

# THE CHIP FLYER

Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild Newsletter

NO. 55

January 2001

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## January Annual Meeting

### An Egg-sighting Event!



The GHWG Annual Meeting will be held on January 18 at 7:00 p. m. Remember, since this is the official annual meeting for the Guild, when new executive officers will be announced and any business concerning the Guild will be conducted, it is important you attend. We cannot start the meeting until we have a quorum and we cannot get this year's program going without your input and support. Last year many members came half an hour late hoping to miss the business portion, but that only meant the meeting started late because we didn't have a quorum. Once the essential business section is completed, we can get to the fun part.

This year, we are acting on a great suggestion from Malcolm Cumming. His idea is to have an Egg Cup Turning Race. The idea is to turn an egg cup in the shortest time. The Guild will supply spindle blanks of soft maple roughed out into a cylinder, about 2" in diameter and about 5" long mounted in a chuck. Each contestant will be timed as to how long it takes from the moment he/she starts the lathe until the egg cup can sit stable on a flat surface holding an egg. That means the turner must shape the outside, plunge out the recess for the egg, part off the piece and get the bottom cleaned off enough to sit flat. Beauty is not a consideration here. Ugly is OK, but it must look like an egg cup, not a toilet roll tube with an egg on top! No sanding will be required. As well the recess for the egg must be deep enough (at least 3/4" deep) for a large egg to sit stable and straight up. Beyond these restrictions, the look of the piece is up to you. The winner will be the one with the shortest time and have the honour of being the Guild's Egg Cup Turning Champion. All contestants should bring their own tools. The Guild will supply the blanks and the chucks. So now you have two good reasons to attend the meeting, the first to get this year's program off the ground and second to have fun watching our speedsters whip off egg cups.



Frank Ditomaso

## In House Meetings 7:00 P.M.

**Hands-on Night  
January 11**

**Annual Meeting  
January 18**



**Never be afraid to try something new.  
Remember, amateurs built the Ark.  
Professionals built the Titanic.**





## YOU LITTLE OLD TOY MAKER, YOU!

I would like to express many thanks to the following individuals who's efforts brightened the holidays for countless numbers of children in the Burlington area. I would also like to thank Frank Ditomaso for presenting his inspired idea to the executive. If your name is missing, my sincere apologies.

Al McBurney  
Ken Mc Cuaig  
Ken Agg  
Vic Burville  
Brian Graham  
John De Iulio  
Glenn Mott

Herman Kamstra  
Vince Redmayne  
Jim Fretz  
Charles Robertson  
Don Henry  
Pat Elliott  
Norm Kemp

Doug Newlove  
John Gilbert  
Doug Kurtz  
Wallace Mugford  
Dave Page  
Joanne Hallman

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had a great Christmas party. Good friends. Good food. Who could ask for more? I would like to thank all of the volunteers for their help in setting up and cleaning up after the party and I would like to thank all of the spouses for making the evening a success. A very special thank you goes out to Malcolm Cumming for rescuing the ornament draw. Malcolm, you saved the night! That just shows the kind of members we have.

Congratulations to all our winners in the Winter Turning Competition. The items in the competition are getting better every time. If this keeps up, we will have only one class - MASTERS. The winners are **Masters** 1st-Eugen Shlaak, 2nd-Ken Agg and 3rd-Malcolm Cumming; **Advanced** 1st-Guy Mechan, 2nd-Frank Ditomaso and 3rd-Charles Robertson; **Intermediate** 1st-Dave Page, 2nd-John Gilbert and 3rd-Brian Graham; **Novice** 1st-Len Kaufman, 2nd-Randy Hodge and 3rd-Tatiana Mitchell.

Thanks to all who contributed to our toy drive for the Salvation Army. I am sure deep down in your hearts you know how much your contributions have meant to a child in need this holiday season.

A very special message of congratulations goes out to Norm Kemp for his work on the McNichol Walnut Project. Norm made the reception desk, which will be permanently housed in the estate. Norm you have made the Guild very proud.

We are still trying to collect short stories of your memories of JOSH for our Special Newsletter, so if you have any special note or tales on your dealings with Josh please get them to Joanne. We would like to have the newsletter issued in January. We will be sending copies to Josh's sons so they can see how Josh affected our lives and this Guild.

Remember the January meeting is our Annual meeting featuring the election of a new executive and we need everyone's support. This is your Guild. Please support it by attending this important meeting.

