



President

Josh Pichanick

2500 - 10 Brant St.

Burlington, Ont.

L7P 4L9

905-335-3275

Treasurer

Ken McCuaig

2143 Russet Rd

Mississauga, Ont.

L4Y 1C2

905-277-3029

THE CHIP FLYER

ISSUE: 22

DECEMBER 1997

NEXT MEETING

Casual Evening - Members only - December 4 - 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm
 Formal Evening - Members and Guests - December 11 - 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

MESSAGE FROM THE PRES.

With all the negative things going on around us lately, it is sometimes hard to remember that the time of fellowship and goodwill to all, is fast approaching.

On behalf of the GHWG Executive - Mary, Brian, Ken, Al, Cliff, Kevin and Frank, we wish all our members a fabulous Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

To usher in this season of joy, we invite all our members and their partners, as well as the staff of the Seniors Centre, to join us in our annual Christmas celebration and ask those who wish, to bring a pot luck desert.

As a mere woodturner, may I conclude by saying "May your bowls continue to turn and your spindles keep spinning" but - don't drink and turn.

Josh

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to our newest member.

Rick Bera of Brantford.

We look forward to seeing you at the Casual nights and regular meetings.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

This year we are trying something new for the 1998 membership renewal; any idea lifted from the CWA. Those members you have not renewed early, will find a stamped envelope, address to me, enclosed with this newsletter. You can, if you wish, pay your membership renewal by enclosing a cheque or money order in the envelope and mailing it back to me. (Assuming the posties are back, that is) Since the fee would be for the 1998 membership, you can post-date it to January if you wish. Please put your membership number on the back of cheque or money order.

The 1998 dues are \$40.

Remember, the membership fees are significant portion of the Guild annual budget, and the sooner we have renewals in, the sooner we can plan our programs. The Guild thanks you for your support.

Cliff Rose.

Membership secretary

WOOD RAFFLE

The raffle at the November meeting raised \$191, which I think is a record.

Two new items were added to the raffle table that may have increased the interest. The club purchased a can of Waterlox from Exotic Woods and a wood blank from Woodhaven. As well Andy Poynter of A & M donated a beautiful large piece of Sycamore. The winners quickly grabbed these items up. We are planning on continuing this practice of adding purchased items to the table every month.

As well the selection of turning blanks was excellent and there where many pieces to choose from. Some of the donors identified the wood and put their name on it. Lets keep it up, I think it was appreciated by all who were wondering what to chose.

The finished item was won by Vince Redmayne.

TANSLEY WOOD

As mentioned in the last news letter and at the last meeting, we will be moving to a new facility in 1998. The new address is

Tansley Wood
 (Youth/Seniors room)
 1996 Itabashi Way
 Burlington

That's off Upper Middle Road between Appleby Road and Walkers Line. There is a stop light at the corner of Upper Middle Road and Itabashi Way. When entering through the main doors, turn left and watch for the youth/seniors room on your left.

Because of commitments by Tansley Wood before we signed the contract, the first few casual nights will have to be rescheduled from the normal **second Thursday** of the month, as follows –

JANUARY CASUAL NIGHT

Wednesday, January 7, 1998

FEBRUARY CASUAL NIGHT

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

We should be able to return to our normal schedule of the **second Thursday** after that.

HAMILTON LIBRARY DISPLAY

Thanks to Sandy Mugford (Wally's wife), the Guild took part in the Festival of Arts and Crafts at the Hamilton Central Library on October 25. We had two 8 foot tables crammed with turned objects from a number of members. There was also about 8 members in attendance to provide guard duty and explain the art of woodturning to visitors.

I think the most common comment from the visitors was "Wow, you mean that's made of wood?" With the plethora of cheap Asian junk available from the local cut rate store filling people homes, there is a real appreciation of something as rare as a wooden object that has been fashioned by knowing hands to give the wood beauty as well as functionality. For those members who were generous enough to allow the visitors to actually "hold and touch" their pieces, there was the added enjoyment of watching their reaction to the warmth and texture of the object.

In all it was an enjoyable afternoon that we hope we may be able to repeat next year. Thanks to the Hamilton Library and Sandy Mugford.

