



# The Turning Point

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*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is at  
Lee Valley Tools  
100 Susie Lake Crescent, Halifax, N.S.  
February 8, 2014 1:00 p.m.*



MEMBER SINCE 2012

The next meeting will feature  
**The Nova Woodturners Guild Competition**  
and  
**The Who Got What Show**

**The President's Workshop** January 2014

Dianne Looker

Here it is 2014 – and the Turning events at Lee Valley have happened. What a wonderful arrangement we have there. I was very disappointed that the storm delay meant I didn't get a chance to see **Mark Sfirri** do his thing. I am sure it was magical.

I certainly enjoyed the presentation by **Steven Kennard** at our January meeting, and I am sure everyone who was there did as well. I am always amazed and impressed by his careful, detailed work. And what a turn out we had for the meeting! I'm glad we had the turnout we did – it is important that we support each other when there are presentations like that.

And, a new competition has happened. I didn't actually get to see all the pieces in person, again due to the storm. However, thanks to the wonders of technology I got to see photos of all the amazing pieces that were entered. What a range of items, and what delightful ideas! I was very impressed to see so many entries. This is testament to the vibrancy of the Guild and our connection with the area where we live.

I know I was busy turning in the couple of weeks before the competition. I am hoping it is later in the year in future for two reasons: 1) I will have more time to get things turned after the flurry of making Christmas gifts. (Yes, I know I could do it earlier in the year, but that just doesn't happen somehow. 2) Later in the year we would decrease the likelihood of disruptions from storms. But we'll see.

At our recent Executive meeting we decided to ask the membership about bringing in **Alain Mailland** when he is in North America this summer. You agreed that was a good idea and so we have invited him in June. We are also in discussion with other guilds about bringing in **Binh Pho** in 2015. So, things are moving along that front.

We are continuing our search for a new meeting place. Some specific options are being pursued and we will keep you informed as things develop.

We are trying to ensure that our policies and procedures are written down and updated. It helps new members when they take over various responsibilities to have this detail. And we are working with the treasurer to develop a formal budget that will allow members to approve upcoming expenses. All in the name of increased transparency.

We have not yet developed a new brochure, and I am to blame for that. My life continues to be full and hectic, and somehow that hasn't happened yet. But it will! We will have gotten good exposure during the exhibition of the competition pieces. Do invite any turners you know who are not already members to check us out.

I hope you are all continuing to turn now that the weather is colder and not always so inviting outside. I know I will be back in my shop once I am back from the trip I am about to embark on as I write this.

Happy 2014 to you all!

*We are continuing our search for a new meeting place.*

## Mary E. Black Gallery Exhibition

### Turn, Turn, Turn

The Guild Wood Art Exhibition at the  
Mary E. Black Gallery in 2015

Wood Art is rapidly escalating in the United States and throughout Europe. However, here in Canada, it is moving forward to a lesser degree at present. It is our intent to address this issue with our Wood Art Exhibition at the Mary E. Black Gallery in 2015, titled "Turn, Turn, Turn".

Over the past 40 years woodturning has evolved from one of the oldest, established crafts to a recognized professional art form. Even though art collectors have shifted their focus from woodturning to wood-turned art, the general public's perception of woodturning is still one of functional items like farm implements, ship parts and kitchen utensils. Building on our history and mandate, this exhibit will showcase woodturning in Nova Scotia with the intent to bring awareness to woodturning's place in today's Art World. In addition, in the lead up to the Exhibition we hope to further our own understanding of Wood Art through presentation, collaboration and focus.

This will be a juried exhibition of somewhere around 40 pieces. This amount is determined by the gallery space. There will be no item size restrictions other than the piece must fit through the door and that we want to have space for these 40 pieces. Because of the vast wall space available, we will allow wall hangings.

There will be 3 categories; Novice, Collaborative and Open, with a possible separate category for wall hangings. This will allow all Guild members the opportunity to submit.

For the Collaborative category collaborations between members will be of your own choosing. However, it is strongly suggested that they include both experienced and less experienced members – a mentor program of sorts. Likewise, physical location may be a determining factor.

