

The Turning Point

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From The President's Workshop

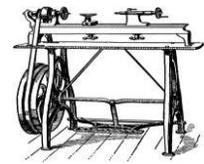
Don Moore

Maureen and I continue our travels as I write this from Twillingate, an absolute treasure of Newfoundland. Last month as we toured through the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, France, England, Northern Ireland and Ireland we visited so many fantastic shops selling woodturning items, as well as every other imaginable and unimaginable works of art.

The highlight of our tour of France was our half-day workshop with Alain Mailland in Uzes, in the southern area of France. Not only is he a first class Artist, he is also a first class person. He came to meet us at the main highway and we would probably be still looking for him if he hadn't, as he presently lives in a very rustic home and a reflective workshop. Alain taught me his method of eccentric turning on multi-axes. I worked on one

lathe as the "First Lady" worked on another. I heard a lot of "ya-ho's" for that end of the workshop and then Alain said the words that Maureen thought that she would never hear as he checked out her piece, "it's **not** thin enough"... as he taught Mojo how to create some very thin flowers. Needless to say we bought a set of tools that Alain developed to create his exquisite pieces of art. We gladly accepted his offer to stay and enjoy a drink and some finger food. It was truly a memorable experience.

We returned home May 17th. anxious and inspired. However, the six days between our arrival home and departure to Newfoundland found us void of time for the workshop. We have made arrangements to visit with John Goodyear, another extremely talented woodturner and woodworker in the St John's area, on Thursday,



prior to our flight home. Report to follow.

We look forward to the AGM in June to relate our experiences, this coincides very well with the topic of eccentric turning that I will talk about. Hopefully we will be meeting a good number of you at this years AAW symposium in St. Paul's, Minnesota.

In the meantime, keep your bevel rubbing, Thank all of you who continue to send positive thoughts and energy Maureen's way, much appreciated, as it truly makes a difference...
Don

The Next NWG Meeting is June 20th

June 20th at Kent Dartmouth at 6:30pm

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

The Secretary's Quill

Ted Monk

Well, it's been a great year folks! Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to play at being the Guild Secretary. ☺ I'm looking forward to next year to be as equally as fun!

Unfortunately I won't be at the June meeting. I made a scheduling error when I booked my flight to St. Paul, Minnesota for the AAW Symposium and I'm leaving the Sunday before. It looks like it will be an exciting one too with the AGM, Don Moore's presentation and the Shape Challenge Show & Tell.

I hope everyone has a great summer and even with all the sunny days that we are going to have I also hope that you get some shop time.

See you all in September – be there or be square. ☺

Newsletter Update

Although it's our smallest issue yet, it's still a great one!

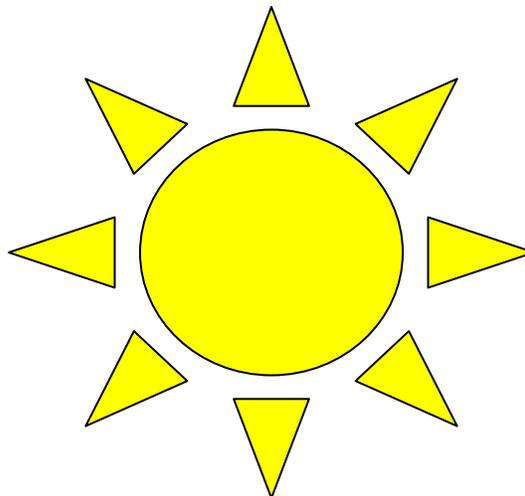
There's Executive reports including an extensive year-end financial report, the May meeting summary with lots of photos, Darrell Eisner's Pen Pals and a whole lot more!

This will be the last newsletter for the 2010-2011 season but it will be back again in September.

We hope that you'll keep the newsletter in mind over the summer and put together some great articles, tips, humour, photos, reviews, etc. to send us for next season's issues. Remember, this is your newsletter at its success depends on you.

Have a great summer and again, hope to see you all in September!. ☺

"As always, a big thank-you goes out to all of you that submitted articles, tips and bits!"



Events Committee Report

Robert Atkinson

As most of you are probably aware the Competition Committee was formed a few years ago to formalize the event and establish procedures and rules for our yearly competition. We then joined with our Exhibition Committee to become the Events Committee. As we now have competition forms, judges' forms and our rules and regulations; the only thing left to present to the membership is the composition of the committee, which we will do at this year's Annual General Meeting.

