

The Turning Point

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Meeting Location Change!

See Page 9 for more info!

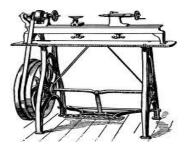
From The President's Workshop

Don Moore

Participation is this month's theme from my work shop.

Hopefully, most of you have opted to participate in the "Turning of Age" exhibition at NSCAD later this month, in one manner or another. Please remember that the deadline to submit your entries for the exhibition is November 19th. I am really looking forward to seeing the wide variety of interesting work that will be on display for the pubic to see and appreciate.

We absolutely need volunteers to keep our Guild viable, to grow and develop. Now is the time to consider becoming an active member. These vacant positions require little time and/or commitment when the workload is spread out. Please check the newsletter and website to see where your interests match your Guilds needs.



Having had the opportunity to visit with some woodturning guild members in Toronto this past summer while attending a seminar and workshop that they hosted, it was nice to compare our Guild to theirs. We have a terrific Guild here in Nova Scotia, as we compared very favourably.

I look forward to seeing your participation in the exhibition and the Lee Valley competition as well. At this time I would like to thank all of you who have volunteered their time with the development of the exhibition, as well as to all of you who participate in both functions.

Here is my 'Tip of the Month': One method that I have found to be very beneficial in achieving a better quality finish on my turnings is to use compressed air to blow out the dust from the wood pores between each change in sanding grits. This allows each grit to contact a clean surface and not have to deal with the previous grits residue. If you don't have an air compressor, a 'tack cloth' would be my second choice and recommendation. Having a clean surface allows for the optimum results from the finish you are using.

Keep your bevel rubbing,

The November Meeting is at Kent Dartmouth!

The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is

November 15th 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

As the finishing touches were being added to the newsletter I was reflecting on the fact that although we are only a couple of months into the 2010-2011 season we are already seeing some great examples of community building and sharing within the Guild.

- The Events Committee has been very active putting together two great opportunities for us to share our work with each other through the Turning of Age Exhibition and the Annual Competition.
- In addition to the updates given in the Executive and Committee reports
 members have been sharing their 'trade secrets' and imparting their knowledge
 with us through their articles in the newsletter. This month's newsletter alone
 has some more photography tips from Glenn McCarron, a pen how-to from
 Darrel Eisner, a pen mandrel review from Ian Scott and a treatise on the
 elements of design from Alan Hunt.
- Members have been bringing their 'for sale ' items to the attention of other members, sharing their good fortune so that other members can benefit by purchasing great equipment at discounted prices.
- Some members have been getting together outside of the monthly meetings, in groups small and large. They are helping each other, working on projects together, sharing thoughts and ideas or just getting together to chat over coffee.
- Some members have even been sharing their wood! A case in point we received an email from member Dianne Looker the other day asking us to forward a request to the Guild members for a piece of the somewhat rare Applewood so that she could turn a bowl as a Christmas present for her son. Apparently she had searched the local commercial venues and couldn't find any. We sent out the request at 3:24pm and at 9:24pm, just 6 hours later, we got an email from her that she had already received a couple of offers!

Now, obviously I 'm not suggesting that everyone puts out a call for wood. © I just want to bring to your attention that being a part of the Guild, where members share with each other, works and that it is clearly working! To quote my good friends, McLean and McLean, it "blowwws my mind!" ©

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

"Being a part of the Guild, where members share with each other, works!"

The Guild works!

Dollars and Cents

Alan Hunt

October finances remain sound. The Executive have agreed with the Bank of Canada and we will not be raising its prime turning interest rate, we hope to contribute to the strengthening Canadian economy. ©

We have made several expenditures this month. Our Fun Turn spent \$82 to purchase 41 turning blanks from Stuart Taylor. We owe a big thank you to Stuart and anyone that thinks Stuart made any money at such a low price should move to Ottawa and become our Finance Minister, as he or she would fit in well with those other challenged folks that try to manage our economy. We budgeted \$300 for the Fun Turn and Dianne Looker's insightful questioning spurred us on to look for more economic ways to have Fun and we found it – again we owe a major thank you to Stuart, for cutting, and transporting our Fun Turn wood. Doug McGuire has purchased three new videos for the library – for a total of \$116.32 – your check is in the mail Doug! The three new videos are "From Tree to Table, The Basic Box and The Capsule Box" all sound like good winter viewing, YES an ice skim was on Ostrea Lake this morning and I watched it as I drank my morning caffeine fix! In addition, to these three videos we have two new DVD's featuring Cindy Drozda and her work. Finally, we can report that aside from giving a super-workshop Clive Brooks of Sorby Tools eats LIKE A BIRD. Your Executive had the pleasure of buying him supper, and getting to know him on a personal level. Don will be reimbursed the princely sum of \$13.43.

Looking ahead we approved the construction of permanent trophies to memorialize our annual Lee Valley competition. In previous years we have given plaques to category winners. In the future we will be giving trophies which are returned for the next year's winner. Small brass plates will be placed annually on each trophy – we will have a permanent record of achievements, more club history and tradition. The trophies will be built by members and the material costs will be approximately \$350. This funding will be taken from our surplus, keeping us on track to balance this year's budget.

Our two show/competition events are staying on track and on budget. Judges have been confirmed for the Lee Valley competition a modest honorarium of \$600 is provided to these three judges. Miscellaneous expenses for business/contact cards are being incurred – these cards will be given to perspective members as a means of getting to our website. A nice clear functional design has been done by Robert Atkinson, I look forward to the final product. A People's Choice ballot is also been printed – for its modest price it will give us a look of additional professionalism. Full cost of this event is estimated to be \$700, which is right on budget.

