

The Turning Point

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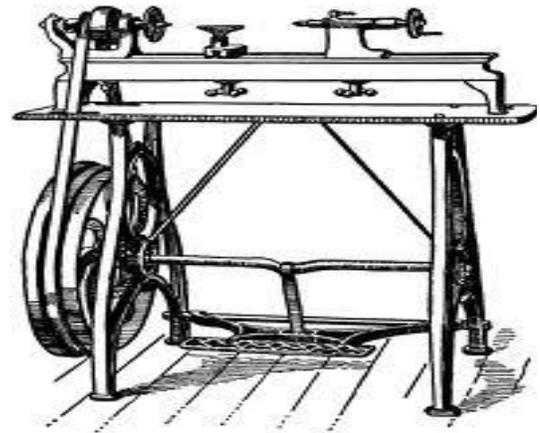
From The President's Workshop

Don Moore

As a founding member of the Guild I have seen a lot of changes since our first Guild meeting that evening in April 1996. It is very satisfying to see that with all of the advancements within the Guild that the friendliness and openness has always remained over the years.

We have a terrific group of people that have stepped forward again this year to fill the various positions. With this in mind, there are still a number of areas where we are yet looking for members to get involved with the Guild. All of these committees require very little time, so please consider becoming an active member by participating.

At this time I want to thank all of this year's Executive



for volunteering, as well as all of you who have done so in the past. This year has the making of a great one with much needed exposure for the Guild to continue to exist and grow.

On behalf of Maureen and myself, I would like to thank all of you for your support while we were in Toronto dealing with Maureen's health issue. It

was much appreciated.

If you know of a past member who is no longer involved with the Guild could you please make contact with them inviting them to return. I look forward to meeting with you all once again at the September meeting.

Keep your bevel rubbing,
Don

The September Meeting

The first meeting of the 2010-2011 season is on

September 20th at Halifax Specialty Hardwood at 6:30pm

Go to page 15 for more information!

The Secretary's Quill

Ted Monk

First, let me say thanks for the opportunity to take on the role of Guild Secretary for the 2010-2011 season. I'm looking forward to this coming year and all that it will bring, especially in getting to know each of you more.

I believe that the greatest benefit of being a Guild member (next to the extensive library, of course! ☺) is the sharing of our passion for woodturning. It always amazes me that a problem that I've struggled with for weeks is easily, and quickly, answered by another Guild member.

As you are reading this you have no doubt noticed that the Guild newsletter has taken on bit of a new look. The goal of this extended format is to give us another forum to share information with each other. I hope that everyone will take an interest in supporting this project by sharing your woodturning experiences, tips, tricks and more.

Another way to share information among the membership is to send me an email with any items that you have for sale, wants you may have or announcements that you'd like to make. I can then forward it out to all of the members. Obviously, this is for woodturning/woodworking related items only.

And let's not forget the Guild website! Not only is it a great resource with its growing number of hints, tips and links but the message forum and photo gallery gives us the opportunity to communicate and show our latest creations between meetings.

Finally, a bit of housekeeping - in order for you to continue to receive the newsletter, updates and announcements it is important that records are kept up to date. Throughout the year, if your mailing address, email address or contact number changes please inform me of the changes. This will ensure that you're kept informed with the latest Guild happenings.

So, if you have something on your mind, a question, a suggestion, an article, an announcement to make, please feel free to contact me anytime at tedmonk@gmail.com

I'd also be more than happy to receive your comments and suggestions regarding the newsletter. Please forward me any errors and/or omissions too!

Fund Raising & Social Committee Needed!

We are in serious need of a Fund Raising & Social Committee and we're looking for a couple of members to come forward and take up the reins for this exciting and very important task.

Fund raising has been traditionally done through 50/50 draws and wood sales but can also include organizing donated tool raffles, new book auctions and more! And social? This just means PARTY! You get to organize member BBQ's, gatherings, shop visits... well, you get the idea. It is really limited only by **your wildest imagination**.

Interested? Please contact any member of the Executive.

Remember, with more funds the more fun things we can do!

"The goal of the newsletter is to give us another forum to share information with each other."

"Imagine organizing 50/50 draws, tool & wood raffles, auctions and Guild parties!"

Dollars and Cents

Alan Hunt

The good news is our financial position is the envy of most global governments as we continue to run a substantial and sustained surplus. We ended the 2009 – 2010 fiscal year with a surplus of approximately \$3600. During the summer we have managed to decrease that surplus slightly. We had revenue from Stewart's donation of wood and its auction -- a grand total of \$97 (\$94 of which we have collected and we are still owed \$3, time to turn that baseball bat). Offsetting that revenue were two checks, one to Jim Diamond for approximately \$60 and another to Richard Ford for \$23 (both related to our ever expanding library which they both so ably take care of.) Finally we had a couple of monthly

bank services charges of \$4 a month. It looks like we are about \$4 down on the summer! Not bad.

Our first meeting in September will see amongst other exciting events the collection of annual dues – remember that \$50 which entitles you to have all kinds of fun – cash or cheque is acceptable. This year you will have the chance to download your annual membership application form, complete it before you arrive and get through that dreary detail quickly and easily. You will get several bits of paper from me when you pay – first a receipt, second a membership card signed and with your membership number on, and finally a “coupon” that will enable you to get this year's fun turn wood. I am told by Bill

that the blocks are bigger and better than ever and we will have some choice between species of wood. I am sure that the early bird gets the piece without a knot. I know that's 'knot knice'. You will need this year's membership card to take books, mags and DVDs out from the library – so see me before you see Jim Diamond or Richard Ford.