The curator for this exhibition will be **Shannon Parker**, Curator of Collections for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. She is quite enthusiastic about this project and very much looks forward to it. To further her understanding of woodturning, and the Guild, she has expressed an interest in attending one of our meetings, as well as to do a couple of shop visits.

*Building on our  
history and  
mandate, this  
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woodturning in  
Nova Scotia*

## Mary E. Black Gallery Exhibition continued

There will be four (4) jurors in the jurying process. These will be 3 woodturners and Shannon. If the woodturner juror has entered pieces they will not participate in the jurying of their piece.

The actual date of the exhibition has not been given to us yet. With this in mind, we are planning on the possibility of a January show. Therefore the final submission date has been set at September 30, 2014. This will allow time for jurying, photos to be taken, brochures to be created, etc. in time for January 1st. If the actual date is different than the submission dates will be changed accordingly.

The amount of pieces that an individual can submit, as well as if there will be an entry fee, has yet to be determined.

Speaking of fees, one of the biggest hurdles will be securing a sponsor, or sponsors. A project of this type and magnitude demands a sizeable amount of funds. This money is required for item photography, the show brochure, curator's fee, etc. A sub-committee headed by **Don Moore** will be struck for this purpose.

*We have taken  
on a huge  
responsibility  
with this  
Exhibition.*

With our application and acceptance in the Mary E. Black Gallery's 2015 season we have taken on a huge responsibility with this Exhibition. We will be facing the art world, standing in front of our peers, making them aware that we are here. This is not something that can be taken lightly. It will take a strong commitment and a lot of hard work to make it a success. It is important that we all work together to achieve this goal.

It is most important that you, the members, participate – participate in the process, the understanding and the creation of Wood Art and participate in the development, organizing and creation of the Exhibition.

This is a great opportunity for you and for the Guild. We hope that it will give more exposure to our art, elevate our individual craft and to give all Guild members an opportunity to bring about a change in the local perspective and understanding of woodturning.

**Ted Monk**

Chairman

Turn, Turn, Turn Exhibition Committee

## Meeting Notes Jan. 13, 2014

Dave Duggan

## Introduction

President **Dianne Looker** got things started at 7:00 and thanked everyone for showing up, a great showing of 42 members and guests were on hand for the evening. Dianne thanked **Steven Kennard** for being the featured turner of the evening. It was also great to see **Chris Palmer** back at the meetings and taking pictures as he does so well.

We were happy to see some guests at the meeting who stood up and introduced themselves, first was **Ben Lockhart** who also brought in a show and tell. Also there was **Glen Greencorn, Stewart Blair** and **Bruce Campbell** welcome to all and thank you for coming and please consider joining our group.

Dianne then mentioned what a success the Christmas social was this year even though it was somewhat a little more meeting than social. In the future Dianne hopes to flip this and bring up the social aspect a little more. I'm sure it will be a great time. Keep turning those ornaments.

Next was a reminder that all entries for Turning week (our annual showcase) had to be received by the hour of store closing at Lee Valley on the 18th. This meeting was held a week early so it would be easier to drop off entries. Let us know if this was easier so we can make a point to keep it again next year.

**Alain Mailland** a noted turner from France will be in town in June around 14th - 16th and has agreed to do a hands on for us. Alain's main thought is in the design of his turnings but is very capable in turning, finishing and making his own tools and is a great teacher. Alain very seldom comes to North America so this is a great opportunity to glean some knowledge. Alain likes to have that personal touch with his students that is why it is a limited number of students. Our thanks go out to member **Stephen Zwerling** for making his own shop available for Alain. We have eight members already signed up for this so if you are interested you'll have to be on the waiting list with no guarantees. Alain will also be doing a one day demo \$30-\$50 as well as the hands on, sign up will be at a later date.

**Mark Sfirri** will be on hand January 22nd please contact Lee Valley for courses, Mark is a noted offset or multiple axis turner.