DECEMBER MEETING

This is just a reminder that the December meeting will be on the **second Thursday** of December, that's December 11, 7 – 11pm, not the third Thursday. There will still be a Casual night on the 4th.

The meeting will still be held at the regular room at the seniors Center.

The Guild will be buying finger foods and refreshments and we ask that members bring Pot Luck dessert and their partners.

There will be 4 simultaneous demos taking place by Guy Mechan, Kevin Ellis, Cliff Rose and Brian Graham on Carbatechs.

The usual show and tell table will be set up, so please bring your best work.

The raffle table will also be set up. The club will buy some items for the table and hopefully members will continue to bring in the great selection of blanks. Please remember, if possible, identify the wood and put your name on it.

We will have a VCR running with turning demo's and scenes from some of the Guild's activities over the last few years.

And, most important, bring your partner.

I hope to see you there to help kick off the Christmas season. My wife started decorating in October, so we're already well into it.

GHWG LIBRARY

The Guild Library is running out of books and videos. Please return and books or videos you have borrowed from the Guild as soon as you can. Although Kevin

appreciates not carrying as much weight around, I think he would rather have a better selection to offer borrowers.

Even if you don't think you have anything on loan, check Kevin's list just to make sure you haven't forgotten something.

GHWG SCRAPBOOK

Al Mc Burney is compiling a scrap book of pictures, articles, etc. of activities the Guild has been involved with over the years and pictures of some of the turned items our members have produced.

If you have any items that might be of use, or any ideas for the book, please talk to Al.

We hope to have this book with us at all events to show the public what we do and demonstrate some of the great work that members of the Guild have made.

A good example is a recent article in the Niagara Review about Eugen Schlaak. Some of the members may have seen the article on the display table at the last meeting. For those who didn't, it is an excellent account dealing with Eugen's history in woodturning, his progression from novice turner to expert, and the type of turning he does. Eugen even managed to get the GHWG mentioned in the article. The article is too long to add to the newsletter and the photo would likely not copy too well, so I will give it to Al to add to the GHWG scrap book for all to see.

Some of the items from Show and Tell



SPRING DEMONSTRATION

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the GHWG, I presented a proposal to organize a number of demonstrations by members of our guild, for other interested members. The basic plan for the event would be as follows:

Date: Saturday, April 25, 1998
Session A: 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 noon
Session B: 1:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for individual members to visit the home workshop of two demonstrators from our membership. The content of each demonstration would be determined by the demonstrator.

Format: The suggestion would be that each demonstrator would comment on the layout, operation and safety aspects of his/her shop. Most of the time would be devoted to demonstrating a particular technique or project. A short break would occur for coffee and refreshments. (This would likely require a small charge) Each demonstrator would declare how many guest members could be accommodated. (say from 5 to 10)

Locations: We hope to have about 10 demonstrators volunteer their services, time and facilities. The actual locations would be spread across our Golden Horseshoe area, and might be divided into these areas:

Mississauga – Oakville
Burlington – Hamilton
Niagara – St. Catharines

Some demonstrators might choose to conduct only one session – either morning or afternoon. Otherwise, the second session would either be a repeat or a continuation of the first.

Each demonstrator would be asked to provide a brief description of the content of the demonstration, which would be advertised either in the Newsletter, or as a hand-out well in advance.

With one and a half hours between the morning and afternoon sessions, members signing up to attend, would have adequate time to eat lunch and travel from A to B, regardless of how far apart the sessions were located. The demonstrators would have ample time to also have lunch and prepare for the second session.

If you are interested in participating as a demonstrator, please contact Al McBurney by telephone at 905-332-6343, or at the next regular meeting. I would also be interested in knowing whether the membership is interested in this concept, and would be prepared to participate by attending.

Al McBurney

GUEST SPEAKERS

November was safety month at the GHWG, and we had three guest speakers who were specialists on that subject. While there weren't any chips flying, there was a great deal of discussion, which I think was most beneficial to newer turners who are just setting up their shops.

ANDY POYNTER

Our first speaker was Andy Poynter of A & M Wood Specialty, Cambridge. Andy began his talk with a brief history of A & M which is 24 years old this year. He recalled some wood prices from his 1975 catalog, for example maple which sold for 1.05 bd/ft. at that time.

