

Woodturners Guild of Ontario

This years club competition was combined with a half day seminar featuring club members demonstrating different techniques. After lunch the awards were handed out for the three categories: Novice, Intermediate, and Open. For a breakdown of the winners [Click here](#)



Hook Tool Demonstration



Small Scale Turning Tools



Sharpening



Pens (Gotcha Mike!!!)



Water-based Dying



Goblet Turning (Nice smile Bob!)



A sample of the Entries



And another...



And another...



And another...



And another...



One of my favorites

The Judge!!!



The Winners!

Novice



1st Place
Tom Conaty



2nd Place
Irwin Seidman



3rd Place
Richard Pikul

Intermediate



1st Place
Don McNiven



2nd Place
Alan Newell



3rd Place
Don McNiven

Open



1st Place - Bob Rollins



2nd Place - Bob Rollins



3rd Place
Roly Anderson



Woodturners Guild of Ontario

2001 Club Competition Winners

Novice

1st Place - Ray Young



2nd Place - Leslie Fontaine



3rd Place - Robert Townsend



Intermediate

1st Place - Ken Lorenz



2nd Place - Don McNiven



3rd Place - Peter Steenwyk



Open

1st Place - Bob Rollings



2nd Place - Mark Salusbury



3rd Place - Murray McLeod





Woodturners Guild of Ontario

Gallery

(click on thumbnails for larger image)

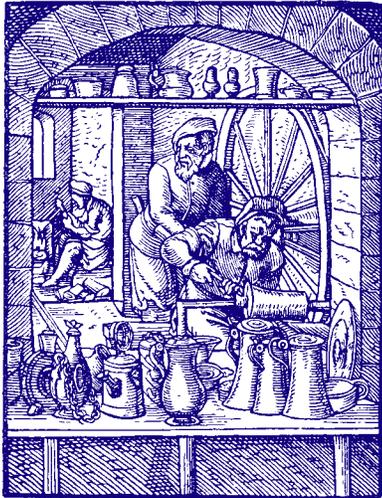












WOODTURNERS IN A
METALSPINNING SHOP
woodcut from 1568

WGO Woodturning Competition

The First Major Woodturning Competition of 2001 will take place during the February 20th meeting of the WGO. There will be three levels of entry:

Novice: any turner who has not won in any competition as yet.

Intermediate: any turner who has won a place in any competition at the novice level.

Expert: any turner who has won a place in any competition at the intermediate level.

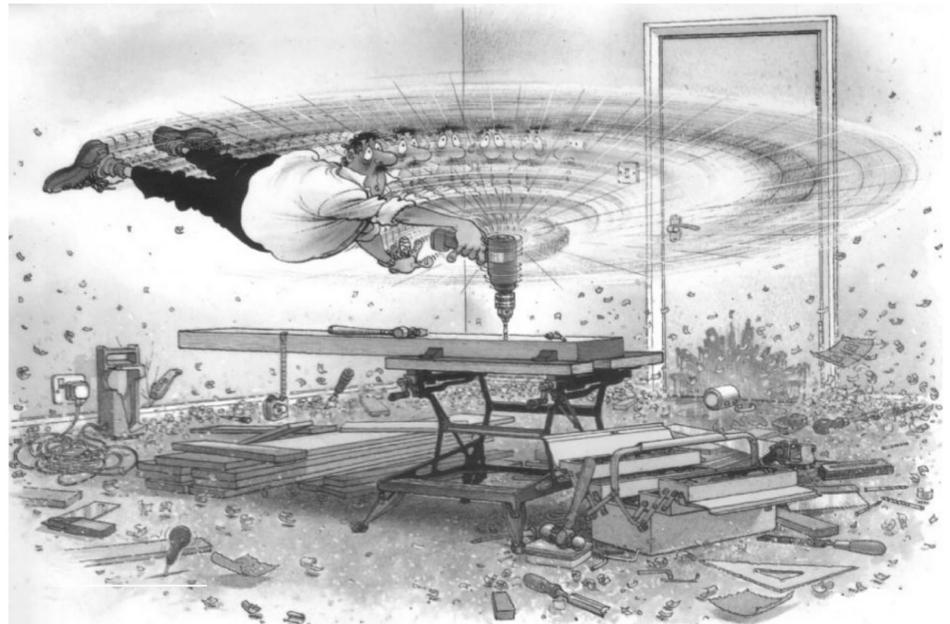
Master Class: this is an optional level where the turner has the option to enter works that will be available for either show and tell or for critique by the competition judge.