The Turning of Age exhibition is on track and we are starting to receive entries. Thank you Dr. Watson for those great bowls and Andrew Furlong for your pens, great work. I am guessing but these entries span at least three generations representing our original members (Dr. Watson signed our original articles of incorporation) and our youngest member, Andrew, who is 12 years old. Andrew has already won prizes for his turnings at the AAW Symposium, his Grandfather Don Campbell is duly proud. Our reviewer has been confirmed. Dr. Alfoady will review the exhibit and her review will be published in a Canadian craft journal. In addition, Dr. Alfoady will give a 'final turner's reception' talk that places what she has seen in this show within the context of the Canadian neo-craft movement. We are providing Dr. Alfoady with an honorarium of \$350. The Events Committee is also having additional invitations printed for the opening reception (sponsored by NSCAD) for members to distribute to guests. On the last day of the show the Guild will be hosting a reception for all participants and anyone that happens along. The reception will feature snacks and refreshments and a talk by Dr. Alfoady - her talk will be illustrated by works on display. The last part of this show will be a picking up of work by artists. Full cost of the additional invitations and exhibition ending reception is estimated to be \$125. The present estimate of the exhibition's full cost is \$475, \$275 under budget.

At our last meeting we had an additional 6 members pay their annual dues (37 in total) – another \$300 in our coffers.

Well, folks that is it – watch your cents and let you dollars buy Sorby tools.

Alan

Events Committee Report

Robert Atkinson

The Events Committee met on the October 5th, 2010 and updated our Competition Rules & Regulations, the Competition forms and our People's Choice ballots. We also updated our letters to Lee Valley and to the other sponsors of the Competition, which will soon be going out to solicit prizes for participating in the competition.

Based on the feedback from the September meeting we decided to keep the three levels, Novice, Intermediate and Open, in each of the three categories. Personally, I was rather disappointed that no comments were received by any of the Committee members after the meeting. This is your Guild so please let us know what you think and the direction you want us to go in.

It was also decided that we would make the trophy bases and ask some Guild members to donate turnings to be mounted on them. The design and cost for 10 trophies were to be available for the next meeting.

We heard a report back from Dan Graham regarding holding a lottery for a piece to be donated by Don Moore and it was decided that this is the work of the Fund Raising Committee, as we have enough to deal with right now. It will be put in the newsletter that Don Moore will provide a piece as the prize if someone (or more than one), wants to look after it as a fundraiser for the Guild.

A poster for the competition is being created by Lee Valley's head office and will be displayed at the store and at the exhibition.

The Events Committee met again on October 18th, 2010 before the guild meeting to go over the design and cost of the trophy bases. As this one time cost for the trophies would put us over our budget for the competition, it was decided to go to the membership to ask for the funds to make the bases. It was also decided to have some business cards for the Guild printed for use at the Exhibition and Competition. Also to be printed are the new ballots for the People's Choice Award.

At the Guild meeting later that night the project of making the bases was discussed and a motion passed allowing up to \$350.00 to be spent on them. The Events Committee members plan on getting together before the end of December to make them.

The Guild members that have graciously offered to make the tops for the trophies are Stuart Taylor, Doug McGuire, Gordon Marshall, Andrew Furlong, Ian Scott, Richard Ford, Robert Atkinson, Don Moore and Darrell Eisner.

Robert Atkinson Chairman of the Events Committee

Fund Raising & Social Committee Still Needed!

We are still in serious need of a Fund Raising & Social Committee. Unfortunately, the existing Executive and Committee members are stretched to the max and wearing multiple hats. 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**.

This just in – Don Moore has generously offered to donate a piece of his to an Annual Guild Fund Raiser. We desperately need someone to spearhead this as soon as possible to take advantage of this great opportunity!

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

Library Report – Books And Video

Richard Ford

We have recently added 9 new DVD's to the Guild Library:

Elegant Finials by Cindy Drozda

Offers a detailed description of how Cindy makes a lid and finial for one of her vessels. It also includes a tutorial on basic spindle cuts and sharpening the spindle gouge.

Finial Star by Cindy Drozda

On this DVD, Cindy teaches basic woodturning techniques, sharpening methods, and making her signature "Finial Star" lidded bowl with a fine finial.

From The Tree To The Table by Mike Mahoney

Mike gives an overview of finding the wood, cutting blanks, rough turning, drying, chucking methods, returning, grinding, sanding, and finishing.

The McNaughton Center Saver by Mike Mahoney

This is the primer to understanding the science of nesting bowls using the McNaughton Center Saver. Includes everything from setup to advanced techniques.

Hollow Forms and Urns - A Workshop by Mike Mahoney

In this video Mike takes you step by step to create beautiful, well crafted hollow forms and lidded urns. It also includes a demonstration on how to create a threaded lid.

Turned Boxes - The Basic Box by Ray Key,

Includes the selection of stock, tool modification, chucking options, sanding and finishing, Ray Key's method of rechucking and finishing the base.

Turned Boxes -The Capsule Box by Ray Key

The step-by-step sequence of turning a capsule box shows how to turn a box with matching grain and spigot type lid.

Turned Boxes - The Finial Box by Ray Key

Topics included are techniques for holding the lid and the base, tips on cutting, proper tool use, special tools he has developed, finishing techniques and materials.

Power Carving Fur, Feathers & Fins by Frank Russell

A 3 disk set that details the steps involved in transforming blocks of tupelo wood into carvings of the cottontail rabbit, mallard drake duck, and smallmouth bass.

Library Report – Magazines

Jim Diamond

Here is the overdue magazine list, which is quite short this month.

