

The Turning Point

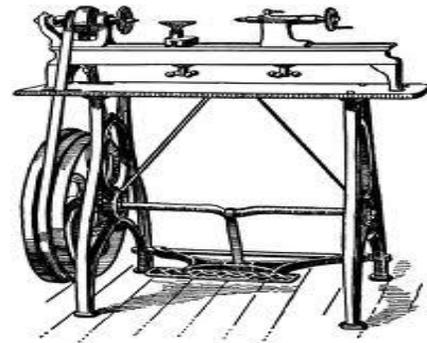
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From The President's Workshop

Don Moore

I wish each and every one of you the Best of Health and Happiness in the New Year 2011, may it be one filled with wonder and awe for you as well. As Maureen, "the First Lady", continues to endure treatments and procedures for cancer, we would like to thank all of you for your concern and your prayers. It does make a difference. I've always found all woodturners to have a distinct ability to share all of the knowledge that they possess about turning as freely as water flows. Another, is that they all care for one and other, like an extended family. It is the latter that I have become aware of recently with Maureen's health issues and more so with the fact that I haven't been able to do all that I had envisioned getting done



as the President of the Guild. So many of you have been there for me when needed and continue to be there, thank you...

I hope that many of you, let me say that I hope that *all* of you, plan on participating in the Lee Valley Competition later this month. The Events Committee have produced some terrific trophies for the various levels and categories, as well as a new People's Choice

trophy. We are once again endeavouring to secure prizes for everyone who participates in this event. Although the economic climate is not that favourable, we have good people knocking on doors, hopefully producing dividends.

Life is so short, I'm so fortunate to have been a woodturner for a good part of mine.

Keep your bevel rubbing,
Don

The Next NWG Meeting is January 17th

The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is

January 17th at Kent at MicMac Mall at 6:30pm

Go to page 15 for more info on the meeting topic!

The Secretary's Quill

Ted Monk

"All the best to you and yours in 2011!"

Happy New Year!

Membership Committee Report

Andrew Watson

In regards to 'manning' the table at Lee Valley during the competition we are still short of volunteers to help with the table. Several members have offered to do more than one session but that defeats the purpose of everyone pitching in and assisting.

The following spots are still open:

Thursday, January 27th: 1.00 p.m. –5.00 p.m.

Saturday, January 29th: 1.00 p.m. -5.00 p.m.

Monday, January 31st: 1.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 1st: 1.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Thursday, February 3rd: 9.00 a.m. –11.00 a.m.

"We are still short of volunteers to help with the table."

A relative new member of the Guild is on the list for Saturday February 5th at 9.00 a.m. However, he would appreciate a more, shall we say, "seasoned" member to be with him at the start.

The usual times are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. to closing.

There is NO reason why a time slot can't be shared!

Please email me directly at andrew.watson@ns.sympatico.ca. An early reply would be appreciated.

Events Committee Report

Robert Atkinson

The Events Committee met before our Guild meeting on December 13th 2010 for a wrap up meeting on our exhibition at NSCAD. We had a very successful exhibition and raised over \$2000.00 for the scholarship program. The feedback received by the committee has been very positive in regard to the number and quality of the pieces exhibited.

As with all things one does, there are some areas we felt we could fine tune for another exhibition. This would include such things as getting out invitations earlier, including a location map and the gallery hours for the entire exhibition. We hope to get together with NSCAD this month to determine the criteria for the scholarship.

We spent two more days in the shop working on the trophies for the upcoming Lee Valley competition. While they have taken more time than was originally thought, it would certainly be nice to be the winner of one to display for a year. Currently 6 of the 9 trophies are assembled, complete with the turnings mounted. Also, the Warman Castle Memorial (People's Choice Award) has been replaced with one more in line with the other trophies. Read more about the Trophy Workshops in the article on page 21.

The Committee will be meeting with the judges this month to discuss the Competition and our expectations from them.

As the Competition is just around the corner, I hope everyone is spending some time making shavings. ☺

“Currently 6 of the 9 trophies are assembled, complete with the turnings mounted.”

The Annual Competition - 2011

It's that time of year folks, time for the Nova Woodturners' Guild Annual Competition!

This year's Competition will be held from January 25th to February 5th at Lee Valley.

Entries must be received at Lee Valley between January 17th and January 22nd.

Pickup for your pieces must be made no later than February 12th.

The Award Ceremony will be held at 1:00pm on February 5th at Lee Valley. (This will be our February meeting instead of our usual date on the 3rd Monday of the month.)

The entry forms and Competition rules are now available on our website in the Documents section located here:

<http://novawoodturnersguild.com/documents.php>

Library Report – Books And Video

Richard Ford

Below are two lists of videos and books. Previously we have only posted the Overdue list but I think it would be helpful for you to be able to see what was issued at the last meeting so that you can round it up and bring it in.