JIM CAMPBELL



For those turners who are interested in participating in the hands-on night presentation of a lidded vessel with Al McBurney starting Jan 11 2001, I recommend the following:

Wood - dimensions 4-5" diameter or square with a maximum length of 10-12". This includes about 2" at the base for screws to the face plate. If your wood is shorter such as 8-9", allowance for screws can be reduced by a 1/4". I recommend a nice burl of cherry, big leaf maple, birch or curly maple.

We also have Doug Newlove showing us how to make the reversing bowl jig. Jim Fretz will be working his wonders whilst spindle turning.

We have an excellent program to start off the new year. It is also a good night out just to chat with other turners. Whatever avenue you choose, I feel certain you will increase your knowledge. Happy turning.

Norm

For any members who are unfamiliar with Hands-On Night, please take the opportunity to come and join us. Hands-On Night is for members only, and it is just what it sounds like. This evening provides an opportunity for the inexperienced turner to benefit from the experienced members of our Guild. In my opinion it is the best and most underused benefit our Guild has to offer. Come out and try different lathes, different tools and learn different techniques. If you want to learn about anything related to turning, please speak to Norm and he will do his best to arrange it. This evening is only as good as those who show an interest in it. We have a wealth of experience just waiting to be unleashed. Our mandate it to teach. Come out and learn in a friendly, supportive environment. **REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY SHIELD**

Joanne

# SUPPLIERS FORUM

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## WOODHAVEN

**DOMESTIC WOODS & BURLS**

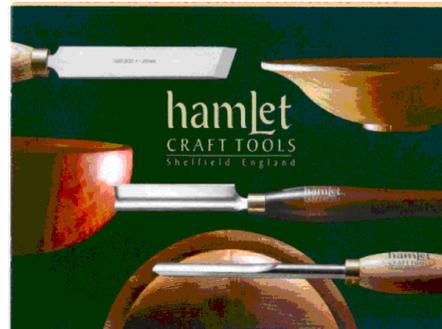
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Saturday 10 am - 3 pm

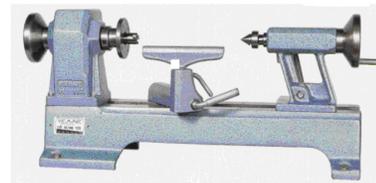
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6618 MCNIVEN RD.  
KILBRIDE LOP 1G0

## CHARTER TO ST. PAUL AAW SYMPOSIUM

For those interested in attending the AAW Symposium held at the River center Convention Center on July 6-8 in St. Paul, Minnesota, John from Woodchuckers is arranging a bus charter. It will leave from the school and proceed to Buffalo or Sarnia, depending on who is being picked up. The charge for the bus tickets is now \$145.00 return trip. Accommodation at The Days Inn ranges in price from \$125.00 each (Canadian) per night for a single room, \$65.00 each with two per room, \$45.00 each with three per room and \$34.00 each with four per room. These prices include all taxes and a hot breakfast. One bus with a limit of 50 people has been chartered. Already almost half of the seats are spoken for. The cutoff date will be the end of May. John will be providing more information about the schedule as it becomes available. Stay tuned!



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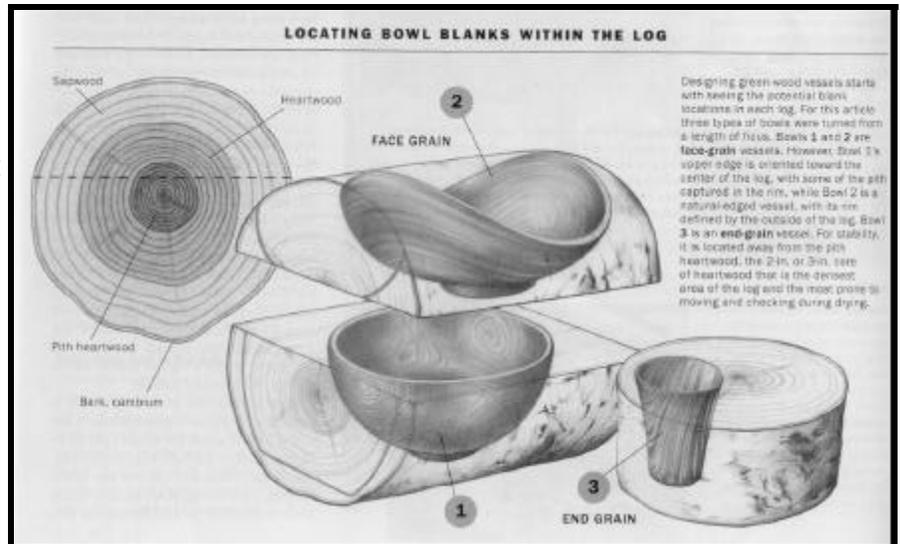
OUR CATALOG IS AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEB SITE  
<http://www.jacquescoulombe.com>

## TURNING GREEN WOOD

Taken from Issue No. 147 of Taunton's Fine Woodworking Magazine February 2001

Article author Howard Lewin gives six reasons for turning green wood:

1. Fresh logs are often free.
2. Wide selection of species.
3. Large blanks are easy to come by.
4. Green wood cuts fast with little dust.
5. Easier to turn thin wall and unconventional shapes.
6. Final shape changes during drying.



