



New Members Information

“What’s a woodturner?” - a question that is often asked in social gatherings. It is not possible to answer this question in one sentence. To describe a woodturner you need to understand that woodturners, or just turners, come in all sizes, shapes and walks of life - from retired curmudgeons to world-renowned scientists. They are pre-teens to over-the-hill folks and in many cases many hills. However, they all have one thing in common. Whether or not it is a misplaced gene remains to be seen, but they all love the solitude of wood, lathe & self. They are mesmerized by transforming the natural wonder that is wood into a work of art. From novice to expert, this seems to be the unifying attraction - the taking of oneself to another dimension of concentration and cleansing the mind of all else save for the oneness with the wood. They are fascinated by the effect of creation of an object from such a simple material. Though the end product, or piece as turners like to call it, come in many forms, from simple candle sticks to massive urns made from thousands of small bits stuck together with glue, each piece needs some time spinning on a lathe to be formed. So who is a woodturner? They are designers, fabricators, technicians, craftsmen, artists, creators, but most of all they are common folk with a passion “to just make stuff”. They are not recluses however, they love to gather in small or large groups to compare and share, to discuss and pontificate, to brag and congratulate, to teach and be taught and to share good times.

submitted by Merv Graham

*Welcome to the Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild.
We hope your evening will be enjoyable and informative.*

Things to know:

WAIVER FORMS

All meeting participants, whether members or guests, are required to sign a waiver form when they arrive. If you haven’t done so already, please ask for a form at the reception desk.

COMMUNICATION

- From time to time you will receive reminder notices and information about wood sources through bulk email distribution. **Please ensure that your email address is kept up to date with the registrar.**
- If you have any questions prior to the next meeting you can email info@gvwg.ca for assistance.
- The New Members Coordinator is available at the meetings to assist you with your orientation.
- Different members are scheduled each meeting to be “greeters” who will circulate through the members and introduce themselves. These volunteers are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

USUAL MEETING AGENDA

6:30-7:30 P.M.

- **Tech Talk**
 - Discussion panel generally related to “How do I...?”
- **Focus on Form and Finish**
 - Members bring questions on issues they may have with the design or finish of a piece. Other members comment (constructively) on design alternatives and alternate methods of finish or technique.
- **Focus on Fundamentals**
 - A demonstration of one of the many fundamental operations or tools turner use
- **Club Library**
 - Woodturning resource material are available for your use as follows:
 - Used magazines are for sale
 - Books - \$5.00 deposit for the month, refunded when the book is returned in good order
 - Dvds - \$10.00 deposit which is refunded when Dvd is returned in good order

7:30-8:30 P.M.

- **Main demonstrator**
 - Topics include turning techniques, finishing, surface treatment, safety and many other turning related topics.
- **Coffee/tea break**
 - Note that members supply goodies about once per year
 - See newsletter to see if you are scheduled to bring snacks to the next meeting
 - Coffee is available by donation. Please bring your own mug.

8:45-9:30 P.M.

- **Business portion of the meeting**
- **Instant gallery**
 - Members bring their work to display for others to see.
 - Fill out info card. Info card is downloadable from the website or available at the table
 - Prize draw for entrants
- **President’s Challenge**
 - New challenge every month
 - Prize draw for entrants
- **Turning 101**
 - Display of the activities of the current 101 session
 - Prize draw for entrants

WEBSITE: WWW.GVWG.CA

- Newsletter every month
 - Check to see if you are scheduled to be a greeter or a food supplier
- Calendar of events
- Photo gallery
- Executive contact list
- Much, much more

TURNING 101

- Throughout the year the club conducts a 2 or 3 session “Beginners Workshop Series” focusing on basic skills and equipment used by woodturners.
- Sessions are limited to 6 participants. These classes are open to all club members regardless of skill level.
- The intention is that students will go home and practice the skill at least one evening after each session. When they return for the following session, they can discuss any questions or difficulties they have experienced while turning on their own. The club workshop volunteers will also be able to review the turners techniques to ensure that they are not developing any unsafe or poor turning habits.
- Pre-registration and prepayment are required. See Peter Hill for session information and to register. Participants are required to be active members.
- The number of sessions in the series (2 or 3) will be decided based on the experience and needs of the registered participants.
- Classes are held on predetermined weekends from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. at the Coquitlam KMS Tools in their classroom upstairs in the warehouse building.
- Cost is \$40 per session. Participants must pay for the entire series. No refunds for missed classes.
- Participants are encouraged to bring their own tools and safety equipment.
- Wood for training projects will be supplied.

VISITING DEMONSTRATORS:

- Guest Demonstrators brought in about 4 – 6 times each year.
- Demonstration on Saturday at Sapperton Hall - \$35 to attend – no limit of attendees
- Demonstrator leads a workshop on the following Sunday – cost is \$160 – usually limited to 6 participants. Early registration is advised as classes fill quickly.
- Sunday workshops are held at the Coquitlam KMS Tools in their classroom upstairs in the warehouse building.
- **These demonstrations are highly recommended for all skill levels. They are not just for experienced turners**

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION IN ALL ACTIVITIES.

- **Set up and take down tables and chairs for all meetings** (*many hands make light work*)
- Participation in outside demonstrations (not just turners – i.e. Brentwood demo)
- Participate in executive positions: ie. Member at Large
- Ask our volunteer coordinator how you can help

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS (AAW)

Consider joining the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). We are a chapter of the AAW.

<http://www.woodturner.org/>

Can't decide? Try the free 60 day Guest Membership at

<http://www.woodturner.org/page/GuestMemberLanding>