This member began woodturning by chance when he was invited to take a class from Michael Hosaluk in 1990. that would be 100 years ago for those who are counting. After the 2.5day class a General lathe was purchased and the path was set.

In 1991… 99 years ago this young fellow was able to also take a class from Richard Raffan, who is also as old as dirt. But likely a privilege to be in Richards company.

Spindle work was, although not likely known at the time, a path that he would travel for most of his turning career, but a turned box was the focus per Richard's teaching.

In 2010 the clock had struck 20 years as a woodturner and along the way he focused mostly on spindle work with thoughts on turning large columns. He was fortunate enough to have met Mark Baker who was the Editor of the British magazine "Woodturning". Mark introduced him to some turners in London and his discussions with them regarding large columns was a quick "*good luck*".

Not to be discouraged he turned his first 4 large columns in 2002 and has refined that skill on many columns up to 12 to 14 ft in length.

He was asked at one time what his most satisfying project might have been and the answer was that he had turned 90 identical spindles and 5"x 5" newel posts to accompany that project. The project was completed at their new home in the Lumsden valley near Craven.

In 2007 this member started teaching spindle turning at the Neil Balkwell Center and added Introductory Bowl turning a few years later. That connection and his encouragement to have those students join our Guild has been an incredible boost to our group, many of our members tell us that their first connection to us was thru him. His commitment to teaching muscle memory, tool skills and safety have and still are very important takeaways from his time teaching.

This member's commitment to our group has led him thru all the Executive positions and time on our Board. The Leadership Group has motioned and passed a motion to include this member as an Honorary Life member. I would like to ask Paul Omilon to come forward to receive an Honorary Life Membership in our Guild.