



GREATER VANCOUVER

**WOODTURNERS**  
GUILD

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### NEXT MEETING ON

JUNE 24th, 2003

At the Sapperton Pensioners Hall  
318 Keary St., New Westminster

### Focus on Fundamentals

(Starts at 6:30 p.m.)

### The Discussion Forum on Finished Pieces

Bring in your finished pieces and get involved in the  
group discussion.

### Mounting Systems I

### Quick Finishing

### Main Event:

Michael Werner from the North West Woodturners will  
do a presentation on offset turning

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*Art Liestman*

Thanks to Bruce for chairing the May meeting on short notice. I am fully recovered now (except for a cough that will hang on for a few more months), but will miss the upcoming meeting as I will be en route to Pasadena for the annual AAW symposium.

I did recover in time for Graeme Priddle's visit. I think that everyone who attended his demo and/or classes was impressed by his wonderful work and informative presentation. I'd like to encourage other members to attend these demos in the future. This is a great way to learn and to get inspiration for your own woodturning.

Some big events are coming up this summer! We will be holding informal summer meetings on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Sapperton Pensioners Hall. Such details as are available will be announced at the June meeting.

Our annual picnic is scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup>. You won't want to miss it! This year, we have lots of nice pieces for the auction including a record number of pieces donated by presenters Allan Batty, Mike Mahoney, Jim Christiansen, Dale Larsen, and Graham Priddle. This is a great opportunity to obtain some very nice pieces at good prices. Bring your chequebooks and your items to donate to the auction!

Finally, we are currently working out the details for Don Derry's classes to be held in late July or in August. If you would like to participate and didn't sign up at the last meeting, please contact Ted Fromson ([fromsonet@aol.com](mailto:fromsonet@aol.com)). We may also be able to schedule Don to do a demo while he is here. That will be announced as soon as the details are worked out.

## **DEMO BY PHIL LALIBERTE**

*Doug Schop*

One of the founding members of our Greater Vancouver Woodturner's Guild, Phil has many diverse interests. One of them is carving and turning soapstone and he came to the last meeting to demonstrate this process.

Soapstone is quarried like granite and marble. It is a steatite stone and its primary components are magnesite, dolomite, chlorite, and talc. It can range in age from 300 to 400 million years old depending on which part of the planet it is drawn from. As talc in soapstone is soft to the touch, it gives the smooth feeling of rubbing a piece of dry soap. Thus the name was derived - "Soap" Stone. Phil assured us that you can't wash with it.

For thousands of years, soapstone has been used throughout the world for tools, carafes, vases, goblets, sculptures, fireplaces, etc. In early American history, it was used primarily for building blocks, sculpting and urns. As villages and towns began building home structures, a popular choice for the do-it-all sink was soapstone. It could be easily cut to shape with regular tools. Soapstone uses ranged from fireplace hearths to countertops, sinks, and even fireplace stoves. In different parts of the world, it is still used as a daily staple for mixing bowls, cook-tops, cook-wear, and oven baking decks.

Currently soapstone is very popular with some builders and architects who are using it in windowsills and island tops. Its one of a kind texture and look make it one of the most aesthetically pleasing materials for the job.

True soapstone is inert. Alkalis and acids do not affect it as they do granite, marble and slate. For over one hundred years soapstone has been used in science classrooms and labs for sinks and worktables. It is remarkably resistant to long-term high traffic use.

Phil demonstrated how he uses almost any tool. He uses a variety of woodworking tools that he claims will never be used for woodwork again.

as a large file that he has ground into a scraper. Questions about how much he sharpens the tools were met by the reply, "never". Apparently the soapstone doesn't need a sharp edge to cut it, in fact Phil used his finger nail to mark the stone on the lathe. Speeds are kept at a very low speed and great care must be taken to prevent the spur centre from spinning in the stone and cutting the ends. Phil also wants people to know that the dust is not the best thing to be breathing and when working soapstone a proper mask should be used, although he didn't wear one during the demo.

Quite brittle, the stone can fracture easily and Phil usually "test drops" a piece to see if there are any unseen fractures in it. The different colours in the stone are the result of other minerals in it and until the polishing stage you cannot see the beautiful shades that run through it.

Soapstone can be finished by heating it to 250-300 degrees F and rubbing wax or even shoe polish onto it. It can also just be polished with sandpaper and wet dry sanded down to 600 grit. "And that's it," Phil says, "that's all it gets." The piece that Phil was turning was a beautiful brown shading into blue green and showed its depth of colour from a simple wax coat finish.

Great demo Phil, thanks.

## **GRAEME PRIDDLE'S CLASS**

*John Weir*

Thoughts and comments or the ramblings of a lunatic!

For those that tried to attend but couldn't, you missed an interesting day. I signed up believing it was going to be a class on hollow turning plus decorating and carving and I wanted to hone up on

hollow turning. As it turned out (pun intended), it was more and the differences between functional and art pieces. The emphasis was on adding touches like burning, painting or carving to your turned piece to make it stand out

Although I like woodturning I haven't turned much in the last 5 years, probably because, to me, a bowl is a bowl or a pen is a pen. It doesn't interest me to turn out pieces for the sake of doing it. I had gotten into a rut and no original thoughts were coming out. I am now starting to come up with some devious ideas on what to do with the stack of blanks that has been collecting beside my lathe.

