



VOLUME EIGHT—ISSUE 4

January, 2006

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NEXT MEETING

January 25, 2006

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

Forum on Form & Finish:

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

Focus on Fundamentals:

Art Liestman—Supplies and Suppliers
Lance Rossington—Spur Centers & Faceplates

Main Event:

Scott Belway—Spindle Turning

January Food Providers:

John Weir, Alison Weir, Erv Wildeman, Des Wilson,
John Wood, Gary York

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Bruce Campbell

Happy New Year, everyone. I hope that 2006 brings you all of what you need and some of what you desire. For the Guild I expect we will have a wonderful year as our membership continues to grow and we continue to hold events that promote woodturning. Besides our regular (if they could possibly be called "regular") monthly meetings and annual events (Turning 101, Richmond Carvers Show, Fibre Fest, West Coast Woodturning Competition) we have a number of visiting turners scheduled for 2006 and planning for the 2007 Symposium will begin to pick up.

I am sure that all of you will join me in thanking Sandy Howkins for his excellent presentation in November on identifying local woods. The combination of photos and com-pear-able samples was very informative. Now, how can we get all that on the website..... Thanks also to Steve Hansen for pinch-chairing while I did the other presentation.

In addition, the trial of new audio/visual equipment went very well and we have purchased the equipment for the club. Thanks go out to Jay Mapson and Merv Graham who did the legwork to source and buy the new gear.

Next month (February) we will hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the regular meeting. If you have any motions that you wish to put to the meeting please submit them to Steve Hansen, or me, in writing before the end of the meeting this month (Jan 25th). Also, elections will be held for the positions of Secretary and President. If you are interested in running for either of these positions, please contact the nominations chairman, Don Hoskins, during the meeting.

Finally, Steve set an interesting President's Challenge for January to include a new material to you. I wonder if Marco will bring out his potato again?

BRUCE CAMPBELL ON DUPLICATE TURNING

Kerry Deane-Cloutier

Bruce gave an interesting demonstration on duplicate turning, without a duplicator. The presentation was filled with useful tips, including the following:

- Shoddy wood will result in either a poor end product or too much effort
- A marking gauge makes quick work of turning a board into squares, then marking the centre
- A machinists snap centre makes quick work of marking the centre
- A 3/4" steb centre is useful for centre work
- The lathe should be run as fast as you can, with safety. 2500-3000 RPM is reasonable for 2" stock
- Mark the shoulder first, and part in with a thin parting tool
- Rough out from either end, cutting downhill in short sections to avoid tearing out a major catch
- Don't be obsessed with making each spindle identical. Spindles can be very different and still look the same, if a few key dimensions are the same
- Make a story board out of a thin board. The story board shows the location of the high points of the beads. Bring it up to the rounded stock and mark the high points with a pencil
- Use a diamond parting tool to part down to the right size for the beads
- Calipers hung from elastic bands above the lathe are useful for a production run
- Set the calipers and rest the bottom of the caliper in the groove
- Use a spindle gouge to shape the beads
- Sand to about 150 so that the spindle can take a stain or paint and does not lose its detail
- Coves look best if they have a filet on either side
- Use a vertical entry for the cove
- Do your weak side of a bead or cove first, then your strong side

As usual, we can learn a lot from Bruce. Thanks for demystifying this topic, Bruce.

VACUUM PRESS PLANS

Marco Berera

How many of us are talking about, I said talking about: One day I am going to build a Vacuum system for my lathe. But we were not sure how to go about it. Check out

<http://www.joewoodworker.com/veneering/welcome.htm>

Now here you will find out how to build a pump with a TANK. Yes with a tank. WHY? Something goes wrong, no power and BANG, Your \$2000.00 bowl becomes a wall-mounted flowerpot, no screws required, just add the flowers. I hope the flowers do not come from your friends who are desiring your lathe which you do not need any-more. No comment needed. Sooo, build it with a Tank, this won't be a tankless job!

