



IWVG News

The Newsletter of the Island Woodturners Guild May, 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:

Doug McBeath

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](#)

[KMS Tools](#)

[Lee Valley](#)

[Richelieu Hardware](#)

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[Woodchuckers.com](#)

The President's Turn

Unfortunately family commitments will not allow me to be in attendance for the upcoming May meeting. This is a poor one for me to not attend as it is the Annual General Meeting. However I know that Gorden will do a great job of running the meeting. We will also have Lin Bayford demonstrating his amazing pens.

Last month's meeting was the long-awaited Marilyn Campbell demonstration and workshops. The demo was well attended and very informative and the workshops were great. I attended the Sunday session and created three pieces. I also learned a lot about epoxy that I didn't know before; hard to believe that I've been using the stuff for decades. In particular I was amazed to learn how well ordinary white vinegar cleans it up. I now have a small bottle containing (and so labeled) vinegar in my workshop. After using BLO in place of Varsol

Thanks very much to Bryan Kemper for allowing us to use his workshop and thanks to Betty Erb for hosting Marilyn. Betty really did go above and beyond with lots of delivering and picking up Marilyn to the airport, workshops and Guild meeting.

I received an email back from Marilyn which says, in part, "... I enjoyed yourclub very much.... such helpful and kind people. Please encourage the classes to send pictures! "

Future outside demonstrators include Alan Stirt (www.alstirt.com), Barbara Dill (www.barbaradill.com), and Doug Fisher (www.douglasjfisher.com). Check out these websites, you'll be very impressed. These will be great demonstrations.

AAW meeting is in Phoenix June 12-15th. and promises to be lots of fun. Several of us are going to it and it's not too late to register if you've been considering going. While the displays and demonstrations will be well worth the trip, don't forget the new \$800.00 customs limit. The savings on tools, gadgets and gizmos that you didn't know you needed, not to mention the absence of delivery charges, will probably cover the airfare. That's my theory anyway and I'm sticking to it.

Until next time,

Steve Werner.

April Meeting

There is not much I can say to add to how great it was to have Marilyn Campbell to demonstrate for us. I was as impressed with her as I was when I saw her several years ago, Marilyn brings a technique that is inexpensive, easy and has huge potential in many areas of wood turning. She has come a long way from building ferro cement boats to arrive at the use of epoxies that she does now. The West system is easy and produces great results and for around \$100 dollars you can be set up to give it a try, the materials are available locally and I especially liked the clean up with vinegar. I have seen some of the results from the workshop, they also are very cool and it is nice to see such results quickly. It can be very frustrating to try something new only to realize that here is a huge learning curve. Not that I expect the high quality of Marilyn's items the first time but the future is just around the corner. I can see already many other areas that the epoxies could be used to enhance or embellish other types or turnings as well, especially with the talent we have . It was nice to hear that Marilyn enjoyed her visits and found our group fun and helpful, so it was good that everyone was on their best behaviour. You must know that these demonstrators all know each other and will comment about their experiences so having a good report will also help us with future demonstrators desire to come to our lovely city.

Next week is the before mentioned AGM, please don't miss it, it is important to support the guild and those that put so much time and effort into providing you with a worthwhile group to be part of. People like Alan Carter and Marilyn Campbell don't just show up and give us some lessons, it takes time and planning, get involved be part of the process.

Also next week we have Lin Bayford doing a Demo on pen turning. I have done some pens in the very simplest of forms but Lin will take us to another level, he is a very talented and also very generous person who is a delight to get to know. When Lin and his wife hosted a workshop we were treated royally, and with great muffins and cookies.

I look forward to seeing you next week and don't forget that you all have something to contribute, don't be shy.

Annual General Meeting

At the May meeting we will hold our annual general meeting, AGM. This is necessary under the Society's Act and can be very boring or very exciting. Fortunately, our AGM's have been short and fun and should not be missed. We will have various reports, the most memorable is the treasurer's report because Doug McBeath is stepping down after six years. Doug has been a very keen supporter of our guild and has given much of his time and knowledge, imagine if all our members were as helpful as Doug, thanks Doug. Also at the AGM we have the nominations and election for the next executive, this is a great time for you to stand up and say "How can I help". So, see you there.