Overdue:

- 25 May 2009 - Dan Graham - Practical Tips for Turners and Carvers - GMC Publications
- 29 Mar 2010 - Maureen Simpson - 1999 AAW National Symposium – Tacoma
- 29 Mar 2010 - Maureen Simpson - Beyond The Basic Bowl - Bill Grumbine
- 29 Mar 2010 - Maureen Simpson - Hollow Wood Turning - John Jordan
- 19 Apr 2010 - Alan Hunt - Turning Wood with Richard Raffan
- 19 Apr 2010 - John Fitzpatrick - 1999 AAW National Symposium Techniques Vol II
- 19 Apr 2010 - John Fitzpatrick - Turning Outside the Box - Beth Ireland
- 20 Sep 2010 - Russell Parrot - Turning Pens and Pencils - Kip Christensen & Rex Burningham
- 18 Oct 2010 - Peter Nichol - Woodturning Projects: A Workshop Guide to Shapes - Mark Baker

Issued at the last meeting:

- 13 Dec 2010 - Calum Ewing - Elliptical Turning An Introduction – David Springett
- 13 Dec 2010 - Calum Ewing - Intermediate woodturning Projects - The Best from Woodturning
- 13 Dec 2010 - Calum Ewing - Woodturning I with Bonnie Klein
- 13 Dec 2010 - Dianne Looker - Bowl Turning - John Jordan
- 13 Dec 2010 - Dianne Looker - Elegant Finials Third edition – By Cindy Drozda
- 13 Dec 2010 - Dianne Looker - Woodturning II with Bonnie Klein Bowls & Projects
- 13 Dec 2010 - Dianne Looker - Focus On Starting out Woodturning with Robert Sorby
- 13 Dec 2010 - Doug McGuire - Turning Boxes with Chris Stott
- 13 Dec 2010 - Gary Landry - From The Tree To The Table – Mike Mahoney.
- 13 Dec 2010 - Gary Landry - Dennis White Teaches Woodturning - Vol 2: Turning Bowls.
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ian Scott - Unique & Unusual Pens - Dick Sing
- 13 Dec 2010 - Robert Atkinson - Finial Star – By Cindy Drozda.
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ted Monk - The Skew Chisel - The Dark Side -The Sweet Side with Alan Lacer.
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ted Monk - The Son Of Skew with Alan Lacer
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ted Monk - The Basic Box - Turned Boxes by Ray Key
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ted Monk - The Capsule Box -- Turned Boxes by Ray Key
- 13 Dec 2010 - Ted Monk - The Finial Box -- Turned Boxes by Ray Key

“Please return library items on time so that other members can share this great resource”

Committee Members Still Needed!

We are still in serious need of more Guild Committee members as there are still many vacancies.

Presently we need a Fund Raiser Chair, a whole Social Committee and more members for the Membership and the Constitution and By-laws Committees. Unfortunately, the existing Executive and Committee members are stretched to the max and wearing multiple hats, and now stretched even further as Norm and Bill already had other roles within the Guild! We're looking for a couple of members not presently serving to come forward and take up the reins for this exciting and very important task.

Interested? Please contact any member of the Executive. Remember, with more funds the more fun things we can do!

The Turning Of Age Exhibition

Well, as everyone knows by now, the Turning of Age Exhibition held in November at the Anna Leonowens Gallery was a huge success! Not only we're we able to gain more exposure for our craft but we also raised over \$2000. for the scholarship fund.

With a 106 pieces on display from over 30 woodturners it was a 'show' indeed! Everyone was 'blown away' at the broad scope and the quality of turnings. There were pens, furniture, bowls, hollow forms, jewelry, clocks, sculpture and more!

Here are some photos from the gallery and a few randomly selected pieces:



The Turning Of Age Exhibition



The Turning Of Age Exhibition

The Exhibition was a project that began its planning in February of 2010. It opened on November 23rd and after a two week showing the Exhibition closed on December 4th.

The Closing Reception was attended by over 40 people. Guild member Alan Hunt closed the Exhibition with a round of thanks to NSCAD and to those that helped with the show. As well, Dr. Alföldy gave a brief overview of her impression of the Exhibition.

Here are a few photos from the closing reception:



The Turning Of Age Exhibition



The comments from the woodturners, the NSCAD staff and the public were all favorable. You can read some of these comments here:



Hats off to all those that participated and supported this fantastic event. Kudos!

The December 2010 Meeting – Segmented Turning

The December Guild meeting left a lot to be desired - a lot more time, that is! There just never seems to be enough time to pack everything into two short hours, but pack it in we did! We had a Show and Tell, business updates, social and library time and a fantastic presentation on segmented woodturning!

Guild member Gordon Marshall gave us an in-depth overview of what it takes to complete a segmented woodturning. If you ever had an interest in this style of woodturning, curious how it is done and wondering how to get started, this was the presentation to be at. Wow! What a presentation it was!

Gordon had just returned from the 2nd Annual Segmenting Symposium at Arrowmont in Gatlinburg, Tennessee a few weeks before where he spent a week with leading segmenting turners Malcolm Tibbetts, Bill Smith, Curt Theobald and others so it was very timely that he was scheduled to make this presentation.

He first explained what segmented turning is by comparing it to traditional turning and then he showed us the difference between the 'closed' and 'open' styles of segmented turning. Both use the process of gluing multiple, small pieces of wood together in a series of stacked 'rings' to create full size pieces with patterns and designs. Open segmented, as the name implies, utilizes spaces between the small pieces for added effect. Tonight's presentation focused on Open Segmented Turning.

Gordon then went into the tool requirements for this type of turning which, surprisingly, doesn't require anything more than those usually found in a woodworking shop; standard turning tools, band saw or table saw, planer, glue, sandpaper, etc. However, there are a few jigs that will have to be made for cutting the small pieces accurately and gluing jigs to ensure proper placement of the pieces. You will also require indexing capability with your lathe. If your lathe doesn't

have this feature you can always build your own indexing wheel. Gordon also suggests using a 7 1/4" blade on your table saw instead on the 10" blade to minimize the wind generated which can 'throw' your small pieces around your shop.

From here Gordon explained how to plan a segmented turning. This is where you decide the size, shape and design of the piece. With the design your imagination can pretty much run wild! There are two options for doing so; by using graph paper, ruler and calculator or by using a computer program. He explained how to determine the size (the width, length and angle) for each piece of wood depending on the diameter of the particular ring. He then explained how to make a cutting jig to accurately cut the pieces to size.