The prizes in each of the first three levels will be:

First Place: \$75.00 gift certificate

Second Place: \$50.00 gift certificate

Third Place: \$25.00 gift certificate
I would like to stress that the



"Don't forget, if it jams, take your finger off the trigger!!!"

**WGO's website
has changed!!!
www.wgo.ca
Check it out!!!**

Inside This Issue

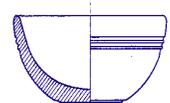
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novice level will be judged more on the turning itself and not the sanding or finishing. The judge will look at the piece and be aware that as a novice turner the level of sanding and finishing of the piece will improve as the turner gains experience. It is an opportunity for the first - time turner to place their work among other first-timers, for pride and comparison. We may come to the realization that our work is not as bad as we think.

The **intermediate and expert levels** will be judged both on visual reaction and the skill shown in the finished product.

I wish All Good Luck and look forward to a big turnout from our members at all levels.

Rick Biggs



Executive Shavings

Bob Saunders, President

Happy New Year Everyone! We are now almost half way through our WGO season. We have already had a major competition and two demonstrations by world class turners. By all accounts the Andre Martel Saturday seminar was a resounding success as was Clay Foster's evening demonstration.

The Ontario Open Competition was again a success with many entries from across Ontario. Many thanks to the Competition organizers and those who helped out during the three days of the demonstration. I was a little disappointed, though, in the number of entries from WGO members. It would appear this type of competition is not a priority for most of you.

Our sponsoring partner for this Competition, Lee Valley Tools, has informed us that they are unfortunately unable to continue to offer a venue. After consulting with the Competition Committee the Executive has decided not to look for another venue for an Ontario Open Competition but to replace it

Woodturners Guild of Ontario

Newsletter is published at least 4 times per year (September, December, March & June) by the Woodturners Guild of Ontario. Published by Bernice Green.

You may reach us at:

WGO

C/O Chris Darrach (Secretary)
96 Ritchie Avenue
Ajax, Ontario L1S 6S2
Club web page:
<http://www.wgo.com>

Deadline for articles, ads, letters, etc. is the 5th of the month prior.

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LETTERS WELCOME

We welcome your letters provided they deal with woodturning. Letters must be signed and include your full name, address and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit, revise, or reject any letter or articles.

with a special club competition. This competition is still in the planning stage but is expected to be open to WGO members and held in conjunction with a "**Demonstration Saturday**". There will be more information about this later. Ken Bauman has agreed to organize this day with help from Michael Hofstetter and Jim Anderton. Current plans are to hold it in late October, 2001. We are hoping that this new competition/demonstration format will generate more interest from members.

This season's in-house competition will be held at our February meeting and will follow similar lines as last year's except that it will feature an Open category in addition to Novice and Intermediate. Please see other information in this issue. This is an excellent way to participate in your club and learn how to improve the design and execution of your pieces and allow others to benefit from seeing your work. I urge all of you to enter at least one piece.

By now, many of you will be aware that the Canadian Woodturners Association has lapsed into dormancy. No one has come forward to take over the CWA executive positions. Several of us are concerned about this and feel that a national organization is needed. We met during the AAW Symposium in Charlotte and a copy of the results of this meeting has been sent to CWA members. If you agree that a national organization is needed please let your ideas and thoughts be known. I intend to get a dialogue going via e-mail with other concerned turners with a view to eventually coming up with a formula for national woodturning organization. Please let me know if you wish to have a copy of the report of our meeting. If you have any thoughts on the subject please send them to me at bobanne@home.com. I will add you to our e-mail list and share you thoughts with others.

From time to time members provide me with suggestions, complaints and helpful advice. I listen and discuss these with the Executive. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any comments, ideas, etc. to improve the WGO.

Notes on the Andre Martel Seminar . . .

On Sat Nov 25, Andre Martel gave a seminar at Markham District High School. There were about 30 persons in attendance. Of course at a seminar like this, different members of the audience learn different things, by virtue of their varied experience and background. Here are a few of my personal thoughts on the matter.

