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THE CHIP FLYER

ISSUE: 25

MARCH 1998

NEXT MEETING

Casual Evening - Members only - **Thursday** March 12 - 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

Formal Evening - Members and Guests - **Thursday** March 19- 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

MESSAGE FROM THE PRES

A successful Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with the regular meeting on February 19. The required quorum of 36 members was well surpassed by the 48 paid-up members present and eligible to vote.

Secretary Al McBurney read the minutes of the 1997 AGM and raised a motion for its acceptance. The motion was carried by well over the required two thirds simple majority of 32 votes.

In the absence of our Treasurer, Ken McCuaig, our Vice President, Brian Graham, read and explained the 1997 Financial Statement as prepared by Ken McCuaig, and verified by Vince Redmayne in his professional capacity, and previously approved unanimously by the Executive Committee. Brian Graham's motion to approve the Financial Statement was also carried by a larger number of vote than required. Copies are available to all members on request.

As the current elected members of the Executive Committee serve a two year term, the next election will only be held in January 1999.

Like Christmas, that is only some 10 months away, and by that time, many of the executives will have actually served for 3 years.

To continue the tremendous growth of the GHWG, it is very important to encourage new talent and expertise to join the Executive Committee.

I urge you all to give serious thought to what ever capacity you can serve your Guild, and also to consider other possible nominees whom you feel could add a valuable contribution to any of the eight executive positions. Remember what the late President J. F. Kennedy once said - "ask not what your country can do for you, but rather what you can do for".

The tremendous strides made by so many of our beginners like Mary Muir and Claude Hippolyte is indeed testimony to the value of the Casual Hands-on nights. But, our aspiring turners deserve better than the same 3 "instructors" who always "turn up" - Kevin Ellis, Cliff Rose and myself.

If you live fairly close by and would like to impart your woodturning skills on a (fairly) regular basis call one of us. This way we can organize a more structured and systematic learning session, covering all the

basics. Of course, with so many new members we need an additional medium duty lathe for hands-on purposes.

To this end and with great temerity, I asked one of our valued advertisers - Mr. John Marriage of Home Hardware, (Weeks of Waterdown) if they would consider selling the GHWG a Delta 46-700C lathe on a cost plus basis. Without a moments hesitation, he agreed to do so. However, due to their very low profit margin, even their cost plus offer put the price out of our range. On behalf of all of our almost 80 members, I thanked Mr. Marriage for the Company's willingness to even consider my suggestion.

We will continue to keep our eyes open for a good used lathe of this type - but in the meantime, we need more regular instructors.

So phone us already!

Josh

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

To date the Guild has 75 new and renewed members. The GHWG has been called "the largest active club in Ontario". Although this is not true in numbers, it is in participation, activities, and energy.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members

Gerry Robbins of Waterdown
Ron Ditomaso of Hamilton
Jim Pook of Castor Centre
John Christlaw of Kilbride
Wayne Cardinal of Brampton
Gerry Fradette of Lynden
and Lew and Sean Rowlands of Mississauga.

Welcome all and I hope to see you at the meetings. Don't forget to come to the Casual nights on the second Thursday of each month for some hands on instruction and assistance by some of the more experienced members of the Guild. Bring you tools and wood blanks if you have any.

ROBERT SORBY

The Robert Sorby demonstration will be held at the Mainway Arena on Wednesday March 25 from 7 to 10:30 pm. Two people from Sorby, Peter Gill (managing director) and Mark Baker (product manager) will be turning on a Sorby lathe to demonstrate their

latest tools and accessories, including the Robert Sorby gold tools, fingernail profile gouges, 310H texturing tool, the 330H spiraling system, 200KT multi-tip shear scraper, 868H micro shear scraper, 870H 2mm fluted parting tool, the 445 fingernail profiler, 835H bead forming tool, and others.

Busy Bee will have a full inventory of the Sorby line of Woodturning Tools and additional turning and woodworking tools from other manufacturers.

This event is part of a large North American Tour by Robert Sorby and we expect a large turnout from members of other guilds and other turners in the area. We will be handing out flyers at the next Casual night and meeting night with all the information including a map, or you can call Josh Pichanick or myself for directions.