Andy then reviewed the dangers of exposure to toxic woods. Toxic in this case can be any wood that bothers an individual. While Cedar, for example, may not bother one person, it can drive another out of

the room in minutes. In Andy's opinion, protection from the dangers of toxic wood is a combination of common sense (not working with wood that you are sensitive to) and good safety equipment. The longer the daily exposure to wood dust, the better the safety equipment required.

Andy also had a slide show to demonstrate the idea that good design is eternal. He showed vases and bowls from hundreds of years ago made from ceramic, wood, glass, and metal that looked very similar to the shapes we are turning today. In his opinion "If it looks right, it is right" I guess what looks right to humans hasn't changed much over the centuries.

Andy also outlined the efforts made to help reduce the impact on the woodworking business on the depleting rainforests. He is a member of the Certified Forest Products Alliance which are offshoots of the Forest Products Buyers Group, Good Wood Alliance and Woodworker Alliance for Rain Forest Protection. The

goal is to provide a market for wood products that are grown in sustainable rain forests, which in turn would encourage more reforestation instead of slashing and burning.

JOHN BEECH

Our next speaker was John Beech of Racal Canada. John was here to discuss personal protective equipment in general and his line of dust masks and respirators specifically.

John outlined the dangers of wood dust. Modern machines tend to generate more fine dust than hand tools, so the modern woodworker is more at risk than his predecessors who primarily used hand tools. Most dust particles under 40 microns can't be seen, (except possibly when the late afternoon sun slants through your workshop and reminds you it's due for cleaning). Particles less than 15 microns make their way right into the lungs. These particles might be dust, bacteria or spores. It is these particles that get into the lungs and

remain there that are potentially the most dangerous for woodworkers.

To combat this the woodworker has a number of lines of defense. The first is collecting the dust at the source and we will hear more on this later from Chester Van Ness. The second is a respirator, either negative pressure or forced positive pressure. The third and fourth are free air ventilation and air cleaning which again will be discussed later.

John (and Racal's) specialty is respirators. The simplest is the negative pressure type. This type is typically a layer of particle entrapping cloth or paper folded and held over the mouth with a elastic band over the back of the head. While this type will trap even the smallest particle, they only work if perfectly fitted and not at all with beards, a few days growth of facial hair, or an odd shaped jaw. They also cause fogging of glasses as the expelled air escapes up beside the nose and across the glasses. Of the negative pressure type, the pleated style seems to conform to the face better than the simpler non pleated style. John gave samples of Racal's pleated style for everyone.

The power air purifiers provide the next improvement in respirators. There are a number of styles of these as well. They all use a battery-powered fan that draws air through one or two filters that can filter out particles as small as 0.5 microns. The simplest ones have fans built into the helmet and while these are the lowest cost they are also the noisiest, with noise levels as high as 75db. The style range all the way up to a model called the Air Mate which uses a sealing mechanism around the side of the face and chin and a belt mounted fan and battery pack. A flexible hose connects the filter/fan pack to the helmet. This gives the quietest performance and because a worker can carry more weight on his belt than on his helmet, the fan, battery and filter can be larger. This would be the choice for the serious amateur or professional who needed to wear the helmet all day.

Typically the battery packs are good for 8 hours and need about 16 hours to recharge. The newer "smart" chargers coming out on the market will allow the batteries to charge faster and not require full discharging before a recharge.

John didn't have current pricing on the helmets but the guild will get pricing from the distributors such as Woodchuckers for anyone interested.