Your executive is striving to keep a handle on costs and although our budget shows that we plan to spend all our revenues, we are hoping that actual expenses will be less than anticipated and we can start to rebuild our surplus.

Well that is all the news from the dollars and cents front. I will chat with you next newsletter.

“Membership dues are due at the September meeting! Please remember to bring \$50. cash or a cheque to the September meeting.”

The Membership Form Is Online

The membership form for the 2010-2011 season is online

Print it and fill it out at home to save time at the meeting

<http://www.novawoodturnersquild.com/documents.php>

Once there just click the 'Membership Form' link

Library News

Jim Diamond

I hope everyone had a great summer. With the spectacular weather we had, I was sorry that I didn't have a lathe which I could (easily) take outside to do some turning outside. I do occasionally ogle the General variable-speed maxi-lathe; if only I had wealthy relatives who read this column...

With the guild's new fiscal year, we have a new library budget. We have ordered a couple of new DVDs, based upon some suggestions from Doug McG. If anyone else has suggestions for videos or books which we don't currently have, please discuss it with me, particularly if you know where they can be purchased. Those of you with internet access can see the current list of holdings at the bottom of <http://www.novawoodturnersguild.com/library.php>. Those of you without internet access can phone me and I can bring an up-to-date list to the next meeting.

Aside from the books, videos and magazine subscriptions, we have a small number of tools which members can borrow. Currently we have a Sorby spiralling system, a Woodcut bowl saver, Sorby thread cutters (pair, 16 TPI), a Sorby thread sizing gauge, and two lathe spindle taps (1" x 8 TPI and 1-1/4" x 8 TPI). I don't always bring all of these to the meetings, so if you are interesting in borrowing a tool, please e-mail or phone me in advance so I will know to bring it.

Please note that while gentle reminders are put in the newsletter for videos, magazines and books, people who are waiting for a library tool would appreciate members returning tools to the very next meeting.

The guild is also open to suggestions for new tools. The general idea (which is not written down anywhere as a statement of principle!) is that the library will only buy tools which are only of occasional interest to a particular woodturner, or tools which you might like to try out once before investing in one of your own.

As an example, during the summer I was reading about dust collection, and one person (see <http://billpentz.com/woodworking/cyclone/index.cfm>) claims that many commercial dust collection systems just blow the finest dust (i.e., the stuff which can kill you) around your shop, rather than collecting it. This fine dust is invisible to the naked eye, so you won't necessarily know whether or not your dust collection system(s) are actually protecting you. In one of Pentz' web pages he recommends a meter which can be used to determine how much of this fine dust is in the air in your shop. I presented this idea to the Guild Executive over the summer and there was mixed opinions. You might give some thought about whether you think such a tool would be useful before the next meeting, and then let me (or an executive member) know whether you think spending US\$260 on such a tool is a worthwhile expenditure.

Finally, here is the overdue magazine list. Please try to dig these out and get them into the September meeting. Those of you who borrowed items in June might have had time to read them by now, too.

A Hunt: JAAW Summer 08: Dec 2009

D McGuire: WT June 05, Mar 03, Xmas 09, Sept 03: April 2010 R Atkinson: JAAW Summer 09: April 2010 D Graham: WT Feb 08: May 2010

“Aside from the books, videos and magazine subscriptions, we have a small number of tools which members can borrow”

Events Committee Report

Robert Atkinson

As change is the one thing in the world that is constant, it also applies to the Nova Woodturners Guild. What started out as the Competition Committee has now joined with the Exhibition Committee to become the Events Committee. Members include Robert Atkinson, Dan Graham, Alan Hunt, Ted Monk, Don Moore and Maureen Simpson. One of first tasks will be to select a new chairperson as Don has been elected as President of the Guild.

We met on the 22 July 2010 to discuss our Exhibition at the Anna Leonowens Gallery, NSCAD University from November 23 until December 04, 2010. Information has been sent out to the membership and other turners within the Atlantic Provinces (121 people in all). Also, the announcement was featured in Graham McCulloch's weekly newsletter, Shortcuts. The newsletter is sent to over 30,000 subscribers so this will definitely get the word out! - <http://www.shortcuts.ns.ca/column/archive/column706/>

I hope that everyone will support this event, as we want to have entries show all levels of turning within Atlantic Canada. The photo request is now over (Aug. 31, 2010) with a positive number of submissions. They soon will be reviewed to determine which one(s) will be chosen in advertising the exhibition.

Our other major event this year will be our competition at Lee Valley in 2011. We did meet with Scott Croucher of Lee Valley after this year's competition to get his feedback on how things went and confirm hosting the 2011 competition. After some discussions with Scott the date for our upcoming competition has been set for Tuesday January 25 to Saturday February 05, 2011.

As a result of last year's competition there will be some changes coming up:

- (1) a size limit as Lee Valley will only display items that are in a glass cabinet. We were able to display the one table that was entered last year, but if there had been a second we would have been out of luck.
- (2) We will be meeting with the judges before the competition to give them a better idea of what we are looking for and obtaining their feedback on the forms.
- (3) We are also looking at what constitutes a novice, intermediate and open turner.
- (4) Bring to the membership at the AGM (2011) a written submission for the structure of the committee and its mandate. This will be put forth for the membership to vote on.

Sounds like a busy year coming up.

Robert Atkinson

Committee Member

"We have two major events this year, an exhibition and a competition!"