MAIN EVENT—SANDY HOWKINS ON WOOD & TREE IDENTIFICATION

Kerry Deane-Cloutier

Sandy gave an interesting talk with slides on identifying trees, with comments on the characteristics of the wood from a turner's perspective. Following in the new tradition, he also held a wood identification contest with prizes for those who were able to identify the greatest number of the woods used in his turned pears. The following are his comments about the turning qualities of some of the woods he mentioned:

- *Acer circinatum* (vine maple): good for spindles, does not split
- *Castanea* (chestnut): good turning, very rarely burlled.
- *Catalpa*: very good turning
- *Fagus* (beech): creamy wood, spalts nicely, has a flecking and medulla ray pattern
- *Gleditsia* (honey locust): white below the cambium with a light pink heart
- *Laburnum*: very hard
- *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tulip tree or yellow-poplar): the centre is a deep chocolate brown, becoming milky white in the outer wood
- *Polonia* (empress tree): soft and pithy, a lousy wood to turn
- *Platanus* (London plane): warps until it is seasoned. Zebra-like pattern when turned end grain, like lacewood
- *Prunus* (plum): difficult to season
- *Rhus* (sumac): pale green wood, but the colour is easily lost with the wrong finish. The shavings can cause respiratory problems.
- *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (giant sequoia): not bad for turning, dries very light.
- *Sorbus* (mountain ash): nice to turn, hard wood, brown colour.
- *Arbutus menziesii* (arbutus/madrone): these are the same tree. Does not have a real grain. Burls are at crown height. You do not get great purples and reds inside.

(By the way, there is a great tree identification web site at: <http://www.cnr.vt.edu/dendro/dendrology/main.htm>. Ed.)



Fig. 1—Pin Oak



Fig. 2—Sequoia Flower

IN MEMORIAM—IVOR JONES

With great sadness, we advise that Ivor Jones passed away peacefully on November 3, 2005. Ivor had been an active member for a few years and he was an avid participant in club events such as shop crawls and Saturday demos. He was an accomplished pen turner and was always on the hunt for suitable blanks. Ivor will be missed for his camaraderie and the stories that he shared with his friends. Ivor was 85 years young.



A TRIBUTE TO IVOR

Anne Rostvig

It was with great regret that I learned, at the November meeting, about the death of Ivor Jones. It was made more poignant because I had phoned Ivor's home in late October to find out how he was. I got a busy signal. I never called back. It was 'on my list' but it never made it to the top.

For those of you who never met Ivor, you missed a treat. He was eighty five years old, short in stature but big in spirit, an extraordinary turner of pens, a dedicated guild member and a great story-teller. Okay, so maybe we heard the stories a couple of times, but we were always willing to listen because he loved to talk to people, was unfailingly cheerful and had a great sense of humour. I will miss seeing him at meetings, and I know there are others who knew him better who will also miss his smiling face. He had gone through great adversity in his life, but it did not seem to affect his zest for living.

Ivor, there may not be pens to turn in the afterlife, but I know you'll find lots of souls to talk to. G'bye my friend.

TRENT BOSCH DEMO AND CLASSES

Art Liestman

We are happy to inform you that Trent Bosch, from Fort Collins, Colorado, will be here on Saturday, February 25th for a lecture/demo and for hands-on classes on February 26th. Trent Bosch has been woodturning professionally for the past 15 years. He began exploring the art of woodturning while pursuing a Fine Arts degree from Colorado State University. Since graduating, he has fully devoted his efforts to turning. He has made creative functional pieces and one of a kind sculptural woodturnings. He has a love for teaching, sharing the knowledge and techniques he has developed freely with others. His work is displayed in numerous fine art galleries, the permanent collections of museums and craft centers as well as in many private collections worldwide. Trent has taught and demonstrated his techniques for turning and sculpting wood throughout the United States and abroad. In addition, he has produced 3 informative instructional videos. If you'd like to know more about Trent, please see his website at <http://www.trentbosch.com>.