A juried exhibition of woodworking is presented by the Vancouver Island Woodworkers' Guild entitled

Explorations in Wood 2014

June 9 - 28, 2014 Open Daily 10 - 5

Market Square, 560 Johnson Street, Victoria BC

Free Admission

www.viwg.com

About the Show:

All woodworkers are eligible. Work must be primarily of wood. All accepted entries will be available for viewing on the Vancouver Island Woodworkers' Guild website after the start of the show.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

Artistic Merit: \$500 The winning piece will exhibit originality, unique design and quality construction.

Technical Merit: \$500 The winning piece will exhibit outstanding attention to detail and meticulous craftsmanship in addition to overall design.

Best Overall: \$1000 The winning piece will exhibit a challenging and pleasing design, exemplary workmanship and overall quality and excellence.

People's Choice: \$500 A people's choice award will be determined by public ballot and awarded at the close of the show.

To submit your entry, go to www.viwg.com.

Deadline for entries is May 31, 2014

Miniatures With Molly Winton

Fraser Valley Woodturners Guild
March 15/2014

On March the 15th the Fraser Valley Woodturners Guild hosted a full day demonstration by well-known Washington State artist Molly Winton. Five members of the Island Woodturners Guild decided this was too good an opportunity to pass up and the Friday midday ferry provided enough time for a lengthy shopping trip at Bow River Woods, the hosts for the Saturday event.

Molly used the demo to show the utility of using miniature turnings for experimenting with both wood burning designs and more advanced finishing techniques. Molly's signature work is well illustrated on her website www.woodturningmaven.com and features her now well know mustang horses galloping around her small bowls and vessels. Most of her work is surprisingly small in scale, which makes the decoration and figure work all the more challenging.



She maintains that working in miniature allows the turner to work quickly, wasting little wood with many possibilities for rapid experimentation. To emphasize the point she rapidly turned a 2" miniature vessel and then proceeded to use it to demonstrate the various texturing and burning techniques, which she uses to embellish her pieces.



She refers the 1/3 to 2/3 proportions for her small bowls and explained and demonstrated the different looks that one can get from varying the proportions and using decorative bands around the waistline. She sands (to about 400 grit) those areas which will not be totally burned or carved but leaves area which will receive heavy texturing unsanded.



Carving and Texturing:

First up was the use of Flexcut carving tools in reciprocation electric carvers such as the Ryobi or other similar tools. She likes the standard Flexcut gouge set and uses them for her texturing. On larger pieces she will use the Roughing size, but typically she uses the standard set. Any reciprocation tool or handpiece on a flexible shaft will be satisfactory for this work.

Dremel Engravers are also useful for texturing and achieving the look of fine lines. They will depress the wood rather than carve it away like the Flexcut blades. There is a vast selection of bits that work in the rotary tools and Molly outlined some of her favourites.

Burning/Pyrography:

Because Molly has been wood burning for most of her 13-year career she is well versed with the various burners. Her favourite is the Burnmaster, which serves her well with its 130 amp power output, but she also used pens and tips from both Detailmaster and Razortip. For heavy burning jobs she has a Graeme Priddle style modified battery charger burner, which really allow her to work quickly. She cautions that when carving and burning an air flow head shield is a must and she has had previous problems with sinus infections before she began using these protective devices.

Her preferred commercially available tips for detail burning include the skew and the 6A style. She is careful to regulate the heat level for the work she is doing. Burning allows no mistakes so you have to practice a lot and be very careful. Molly is an accomplished artist and she sketches her figures before she burns them; use graphite not carbon paper if you are using stencils. The graphite can be easily removed with isopropyl alcohol.

Many of Molly's pieces use a basket weave style background for the non-figured parts of her pieces. She makes the brands that do this work and she is very particular about the size and scale of the brands used. She demonstrated the making and using of the brands, which is a bit of an art all to itself. These are made from nichrome wire usually in 20 or 22 gauge sizes.



Colouring Texturing:

Molly's first work within this area was using black to emphasize her figures. Recently she has expanded and continues to expand this aspect of her work considerably and she shared with her audience some of the newer products and methods she has been experimenting with. Certainly the various Gesso colours have been a mainstay of emphasizing the black basket weave texture work. To this she has added memory inks, and thick texture paints made by DecoArt under their Texture Fierro line. These products which have endless possibilities can produce

many Faux stile finishes, all of which must be protected with lacquer or similar top coat.



An interesting footnote to Molly's Chilliwack presentation is that she was one of the first demonstrators brought to Victoria by the fledgling Island Wood Turners Guild way back in January of 2008.

Bryan Kemper-March 2014

Show and Tell Table

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

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 web site. And of course thanks to our hard-working executive for their hard work and creativity.

All the best.