The Anna Leonowens Exhibition

The Nova Woodturners' Guild is pleased to announce that we will be hosting a woodturning exhibition at the Anna Leonowens Gallery of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) in Halifax, Nova Scotia from November 23, 2010 to December 04, 2010.

The exhibit will showcase woodturning in Atlantic Canada with the intent to raise awareness and to encourage interest in our art and craft.

Woodturning in Atlantic Canada has evolved from creating farm implements, ship parts and utensils, to today's creation of fine furniture, beautifully crafted wares, quality writing instruments and sculpture.

Today's woodturner is experiencing a woodturning renaissance through vision, technique and sharing. It is our hope to present a snapshot of woodturning in Atlantic Canada today, to share these achievements with each other and the public.

We are inviting all woodturners in the Atlantic Provinces; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador, to participate in this event.

This is not a juried show. There is no limit to how many pieces that each participant can submit. Everyone is encouraged to submit several pieces.

In addition to this public showing, the exhibition will also be a fund raising event. One of the objectives of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is 'to encourage and promote the art and craft of woodturning'. We will be creating a scholarship to be given to a promising NSCAD craft student in need of support.

Funds for this scholarship will be raised through the sale of turned pieces that have been donated specifically for this purpose. All woodturners are encouraged to donate a piece for this fine cause. **Please note that a donation piece is not required to enter this exhibition.**

NSCAD will host a reception for their major donors and benefactors. Donated works sold at this reception will contribute to the scholarship fund. Woodturners whose pieces are sold in support of the scholarship will receive a tax receipt in the full amount of the sale price. Unsold works will, of course, be returned to the woodturner. We expect that woodturners will price their work at a gallery rate.

Only donated items will be allowed for sale at the exhibition. Business cards or pamphlets can accompany your other submissions to assist in client development.

As this event is a snapshot of woodturning in Atlantic Canada today it is open to all woodturners in Atlantic Canada. We want to show pieces from all levels of experience. Although the display will be set in a gallery setting we hope to show works from beginning woodturners to those that have achieved a higher level of accomplishment.

Although there is no entry fee a small monetary donation per piece that you submit would be appreciated. All monies raised will also go towards the scholarship.

Continued on Page 7

"In addition to this public showing, the exhibition will also be a fund raising event."

As a result of providing donations and establishing a scholarship fund for NSCAD, the following will be provided by NSCAD:

1. A hosted reception for their major donors and benefactors. All exhibitors and their guests are also invited.

2. The printing and production of postcard type gallery invitations. NSCAD will send these out to their major donors and benefactors. Guild members will also receive copies to invite their friends, fans and others.

3. Dr. S. Alfoady, Chairperson of Critical Studies, will review the exhibition and write a scholarly essay on it. Sandra is on the editorial board of several Canadian craft publications and the essay will be published in either the Ontario Crafts Council Studio - Craft and Design in Canada or the Canadian Society of Decorative Arts Ornamentum magazines.

4. The Anna Leonowens Gallery will photograph each piece and document the show. This will be made available to us for our web site. They will provide two students to help with set up and take down. As a full gallery they will also supply plinths and covers in a wide range of sizes to house/secure all the works.

5. Guild librarian, Jim Diamond, will write an article about the exhibition and submit it to the 'Woodturning' magazine, published in the United Kingdom. Published and eventually produce one! Woodturning regularly publishes articles about turning guilds worldwide.

This event is a great opportunity for the Guild. Not only will it give us the chance to showcase our work it will also allow us to lead the way in promoting woodturning throughout Atlantic Canada and the world.

The experience gained through a successful exhibition also opens the doors for future ventures such as other exhibitions, shows and symposiums.

As the host of this event it is our responsibility to ensure its success. This will require a lot of hard work and we look forward to everyone's participation, both in the submission of turnings and for the various tasks that are and will be required. For example, show set up and takedown, promotion, gallery information posters, pickups and deliveries, video and photo taking,

More information will be given in future newsletters but for up to date news please visit the 'NSCAD Show Announcements' category in the Guild website forums located at <http://novawoodturnersguild.com>

If you have any questions regarding the exhibition or to let us know that you would like to help please contact either Alan Hunt at prof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com or Ted Monk at tedmonk@gmail.com

"An entry entitles you to attend the hosted reception!"

"As the host of this event it is our responsibility to ensure its success."

Many hands make light work!

The June 2010 Meeting

The meeting in June was the final meeting for the 2009-2010 season of the Nova Woodturners Guild and as tradition has it, the Annual General Meeting.

The meeting began at 6:30 for library and social time.

The business meeting began at 7:00pm with Secretary Chris Palmer reading past meeting minutes and then we went directly to the President's Report by President Bill Luther.

Bill began with an update on our meeting location for next season. We will continue to meet at the local Home Depot as the new Nova Scotia Community College is still under construction. A big round of thanks and appreciation was voiced for Home Depot for allowing us the opportunity to hold our meetings here.

He has been in contact with Laura Turner at Nova Scotia Community College and was told that it won't be until after the first semester at the school before any plans will be made for He is confident that there will not be any problem for us to get back to meeting here because the Guild's name is in good standing with the school and that it is just a matter of time until we return.

Bill noted that suggestions for other locations are always welcomed and like all suggestions, these can easily be made through the Guild's website.

Using this as a segue, he then spoke about the hard work that has been put into the Guild's website and reminded all members to use it because it is a great asset it is to the Guild. He asked that all members to get involved with it by submitting topics, discussion and photos.