• G Marshall: WT July 03, Aug 03, Nov 08, Feb 09; JAAW Fall 05, Fall 06;

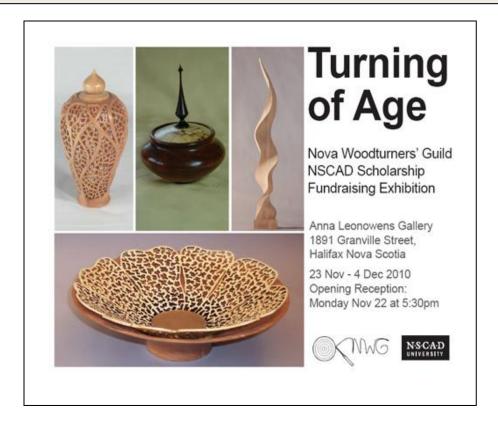
WT Design Summer 2009 Winter 2010: June 2010

• D Looker: WT Sept 08

G Landry: WT Aug 01, Sept 01, May 07, July 08, Dec 09: Sept 2010

"We have recently added 9 new DVD's to the Guild Library!"

The Turning Of Age Exhibition – Nov. 23 To Dec. 04



The time is getting close folks, to get your entries in for the Turning of Age Exhibition. Items must be delivered to NSCAD between November 16th to 19th between the hours of 11 am and 5pm. Here is a list of instructions:

Entry Submission Instructions

The entry form is located on Page 8 or on our website under 'Documents'.

Complete the Entry Form for Exhibition pieces (one form for each piece).

You will submit one entry form with each piece If you are submitting five pens, one entry form is fine but with different work individual entry forms are needed. This is a matter for your discretion and judgment. Please value all your exhibition pieces for insurance purposes and donation sales.

Complete Entry Form(s) for Donated Pieces (one each)

You can donate as many pieces as you want to – all will be appreciated. Please price your donation, for NSCAD insurance purposes. Price your piece for donation sale, if donations are not priced NWG will price them. Should you not chose to donate a piece to the scholarship fund a cash donation would be appreciated and welcome – a check payable to Nova Scotia Woodturners Guild should be enclosed with your exhibition piece.

Pack all entry forms with your exhibition and/or donated pieces. Pack your pieces in such a way as to avoid confusion of forms and pieces (donation vs. exhibition) by those who will be setting up the show.

The Turning Of Age Exhibition – Nov. 23 To Dec. 04

In addition to completing your entry forms please email your entry information to Alan Hunt at prof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com. This will help us with producing exhibition labels and a show program. Please email your name, the piece's title, note if the piece is NOT FOR SALE, donation sale price, and a description of the item.

Work can be dropped off at NSCAD's Anna Leonowens Gallery from November 16th to 19th between the hours of 11 am and 5pm. The Gallery will be storing your work in their facility. All unpacking will be the responsibility of the NWG setup committee. A NWG member will be at the Gallery November 19th to receive and facilitate work delivery.

Submissions can be dropped off personally, mailed or couriered to the Gallery at the following:

Att. Eleanor King
Turning of Age: Anna Leonownes Gallery
NSCAD University
5163 Duke St. Halifax,
Nova Scotia Canada
B3J 3J6

Setup will occur Sunday November 21st. All entrants will have at least one piece on exhibit, in the case of too many entry pieces, the setup committee after assuring that everyone has at least one piece represented, and will decide what works to exclude. Their decision will be final.

The exhibition and sale will continue until December 4th. Exhibitors are encouraged to attend an 'end-of-show' reception. This will start at 3 pm and end at 5 pm. Exhibitors should take their work home after this end-of-show reception. Your original packaging will be available.

Featured at this end-of-show reception will be a 'talk' from Dr. Alfoady. It is expected that she will discuss the show as a whole and specific pieces. The title of her talk will be "Turning of Age; Nova Scotia's Woodturners and Canadian Craft". Refreshments will be provided.

Exhibitors that would like their works mailed or couriered back must include adequate postage or courier fees. The NWG nor NSCAD will not be able to 'pay' for return services.

Any work not picked up on Saturday December 4th (between 4:00 and 5pm) will be stored by the NWG and the exhibitor will need to make arrangement with the NWG for pickup. Any works abandoned will become the property of the NWG and are liable to be sold and proceeds contributed to the scholarship fund. Pick up is the responsibility of exhibitors.

The Opening Reception will be held at NSCAD on Monday, November 22nd at 5:30pm and the Closing Reception will be held at NSCAD on Saturday, November 4th at 4:00pm and they are open to all entrants, NWG members and their guests.

If you have any questions, issues or difficulties with getting your work and donations to the exhibition contact Alan at 902-889-2525 or email him at prof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com

The Turning Of Age Exhibition – Nov. 23 To Dec. 04

Turning of Age: A Snapshot of Woodturning in Atlantic Canada: 2010

Entry Form (one per piece)

Please check one of the following options.
The following work is to be donated to the NSCAD scholarship fund
OR
The following work is for exhibition ONLY
• I am contributing the following amount to the scholarship fund (check enclosed and made payable to Nova Woodturners Guild).
Turners Name: (print)
Title of Work (print)
Date Made (print) (Month/Year)
Description of Work – include type of wood used
Work Value:
For NSCAD insurance purposes please value your work
I agree by the terms and conditions set out in "PARTICIPANTS INSTRUCTIONS" as provided by the Nova Woodturners Guild.
Signed

Important! - Meeting Location Change - Important!

Our meetings will now be held at Kent Building Supplies Mic Mac Mall Location

Due to the fear of liability issues Home Depot will no longer be hosting our meetings. This begins immediately!

Sorry for the short notice but there was none given.

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Enter Kent through the front entrance and go all the way to the back of the store. At the end of the alcove where the **Men's Washroom** is located you will see a door marked 'ASSOCIATES ONLY', enter and take the stairs to the top floor, then through the doors at the top of the stairs.

Kent is located at 35 Mic Mac Blvd. Dartmouth, NS B3A 4Y8.

A map is located here - http://goo.gl/maps/dZG8

The October 2010 Meeting - Sorby Tool Demo

Well, they hung from the rafters! There were over 60 members and guests in attendance for this three hour meeting which featured a fantastic presentation/demonstration by Sorby Tools Product Manager, Clive Brooks.