In some ways it reminded me of the Mick O'Donnell seminar of 5 or 6 years ago. Both Mick and Andre have given a lot of thought to how the tools are actually removing wood, and the consequences of not thinking about the direction of the fibres and the grain. I thought that Andre covered this as well as anybody that I have seen. We should all think more about this. He did point out that a deep fluted bowl gauge, depending on how it is used, may be cutting on the sides of the tool before scraping on the bottom of the tool, all at the same time, on the same cut!

Andre uses a side grind gauge, as do many other turners, and he shear scrapes, cuts and scrapes with it. It is a very versatile tool, although he did not spend his time teaching a lot about its use. He pointed out the importance of having a slight convex curve on the top surface, to avoid the corners digging in, but it also allows for easier minor adjustments in the shape of the cut.

Andre turned a lamp shade and used the amount of light penetration to gauge the wall thickness, as do many turners like Jean Paul Fennell and Frank Sudol. He reminded us that the light penetrates end grain better than side grain, and for an end-grain turning like his lampshade, that was an added plus, as it ensured that the lamp shade was thicker where it

(continued on page 3)

Andre Martel (continued) needed more support!

An interesting concept was the way he turned a step on the bottom of his turning. This step allowed remounting the piece after it was nearly finished. Thus, when there was just a tiny bit of turning to do he could carefully grasp the bottom and not leave chuck marks on the final turning, and the chuck marks from the original turning were turned away!

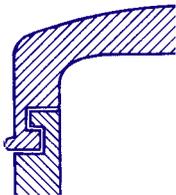
Andre spent quite a bit of time talking about his hook tools, and many were admirably impressed, at least judging by the flash of cash during lunch! He pointed out that the hook tools should have a handle that allows you to pull on the tool and the handle shape should be such that it is easy to pull and not slide through your hand.

Andre also spent time looking at the shape of the bowl gauges. Some have a flute which is shallow, some are deep, some have a flute which is elliptical, some are V-shaped, some are U-shaped. It was interesting, and different, I thought, to see how he used a square-ended bowl gauge to cut like a skew.

Andre showed us how the hook tools remove a lot of wood in a hurry, because the cutting edge goes between the fibres. The angle also causes the wood to come flying out of the piece in long ribbons, making short order of getting the shavings out, as opposed to a scraper. Not to mention the smoother surface! He also mentioned that one of the drawbacks of the ring tools (like the "Termite") is that they clog up easily, particularly so on wet wood.

I found the presentation to be thought provoking, educational and overall excellent.

Roly Anderson



SAFETY! **A Matter of Self Respect**

What is safety? A simple question. Surely, everyone knows what safety is? Right? Safety is using guards, push sticks, eye protection, dust masks, etc. Safety is also taking precautions and think smart — planning ahead. These are the right answers.

Safety is an attitude, a person a statement that an individual makes about him/herself.

But safety is an even more fundamental matter. It's an attitude, a personal statement that an individual makes about him/herself. A matter of self-respect. Consider these common examples. You wouldn't take a bath with a plugged-in radio sitting on the edge of the tub, would you? Nor would you use a knife to pry a piece of stuck bread out of a glowing toaster. Ridiculous and obvious, right?

Sure . . . but how many folks who said "*not me*" to these situations would still operate a table saw or jointer without guards or push-sticks? Unfortunately, a few people continue to side-step safety and make injury a very real possibility. Let's face it, tools and machines won't hurt you unless you let them.

. . . tools and machines won't hurt you unless you let them

Newer power tools are designed and engineered to be extremely safe to use. Of course, if the operator deliberately defeats the guarding system or refuses to observe rudimentary safety precautions, all bets are off and the potential for an accident increases rapidly.

Studies have shown that the few people who do incur injuries often sensed that an accident was coming! They reported that "some-

thing just wasn't right;" they were preoccupied, fatigued or hurriedly taking a shortcut from the safe way of doing the job.

At this point, you may be wondering what you can do to best promote safety in your shop. The answer is quite simple...you must develop an attitude of safety to guide you through your work. Safety must become an involuntary act — a habit — something that's an automatic part of your routine. Just as an experienced pilot goes through a checklist prior to every flight, or you buckle your seat belt as soon as you get into the car, safety must become a part of your normal behavior, whether it's in the air, on the road or in the shop.