Once the pieces are cut and sanded it is time to assemble them. This requires another jig to place the pieces in their proper places which he explained how to make and to use. Gluing and holding each piece until it sets each ring starts to take shape. The inside is often turned as the rings are assembled and once all the rings are in place the outside is turned to shape. Gordon has found that wrapping the piece in stretch type packing tape helps to 'keep things together' when turning the inside of the completed vessel. Although there are no special turning skills required for turning segmented projects it obviously takes care, precision and patience.



The December 2010 Meeting – Segmented Turning

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Likewise, though the type of wood that you can use for segmented turning is virtually unlimited each small piece must be milled to the proper thickness and width. Exact measurements are critical to ensure that each piece fits together without cracks and with smooth seams. Grain alignment is also critical. The grain must all run in same direction to reduce expansion and contraction issues. Gordon pointed out that these considerations all lead to a successful result and that each one builds upon the other. Taking the time on each step ensures a better final result.

The finish used on these turnings can be the same as traditional turnings like an oil varnish mix (Minwax Antique Oil) or a spray finish that is fast drying. However, be aware how the finish you choose reacts with different the types of wood that you use.



The December 2010 Meeting – Segmented Turning

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Gordon used several mock ups and examples from his own segmented turnings as well as hand-outs in his presentation that really brought the concept to light, enabling us to see clearly what he was explaining. He freely shared his knowledge on the subject in a concise step-by-step manner, giving us a greater understanding of the process required. To further ensure our understanding Gordon closed his presentation with a very active Q & A session. He definitely peaked a lot of interest! :) Thanks, Gordon, this was a fantastic presentation!

The meeting began with a short business portion. Guild President Don Moore reminded us of the upcoming Annual Guild Competition in January. He reviewed the different categories and levels and how a portion of the entry fees will be donated to Feed Nova Scotia. He also made a request for members to volunteer to 'man' the booth at Lee Valley during the Competition as well as a request for volunteers to come forward for the Fund Raising Committee. He finished with a congratulations message to all those that participated in the success of the Turning of Age Exhibition.

Guild Treasurer, Alan Hunt, followed with an overview of the Turning of Age Exhibition announcing that to date over \$1700. had been raised through the purchase of the donated pieces! He also spoke on the scholarship that these monies will be used for and some insight into the criteria that we can set for the scholarship.

Event Chairman, Robert Atkinson, was next with a report on the progress of the trophy workshops, which are coming along well. He also told us that 31 letters regarding the Competition had been sent out to our sponsors.

The Show and Tell section featured four Guild members and their recent turnings. Stuart Taylor brought in a Cherry urn. Richard Ford brought in a Birch bowl and an Ash bowl. Dianne Looker brought in a couple of pens, letter openers, bottle stoppers as well as a couple of bowls that she did at a seminar with Marilyn Campbell that featured epoxy rings that incorporated gold dust and apple seeds. Glenn McCarron brought in a few Christmas ornaments that he said were inspired by the previous Guild meeting. Gary Landry brought in an adjustable style bottle stopper and a coffee scoop with a coffee bean handle.

The December 2010 Meeting – Segmented Turning

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The December 2010 Meeting – Segmented Turning

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And finally, the library was a beehive of activity with lots of members taking advantage of the all available books and videos.

Yep, with all this and 30 members in attendance we really packed it in tonight! It was great time!

NWG Meeting Calendar 2010-2011

Date	Subject	Location/Time
September 20, 2010	Shape & Design Part I with Alan Hunt The Shape Challenge with Dianne Looker Show & Tell – Look What I Did Over The Summer! Membership Dues & Fun Turn Wood Coupon	Halifax Specialty Hardwood 6:30-8:30
October 18, 2010	Robert Sorby Demo with Clive Brooks Pick up wood for The Annual NWG Fun Turn	Busy Bee Tools 6:30-8:30
November 15, 2010	Inside Outside Christmas Ornaments with Dan Graham Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
December 13, 2010	Segmenting Presentation with Gordon Marshall Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
January 17, 2011	Sharpening 102 with Doug McGuire and Gordon Marshall Show & Tell – The Shape Challenge	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
February 05, 2011	Annual Nova Woodturning Guild Competition	Lee Valley 1:00-3:00
March 21, 2011	The Annual NWG Fun Turn Show & Tell – Competition Entries	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
April 18, 2011	Hollowing Shape & Design Part II Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
May 16, 2011	Pen Turning – Cecil Canam Items Turned Similar To Pens – Ian Scott Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
June 20, 2011	Annual General Meeting Eccentric Woodturning with Don Moore Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30

More information on each meeting will be in the preceding month's newsletter.

Important Dates

- January 17, 2011 – Shape Challenge pieces are due at this meeting
- January 22, 2011 - Entry deadline for the Annual Nova Woodturners' Guild Competition
- January 25 - February 05, 2011 - Lee Valley Week of Woodturning
- February 05, 2011 - Annual Nova Woodturners' Guild Competition & Meeting
- February 12, 2011 – Deadline for pickup of Annual Competition pieces at Lee Valley
- March 21, 2011 – Annual Fun Turn pieces are due at this meeting

The January 2011 Meeting – January 17th

Sharpening 102 with Doug McGuire

Refining The Edge and Demystifying Sharpening

Guild member Doug McGuire is going to look at how we can develop a cutting edge that will stay sharp longer and look at the two tools we commonly use, the grinder and a belt sander, to get this sharp edge. Doug will be assisted by Gordon Marshall.

