



GREATER VANCOUVER
WOODTURNERS
GUILD
 CHAPTER 130 OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



Volume 14, Issue 9

October 2012

President's Column - Ed Pretty

It was good to see almost all of our membership back last month. I know there were a few who were unable to make the first meeting but will be here this month. It was also good to meet a few new members. Merv and I did our best to fill them in on what we do around here. Hopefully we will be able to meet your needs. Judging from the participation at the Form and Finish table and Bruce's Tech Talk, there was lots of information trading hands.

For those of you interested in Turning 101, Gerry Vickers informs me that he has made arrangements with KMS Coquitlam to have the sessions at their location, however details haven't been worked out yet. Once he has a chance to make final arrangements he will have the information emailed to members directly. The first session will be in November. For further information and to register for sessions, contact Gerry Vickers through email at gb_vickers@shaw.ca or phone 604-463-0760. Sessions are on Saturdays and the cost will possibly be adjusted, since the rent for the day will be less than last year. This is something that new members should definitely look into if you are just starting out or are at all unsure of your skill level.

Because September is typically a bit of a gong show with sign ups, meet and greet, "what I did on my summer vacation" and just general confusion, it's difficult to present a decent session of Focus on Fundamentals. The usual session will take place this month. For new members this is a brief session presented at the start of the meeting that is primarily a demonstration of various basic turning and tools techniques. It will resume this month.

Take time to read the article "Calling all artists". This is an opportunity – whether you consider yourself and artist or not – to get lots of really nice big leaf maple for the right price. If you are a pen turner, salad bowl turner, fancy-thing turner or wine stopper turner, this is a great opportunity.

Don't forget Merryll Saylan's demo on the 27th and workshop on the 28th. I attended a one hour session with her in San Jose last summer and it only whet my appetite for more. Her forte is colour and texture but her outlook on design is refreshingly different. Overall, her techniques will provide a perspective that will definitely have a positive impact on anyone's work. The Saturday demo at least should really be a treat.

Don't forget the president's challenge. I'll be looking for at least one four-poster bed or maybe a set of salad bowls for eight. ☺

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 24th, 2012 - 6:30 pm
 Sapperton Pensioners' Hall
 318 Keary St., New Westminster

Main Event:

Finishing Part Three: Spraying, by Larry Stevenson

New Members Forum:

How to get the most out of being a member of the GVWG.

Tech Talk Table:

Bruce Campbell will host a forum for your technical questions.

Focus on Form and Finish:

A moderated critique of your pieces.

Focus on Fundamentals:

Gerry Vickers will review basic woodturning tools.

October Food Suppliers:

Steve Hansen, Dianne Harkness, Claudia Hayward, Neva Hilliard, Kees Hof, Don Hoskins

Guest Newsletter Editor: Dennis Cloutier

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OCTOBER PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE IS
 "Another One Like the Other One"

September Demonstration

Our September demonstration was Finishing Part 2. Ed Pretty and Kerry Deane-Cloutier provided two different perspectives on wipe on polyurethane and David Wagner demonstrated the use of spray on graphite lubricant. Ed and Kerry have provided some notes on their demonstrations. Ed is striving for a glass smooth and high gloss finish, while Kerry's prefers a semi-gloss finish. As a result Kerry's approach is a lot more forgiving than Ed's.

Wipe on Poly Prep, Materials and Method

Ed Pretty

Required Materials:

- Wipe on Poly – it's urethane base, not water borne
- Sandpaper; grits to 1000+ or 0000 steel wool, brown paper
- Note: grits should never increase more than 50% of the prior grit (i.e. 120 + 60 = 180)
- Note: foam backed material was Sia, available at KMS and Industrial formulators for finer (800 and 1000)
- Butyl gloves - latex not compatible
- Absorbent cloth, for making a "wad"
- Nylon stocking material to hold the wad to make a pad
- For deep, high gloss - about 10 coats required,
- Polishing materials – used fine automotive rubbing compound
- Lots of elbow grease

Polyurethane Finish:

- The finish is thinned polyurethane varnish. You can make your own by adding paint thinner to varnish, but it's not worth it.
- Prefer Minwax
- Comes in gloss and semi gloss – semi seems to dull – prefer lacquer for semi gloss
- Penetrates - highlights figure then subsequent coats provide thickness for light to reflect back off the colour to give depth

Pre application requires:

- Well sanded – prefer 1000 but 320 OK if you must

- Raise grain – water spray, blow dry
- Water shows up flaws
- Water gives idea of final finish
- Colour applications require additional steps
- Sanding after colour application (water or alcohol)
- Sanding to 1000 after last colour
- Colour will come off for first 4 coats – consider that this step provides highlights

Application method:

- I prefer to decant into smaller bottles - lasts longer, can see product, (available at Industrial Plastics or perhaps dollar stores)
- Toss when WOP won't level right after application
- Use squeeze bottle to apply WOP to pad
- Apply Wop with applicator
- Soft wad with nylon stocking - no lint, no runs
- When applying, the objective is to have no dry areas but also no runs
- Wipe to level out the application but stop if you feel drag (too dry)
- First coat must soak in (so that you get no peeling)
- Sand between coats with 0000 steel wool or 1000 (careful if wet sanding because you can strip the finish)
- Remove schmegglies – can use brown paper if timing is right (dry to the touch but not completely hard)
- May have to level finish with sanding somewhere around 4 coats
- Somewhere around 10 coats usually yields satisfactory results – can do 2 coats per day if humidity and temp OK

Buffing:

- Buffing wheels/compound
- Polishing compound

Finishing with Wipe on Poly

Kerry Deane-Cloutier

I used to use tung oil but switched after running into

problems when I started to turn pieces with cracks, holes and bark inclusions.

My method:

- Sand to 600, ensuring no deep scratches remain. I sand using a random orbit sander when the piece is robust enough. However, I also hand-sand prior to changing grits to give myself a clear visual indicator of when the scratch marks from the previous grit have been eliminated.
- Apply WOP using a lint free cloth. I use gloss MinWax.
- For the first coat slop 1-2 T into the bowl, wipe it all around, then wipe off the excess. Subsequent coats will need less, so usually I apply to the rag and wipe on.
- For a lint free cloth I use rags specified as such, but good quality paper towel works too.
- Let dry at least a half day before re-coating.
- sand lightly between coats to remove dog hairs. I use 1200 micromesh, which I am told is overkill.
- Build up the coats until it no longer looks poorly finished, perhaps 4-6 coats. Each piece is different. I find that it is fairly obvious when it has had enough. However, if you err, and discover later it is not enough, you can go back and add more.
- Allow to cure at least several days.
- For a higher gloss (Shiny! Pretty!), if the piece is robust enough, I buff using a Beall system. Consider the presence of cracks, holes and bark inclusions when deciding whether to do this.

White Diamond looks bad when ground into the crevasses of most pieces.

- For a matte finish, rub out with 0000 steel wool.

Advantages:

- Easy to use
- More rapid recoating than many wipe on finishes
- Works better with cracks – no bubbling out while drying – unlike Tung oil
- Durable – much more so than on-lathe finishes
- Finish lasts a long time in the can without special efforts such as displacing air with nitrogen or moving it into a smaller container. My can is likely well over a year old and still seems fine – contrast that to tung oil.
- Food safe? All finishes are said to be food safe once dry. I have never washed a WOP piece, so I cannot say how the finish would hold up.

Disadvantages:

- Time consuming, in that many coats are needed with time to dry
- The top of the can gets gummed up with dried finish, which can drop onto your finished piece when you pour – try wiping it well after pouring, and using care to ensure the gummy bits do not end up on your piece.

GVWG Tech Talk – September 2012

Bruce Campbell

It was good to have everyone back for the start of the 2012-13 season and attendance was great at the Tech Talk table.