Lee Valley Turning week is Jan 22 through Feb 8, 2014 talk to **Gary Landry** for times and the use of the lathe. Also over the next while please consider serving on the executive if you can, if you are not able but would like to help out please consider sitting on one of our many committees. **Binh Pho** update, New Brunswick, PEI are very eager and on board so we are moving ahead with Lee Valley to bring Binh to the area.

We are still looking for a permanent place to meet with less stairs to climb, some ideas have fallen through but we are confident we will find something, hopefully soon.

The Lee Valley awards ceremony will be on Feb 8th but this will not be the Feb meeting as in the past. The regular meeting will be on Feb 17, 2014 and the topic will be Wood Art with **Sharon Parker** curator of the Mary Black Gallery in Halifax.



## Meeting Notes Continued

Dave Duggan



**Steven Kennard** was up next and his focus of course was on boxes but is involved in various types of turning like spindles and repairing antique furniture. Steven says he prefers to work with African Black wood as it has very little open grain and holds up to moisture so it does not expand and contract as much as other woods, but will incorporate boxwood and cocobolo into his box designs. The black wood is also excellent for texturing, a technique for which Steven has become famous. Using a gouge for roughing only Steven uses scrappers and skews to make the boxes and dental tools for texturing, a little Ultrashine and Shellawax, Steven finishes it off with a mixture of equal parts carnauba and bees wax prepared in a double boiler. A little hint, try cleaning your surfaces with acetone before gluing it helps to open the pores and gives the ca something to hold on to. Thanks to Steven for his time it was greatly appreciated.



Meeting Notes Continued

Dave Duggan

The Boomerang Box was next with **Don Campbell** bringing in the turning, this month's winner is **Dan Graham**, congratulations. Dan will now turn something for next month's winner.

Show and Tell was up with **Andrew Watson** bringing in, believe it or not, bomb shells made from cherry. Andrew knows some people that have the casings and now have a shell to put inside.



**Stuart Taylor** was up next with some bowl platters made of Jarrah from Australia. A new tool for Stuart was a carbide tip cutter made by **KILLIAM TOOLS**, the tool comes without a handle but Stuart made short work of that adding his own style handle to it.



**Ben Lockhart** brought in a segmented bowl made of red oak, African black wood and birds eye maple that he 'liberated' from a friend. **Bruce Campbell** was up with some miniature pieces he made, a tiny phonograph of plastic.

Just a note to the interested there is a 100 watt glue gun for sale on Amazon.ca for \$38.00.



The evening draws were up next with: **Leo Westhaver** choosing a book "Winning Designs for Woodturning" **Edmund Beniot** received a bottle of turners polish **Dan Graham** picked up Richard Raffans "Turning Projects" **Dianne Looker** received "Tips for Woodturning" and **Andrew Furlong** took home a thermalcouple thermometer.

**PHOTOS BY CHRIS PALMER**



**2014 NWG Competition Entries**

Photos by Dave McLachlan



Dianne Looker



Dianne Looker



Dave Duggan



Norm Jolivet



Peter Nicholl



Peter Nicholl

# 2014 NWG Competition Entries

Continued



Robert Atkinson



Lowell Jenkins



Brad Sorrel



Gordon Marshall



Gordon Marshall



Gordon Marshall

# 2014 NWG Competition Entries

Continued



Gordon Marshall



Doug McGuire



Glenn McCarron



Glenn McCarron



Richard Ford



Richard Ford

# 2014 NWG Competition Entries

Continued



Richard Ford



Don Campbell



Leo Westhaver



Bill Fisher



Edmund Benoit



David McLachlan



David McLachlan

# 2014 NWG Competition Entries

Continued



Andrew Furlong



Don Campbell



Don Campbell



Richard Ford



Dale Rayner



Bill Fisher

# 2014 NWG Competition Entries

Continued



Gary Landry



Stuart Taylor



Stuart Taylor



Stuart Taylor



Yogi Gutz



Yogi Gutz

**2014 NWG Competition Entries**

Continued



Yogi Gutz



Bill Luther



Bill Luther



Dianne Looker

**NOTICE**

The Nominating Committee has met and decided to ask everyone who now holds a position within the Guild, be it the Executive and/or a member of one of our various committees to indicate their intent for the up coming season with regard to their respective positions. Time will be needed to recruit volunteers for these vacant positions. Please keep in mind that we have specific requirements from the "Joint Stocks" in order to keep our status of a "Society", when I come asking for volunteers.