The following will be presented to the membership for consideration/approval:

Nova Woodturners' Guild (NWG) Events Committee

1. The Committee shall consist of 6 Guild members and be responsible for organizing any exhibitions or competitions that the Guild decides to participate in, which is normally established at the AGM. Minor changes to the competition are brought forth at the Annual General Meeting for ratification, while major changes are brought to the membership for approval before being implemented. The Committee reports to the Executive.
2. Members are selected for a 3-year term, with 2 new members each year. If any member is unable to complete their 3-year term the Committee will find another Guild member to complete that term.
3. The first order of business for the Committee is to select a Chairperson from within themselves to serve for the upcoming year.
4. The Chairperson provides monthly updates to the membership through the Guild's newsletter.

The above is not a job description for Committee members as it would be hard to list things especially for exhibitions, as it would depend upon the type and location. However, for the Competition at Lee Valley some of the things we do are: coordinate the event with Lee Valley, select judges and meet with them before the Competition, staff our booth for the first 3 days to assist the judges by bringing pieces to them, assemble the participation prize bags and having the name tags made with the winners names for our new trophies.

If the membership approves the Committee composition, I would like to see 2 new members this year as 3 of the members have been there since the Competition Committee was started. If you think you might be interested in serving on this Committee or would like more information, please speak to any committee member or myself. Other members are Dan Graham, Alan Hunt, Ted Monk, Don Moore and Maureen Simpson.

Robert Atkinson
Events Committee Chairman

*"Two new members
are needed for the
Events Committee!"*

Dollars And Cents

Alan Hunt

Year End Financial Report

We are concluding our fiscal year, and unlike previous years we appear to be doing so with a few hundred dollars to the good. In three years we have gone from a \$1000 deficit, to a \$260 deficit, and this year we have a slight \$230 surplus. I always hesitate to cry too loudly about slight surpluses, as at year's end someone somewhere always seems to have an odd bill that needs to be paid.

Our dues have been well spent this past year. We spent bit less on wood for the Annual FunTurn, even though unlike previous years we had a couple of gift certificates (\$75) awarded to participants – this was possible as we opted to use green wood for the fun turn, instead of the far more expensive and smaller block kiln dried hard woods.

We put on two events this year, our traditional Lee Valley event and the Anna Leonowens show and scholarship fund raiser. We had budgeted \$750 for the Anna exhibit and ended up spending \$441, well under budget. We had initially budgeted \$750 for the Lee Valley show but went over budget. The over-run resulted for three separate expenditures. First was the decision to make 'permanent' trophies. This was considered by members and approved. The Events Committee decided to print ballots up for the Best in Show votes and to print up cards that we could hand out to prospective members that directed them to our web site. The Library expenditures came in under budget and our catch all "other" was about what we had expected it to be (this category covers such items such as and postage, bank service charges, and the occasional meal for visiting friends etc.).

We undertook a major fund raising effort. Thanks to much work by many of us and contributions and donations from within our Guild and by the larger Nova Scotia turning community we raised a total of \$2055 in scholarship monies for NSCAD students, who intend to incorporate wood into their creative learning process.

In conclusion, I think we have had a good year, spent our dues well. I am happy to be handing over our healthy financial reigns to another and hope that we continue to remain a financially responsible Guild.

For your convenience I attach a brief financial summary for this past fiscal year and place alongside it the 2010 figures (in italics), of our last year's actual expenditures. I have also included a proposed budget for 2011-2012.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to our community over the past two years. I can't say that being the 'money guy' is 'fun', but as with much in life someone has to do it.

I am looking forward to enjoying our meetings this coming year, playing a bit more chess, turning a few more boxes and bowls and continuing with my studies at NSCAD University. (Yes the Doctor is taking more schooling! But take heart I won't be applying for the NWG Scholarship (I don't qualify!) ☺).

Surprisingly over the past four months, I have become far too busy with work, and as is often stated "work is the curse of the turning class" – I hope to slow that down, the work that is, come this fall.

Keep your wood spinning,
Alan

*"I think we have
had a good year,
spent our dues well!"*

Dollars And Cents

...continued

Financial Statement Nova Woodturners' Guild 2010-2011

| Income | <u>2010/2011</u> | <u>2009/2010</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Dues | \$2,250.00 | \$2,400 |
| Auction/Draws | \$ 231.00 | \$ 100 |
| Sales/Donations (Anna Leonowens Show) | \$2,055.00 | \$ 86 |
| Entry Fees (Lee Valley) | \$ 210.00 | \$ 235 |
| TOTAL | \$4,746.00 | \$2,821 |

| Expenditures | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Donations/NSCAD Scholarship | \$2,055.00 | \$235 |
| Library | \$ 285.02 | \$449.79 |
| Competition (Lee Valley) | \$1,431.03 | \$1776.64 |
| Show Anna Leonowens | \$ 441.00 | \$0 |
| Fun Turn | \$ 155.00 | \$339.00 |
| Other | \$ 148.36 | \$228.84 |
| TOTAL | \$4,515.41 | \$3079.27 |