Clive once again finished his North American tour at his favourite stop – with the Nova Woodturners' Guild at Busy Bee Tools! ;) The 'Sorby meeting' has become sort of a fall tradition for us and those that have attended one in the past know that it is one of the most popular meetings of the season. It's always a great time and tonight was no different.

Clive began with showing us the Patriot chuck and then moved through to the variety of Stebcenters available. He showed how they differed from the traditional centers that come equipped with our lathes, and its safety features. From here he showed us the Hollowmaster, how it worked as a combination spindle gouge and skew and the method for sharpening them. He turned and passed around an example of the smooth cut it can make on end grain, requiring little or no sanding when completed!

Using the Spiraling System he demonstrated how a myriad of textures can easily be achieved using the different cutters that are available. He also shared several tips on its use such as texturing the outside of a bowl before turning the inside and to sometimes 'fishtail' the tool handle to get the best results.

Next came an in-depth review of the many features of the abrasive belt based Pro Edge Sharpening System. Clive showed us the various assets of this system for sharpening a spectrum of turning tools including the 'angle setter', the tilting feature and the ease of changing the belts. He also showed how available attachments such as the skew jig, fingernail gouge profiler, honing wheels and buffing mops can further the versatility of this tool.



In addition to giving us this extensive and enjoyable review of many of these products in Sorby's line of woodturning tools the crowning moment came when Clive demonstrated the new Sorby Sovereign System, including the Sovereign Ultima Hollowing System.

The Sovereign Ultima Hollowing System is Sorby's recent entry into the 'articulated' hollower arena, and a fine entry it is. With its innovations that addresses apparent problems with other systems, specifically the cutter design that allows the shavings to clear without clogging and the micro-adjuster that allows you to easily set the cutter depth it was easy to see that this tool is a winner.

The Sovereign System itself is an aluminum and alloy handle system that features a counter-weight option and a side handle. It can fit the 3/8", 1/2" and 5/5" diameter bowl gouges, spindle gouges and multi-tip hollowing that are available for this system. They also fit the Sovereign Ultima Hollowing System gouges.

What an informative and enjoyable evening it was! One member later commented, "Last night's meeting was probably a review for many but I really enjoyed it a lot. It was really informative and I got to see tools in action that I have seen sitting on shelves and have seen the results of but have not seen in action. Clive was great and I really enjoyed the meeting. Please pass my kudos along to the Executive for planning the evening."

The October 2010 Meeting – Sorby Tool Demo

...continued

Kudos goes out to Clive too, for giving us another great presentation. As always, he kept us captivated with his display of fine tools, dexterity and wit. With the final approval of his skills given under the watchful eye of Guild member Richard Ford, we're hoping he'll see his way back this way again. :)





The business portion of tonight's meeting included Events Chairman Robert Atkinson presenting plans for the Events Committee to make the trophies for the Annual Competition along with a request for up to \$350.00 for materials. A motion was made by Doug McGuire to allow the release of these funds for this purpose. It was seconded by Dan Graham and approved by all.

Tonight's meeting was also the Annual Fun Turn Wood Pickup and there was a scramble to get the choice pieces. Fortunately, all of the wood was choice pieces so there were very few black eyes and broken bones in the shuffle this year. :) The pieces were supplied by Stuart Taylor and are approximately 8" X 8" and both Maple and Oak were available (see last month's issue of the newsletter for more information about the Annual Fun Turn).

The evening finished with a draw for door prizes. Cecil Canam and Dianne Looker both won a \$25.00 gift card from Busy Bee Tools. Congratulations Cecil and Dianne!

Special thanks to Clive Brooks, Sorby Tools and Busy Bee Tools for such a great evening!

And finally, thanks to everyone that brought in non-perishable food items for Feed Nova Scotia. Every little bit helps!



The October 2010 Meeting – Sorby Tool Demo

...continued



The October 2010 Meeting – Sorby Tool Demo

...continued



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

- November 12 14, 2010 Moncton Wood Show (http://www.woodshows.com)
- November 15 19, 2010 Drop off period for Turning of Age Exhibition at NSCAD
- November 23, 2010 to December 04, 2010 The Turning of Age Exhibition at NSCAD
- December 04, 2010 Reception and pickup of pieces for Turning of Age Exhibition at NSCAD
- 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
- 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 November 2010 Meeting – November 15th

Inside Outside Christmas Ornaments with Dan Graham

The November 15th meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild will focus on Christmas Ornaments. Yes, it is getting to be that time again and now is a great time to get a jump on making some turned ornaments for your tree and for gifts for your friends and family.

Your host for the evening, Guild Vice President Dan Graham, will lead a discussion on making Christmas ornaments. He is asking that everyone **bring in a turned ornament or two for Show and Tell**.

Not only will this make a fantastic display of ornaments but it will be a great opportunity to spur discussion and share ideas and ornament styles.

If you don't already have any ornaments now is a great time to make a few. Here's some links to get you started:

http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/ornaments.html http://www.woodcentral.com/newforum/ornaments/

So get out into the shop and turn an ornament or two... or three...

Here's a thought, if every member was to bring in at least 3 ornaments we would have over 100 ornaments on display! Wow! What a photo op! Let's make this happen!

Please note that the most important part of our Show and Tell is the 'Show' part. We really want to see what has been keeping you busy! Though we would also like to hear about the trials and tribulations you went through to make your piece and the secret finish that you used, the 'Tell' part is only an option and you are not required to talk about your piece. So bring in a few ornaments... for us to see!

The Traditional 50/50 Draw Returns!

Norm Jolivet will be packing in chunks of wood to this meeting for the return of the 50/50 draw! He says that he has the log book, the official coffee can and requisite funny hat and hopes for lots of participation from everyone.

