolls around and it is time for our regular meeting. The pre-meeting activities start at 6:30 but Bob James and his setup team are usually at the hall at 5:30. A carefully orchestrated flurry of activities takes place over the next hour. Tables and chairs are arranged, gear is brought out and set up, AV equipment is primed, coffee is started, and a myriad of other little things are tended to.

Phil Vetra takes care of Focus on Fundamentals and during the month he has chosen a topic and

selected a presenter. At the meeting, Phil makes sure the mini-lathe and audio box is ready and then simultaneously takes photos and notes on the presentation for the write-up in the next newsletter.

Tech Talk grew out of a demand for a place to ask "How do I do ..." and I lead that discussion as well as prepare notes for an article in the next newsletter.

Larry Stevenson leads Focus on Form and Function which is an intimate discussion group open to all. Participants show finished pieces and participants offer frank and in-depth feedback and suggestions.

While the other pre-meeting activities are happening, Jay and Lin Mapson are photographing each piece in the Instant Gallery and President's Challenge so they become a permanent record for the club. Those images appear in the next newsletter. Few people know that Jay spends many hours post-processing these images to get them to their publishable state.

New members can often be overwhelmed with the cacophony of activity at their first meeting but Cathy Friesen stands as an island of calm in the crowd. Cathy is the new member greeter for the Guild and provides them with the low-down on everything that is going on.

Proper administration keeps the club running. As president, Steve Fairbairn runs the meeting while Bob James and Des Wilson can always be found at the back of the room doing the essential tasks of the Guild. Whether it is signing up new members, taking money for some activity, registering people



for an event or just providing information, these guys are your go-to people.

The marquee event at each meeting is the main speaker. While it may seem to happen effortlessly, Larry Stevenson works all year long to compile a package of topics and presenters to keep us both informed and entertained.

During the main presentation we are always looking up at the big screen to get a better view of the action. But how does that happen? Getting the AV ready is a dance between presenter's needs, proper camera placement, and mindful usage of the multi-camera environment. George Root has recently stepped up to that role and will be working hard to improve it over the next months.

After the main presentation El Presidente runs a short series of announcements and notices followed by the Instant Gallery and President's Challenge review. And suddenly there is a rush out the door; but a lot more needs to be done.

First there is the clean-up of wood chips, coffee cups, napkins and so on. Then all the gear must be dismantled and stored back in the rear storage

room. Once again, Bob James, George Root and I try to coordinate it so nothing gets forgotten or broken. At the same time, we set up the hall for the morning meeting the next day. There is a standard table setup of 12 tables and 72 chairs that must be arranged. This all takes about an hour. And by then four or five stalwarts remain. We make one last check for wayward items, turn out all the lights, and lock the door.

It is now around 10:00 PM and as I drive home my mind is filled with what I need to prepare for the next newsletter and the start of the next chain of activities leading to our next monthly meeting.

And one final note; these are the activities leading to a regular meeting. Coincidentally, Art Liestman is scheduling future world-class turners to visit, demonstrate and teach; Brian Lunt is coordinating those classes along with doing his Beads of Courage work; Barry Wilkinson is preparing for future Turning 101 sessions; and the Board is looking to the future for major opportunities for the Guild.

This Guild survives on volunteers. How do you contribute?

## Ed Pretty – Beyond the ABCs

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By Bruce Campbell

Our main presenter last month was Ed Pretty. He has been selected to present four rotations at the AAW Symposium in Portland and wanted to rehearse his material with us. As usual, Ed's material was thoughtful and comprehensive. Normally I would write a long missive in hopes of capturing some of the essence of Ed's talk but he has been kind enough to provide his own (long) write-up

that can be found on our website under the download tab.

Enjoy and Best Wishes to Ed on his presentations in June.

# Instant Gallery

April 26



Dex Hallwood –  
Bowl – 9X3 –  
Walnut –  
Shellawax



David  
Adolph –  
Decorative  
Piece – 3.5X5  
– Walnut –  
Jewellers  
Rouge



Bob Askew –  
New Bobbins for  
Old Spinning  
Wheel – 3X4.5 –  
Oak – Tung Oil 2



Dennis Houle –  
Square Bowl –  
7X3 – Black  
Limba – WoP



David Adolph  
– Decorative  
Piece – 3.5X6  
– Walnut –  
Shellawax



Dennis Houle –  
Square Bowl –  
6.5X3 – Maple –  
WoP

# Instant Gallery

April 26



Keith Hudson –  
Platter –  
16Xo.5 –  
Maple, Teak –  
Saman Varnish



Ed Job –  
Jewellery Box –  
9.5X10 –  
Amboynia Burl,  
Cottonwood,  
Rosewood,  
Cocobolo



Keith Hudson –  
3.25X12 –  
Maple, Spalted  
Birch



Dex Hallwood – Wide  
Rim Bowl – 9X1 –  
Maple – Tung Oil



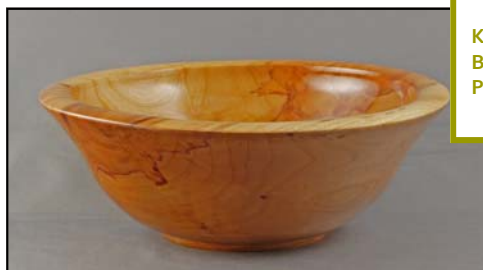
Gary Burns – 7  
Bottle Stoppers  
and Stand –  
Maple & Acrylic –  
Friction Polish