***"Ask not what the Guild can do for you, but what you can do for the Guild"***

Only those "not" accepting their respective position need send me an email indicating so. To those continuing in their current rolls need not do anything, thank you very much for your continuing commitment to our Guild, from the Nominating Committee.

**Don Moore** <moorewood1@gmail.com>

**NOTICE**

## Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 16, 2013	Reverse Chucking Don Moore	Kent Building Supplies Mic Mac Mall
October 21, 2013	Christmas ornaments Gordon Marshall and Friends	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
November 18, 2013	Spinning tops - Richard Ford Shape challenge (tea pot)	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
December 9, 2013	Christmas Social and Pot Luck Ornament Exchange	Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, 112 Bluewater Rd Bedford
January 13th, 2014	Steven Kennard Demo	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
February 8th, 2014	Turning Weeks @ Lee Valley Awards Day	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
February 17th, 2014	Additional Meeting Bring your Competition Entry	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
March 17, 2014	Offset Pendants Ian Scott	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
April 14, 2014	Finishes Buffing Bill Luther & Ian Scott	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
May 12, 2014	Sanding - Fun Turn Gordon Marshall	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
June 16, 2014	AGM	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall

### The Raffle Booth

Norm Jolivet

We had 5 items in the Raffle with 4 woodturning books and the donation of a dial type thermometer, we managed to raise \$70.

There were 41 members in attendance. Thanks to all who participated.

It was decided that there would be no raffle at either February meeting. I know the depths of disappointment we all feel at this news but, be stoic, chin up. We can tough it through with the anticipation of a draw in March.