So remember, that's Wednesday, March 25th at the ainway Arena Auditorium from 7pm to 10:30pm. The parking and admission are free. Mainway arena is at the corner of Walkers Line and Mainway, that's North of the QEW and South of Hwy#5.

AAW SYMPOSIUM

The 12th Annual AAW Symposium will be held in Akron, Ohio on June 12-14. A number of GHWG members attended the last Symposium and have given it a high recommendation.

Registration fee for AAW member is \$195 U.S. (about \$285 Can.) or \$220 U.S. for non members, before May 15. This fee includes entrance for all 3 days of demonstrations by 40 well known turners, a banquet/auction sale, trade show, and an instant gallery. There are special spouse rates and additional spouse activities planned.

The Guild is not arranging a trip to the symposium, but a number of members are going on their own. If you would like more information or wish to share expenses for the trip there, please contact Josh Pichanick. He has all the information as well as contacts with members who have attended the Symposium in the past.

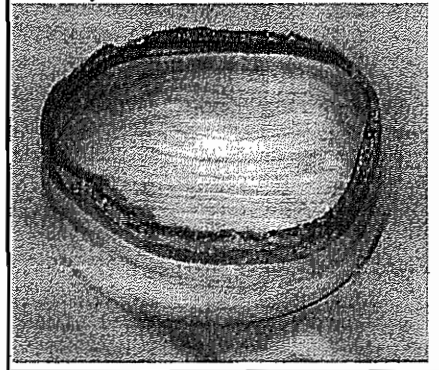
Goblets and cups by Claude Hippolyte



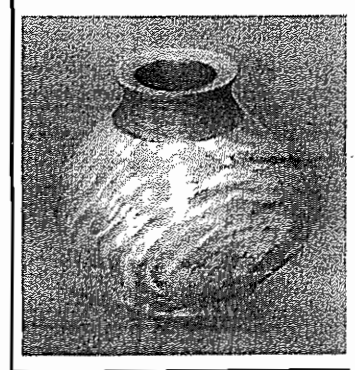
Josh with his four cornered Spalted Beech bowl



Bowl by Josh Pichanick



Vase by Jim Fretz



Various bowls by Eugen Schlaak
the bottom one is Fumed Oak



STEPHEN HOGBIN

Our guest for the February meeting was Stephen Hogbin, an Internationally known turner/artist. Stephen considers himself more an artist than a turner, so he declined to demonstrate turning techniques preferring to discuss design concepts as he applies them to his work.

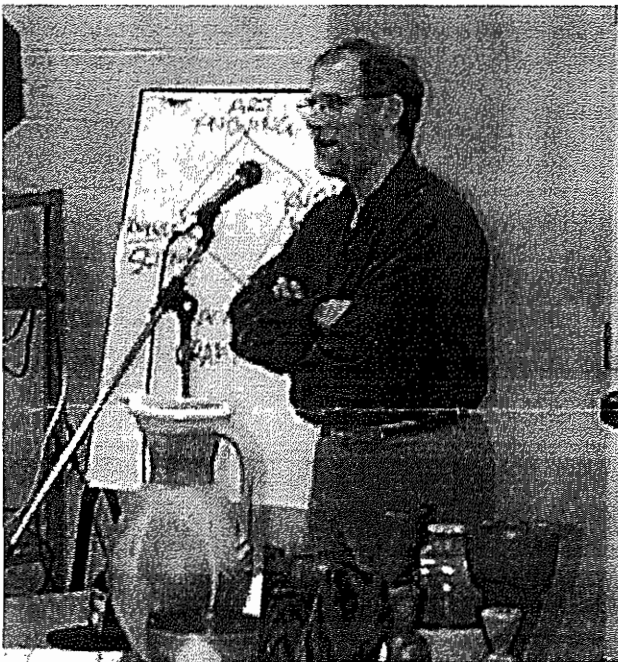
Stephen began by talking about the four aspects of creating an object. He drew a diamond shaped outline on the board and at each corner placed one of four areas of interest; science, craft, design and art. He uses each of these areas in creating new designs.

The first, Science, involves knowledge; that is knowing why something works and the limitations of a particular medium.

The second, Craft, is what most woodturners have, a specialized set of skills and know how, in this case aimed toward woodturning.

The third, Design, is knowing what to do to complete a project.