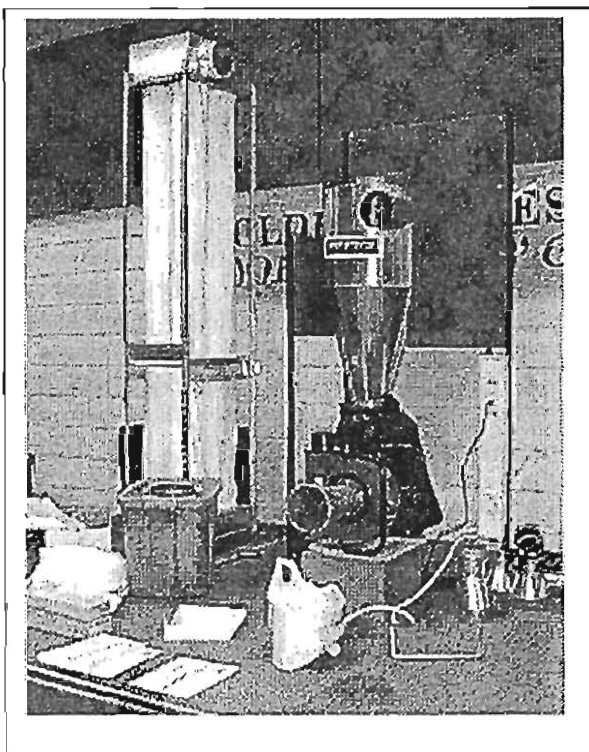
John concluded with a discussion of the NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) approval system. NIOSH has developed a set of standards for non-powered and powered respirators and purchasers should ensure that any respirator purchased has NIOSH approval.

The field of respirators is so large that one could spend days examining it, however John gave us an excellent overview that will help guide our future purchases and uses of respirator.

CHESTER VAN NESS

After the coffee break, Chester Van Ness discussed the remaining issues dust collection at the source and ventilation.

Chester brought with him a dust collection blower, cyclone collector and dust bag system to demonstrate the various aspects of dust collection.



The first and simplest type is, the single-stage system that most of us use. This consists of a blower, which pulls dust from the source via a flexible hose and pumps the air through a filter. The air then returns back into the shop. This is the type of system that most people use as it is usually the cheapest and simplest to get operating. The weak points of the single-stage system are in the blower design and filter material. All the material picked up by the dust collection system must first pass through the blower, so it is subject to damage from chunks of wood, nails and screws, etc. Some reports have been made of explosions when a screw hit the steel impeller causing a spark and igniting the fine wood dust. To avoid this remote possibility, Chester recommends an Aluminum impeller. While plastic impellers are available, he doesn't feel they're strong enough to withstand the beating they take.

The second weakness of single stage filters is the filter media. The filter must capture all the wood chips and dust and so becomes filled up very fast, especially if using chips hogs like jointers or planers. Most people remove the bottom filter and replace it with a garbage can to make emptying the chips easier. This is fine if the upper bag is increased in size to compensate for the loss of the lower bag. With only one bag the air pressure will increase and the dust collector will not move as much wood dust as before.

The next improvement is moving to a two-stage system. This would have a chip separator such as a cyclone ahead of the blower to remove about 98% of the larger chips and dust, and a 3-5 micron filter after the blower to filter the air before it's returned to the shop. There is also a variation that places the blower before the cyclone, which still has the problem of screws hitting the impeller

returned to the shop. There is also a variation that places the blower before the cyclone, which still has the problem of screws hitting the impeller but Chester feels it improves the efficiency of the cyclone.

All of the collection systems require a dust pickup and piping to get the dust to the blower. Chester stressed the importance of getting the pickup port as close to the source of dust as possible and sizing it properly. For typical woodturning use, he recommended a rectangular pickup box about 10" by 4" tapered to a 4" pipe. From there one can connect to 4" flexible hose to the dust collection system. For a permanent system, he recommended metal ductwork over plastic pipe. Plastic pipe allows substantial static electric charges to build up which might cause an explosion of very fine dust such as when sanding. If using plastic, he recommended a ground wire inside and outside the pipe to drain the charge. In either case he recommend solid piping over flexible hose for long runs, since hose has about 3 times the resistance to air flow as solid pipe. Other improvements include using swept tees and elbows instead of ordinary tees and 90 deg. elbows found in most hardware stores. Swept tees and elbows reduce air friction and allow you to run longer

lengths of piping before running into problems with clogged pipes.

The last item in the dust collection system is the filter, which is the last chance we have at trapping the fine dust before returning back into the room and into our lungs. Most filter found on economy imports use a cotton weave filter which is good at catching the larger chunks of dust but let the most dangerous finer particles through. Chester recommended changing these to either a needle felt or what he referred to as the P150 material he was selling. The needle felt is the best as catching material down to 0.5 micron but is not washable. The P150 material captures material down to 3 micron but can be washed and reused.