Bill then gave a brief update on Guild member Maureen Simpson's cancer treatment, which, at this time, seems to be moving in a positive direction. He also asked that we continue our positive thoughts to help speed her journey back to good health, back home and back to our meetings.

Bill finished by bringing it to our attention that Fundy Grinding has donated the Guild a 6" slow speed grinder and that Don Moore has donated a sharpening jig to attach to it.

Following the President's Report Treasurer Alan Hunt gave the Financial Report. He began by reviewing the 2009-2010 year-end financial statement (see page 10).

Alan also noted that at present there are 42 members. Since last year there were 20 members who left and 6 new members who joined. He also stated that more care will be taken with the tracking of bank statements and receipts and the present process of handling cash is to improve. Better tracking of assets will also be done in the future. Keeping or selling the Delta Mini lathe was also questioned.

Alan also mentioned that the Executive has decided not to have the wood plaques for the yearly competition. Events Committee member Robert Atkinson requested that the minutes reflect that this was an Executive decision.

"The June meeting featured the Annual General Meeting and Show & Tell"

The June 2010 Meeting

...continued

A motion was made by Alan Hunt and seconded by Doug McGuire to approve the financial statement as presented and to move it to auditing. The motion was accepted unanimously.

The financial report was audited by Robert Atkinson and Dan Graham and it was approved with recommendations that a printed page with signature receipts by Treasurer be included, statements are required for the Guild savings account and the Delta lathe be kept in the Guild assets.

Robert Atkinson and Dan Graham have agreed to be auditors again next year.

Alan then reviewed the Budget for the 2010-2011 season. (See page 11)

Discussion followed regarding increasing membership, the annual Fun Turn, our yearly competition at Lee Valley and the exhibition at the Anna Leonowens Gallery.

A motion was made by Alan Hunt and seconded by Norm Jolivet that the Budget be accepted as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

Librarian Jim Diamond then gave a Library Report, noting that old copies of 'Woodturning' magazine were no longer available and that special care should be taken with these issues since they cannot be replaced.

Jim then changed his hat from Librarian to one of the Executive Nomination Committee and proceeded with the nominations of 2011-2011 Executive Officers. He presented each position and the nominated member for the 2010-2011 Executive with decorum and a bit of humour. 😊

Once all of the nominated members were presented, President Bill Luther moved that they be collectively accepted in their nominated roles. This was seconded by Jim Flinn. The motion was unanimously carried. **Congrats to all!** (You can see the list of the 2010-2011 Executive on the last page of this newsletter.)

It was noted that in Don Moore's absence Bill Luther will continue to preside as President until Don's return.

As always, the highlight of the meeting was the Show and Tell session. Dianne Locker captivated us with her talk about her year living in Victoria, BC and the woodturning club she joined there. Doug McGuire, Darrel Eisner and Robert Atkinson spoke on the AAW Symposium in Hartford, CT that they attended recently. Of note was Guild member Don Campbell's grandson, Andrew Furlong, who won the lathe package in the Youth Turning Program at the Symposium. Congratulations Andrew!

Several pieces of wood were donated to the Guild by Stuart Taylor. They were sold to the members by auction in four lots, raising a total of \$97.00! Thanks, Stuart!

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20pm. There were 22 members in attendance.

"A list of the 2010-2011 Executive can be found on the last page of the newsletter."

The 2009-2010 Financial Statement

Financial Statement Nova Woodturners' Guild 2009-2010 Actual

Income

Dues	\$2,400.00
Other	
Raffle	72.00
Auction	100.00
Magazine Replacement	14.00
Entry Fees	235.00
TOTAL	\$2,821.00

Expenditures

Donation Food Bank	\$235.00
Library	499.79
Competition	2,115.64
Other	228.84
TOTAL	\$3,079.27

Over Spending on Year* \$258.27

* include \$260 from previous fiscal year.

Change in Financial Position

	Chequing	Savings	Total
Beginning Fiscal year	1,953.32	1,825.98	3,779.30
End of Fiscal year	1,487.15	2,034.98	3,522.13
Change in Position-			(\$257.17)
Cash on Hand			\$3.45

Balance Sheet

	Assets	Liabilities	
Tools/Equipment	\$450.00	Accounts Owing	0
Books	1,500.00		
Magazines	2,400.00		
Cash	3.45	Member's Equity	7,875.58
Bank deposits	3,522.13		
Total Assets	\$7,875.58	Total Liabilities/Equity	\$7,875.58

Approved Budget June 1, 2010-May 31, 2011

NOVA WOODTURNER'S GUILD APPROVED BUDGET
PERIOD JUNE 1, 2010 TO MAY 31, 2011

Estimated Revenue:

Dues(1)	\$2250	
Raffles	\$200	
Interest	\$20	\$2470

Estimated Expenditures 2010/2011

Competition (LV) (2)	\$700	
Exhibition (Anna Leonowens Gallery)(3)	\$700	\$1400

Other Activities/Administrative Costs

Fun Turn	\$300	
Postage	\$80	
Registry of Joint Stocks	\$30	
Service Charges	\$50	
Video/ Magazine Subscriptions/Tools	\$600	\$1060

Total Expenditures \$2460

Surplus \$10

Notes to Draft Budget

(1) Estimated paid membership is 45 turners @ \$50. Additional membership will increase revenue, increase expenses and increase projected surplus.