I would like to thank Graeme for coming and Art, Cliff, KMS Tools and any others that arranged and organized the event

Websites to visit

Graeme Priddle

<http://www.graemepiddle.co.nz/>

Rolly Munro

<http://www.rollymunro.co.nz/index.html>

Here are some pictures of Graeme's work.



Graeme and Cliff at the class



Woodburning S's into a bowl



*Coves cut using Flexshaft, dark rings burnt with wire*



*Carbonized using a propane torch*



*Dark rings made first with a skew, then burnt with wire*

## INSTANT GALLERY

*Andrew Forrest*

This month's President's Challenge was to make something out of plywood. There were 9 pieces in total, ranging from boxes, (not turned [BOOO!]), vessels and votive candles. There was some homemade plywood as well.

Next month's Vice President's Challenge is to turn something and then take a blowtorch to it. Let's have some fun with this and we'll see what turns up at the next meeting.

This month's Instant Gallery had an interesting assortment of pieces.

Gary brought his usual batch of items, 5 pieces this month, small bowls and goblets.

Merv Graham's large acacia bowl was a bear to turn. His natural edged maple bowl was nicely done.

David Wagner's small maple burl box with rosewood accent lid was beautiful. A maple bowl was his other contribution.

Al Koehn's 2 pieces were a good bit of work. His first attempt at a set of 3 nested bowls from maple burl looked great. His oak salad bowl and laminated turned utensils were also well done.

Bruce Campbell had a little bit of help with his piece this month. Bill Macy aka William H. Macy of "Fargo" fame (One of my favorite movies by the way) is in town doing some work and went over to Bruce's for some tutoring. The result is a nicely done cherry bowl.

Neno Catania with his usual thin, thin, thin bark edged dogwood bowl was gorgeous.

Ron Minshall brought out a "Plain ol' Walnut" bowl.

Bill Cahais had 4 pieces - a cherry bowl, a walnut/cherry vessel and a cherry box. His lidded beaker made out of very soft clear cedar was very well done. That was perhaps the best use for fencing or decking off cuts that I'd seen.

Karl Kristensen's wine bottle holder was kind of turned. Laminated and bent. Looked good. It was a good turn out this month, see you next month.



*Al Koehn's oak bowl*



*President's challenge*



*Cherry bowl by Bruce Campbell and Bill Macy*



*Neno Catania's dogwood bowl*



*Ron Minshall's 'plain ol' walnut bowl'*



*Karl Kristensen's wine bottle holder*



*Merv Graham's acacia and maple bowls*

## **SHOPCRAWL 2003**

*Colin Delory*

For those of you who are still not clear what a shop crawl is all about it is simply this. Members of both the Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild and Fraser Valley Woodturners Guild sign up to hold a workshop open house between 1pm and 4pm on a Saturday or Sunday of their choice. The list will then be posted in both newsletters. This gives us a chance to see what machines, tools, jigs and storage methods etc. etc. others use and how they have arranged their shops whether it be a dedicated space or a joint use corner of a garage or basement. These are a lot of fun so please participate.

## **FUN STUFF FOR THE SUMMER**

### **GVWG SUMMER PICNIC**

The annual GVWG summer barbecue is to be held on Sunday, July 27th, 2003 about 2:00pm at 18726 Advent Rd, Pitt Meadows, the home of Sandy Howkins.

Directions are as follows:

East on Lougheed Hwy, Right on Harris Road (McDonalds on corner), Right on 122nd (light just after railway tracks), go all the way to the end of 122 (through a stop sign). Right on 188th (through another stop sign), and keep following the road as it veers left. The driveway is just past the white gate. If you come to the Specimen Trees sign you have gone to far. Blue house at the end of the gravel driveway.

### FVWG SUMMER PICNIC

The Fraser Valley Woodturners Guild is pleased to invite members of the GVWG to their annual picnic/BBQ at 3pm on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 23133 70A Ave, Langley.

Those attending should bring their own meat, a pot-luck dish, and their own plates, cutlery and chairs. The Guild will provide drinks, buns and BBQs. It should be a lot of fun.

.....AND ONE MORE

Northwest Woodfest 2003, the annual meeting of the IWCS (that's the International Wood Collectors' Society) is being held at the Best Western Fife Hotel & Convention Center in Tacoma, Washington, August 4-7, with a gallery open house on August 6 from 6-9pm.

The society is made up mostly of turners, and there will be presentations and woodworking demos by local artisans. There will be a poster on our new bulletin board at the next meeting. If you need more info, contact Bob or Betty Means at 253-472-4221 or e-mail at [turnerbob@juno.com](mailto:turnerbob@juno.com)

## RICHMOND CARVERS SHOW

Thanks to all who helped at the show and contributed items for our booth. It was a great success and sparked lots of interest.