Reverse-chucking large objects without a vacuum system

Chris started us off with a question about how to reverse-chuck a piece when it is as large as the swing of the lathe and you don't have a vacuum system. He was not satisfied with pushing it against a block with the tailstock and then hand-finishing the last bit. Cole jaws are not a solution because of the size.

A great solution is to use a piece of plywood cut to the same size as the piece and mounted using a worm screw or mortise drilled with a Forstner bit. Mount the plywood first and then center the piece against the plywood using the tailstock to hold it in place. Next, tape it in place around the rim using masking tape – go in the reverse direction as you are taping. You can then completely remove the tailstock and finish the bottom under power.

I have a pile of plywood disks in the shop for just this purpose. These get less use these days as I have a vacuum system but I still rely on them when the piece will not hold a seal.

Help Wanted

KMS Woodshow OCTOBER 18, 19, 20

We are once again pleading for help in reducing the load on those who have stepped forward already. The wood show lasts for 3 days from 8am to 6pm. If you can spare a little time or a lot to help out that would allow smaller shifts for all. We are looking for both hosts and turners. If you can help out in either of these roles on any of the times below drop me a line to mervgraham@shaw.ca.

We are also looking for items to display what wood turning is all about be it from a beginner to expert. Let me know you want to show your work and I will arrange to have it picked up or you bring it to the show on any of the days.

People needed for:

Two people for Thursday morning, one for afternoon; 2 or 3 people for Friday morning, 2 or 3 for the afternoon; 1 4 for Saturday morning, 3 to 4 for the afternoon.

KMS has always been very good to the guild, and once again, they are giving us free space to publicize our association. Let's do ourselves and them proud by putting on a great show that customers of KMS will remember.

Thanks to those who have already stepped forward.

Merv Graham

Membership Renewal Reminder

For those members who haven't yet renewed, please remember to bring in cash or a cheque for \$45 to

renew your membership. Kees has the forms all printed out, so all you need to do is bring money!

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Butterfly joints

Thom asked a follow-up question to his query from last April about dealing with a crack in a blank. In particular, he wondered how large a butterfly wedge (Dutchman) could be added. We all agreed that the options were pretty wide open and any pattern could be used for a single one to several of the same size or several in varying sizes. Yet, none of them will close up the crack; they will just hold it firmly. And, of course, the amount of effort required goes up as cutting the butterfly joints is a tricky job. Rich suggested that using just straight bars such as joinery biscuits is a lot easier and often just as attractive.

Thom will go and think about it and with any luck we will see his solution in the months ahead.

Upgrading a Beaver 3400

A new member reported that his wife gave him a new (to him) Beaver lathe (circa 1950s) and he wants to do a pepper mill but there is no knockout on the tailstock, so no way to mount a drill. We discussed three options: find a friend to help you do it on their lathe, replace or retro-fit the tailstock, upgrade the whole lathe. Since he is a new member several of us advised that he should invest in some turning classes now before it starts to really cost him money. There are several companies that offer training in the city and a new turner will have a lot more fun and easily save the cost of the class by avoiding inappropriate purchases.

CA Going Cloudy When Activated

A member asked if there was a way to prevent CA glue from foaming up and turning white when it is spritzed with activator. The foaming is caused by steam that is formed by the heat of the chemical reaction boiling the water in the wood. The best way to avoid it is to not use the activator. If the glue is taking too long to set then perhaps it is time to get a fresh bottle of glue since most brands of CA glue have a shelf life of less than 12 months. The viability of the glue can be extended by keeping it in an air-tight container and/or keeping it cold (fridge or freezer) but even then they will eventually get thicker and take longer to "set".

If you are relying on the glue – say to glue on some bark – then invest in a fresh bottle but do check the best-before date on the bottle so you aren't buying old stock.

Storing Finishing Oils

Next we had a discussion of ways to store finishing oils to prevent them going off. All the methods

discussed had one thing in common; they aimed to reduce or eliminate the air in the can. Methods included using collapsible jars, replacing the used oil with objects (clean rocks, marbles, etc.), or replacing the air with another gas (propane, argon, etc). The whole objective is to keep oxygen from reacting with the oil to cause it to start to cure. Whichever way does that will work.