(2) I have talked to Lee Valley - Scott and their store manager - Lee Valley has no requirement that we donate entry fees to charity. Setting the LV and AL entry fee and its spending will be delegated to the LV and AL show committee. Budget for the Lee Valley show is

Judges fees	\$600
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$100
Total	\$700

Note that any prizes (plaques/certificates etc.) and charitable donations will be paid for out of the entry fees, as decided by the respective committee.

(3) Anna Leonowens Gallery Show November 22 to Dec 4th.

Honorarium for Show Review Dr. S. Alfoady NASCAD*	\$300
Set up and Take Down	\$150
Publicity and Promotion	\$250
Total	\$700

* Review to be published in magazine/journal - Studio or Ornamentum - copies to be available to Nova Woodturners' Guild. Note that any charitable donations or scholarship will be paid for out of the entry fees/donated sales proceeds, as decided by the respective committee.

Photos From The June 2010 Meeting

Andrew Watson



Andrew's Nested Bowls



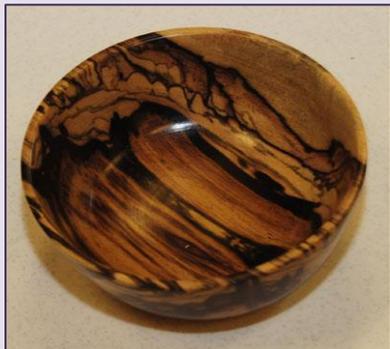
Dale Rayner



Jim Flinn



Jim's Black & White Ebony Bowl



Dale's Lidded Applewood Bowl



Photos From The June 2010 Meeting

Doug McGuire



Doug's Honey Dippers & Scoop



& Off-Center Turning



Norm Jolivet



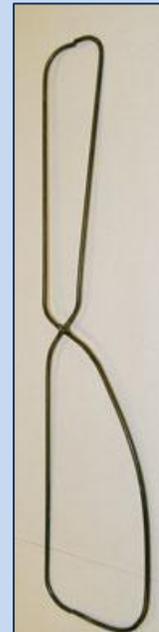
Norm's Apple Mallets & Drill Handles



Stuart Taylor



Stuart's Calipers



Stuart's Maple Fruit Bowl



Special thanks to Guild photographer Chris Palmer for taking and submitting these fantastic photos!

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	Home Depot 6:30-8:30
December 13, 2010	Segmenting Presentation with Gordon Marshall Show & Tell	Home Depot 6:30-8:30
January 17, 2011	Sharpening 102 with Doug McGuire and Gordon Marshall Show & Tell – The Shape Challenge	Home Depot 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	Home Depot 6:30-8:30
April 18, 2011	Hollowing Shape & Design Part II Show & Tell	Home Depot 6:30-8:30
May 16, 2011	Pen Turning – Cecil Canam Items Turned Similar To Pens – Ian Scott Show & Tell	Home Depot 6:30-8:30
June 20, 2011	Annual General Meeting Eccentric Woodturning with Don Moore Show & Tell	Home Depot 6:30-8:30

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

Important Dates

- September 20, 2010 – Membership dues are due
- January 25 - February 05, 2011 - Lee Valley Week of Woodturning
- February 05, 2011 - Annual Nova Woodturning Guild Competition
- March 21, 2011 – Annual Fun Turn pieces are due
- November 23, 2010 to December 04, 2010 - Anna Leonowens Exhibition

The September 2010 Meeting – September 20th

Shape: Design and Shape Challenge

Wow! Kicking off the 2010-2011 season will be Guild members, Alan Hunt and Dianne Looker, who will give us a presentation on woodturning design and tell us about a new, and fun, Guild project.

Alan will talk about concepts of design -- how best to make pleasing shapes. He will illustrate his talk with examples of bad vessels (of his own making ☺) and good examples. He will talk about how to get your vessels to stand up and not squat down, how to make them look tall and proud, not hunch over and apologetic. He will also touch on the magic of the "Golden Mean", from its origins in secret Greek mathematical societies to an Italian that counted rabbits and how it can and should inform your turning.

Dianne will introduce a new and exciting Guild project called the "Shape Challenge". Using a shape from Richard Raffan's, "The Art of Turned Bowls", the challenge will be for everyone to turn a piece in that shape and bring it to a future meeting.

There will be handouts for the discussions as well as for the Shape Challenge.

Show & Tell – Look What I Did Over The Summer!

Bring in a project (or more!) that you did over the summer so we can all see what you've been up to!

It's been a long time since our last meeting with weeks of hot, summer sun in between.

Prove to us that you got some shop time and it hasn't all been spent on the hammock! ☺

If you're hesitant to stand up and speak just bring a piece in for the 'Show' part! We'd love to see it!

Remember, membership dues are due at this meeting! Please bring cash or a cheque in the amount of \$50.00. See Treasurer Alan Hunt for payment and to get your coupon for the Fun Turn wood.

The September 2010 Guild meeting is at Halifax Specialty Hardwoods 6:30 – 8:30

Halifax Specialty Hardwoods is located off the Hammonds Plains Road in the Atlantic Acres Industrial Park at 26A Topsail Court. It is also accessible from the Kearney Lake Road. [Click here for directions and map.](#)

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

Shavings

Lathe For Sale

Doug McGuire has a well loved and cared for lathe for sale. It is a General Model 160 with a 1 ½ hp motor, electronic variable speed and it is capable of turning up to 21 inches! It is in excellent condition and he is asking \$1800. or best offer. If you are interested, please contact Doug at 902-685-3890. It sounds like a sweet deal!