“Whether it is scrapers or gouges we can make them work better with a little knowledge and understanding of what we are doing when sharpening.”

This presentation promises to take us beyond the standard sharpening seminar that we are used to and into the realm of deeper understanding... ☺

The Shape Challenge Show and Tell

Your entry into the Shape Challenge that was introduced in September by Diane Looker is due this meeting!

The Shape Challenge Show and Tell will have a bit of a different format than our regular Show and Tell so:

Please bring in your piece hidden in a bag!

Please see Page 16 (the next page) for more info on the Shape Challenge

Other Show and Tell items are also welcomed at this meeting! Let's see what you've done! ☺

There with more great items for the 50/50 draw! Remember to bring a loonie or two!

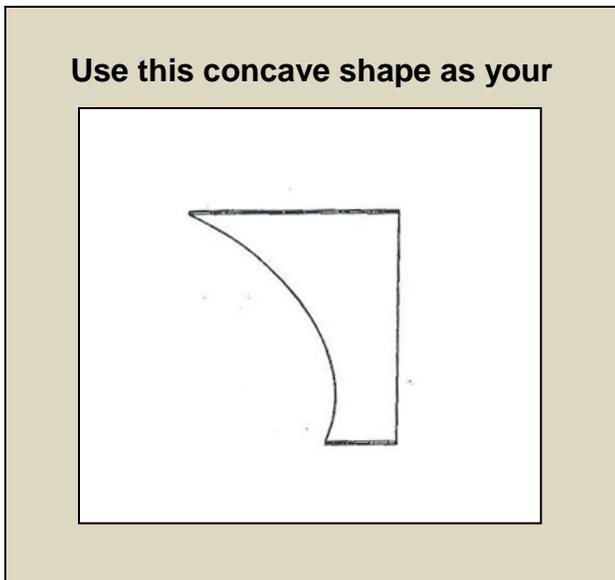
The January 17th, 2010 Guild meeting is at Kent Building Supplies 6:30 – 8:30

Kent is located at 35 Mic Mac Blvd. Dartmouth, NS B3A 4Y8.
A map is located here - <http://goo.gl/maps/dZG8>

It's going to be another great one. See you all there!

The Shape Challenge Is Due At This Meeting!

Don't forget, "The Shape Challenge" that Dianne Looker introduced to us at the September meeting is due at the meeting on January 17th. This is a great opportunity for all of the Guild members to participate in turning an item that will challenge us on a specific design. It doesn't matter what the item is as long as it follows the requested design.



The rules for this project are quite simple:

- Turn a bowl using this shape as a guide.
- You do not need to follow the template exactly but (a) make it a smooth, continuous curve and (b) make it this general shape.
- You can choose whatever wood, rim treatment, foot and finish; you can do a segmented or decorated bowl, as long as it is this shape.
- Bring your bowl to the January meeting hidden in a bag so it won't be seen until the appropriate time.

This promises to be an exciting challenge and everyone is asked to participate. Dianne mentioned that in addition to the fun and understanding that can be gained from this project it is a real eye popper when all the same shaped pieces are displayed together!

This part of Show and Tell tonight will have a different format than usual so please bring in your Shape Challenge piece hidden in a bag.

PLEASE NOTE!

Our February Meeting is on the 5th

We will be holding our February meeting in conjunction with our Annual Competition on February 5th. There will be no meeting at our usual time on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Meet Your Guild Members – Stuart Taylor

Ted Monk

When I arrived at Stuart Taylor's shop he was putting the finishing touches on a half dozen small Cherry Christmas bell ornaments. These, he said, were First Christmas ornaments that he and his wife, Avis, give to new-borns of family and friends.

He was working on the General, just one of the three lathes that he has in his shop. The other two, the Conover with the 8 foot bed that he built himself and an old Crescent, built by the Crescent Machine Company from Leetonia, Ohio in the 1940's or 1950's, sit idle for the moment. You can easily tell by the fresh shavings that the General and the Crescent get regular use, and lots of it. The Conover was built specifically to turn columns to support his front porch and is not used much anymore.

Stuart's shop is an unattached garage that was built large enough to house an RV, literally. There's no RV in it now so the extra large size and high ceiling leaves lots of room for his huge collection of bowl blanks, tools and wood.

And wood he has. In the late 70's Stuart built and operated a saw mill. A couple of his sons now operate the mill full time but he still keeps his hands in the business one day a week. Working this close to the source has led him to not only have access to a fair amount of wood but more importantly to appreciate and understand it. Bringing wood from the forest to the gallery has given him a deep rooted knowledge of our craft medium, how it reacts and how to work with it. It's from this background that he speaks and shares his wood wisdom. Yes, Stuart has wood wisdom.

He began turning in 1998 after a trip to a craft store in Newfoundland. He bought a turning and said, "I can do that" (and obviously he could! :)). He was able to pick up his first lathe, a General, at an auction at Sackville High School. He says that turning wasn't all that easy at first. Apparently he was putting too much metal on the wood. Shortly afterwards he met lifetime Guild member, Stephen Zwerling, who passed on some helpful tips and with a few new tools, "it was like night and day". From here, as he was able to repeat his positive attempts his confidence grew and he perfected his ability to turn.

He now turns a wide variety of items including urns, boxes, hollow forms, sculpture and even hats but two items stand out and could even be said to be identified with him. These would be the beautiful Cherry burl mushrooms and the long slender flowers that he creates. Both of these items clearly demonstrate his affinity for the outdoors and the care and precision needed to bring these to life. Stuart explained that you must see and turn first for shape, and then only through practise can you give insight into the subtle nuances that carries them over the threshold of art. He feels that his passion for art just came to him but adds that his mother had a great love and skill for carving. (He proudly displays a book case in his living room that features a beautifully hand carved flower design on the sides that she carved years ago.)

