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NEXT MEETING

NOVEMBER 24, 2004

Sapperton Pensioners' Hall
 318 Keary St., New Westminster.
 Meeting starts at 6.30

Forum on Form and Finish:

Bring in a completed piece and receive valuable input from other turners.

Focus on Fundamentals:

Marco will give advice on selecting and using sandpaper on the lathe. Lance will demonstrate the use of a roughing gouge and a skew.

Main Event:

Stan Freeman will demonstrate ir-brushing technique

Food Providers:

Ted Fromson, Steve Gabrys, Merv Graham, Steve Hansen, Dale Harvey, Claudia Hayward, Gerry Hodgins, Ernie Hooge.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Bruce Campbell

Thanks to our Instant Panel for helping out last month when Stan Freeman fell ill. The good news is that he has recovered and will be our speaker this month. Stan will talk about air-brushing based on over 30 years in the industry.

December is traditionally our "field trip" month. This year we are hoping to arrange a guided tour of Bow River Craft Woods. They are located in Chilliwack and are known for their highly figured woods. Murray (the owner) has offered an end-to-end tour and then an event to see if we can get from a tree to a finished bowl in less than 30 minutes. That should be fun. We should also consider renting a bus to reduce the driving.

Art has been busy arranging speakers, and we should be able to confirm dates for demonstrations and classes with Ron Gerton, Andi Wolfe, and Marilyn Campbell at the meeting. Please take a moment to search the Net for examples of what these people do so you can decide if you want to take their classes. As always, the space will be limited.

Thanks go to Lorne Nelson who has taken over the reins as the Focus on Fundamentals coordinator. Lorne is a new turner who has really enjoyed the FOF sessions and wanted to be sure that they continued. Thanks, Lorne. This kind of volunteerism is what makes the Guild work.

OCTOBER'S MAIN EVENT

Anne Rostvig

That 'drop dead gorgeous' piece of wood could really kill you! That message came over loud and clear when Larry Stevenson described his scary experiences after turning a beautiful piece of exotic wood. Larry, Marco Berera and Ross Pilgrim jumped into the breach when our October main speaker was forced to cancel. These three experienced turners held an impromptu information session, giving advice on lathe selection, ergonomics and safety. While the advice on positioning, weighting down the lathe stand etc were useful, it was the safety aspect that was the most important.

The dangers of wood dust cannot be too strongly emphasized. In fact, wood dust is recognized as a known carcinogen. Listening to Larry's anecdote and hearing others talk about their responses to certain woods, I could see members of the audience beginning to look thoughtful. When Larry and Bruce talked about their nasal secretions (now *that* was disgusting), I could see people nodding. I thought about my own situation, often discarding my mask because my glasses were steaming up. I have had a nagging cough lately, my throat has been dry and scratchy and my nose irritated. It's not that I don't know that dust is dangerous - my husband suffers from cedar-induced asthma - it's just that it seemed too much trouble to take precautions, I wasn't turning for long enough for it to affect me, and any number of other lame excuses. The panel put it very succinctly. You only have one set of lungs, and you're dead an awful long time. I know their warnings hit home to me, and hopefully they did the same for other members. If even one person is healthier as a result, then the discussion was worthwhile. Thanks a lot guys!

Check out these websites for information on efficient helmets for dust prevention:

www.tritonwoodworking.com

www.trendmachinery.co.uk

www.regency-uk.com/html/airstream.html

LOCAL TOXIC WOODS

It goes without saying that exotic woods can be toxic, but some of our local woods can have some pretty nasty effects too:

Western red cedar irritates the mucous membranes and can cause spontaneous asthma attacks even after many years of contact. It also causes dermatitis and has been known to have an effect on the central nervous system.

Maple can decrease the function of the lungs.

Walnut causes nasal problems, especially sneezing, and contact with the roots can cause dermatitis.

Yew can be really lethal. It can be responsible for a drop in blood pressure, causing headaches and even cardiac problems.

Oak can also cause asthma and frequently irritates the eyes.

There is an excellent article on our website which goes into much greater detail on the toxicity of various woods. Unfortunately it is a little too long to reproduce here.