Principally Pens

A new, web-based chapter of the AAW has been formed, specifically for pen turners. It is called 'Principally Pens'. There's no website yet but they're working on it. As soon as we hear we'll pass it on. This is the third virtual chapter of the AAW. The other two are 'Segmented Woodturners' and 'Ornamental Turners International'.

And Speaking Of The AAW

Several members of the Guild went to the AAW Symposium held in Hartford, Connecticut this past June. From all indications Doug McGuire, Robert Atkinson, Ted Monk, Dianne Looker, Don Campbell and his grandson, Andrew, had a fantastic time! Ask them about it, we're sure that they'll gladly share their experience.

Vari-Grind Upgrade Clamp Kit

Many of us own Vari-Grind sharpening systems. The first Vari-Grind came with a leaf spring mechanism for holding the tool in place while you tightened the knob. This spring also had to be held back when removing your recently sharpened tool otherwise it rode right along the top of your sharpened edge. This new clamp kit will remove that problem and makes your Vari-Grind a better tool. The kit will replace the spring system and increase the tool diameter to ¾". It's available from [Oneway](#) and costs about \$15.00

The Latest Buzz

Did you see the photo that Robert Atkinson posted on the Guild forums recently showing the gift that was left on his door? If you didn't, check out 'Home Coming Surprise' in the Coffee Shop category. Now this is definitely a work of art!

Putting A Different Spin On It

"My wife stepped into the room where I was working the other day and asked me if I would go do some woodturning for her." "Of course," I replied, receiving anticipatory joy at the thought of my wife's pleasure when I would be finished creating the item for which she had a need. "What do you want? Maybe a new bowl, a rolling pin or a vase? I have Persimmon, Hickory, Mesquite, a little bit of Walnut and a tad of Oak. What would you like?" "Oh, I don't care," my wife replied. "I need about six bags of shavings for the flower beds..." ☺

Ramp Up The Speed

Ensure that the speed of the lathe is set to its lowest setting before turning it on. Then ramp the speed up. If the lathe shakes, slow it down until balance is achieved.

Did This Ever Happen To You?

You start off with a great idea and a beautiful big piece of wood. Then you change the shape a bit, get a catch here and there, find a small crack, change the shape a bit more, take off a little here and a little more there, have another catch and change the shape a bit more until you're left with a 'thing' that resembles a badly deformed toothpick? No? Never? I guess it's just me then... ☺

Just One More

We're all just one tool away from greatness – Don Geiger

Barking Up The Wrong Tree?

If you're planning on turning some natural edged pieces ensure that your wood was cut down in the winter. Because sap stops flowing in colder weather it's more likely that the bark will remain on the wood. Likewise, the bark is easily removed from wood cut in the summer.

As History Would Have It

Although woodturning has been around since 'like forever', the earliest representation of turning is in an Egyptian tomb dating back to 300BC. It depicts two men operating a lathe, one rotating the work-piece, the other holding the cutting tool.

Is This True?

They say that if you can't put soup in it, it's called art! ☺

Stock On The Rise

Have you noticed how much more woodturned pieces are showing up in galleries and craft markets around the province? There seems to be a lot more this year. Mmmm, maybe the time has come?

There's Still Some Openings

At the time of writing there are still some openings in the various woodturning classes going on around town. Check out [Lee Valley](#) and the [Nova Scotia Center for Craft and Design](#) for more info. You better hurry, because, like always, they're filling up fast!

And Finally...

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

How To Make A Spindle Steady Rest

Ted Monk

For last year's Fun Turn I decided that I would turn a cane. To do this I required a spindle steady rest.

A spindle steady is used to steady a long spindle while turning. The smaller the diameter and the longer the spindle is the more likely it is to vibrate and 'whip' back and forth, making it pretty much impossible to turn. The spindle steady, using clamping pressure with a series of wheels, tames this erratic motion allowing you to turn your piece as normal. Basically it minimizes the distance of support on your workpiece.

Making your own steady rest is rather straight forward and easily finished in a day, though an afternoon and a few hours the following morning is preferred since this will give time for the glued pieces to dry.

Here's how I built mine:

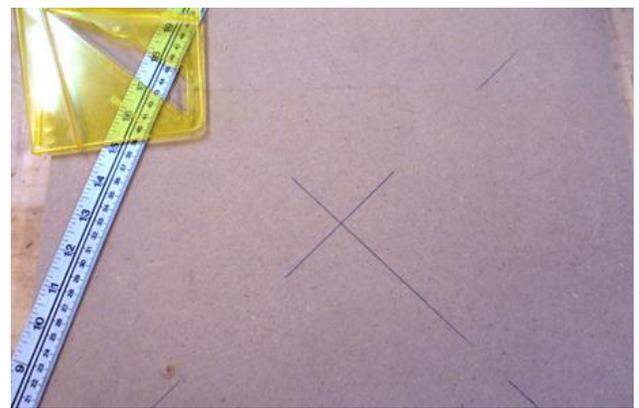


(1) I started with two pieces of 3/4" MDF cut to 16" square. The size may differ, depending on the swing-over bed capacity of your lathe.