Folding Bandsaw Blades

Murray brought a fun question and four 131" blades to have people show how they fold the blade. I am not going to try to explain the three different methods shown but I was able to find all of them and a couple more on YouTube. If you are interested go and have a look.

This led to the question of welding blades. I have used silver soldering to repair blades but it is no longer economical to do so. Rob reported that he had broken a very expensive carbide-tipped blade and simply took it to a saw shop where they resistance welded it back together. For those with a TIG welder, there are several items on YouTube that discuss how to make your own welding jig but again, it is likely more for fun than for economics.

Dulling a Blade by Cutting Circles

Alan asked if there was a way to stop a saw from cutting poorly after cutting circles like bowl blanks. If the wood is held in just the right position and the operator is patient it is possible to cut circles without dulling the teeth on one side of the blade. But usually things don't go so well and the blade wanders all over the next time you try to make a straight cut.

Two things can be done to help this situation. The first one is sort of obvious – change or sharpen the blade. But periodically we should all take the time to tune up our saws. This includes resetting the guides, cleaning the tires and blades, lubricating and setting the thrust bearings behind the blade, setting the tracking of the blades on the tires, checking blade tension, checking the pulley on the motor, leveling the platform, replacing worn clearance inserts and checking all the nuts and bolts on the saw to be sure none have vibrated loose. A little preventative maintenance can go a long way.

Cutting Logs Lengthwise

Our final discussion was about cutting logs lengthwise. Some of us have encountered wood whackers that don't like doing this but, for us, it is required when making a bowl. The problem is that if you cut completely along the bark the saw creates

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long ribbons of wood that quickly gum up the saw. If instead you cut perpendicular to the bark you are cutting end-grain all the way and this is hard on the saw. Most sawyers I have seen split the difference and cut at 45 degree and those that do a lot of this sort of cutting have special ways of sharpening their chains to optimize these cuts. But, it is certainly

possible to do a reasonable job using a standard chain on the 45.

Thanks to all for participating in Tech Talk this month. Hope to see you next time.

Calling All Artists

Roccino Cerenzie

Last year I had the pleasure of being involved with the Jabogs girl's basketball program. In fact our daughter was part of the program for many years, this program is much more than teaching the sport of basketball, or winning every game, our daughter learned to be a leader, team member and the life building skills for her to move on in the next stage of her life.

Every year in December they put on a tournament for BC Children's Hospital. Teams come from all over BC and Alberta to play in a tournament that does not have a winner. There is no first second or third placing, it's about giving back and working together as a team to make a difference.

In an effort to raise money for Children's Hospital the JABOGS have a silent auction and I thought with the work I do and with the help from the wood turning clubs, together we can make a difference. So I approached Ed Pretty, Peter McLaren and Jim Johnson last year with either free wood or very cheap wood in return for a couple donations to this auction, IT WAS A HUGE, HUGE SUCCESS.

Over this past summer I had an E-Mail sent out and gave away truck loads of wood to members from

the Vancouver and Fraser Valley clubs and I asked if they would be willing to donate to this auction. Everyone said yes, so if you folks can please contact me at cerenzie@telus.net, if you received free wood from my home or one of my work sites, I would like to provide you with the details. Also for anyone who would like to donate to this auction I am willing to give you free wood in return for your donation. At this time we have artist from Edmonton, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Vancouver and the Fraser Valley clubs that have agreed to donate.

How it works is we ask that all donations are ready for pick up on or before December 15 2012, with the donation we ask that you provide a note describing your art work and all your information with a picture of yourself. We can then make up a brochure and place it in front of the work you have donated, if you have business card we put them inside your work or in front for people to take. As for receiving free wood please feel free to email me for details.