Stuart became a juried member of the Nova Scotia Designer Craft Council in 2002 and has participated in many of their exhibitions and shows. He now does his sales through self promotion and word of mouth. Avis diligently heads up this area of his art and with their in-home gallery they can easily show any prospective buyer many pieces that will surely tempt any desire.

Meet Your Guild Members – Stuart Taylor

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Meet Your Guild Members – Stuart Taylor

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Meet Your Guild Members – Stuart Taylor

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Stuart says that he has always been a "hands on type of guy", which led to careers working in construction, as a crane operator, as a boom truck operator and driving heavy equipment. He also worked for the Municipality of Hants County as their Manager of Landfill Operations for 20 years. He left that 8 years ago and now works a couple of days a week for a local company sorting scrap metal and doing metal repairs.

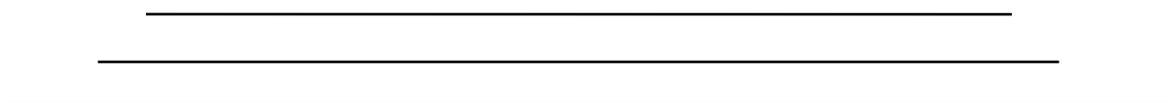
This familiarity and knowledge of metal has allowed him to make his own turning tools and accessories like thickness gauges and Cole jaws and, of course, the Conover lathe bed.

Together, Stuart and Avis have five sons, all grown men now, and four grandchildren, three girls and a boy. They live in Middle Sackville, in a home that they have been periodically renovating over the years. A recent renovation, that started innocently enough as a wood stove replacement, shows that he is also a pretty good brick layer and stone cutter too. :)

When asked if he had any hobbies Stuart was quick to say that turning has pretty much taken all his time except for a bit of gardening. However, he mentioned that he once was an avid stamp collector, focusing on British Empire stamps. This was a hobby that was passed down from his father, of which he still has a good collection of his father's stamps. Stuart feels that, unfortunately, in recent years with the proliferation of available stamps the fun has gone out of stamp collecting.

Stuart is an avid Guild member, a definite regular at our meetings and often with Show and Tell items. You will always hear him speak candidly, sharing his experience, explaining in finest detail the creative process of the particular piece. In 2009 he took 1st place in the Nova Woodturners' Guild Annual Competition Open Spindle category. This year he supplied the wood for the Annual Fun Turn and most recently he donated a top, a long stemmed flower piece, for one of our new trophies. An avid Guild member indeed!

It appears to be destiny that with Stuart's background in working the forest and with metal that he creates beautiful works of art by putting steel to wood. A walk through his shop, his home and his gallery shows that he may have started by putting too much metal to the wood but he has now obviously found the right balance!



The One Day Trophy Workshop

Starting with the 2011 Nova Woodturners' Guild Annual Competition the trophies that will be awarded that will remain in the winner's possession for the year and then returned to be awarded to the winner of the following year. Each winners name will be engraved on a nameplate creating a history of past winners.

The Events Committee volunteered for a one day trophy workshop to make the nine required trophies, one for 1st place trophies in each level of the three categories; Faceplate, Spindle and Pens. The tops for the trophies are being made by various members of the Guild, each reflecting the trophy's category. The Warman Castle trophy, for the People's Choice Award, will also be redesigned, making it smaller and more portable. The top will obviously remain.

Workshop Day I

Don and Robert met at Ted's shop in mid-November for the first session of the Trophy Workshop and the day began with a strategy meeting that charted a smooth course of the rest of the day. Fresh coffee and just-baked cinnamon biscuits facilitated the thought process necessary to plan the steps that would see us through the day. Occasionally this process had to be revisited. :)

The rest of the morning was spent dimensioning the wood, beautiful Walnut that was purchased from Halifax Hardwood Specialties, with the joiner and planer. Robert quickly took over the lead for doing this with much needed direction from Don.

Once dimensioned the Walnut was cut to size. Each trophy requires a base, a bottom and a top. The bases, because of their large size, created a bit of a problem when cutting to length at the chop saw but this was easily remedied when it was discovered that the wood just had to be turned over.

Around this time a delicious lunch of hot, steaming chili and homemade bread was served. This was followed by more of the strategy planning coffee and cinnamon biscuits.

The afternoon began with routing the edges of the top and bottoms. This was done in a production line fashion with Don scrutinizing each piece before it was routed to ensure the best possible face would show. He scrutinized the wood even more after Ted did the routing to ensure that it was done to the high standards required for this project. Luckily it was... :).

Once this was done it was on to the biscuits. No, not them biscuits! The biscuits for joining the tops and bottom to the bases! :) The shop took on an eerie glow as two 'evil scientists' calculated the exact placement for the biscuits. There were some fancy jigs made, some trials and tribulations but in the end all was done to perfect precision.

It turned out to be a very productive day with the pieces for the nine trophies cut and ready for the next workshop.

Workshop Day II

On December 3rd the Trophy Workshop II was held at Robert's shop with Robert, Dan, Ted and Don on the work crew. Once again coffee and snacks fueled the pre-work strategy session.

Once it was time to start it was realized that someone :) had left all the trophy pieces at the last workshop location and had to go back home to get them. This slight delay didn't deter their ambition and on his return work began at a pretty good speed.

Of course by this time it was almost time for lunch. Robert cooked up an Italian buffet featuring two varieties of pizza, one for meat lovers and the other, chicken garlic. For dessert he offered delicious homemade apple pie with ice cream and cheddar. (Mmmmm... are these workshops becoming more about the food?)