Safety is a way of thinking. And the only way to develop safe-thinking habits is through repetition and constant vigilance, with safety in mind. Consider your other habit patterns — things you do without

(continued on page 4)

Up-Coming Events

Jack de Vos - May 5th.

Noted for deep hollowform bowls. Jack de Vos, from Western Australia was a featured turner in the March 1999 issue, # 73 of the UK magazine "*Woodturning*" (See page 68 & 69). His turnings can be found in collections throughout Australia and overseas. Jack has developed his own unique hollowing tools with which most of his work is produced. He uses wood unique to Western Australia.

This is a special Saturday seminar. I usually list the event on the main page and link to the more detailed information in the upcoming special events.

The **January 16th** meeting will feature Michael Bonnycastle on inside bowl turning.

The **February 20th** meeting will be the club's annual competition and a presentation by Michael Hofstetter.

A Guild is a Two Way Thing

By Mark Salusbury

To paraphrase a familiar statement ***“Ask not what your guild can do for you; ask what you can do for your guild”***.

From many years of being quite active in clubs and associations I've learned that organizations like these are 'societies'. As with any society involvement brings with it a responsibility on the part of all members to both partake and actively contribute. Paying annual dues is not enough; that merely pays the bills. Active involvement is the life blood of a guild just as it is of any society.

‘You get back what you put in...Reap what you sow... what goes around comes around’.

Some recommendations based on the school of hard knocks:

- ◆ The guilds purpose, goals, aspirations and activities should be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws. These set the pace for all involvement. It is wrong for the Executive to ask the members what they want; this has already been set out. It is the responsibility of the executive to deliver this to the members.
- ◆ All regular meetings should be preceded by a business meeting with reports from all departments and committees. It is at this time, under 'new business' that members should make requests for changes and only at this time and in a democratic way.
- ◆ Members should be encouraged to propose suggestions for change, not sit silently and be upset when things aren't going their way.
- ◆ A 'facilitator' should be in charge of all meetings to moderate discussion and ensure proper pacing of the meeting. The facilitator should have absolute control of the meeting. The facilitator should be a member apart from the executive or any committee.

◆ All meetings should be composed of a balanced mix of business, presentations, fundraising, active demonstrations and socializing, governed by the facilitator.

◆ *“Special Interest Groups”* should be expected to make regularly scheduled presentations during guild meetings to inform the membership at large on their area of specific interest

◆ All members should ask themselves what skills or knowledge they would be willing to contribute to the guild in exchange for the benefits the guild offers them. If they are unwilling to contribute they should not bother joining.

◆ An *‘inventory of attributes’* for want of a title should be created along with an 'inventory of requirements' and members skills, knowledge or services be entered upon joining the guild so that when a function is required a member can be requested to contribute in that area. The member should be willing to help when asked.

◆ All members should be expected to accept a role on a committee or the executive for at least one term

◆ Members accepting a role on a committee or the executive should do so from a desire to give back something of themselves to the craft and the guild by contributing fresh energy, ideas and enthusiasm.

◆ Members of executives should never expect the help of others and get upset when it is not forthcoming. Find a satisfying, effective way to do the job; if assistance or guidance is needed, go to the members during the business component of a meeting, explain the project or concern and request assistance in a business-like way. Complaining is neither effective or acceptable and will only aggravate. The members should be willing to help when asked.

◆ One of the first duties a member of a committee or executive should do is identify a buddy or buddies to work loosely with throughout their term. This shares the workload, minimizes the chances of frustration and possibly grooms the next gen-

eration.

◆ *‘seniors’* and retiree members have both available time and wisdom to offer and should be encouraged to offer both as often as possible

◆ *‘juniors’* and employed members have energy, vision, physical and mental strength to offer and should be encouraged to assume the more demanding but perhaps less time consuming roles.

‘Quality’ is of more importance than 'quantity'. If guild members are unwilling to enrich 'society' by giving of themselves and/or participating in guild activities then they should ask to have their names removed from the membership list. While this would only be a regrettable second option, a reduced but active membership would solve more issues than it would raise, making guild meetings and activities happier and more vibrant experiences for those who are really serious about being an interested, caring/sharing member of the guild.

Conversely, if the members and the executive fail to contribute to the guild as a whole in active and imaginative ways the guild will falter; you don't have to look very far to see that.