On Saturday, February 25th, Trent's demo will be held at the Sapperton Pensioners Hall from 9:30 am to approximately 4pm. There is a \$25 charge to attend the demo. Trent packs a ton of information into one day. During the demo, he plans to cover the following:

That sounds like a lot of stuff. Be sure to bring a notebook!!

- Turning open forms
- Getting comfortable with the 1/2" swept back grind gouge
- Different grinds to minimize sanding
- Wood selection (what to look for and why)
- Using Green Wood
- Drying options (Kiln, Air, and other ideas)
- How to cut the wood for best figure
- Enclosed forms (Vessels of Illusion etc.)
- Tools for Hollowing
- Judging wall thickness (Look, Listen, and feel etc.)
- Form (what is good form?)
- Turning pieces that will be carved on (leaving enough wood etc.)
- Wood Manipulation (bending, carving, sandblasting)
- Surface treatments (ways to achieve the desired effect in your work with color, texture, etc.)
- Finishing

Trent will teach a hands-on class on Sunday, February 26th at Island Woodcraft in Coquitlam from 9:30 am to approximately 4pm. The class fee will be \$150. We will have a signup sheet for the class at the January meeting, but it is already filling up. Contact Art Liestman at artliestman@shaw.ca if you want to sign up sooner.

For the class, Trent generally likes to meet with the people in the class after the demo to discuss exactly what will be covered. There will be some opportunity for one-on-one instruction within the class. Some of the options include:

1. **Finding Your Own Voice** (thinking outside the bark) – slides and discussion. Participants will walk away from this session with their souls stirred and their creative engines in overdrive.
2. **Sculpting Wood Beyond the Lathe** - techniques and equipment for sculpting wood from aggressive tools like chainsaws and grinders to the finest of finishing and detailing tools. Participants can expect to learn lots of ways to sculpt wood into their desired shapes as well as be amazed by all the ways that wood can be manipulated.
3. **Vessels of Illusion** –the techniques used in the creation of this body of work, how and why it was developed. Participants will walk away from this session with a lot of good solid technical information on tuning, carving, and wood bending, as well as how to come up with your own ideas and where to look for inspiration.
4. **Decorative Utility Bowls** - rough turn a bowl from green wood, drying technique discussion, how to build your own kiln, re-turn a dry bowl, specially ground tools to guarantee a clean cut, various decorative techniques including carving, bleaching, dyeing, painting, burning, sand blasting, and surface textures. The participants will learn everything they need to know to turn their own decorative utility bowl. They'll also walk away with numerous decoration ideas.



WOW'ED THEM AGAIN

Merv Graham

Once again the GVWG was a star attraction at the annual woodshow held in Cloverdale. Exhibits from the northwest were featured in the annual competition featuring such international notables as Stephen Hatcher, Michael Werner and our own Art Liestman. Each category was well represented with five entries in the high school category, a great many pieces in the novice and the open class featuring 23 items. There were many exquisite pieces in each category making difficult for the audience to choose their favorites, as their vote was necessary to select a winner by people's choice method. A steady stream of visitors to the show filed past the competition with some people making the point to let us know that the competition is why they come back each year. There were so many voters that it was necessary to send out and get a reprint of the ballots and a fresh supply of pencils. The winners of the open category winners were Stephen Hatcher with his rock-impregnated plate, 'Spring Arrives' taking first honors, Heidi Canuel's intarsia hawk vase taking second, and Steve Hansen's huge cedar bowl taking third place prize. In the Intermediate class Klass Focher's hollowform took first place honors, with the second place prize going to Al Koehn for his laced hollowform, and the third prize going to Bob Doop for his contorted madrone bowl. In the Novice category, Steve Likness took home the first and third place prizes with his pierced leaf sculptured bowl and his vase, second place honors went to Gerry Holmes. In the high school division Michael Tong took first place with his maple plate, Jordan Questrou's bowl taking second, and Amy Wong's bowl taking third place