TURNING SCHOOL

Gerry Vickers

Well here we are into another year of GVWG sessions for the new turner. First I would like to thank Gerry Hodgins, Anne Rostvig, Bob Macgregor, Lorne Nelson, Herb Neufeld and Christine Vickers for spending the time in giving suggestions and organization so we could have these successful sessions.

There will be five of these sessions per year. The first one was held on Saturday Nov. 6. We started our session with the help of Marco Berera demonstrating how to make two different kinds of Xmas trees with the use of a skew. We had xmas trees of all shapes & sizes mostly turned with the skew. Then came lunchtime with many experiences and questions. After lunch we were taught more skew techniques by Lance Rossington who showed us how to make a snowman icicle. Once again we had many different sizes and kinds. Lastly Merv Graham made a globe & finial, but unfortunately we ran out of time to complete that project. It is my understanding that all the students learned new skills, are a lot less fearful of the skew, had a lot of fun and made new friends.

I must say these sessions make me proud to be part of this club when you see everybody pitch in and help cleanup. This makes the sessions more enjoyable for everyone. There will be another class on Feb 12, when we hope to do a lidded box and a bowl. We already have eight people signed up so if you want to be part of this class please let me or Gerry Hodgins know. We are also looking for demonstrators and mentors. This is a way the more experienced turners can help to build our club.

Thank you in advance for all your help. A big vote of thanks go to Marco, Bruce, Neno, Lance, Merv, Ross and Larry for their teaching & mentoring.

MAPLE RIDGE CHAINSAW MASSACRE

Anne Rostvig

The word went out to Maple Ridge guild members. Wood, and lots of it, free for the taking – maple, butternut and cherry. The only snag was – the wood was still ‘on the hoof’ so to speak. The trees had to be taken down before we could access all that lovely wood.

My elderly neighbour recently moved to a retirement home and her property was sold. The ¼ acre lot had reverted to rainforest, with grape vines, brambles and ivy firmly anchoring the trees in place. The new owner, obviously a student of the ‘scorched earth’ school of landscaping, wanted everything taken out. I regretted the prospective loss of the beautiful old shade trees, but since he was determined to remove them, I was equally determined that they should not end their lives in the landfill or in someone’s fireplace.

So, one blessedly dry Friday morning, five of us gathered to begin the task. We had invited Bruce Campbell to join us, to share his expertise in actually cutting the wood. Claudia Hayward brought her gas chainsaw and Gerry Hodgins and Gerry Vickers provided the labour. As for me, I was the cheering section, occasionally providing light relief by tripping on a vine and taking a header into the brambles.

We removed a panel in the fence and proceeded to tackle the nearest tree, a 20-year old butternut. Bruce directed the cutting, and he and Claudia wielded the chainsaws. The twining undergrowth was not willing to give up its prizes easily, and out came the pruners and the shears, as we hacked a path for our intrepid band of harvesters. We removed the logs to my yard and the butternut was quickly followed by a crabapple and a small but very dense cherry. By this time we had fought our way to the far side of the lot and here was the main event – a 60-foot cherry. No, that’s not a misprint, I did

say 60 feet! The trunk had divided about eight feet up, giving two sections. Bruce took one down and we wheelbarrowed it back to my yard. That was it for the day, and we were proud of our good-sized pile of useable wood.



Little did we know that this was just the beginning. Over the next few days, the owner took down the rest of the cherry, an equally tall old maple and a large butternut. With the addition of Lance Rossington and his mega-chainsaw, we processed this treasure, marking circles, bandsawing blanks and stacking them into an ever-increasing pile. By Saturday evening, a week after beginning the project, we had 80 bowl blanks, some as much as 2feet across, and there seemed to be just as much again lying around the yard. As you can tell from the picture, we were observed by a couple of locals!



On Monday, we gathered up a few extra bodies and ferried the blanks to Island Woodcraft. They were turned on the outside, then cored with the bowlsaver to maximize the yield. The wood itself is awesome, especially the butternut, which has some truly spectacular colour and figure.