Safety . . . continued

ever thinking about them — and make it a practice to incorporate safety among them.

There's an old saying that applies very well to woodworking safety — “plan your work and work your plan”. Think ahead and visualize your activities . . . making safety an important part of all your woodworking projects. When planning what you want to do with a tool or a machine, think first about what you must prevent . . . such as a kick-back, snag or binding.

Realistically, think about what that sharp, spinning cutter can easily do to you if you don't plan

(continued on page 5)

Just for Laughs

This is this cat
 This is is cat
 This is how cat
 This is to cat
 This is keep cat
 This is a cat
 This is fool cat
 This is busy cat
 This is for cat
 This is forty cat
 This is seconds cat

Now read the THIRD word of all the lines downwards and then you will understand what I mean!

.....

Frog Story

Gotta luv dem kids . . .

True story -

One of the teachers had a kindergartner come up to her and say that he found a frog. The teacher asked if the frog was alive or dead. The student said it was dead. The teacher asked how he knew. The boy said, "I pissed in its ear." The teacher said, "You what?" He said, "You know, I went to his ear and said, '**PSST!**' and it didn't move. So it must be dead."

.....

"I got kicked out of Riverdance for using my arms."

- Gary Valentine

"Luge strategy? Lie flat and try not to die."

- Tim Steeves

"There are only two reasons to sit in the back row of an airplane: Either you have diarrhea, or you're anxious to meet people who do."

- Rich Jeni

"I saw a woman wearing a sweatshirt with 'Guess' on it. So I said, 'Thyroid problem?'"

- Emo Philips

"Honesty is the key to any relationship. If you can fake that, you're in."

- Rich Jeni

All I Need To Know About Life I Learned From Trees

(author unknown)

- ◆ It's important to have roots. In today's complex world, it pays to branch out.
- ◆ Don't pine away over old flames.
- ◆ If you really believe in something, don't be afraid to go out on a limb.
- ◆ Be flexible so you don't break when a harsh wind blows.
- ◆ Sometimes you have to shed your old bark in order to grow.
- ◆ If you want to maintain accurate records, keep a log.
- ◆ To be politically correct, don't wear firs.
- ◆ Grow where you're planted.
- ◆ It's perfectly okay to be a late bloomer.
- ◆ Avoid people who would like to cut you down.
- ◆ Get all spruced up when you have a hot date.
- ◆ If the party gets boring, just leaf.
- ◆ You can't hide your true colors as you approach the autumn of your life.
- ◆ It's more important to be honest than poplar.

More food for thought . . .

Rose Veltheer "*Life is a very real dream.*"

Sri Harold Klemp "*Everywhere we go is a spiritual occasion.*"

.....

Safety . . . continued

ahead and keep safety foremost in your mind. Deal with the dangers, but also consider what that cutter can do for you, in terms of bringing out the beauty that's hidden deep inside every piece of wood.

Working with wood is a relaxing and rewarding way to spend your leisure time, and it can be even more enjoyable when you know that you're working safely. Remember, you are more important

than any woodworking project. With that in mind, virtually all woodworking accidents are preventable.

"Safety is such a minor investment when you consider the major benefits it provides. It's up to you!"

This article is directed to the total woodworking industry and woodturners are just a small part of this group. Safety is very much a part of our working environment, let it become just as important in our homes and our shops.

*The article **Safety! A Matter of Self Respect** has been reprinted by permission from the Shopsmith website at www.shopsmith.com.*

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WGO Mentors . . .

The following turners are willing to help you with your turning problems.

Call first!!

Martin Groneng, Peterborough
 Hollows, bowls, vases & finishes
 (705) 749-2459

Mark Salusbury, Bethany
 Faceplate turning (705) 277-1162

Robin Bryan, Markham
 Anything (905) 294-0914

Vince Lebert, Markham
 Spindle turning, Miniatures
 (905) 946-8956

Dave Moores, Orillia
 Anything (705) 326-2358

Murray McLeod, Richmond Hill
 Segmented turning (905) 883-3514

Merritt Long, Mississauga
 Lidded small candy bowls, boxes,
 pens, buffing system (905) 820-2684

Michael Bonnycastle, Scarborough
 Anything (416) 283-1938

Roland Anderson, Scarborough
 Hollow turning (416) 439-5708

Michael Hofstetter, Agincourt
 Green bowls, boxes, spindles
 (416) 291-0434

Bob Saunders, North York
 Bowles, peppermills
 (416) 222-2876

Rudolph Schafron, Toronto
 Green bowl turning finishing
 (416) 463-9683

Murray Webber, Toronto
 Bowls, rims, finishes (416) 482-2338

Buy & Sell . . .

