



GALWAY CHAPTER NEWS

Issue 58

May 2007

Presentation of CNC turning and more

Thirteen bowls were entered into the April challenge. Keep up the good work.

A short video presentation about automated turning left us marveling at what CNC machines are capable of. None of us can turn as quickly as the machines, but the machines failed to come to the meetings, don't participate in the monthly challenges and cannot drink beer. I suppose that makes us even.

Ambrose and Brid gave a power point presentation about Michael Broly's work. His unique and beautiful pieces must take ages to make. It is in great contrast to automated production. Our exhibition launched on the 22nd April. It is a fantastic celebration of the Chapters work. It was great to see you all there. George

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Chairman: John McGann 091-635354

Hon. Secretary: Ambrose O'Halloran 091-798225

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Committee members

George Anderson, Roger Greally, Martin Lodge

www.galwaywoodturners.com

Membership fees were due January 1st

Ordinary membership	€48
Family membership	€52
Student membership	€10
Associate membership	€10

Chapter Events 2007

- **January 25th A.G.M.**
- **February 8th Monthly Meeting**
- **February 22nd Workshop Brid & Ambrose O'Halaran**
- **March 1st Monthly Meeting in Quality Hotel Oranmore**
- **March 22nd Workshop in Des O'Halloran**
- **April 5th Monthly Meeting**
- **April 12th Workshop at George Anderson's**
- **April 22nd Launch of Exhibition**

- **May 3rd Monthly Meeting**
- **May 6th closed workshop with Elie**
- **May 12th One Day Seminar 2006 in Gort (Book now)**
- **May 13th Master-class with David Ellsworth**
- **May 24th Workshop Martin Lodge/Eddie Collins to be held in Corofin**

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- **June 7th Monthly Meeting**

CHALLENGE RESULTS MARCH 2007



1st Place
Niel O'Sullivan



2nd Place
Roger Greally



3rd Place
Tim Lydon

Keeping a balance George Anderson and Yutaka

On a warm fine April night we assembled at base camp at the bottom of Lough Atalia Grove and prepared to make our way to the summit for a shared workshop with George Anderson and Yutaka Shimizu. Rumors were that Martin Lodge and some Sherpa's had already made it, but no one was sure. After a long climb with stops for oxygen we reached the workshop - all 17 of us.

George welcomed us to his workshop and although small, still houses 2 lathes, his timber store and a workbench. George started to rough down a piece of pine with some knots in it on his still new Vicmarc VL300ESVX lathe.

There is a lot a skill involved in producing a good box and it is not by any means an easy demonstration to do. George paid careful attention to a scale drawing which meant he never really drifted off course. George gave a really good account of himself and produced a very nice finished box.

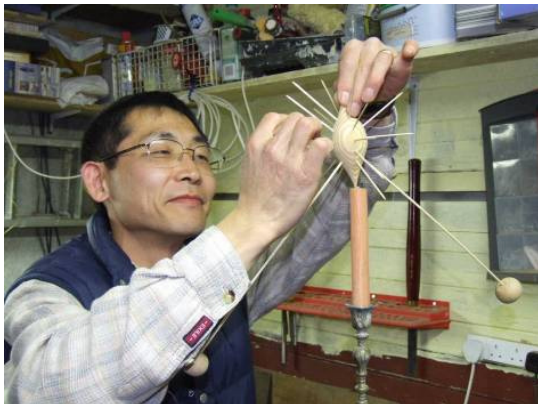
We were then treated to a fine tea break with home baked cakes which showed that Magali was busy working for this workshop too. As we sat, we admired George's handiwork in the house – sun room, stained glass etc.

After tea it was Yutaka's turn. This demonstration was the opposite of George's. No written blueprint but once again a very clear and definite idea of what he wanted to achieve.

The first problem Yutaka encountered was that the lathe was too high for him. Fortunately Martin Lodge and the Sherpa's had carried some ash planks up the mountain which came in very handy. Yutaka, dealing with a strange lathe and a chuck, that he was not familiar with, did really well and started to rough down a small piece of stairs handrail. He produced a basic shape coming to an acute point. Then with an electric drill he drilled the holes, apparently, at random and tooth picks inserted. Then two stabilising rods with counter weights added. The object was then placed on the headstock and after some careful adjustment balanced perfectly. This was an intriguing little project which shows that Yutaka is the most creative member of our group.