Norm,

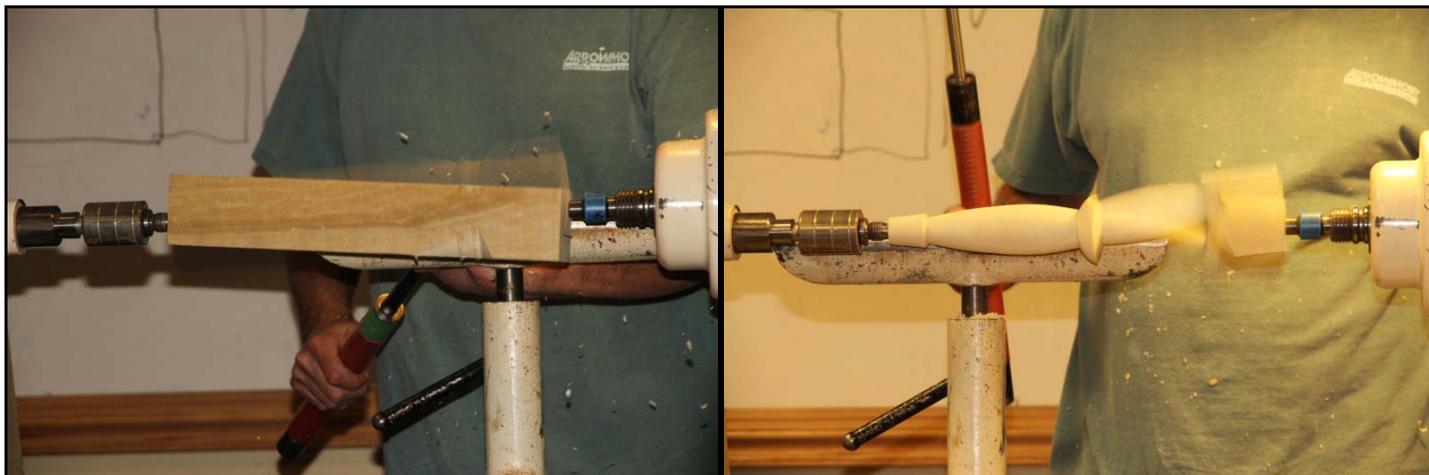
jolivetn@yahoo.ca

Hey, you could even phone me! 902-354-2165

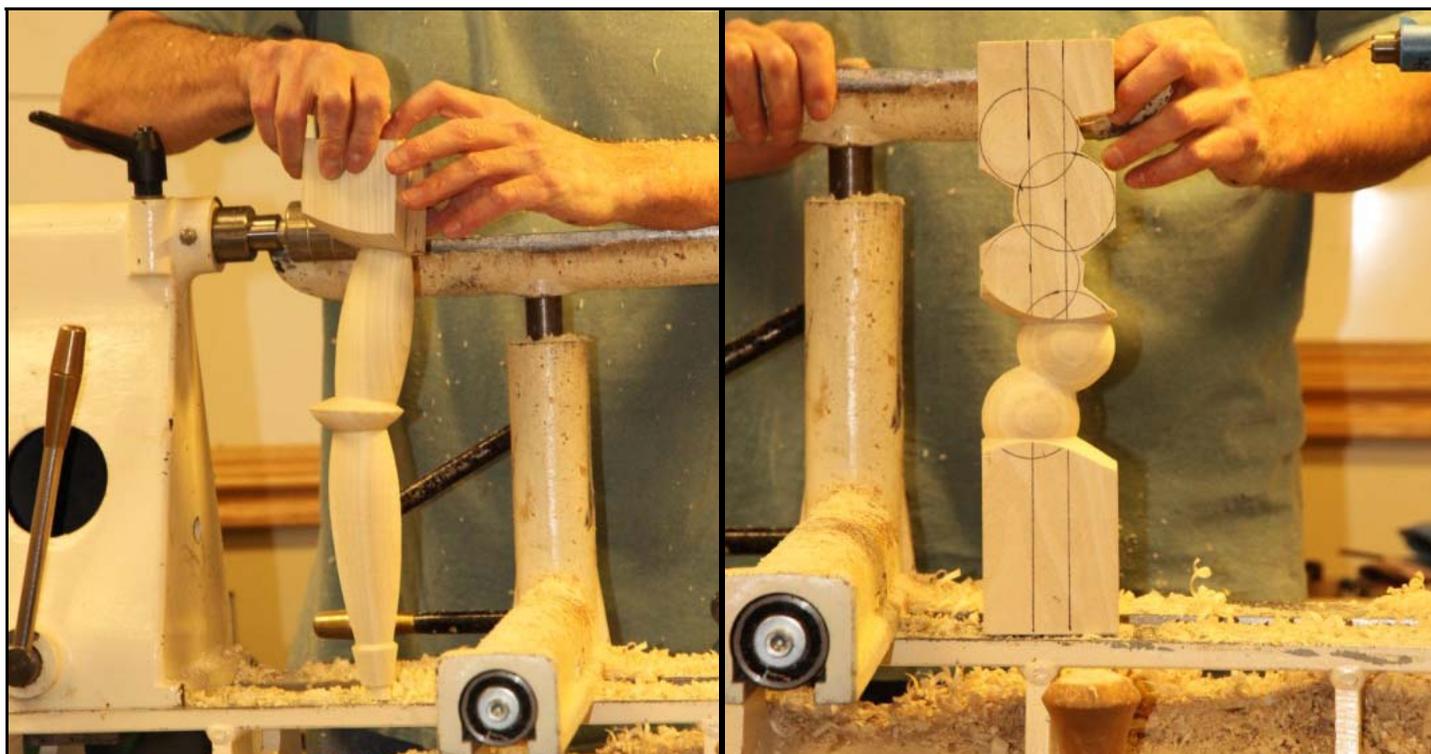
## Guest Speaker – Mark Sfirri

Peter Nicholl

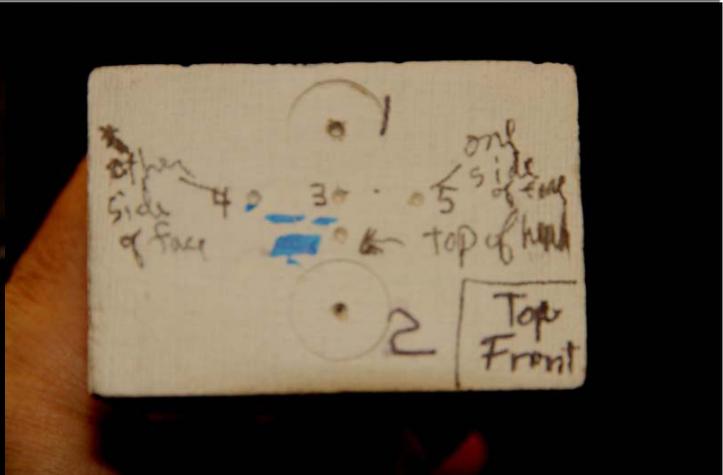
On Friday Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>, after the delay of Wednesday's storm, **Mark Sfirri** was finally able to give his demonstration at **Lee Valley** for Guild members. Starting with a short Powerpoint presentation he showed us many examples of his