Change in Financial Position

| | Checking | Savings | Total |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Beginning Fiscal year | \$1,487.15 | \$2,034.98 | \$3,522.13 |
| End of Fiscal year | \$1,717.74 | \$2,087.00 | \$3,804.74 |
| Change in Position | | | \$ 231.00 |
| Plus Cash on Hand | | | \$ 58.45 |

Balance Sheet

| | Assets | Liabilities | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tools/Equipment | \$ 450.00 | Accounts Owing | \$0 |
| Books | \$1,785.00 | | |
| Magazines | \$2,400.00 | | |
| Cash | \$ 58.45 | Member's Equity | \$8,498.19 |
| Bank deposits | \$3,804.74 | | |
| Total Assets | \$8,498.19 | Total Liabilities/Equity | \$8,498.19 |

Dollars And Cents

...continued

Proposed Budget for 2011/2012

Fellow Guild members, the following is a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. The budget contains options that the members should consider.

| <u>Income</u> | 2011/2012 | <u>2010/2011</u> |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| Dues | \$2,200 ⁱ | \$ 2,250.00 |
| Auction/Draws | \$200 | \$ 231.00 |
| Entry Fees (Lee Valley) | \$250 ⁱⁱ | \$ 210.00 |
| TOTAL | \$2650 | |
| | | |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | |
| Library | \$600 | |
| Competition (Lee Valley) | \$550 ⁱⁱⁱ | |
| Fun Turn | \$400 ^{iv} | |
| Other | \$200 | |
| TOTAL | \$1750 | |
| <u>Projected Surplus with existing dues</u> | <u>\$900^v</u> | |

To arrive at a 2012 budget the Guild needs to follow a series of 'structured' decisions: as follows

1. Should the Fun turn – revert to kiln dried hardwood or remain with green more temperamental hardwoods?
2. Should Lee Valley Competition – reduce its judges to two, as compared to the previous 3?
3. Should Lee Valley increase its entry fees to more completely cover its costs (we have sponsored this show to about \$1000 a year for the past three years – maybe it is time to wean the event from that amount of subsidy and use entry fees to cover more of the costs?)
4. Does the Guild want to try and establish an annual workshop/demonstration with a noted North American turner? If so a committee of 3 at minimum is needed (I volunteer ☺)! And our \$900 surplus from the \$50 dues per person is used up.
5. What annual dues should we charge? Range is from \$30 to \$50, depending on answers to the above questions.

ⁱ Revenue from dues is based on 44 paid up members at \$50 each.

ⁱⁱ Lee Valley entry fees are based on 50 pieces being entered at \$5 each

Dollars And Cents

...continued

iii Lee Valley Budget based on 2 Judges at \$200 each and Engraving at \$150. Initially the Guild chose to have three judges to avoid tie votes. Our judging has evolved and judges rate work based on several categories and do so on a ten point scale. The possibility of identical scores is very very remote, with two judges and with three judges the chance of a tie is 1 in 10,000 – consequently it is recommended that two judges be used in the future. In the highly improbable event that there is a tie for any “placing” - all we do is print up two engravings for that year and the turners share display of the trophy! Should the Guild prefer to have three written comments per entry, we should stick with three judges. And increase the budget accordingly – this reduced the projected surplus to \$700.

iv The Guild should consider the Pros and Cons of using green wood (wood needs immediate attention and roughing) as compared to kiln dried hard wood (more costly and less of it – but more flexible regarding time to turn). The \$400 allows for a hardwood choice, along with some allowance for participation awards (gift certificates).

v Our projected surplus could be eliminated in one of two ways:

1. First we could reduce our annual dues by \$20 a person, to \$30 annually (with three judges it would be \$40 annually). That would pretty well eliminate any surplus.
2. Alternately we could chose to use that money to explore putting on a workshop/demonstration bringing in a noted North American turner for a weekend. Of course \$900 (\$700) wouldn't cover that type of event, but by working in cooperation with NSCAD (they have lecture spaces and a large woodworking shop) Continuing Education Program, we can obtain grant monies, promotional considerations from suppliers and charge a workshop fee. This would be a lot of work, but I would be happy to work with a committee dedicated to this purpose, an annual workshop – for the entire turning community. Our \$900 (\$700) would provide a part of the needed funding – seed money. It would only be spent if the workshop was going to happen and only enough would be spent to ensure that the workshop is first class.