The last item of Chester's presentation was to consider the whole house when designing dust collection. Personal protection devices, such as masks, are good for the woodworker only while he is wearing them. If the air is full of fine dust, he starts breathing it as soon as he removes the mask. Also, other people living in the house are subject to all the fine dust as well, especially from a

basement shop that shares the same central heating system as the rest of the house. Pumping air outside the house might work in the summer, but is not practical in the winter because the air must be replaced somehow, and the additional cost of heating all this replacement air would soon outweigh the cost of a good dust collection system.

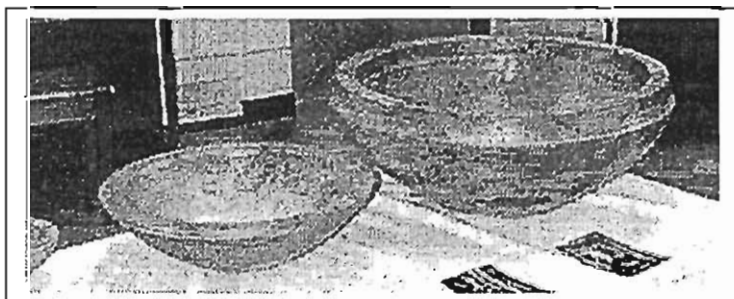
Chester ended his presentation with some handouts dealing with dust collectors and air cleaners.

On behalf the GHWG members, thanks Andy, John and Chester for three very informative sessions.

Editors note:
The November, 1997 issue of WOOD magazine has a very good article on building your own cyclone separator. If you can't find it in the stores, let me know and I will photocopy the article for you.

SHOW AND TELL

The Show and Tell table was full again with submissions from Eugene Schlaak, Josh Pichanick, Cliff Rose, Steve Villeneuve, Guy Mechan, Norm Kemp, Jack Armstrong and Jim Wright. Below and throughout the newsletter you will find some photo's of some of the display.



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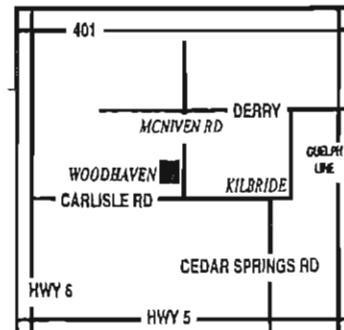
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TURNING DEMONSTRATIONS AND SEMINARS AT THE GHWG THIS YEAR and NEXT

DECEMBER 11	PARTY TIME and a sad farewell to the Seniors Centre.
1998	
JANUARY 15	At TANSLEY WOOD House warming get together to meet their supervisor, Chris Glenn; the facility officers, and all the staff. Turning demonstration by Josh Pichanick. He will make a Curled Lip Bowl (be sure to wear your name tags)
FEBRUARY 19	ROWLEY ANDERSON of the CWA Deep Hollow Form
MARCH 19	TENTATIVE SORBY TOOLS OF ENGLAND.
APRIL 16	KEN GOLDSPINK of the GBWG and a surprise turner (in other words, we don't know who yet)
MAY 21	VICTOR BURVILLE of the GHWG Stacked Laminated Bowl
JUNE 18	MARK SALUSBURY of the CWA Split Turning and Offset Turning
SPRING?	We are trying to arrange a sale night for dealers that advertise in this newsletter (wood, tools, etc.) to be held on a Casual night and a "garage sale/swap meet" night for members to trade and sell their blanks, tools, etc. to other members. More details will follow in the December newsletter, but we may be able to arrange something as early as February.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ONE OF A KIND CRAFT FAIR	Nov. 27 to Dec. 7 National Trade Center, Exhibition Place, Toronto Note: Brian Mc Intosh will have a booth at this craft fair, please visit him.
HAMILTON WOOD SHOW	Jan 30 (1pm-9pm), Jan 31 (9am-5pm), Feb 1 (9am-5pm), 1998 Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum Hamilton International Airport Tel (905) 575-0450