A show such as this requires an immense amount of work and Jay Mapson is to be credited with the lion's share of that. He conducted a well-organized production, which

showed in the smooth manner in

which the weekend evolved. That said, a great deal of credit must go to the great number of club members who showed up to assist. Without such support from the members in coming forth to staff the demonstration booth and the competition, it simply could not happen. We are fortunate that we have members who were willing to come out for multiple shifts. My particular thanks to those who helped me make the demonstration booth such a resounding success. Their skills and talents showed the public what great depth there is in the



*Steven Hatcher—Spring Arrives
1st Place—Open Category*



*Heidi Canuel
2nd Place—Open Category*

WOW'ED THEM AGAIN (cont.)

Merv Graham

members of our guild. I sincerely feel that it is shows such as this that encourage people to come and join our organization.

The following members are given a heartfelt thanks from Jay and myself for their support: Fred Baldwin, Kelly Beaman, Marco and Myrna Berera, Doug Bryson, Neno Catania, Lorne Cawley, Steven Clark, Kerry and Dennis Cloutier, Allen Cusworth, Colin Delory, Ted Fromson, Bill Grose, Steve Hansen, Gord Hart, Claudia Hayward, Bruce Hodgson, Gerry Hodgins, Ernie Hooge, Don Hoskins, Mike and Michelle Jacobs, Bob James, Steve Kent, Al Koehn, Art Liestman, Dave MacDonald, Bob Macgregor, Gina Myhill-Jones, Lorne Nelson, Bill Olsen, Gregg Parsons, Wayne Pilchak, Ross Pilgrim, Lance Rossington, Anne Rostvig, Rich Schmid, Harry Taylor, Larry Stevenson, Gerry Vickers, and John Weir. If I have missed anyone here I sincerely apologize and can only blame a sagging memory which is a part of getting older.

SHARP BAND SAW BLADES REVISITED

Dennis Cloutier

In the last issue Bruce gave us an article on hand sharpening band saw blades. He mentioned that using a dull blade might cost you a finger. I decided to test this theory by trying to cut my finger off with a dull band saw blade.

I was using the band saw to cut the corners off of a large green blank. I knew the blade was dull, and I was going to just do a couple more cuts before replacing it. I was pushing pretty hard on the blank, and when the blade broke through, the blank quickly rotated. My hand slipped and my right index finger went into the blade.

I cut the finger to the bone around about half of its circumference, and I also nicked the end of my thumb. I didn't cut the bone, but I did cut the nerve, and so I don't currently have any feeling in the last 2" or so of one side of my right index finger. This is pretty annoying when you are trying to do fine work. On Dec. 28 I had surgery to repair the nerve, and hopefully in 6 to 12 months I'll have feeling back.

The worst thing about the whole incident is that I couldn't do any woodwork for about 2 weeks. This nearly drove me nuts, and it made me realize that I would miss it a great deal if I did something stupid that kept me from being able to do woodworking.

So, my suggestion is that perhaps all of you might want to learn from my stupid mistake(s) instead of doing one of your own. I think my mistakes were as follows:

1. I was cutting up a large batch of wood, and the blade had gotten dull. Rather than stopping to get a sharp one, I decided to push on. As a result, I was using a lot of force to push the blanks through the saw, so when the blade broke through, I couldn't control my hand and it went into the blade. **Use a sharp blade so that you can control the cut without using too much force.**
2. I was rotating the blank past the blade. As the blank rotated I should have shifted my hands so that I was never pushing my hand towards the blade. **When using a band saw, you should always be able to position your hands so that they are not traveling directly towards the blade. Then if your hand slips you'll miss the blade.**
3. Before starting to round the blank, I had stood it up on edge to cut the cant (outside curved part) of the blank off. To do this I had to raise the blade guard all of the way. After this was finished I should have lowered the guard before flopping the blank down and cutting the corners off. If I had done this, then my hand would have hit the guard, not the blade. **Do not expose any more of the blade than necessary to make the cut.**

For me this was probably a good accident in that I learned not to be complacent around the band saw, and this lesson didn't cost me any fingers. Of course, it would have been smarter to learn this lesson without having to have an accident...