Greg Stack – the  
K.H. Bowl –  
Acacia – Poly X-  
Oil

# Instant Gallery

April 26



Keith Ruttan –  
Bowl – 10X3.5 –  
Plum – WoP



Keith Ruttan –  
Bowl – 6X2 –  
Acacia – WoP



Keith Ruttan –  
Candle Holder –  
7X3.5 – Maple  
Burl – WoP



Peter Hill – Glenn  
Lucas Inspired  
Bowl – 9 –  
Spalted Maple –  
Tung Oil



Peter Hill – Glenn  
Larson Inspired  
Bowl – 7.5 – Maple –  
Butcher Block Oil



Keith Hudson – Rolling Pin – 18X3 – Eastern Maple, Maple

# Instant Gallery

April 26



Rachel Tuis – Rolling Pin – Photinia, 2 Part Epoxy – Beeswax



Ross Pilgrim – Burl Bowl – 15X7 – Maple – Tung Oil – Unfinished Bottom



Rachel Tuis – Bowl – Spalted Something



Laurent Niclot

## Laurent Niclot

I have always loved wood, so it was only natural for me to study woodworking, woodcarving, cabinet making, furniture making, and design. I discovered woodturning from Jean-François Escoulen, and I knew it was how I wanted to make a living. So, in 2015, at age 20, I took the six-month woodturning class at the Escoulen School in Aiguines, France, with Jean-François and Yann Marot. Then, the school hired me as an assistant and translator, gave me a studio and a lathe to practice my passion, and the possibility to meet many other artists and woodturners who now inspire my work.



**Full Day Demonstration - Sat. June 9th**  
**Hands On Class - Sun. June 10th**



**My work is experimental:** I like to play with the wood and try new textures and colors, new tools, and new techniques. I also enjoy giving a new life to a piece of wood. My job as an assistant gives me the opportunity to find and use interesting wood that may have too many cracks and knots for the students. I carve with rotary tools and gouges to create new shapes and textures. My aim is to make pieces that are sculptural, decorative, and designed with a strong message or story to tell.



**Laurent Niclot's Website ~ <http://laurent-niclot.com>**



**Location:-** Lower level of Sapperton Pensioners Hall  
318 Keary Street, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 3L2

**Time:-** Demonstration Starts at 9 a.m.

**Cost:-** Open to everyone. \$35 at the door

# President's Challenge Gallery

## Spring



Bob James – Spring Mushrooms – Found,  
Donated Woods – Beall Buffing



David Adolph –  
Spring Blooms –  
4X12 – Deodar,  
Mystery Wood –  
Shellawax, WoP



Dan Lemire – The Buds of Spring – 8”  
– Crate wood from Phillipines – Black  
Paint, Lacquer – Knife Carving



Mark Anderson – Vase with  
Flowers – 3.5X8.5 – Cherry,  
Pine – Teak Oil, Shellac

# Calendar of Guild Events 2017-18

Date	Time	Location	Event
<b>2017</b>			
Sep 28, 2017	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Alan Cusworth, What it takes to get certified Main Speaker – Ed Pretty – Well-centered Handles
Oct 14, 2017	9:00 A.M.	Sapperton Hall	Neil Turner – all day demonstration
Oct 15, 2017	9:00 A.M.	KMS Tools classroom	Neil Turner – Hands-on Class (limit 6 persons)
Oct 26, 2017	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Jim Johnson – Suction Fit Box Main Speaker - Steve Hansen – Turning with a Camera
Nov 23, 2017	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Ed Pretty – Clean Bowl Cuts and Other Tricks Main Speaker – Art Liestman – Colours and Textures
Dec, 2017		No meeting	Happy Holidays
<b>2018</b>			
Jan 25, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Dan Breck – Rolling Pins Main Speaker – Ed Pretty - Duplication
Feb 22, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Peter McLaren – Holding stuff in the Lathe Main Speaker – Mori Kono – My Journey to Becoming a Carver
Mar 22, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Barry Wilkinson - Texturing Main Speaker – Bruce Campbell – Turning Bamboo
April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	9:00	Sapperton Hall	Brian Lucas – all day demonstration
Apr 26, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – Panel Discussion on AAW Symposia Main Speaker – Ed Pretty - Beyond the ABCs
May 24, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – tba Main Speaker - tba
May 26, 2018	9:00	Sapperton Hall	Steve Kennard – all-day demo
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	9:00	KMS Tools Classroom	Steve Kennard - Hands-on Class
June 9, 2018	9:00	Sapperton Hall	Laurent Nichot – all-day Demo
June 10, 2018	9:00	KMS Tools Classroom	Laurent Nichot – Hands-on Class
June 14-17, 2018		Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR	AAW Symposium
June 21, 2018	6:30 P.M.	Sapperton Hall	Club Meeting FoF – tba Main Speaker - tba

**Special points of interest:**

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup>,  
2018 at 6:30 PM,  
Sapperton Hall, 318  
Keary St, New West-  
minster BC

**Food Providers:**

Peter Hill  
Brian & Nancy Hills  
Gerry Hodgins  
Kees Hof  
Dan Hogan  
Dennis Houle

**New Members Greeter:**

Cathy Friesen

**FoF Speaker:**

Gary Burns –  
Gathering Green  
Wood

**Main Speaker:**

Steve Fairbairn –  
Laser Engraving on  
Wood

**President's Challenge:**

This month –  
"Flowers"  
Next time (June  
2018) - "Bird Hous-  
es"

## *GVWG Officers, Appointees & Volunteers*

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	Cathy Nakagawa		
	Phil Vetra		
	Barry Wilkinson		
	David Adolph		
	Dan Moleschi		
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