Library Report – Books And Videos

Richard Ford

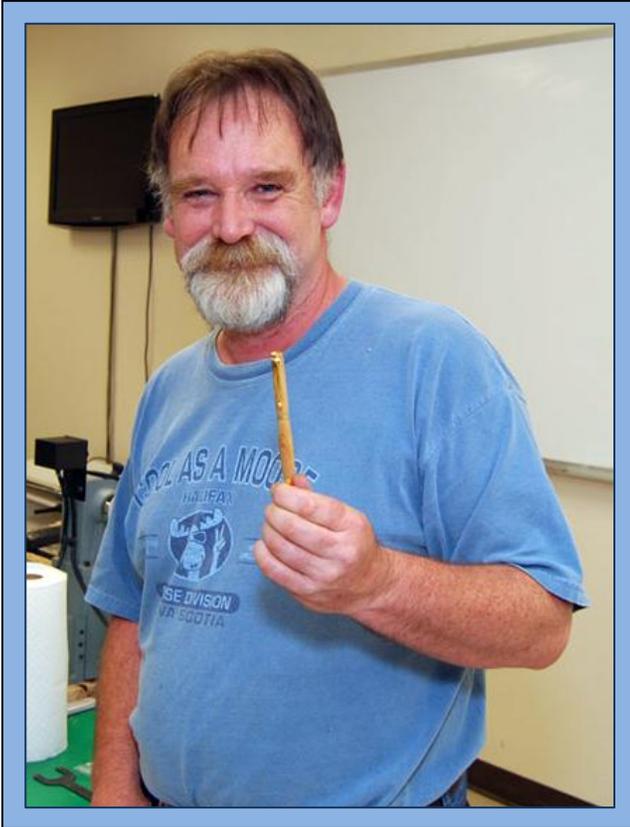
Here is the list of books and videos due to be returned at the June meeting:

| ISSUED | NAME | ID # | DESCRIPTION of Currently Issued |
|---------------|------------------|---------|---|
| 19. Apr. 2010 | Alan Hunt | 60VJ-11 | Turning Wood with Richard Raffan |
| 17. May. 2011 | Bill Fisher | 69VU-11 | Turning pens & Other Small Projects |
| 13. Dec. 2010 | Calum Ewing | 39BG | Intermediate woodturning |
| 17. May. 2011 | Dave Richards | 47VT-11 | Elegant Finials Third edition – By Cindy Drozda |
| 17. May. 2011 | Dave Richards | 54VC-11 | Focus on Metal Spinning - R. Sorby |
| 17. May. 2011 | David Duggan | 64BJ | Turned Boxes 50 designs - Chris Stott |
| 17. May. 2011 | Dianne Looker | 58BC | The Practice of Woodturning - Mike Darlow |
| 17. May. 2011 | Dianne Looker | 82BD | A Workshop Guide to Shapes - Mark Baker |
| 17. May. 2011 | Doug McGuire | 20VL-11 | From The Tree To The Table – Mike Mahoney. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Doug McGuire | 57VF-11 | Turning Projects with Richard Raffan |
| 17. May. 2011 | Doug McGuire | 68VT-11 | Turning Boxes with Chris Stott. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Doug McGuire | 78VF-11 | The Basic Box -- Turned Boxes by Ray Key |
| 17. May. 2011 | Edmond Benoit | 22VN-11 | The Skew Chisel - Dark Side - Sweet Side with Alan Lacer. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Edmond Benoit | 23VP-11 | The Son Of Skew with Alan Lacer |
| 17. May. 2011 | Edmond Benoit | 61VK-11 | Turning Pens with Rex & Kip Video I |
| 17. May. 2011 | Edmond Benoit | 62VL-11 | Turning Pens with Rex & Kip Video |
| 17. May. 2011 | Gary Landry | 32BZ | American Woodturner's Techniques and Projects |
| 17. May. 2011 | Gary Landry | 72BT | Understanding Woodturning - Ann & Bob Phillips |
| 17. May. 2011 | Gordon Marshall | 37VG-11 | Turn It On Vol 1-- Jimmy Clewes. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Gordon Marshall | 41VL-11 | Turn It Up Vol 2-- Jimmy Clewes. |
| 17. Jan. 2011 | Ian Scott | 86BH | Woodturning: Two Books in One - Phil Irons |
| 19. Apr. 2010 | John Fitzpatrick | 14VE-11 | 1999 AAW National Symposium Techniques Vol II. |
| 19. Apr. 2010 | John Fitzpatrick | 17VH-11 | Turning Outside the Box - Beth Ireland. |
| 29. Mar. 2010 | Maureen Simpson | 12VC-11 | 1999 AAW National Symposium – Tacoma Washington |
| 29. Mar. 2010 | Maureen Simpson | 18VJ-11 | Beyond The Basic Bowl - Bill Grumbine. |
| 29. Mar. 2010 | Maureen Simpson | 45VR-11 | Hollow Wood Turning - John Jordan. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Ron Hazlett | 15VF-11 | Elliptical Turning An Introduction – David Springett 57min. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Ron Hazlett | 29VY-11 | Dennis White– Vol 3: Boxes, Goblets and Screw Threads. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Ron Hazlett | 65VP-11 | Woodturning: A Foundation Course - Keith Rowley |
| 17. May. 2011 | Ron Hazlett | 70VX-11 | Woodturning II with Bonnie Klein Bowls & Projects 105min. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Ron Hazlett | 71VY-11 | Woodturning I with Bonnie Klein 120min. |
| 17. May. 2011 | Russell Parrott | 30BX | Woodturning A Fresh Approach - Robert Chapman |
| 17. May. 2011 | Russell Parrott | 91BN | Useful Techniques for Woodturners |