Thank you for taking the time to read my request
cerenzie@telus.net

This Should Get Your Attention

Ed Pretty

Lynn Yamaguchi is an experienced and talented wood turning artist. My wife and I had the good fortune to have dinner with her at the 2012 AAW symposium as well as visit with her at length during a couple of breaks. I was shocked to receive the news below. I am passing it on in the interest of reminding everyone to work safely and that none of us can afford to "drop the ball" even once. This is her report:

I had a terrible accident with my lathe last Friday afternoon, September 21. A large (10-inch-diameter), heavy, partially hollowed mesquite vessel came apart while rotating at about 1200 rpm (too fast, I know). I

knew the wood was cracked, and I had wrapped the outside with duct tape, but apparently not enough to hold it together. I didn't even get a catch, wasn't even touching a tool to the wood: the crack just gave. The vessel broke into three pieces; I think one piece split when it hit the wall. The piece that hit me weighs a little over a kilogram. I had removed my face shield, so only my half-mask respirator and glasses (with polycarbonate lenses) were between me and the wood. Pretty much all of the bones in the left half of my face were fractured. My jaw doesn't seem to have been injured. My eyeball did not rupture.

Surgery the following day repaired the bone damage. I lucked out in having as a surgeon one of the doctors who pieced Gabrielle Gifford's eye orbit back together. He used four titanium plates to reconstruct my face, and he also stitched my eyelids back together. I'm told I look "100% better" than before the surgery, so he did a great job. And he did the surgery through the roof of my mouth, so there won't be any scarring apart from my eyelids. Remarkable! The ophthalmologist who saw me pre-surgery and two days after was astonished at how good I looked. He had expected me to be swollen to the size of a watermelon, based on my pre-surgery state. I can talk and eat soft food with small bites, and my energy level is good and improving daily. I've since learned that the lens in my left eye has been displaced, which will require surgery to correct. The real question is whether the retina and optic nerve are damaged, for concussive damage to them would not be reparable.

There is still too much blood in the eye to see what's going on, so it may be a few weeks before I know if my vision can be restored. I am hopeful, because when the accident first happened, I couldn't see anything. After the surgery, I could see some light, and by the next day, I could detect motion as well, with a black hole in the center of everything; that's the holding status of my vision for now. So, please, concentrate any positive thoughts you want to send me on my having an attached, intact retina and healthy optic nerve; this will offer me the best chance at full recovery.

What ever you do, never underestimate the power of your lathe and always consider the structural integrity of your work. If the hair is standing up on the back of your neck, there's a reason. A rule that has kept me safe in some very dangerous situations fits here: "If you have to think about it, you better do it".

Safe Lathe Speeds

Dennis Cloutier

Since I have begun turning I have always followed a simple rule of thumb for lathe speeds: For sound, well balanced blanks the lathe speed in rpm times the blank diameter in inches should be between 6000 and 9000. I have had several workpieces either come apart on the lathe, or come off of the lathe. But, so far none has been travelling fast enough to hurt me.

I did have a large bark/dirt inclusion come out when I was turning at the maximum end of the speed range. It hit me in the chest and it felt like I had been punched. So a face shield is also a pretty good idea even when following this guideline. This guideline does not eliminate the risk of injury. A 60 pound bowl blank can still break your foot, even if it is just falling from the lathe bed, but it should prevent the kind of catastrophic injury Lynn suffered.

From Lynn's account she was going about 3 to 4 times as fast as this guideline would recommend.

Incidentally, the energy carried by a flying chunk of wood increases as the square of the speed. So twice as fast hurts a lot more than twice as much.

For those that don't want to do the math in their heads I've done up a little table. Mount it on your headstock!

For Sound, Evenly Balanced Blanks Only!

Diameter (inches)	Speed	
	(RPM)	
2	3,000	4,500
3	2,000	3,000
4	1,500	2,250
5	1,200	1,800
6	1,000	1,500
8	750	1,125
10	600	900
12	500	750
14	429	640

For unsound (ie, cracked or with holes or spalt), or unbalanced blanks reduce these speeds by half.

Look Who is Coming to Demonstrate

Peter McLaren

Merryll Saylan will be at Sapperton Hall for a full day demo on **Oct. 27**. Her presentation will start with a slide presentation on her history of work so we can see how it has developed and expanded over time. Merryll will emphasize the importance of drawing and sketching as one builds his or her own repertoire of ideas that will help you find your own voice.