*It is possible to turn and dry green bowls successfully without the need for polyethylene glycol, complicated procedures or other hocus-pocus.*

*Most beginners run into trouble cutting the log down the middle. When cutting a log lengthwise it is tempting to set it on end and cut down. This is slow going because you are cutting into end grain the entire length of the log. Lay down the log and cut parallel to its length. You'll get longer shavings and a faster cut (see chainsaw info on page 5).*

*Don't cut wood into blanks until you need them. Sealed ends should stay check free for a few months, depending on local environment. Band saw halves into blanks using a skip-tooth blade with 3 or 4 teeth per inch.*

*Mounting is best done with a face-plate with a minimum of six #10 screws, 1 to 1 1/4". Adjust the speed and tool rest often while cutting. An excellent safety precaution is to keep the lathe's drive belts loose enough that they will slip should the gouge get caught in the work. Slide the tailstock and live centre up against the blank for added holding power while roughing and shaping the outside of the bowl. Use long, hefty bowl gouges to avoid tear out. All checks must be completely turned out, or they will grow later.*

*Once the outside is shaped, slide the tailstock away and begin the hollowing process. Turn to a uniform thickness of 1/4" to 1/2" (thinner for harder woods as they move more). Use light and sound to guide you in measuring uniformity. Be consistent in wall and bottom. Once you begin to hollow, speed is of the essence. The bowl will start changing shape as it gets thinner and begins to shed water. With practice you will be able to turn a 12" bowl in 30 min. Start by plunging about 1" to 1 1/2" into the centre of the bowl and moving outward to the wall until 1/4" is left. Repeat this process, leaving 1/4" at the wall each time. This method leaves strength and rigidity at the base of the thin wall you are cutting. Do not hollow out the bowl and then try to retrace your steps and thin out the wall. It will be too soft and flexible for cutting.*

*There is an important difference in technique for hollowing end-grain and face-grain bowls. For an end-grain bowl, after plunging into the centre, pull the cut toward you and away from the centre. This way, the fibers you are cutting are supported by the fibers behind them, and you are not cutting directly into the grain. For a face-grain bowl do the opposite. After plunging into the centre, start at the outside of the plunged hole and cut away from yourself, toward the centre of the bowl.*

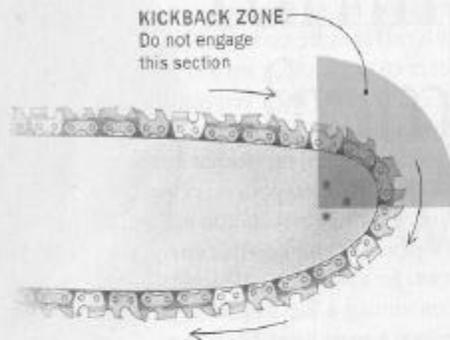
*Allow surface to air dry before sanding (a few hours to a day depending on the climate). If you power sand use a low speed and avoid pressure in one area as the heat build-up will cause the bowl to crack. Wet sanding is also o.k. Place the wet bowl into two or three paper bags and seal well. When the bags are bone dry the bowl is dry.*

*If you choose your bowl blanks for movement, mysterious events take place inside these brown bags.*



## CHAINSAW RELEASES BLANKS FROM LOGS

The first step in turning a green bowl is chainsawing. A 16-in. bar is big enough for most work yet easy to handle. The author uses a gas-powered chainsaw outdoors and an electric one inside. As always when chainsawing, beware of kickback when the tip of the bar is buried in the wood.