Book and Video Reviews

The newsletter is always looking for content and reviews of our woodturning books and videos would make a great addition in future issues! While reading or viewing them why not jot down a few notes about what you liked or didn't like about a particular book or video. Or, how about recommending a particular one that you have in your personal collection and telling us why.

The May 2011 Meeting – Introduction To Pen Turning



The May meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild featured Guild member and professional pen turner, Ian Scott, who captivated us with his deft hand at turning pens. His presentation, titled 'Introduction To Pen Turning', took us from choosing your wood and pen type to the finished product.

Ian clearly explained each step of the process, adding his own tips and tricks to traditional methods, as well as bringing to our attention alternative ways that other pen turners use to create beautiful pens.

He demonstrated each of these steps either with mock-ups or actual turning, giving us even more insight to the art of pen turning. When he was finished he had created a beautiful Slimline style pen!

Though the process seemed simple it was obvious that a fair amount of skill is required. So many of the steps requires precision, like when drilling out the pen blank so the bottom doesn't blow out, milling the ends so that you take off very little of the brass tube, while turning the blanks themselves to get the proper shape and diameter and even when putting the pen together.

In addition, Ian explained the various tools that he uses, like the barrel trimmers used for milling the ends, the mandrels

used to hold the pen blanks between centers for turning, the auto-centering jig used to easily drill the holes in the blanks for the brass tubes. He also spoke on his preferred turning tools which includes the roughing gouge, the spindle gouge and the skew.

Here are the steps that Ian suggested to make your pen:

- Choose the wood for your pen blanks, either 3/4" or 5/8" square depending on pen kit and make a mark across it to maintain grain orientation
- Cut the blanks to length depending on size of the brass tubes and drill corresponding sized holes
- Rough the outside of the brass tubes and glue them in the blanks, let sit for at least 1/2 hour but overnight is better
- Place the blanks on a mandrel with proper bushings and correct grain orientation
- Turn the blanks to the desired shape and sand using 150 grit to 800 grit sandpaper.
- Finish with desired finish
- Assemble the pen according to the instructions.

The May 2011 Meeting – Introduction To Pen Turning

...continued

Following his demonstration, Ian showed us a slew of different items that are made similar to pens. They included corkscrews, coffee scoops, perfume pens, letter openers and key chains. He also had a display of a few of his pens in a variety of woods and acrylics.



Ian finished his presentation with an active Question and Answer period and then members flocked to the front of the room to get close-ups of his beautiful products.

Fantastic presentation, Ian, and thanks for this great introduction to pen turning and for piquing our interest!

Several business items were dealt with tonight including:

Doug McQuire passed around a form for those interested in participating in the purchase of a 55 gallon drum of Anchorseal. The cost is estimated under \$15. per gallon plus the cost of the can. The form was also for those interested in participating in a bulk purchase of some Chestnut.

The Nominating Committee voiced their need for members to come forward for positions on the Guild Executive. In addition they are in need of a Director At Large.

Dianne Looker has the lamps from Ikea that were bulk ordered. If you were one of the ones that ordered one contact her for more.

Robert Atkinson, Chairman of the Events Committee, put forward the need for two more members of the Events Committee.

