

# THE CHIP FLYER



## Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild - Burlington, Ontario

### *From the President's Notebook*

We welcome Carl Durance again as a demonstrator for June and Carl is going to take us into the world of finials. Hands-On night will feature a Garage Sale of items that have become cast-offs but are bound to be useful in your shop. Bring what you don't need in the way of tools, wood or supplies to sell and bring money to buy whatever catches your eye.

Once again, we were reminded of how precious life is, with the sudden passing of one of our past members, Peter Midgely. Peter passed away suddenly on May 14. I know many of you have participated in the sale of his tools. His widow Penny, got in touch

with me soon after and asked if we could assist her in disbursing Peter's shop as she wishes to move closer to her family. Work had got in the way of pleasure and Peter wasn't able to get out the past couple of years. He had taken an interest in the Rose Engine aspect of turning and had built one along the lines of a design by John Magill. Peter served as Member-at-large and briefly as Membership Secretary a few years ago.

In my remarks for the annual meeting, circulated with the Chip Flyer email notification you will see that we are still looking for a Member-at-large and a 2nd Vice President. I hope you have a good



Mike Brazeau

summer and keep an eye out for Found Wood. No matter what the species, there is always something to turn lurking in that species.

### **Woodworking Instructor needed:**

Dundas Valley High School Co-op (DVHS) is a co-op for homeschooled high school students which meets in Dundas on Thursdays for two 12-week semesters each year. We have a great group of teens and a very positive Christian community. We're currently looking for a woodworking instructor for next year--most likely for our winter 2014 semester.

In the past we had an excellent instructor come in and teach woodworking with hand tools only. Unfortunately he is no longer available. We're looking for someone comfortable working with teens who could either teach at our location by bringing in tools or who has a workshop close enough that it would not be too time-consuming for students to travel there and back--preferably in the Dundas/ West Hamilton/ Ancaster area. To express interest or for more information please contact Robin Larin via email, [theshire@cogeco.ca](mailto:theshire@cogeco.ca)

### **Coming up**

See [ghwg.ca](http://ghwg.ca) for more details

#### **Jun 13**

Club garage sale, bring in items you want to try and sell.

#### **Jun 20**

Annual General meeting, with Carl Durance demoing finials

## An evening with Dick Sing...

May's demonstrator was in from the USA, doing a tour of our area for a few days. Dick Sing started his tour at our regular club meeting, and then did a couple of hands on days, a demo in Toronto, and then on to the Grey Bruce club.

For our evening demo, he covered three main topics while passing along some helpful hints. He has been turning since 1965, and now with nine books under his belt, he really seems to have settled into turning smaller items, but adding some wonderful unique touches to them.

The evening began with a simple egg. The egg itself was not that different than any other turned egg. His extra touch came in how he cleans up the bottom of the egg after it has been initially turned and cut free. He has turned many an egg and to help make it easier, he tends to turn them roughly the same size. The idea being that you can learn to refine the shape if they are similar in size as well you can use the same jigs.



When you turn an egg or ball, you need to turn the piece around and try to hold it to turn off the last of the area that was used to initially hold the piece while you were shaping it. This is an awkward piece to hold if you try to use chuck jaws or even tower jaws as they may not be deep enough, or may not close down small enough. So Dick has worked out a finger chuck for holding his eggs. Since he likes to work to a common size, his chuck can be used often. He makes his egg blanks around 2" and 1-3/4" in size to start with. His chuck is a piece of 1-1/2" PVC coupling, with a couple of simple, but interesting additions.



The finger chuck is really just a bunch of slots cut into one end of the coupling, and then use a band clamp to help "close" the fingers around the piece to be turned. The issue you quickly discover is that the straight interior walls do not hold the eggs well as they really only make contact on one circle around the egg. To address this, he glues in a couple of sections of PVC pipe, a 1/2" long piece into the end that will be held in the chuck, and then a 1" piece in the other

end where he glues it in place before cutting the slots. He also takes and hollows that 1" piece out a bit within the coupling, then cuts 8 equally spaced fingers marked out using the index head on his lathe. This slight hollowed area will provide a much larger surface to hold the egg as it grabs onto the egg over a larger area and by gluing in the PVC pipe the walls are thick enough to hollow out that area. Without the extra initial thickness, the fingers would be too weak to hold. Here you can see the chuck holding the egg while he finishes it off. He uses the tail stock to help align the egg in the chuck initially so that it spins on axis.



His next big tip was on how to apply that pressure with the tail stock. Tail stocks on the lathes are not normally slop free, so what he does is slide the tail stock up to the end of the egg without fastening it down tight. This will allow the live center to move a bit to align the egg, and then he tightens up the tail stock to hold it. He does a similar process when drilling so that the drill bit finds its proper center before drilling into a piece.

The next project Dick turned out was his wooden jar lid. In this case, he attaches a paint brush to the under side and uses it as a lid for his bottles of finish. On the lid, he showed how he creates and inserts his inlay.