multi-axis turnings, with questions along the way regarding our potential thoughts of how these turnings were achieved.



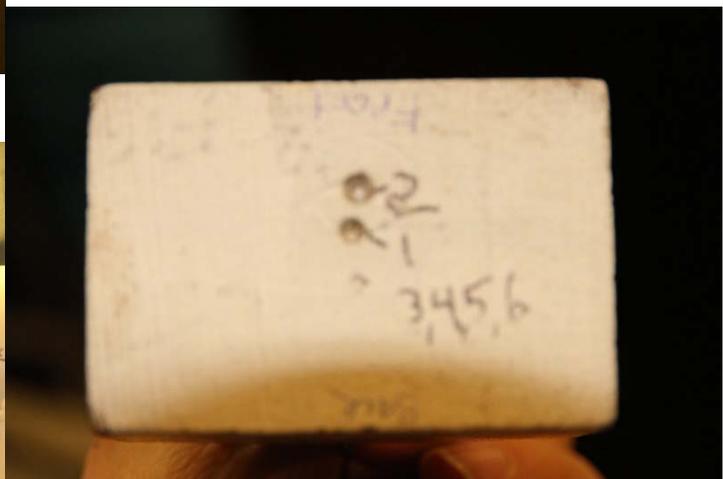
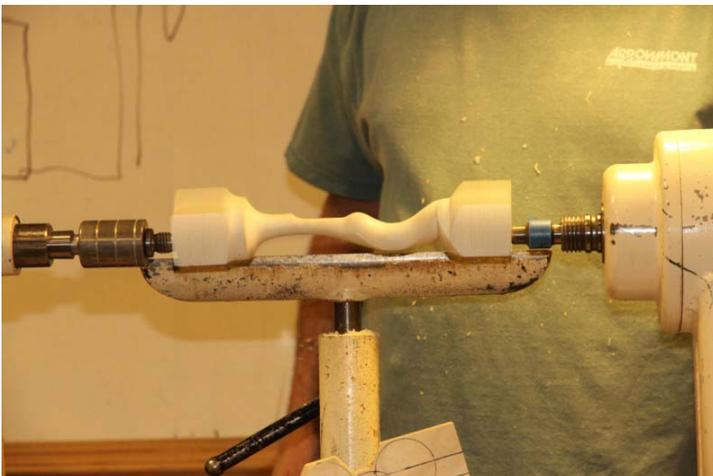
Using the whiteboard and paper cutouts cut in sections, he demonstrated how he goes about determining the axis he will need to use to get his desired outcome. He started with showing us a wobbly table leg, and proceeded to demo stacked, vertically offset balls that would require some carving to finish the final object.



