



# South Saskatchewan Woodturners Guild

## December 2010 – Issue 5

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

### South Sask Woodturners Guild

Abbreviated minutes from the November 16, 2010 meeting, held at O'Neill High School. The meeting was called to order by Paul Omilon



- 2) Jack Wylie gave a game call turning demo, He also displayed several calls he has already finished.
- 3) Paul introduced and welcomed our guests to our meeting. There were 17 members and guests in attendance.
- 4) Glenn Bird and Bryan Milne gave us an update and demo on the website that they have been working on. WELL DONE.. Please check it out at [www.southsaskwoodturners.ca](http://www.southsaskwoodturners.ca)



*Glenn Bird and Bryan Milne share ideas on the new web site they are developing for our Guild.*

- 5) Dale reported his findings on our Guild becoming an AAW Chapter.

- 6) Paul addressed the issue of future demos at our meetings. Neil McGregor volunteered to do a demo on pen turning for the December meeting.
  - 7) The discussion regarding the establishment of a library of turning materials.
  - 8) A show and tell session was held where members displayed some of their latest turnings
  - 9) The Chairs Challenge has been extended until next month. Spiral turned goblet and platter, and a box with a finial and/or a stand.
  - 10) Dale asked anyone with suggestions for future meetings to please forward them to him.
  - 11) Paul advised that there is going to be an organizational meeting in Saskatoon to form a Wood Turners Guild in that area
- Thanks to our secretary for the minutes. If you did not get full copies of the minutes contact Rick Murton.

### Interesting Web Sites

- 1) Go to *Youtube* and search out *bobham5*. There are dozens of interesting and well done videos on a variety of turning topics. Great site suggested by John Raine.
- 2) Found this website about a researcher on spalting wood. She is also a woodturner. <http://www.northernspalting.com/>
- 3) Another page of useful online resources about woodturning for those who want to learn more about the craft, or those who want to master it can be found at: [www.seafoamwoodturning.com](http://www.seafoamwoodturning.com)

### Glenn Bird SSWG Director

I am presently employed by SaskPower in the generation area with responsibilities for generator controls and computers used therein. My wife Verna and I have 2 boys, the eldest a graduate engineer and presently in eastern Canada and recently married. The second boy is attending U of R finishing education. I have a small garage that is shared with the car so everything is tucked away and has to be moved each time I wish to use the tools. I have interests in machining, woodworking, electronics and cars. I have not done much turning since high school which was mainly spindle turning. I have an older Beaver/Delta 3400 inherited from my father for turning. Goals for the Guild would be to spread the knowledge (as well as learn) to others as well as to help new turners get started especially those in school.

### November demo by Jack Wylie

Jack took some time at our November meeting to demonstrate techniques in turning game calls. The demo was well received but a quirky old lathe gave Jack a bit of a challenge. He suggested he will return and redo the demo when we can get a lathe that is a bit more cooperative.



*Jack Wylie prepares to demonstrate the art of making game calls*



*Members gather for demo by Jack Wylie*

### December Demonstration by Neil McGregor

As this newsletter covers a couple of meetings of the Guild we will also cover the demo by Neil McGregor at our December meeting. Neil took some time at our December meeting to give a great demonstration in the steps to make a nicely turned pen. Neil made a great instructor giving members pointers and tips on the process from blank to finished pen. Nice job Neil.



Members look on as Neil works on a pen



The finished product

## **Members Show and Tell**

At each meeting we take time to showcase the turnings of our members. Attendance at the meeting was down a bit this month due to a spell of nasty weather. This seemed to play a factor in the number of turnings that members brought this week.



The group looks on as members talk about their projects.



Dale Lowe describes a bowl that he brought in for the members to see.

## **Tips and hints**

Use a once used anti-static fabric dryer sheet, or an anti-static clothing spray to prevent dust from sticking to the outside of face shields and safety goggles when turning or sanding. Anti-static sprays can be found at the grocery store in the laundry aisle, next to the dryer sheets. If using the spray, apply the spray to a clean rag and then wipe the surface of your face shield. Buff

lightly and you're good to go.

## **Dale's List for the Library**

### DVDs

- 1) *Turned Bowls Made Easy*  
Bill Grumbine – value; \$35.00
- 2) *Beyond The Basic Bowl*  
Bill Grumbine – value \$35.00
- 3) *Turn It On – Vol.1,2,3*  
Jimmy Clews – value \$70.00
- 4) *The New-Turning Wood*  
Richard Raffan – value \$35.00
- 5) *Hollow Forms and Urns*  
Mike Mahoney – value \$35.00
- 6) *Creating Two Piece Hollow Forms*  
Value \$35.00
- 7) *McNaughton Centre Saver*  
Mike Mahoney – value \$35.00

### Books

- 1) *New Masters of Wood Turning*  
Terry Martin/Kevin Wallace.
- 2) *To Turn the Perfect Wooden Bowl*  
Story of Bob Stocksdale – Ron Roszkiewicz.
- 3) *The Art of Turned Bowls*  
Richard Raffan
- 4) *Turning Wood*  
Richard Raffan
- 5) *Turning Boxes with Friction-Fitted Lids*  
Bill Bowers
- 6) *Parables – Wood Sculptures – Wood Carving*  
J. Christopher White.