The fourth, Art, is the one that seems to frighten most turners. But Stephen described this aspect as simply knowing, knowing its right, but not necessarily knowing why.



When working on any project, Stephen tries to visit each of these aspects.

Stephen showed a number of slides showing some of his work since 1971. He used the slides to study how one can play with objects to make interesting shapes.

In many cases he cut bowls in two or four sections and recombined them into a more interesting shape. Any example of this would be the "walking bowl" that is made by cutting and regluing a turned piece until he had what looks like a bowl held up on two broad stilts. By tilting the legs and shaping the bottom, he gave the whole piece animation. The "walking bowl" actually looks like it's ready to walk away.

Another concept was taking a flat platter shaped piece and cutting it into many long strips. The strips can then be recombined into many different shapes, until a combination that is pleasing is found. This type of work makes for some interesting wall hangings. An example can be found at the Toronto Central Library.

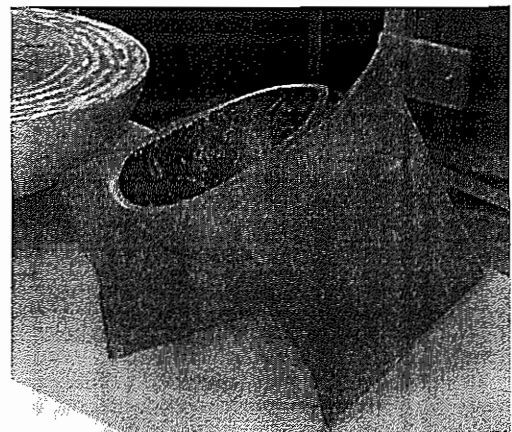
Stephen also showed some projects made with other materials but with shapes derived from turning. An example would be the bike stands or the Solar Clock at the Owen Sound Bike Center. While the bike stand was made from steel, part of the form for the casting was from wood turned on a lathe.

He also discussed the use of paint in some of his turning. He said this happened almost by accident when he had to find a way to reduce the need for special lighting to enhance some of his pieces. The paint is used to enhance the contrast of the piece under normal lighting conditions.

Stephen then had an informal question/answer period which was very informative for the members. As to the old question of whether woodturning is art or craft, Stephen felt that the question was really irrelevant. Woodturning is both art and craft; and as long as the piece is pleasing to the craftsman who made it, then it is a success.

Thanks Stephen. Your presentation was terrific and very enlightening to turners like myself who are always struggling with the "other" aspects of our craft that we couldn't even name, never mind understand.

For those with internet access, please visit Stephens display at www.makersgallery.com/hogbin.



HAMILTON WOOD SHOW

The GHWG played an important role at the Hamilton Wood Show which was held at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum from Jan. 30 till Feb. 1. Although the show was not that large, we had great crowds and our turning demonstration attracted a lot of interest. There were many people who showed interest in the club and it's activities and planned on attending one of our meetings in the next few months. We handed out over 200 GHWG promotional flyers and 50 flyers for the Sorby demo.

And of course there were the GHWG members who contributed their time and talents. The list is long but here goes

Ken Agg
Warren Brice
Frank Ciccarelli
Brian Crosthwait

Andy Ditomaso
Frank Ditomaso
Kevin Ellis
Mike Fuchs
Joe Golfi
Brian Graham
Reno Lozier
Al McBurney
Wally Mugford
Fred Napoli
Ed Pearson
Josh Pichanick
Clifford Rose
Ken Watson
Jim Wright
and some I probably forgot. Thank you all.

Some stand out because of exceptional contributions.

Thanks to Ken Watson, who brought his pole lathe (with authentic medieval bungee cord) and spent many hours turning and lecturing to the onlookers.

Thanks to Cliff Rose for his never failing good humour and

patience in fielding the endless questions.

Thanks to Andy Ditomaso, Jim Campbell and Josh Pichanick for helping with setup, takedown and being their for three solid days. In all they each put in about 30 hours of work over the weekend.