The Executive notes that although Norm hasn't 'completely' committed to assuming the role of Fund Raising Committee chair we feel that with enough support we just might be able to persuade him to take it on full time.

So show your support! Lots of change and smaller bills will help.;)

Oh, and if you meet him on the way in please give him a hand carrying the wood up the stairs. (Both Jim Diamond and Richard Ford, the librarians, would appreciate a hand up too!)

The November 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!

Review - Penn State's Pen Mandrel Saver

Ian Scott

Those of you who turn pens will know the potential drawbacks of using a mandrel held in place at the tailstock end by a live centre.



Firstly, if the tailstock is over tightened into the end indentation it is possible to bend the mandrel, resulting in out-of-round pens. Secondly, frequent use of the mandrel causes wear on the tip of the live centre.

And then you have the knurled brass nut on the end of the mandrel which needs to be removed between each pen you turn.

Those of who have managed to drop this will probably realize that it has an amazing ability to bury itself in a pile of shavings and remain invisible for half an hour or will roll under something where it will either become invisible and/or inaccessible. (This may not, of course, be such a problem for those of you with a pristine shop or those who clean up more often than I do!)

Penn State's Mandrel Saver, available in either a #1 or #2 Morse Taper gets round the above problems. Your bushings press against the centre, with no pressure on the mandrel shaft itself. The tube and bushing assembly tighten up by turning your tailstock quill adjustment wheel. And of course there is no need for that darned brass nut!

Reading reviews from others on Penn State's site, the vast majority of users give positive comments, although a minority have found problems, including sloppiness on the end of the mandrel, noise and a failure to self-eject when the tail stock quill is withdrawn. Perhaps there is a quality control problem?

Personally speaking, other than finding it a little noisy when I first got it I've experienced no problems with mine. (I'm not sure if it has become quieter or whether I've just got used to it...)

I've had one of these now for a month or so now and find it a useful little accessory which I now wouldn't want to be without, and at \$14.95 (US) it doesn't break the bank.

If you want a Canadian Supplier, Bill at http://www.penblanks.ca also stocks this item (C\$14.95)

Online reviews and a video are here: http://www.pennstateind.com/store/PKMSTS2.html

Meet Your Guild Members – Robert Atkinson

Ted Monk

When I first drove into Robert Atkinson's driveway I was greeted by a large red barn and a tractor. How cool is that? This guy owns a tractor! And it's a Kuboto too! :)

Robert and his wife Linda live on a 30 acre woodlot in Hardwood Lands, just a few kilometers off Exit 9 in a home that he built himself about 28 years ago. While building his home he lived upstairs in the barn and this area was insulated and gyproced for comfort during his stay at the time of construction. Now it houses his well-equipped woodworking shop with the star tool being his Oneway 1640.

In addition to a large wood storage area Robert has fully equipped metal shop on the first floor of the barn where he makes different things for his tractor and does metal repairs. He figures that with his keen interest in building things that he really should have been an Engineer instead of in electronics, but he very quickly adds, 'Though I wouldn't likely have had as much fun as I'm having now.' You can see some of the fun that he is now having in one of his recent pieces where he has begun to combine his woodturning with metal.



Before retiring in November of 2007 Robert was a civilian working for the Department of National Defense. He worked with them for almost 36 years, since graduating from the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology in 1971 as an Electronic Engineering Technologist. When he retired he was the Media Services Supervisor in charge of making training videos, both shooting and editing, for the Forces, and in particular the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School at Stadacona.

Robert began turning about 20 years ago. Though he originally wanted to build furniture, his oldest son (he has two sons) played rep hockey and with all of the travel that this required it didn't leave him much time to finish anything. The



quick results of turning allowed him to finish projects in between the games. During this period he was mostly turning Christmas gifts for his sisters which not only made him realize that this was an enjoyable craft but it was also a great opportunity for skill building. It wasn't until he joined the Nova Woodturners' Guild that his turning "really started to take off", and take off it did.

Robert joined the NWG in 2000 and has continued to further his turning knowledge though meeting presentations and member contacts. Since that time he has also served on the Executive as Vice-President for a term, as Guild Treasurer for 5 years, on the Events Committee since it's inception and he is presently serving as Events Committee Chairman. He is also a member of the American Association of Woodturners and enjoyed a great learning experience this past summer attending their Symposium in Hartford, Connecticut.

Meet Your Guild Members – Robert Atkinson

... continued

Robert says that he dislikes it when people give up and say "that's good enough" and this is reflected in his work. Combining his turning skills with the regimental process of his 'military' career each of his pieces shows that he takes meticulous care with the planning, creating and the finishing, especially the finishing. This is made even more obvious by rubbing your hand over his turnings. You'll immediately be taken by the shape, the smoothness and the warmth.

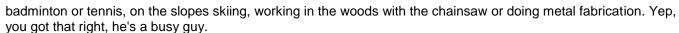
Robert can see himself moving more and more towards the art aspects of woodturning. In 2007 he placed a 2nd

place tie in the Open category of the Annual NWG Competition and one of his recent pieces was chosen to be included on the Turning of Age Exhibition invitations!

When asked why he enjoyed woodturning he said, "I find turning therapeutic, especially when it's going good. It can be a bit frustrating when everything goes bad, but mostly it's good." :)

Now that he has retired and the boys have grown and moved out he has more time available for other projects too. He is working on a couple around his home that includes doing some refinishing and a new deck is in the works. He is also doing some landscaping at his cottage on the Northumberland Strait.

When it's time for a break, and he's not turning, you'll find him at one of his other hobbies like fly fishing, playing



It was great spending the day with Robert, to see his shop and to get more insight into how he creates his art. I can't wait to visit again - he said that someday he might even let me drive his tractor! :)

Here are some photos of Robert's beautiful work. Enjoy!







