



IWG News

The Newsletter of the Island Woodturners Guild

February 2015



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:

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The President's Turn

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Welcome to Spring: This warm weather almost makes you want to leave the shop and get out into the garden. Almost but not quite.

The next meeting will have our own Phil Cottell demonstrating turning a platter and carving it. For those newer members who haven't had the pleasure of seeing some of Phil's work on the Show and Tell table, you will be in for a pleasant surprise. The rest of us won't be surprised (probably), but are certain to be pleased and enjoy the demo.

The March meeting will involve an outside demonstrator. Again for our newer members, this will be an all day event at a cost of \$35.00. There will be two one-day workshops, which generally sell out quickly so if you want to attend, reply as soon as you see the email announcing that Gorden is now accepting applications. First come first served, but only after the email is sent. The cost for a workshop is \$150.00, but that includes the Saturday demonstration cost as well.

The last meeting included a fascinating demonstration on colour and using dyes to enhance your work, thanks Wayne. It did come up at the meeting, but I would like to reiterate the warnings, Wayne was using Methyl Hydrate to dilute and blend the dyes and this product is not recommended. Methyl Hydrate is also known as Wood Alcohol, Wood Naptha, Methyl Alcohol or Methanol and is extremely toxic. It is well known that drinking it will make you go blind, but just inhaling the vapours is very hard on the optic nerve and liver. If you must use it, use it in a well-ventilated area.

The preferred alcohol is Ethanol, also known as Ethyl Hydrate, grain alcohol and various other terms, which is rather difficult to come by in a pure form as the Government likes to collect rather large taxes on it. However it can be purchased as denatured alcohol (Industrial Paint and Plastics is a source), also known as methylated spirits. This is ethanol with enough of a poisonous substance in it (generally methanol or benzene) to make you regret trying to avoid taxes.

President's Turn continued

I received an email the other day from a Scott Isaac who has a rather nice looking studio in Oak Bay for rent at \$400.00/month. There is a pdf file showing the shop, but I won't clutter up our email system by attaching it. If anyone is interested, please let me know and I will forward it to you.

We received a message from the *Utah Woodturning Symposium* that they will be hosting the first Women in Turning virtual chapter of the AAW. This was started by Betty Scarpino in Phoenix last year at the AAW symposium. Perhaps some of our women turners would be able to represent the IWG?

See you Saturday,

Steve Werner
President

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**January Meeting**

Once again I was not able to attend the last meeting because my lovely grandson was visiting, I have pictures and videos if anyone is interested. ( just kidding). Although I heard that Tim and Wayne did a very good job, I still wish I could have been there. I have turned many balls and have found that they are always a hit at craft sales and most people can't help picking them up. They also are a great way to show off a highly figured piece of wood, especially when polished. Not to mention the every present joke that goes along with these treasures. Thanks again to Tim and Wayne for putting in the time to share their talents and techniques.

Steve has mentioned a number of things that I was going to write about so I may have to just be a bit repetitious. I encourage all of you to look at Al Stirt's website and get an idea of the kind of work that he does, he is very talented and has been at it a long time. His work is very unique and also quite varied, with carving and different shapes, we are fortunate to have him and only for \$35 each, such a deal.

We are also fortunate to have so many areas in which to learn, we have the Oregon Symposium in March and then the Utah symposium in May. Both of which have numerous very well know artists and trade shows that can easily satisfy anyone's needs and dreams. And then we have Phil Cottell next week demonstrating turning platters and carving them as well, what more could anyone ask for, we are fat cats purring in the sunshine of local talent.

And now there is a chance for all of us to show are abilities, The Spring Challenge. There isn't one of us that hasn't taken a story and made it just a little more then it was... The fish that was 15 lbs becomes 20 lbs ... The near miss was inches instead of feet.. and of course the one that got away was so big it was hard to describe. So, now we come to the challenge, Embellishing. Making something a little big better or brighter or adding different materials. Its up to you, so

**January Meeting** continued

turn something and put a little extra on it, carve it, paint it, burn it just alter it in some way that adds to its beauty. All will be presented at the April meeting so you have some time to get your unique piece ready. Don't be the one to sit and watch, be the one that gets up front and displays and embellishes.

See you on Saturday, I will be there this time.



**Show and Tell Table from January**

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.