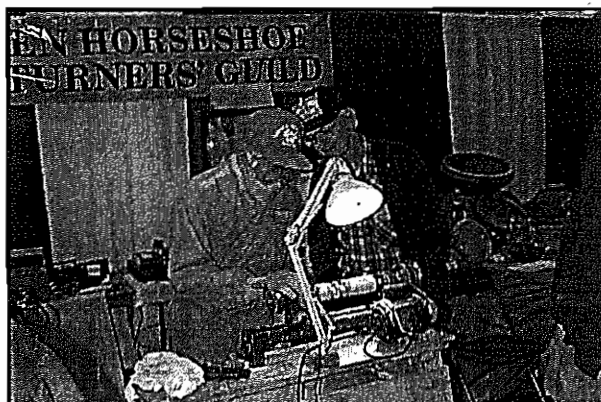
And finally thanks to Brian Crosthwait who, while being slightly over 50, put us all to shame by being there for 2 days solid without a break, turning out endless baby rattles and spinning tops that fascinated the crowd.

When we take part in local wood shows, we are fulfilling an important part of our mandate to promote the art of woodturning. As well as interesting potential new members in the Guild, we educate the public in our craft.

The next opportunity to demonstrate will be at the Rockton Wood Show in April. I hope we have the same hearty turnout.



Ken Watson



Brian Crosthwait and Jim Campbell



Cliff Rose



Andy Ditomaso and Josh Pichanick

TURNED CABRIOLE LEGS by Warren Brice

Making Cabriole legs isn't difficult, but trying to tell someone how to do it can be. At the request of Josh and a few others, I will try to put in writing what I apparently wasn't able to explain very well.

To add to the confusion, there are two ways to turn a cabriole leg, on a parallel axis and on a converging axis. For the purpose of this article, we will be turning on a converging axis, only because (for me anyway) it is a little more pleasing to the eye.

The most difficult part of making turned cabriole legs apart from turning the top of the foot, is locating the correct axis. But first

I begin by making a "story pole" which has all the information required including the blank size, the overall length of the leg, length of the pommel, largest diameter of the foot, pad size and ankle size. Next I prepare my blanks by squaring and cutting them to exact length. With your square blanks cut to length mark the bottom of the pommel on all four faces of the blank, (5 3/4" from the top of the blank in this case). Draw a second line around the blank 1/8" below this line. The center point of this line is where the two axis converge. To find the offset center on the foot, first find the true center by drawing diagonal lines between the corners. Do both ends while you're at it. Now look at the pommel and turn it so the best corner faces out, so any defects (knots, sap marks, etc.) will now be on the inside of the leg where they will be hidden by the apron. Next and with your compass draw the largest circle possible on the bottom of the blank. Draw another circle between true center and the inside of the foot. This is the offset center. With your square extend these center locations (top and bottom) to one elevation of the blank. Now you can join true centers on the side elevation by drawing a straight line from the foot to the top of the pommel. Using a square continue this line across the top of the blank till it intersects the diagonal. Note that the offset centers fall on the same diagonal but on opposite sides of true center.

It is now time to put you square blank in the lathe, pommel to the head stock and centered on true centers. Use the skew to turn the pommel. Then turn the rest of the blank round, trying to maintain maximum diameter. Next get out you story pole and mark the ankle, the top of the foot and the top of the pad. Now remove the leg and remount it on offset centers. Be sure before you start the lathe back up that it clears the tool rest. I also slow down the lathe at this point.

You are now ready to remove the shadow between the pommel and the foot using a roughing gouge. But do not go past the ankle just yet. Now you can shape the ankle and the top of the foot using the roughing gouge as I do or you can make a special round nosed scraping tool from an old 1/4" firming chisel which will be less likely to catch. But with either tool this is where you are apt to ruin the leg, so go slowly and carefully.