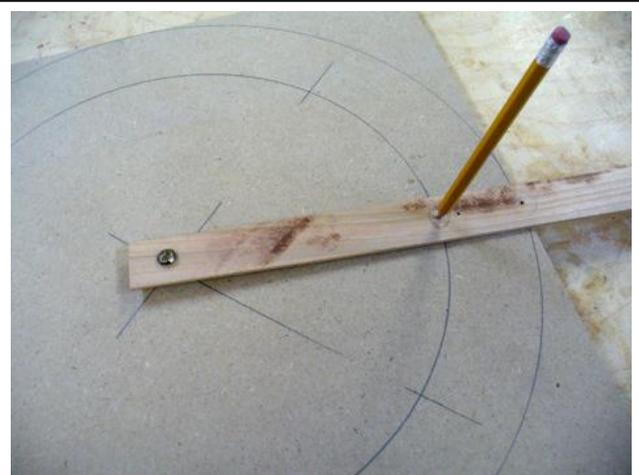


(2)

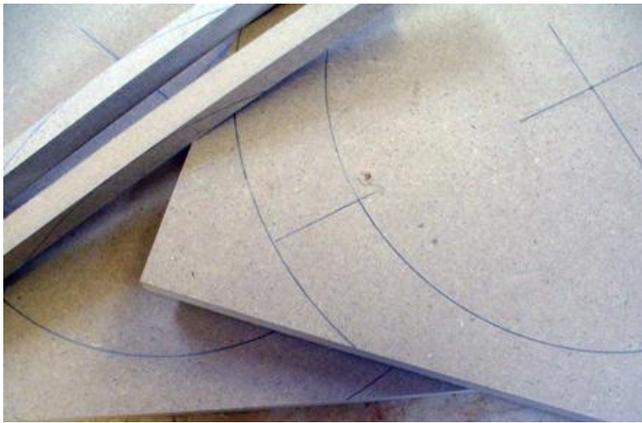
Next, I found the center of each of these pieces.



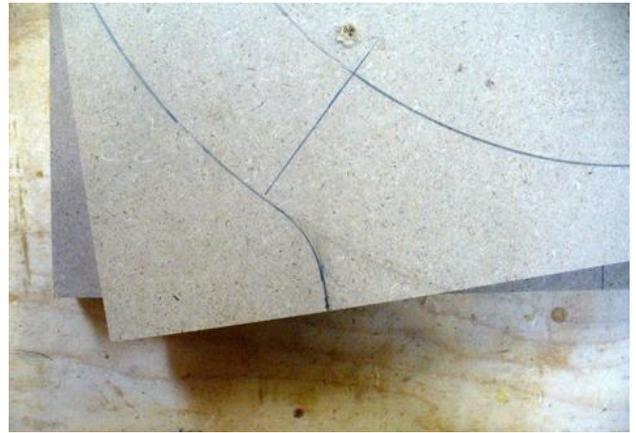
(3) Then I made two concentric circles, one at the maximum diameter and the second one 2" smaller. I didn't have a traditional compass large enough so I just made a simple beam compass that consisted of a thin strip of wood, a tack and two small holes for trammel points that a pencil point fit through, which you can see here:



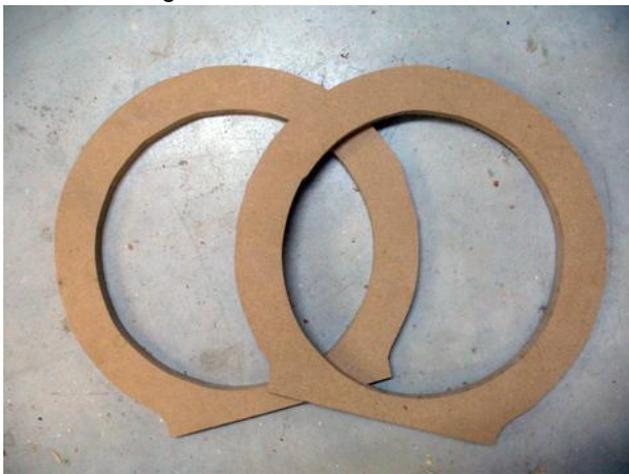
(4) Next I cut a 3/4" strip off one of the sides of each of the squares. This side will become the bottom and removing this strip will allow for the 3/4" base that will be put on later.



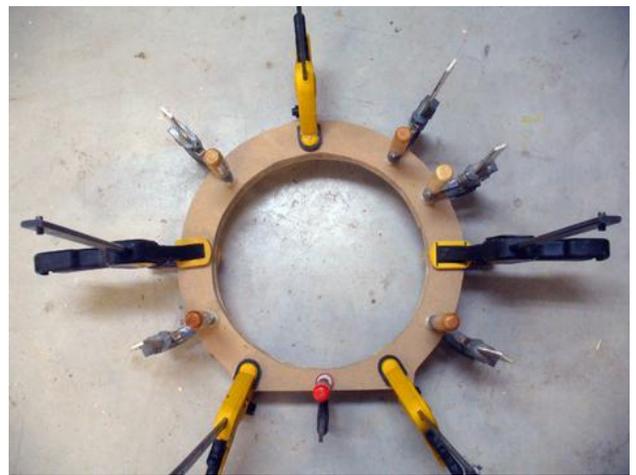
(5) Then, using an appropriate size circle (a large washer) I traced in a line that blended the outer circle into the bottom.



(6) Next, using a jigsaw I cut out each of the rings. I started the jigsaw with a hole large enough for the jigsaw blade as near to the ring as I could since I would be using one of the centers for the base.



(7) Once this was done I glued the pieces together and clamped it well:



(8) While this was drying I cut 3 pieces of hardwood at 3/4" X 1 1/2" X 10" for the wheel adjustment arms.



(9) To make the slot in the arms I used a 1/4" spiral bit in the router and set up two stop blocks on the router table fence to only allow the wood to travel the distances for the slot, which was 2" from one end and 1" from the other.