The idea is to make a wooden skin to cover the metal cover of the jar, and attach handle to the top side of the lid and a small paint brush to the bottom side. The inlay is just a way of adding some visual interest to the lid. The metal lid sits snugly in the wooden lid, and there is a hole drilled right through the metal and wooden lid to take the inserted handle and paint brush. The inlay was the kicker in this piece.

He measured his materials in thousands of a inch, and thought about how wide the finished rings would appear. If you want to have a ring that is about a 1/16" wide, then the hole in that piece needs to be cut very accurately. If you were not looking to possibly use this technical to make matching pieces at some point, then the technical details would not be too important. But if you were interested in making matching inlay in a couple of pieces, then these tight tolerances are necessary to keep the finished look the same.



He had pre-turned to rough size the pieces that would be used in the inlay to give it some visual appeal. The first pieces were inserted into the precisely cut opening in the top of the lid, and glued in with CA glue just around the edges. Since the center section will be cut out, you do not want to have that area coated in glue that as it would make it more difficult to remove. Then a hole in the newly installed section was carefully cut and the next coin added in, with the entire thing glued in. If you wanted to carry this onto a multi colored inlay, the the edges would have only been glued to allow for the next colored insert to be added.



He cut his inlay pieces on a wooden face plate where the thin blank material had been double face taped on. When the piece is cut to size, that dimension is cut into the face of the waste block on the lathe. This could then be used as a guide to cut multiple pieces that were very close to the same size without needing to resort to measuring every cut. Then the pieces for the next smaller inserts would be cut in a similar way to keep them close to all the same size. You could continue this for multiple sizes if you wanted. Then the various sets of inlays would be grouped and taped together to await a project.

Cutting the openings for the inlays in your project could then be done all on the same center, or start to offset the pieces so that the inlays ended up offset. Dick uses an offset chuck so that each placement is repeatable, allowing for making mutuple of a similar pattern if he wanted to.



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## Special Thank You's....

I want to thank Mike, Andy and Lloyd for all their assistance in helping me to find good homes for Peter's woodturning tools. I cannot thank you enough.

Also, to all of you who came by and purchased his tools and were very supportive and sensitive to me. I met some very nice people and their wives. It is too bad Pete was working so much and we could have met at a happier time. I am left with a big hole in my heart, but I hope wherever Pete is there is a club with members just like all of you there.

Thank you all, again.

Warmest regards  
Penny Midgley

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30 May, 2013

Good afternoon Mr. Ditomaso,

My name is Evette Haddad and I am the new Community Services Coordinator for the Hamilton Wentworth Canadian Cancer Society.

I am emailing you to ask if you have any of the lovely wood stands that have been donated to our office in the past. We give these stands to the women undergoing cancer treatments, and losing their hair, who come to us looking for a wig to help them out as they wait for their own hair to grow back.

The women come into our office often scared and sad about what they are going through. When we give them a wig a definite change comes over these women, but when we offer them their choice of your stands it is when their eyes definitely light up. They appreciate that these stands were made for them and to help them along in their fight. A beautiful gesture of compassion and care from someone they don't know yet who had them in mind when they created the stand. They also get a kick out of choosing which stand they like, they appreciate that they are given some control over what they choose when often times so little is under their control during treatment.

We have been giving away a large number of wigs, and with them a large number of the lovely stands.

I have kept the boxes the stands come in so that you do not need to purchase more boxes.

Can you please let me know if you have any stands that I may have?

Thank you very much in advance, and have a lovely day.

Evette

Evette Haddad, Hons. B.Sc., Ph.D  
Community Services Coordinator  
Canadian Cancer Society, Hamilton-Wentworth Unit

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Dick's last quick project for the evening was one of his bird houses. He once again has made so many that he finds it useful to start with a similar size blank so that the finished pieces will be similar in size. This allows him to refine the look to something that is very familiar and becomes easier to turn. The bird house is made up of a body and a top, and once again the turning was not really the key here, but the hints that he dropped while making the pieces.



While making the body, he drills in with a 5/8" bit to clear most of the body, and then drills in with a 1/2" out through what would be the top. With the larger hole in the base, he used small hollowing tools to remove material from the inside of the body, but not at the mouth of the hole.

The handy hint was how he holds the body to allow him to turn it around and clean up the top. He had made a stepped plug, which was 5/8" stepping down to 1/2". That fit snugly inside the body, with the 1/2" section supporting one end and the 5/8" section supporting the other.

To do the top, he mounted the blank in the chuck, with what will be the top being held in the jaws. The bottom is scooped out a bit to create what will become an eve on the roof line and a 1/2" tenon turned into the center. This tenon will be what is used to fasten the roof to the body. With the outside the roof line mostly shaped, Dick brought out a simple waste block with a 1/2" hole in it. The tenon on the roof registered in the hole and held the roof while it was drilled to accept the hanging hook.



Here is where his next interesting tip came along. When drilling with the tail stock, the drill bit tends to wander initially when it contacts the wood, so... What he suggested was to not initially fasten the tail stock in place, but to touch the drill bit to the wood and allow it to find its center, and then fasten down the tail stock. The tail stock is more likely to remain aligned with the blank, allowing for a straighter hole.