Meet Your Guild Members - Robert Atkinson

...continued













Since writing this article I have had a followup visit to Robert's which yielded two firsts for me. I spent the day in his metal shop where I got to try my hand at welding for the first time. This was a thrill because welding was something that I wanted to try for a long, long time. The biggest thrill, of course, was when I got a chance to drive his tractor! Yep, I did. A thrill indeed! ©

Elements Of Design – Part 1 - Phi Φ

Alan Hunt

Most times I take a chunk of wood, mount it on my lathe and see how big a bowl or vase or whatever I can make. Most times it is OK and sometimes it's a stinker, a bowl that squats on the table top, a vase that is top heavy or overweight. I have often wondered how to reduce the frequency of stinkers and increase the frequency of 'great ones'. I have found three techniques that help me in that quest and over the next three months will tell you about them. They are the divine proportion, golden mean or phi (Φ) , Fibonacci numbers (which are related to phi), and finally, catenary arches. I am omitting the obvious – hemispheres, bowls that resemble the bottom half of a sphere.

I used to tell my business students that having a good business plan didn't guarantee business success BUT not having a good plan increased the possibility of failure. So too, with these techniques, nothing will guarantee you a well turned piece but a few simple principles will change the odds in your favour of a good piece – and planning and forethought never hurt anyone.

Go back in time to around 500 BC. Pythagoras of Samos is sitting in a cave, around him are a group of wild looking chaps dressed in flowing togas. It is night, with stealth they have come to this secret and sacred spot. The first order of business has been to consume copious quantities of red wine, a bit of chanting has been done and prayers offered to various Gods and Goddesses. Pythagoras stirs and calls attention, chanting stops, eyes turn to him and he asks them the burning question of the day. How to find and then define the "divine proportion". The question is simple, "'Given a line of two sections "a" and "b", where a>b how do you divide it so that the following ratio is achieved?":

$$[a+b/a] = a/b = Divine Ratio$$

These fellows weren't just sitting around and drinking; they are thinking too. They wanted to prove this ratio was divine and in doing so discovered an eternal truth of the universe. They had realized that many things in nature that 'looked' nice had this particular math ratio within their internal structure – particularly the pentagram which to them was a holy symbol. The relationship of hand width to hand length generally fits this ratio, in buildings the most pleasing windows had this shape -- a rectangle that corresponded to Φ for example a width of 37 ¼ inches and a height of 60 inches.

One hundred years later the Parthenon was built using the divine ratio – Φ is repeated throughout this building:



Elements Of Design – Part 1 - Phi Φ

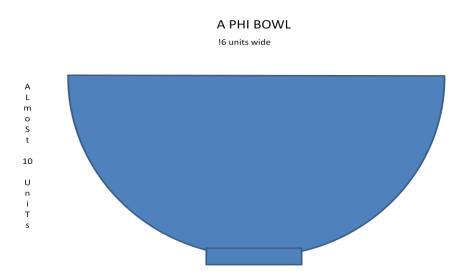
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Phi = 1.61824... the dots after it mean that the calculation goes on endlessly and doesn't repeat. I have read of people calculating this number to 20,000 decimal places – no repetition of number sequence was found whatsoever!

Which leads to an amazing name for this universal and prevalent value -- it is an "irrational number". Five (5) is a rational number, you can write it, you can have five apples -- it is real. Phi is a concept and as you expand the number of decimal places you 'approach' Φ, never getting there just getting closer and closer. I am content to write Phi as 1.618 since I believe that even with good eyes a person can't see differences in the 1000th of an inch!

How do I use Phi? When I am designing or thinking about a bowl for example, if I can make it 12 wide, I will try to make the final bowl about 7.45 high, that gives me a bowl where width and height correspond to the divine proportion or Φ! If I am making a vase I will try to have the ratio between its widest part and its height approach Φ. If I am decorating a platter I will seek to have my decoration at the point that it defines a Φ relationship. When I made square boxes Φ was always on my mind (that sounds like a Willie Nelson song).

Take a look at this bowl:



Not bad! Yes there are a whole family of bowls, made from hemispheres that aren't Phi bowls and look terrific. So if your wood is 12 inches by 12 inches – go for a hemisphere, if your wood is wider than deep, maybe PHI is the thing for you.

So that is Phi. Next article we will look at Fibonacci, his rabbits and how he found PHI without invoking mystical forces and pentagrams as did the early Greeks. If Fibonacci is new to you here is a Fibonacci sequence, 0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55,89 Ponder it until next month.

Pen Pals

Darrell Eisner

The purpose of this column is to introduce you to pen turning and to talk about materials and techniques that I use.

How To Make A Rifle Cartridge Pen

At this time of year we are all looking for projects to turn as Christmas presents for relatives and friends. Here is a turned project for the hunter in your group.

There are a number of rifle cartridge pen kits available from www.woodturnerscatalog.com, www.beartoothwoods.com and Paul Sherman (pssherman IAP). When ordering these kits keep in mind that they all are a bit different. Are they power coated to prevent tarnish, do they come with a plain clip, no clip or a rifle clip, do they have a centre band, is that a real rifle bullet on the tip or an imitation one, is it a cartridge that you will have to drill the end for the transmission and for the purist...is the cartridge new or been fired?

I have chosen the full meal deal with all the bells and most of the whistle. I ordered a 30-06 rifle cartridge (power coated) , previously fired and drilled out for the transmission. The bullet was pre-drilled and installed in the cartridge by Paul Sherman (pssherman on IAP). So you can see for \$8.00 US, half of the hard work has already been done. My job was to turn the end cap and assemble. I wanted to dress the pen up so I ordered Euro cap, cap holder, plain clip and Euro centre band from Tim and Tracey Nicholas at www.woodnwhimsies.com. You could also order the rifle clip but I sometimes find them a bit prone to bend over time.