Show and Tell was exciting with Doug McGuire speaking about his Maple bowl and black Ash box, Dianne Looker proudly displaying two bandsawn and epoxied plates, Darrell Eisner presenting a grand showing of laminated pens and cigar box display case, Alan Hunt showing an African Blackwood box, an Olivewood box and a Mondale Pine bowl, Robert Atkinson shared the making of a flat topped Walnut bowl and Matt Pifold eagerly told about his trials and tribulations turning an Ash bowl and his belated Fun Turn entry, a Maple Bowl(er) ☺. All were fantastic looking items!

There were 30 members and one guest in attendance for this very educational and exciting meeting.

The May 2011 Meeting – Introduction To Pen Turning

...continued



Alan Hunt



Doug McGuire



Darrell Eisner



Dianne Looker



Matt Piffold



Robert Atkinson

The March 2011 Meeting – Our Annual Fun Turn

...continued



Pens by Darrell Eisner



Maple Bowl by Doug McGuire



Walnut Bowl by Robert Atkinson



African Blackwood Box by Alan Hunt



Olivewood Box by Alan Hunt



Mondale Pine Bowl by Alan Hunt

The March 2011 Meeting – Our Annual Fun Turn

...continued



Ash Box by Doug McGuire



Bandsawn and Epoxied Plates by Dianne Looker



Chairman of the meeting, VP Dan Graham



How many turners does it take to change speed?



Ian Scott during his presentation



Ian Scott at the lathe

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 | Introduction To Hollowing with Stuart Taylor Shape & Design Part II with Dianne Looker Show & Tell | Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30 |
| May 16, 2011 | Turning Pens & Similar Items – Ian Scott Show & Tell | Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30 |
| June 20, 2011 | Annual General Meeting Eccentric Woodturning with Don Moore Show & Tell - The Shape Challenge II | Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30 |

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

Important Dates

- June 24-26, 2011 – AAW Symposium, St. Paul, Minnesota
- **September 19th – First NWG meeting of the new season!**

The June 2011 Meeting – June 20th

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting takes place at the June meeting. Be sure to attend to exercise your democratic right!

Eccentric Turning with Don Moore

Guild President, Don Moore, will talk about his method for turning his fabulous eccentric (off center) turnings. He will show the various jigs that he uses too. These will range from the very modest DIY jigs to the not as cheap Robert Sorby Eccentric Chuck.

Don will also include a talk about his recent workshop with Alain Mailland in Uzes, France, with respect to the methods that Alain employs with his eccentric turning.

Show & Tell - The Shape Challenge II

This month's Show & Tell will focus on the Shape Challenge that was presented to the Guild a few months ago by Dianne Looker. Please bring in your pieces for this fun and exciting session!

The previous Shape Challenge was a popular event and we expect this one to be even better! Come see the wide variety of pieces that incorporates the challenge shape in their design!

(Haven't started yours yet? More info is available in the last issue of the newsletter.)

There will also be more great items for the Meeting Raffle! Remember to bring a loonie or two!

The June 20th, 2011 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!

Turning Up The Heat

Ted Monk

Well, as it starts to warm up it's time to start thinking about Summer Turning. Yes, I do differentiate my turning in the summer from the turning that I do in the winter. Not in the items that I turn but in what I wear while turning.

I have an attached garage shop which maintains about 10C (50F for real people) in the winter so I usually just have to give a quick blast of heat from a radiant heater that I have hanging above the lathe, just enough to take the chill off. Because I'm dressed for the weather that's all I really need. Once I start turning I generate enough of my own heat to keep warm, especially if a piece flies off then my temperature really rises.

In the winter months I have on my wooly socks, work boots, jeans, t-shirt, a sweatshirt and my overalls. I always wear gloves that have the fingers cut out so once I add my faceshield the only thing that could get cold would be my fingertips, and I usually keep them pretty warm scratching my head.

Once it starts getting warmer I begin to shed my winter clothes like my daughter's new pup sheds fur until I'm finally down to my summer wear which is a t-shirt, shorts and sandals.

Last summer I traded the t-shirt in for a Hawaiian shirt. In addition to being a lot cooler it's made of some type of slippery material so the shavings don't stick. Plus, it makes me look really, really sharp! Anyone have any Koa?

One problem that I do have with my summer wear is that the chips keep getting caught between my toes. It's quite annoying and sometimes uncomfortable. I know that there is some type of slip-ons that you can buy to stop this but if I wanted to wear funny footwear I would have stuck with scuba diving instead of taken up woodturning. Guess I'll have to keep blasting my feet with the compressed air, though this can make the shop pretty gamey after a day of turning.

Anyway, it's nice to see the warmer weather coming. Now if it would only stop raining...