Overall, it was an interesting evening of ideas for small projects and a few very neat ideas for enhancing your pieces.



## On the Turning Calendar ...

Over the next few months, there are a number of great chances to see talented turning demonstrators and pieces to get your creative juices in gear if you want to travel a bit.



- **June 28-30, 2013, 27th AAW International Woodturning Symposium**  
(<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2013/index.htm>) in Tampa, Florida

- **July 27, 2013, Woodturners of Olympia, 2013 Woodturning Symposium**  
([http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org/?page\\_id=1740](http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org/?page_id=1740)) in Lacey, Washington. There are four days of Workshops with John Jordan following the Symposium with limited openings.

- **Aug 23-25, 2013, Southwest Association of Turners Symposium (SWAT)**  
(<http://SWATurners.or>) in Waco, Texas.



- **Sept 13-15, 2013, Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium** (<http://rmwoodturningsymposium.com>) in Loveland, Colorado.

- **Sept 20-22, 2013, Turning Southern Style XIX** (<http://gawoodturner.org>) in Dalton, Georgia.

- **Sept 28-29, 2013, Yellowstone Woodturners Symposium 8** (<http://yellowstoneturners.org/>) in Billings, Montana.

- **Oct 4-6, 2013, The 28th Annual Woodstock Woodshow** (<http://thewoodstockwoodshow.com/>) in Woodstock, ON.

- **Oct 11-13, 2013, Ohio Valley Woodturning Guild, All About Turning 2013** (<http://www.ovwg.org/2013-symposium-2/2013-symposium/>) in West Harrison, Indiana (about 25km northwest of Cincinnati)

- **Nov 1-3, 2013, North Carolina Woodturning Symposium** (<http://northcarolinawoodturning.com>) in Greensboro, North Carolina.

- **Aug 11-23, 2014, Norwegian Woodturning Cruise** (<http://www.woodturningcruise.com>) in Stavanger Norway



## Woodturning 101...

If anyone has any questions regarding "Woodturning 101" please contact Andy DiTomaso @ 905-973-4966 or email: andydito@gmail.com

- Lesson "1"** - Sharpening
- Lesson "2"** - Spindle Turning
- Lesson "3"** - Spindle Turning using the Skew
- Lesson "4"** - Bowl Gouge
- Lesson "5"** - Bowl Gouge Hollowing

**Group "2"** Students are Complete:  
 Carl Thomson # 608, Ken Bonnewell # 603, Viola Duff # 630  
*Lesson "1"* Nov. 8, 2012  
*Lesson "2"* Jan. 10, 2013  
*Lesson "3"* Feb. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "4"* Mar. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "5"* Apr. 11, 2013

**Group "3"** Students are Complete:  
 Al Pentland # 610, Richard Speir # 625, Roy Couzens # 601  
*Lesson "1"* Jan. 10, 2013  
*Lesson "2"* Feb. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "3"* Mar. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "4"* Apr. 11, 2013  
*Lesson "5"* May 16, 2013

**Group "4"** Students are:  
 Steve Paas # 597, George Kalil # 615, Chesley Lohnes # 620  
*Lesson "1"* Feb. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "2"* Mar. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "3"* Apr. 11, 2013  
*Lesson "4"* May 16, 2013  
**Lesson "5"** June 13, 2013 - Hugh Widdup

**Group "5"** Students are:  
 Bob Wilkinson # 616, Matt MacKinnon # 614, Don Hood # 529  
*Lesson "1"* Mar. 14, 2013  
*Lesson "2"* Apr. 11, 2013  
*Lesson "3"* May 16, 2013  
**Lesson "4"** June 13, 2013 - Morley McArthur  
 Lesson "5" Sept 12, 2013 - Lloyd Butler

**Group "6"** Students are:  
 Rick Ferris # 634, John Whitnall # 635  
*Lesson "1"* Apr. 11, 2013  
*Lesson "2"* May 16, 2013  
**Lesson "3"** June 13, 2013 - Derek Dix  
 Lesson "4" Sept 12, 2013 - Norm Kemp  
 Lesson "5" Oct 10, 2013 - Michael Brazeau

**Group "7"** Students are:  
 George Pillar #641, John Scott #627, Don Harman #642  
*Lesson "1"* May 16, 2013  
**Lesson "2"** June 13, 2013  
 Lesson "3" Sept 12, 2013  
 Lesson "4" Oct 10, 2013  
 Lesson "5" Nov 14, 2013

## Burls for Sale...

We cut a lot of fire wood and have been saving the burls, pictures attached. If you are interested in these please let us know. The largest chunk as you can see from the photo is very large and can be cut into manageable pieces.

If you are interested, please give us a call at 905-878-4964 or reply to this email. We live in the Halton Hills area.

Rod & Thelma Eller  
fertilizerguy@hotmail.com



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If you think you have a way with words, we could use your skills and talents. You may have a number of interesting techniques and tips you could turn into an article for the Chip Flyer. If you are interested, contact Lloyd at [web@ghwg.ca](mailto:web@ghwg.ca).