Lathe - 12" x 36" Rockwell Beaver complete with motor, stand, H.S. tools, plates and live centre - \$300.00
 Brian Moreau (905) 725-4368

6" jointer - General International - \$300.00

1/2" drill - Freud - \$25.00

6" grinder - King - \$30.00
 Micheal Hofsteter (416) 291-0434

Carba-Tec Mini Lathe - as new, complete with all items needed including a custom made hardwood carrying case and drawer - \$300.00
 Merritt Long (905) 820 2684 or imlong@interlog.com

Burls For Sale
 Roger Banister (519) 428-1241

Woodturning Tools

Joe Werner (705) 749-1671

12" Nova Chuck with 3/4 HP variable speed, 2-6" face plates. 2-3" face plates, Nova chuck 90° tool rest and 4 turning tools - \$1500.00

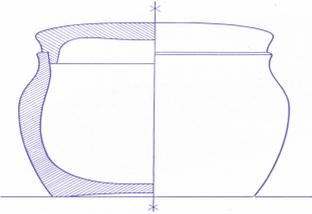
Guy Mechan at Woodhaven (905) 331-0085



Welcome to our newest Members . . .

Arthur, C. Randall, Toronto
 Blair, Andrea, Markham
 Burnham, Jack, Queensville
 Ciofani, Jean-Noel, Weston
 Deboo, Art, Cavan
 Elliot, Brian, Newmarket
 Engerer, Shirley & Gordon, Scarborough
 Fontain, Leslie, Etobicoke
 Furlong, Lorne, Keswick
 Harrington, Glen, Markham
 Holden, Richard, Downsview

Holmes, Dourglas, Etobicoke
 Imara, Jim, Scarborough
 Leering, Joe, Mississauga
 Lorenz, Ken, Port Hope
 Martin, W. Ken, Scarborough
 Mathieu, Greg, Etobicoke
 McNiven, Don, Newmarket
 Mielke, Bernie, Whitby
 Morrison, Donald, Scarboro
 Micholson, Bruce, Toronto
 Penny James, Markham
 Rogers, Mike, Ajax
 Sanders, Linda, Toronto
 Shuber, Jack, Toronto
 Townsend, Barbara & Robert, Unionville
 vanBelkam, Frank, Toronto
 Wassenaar, Siek, Stouffville
 Welch, Ed, Toronto



Woodturners Guild of Ontario - Guild Executive

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 kneeshaw@idirect.com

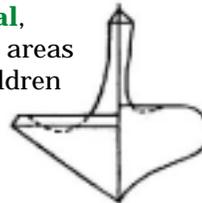
VIDEO & LITERATURE
 Rick Biggs
 (905) 727-6536
 email: woodturn@biggsgallery.com

SECRETARY
 Chris Darrah
 (905) 683-1813
 email: woodturn@idirect.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
 Dr. Joe Houpt
 (416) 489-9754
 email: jbhaupt@sympatico.ca

Books & Tapes . . .
Don't forget to bring all tapes and books to next the meeting for inventory or call Rick Biggs (905) 727-6536

Tops . . .
 Don't forget to turn some tops. Tops will be distributed at **Markham-Stouffville Hospital**, among areas that children visit.



Schedule for the Year 2000

19-September meeting
 03-October - hands-on
 17-October meeting
 07-November - hands-on
 21-November meeting
 05-December - hands-on
 12-December meeting

Year 2001

16-January meeting
06-February - hands-on
20-February meeting
 06-March - hands-on
 20-March meeting
 03-April - hands-on
 17-April meeting
 01-May - hands-on
 15-May meeting
12-June - Annual Meeting

The **Woodturners Guild of Ontario** invites you to become involved with your guild. For more information on how you can help please contact Bob Saunders, President or any of the above Directors.

The **WGO meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. at the Markham District High School, 89 Church Street, Markham in the woodshop at the rear of the school**