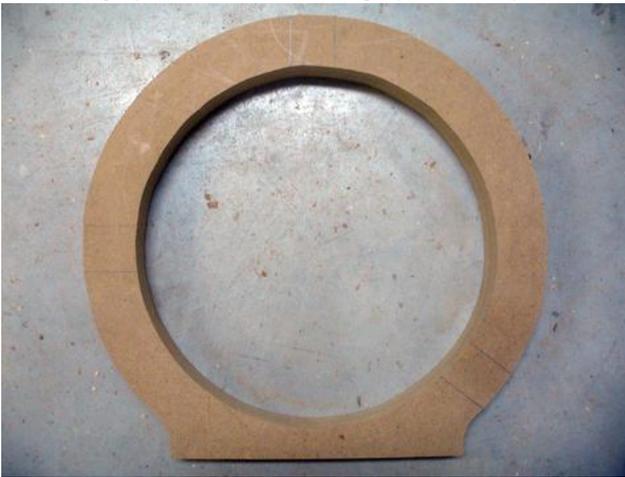
(10) Then I rounded both ends on the bandsaw:



(11) Then, on the end of each of the slider arms where I left the 2" of unslotted wood, I drilled a hole and then bolted on a rubber wheel that I took off an old pair of roller blades.



(12) Once the ring was dried I sanded it a bit with an oscillating spindle sander, truing up the two pieces.



(13) Once this was done, and the sharp edges rounded a bit, I marked where I wanted the sliding arms to go. I determined the positions for these by laying the ring on my workbench and then placed the remaining center piece back in the center of the ring. This gave me a center point again. Then I arranged the sliding arms so that the wheels would meet in the center and then traced the width of the arm on the ring.

I wanted very little movement between the arm and the ring, just enough to allow them to slide, so I cut tight to the drawn line. I also cut to about a 3/8" depth. I cleared away the waste with a bench chisel.

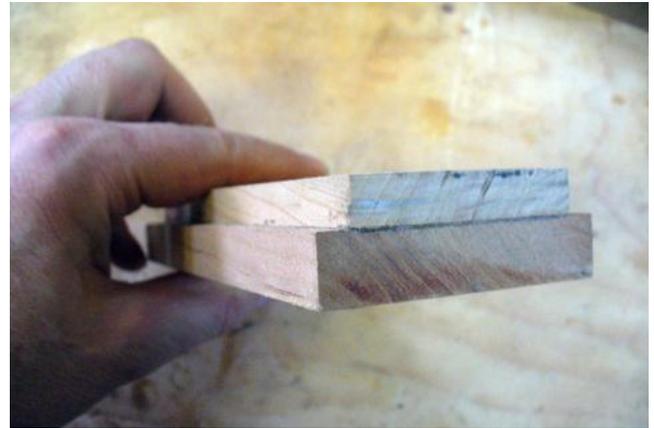
You can see this in the following two photos:



(14) I drilled the holes for the bolts that would hold the arms and added the 6" X 10" base cut from one of the centers with a couple of screws and some glue.



(15) I made the pinch bracket out of a couple of pieces of scrap hardwood. The pinch bracket is what holds the steady rest on to the lathe bed so this had to be sized for the distance between the ways and to allow clamping pressure when the base bolts are tightened.



Then it was just a matter of drilling a couple of holes in the base, matching them up with holes in the pinch bracket and adding the hardware.

Installing the sliding arms on the spindle steady completed the project which gave me 12" maximum diameter:



As you can see this is quite an easy project and one that can be pretty inexpensive. I was fortunate enough to have everything I needed except for a few wing nuts. Probably the hardest thing to get would be the wheels but these can be picked up at yard sales and flea markets pretty cheap.

Here's a list of what I used:

- 2 pieces of 3/4" X 16" square MDF (for the rings and base)
- 3 pieces of 3/4" X 1 1/2" X 10" hardwood (for the slider arms)
- 2 pieces of approx. 3/8" X 3" X 6" hardwood for (the pinch bracket)
- 3 roller blade wheels
- 5 – 2 1/4" X 1/4" bolts (for slider arms and base assembly)
- 5 – 1/4" wing nuts
- 5 – 1/4" lock washers
- 3 – 2" X 1/4" bolts (for the wheel assembly)
- 3 – 1/4" nuts (for the wheel assembly)
- 3 – 1/4" washers (for between wheels and arm)

If I was to build another one I would place the sliding arms at an equal distance around the ring. In this version I wanted one that would be located behind my turning, giving support when force was applied with a tool. Doing so would have placed one of the arms in an awkward place (so I thought) and I would have been prone to bumping into it so I placed it straight at the top. The problem with this configuration is that when working on a very small spindle the top and back wheels can touch, causing them to reverse on each other. Now, although this is easily remedied by simply reversing either the top or back sliding arms it made for an unnecessary solution since I later found that had I placed the top one at an equal distance around the ring it would not have been in my way after all.

I hope that this article helps you if and when you decide to build your own steady rest.

If you have any questions regarding this project feel free to drop me a line – tedmonk@gmail.com

Oh, and the cane that I needed it for? It came out looking like this: ☺



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 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://www.novawoodturnersguild.com>

Your 2010-2011 Guild Executive

President: Don Moore

moorewood1@hotmail.com

Vice President: Dan Graham

djgraham@ns.sympatico.ca

Secretary: Ted Monk

tedmonk@gmail.com

Treasurer: Alan Hunt

prof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com

Past President:

Bill Luther

Members At Large:

Ian Scott

Dianne Looker

Gordon Marshall

Doug McGuire



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