George and Yutaka are steadily progressing with their woodturning and are willing to push the boundaries for themselves. They are developing the depth of their knowledge and are great contributors to our group.

Thanks to George and Yutaka it was a great night and once we recovered from the altitude sickness, we all went home happy not to have missed this workshop. Ambrose





This Exhibition will be remembered

The exhibition officially opened on Sunday. It was justly one of the Galway chapters' proudest moments. It is the first time that the Guild has had an exhibition in a Museum in Ireland. This is a great way to promote woodturning ie. quality work, in a quality settings.. It has presented woodturning in a context not previously seen in Ireland. The City Museum is an ideal venue, it is great to have it in Galway City.

The good attendance on Sunday suggests that our collection will meet a large audience over the coming weeks. Hopefully many of the visitors will be local. This is the first time that the our work is available for public viewing. For years our club members have been working in isolation. We are an active club, we have a meeting on the first Thursday of the month, we have a workshop on the third Thursday of the month, we invite guest turners to demonstrate in our workshops, we run seminars for turners from all over the country, we are represented on the national committee and much more. YET NOBODY OUTSIDE OF THE WOODTURNING CIRCLES KNOWS THAT WE EVEN EXIST!!! What a shame. Few people know about the extremely good work that our chapter does. Lets make sure that this exhibition heralds a change. With this kick start we should get greater exposure, greater scrutiny, greater criticism and importantly greater interest in woodturning in Galway.

Galway City Council Arts Officer James Harold officially opened the exhibition. He introduced the audience to the history and inspiration for the exhibition. He spoke of the respect that the ancient Irish had for trees, of Eyre Square in the sixties with its large canopy and of the new Eyre Square.

Breandan O'Heaghra Deputy Director of the Museum talked of the importance of this initiative of bringing living crafts to the public. Museums should not only record past events, display ancient artefacts and photos. Museums can display current crafts, living history, be arks for contemporary practicing crafts. This is what the modern visitor expects. Galway is blessed with many active crafts people, many making a living from their produce. These artists make Galway and the West of Ireland special. These skills must be nurtured, respected, promoted, publicised, made tangible to the public. If the City Museum adopts a policy of displaying current artists/crafts then it will secure its future on everyone's itinerary.

The Neill O'Sullivan, Clare Gurley and Tim Lydon presented bowls to the two speakers and Sarah Gilespe. The bowls are beautiful pieces. Thank you for your generosity.

John McGann introduced each of the turners who have work on display. He talked about how the project evolved from an inspired idea to a wonderful collection of turned pieces. His words clearly came from the heart. He encouraged the audience to take advantage of the talents of the chapter members. To get involved in our activities. He recalled how large amounts of timber were removed during the renovations of Eyre Square. We all remember the protests against the tree felling . Truck loads of timber left for fire wood, cut into rings . All of that hardwood is now drifting around the sky as carbon dioxide. Our chapter were entrusted with a small number of assorted off cuts. We did our best to honour the trees by revealing their inner beauty. I think that we did ok.

As Brid O'Halloran so aptly noted '... and the tree lives on.'

George



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NEWS BITS

May Meeting
Thursday 3rd May
8.00 P.M
Quality Hotel Oranmore
Don't Miss it

The challenge piece is
to make
A Box

Please notify me of any
Items you wish to sell.
A free Advertisement
Will be placed here
For one month
(or longer if requested)

Monthly Turning Challenge Items 2007

<i>January</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Kitchen Item</i>
<i>February</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Bowl</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Wall Hanging</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Bowl</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Box</i>

*For this years Challenge the best of your 8 entries
will be considered. It's never too late to bring in a
piece for this year's Challenge.*

WANTED
ARTICLES
FOR
NEWSLETTER

Guild Events 2007

March 10th Gorey Chapter Seminar

April 7th Craobh Eo Chapter Seminar

April 21st Limerick Seminar

May 12 Galway Chapter Seminar

June 9th Ulster Chapter Seminar

July 14th Kerry Chapter Seminar

October 13th Ballina National Seminar