The afternoon will pick up on the theme of texture, including tools you would never think of using in this application; to that she will add components of colouring materials – dyes to milk paints, glazes and altering colours.

Join us on **Saturday at 9:00AM**, bring your lunch and \$30 admission for the day's presentation. I guarantee you will go home with great value for your money!

There is one more seat available for Sunday's hands on class with Merryll, which will be at Art Liestman's studio in Coquitlam. Pay Fred \$160 and you can join the class, but as everyone was advised, you have to prepare and bring along a few pieces ready for finishing /texturing so that the time is spent creating sample finishes and not roughing out forms.

December 8th should be marked on your calendars to keep the day available for **Kurt Hertzog's** all day demo at Sapperton Hall.

Kurt is a regular contributor of a couple of series of articles for Woodturning Design magazine. He is probably most well known for his pen turning and Christmas ornaments. He has been demonstrating to turning clubs for the past 10 years and is sure to entertain all who attend his sessions. Check out his website for an index of his articles and links to download. (These are detailed and lengthy so be patient on the downloads)

If enough interest is shown at the October meeting, a class will be arranged for Sunday Dec. 9th at Island Woodcraft. So far I have a couple enquiries for the Jimmie Clewes classes in May 2013, but nobody has contacted me about Kurt Hertzog.

Other visiting demonstrators lined up include:

March 16, 2013 **Ashley Harwood**

Ashley hails from South Carolina. After apprenticing with Stuart Batty for three years, this young

artist is rapidly making a name for herself on the professional demonstration circuit. Check out her web site at <http://www.ashleyharwood.net/ashleyharwood/Woodturning.html>

May 2, 3, 4, 2013 **Jimmy Clewes**

Now living in Las Vegas, will be here for a couple days of class and a full day Sat Demo. His classes promise to cover two projects each day and his demo will include 5 different pieces, each with a special twist and finish no doubt. <http://www.jimmyclewes.com/gallery.shtml>

Safety First!!!!

We tentatively have **Lynne Yamaguchi** slotted in to come demonstrate next October 5, 2013. However, Lynne recently is the very fortunate survivor of a serious mishap with her lathe. I will let her tell you the story so you get the details first hand. (This incident follows after another WOW member lost her life last Spring when she was alone in her shop turning a challenging piece when it flew off and hit her in the face.) Lynne was more fortunate, but may have a setback of more than a few months.

I encourage all of you to read the full details of this incident on Lynne's blog. <http://www.lynnemaguchi.com/wordpress/> start from the bottom and work up the dates.

As you read keep in mind how many times you may have put yourself in similar situation. Think about how you would contact help when it is needed. When you are at your lathe turning, and you think about patching something together so you can remove just a little more material - THINK AGAIN! Find a safe method of holding the piece or put it aside. ALWAYS WEAR A FULL FACE SHIELD when in the line of fire/missiles.

Think about the excuse you will use to explain to your spouse and family how this happened to you!

Email me if you wish to have your name put on the class lists, - 1st come (paid) gets the seat.
Peter McLaren mclaren47@shaw.ca



CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER

During our November 28th meeting.

Let Michelle Gendron know what succulent dish
you're going to bring.
Quantity size should be for 10 people.

Contact Michelle at 604-789-1873 or
email mjgendron@gmail.com

Bring your spouse/partner, flatware, dinnerware
and something to drink out of.
Coffee, tea and pop will be provided.

Bring some pieces to show off in the instant gallery.

Classifieds

For Sale

- General International 15" thickness planer (model number 30-115) in excellent condition. This model sells new at KMS for \$1,900. 3 HP, 220V 1 phase. Weighs 588 lbs. 3 knife cutterhead with one spare set of knives. Includes an after market mobile base. Make me an offer -- please. Dennis (dennis@runningdogwoodworking.com)

Wanted

GVWG Officers, Appointees & Volunteers

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