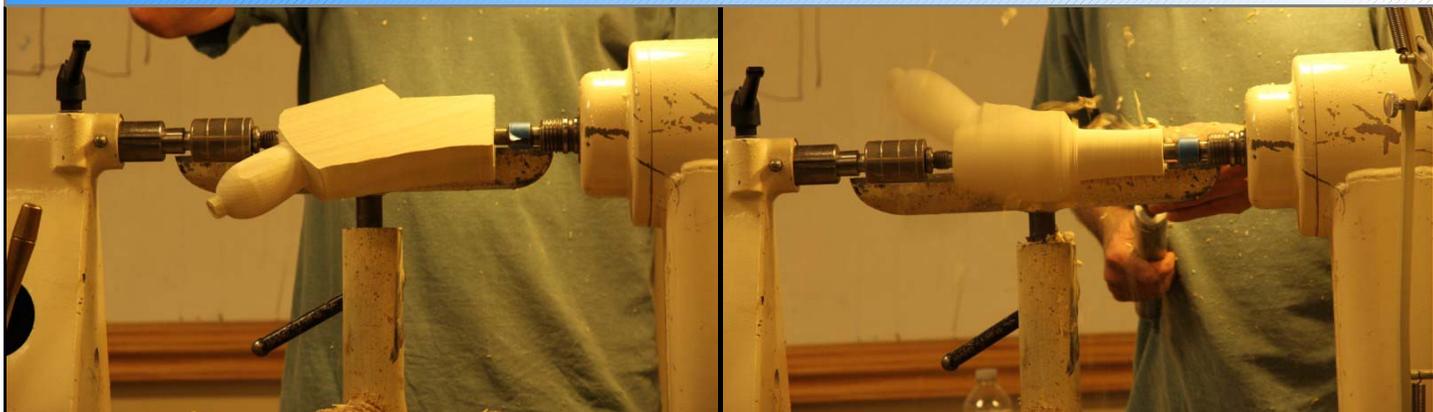
Guest Speaker – Mark Sfirri



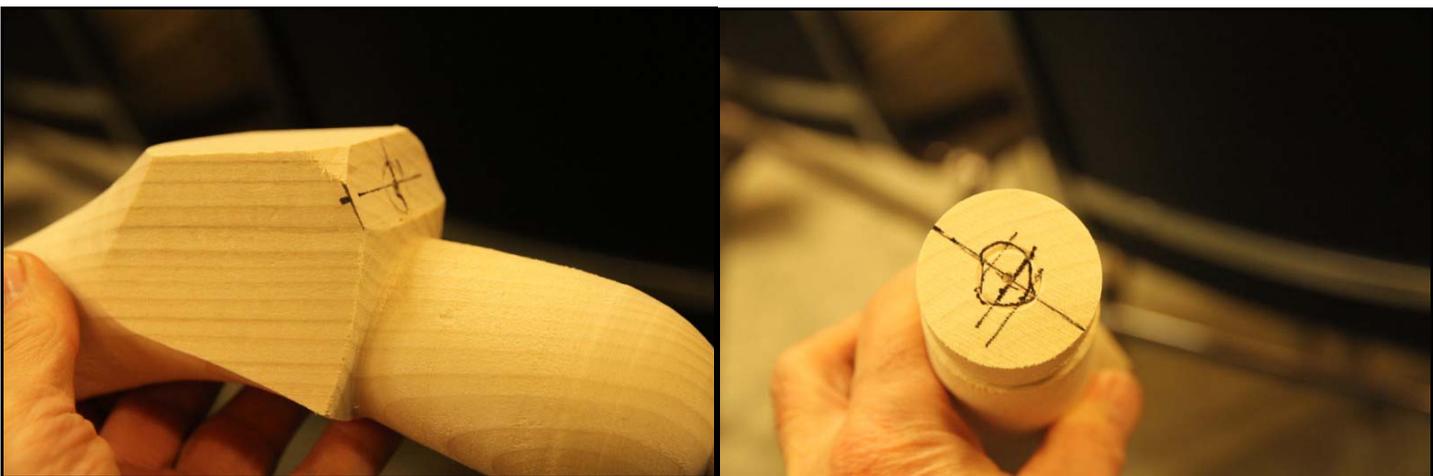
He noted that many of his works would require some carving to achieve their final look. The human figure that he turned requires 6 different axis to get all the curves necessary. In order to repeat these projects (because the finished object would no longer have the ends available for reference) he often has to make partial turnings so that he can retain the end pieces for their axis markings. It was noted that it was very important to label the ends as well as number each corresponding set of axis in order to not mistakenly use the wrong ones!



