



# South Saskatchewan Woodturners Guild

## March/April 2011 – Issue 8

*The South Saskatchewan Woodturners Guild is a group that meets on the third Tuesday of every month. While meetings generally begin at 7 p.m. in the woodworking shop at O'Neil High School we plan on meetings outside of that location as well.*

### SSWG June meeting

June meeting was called to order by Dale Lowe, with 21 members and guests in attendance. Dale welcomed our new attendee Andre Gignac from the Moose Jaw Wood Crafters Guild to the meeting.

### Objectives of the Guild

Promote and facilitate the sharing of ideas among members.

Education; primarily for members, promoting wood turning in the community, and to potentially extend to education within the school system.

Create a vehicle whereby the guild may bring in skilled instructors for the membership.

Develop an information base or library for the membership.

Promote projects and participation among members whereby project ideas, descriptions and materials may be provided or suggested, and the guild members' work on these projects over the course of one to two months, sharing their results with the rest of the membership.

### Interesting Web Sites

Want to watch hours of videos on turning. Dale suggests the following site might be of interest to you:

[www.woodturningvideos.weebly.com](http://www.woodturningvideos.weebly.com)

### AGM held at May Meeting

Dale Lowe officially called the SSWG's first AGM to order.



*Members vote at AGM*

Dale explained the "Audit Requirements" and they were moved by Neil McGregor and seconded by Paul Omilon,

Mike O'Krancy, as treasurer of the SSWG, presented a balance sheet for our last fiscal year and a balance sheet up to and including May 17, 2011.

Mike presented a revised copy of the By-Laws of the SSWG. Dale then went through the proposed changes on a point by point basis. There was a lot of discussion related to the by-laws and the revisions proposed "

Dale Lowe moved and seconded by John Carter "that the By-Laws as presented, edited and discussed, be accepted as the new By-Laws of the SSWG." The motion was carried. Paul Omilon reported on the election of officers. Dale Lowe as President, Mike O'Krancy as Treasurer, and Rick Murton as Secretary. All were elected by a show of hands.

Paul Omilon was elected by a show of hands. Paul asked Glenn Bird to stay on as our Web Master and John Carter as our Newsletter Editor, and both agreed to do so.

### SSWG Directors



*Dale Lowe - President*



*Paul Omilon – Vice President*



*Rick Murton - Secretary*



*Mike O'Kraney – Treasurer*



*Glenn Bird – Director*

### Wood Carvers Show

Rick Murton reported on the Wood Carvers show. He thanked all those who came out with their turnings for the display and to help out with the Guild's booth. It was a great display and generated a lot of interest from those in attendance.

Lloyd Dyer brought a message from Bob Dawson show chair, thanking the SSWG for attending.

Andre Gignac from the Moose Jaw Wood Crafters Guild invited us to attend next years show which will be held in Moose Jaw.

### Collaborative Turnings Discussed

Dale Lowe generated discussion regarding the club collaborations and it was agreed that we would revisit this in the fall as it was such a success this year.

### Tips and Hints

Woodturners are among the most creative and resourceful people. Though all of us come from different backgrounds with a range of skill levels, one common goal binds us – the desire to become a better woodturner. We constantly strive to perfect our techniques and skills, as we explore the multitude of creative facets in this wonderful passion we call woodturning.

Through the years, each of us learns, develops, or picks up various tips and tricks that make woodturning easier and more enjoyable. These little shortcuts help us to keep our tools razor sharp, reduce the cost of our abrasives and

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produce inlays that are visually provocative. Here are a few tips and hints that may be useful to beginners and advanced turners:

- To prevent scoring wood fibers when hollowing bowls, smooth the sharp edge transition on the bottom of your bowl gouge bevel with abrasive paper, or on your grinder.
- Before starting to turn each day, always clean your lathe bed ways, headstock spindle threads and the tailstock ram to insure smooth movement and trouble free operation.
- Old toothbrushes make a great cleaning aid for stubborn grit and grime and will not damage your metal surfaces.
- To reduce subsequent wood movement on finish turned boxes, rough turn the top and bottom sections and let them rest for two days before you complete the final turning and fitting of the lid.
- Unless you are turning a significant amount of projects every year, don't purchase large containers of finish. Most finishes have a short shelf life and may become unusable before you can empty the container. Remember, the clock starts ticking on the date the finish is manufactured, not the date you purchase the product.
- Use a flat bastard file to remove any nicks and smooth the top of your tool rests before turning every day. A light stroke or two of paraffin wax across the top of the tool rest will also help your tools to slide along the rest smoothly.

### **Loonie/Toonie Tuesday,**

Members agreed to continue with Neil McGregor's loonie/toonie Tuesday game where member attempt to guess the species of a mystery wood brought in by members themselves. Henry Peters brought in a piece of wood, for this months guessing game which turned out to be a carry over for next month as no one guessed the right name.

### **The Presidents Challenge for June**

The president lays out a new challenge for members at each meeting. The June challenge - "Turn a toy".

Next meeting is set for June 21<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at O'Neill High school at 7PM.

### **Show and Tell**

The group then broke for show and tell time. Thanks to those who brought their latest turnings for all to enjoy.



*Guest – Andre Gignac displays some of his unique pens*



*Lloyd outlines the work he put into a piece he had on display*



*Jack discusses one of his projects*

### Memberships Are Due

Dale reported that the memberships for 2011 are due. Mike is in charge of memberships. If Mike is not around then Rick will be happy to take your money.

### Hands on Time

Members have been enjoying hands on time at the last few meetings. We have a number of lathes set up at meeting where members break into groups to learn and practice skills.



*Members practice making children's spinning tops*



*Len and Dale look on as Jack practices a technique called "chattering"*

### Late News about Dale Lowe

As you know, Dale had a piece accepted for the Dimensions show, well it just gets better. On Friday night he received the "Award for Excellence in Functional and Production Ware" for the show, a great honor. You can view a

picture of his work on the *Saskatchewan Craft Council* website.

But that's not all.. He has also had a piece accepted for the "Root, Branch, Twig and Flower" show now on display at the Craft Council's " Affinity Gallery" in Saskatoon. You can also see a picture of his bowl on the same website.

### Demo on Dying Wood

We appreciate the participation of Peter Sawchyn at our June meeting. The demo was on the process and techniques in dying wood. Excellent work and well appreciated by those in attendance.



*Peter Sawchyn touches on techniques he uses in dying wood*

### Wood Discounts

Windsor Plywood is offering a 15% discount on exotic wood products that you might wish to use in various turning projects. The one catch is you must show your SSWG membership card to receive the discount.

### Future Newsletters

*Please send in articles, ideas and web links to John Carter for inclusion in future newsletters. It makes the letter more fun and a bit easier for me if I can get your input and assistance. Thanks in advance.*

*Also please feel free to point out any errors or omissions that appear in this or future issues of*

*the SSWG Newsletter.*