*If you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got!*

## EDITOR'S NOTE

I am moving house on July 24<sup>th</sup> so I might be difficult to get hold of for a few days. Please use the e-mail address at [gvwgnews@yahoo.ca](mailto:gvwgnews@yahoo.ca) since I am switching to Shaw at my new home. My phone number will change to 604-467-2755. Have a great summer and I'll see you all in the fall.

Anne

## **FVWG/GVWG SHOP CRAWL 2003**

The following people will hold an 'open shop' between 1pm and 4pm on the date indicated.

Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup>

Larry Stevenson  
1651 Brantford Ave, Burnaby  
604-438-3947

Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup>

Margaret Eisenman  
12670 Carr St, Mission  
604-462-8665

Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>

Steve Hansen  
12957 Glengarry Cres, Surrey  
604-585-0638

Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>

Steve Fairbairn  
17080 Fedoruk St, Richmond  
604-278-0510

Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup>

Bill Olsen  
18451 66 Ave, Surrey  
604-574-4548

Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>

Adam Christiaanse  
2714 DeHavilland Cres, Abbotsford  
604-855-4245

Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>

Ross Pilgrim  
2276 Magnussen Place, North Van  
604-985-6423

Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup>

GVWG Picnic

Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>

Ted Lightfoot  
38190 Myrtle Cres, Bradner  
604-856-6138

Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Art Liestman  
2044 Palliser Ave, Coquitlam  
604-939-3843

Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>

Colin Delory  
19251 76 Ave, Surrey  
604-576-1172

Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup>

Ed Pretty  
23133 70A Ave, Langley  
604-888-5967

Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>

Phil Laliberte  
1930 Custer Crt, Coquitlam  
604-936-2995

Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup>

Neno Catania  
2390 Douglas Rd, Burnaby  
604-291-7898

Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Perry Niehaus  
#30-3300 Horn St, Abbotsford  
604-861-3960

and Peter Dykstra  
2310 Orchard Dr, Abbotsford  
604-853-9789

Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup>

Ralph & Gina Myhill-Jones  
4291 Union St, Burnaby  
604-298-5472

## NOTES

We will not be having regular meetings during July and August, but since we have paid for rental of the space, we will be having a fun 'turnfest' combined with a swap meet for turning tools and equipment. More details to be provided at the meeting.

Anyone interested in buying soapstone after Phil's demo should contact GianCarlo Stoneworks at 11387 124St, Surrey, phone number 604-580-3264. Phil says to call first before visiting.

## FOR SALE

Forty or fifty cedar burl slabs for sale. These were originally slabbed for clocks and tables. A few partially finished with epoxy finish, most are unfinished. Prefer to sell the lot. Call Chris in Fort Langley; 604-513-0123.

## MORE WEB SITES TO CHECK

New site that looks quite useful:

[www.woodturningonline.com](http://www.woodturningonline.com)

This site doesn't have much on it but the manual looks interesting and Duncan is considering sending us one, so check it out.

[www.anduecraft.com](http://www.anduecraft.com)

Website for Practical Woodworking, Woodturning and Scrollsaw magazines

[www.GetWoodworking.com](http://www.GetWoodworking.com)

## FOOD PROVIDERS

(I bet you thought I'd forgotten!)

For June 25<sup>th</sup>

Norm Forshaw, Andrew Forsyth, Ted Fromson, George Geurts, Merv Graham, Alex Green, Bill Grose, Leif Hansen, Steve Hansen.

It's a free-for-all in July and August, because we won't know who is available. Please, anyone that wants to bring something, feel free.

Heads up for September 24<sup>th</sup>

Claudia Hayward, Robert Hobson, Gerry Hodgins, Ernie Hooge, Don Hoskins, Sandy Howkins, Keith Hudson, Michelle Jacobs

## GVWG OFFICERS APPOINTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

### PRESIDENT

Art Liestman, 604-939-3843

### VICE PRESIDENT

Bruce Campbell, 604-944-3028

### SECRETARY

Larry Stevenson 604-438-3947

### TREASURER

Ted Fromson 604-876-0267

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Fred Baldwin 604-531-9395

Colin Delory 604-576-1172

Andrew Forrest 604-990-9667

Steve Hansen 604-585-0638

Gina Myhill-Jones 604-298-5472

Ross Pilgrim 604-985-6423

### FOF COORDINATOR

Bob James 604-980-9192

### EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR

Tom Byrom 604-929-1766

### MENTOR PROGRAM ORGANIZER

Al Koehn 604-273-6995

### LIBRARIANS

Russ Selwood 604-224-4126

Michelle Jacobs 604-581-7097

### WOOD EXCHANGER

Steve Kent 604-937-0145

### FOOD CHIEF

Rich Schmid 604-538-7012

### NEWSLETTER

Anne Rostvig 604-583-2722

After July 24 604-467-2755

[gvwgnews@yahoo.ca](mailto:gvwgnews@yahoo.ca)

### DIGITAL PHOTO GUY

John Flanagan 604-777-1133

### WEBMASTER

Mark Bese [markbese@shaw.ca](mailto:markbese@shaw.ca)