### CROSSCUTTING



*The first slice gets rid of small checks at the end of the log. Any cracks must be eliminated, or they will grow later during drying.*

*The next crosscut establishes the length of the blank. Be sure to raise the log off the ground slightly to protect the saw teeth, and wedge it to prevent rolling.*



*Use a marker to plan your bowl-blank locations. This ficus log will yield two face-grain bowls, one with the pith heartwood near its rim, and the other with natural (bark) edges. Ficus, known commonly as a narrow tree used for interior decoration, grows quite large in warm climates.*

### CUTTING LENGTHWISE

*Lay the log on its side. Placing the log on its end to make the cut (inset) means you'll be cutting into end grain the entire way. The sawdust will be fine, and the going slow. Cutting the log on its side will be much easier. Clear the long shavings often by lifting the saw out of the cut. When the saw's tip is buried in the wood, never tilt the bar forward or dangerous kickback will result.*



## EVENTS AND DEMOS

**January 18, 2001**  
GHWG Annual Meeting

**February 15, 2001**  
**Doug Magrath**  
Turning Bowls and  
Running your own turning business

**April 21, 2001**  
**Jack De Voss Seminar**  
**Purchase your tickets soon!**

## COMING EVENTS

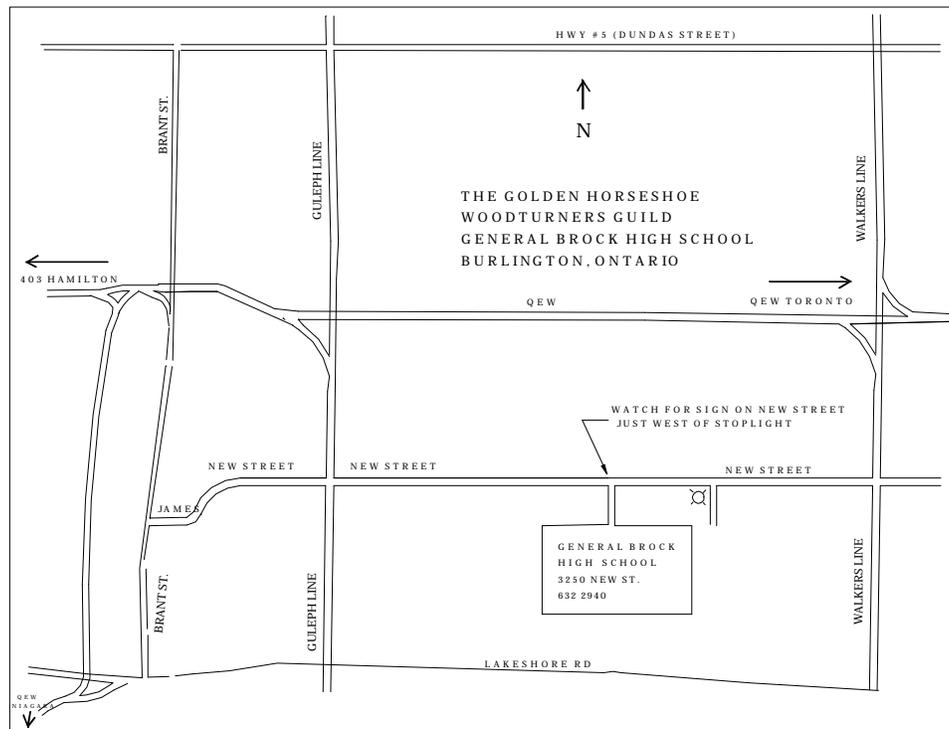
**The Hamilton Wood show**  
January 26, 27, 28, 2001  
Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum  
Hamilton, Ont  
Friday: 11:00-8:00  
Saturday: 9:00-5:00  
Sunday: 9:00-5:00  
(905)575-0450  
website: [www.ontario-woodshows.com](http://www.ontario-woodshows.com)

**The London Wood show**  
February 2001  
Progress Building, London Fairgrounds  
London, ON  
(519)455-5888

**The Windsor Wood show**  
February 2001  
Ciociaro Club  
Oldcastle, ON  
(519)734-8006  
website: [www.epsglobal.com](http://www.epsglobal.com)

**The Canadian Home Workshop Show**  
March 2-4, 2001  
International Centre  
Toronto, ON  
(416)798-7103  
[www.canadianhomeworkshop.com](http://www.canadianhomeworkshop.com)

**The K-W Wood show**  
March 2001  
Bingeman Park  
Kitchener, ON  
(519)657-8646  
website: [www.woodshows.com](http://www.woodshows.com)



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## THE MARKETPLACE

Items will appear in this column for two consecutive months. If you sell them before that, please let us know.

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ent chucks  
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Phone (519) 443-5369 Fax (519) 443-7496  
e-mail: chalet@kwic.com

Annual Fees run from January to December at a cost of \$40.00. There is a one time membership fee of \$10.00. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month for Hands-on night (members welcome), and the third Thursday of the month for Demonstrations. Contact any member of the executive for more information about becoming a member. The Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild extends an invitation to all members to become more involved within the Guild. The deadline for submissions to The Chip Flyer is the 25th of each month.