I have chosen the Euro top to put on the cap of the pen and ordered a camo blank from www.beartoothwoods.com. Ernie is very good to work with and he has a number of camo colours to choose from. You could also fashion an antler as the cap or free style a cap using a 7 mm barrel.

The first step was to cut, drill (7mm) and glue the brass barrel in the camo blank. You can use CA for the glue or my favourite, two part epoxy. You are now ready to mount the blank on an A mandrel. I choose the adjustable mandrel so that I would just have to deal with one blank. If you don't have an adjustable mandrel then mount another blank on the end of the mandrel. I choose the one blank, adjustable mandrel as it gives more stability to the shaft...less flex on the shaft. The blank is then rough turned. Use sharp tools at all times and light cuts as you don't want to damage the acrylic blank.

Tip: After the blank is rough turned you must turn the tenon. I use a 1/4 inch parting tool. Make sure it is very sharp. I use a black Sharpie to coat the end of the parting tool. As I use the grinder, the black will disappear and show if I correctly ground the tip of the parting tool.



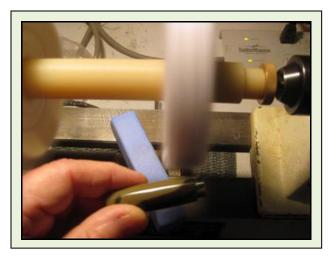


Pen Pals ...continue

After the cap is turned you are ready to sand and finish. I sand from 220 to 600 grit. I then use micro mesh to 12000. Normally this gives a pretty good shine but I have a new buffer I wanted to try out. The buffer is designed for small items and especially acrylic pens. Barry Gross of BG Artforms supplies this buffer. You can get it direct from Barry at www.bgartforms.com or CSUSA www.woodturnerscatalog.coms for \$42.99 US. I saw Barry demo it at the American Association of Woodturners Symposium in June and was impressed with the shine it gave on acrylics. The "secret" is the blue polishing bar that is used on the first buffing wheel.

The fourth picture shows me buffing the blank. Just remember to hold on to the blank real tight as you have a flying projectile otherwise.





Tip: Now you are ready for assemble. Assemble the parts the same way you would for an euro pen. Here is a tip I got from Andrew Furlong when he attended the Youth section at the June AAW. Andrew says to use one of the plastic pen part bags under the clip when you install it. This prevents the clip from scratching the surface of your newly completed pen. Thanks for the tip, Andrew!

The final picture is the completed pen. To personalize it for a friend I have had London Rubber here in Halifax laser engrave his name on the upper cap.





Good luck with your Christmas turnings! If you have any questions you can reach me at scotianpens@eastlink.ca

Snapshot Glenn McCarron

This month we will talk about "Exposure Compensation". To use an analogy, it's like putting the finish on your turning. It makes it "POP".

To start with a bit of a lesson on exposure in general may help. As you can see from the diagram your exposure is made up of 3 key elements: ISO, Aperture and Shutter speed.

Due to the marvels of science your camera when set to Auto (or the green square) will do all computations and calculations to determine the perfect exposure. It looks at the given light and then tries to target the settings to replicate the tone of 18% grey. For the most part



your camera does a great job of getting it right. However (you knew there was a however coming) in some situations your camera can get it wrong. When this happens we scratch our heads and wonder if something is wrong with our camera. You have probably all taken a picture of someone outside on a beautiful sunny blue sky day only to look at your picture and find that the subject is very dark and not a very becoming portrait that you want to keep. The same thing can happen inside your home as well when you take a picture with a bright window in the background. What went wrong? The basic answer is that your camera looked at the image that you presented in the viewfinder or LCD screen and did those calculations based on what it sees. The problem is that there is a lot of bright area around your subject and the cameras metering mode simply says I need to cut down this exposure to reach the final target exposure. Chances are the sky is perfectly exposed but not your subject.

Now to apply this to woodworking pictures. Again we set up our subject, secure our camera on a tripod, a beanbag or other solid surface. We take our picture and find it is a bit dark and does not truly reflecting the marvelous item that it is. You can take another picture but will most likely end up with the exact same problem. Now it's time to use the "Exposure Compensation" function of your camera. I can't begin to tell you how to do this on each and every camera type. You may have to grab your manual to find out how to do this. You may see a "EV" setting or a +/- setting. Once you find it you can toggle it to the + (plus) side to increase the amount of light or to the –(minus) side to decrease the amount of light. You may have to experiment a bit with how much compensation to apply but most of the time I start with +1 compensation and fine tune from there. One important thing to remember is to reset the EV to 0 (zero) when you are finished. My camera will maintain the setting even after shutting it off.

I have included two examples below. The first is a normal auto mode picture with a white background and natural light from a window. The second picture is the same setup but with +1 EV. Really makes it "POP"





Note: When you are outside and want to take a picture of someone and are faced with having the sun in front of you consider using the "Fill Flash" to make your subject stand out. The EV can be used but it will most likely end up with a good subject but a washed out sky.

If I can be of help to anyone with trying to find this setting on your camera feel free to ask at a meeting or call me anytime. You can contact me at egscn.mccarron@ns.sympatico.ca or call me at 826-2716

Shavings

Strike Up The Band!

Guild Photographer Chris Palmer sent an inquiry to us here at the Nova Newsroom a few weeks back asking us if the Guild was now a musical instruments group. Clarifying this, he pointed out that the newsletter masthead stated "Nova Woodtuners' Guild" instead of "Nova Woodturners' Guild"! (Note the missing "r") © What's really funny is that it was this way for two issues and no one else noticed it! It took the eagle eye of a photographer to pick up on it. ©

So what does he win for pointing this out? Well, he gets to lead the NWG Marching Band of course! We'll leave it up to him to organize the auditions. Chris says that only those that play woodwinds need apply. ©

Woodturning At Nocturne, Art At Night

Nocturne, now in its third year, is HRM's signature evening event celebrating the visual arts scene in Halifax. This year Guild members Stephen Zwerling and David Wilkins participated in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Centre For Craft and Design.