Oh, speaking of summer, when we had that heat wave last year I took my summer turning one step further and moved outside with the Delta. Here's a photo of me about mid-week:



Have a great summer, everyone!

Pen Pals

Darrell Eisner

It's hard to believe that the year has gone so quickly with summer just around the corner. Some of my pen-turning friends in Texas are saying they are closing down their non air conditioned shops as the temperature is over 100 F. No problems like that for us!

This past month there was a thread in the IAP asking for members to submit their ideas on "best practices in pen making". Some of these are specific to pen making but others are just good advice for woodturners/woodworkers.

- Keep CA de-bonder within reach at all times. (Bensoelberg)
- Use a centering bit to start hole prior to drilling.



Takes a minute or two longer, but is one key to drilling a straight hole through the blank. Particularly important for segmented blanks. If you need a hole all the way through a blank, make it longer than needed, stop drilling before the end and cut it off. These techniques with a sharp bit will prevent many potential disasters. (Brobbins629)

- Always test-fit before you attempt to glue a tube in. (Drstrangefart)
- Cut blanks long. Drill short of the total length. Then cut them approx. length exposing the "exit" hole and square. Cutting long, drilling short, and trimming will eliminate chip out on the "exit" end of the blank. Takes an extra minute or two but well worth it. (its virgil)
- Perhaps, the most often overlooked process in pen making, at least in my shop. The I'll clean later, is a disaster, waiting to happen. (PenMan1)
- Seriously, the safety issue is the highest priority, it happens twice, once, when you are just beginning and don't know any better and then it becomes a problem after you've done it forever you get SOOO GOOD that you can ignore safety I've seen it and done it far too many times. SAFETY is the first thing any one working on any kind of power tool or equipment has to learn. (bitshird)
- Don't skimp on the sanding. Use the grits in order, don't skip one; use a good light so you can see what you are sanding; use good sand paper and use it like your neighbour gives it to you for free. Just changing to a decent brand of sandpaper made finishing less of a chore. (MarkHix)
- When it comes time for assembly, I lay out all the pieces out on white paper or paper towel very methodically. stop. breath. check that everything is there. stop. breath. assemble. (Paintspill)
- Invest on some breading "apparatus", depending on the conditions (area, enclosure) you are working on. CA fumes, some woods and other materials are/can be very toxic or provoke allergies that be minimized or prevented with a good breading mask, a good ventilation systems to filter the air environment you are working on or simply a fan located close to you and orientated to blow the air away from you, taking most of the dust and fumes away from your lungs...! (robutacion)

Pen Pals

...continued

- Drill the cap blank 1st on large tube diameter pens such as JGII, Baron and Cambridge. If you crack the larger cap blank, you can still salvage the pen section 1/2 blank by making a Sierra or Aero/EB (and drill slower, cool more often on this one!). (JimMc7)
- Inspect you pen kits at point of sale or when they arrive in the mail. Look for finish problems, operate the transmission, make sure all parts are in the bag. Nothing like meeting a deadline only to find that your last pen kit has a fatal flaw.(woodgraver)

Briwax Sealer

At the May meeting I was asked what type of sealer I used on my pens. It's a fiction sealer and dries within 20 minutes of applying it on the lathe. You can obtain it at KT Products, 1111 Broadway Street, Port Coquitlam, BC, V3C 2M7, phone 604-942-1035. The container holds 16 FL OZ.

Featured Pen Turner

This month I am featuring a prominent pen blank maker and penturner, John Underhill from Ottawa, Illinois. I've always admired John's work in making feathered pen blanks and have purchased a number from him. All of Johns' work is unique, one of a kind items, and I have had him make me some beautiful custom pieces which I will let you have a peak at. In addition to the custom feather blanks John made me some custom blanks out of abalone shell. Each shell was individually mounted on the brass barrel and once completed the blank was encased in resin. John has perfected the art of resin casting and his blanks are very easy to turn.

In addition to his talents as a caster and penturner John's full time job is as a deputy sheriff. He comes by his talents from his Dad who was a taxidermist. John is an avid hunter and outdoorsman with a great understanding of wildlife. There is a lot of detail in making his feathered pen blanks. His skills in fly tying are utilized to hold the feathers in place prior to the casting. John has a great artistic mind, as you can see, he carefully places the feathers in such a way to achieve a balanced and attractive display.

John is listed on the IAP under the name JohnU. You can purchase John's feathered pen blanks at www.exoticblanks.com or contact him directly for a custom made feather pen blank.



A collection of feathered pens encased in resin.



This is my favourite. I call it "Captain Jack Sparrow". It's made with parrot feathers. When you look through the magnifying resin you can see the fine detail in the feathers.