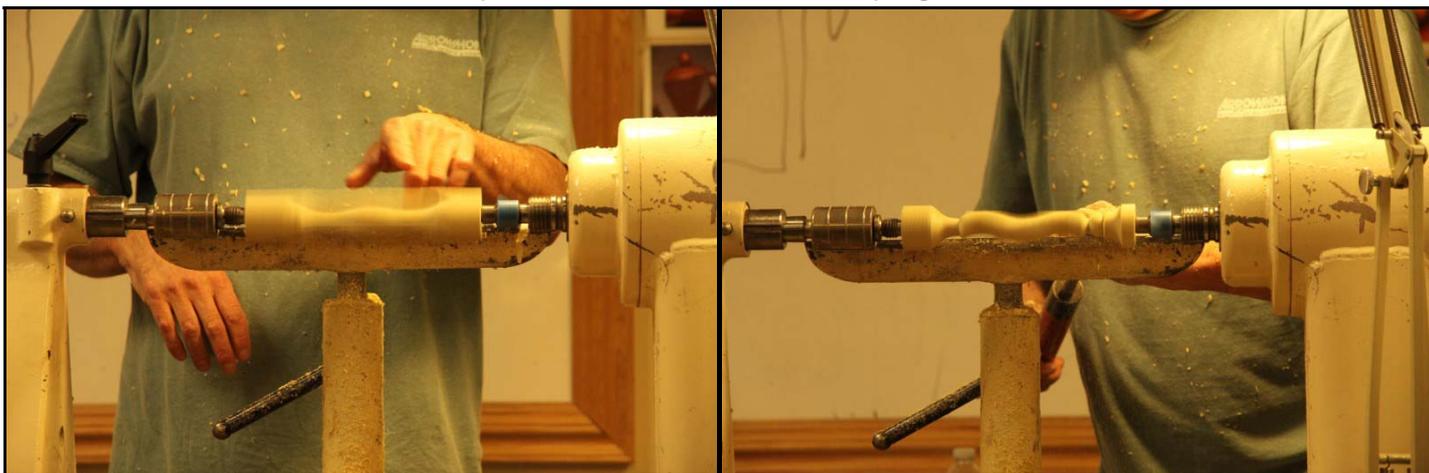
## Guest Speaker – Mark Sfirri



He also turned an example of a bent tool handle which requires a large swing to allow clearance for that section of flying wood to turn unhindered .



The last item was a parallel axis wavy figure that he used to demonstrate the use of the “shadow” of the solid wood as the point of reference when shaping.



For the 15 members in attendance it was a very enjoyable and worthy event.  
Multi-axis turning certainly makes you have to plan out your setup! **PHOTOS BY DAVE MCLACHLAN**

# Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2013/14 Executive

**President:** Dianne Looker [dianne.looker@msvu.ca](mailto:dianne.looker@msvu.ca)  
**Vice-President:** Gordon Marshall [gordonkim@eastlink.ca](mailto:gordonkim@eastlink.ca)  
**Treasurer:** Peter Nicholl [panicholl@dal.ca](mailto:panicholl@dal.ca)  
**Secretary:** Dave Duggan [d.jd@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:d.jd@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Past President:** Don Moore



**Members At Large:**  
 Bill Luther  
 Gary Landry  
 Ian Scott



## Committees:

**Library:**  
 Jim Diamond C  
 Richard Ford

**Guild Photographer:**  
 Chris Palmer

**Website:**  
 Ian Scott C  
 Norm Jolivet

**Fund Raising:**  
 Norm Jolivet (Raffle Master)

**Membership & Promotion:**  
 Gary Landry C  
 Norm Jolivet

**Nominating:**  
 Don Moore C

“We would love to see your name here! Contact any member of the Executive with your interest.”

**Newsletter:**  
 Norm Jolivet C

**Events:**  
 Peter Nicholl C  
 Edmund Benoit  
 Calum Ewing  
 Dave Barry  
 Dave McLachlan

C - Chairperson

