



IWG News

The Newsletter of the Island Woodturners Guild

December 2014



About the IWG:

The [Island Woodturners Guild](#) meets from 1:00 - 4:00 PM on the 4th Saturday of each month (except for July and August) at the Central Saanich Senior Citizens' Centre, [1229 Clarke Road](#), Brentwood Bay, BC.

Visitors are welcome.

Executive Committee

President:

Steve Werner

Vice President:

Gorden Kifiak

Secretary:

Michael McEwan

Treasurer:

John Carelli

Member at Large:

Brian Hayes

Member at Large:

John Gayfer

Member at Large:

Bob Pederson

Past President:

Mark Taylor

Newsletter Editor:

John Gayfer

The IWG gratefully acknowledges the support of the following companies:

[Craft supplies USA](#)

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The President's Turn

Please let me take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2015. Perhaps there will be a few deeply desired tools under the tree, or at the least a gift card so you can ensure getting just the right one(s).

The December meeting is being held earlier than our regular meetings as this is such a very busy time of the year for everybody, so please make a note that it is December 13th. at 1:00 pm. This is also our social meeting so we encourage you all to bring spouses/significant others. We ask that you also bring a small plate of something sweet or savoury. Please also bring it on a plate or bowl that you turned yourself - it's a tradition. Thanks to Graeme for offering to bring the punch (also a tradition); as a courtesy to him it will not be required that he serve it in a wooden bowl. Most years so much food is brought that you might want to consider skipping lunch.

Don't forget the grand spinning top contest, bring your best efforts along and try to beat all the others: there will be prizes. Although you can only enter one top, please consider bringing several with the idea of helping Donald in his efforts to help make Christmas a little brighter for some unfortunate children.

I would like to remind anyone with shavings they are having trouble getting rid of, and this hobby certainly seems to generate a lot, they can bring bags to the Guild meetings and Phil Cottell will gladly take them off your hands.

In lieu of a show and tell table we encourage everyone to bring their favourite turning of this past year to the meeting. There will be time for you to take a few minutes to explain why this one was special to you. It doesn't matter if you've already brought it to a Show and Tell.

I came across this great quote by Tony Robbins the other day, "In life you need either inspiration or desperation".

Tony Robbins is a business coach, but that quotation works rather well for us in the Guild too. The Show and Tells and our talented demonstrators certainly provide us with all kinds of great inspiration through the year, however if you are feeling desperation in

President's Turn continued

any aspect of the hobby use the people in the Guild for advice and guidance. In my experience, they are all willing to help. Talk to them and make the most of this wonderful resource that we have.

Traditionally the draw at the Christmas meeting is for the spouses only and includes work created by demonstrators. In addition to this, Ingrid Taylor has kindly donated some of Mark's turnings, books and magazines to us for use in this draw.

See you on the 13th.

Steve Werner
President

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**November Meeting**

The fact that we are woodturners suggests that we deal with wood and that suggests that we deal with trees and therefore we need to make them into smaller pieces. To make wood into smaller pieces that brings up the topic of saws and now you have it, chainsaws. I don't ever remember anyone giving me a lesson on chainsaws, I just bought one and started using it, perhaps my father in law saw what I was doing and suggested a few things, like turn it on. ( ha!). Fortunately , I am still in one piece with all my fingers and toes, many are not. Safety is a huge issue in any area where power tools are being used and most of us take a rather lazy approach because it may be inconvenient or takes more time. We all have our reasons and excuses, just last month we heard of a near disaster with Ray, without a face shield he may not still be here. Why is it that we need horror stories to get us to be careful, our families don't want us hurt or disfigured. ( some of us are ugly enough without rearranging our facial features with flying wood.) Where am I going with this you ask? Well I'll tell you, last months talk by Al Lundgren was great.

Al gave us multiple very important points to be aware of when using our saws. It was a very well thought out step by step process on how to keeps us safe before and during our use of the chain saw. There was numerous things that I had never thought of before, like pivot points and what the consequences would be if a kick back occurred. The next day I got my saw out, cleaned it, because I left it covered in debris , sharpened it and started cutting. The first thing I did was start it exactly the way he said not to. I saw how this could be hard on my thigh and my favourite jeans, did I have proper pants on , No! of course not. Did I have proper foot wear? No! I just wanted to try out my pivot points and see which part of my body was going to have contact with the saw. So I stopped and went through Al's steps and got my self prepared properly, then I could try out the saw and sure enough I had poor pivot points. So, now I realize that a lot that I do with my saw is not very safe. Thanks Al, my family appreciates your demo, simple steps to being safe because things happen quickly but the consequences last forever, lets be safe with our saws and lathes and every thing else we do.

My last rant will be about the challenge. Challenges are just that challenging , they have a purpose, to get us out of our comfort areas and try something new. We don't suggest them to annoy you, the point is to learn and explore new areas. The participation with the last challenge was a little thin, I did it so I can talk, and you can choose not to read this. But just think about it, give

## **November Meeting** continued

them a try, we all can benefit even though it might not be an area we find interesting. Like Al's chain saw points, yes its a bit of a hassle when you just want to get a piece cut, but the benefits are endless. You might realize that you were wrong and actually like it, imagine that, you being wrong.

My last point is just a reminder that we meet next week, December 13th at 1 pm, one week early. Bring your significant other and some finger food and have fun with your top and other woodturners.



### **Show and Tell Table from November**

Be sure to check out all the show and tell pictures on the IWG website..

[http://www.islandwoodturners.ca/documents/show\\_and\\_tell.html](http://www.islandwoodturners.ca/documents/show_and_tell.html)

### **Library Materials Return**

Thank you to those who have searched their libraries and found and returned items to the Guild Library. There are still quite a few items not accounted for so please keep looking. The Library listing on the website details those items that are AWOL.

### **Parting Off**

Thanks to Stew Carmichael for taking photographs for the newsletter. Thanks also to Hew Lines for running the website. And of course thanks to our hard-working executive for their hard work and creativity.