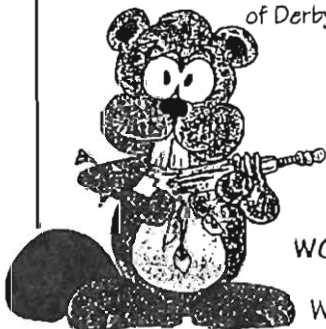
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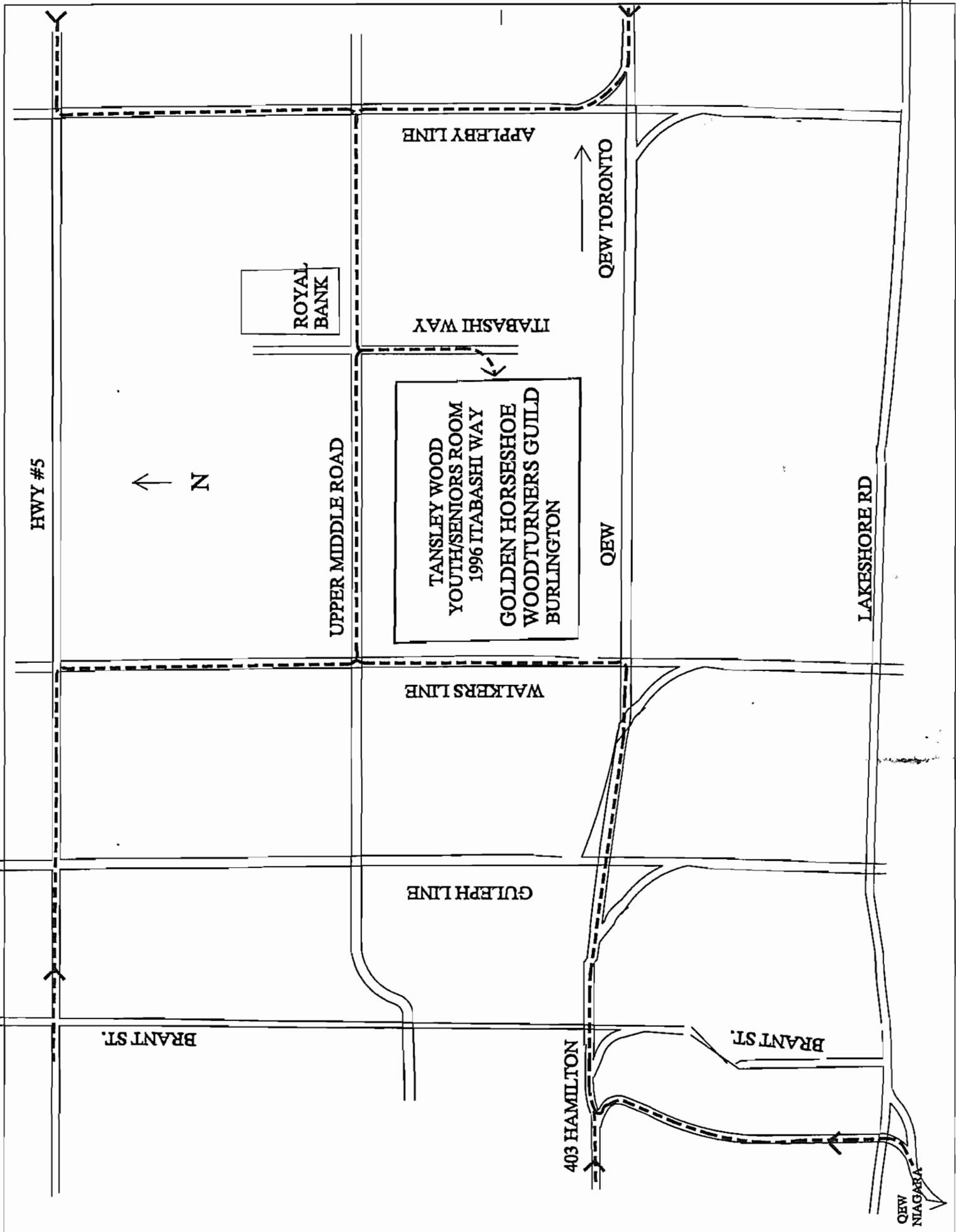
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John Marriage



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N ↑

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