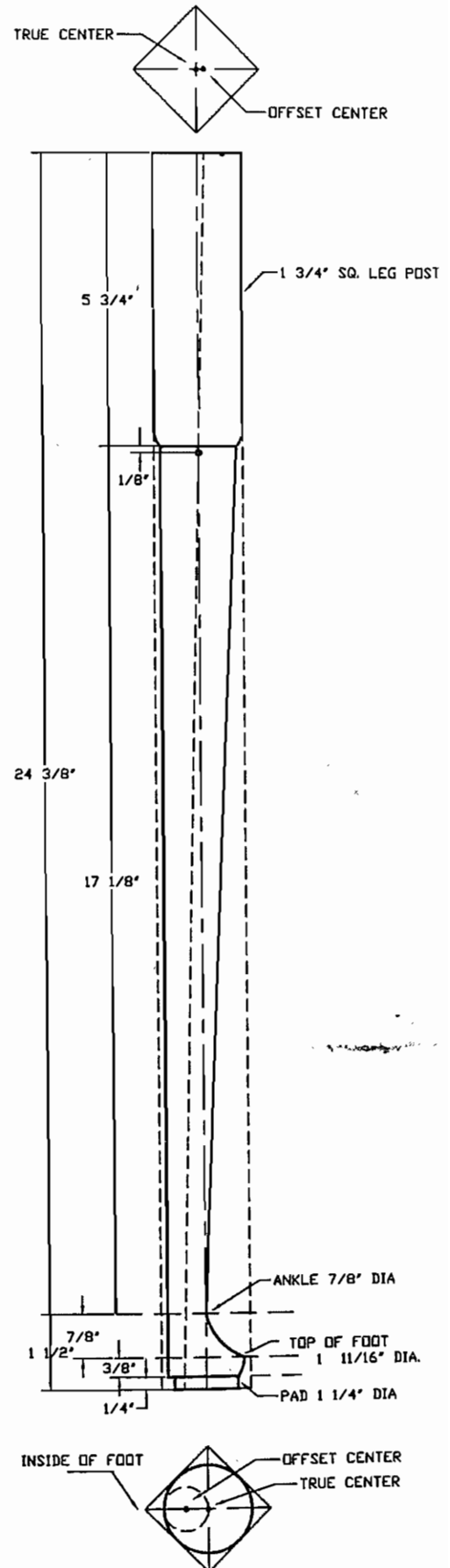
Now that you have successfully turned the shaft and the top of the foot, get out your skew and sandpaper and clean up these two areas. Remember, do final sanding in the direction of the grain.

Now remount the leg again on true centers and turn the pad. With the skew or small gouge shape the area between the top of the foot and the pad. That's it.

CONGRATULATIONS, you did it, only 3 more to go.

Footnote: It makes no difference whether you are making a leg for a coffee table (17 1/2") or a dining room table (29 1/4"). the procedure is the same.

Warren Brice



FOOD SAFE FINISHES by Al McBurney

There is an interesting article from the April 1998 issue (#129) of Fine Woodworking pp.67-69. It is titled "Which Finishes ARE Food Safe?", written by Jonathan Binzen.

The following is a summary of the main points of the article prepared by A. McBurney. Many of the statements are direct quotes.

Coatings for cutting boards, butcher blocks, etc.

There are two categories of woodfinishes; i) film-forming finishes and ii) penetrating finishes. For cutting boards or chopping blocks, do not use film finishes such as polyurethane, nitro-cellulose lacquer, varnishes or epoxy. They form a hard surface which many consider to be non-toxic when cured. During slicing or chopping, the film is broken enabling water to penetrate. The penetrating finishes include unmixed oils and mixed oils. The unmixed oils are all naturally occurring oils including 100% pure tung oil, raw linseed oil, mineral oil and walnut oil. These are edible, although with the exception of walnut oil, not necessarily delectable. Mixed oils include boiled linseed oil and the range of oil and varnish mixtures often sold as teak oil, tung oil finish and Danish oil. These mixed oils are synthesized blends of oil, resins, driers and other ingredients often not identified. Mixed oils offer better protection from moisture and staining than unmixed oils because of the resins and other additives. Metallic driers in tung oil-based varnish make it easier to work and quicker to cure than 100% tung oil. It is the heavy metal driers that make these oils unsafe for food surfaces. A chemist is quoted as saying that the currently used driers aren't above suspicion and that he wouldn't use a finish with heavy metal driers on a cutting board.

"The majority of people contacted by the author consider that the mixed oils, when fully cured (up to a month), are probably fine for contact with food".

A chemist with Flecto coatings, manufacturers of Watco Danish oil, indicated they have never had any complaints, but Watco is not marketed as a food-safe finish, and the company won't recommend it as such because it has not been tested (by the FDA). Behlen's of Amsterdam, N.Y. market a Salad Bowl Finish that is a mixed oil (probably Tung oil based) that has been successfully tested by the FDA, and is food-safe.