TURNING 101

Gerry Vickers

On Sat January 14 we had our first turning 101 session for this year.

It was attended by 9 members - some brand new some not so new. We were there to learn beads and coves under the direction of our president, Bruce Campbell, and two very helpful mentors, Merv Graham, and Lance Rossington. We were first given a piece of wood and learned a few different ways to find centre. We were told that we would be only roughing out half of the piece with a roughing gouge. But that would only be done after we had a sharp tool. So, off to the grinder for more info this time on the different types of grinding systems and then a demo on sharpening. We all were given time to sharpen our gouges under the watchful eye of Merv with a little hint here and there on how to get a better edge. Now it was on to using that gouge we so nicely sharpened and it is surprising how easy it was with a sharp tool. It sure helps to have that gouge able to cut wood like it was butter. Once we roughed it down half way it was time to use another tool - the dreaded "SKEW"! But first, back to the grinder to find out different techniques to sharpen a skew. Then using a planing cut we finished roughing and then moved on to making Vs again under the watchful eyes of the mentors. I guess we all must have mastered that skew pretty well as I didn't hear of any of those dreadful catches. After the Vs were done we practiced rounding each section into a bead. Always there were hints here or there from our mentors & instructor such as hold the tool this way or move your body. Then it was on to using the spindle gouge but first we needed to know how to sharpen it. In our case we put a finger nail grind on it. Then more beads. Now remove every second one as we are going to make some coves. Then on to using the other half of our wood to do the same exercises again and see how much we improved over the first set. All in all it was a great day for us all, students, mentors and instructor alike.

So on behalf of all us a HUGE THANK YOU to Bruce, Lance, and Grumpy. It was a great success and lots of fun. The next session will be on Sat. Feb. 11 2006. I think the topic will be to use the skills we learned by making a garden dibbler, honey dipper or what ever other gadget our instructor and mentors dream up for us. If you are interested in participating see me at the meeting on the 25th. Also if you would like to come and mentor or lead a session let me know.

INSTANT GALLERY



Plate, Maple & Cocobolo, 10"x 1 1/2"
Larry Stevenson



Covered Vessel, Smoke Tree & Soapstone, 3"x 4"
Doug Schop

INSTANT GALLERY (cont.)



Platter - Back - Maple, Padouk, Epoxy - 11"x 1"
Bruce Campbell



Platter, Figured Maple, Guitar Picks & Strings
David Wagner



Wing Bowl, Denim Pine, 10"x 3"
Keith Hudson



Bowl, Spalted Alder, 8"x 4 1/2"
Randy Lane



Fruit Bowl, Butternut, 9"x 2"
Anne Rostvig



Wine Bottle Coaster, Koa, 4"x 1 1/4"
Lance Rucker

CLASSIFIEDS: FOR SALE

MasterCraft mini lathe. 8" swing, 12" between centers. Original accessories, set of 8 turning tools, 3 and 6" face plates and more. Tuned up and running fine. \$75. Jay Mapson, 604-723-8692, jmapson@shakespearetech.com

Campbell Hausfeld air compressor, 13 gal, 125 max PSI, 5.5 SCFM at 90 PSI. Missing quick connect on discharge. \$100. Dennis Cloutier, 604-468-0605, dennis@runningdogwoodworking.com

Mastercraft 8" drill press, bench top. \$50. Dennis Cloutier, 604-468-0605, dennis@runningdogwoodworking.com

INSTANT GALLERY (cont.)



Box, Walnut, Maple, 4"x 5"
Jeff Levitt



Serving Platter, Silver Maple, 19"x 2 1/4"
Randy Lane

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