After sanding all of the trophy pieces smooth and velvety they were glued and clamped and the rest of the day was spent designing and making the new People's Choice Award.

The One Day Trophy Workshop

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Trophy Workshop III

Trophy Workshop III of the "one day project" was held on December 8th at Robert's shop and attended by Don, Robert and Dan.

A lot of work was done today on the People's Choice Award base, trying to get the fit just right. A fair amount of time was also taken to figure out how to mount the pens and some of the other turned pieces on the tops.

The finishing touches as well as the lacquer finish was applied to the bases and set aside to dry until the next workshop.

The Official Competition 12" X 12" Sizing Box was also designed and completed today.

All and all this was a very productive day. However, since the highlight of the "trophy making project" now appears to be all about the food :) for Workshop III the group was treated to a moose meat and red wine creation by Dan. This was served with French bread and, of course, topped off with some more of Robert's delicious homemade apple pie and ice cream and cheddar for dessert. As all present had two helpings it was obviously a hit!

Trophy Workshop IV

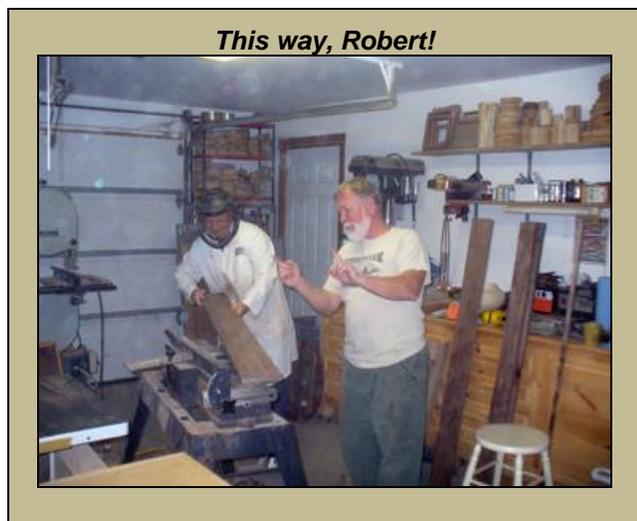
The fourth trophy workshop on December 16th proved to be a pivotal day with several of the trophies brought to completion. Don, Robert and Ted met at Robert's shop and worked hard to get this done starting first with cinnamon biscuits and coffee.

Then the donated, turned tops were carefully mounted on the trophy tops. Because each top is different they each had their different mounting requirements. Some have tenons, some have bases, etc.

The People's Choice Award has a completely different style base so special care had to be taken to ensure that Warmen Castle's bowl was seated just right on its new base.

The menu? Delicious homemade spaghetti and meat sauce! ☺

Here are some photos from these four workshops:



The One Day Trophy Workshop

...continued

Yes, Dr. Frankenstein, it will work!



Ted, Don and Robert at Workshop I



First one off the production line!



Jigs? Who needs jigs?



See, told you we don't need jigs!



Robert, Dan, Don and Ted at Workshop II



The One Day Trophy Workshop

...continued

Dan clamps down on all the shenanigans!



Yep, it's all about the food...



All ready to be sprayed with lacquer



Luke, I am your father



Are you sure that this is the way it goes?



Perhaps just a few more clamps?



The One Day Trophy Workshop

...continued

It's mine! No, it's mine!



If we level the base the top will be too, right?



After four workshops and as many great meals, seven of the ten trophies are completely finished. Once the tops for the other three arrive another workshop will be scheduled to complete them. Although this project is taking longer than expected a great time has been had by all. It was definitely worth it. Here, see for yourself: ☺



Pen Pals

Darrell Eisner

Happy New Year's to all our members of NWG. One of my New Year's Resolutions was to clean up and organize my shop after a busy fall season. I don't have a dust extraction system so I accumulate a fine coat of dust over everything in the shop. Not wishing to use a feather duster, I came up with an alternative solution which works for me. I open the garage door and starting at the back of the garage/shop I use a leaf blower to force out the dust from the room. (I wear my respirator and enclosed safety glasses). I'm sure that my neighbours thought that a dust storm had hit my property. Now, this does tend to also move around the small things in the shop so there is an organizing process afterwards. As I went through my stock of pen blank materials, I realized that I had some interesting materials that would make a good topic for this month's newsletter.

Since I first started turning pens in 2002, there have been a lot of new materials made available. I first started out with basic Nova Scotia woods available from Kent and then I discovered East Coast Speciality Hardwoods Ltd. in Dartmouth and a whole new world opened for me. This is one of the things that keep me interested in pen turning. There are always new materials to turn. I will show you some of the pen blanks in my shop and make a few comments on the material. Hopefully, this will create some excitement for your pen turning experience in 2011. I learned early on not to use green wood as it can crack later when it dries so, mostly I work with kiln dried woods or materials that are stable. I have quite a few to tell you about so I will continue with this theme in the next newsletter.



#1 Birdseye Maple - a beautiful Nova Scotia/Canadian wood that is easy to turn. Try to get some wood that has a lot of eyes in it. You can also get the darker birdseye Maple and lots of choices in sizes of the "eyes" i.e. pinheads to dime size. It can be really interesting if the wood has a bit of curl in it too. This wood looks terrific with gold plating.

#2 Applewood - This is one of my Nova Scotia signature woods. A friend of mine gave me two apple trees for my 60th birthday. He cut the trees and had them sawn and kiln dried. That was great as the wood can twist when drying. Other fruitwoods with some colour and attractive grain patterns are pear and apricot. I also use Oak and plain Maple on my shipyard pens. Both of these woods are plain so I use a coloured centre-band of wood to break up the design. You can also get fancy with segmenting a coloured wood on the ends of the pen blank.