Pen Pals

...continued



Custom made abalone shell pen. Beautiful and exacting detail work by John Underhill. It gets to be a bit nerve wracking to ensure you don't skew through to the abalone shell and ruin an expensive blank.



The resin blanks with the feathers embedded within. The resin is soft to turn, Once turned I sand with 220 through to 600 grit sandpaper. I then use 9 grits of micro mesh followed by a scratch remover, Novus. The final polish is with the Barry gross high speed buffer and magic compound.

I am looking forward to the summer as the warmer weather allows me to open the garage door and let the air and light in. I got in some wonderful Irish bog blanks and some especially aromatic Jack Daniels whiskey blanks and Churchill Port blanks. Stop by and have a smell.

I will see you at the year ending meeting and I have some discount coupons for you from Curtis Seebeck (www.turntex.com) promoting the Cactus Juice stabilizing system.

If you have any questions please send me an e-mail to info@scotianpens.com

Take care and have a good summer,
Darrell Eisner



Shavings

Bill Marshall Passes On

It is with much sadness and difficulty to have to announce the passing of our good friend, Bill Marshall. He died suddenly on May 9 th. His wife found him dead in the back yard.

Bill was a great guy and really enjoyed his "Woodshow Friends". He will be missed by so many.

Many of you will remember Bill as the energetic Manager/Partner in the Moncton Wood Shows.

Our condolences to the family.

. AAW Symposium

It looks like we have quite a group of Guild members attending the Symposium this year. Doug McGuire, Don Moore, Robert Atkinson, Dianne Looker, Ted Monk and Maureen Simpson are all going!

Anchorseal Brush

Put the brush that you use for applying your Anchorseal in a ziplock bag after use. It will stay soft and ready for the next time that you use it. Don't worry if it does go hard because it will soften up again when you dip it into the Anchorseal again.

Free Tool And Jig Plans

WoodChux, a woodturner for eight years, has several free plans available for a hollowing tool, a pen drilling jig, a pen squaring jig, a bowl bottom finding jig and even a treadle lathe! He also has a recipe for sanding wax. Check it out here:

<http://rizaydog.webs.com/freeplansinfo.htm>

Direct Reading Caliper

And speaking of free plans, here's plans to make a Direct Reading Caliper, similar to the Galbert Caliper that claims to give "a constant, accurate reading of the diameter of a work piece as it is cut." You can find it here:

<http://tinyurl.com/3bg49c7>

To turn it or to burn it?
That is the question.

Woodturning Cruise Update from Dianne Looker

The few cabins left on the woodturning cruise are now on sale for up to 30% off. Mention my name, **Dianne Looker**, in the comment line when you book and I get a free gift, which I'll share with any Nova Woodturning Guild member who signs up.

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

Lathe Maintenance

Use a flat bastard file to remove any nicks and smooth the top of your tool rest before turning starting to turn. A light stroke or two of paraffin wax across the top of the tool rest will also help your tools to slide along the rest smoothly.

The Turning Point

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

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

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

This newsletter gives the opportunity for you to do that.

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

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

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

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

The deadline for submissions for the September issue is Sept. 3rd, 2011

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://novawoodturnersguild.com>

Your 2010-2011 Guild Executive

President: Don Moore

moorewood1@gmail.com

Vice President: Dan Graham

djgraham@ns.sympatico.ca

Secretary: Ted Monk

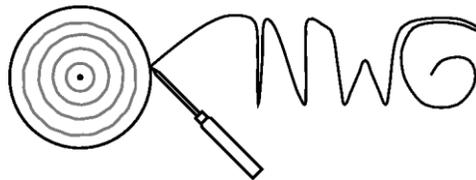
tedmonk@gmail.com

Treasurer: Alan Hunt

prof.a.j.hunt@gmail.com

Past President:

Bill Luther



“...to encourage and promote the art and craft of woodturning”

Members At Large:

Ian Scott

Dianne Looker

Gordon Marshall

Doug McGuire

Committees

Library

Jim Diamond

Richard Ford

Events

Don Moore

Robert Atkinson

Dan Graham

Alan Hunt

Maureen Simpson

Ted Monk

Website

Ian Scott

Norm Jolivet

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

Membership & Promotion

Andrew Watson

Insurance

Alan Hunt

Don Moore

Darrell Eisner

Fund Raising

Norm Jolivet (Raffle Master)

Bill Luther (Competition Prizes)

Constitution & By-laws

Dianne Looker

Newsletter

Ted Monk

Nominations

Doug McGuire

Gordon Marshall

Guild Photographer: Chris Palmer