Unmixed Oils

Pure tung oil, raw linseed oil, walnut oil and mineral oil are all edible. Pure tung oil is the most water resistant, although it has a musty odour until completely cured. Several coats need to be applied and left to cure for about a week. Raw linseed oil can take several weeks to cure. Walnut oil is a good drying oil. It polymerizes within a few days of application so it becomes inert and will not go rancid. Walnut oil is sweet to taste and is amber in colour. Re-application is necessary to maintain a good finish. Mineral oil, a derivative of petroleum, is odourless, tasteless and colourless. It is inert and has been approved as a food additive by the FDA. The author recommends purchasing it in a drug store rather than a hardware store. Beeswax can be added to mineral oil if the oil is warmed gently (use a double boiler for safety). Mineral oil needs to be re-applied.

Super blond Shellac purchased in the dry flake form is very water resistant and is a film-forming finish. However it is soluble in ethyl alcohol so the finish will be marred by a drop of any alcoholic beverage.

I hope the above summary is helpful. There is some interesting information on the components of Crystal Kote Lacquer available on the Internet. The chemicals used in it are listed at <http://www.woodkote.com/msdsckl.htm>

Al McBurney

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TURNING DEMONSTRATIONS AND SEMINARS AT THE GHWG in 1998

MARCH 19	Member's night Cliff Rose on tools and sharpening Ken McCuaig on turning spheres (Scottish Botche balls) Eugen Schlaak on Ammonia Bleaching of Wood Malcom Cummings on laminated turning
MARCH 25	Sorby Tools and Busy Bee Tools Sorby lathe and new tool demonstration and tool sale Mainway Arena Auditorium, Walkers Line and Mainway, Burlington 7pm to 10:30 pm, Free admission and free parking, all welcome
APRIL 16	MARK SALUSBURY of the CWA on Turning Techniques
MAY 21	VICTOR BURVILLE of the GHWG Stacked Laminated Bowl
LATE SPRING	Wood and equipment sale by our advertisers, To be held on one of our casual night at Tansley Woods, Details will be available soon.
SEPTEMBER 17	Paul Ross
OCTOBER 15	Roland Anderson
EARLY FALL	Members Swap eet/ garage sale, details available soon.

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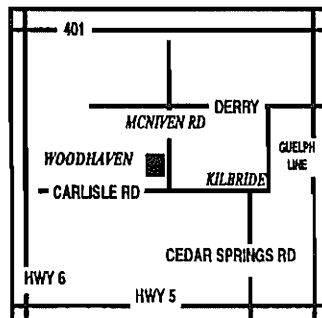
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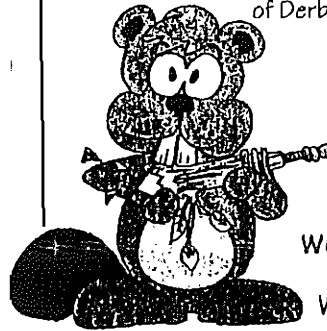
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UPCOMING EVENTS

KITCHENER WATERLOO WOOD SHOW

March 20, 21, 22
Bingeman Park, Kitchener, Ontario

ROCKTON WOOD SHOW

Wood Show and Carving Competition
April 17 (12-5), April 18 (10-5) April 19 (10-5)
Rockton, Ontario (519) 647-3899
Hwy. #8, between Cambridge & Hamilton
The GHWG will have a booth at the show and we will be looking for turners and hosts for the booth. Please contact Frank Ditomaso if you can help out.

AAW SYMPOSIUM

12th Annual National AAW Symposium 1998
June 12-14, 1998
John S. Knight Convention Center
Akron, Ohio
Contact Josh Pichanick for names of other GHWG members who may be going and wish to share expenses.

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John Marriage

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Member at Large	Mary Muir
Newsletter Editor	Frank Ditomaso

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have any articles, ideas, items (wood, tools, etc.) for sale, articles wanted, etc., please contact me and I will add it to the next newsletter. Please try to get this to me by the end of the month.

Frank Ditomaso, Editor
905-335-5391 (Evening)
905-548-7014 (Weekdays)

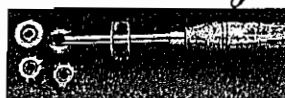
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