Pen Pals

...continued

#3. Olivewood - One of the most attractive woods that I have seen is Olivewood. This is an easy wood to turn and the shavings smell like lemon and have an oily touch. It would be helpful to wipe them down with methyl hydrate after sanding and before you apply the finish. I would do this with any woods that have an oily surface to them... Cocobolo, Rosewoods etc.

#4. Imported spalted Maple that has been stabilized - This is a clear spalted Maple that has been impregnated with a resin to stabilize the soft parts of the wood. When working with spalted woods you should wear your respirator to protect your lungs from harmful bacteria and fungus. When working with materials that have been stabilized, sometimes you encounter voids in the wood. Just fill them in with a bit of CA glue.

#5. Green dyed stabilized Boxelder burl - Boxelder burl grows in the U.S. and is a sub species of Maple. It's a joy to turn this wood as the outside of the wood is covered with the dye and resin but once you get the blank round, you expose the beauty of the wood. Some dense woods are hard to stabilize but there are enough woods and colours out there to satisfy everyone's desire for a "pretty" wood. Again, there will be voids in the wood so fill them in with ca. Stabilized wood is just great for bird call turnings as the resin makes the turning very waterproof.

#6. Dymondwood - is a brand name for small pieces of maple that are dyed, injected with resin and put under heat and pressure. The manufactured wood comes out in sheets of plywood and are cut at various angles to expose the "grain" of the wood. These engineered woods are great for birdcalls and very unique small turnings. When the wood is turned there are no shavings but instead a pepper like substance made up of resin and wood. Sharp tools have to be used with this blank as the wood can be splintered when it has been cut at a sharp angle i.e. 22.5 degrees. Due to the resin, these blanks have a great shine when finished. Some turners will just give them a good buff or use micro mesh on them.

#7 & 8. These are segmented blanks that I purchased from a Canadian woodturner at the AAW in Hartford last June. I have not turned any yet but they do look quite attractive. They are not resin injected. I will finish them with Lee Valley's Woodturner's Polish.

International Association of Penturners Birthday Bash (<http://penturners.org>) Get yourself organized and book mark this site for the month of February. It's their 7th Anniversary and there will be a month long celebration. Lots of games, prizes and vendor discounts. It will give you an opportunity to join a forum with international pen-turners. If you have a pen-turning question, this is the "go to" site where you will always get an answer. At any one time there is an average of 50-70 members on line. They have a great library to help you with your pen-turning questions and projects.

If you get a chance, check out www.choice-woods.com. For the past two weeks, this company has been doing a live podcast at 7:00 PM Atlantic time. Featured is Robin Costelle who is a bowl turner. They are still getting used to doing podcasts but, the wrinkles are being ironed out. This is an interactive podcast where you can type in a question for Rubin or the folks at Choice-Woods. They have also offered a few discounts. It's like going to a Lee Valley demo without having to get in the car.

The pen-turning world lost one of its pioneers in early January. Russ Fairfield was a mentor to many new pen-turners, including myself. He was always willing to share information on penturning. He wrote the book on slimline pens and was an expert on pen finishes. Russ was an active demonstrator at local chapter meetings, Craft Supplies USA, Provo Pen-turners Symposium and AAW symposiums. I would refer you to his website which is still active www.woodturnerruss.com to view his many articles on pen-turning.

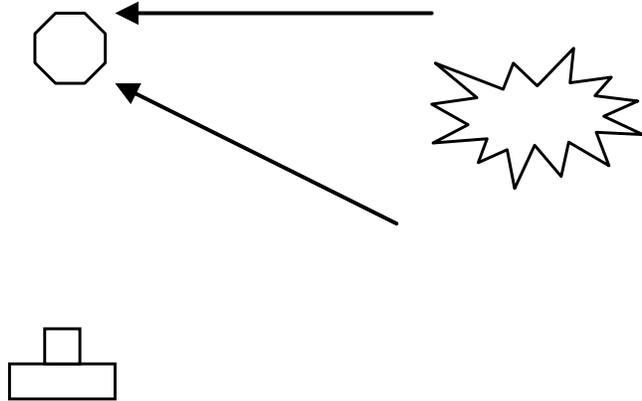
And finally, just a reminder to work on your pens for the NWG woodturning competition this month at Lee Valley!

Snapshot - Texture Glenn McCarron

I hope everyone has had a great holiday and I wish you all a Happy New Year.

This month I will show you how to add visual appeal to a texture on your wood turnings. I apologize firstly for not having a textured wood piece in which to apply my technique but the subject that I used was a great example (and it is winter).

When you take a picture from straight on and are using your flash or a direct light source your image can tend to be a bit flat. By this I mean that a texture that is on your turning lacks any dimension. I would suggest that you not use your flash but position your piece so that the light source is coming from 45 to 90 degrees to your subject. The angle will depend on the type of piece you have and the fact that you don't want to create a harsh shadow on the opposite side. As discussed in earlier columns you can always use a reflector to put back some light on the opposite side.



By positioning your light this way it adds a bit of shading in the textured area thus enhancing your work. Like I said earlier I don't have any turnings with a great texture but I can think of many that you have show over the past year that have great textures. It can be a natural edge, a void, a carved area, a perforated area or maybe a burnt area. I will show you two examples of a textured item. I picked this snowman because of the texture of the sweater. I used a direct light on this first image. You will notice that the sweater certainly lacks any punch.