As I write this, the project is still ongoing. Bruce and his band of helpers have been turning and coring all week. It is my understanding that the biggest blank weighed in at 180lbs! I still have a yard full of wood, mostly logs a foot or so across, but some bigger pieces too. So if anyone wants to get in on the act, you're welcome.

2004 WOODTURNING COMPETITION

Ross Pilgrim

Thanks to all the volunteers and all those who entered the competition. It is great to see the improvement in the pieces from our membership over the 5 years I have been involved. Congratulations to all the winners.

For next year, we will need new leaders to organize the event. Both Andy and myself will be unavailable next year, and it is crucial that a new leader steps up to the plate. I will help to secure a sponsor and, of course, Andy and I will be happy to give advice and assistance. Please don't be afraid to come forward. The sooner we start, the easier it will be.

1ST PRIZE WINNERS



Mitchel Tong – High School Division



Gary Miller – Novice Division



David Wagner – Intermediate Division



Ross Pilgrim – Open Division

WOOD SHOW 2004

Gregg Parsons

Well another woodworking show has come and gone. This year was one of the best. Our booth this year was so much better than last year as the space was bigger and the lighting was great. You could actually see the displays. There were very few times that there wasn't a crowd around our demonstrations. Some stayed for several hours watching as bowls, plates, bats and vases took form on the lathes. The way the chips were flying you'd almost think the demonstrators were having fun! It was a good experience organizing the booth this year and I would like to extend a big thanks to all the members that were there to help with the set up, do some turning, or just chat with the people as they wandered through the booth. All the time slots were filled more than a week before the show. It's this kind of response that makes our club so great. Big thanks also need to go to Ross Pilgrim and Andrew Forrest for all their work and leadership in making our involvement in this event a success. A special thank you to Merv Graham for cutting up all the wood for us to play with.



Michelle Jacobs

Claudia Hayward

AAW MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

John Hill

This is a reminder to encourage your chapter members to join or renew their membership in the AAW before January 15th.

During the Orlando AAW Symposium, Delta International Machinery donated two new Delta X5 full size Model 46-756 lathes valued at \$2250 each. They were used as demo lathes during the Symposium. Your chapter can win one of these lathes. The AAW Board of Directors has decided that as an added bonus for our members, one lathe will be awarded to an individual who either renews his/her AAW membership or joins the AAW between September 1, 2004 and January 15, 2005. The winner will be selected by a random drawing from a pool of members joining or renewing during this period. The winner will be called and asked the name of his/her chapter. That chapter will win the other lathe. That could be your chapter. This is a great incentive for all chapter members who are presently not AAW members. They will not only receive the wonderful benefits of membership in the AAW, but will also be eligible for the draw for a great lathe for themselves and to increase your chapter's chance of winning the other one.

INSTANT GALLERY

Unfortunately the pictures are unidentified. I have made a stab at ownership, but I have made any mistakes, please forgive them.



Marco Berera



Larry Stevenson

Frank Cullis



The October President's Challenge is not available– there were only two entries!

President's Challenge for November is to make a foot roller. Bruce has threatened a walkout if nobody enters this month. I guess he won't be leaving for the States though!!

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

TD International mini lathe from KMS
5" swing over bed- 15" between centers -5
speed - 1/2 HP
c/w face plate, MT#2 spur center and live
center
\$125.00 Bob Macgregor 604-530-5432

Quartz overhead radiant workshop heater from
Lee Valley
Will heat an area 14'x14'; attaches to wall
or ceiling; housing rotates; two heat
settings.
\$40 Anne Rostvig 604-467-2755

NOTICES

The FVWG would like to invite members or the
GVWG to their Xmas Charity social. A pot luck
event where attendees bring a dish while the guild
provides coffee etc.

A highlight of the occasion is the charity auction
of items donated by the attendees.

Proceeds from the event are split between Care
bears of BC and family services.

The event takes place Dec 9 at 7pm at:
Fraternal Order of Eagles, 33868 Essendene
Avenue, Abbotsford

See map at www.fvvg.ca/eagleshall.gif

There will be no regular meeting in December.
Information about the field trip to Bow River
Craftwoods will be available shortly.

The next scheduled meeting will be on January
26, 2005.



Richard Raffan's skew class

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