## **It's Your Turn - Henry Peters**

In this section of our newsletter we try to feature one of our members to give you an idea of the wide range of talent and experience we have among our membership. This issue will introduce us to Henry Peters.

I called Henry last week to see if he might open to being interviewed for the newsletter. He gave me his address and I was on my way over.

My first stop was the front door of Henry's home where I was redirected to the shop in the back yard where I would find Henry. He was in the process of collecting various pieces of wood and

tools for his trip south to Texas where he and his wife Sarah will spend 3 months.

Henry has a nicely appointed shop with everything a wood worker/turner might need. Saws, grinder, drill press and the most important tool of course the Mastercraft lathe sitting proudly in a place of its own with a nice pile of shavings underneath.



*Henry holds up the base of a newly started bowl*

The discussion turned almost immediately to turning and the process he goes through to make a segmented bowl which he is well known for. It is a very time consuming job with numerous cuts and a substantial glue up operation. Angles, patterns and careful placement were all part of the process in making the exquisite bowls Henry produces. It made my bowl turning look rather mundane. Once all cut, glued and carefully put together he puts it on the lathe and begins the turning process. His favorite 3 tools are ground down files.



*Henry holds up his 3 favourite turning tools*

He has a gouge leaning up against the wall in the corner that he borrowed from Dale. He says is just now learning how to use it. He also has a beading tool (on loan from Dale) that he has grown to enjoy when turning beads on bottle stoppers. Unbelievable. Lee Valley won't make a lot of money off this guy.

Our discussion then branched off into his choices of wood. We moved to the garage attached to his shop where Henry proudly pointed out his collection of various woods. Neatly stored in the garage were pieces of tiger wood, russian olive, holly, oak, and wenge. In another area there were samples of purple heart, curly maple, teak, and zebra wood. His favorite woods are roasted bird's eye maple and wenge although he says the wenge is hard to work with. It does take on an exceptional finish though. Ah, if it weren't for turners a lot of the stores that sell specialty woods would be broke.

They have a large shop in Texas where he spends much of the winter. There are 4 lathes in the shop but they are often quite busy. A table saw Henry donated to the shop regularly has a line up to get on. Henry is lucky though as he has a key to the shop allowing him to sneak in after hours to spend some private time on the lathe.

We moved from the shop into the house where Henry's wife Sarah had tea brewing and a few treats on the table. Henry brought out a number of samples of his completed segmented bowls.



*A sampling of Henry's bowls*

Wonderful work that would attract attention at any turning show. The colours and design clearly demonstrated the effort he puts into his turning. He also showed me samples of other objects he has made that were not turned. The detail and time that went into those was also clear. Spellbinding was a word that came to mind.

Henry retired from Enbridge where he worked in the control room in 2001. He had done some turning but didn't get into the more serious side of it until a couple of years ago. He got the bug while in Texas and found that it was a most enjoyable hobby and hasn't looked back. He got into the segmented bowl making finding it not only enjoyable but a satisfying way to curb his creative talents.

Henry still has the first object he ever turned and brought it out for me to have a look at. A cute little vase that he now recognizes all the flaws in. He is primarily self taught through try and fail but now designs all his own work paying attention to colours and angles to achieve a satisfying end result. He likes segmented bowls and the opportunity to mix and match various grains and colours to make the completed object look more appealing. One of his most satisfying accomplishments was a series of 3 offering bowls he made for the church. Not only were they segmented but they had little crosses built into some of the segments of the bowls.

The visit with Henry gave me a new perspective

into the many talents he has. It was a great afternoon and I think I learned a few new things to try out in my own shop. Thanks Henry. Good turning in Texas. See you in the spring.

### **New in Future Newsletters**

We hope to include a new column in future newsletters that will provide members with an opportunity to share insights with us on turning and turning experiences. Dale started us off in our last issue. We hope to have others carry on that process. So far we have had input from Dale, and in this month's issue, an introduction to Glenn Bird. We hope to get something from other directors and later on our members. Thanks.

### **More photos**



*Mike O'Kraney gives members a financial update*



*Rick Murton displays sandpaper order he got a good buy on for SSWG members*



*Game call turned by Jack Wylie*