On the second image I positioned the subject to take advantage of the sunlight that was streaming in the window. You can see the dramatic difference in the area of the sweater. The shading within the texture has given the image another dimension.

I look forward to seeing this technique applied and posted by you on our Guilds photo gallery for all to see!

Shavings

Bob Matheson of East Coast Specialty Hardwoods Passes On

With great regret we recently received news of the passing of Bob Matheson, founder and owner of East Coast Specialty Hardwoods. Bob was a good friend to the NWG for many years and will be greatly missed. The funeral was held on January 7th. A card of condolence was delivered to Bob's family by Guild Past President, Bill Luther.

He who has gone, so we but cherish his memory, abides with us, more potent, nay, more present than the living man. ~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery

For those interested in segmented turning may be interested in the Jointmaker Pro Saw. It is around \$1200. so you may be a bit late for this Christmas, but there is always next year! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ruwZdaPjbs>

We Beat You To It!

It was noted in issue #28 of Woodturning Design that they will be having a new section in issue #30. It will be called 'Shavings' and it will feature items shared by their readers. Looks like we beat them to it, by a long shot! ☺

Busy Bee Tool Celebration Sale

There'll be some great specials coming up February 11th and 12th at Busy Bee Tools in celebration of them winning the Burnside Business of the Year Award!

Go here <http://tinyurl.com/35f9aps> for more!

All woodworkers are invited to apply for the 10th annual Made of Wood Juried Show & Sale, taking place in the village of Erin, Ontario from April 23 to May 15, 2011. This exhibition will highlight a selection of Canada's finest woodworkers and will run in conjunction with wood demonstrations, seminars and workshops in the community of Erin. The Made of Wood Show has been held annually since 2001. This Call closes on January 31st, 2011. Complete information on this can be downloaded at: http://www.madeofwoodshow.com/Call_for_Entry.html.

Did you see the article about the Turning of Age Exhibition on CTV? How about the reference and great photo in the Chronicle Herald? Yep, we made the news! ☺

Wondering About Walnut

During the collection of Black Walnut here in Mahone Bay much was banded about as to the toxicity of Black Walnut. Despite repeated searches on the web, there is very little evidence to my mind that sawdust or shavings from black walnut does any harm to anything, except maybe horses. It is true the leaves and pollen and particularly the roots do produce a toxin, and certain plants will not grow within the shade of such trees. One web site noted that chickens were unaffected by the shavings, and as I provide my shavings to a bunch of chickens down the road with no apparent ill effects, and the eggs keep coming, I have to wonder just where the members obtained this information! For your consideration. – Dr. Andrew Watson

Do you have any 'Shavings' that you'd like to share? How about a cool woodturning website or video that you found? Perhaps you have something for sale that the other Guild members would be interested in? How about a humorous anecdote or a turning tip? If you do, please send them along to tedmonk@gmail.com

Lee Valley is featuring a Plane Event at their store January 13th to the 15th. They'll have all their spokeshaves, planes, etc. available for you to try out. Find out more information here:

<http://www.leevalley.com/en/wood/page.aspx?p=67003&>

The Turning Point

The purpose of the Official Journal of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is to keep you updated on the various aspects of the Guild, to announce upcoming meetings and to keep record of past meetings. In addition, and more importantly, its purpose is as a vehicle to share information among the Guild members.

It is through the sharing of information and ideas that the true benefit of being a Guild member is determined.

This newsletter gives the opportunity for you to do that.

Please submit articles, how-to's, photos, humour, interesting tidbits, reviews, items for sale, items wanted, helpful jigs that you've made, thoughts, ideas, observations, websites, videos and anything else related to woodturning.

We need your input to make The Turning Point a success.

Don't worry if you don't consider yourself a 'writer'. This is not about how great you can write (look what we're getting away with! ☺), it's about getting the information out there. Type it as you speak it. If it needs editing we can edit it for you. No submission is too large or too small. We'll take it all! ☺

Please send your submissions to Ted Monk at tedmonk@gmail.com

The deadline for submissions for the December issue is February 12th, 2011

Sharing is what a guild is all about!

*"The Turning Point is
YOUR newsletter. Its
success depends on
YOU"*

**Ensure that you continue to receive the newsletter by
keeping us updated with your email address!
Please send any changes to tedmonk@gmail.com**

Don't Forget - We're On The Web!

**The Nova Woodturners' Guild website is a great
place to connect between meetings!**

**It offers message forums, a member photo
gallery, hints and tips, links and more!**

<http://novawoodturnersguild.com>

Your 2010-2011 Guild Executive

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Vice President: Dan Graham

djgraham@ns.sympatico.ca

Secretary: Ted Monk

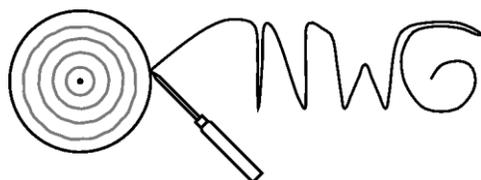
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Bill Luther



Members At Large:

Ian Scott

Dianne Looker

Gordon Marshall

Doug McGuire

“to encourage and promote the art and craft of

Committees

Library

Jim Diamond

Richard Ford

Website

Ian Scott

Norm Jolivet

Glenn McCarron

Membership & Promotion

Andrew Watson

Fund Raising

Norm Jolivet (50/50 Drawmaster)

Bill Luther (Competition Prizes)

Events

Don Moore

Robert Atkinson

Dan Graham

Alan Hunt

Maureen Simpson

Ted Monk

Insurance

Alan Hunt

Don Moore

Darrell Eisner

Constitution & By-laws

Dianne Looker

Guild Photographer: Chris Palmer