Stephen and David recreated a tree – the source of a woodturner's raw material. They demonstrated the use of heat, carving, twisting and other techniques to decorate and reanimate the tree's sculptural foliage. The title of their sculpture was 'Noc-Turn'.

Great showing, guys, kudos! It was a fantastic evening all around.



A video entitled, Turn of Events, was also shown on the exterior of the building, highlighting the live creation of ceramics and wood turning projects. It was cool to see both these mediums being created side by side, showing their very similar processes. ©

A Magnificent Idea

Tired of sifting through the shavings below the lathe for those small metal parts or screws that you dropped? Get a large magnet, like one from an old speaker, to do the work for you. You can also use a magnet attached to your lathe to keep metal items like Allen wrenches and Tommy bars handy. And don't forget those Rare Earth magnets, they pack a lot of power in a small size.

Got Milk?

To make your lathe tools slide more easily over the tool support on your grinder double stick tape a flat piece of plastic like that from a milk container to the guide.

Shavings



A New Arrival

A well anticipated package arrived at Guild Webmaster Ian Scott's door last month. It was green and had the name, 'General International', written on the side! ©

Ian purchased the General 25-600 M1 lathe with a slew of attachments that included a steady rest and long bore hollower from Guild Librarian, Richard Ford, who recently moved to the Powermatic 3520B.

Richard delivered the lathe and the installation was assisted by Guild Secretary, Ted Monk. Once the lathe was moved into lan's new shop the three Guild members enjoyed the rest of the day drinking coffee, chatting and measuring the shop for the insulation and wallboards.;)

A Bit Of Biting Humor

Did you hear the one about the termite that walked into the tavern and asked, `Hey, is the bartender here? Get it? Is the bar tender here... Yep, it`s a real oldie... but still a real goodie!:)

Here's Looking At You

After a long week of woodturning Buddy headed for the bar where he met a couple of old friends. They partied all weekend and when he finally got home on Monday his wife was there to greet him. Surprisingly, all she said was, "How would you like it if you didn't see me for three days?" With his mind still in a bit of a haze he replied, "That would suit me just fine." Tuesday came and he didn't see his wife, Wednesday came and went and he still didn't see her, but by Thursday he could just see her out of the corner of his left eye. ©

Never Too Late To Learn

Mel had a lot of work ahead of him, so he decided it was time to hire a part time helper. One of the applicants seemed smart enough, so Mel hired him. "OK," Mel said, "Your first job will be to sweep up the sawdust," and handed him a broom. "Look," protested the helper, "I'm practically a University graduate." Mel smiled. "No problem; I'll show you how."

Kids Say The Darndest Things

The seven-year-old son of a woodturner got separated from his father at a large woodworking show. Remembering what his parents told him to do in such a situation, he sought out a security guard and told him that he had gotten lost from his dad. Seeking some information that might point out the boy's father, the security guard asked him, "What's your dad like?" "Mom says beer and women", replied the boy.

Shavings

For Sale Items

Remington Powerhammer - \$20.00

It includes about 75 2.5 inch nails and about 50 shells.

Contact Glenn McCarron at egscn.mccarron@ns.sympatico.ca or at 902-826-2716

Extension for Delta Midi-Lathe - \$100

22 1/2" long, its cast-iron bed increases overall bed length to 44 1/2" Also comes with brackets to fit the Delta Lathe stand Contact Graham McCulloch at graham@shortcuts.ns.ca or 902-479-0221

Busy Bee Tool Demos

Monday November 15th – 2pm & 6:30pm – Kreg Tools Demo with Mark Eaton Saturday November 20th – 10am & 2pm – Dust Collection Setup Saturday December 11th – 10am & 2 pm - Wood Bandsaw Setup / Blade Selection

Reserve your spot today by calling the store at 468-8088 to register!

Congratulations is also in order for the Guild's Past President Bill Luther and staff of Busy Bee Tools who recently won a 'Burnie', the Burnside News Business of the Year Award! Kudos! You guys deserve it!



Bill receiving the Burnside Business of the Year Award from Jeff Nearing, publisher of the Burnside News

Moncton Woodshow

Get yer wallets out, it's time for the annual wood show in Moncton. Yippee! November 12, 13 and 14 http://tinyurl.com/2dbkgj4

King Tut Turns Wood

Here's some exciting news – the King Tut exhibit will be on display at the St. Paul Science Museum at the same time as the 25th anniversary AAW symposium in 2011! http://www.smm.org/tut/

Full Screen YouTube

Watch your favourite turning videos on YouTube in full screen! youtube.com/leanback

The Shape Challenge

Don't forget, the Shape Challenge project is due for the January meeting and this time of year can get pretty hectic. ©

An Ace Up Your Sleeve

Acer is a genus of trees or shrubs commonly known as Maple. There are approximately 125 species of Maple, most of which are native to Asia with a number also appearing in Europe, northern Africa, and North America. The word Acer is derived from a Latin word meaning "sharp", referring to the characteristic points on the leaves.

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! ③), 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! ⑤

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

The deadline for submissions for the December issue is November 28th, 2010

Sharing is what a guild is all about!

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

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

Your 2010-2011 Guild Executive

President: Don Mooremoorewood1@gmail.comVice President: Dan Grahamdjgraham@ns.sympatico.caSecretary: Ted Monktedmonk@gmail.comTreasurer: Alan Huntprof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com

Past President:

Bill Luther

Members At Large:

lan Scott Dianne Looker Gordon Marshall Doug McGuire



"to encourage and promote the art and craft of woodturning"

Committees

Library

Jim Diamond Richard Ford

Website

Ian Scott Norm Jolivet

Glenn McCarron

Membership & Promotion

Andrew Watson

Fund Raising & Social

Available

(Contact if interested?)

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