

# The Turning Point

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**Nova Woodturners'  
Annual Competition  
Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Deadline For Entries:  
January 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Award Ceremony  
February 11th**

**Michael Hosaluk  
Demonstration  
February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Seats Are Limited  
Register Now!**

**NWG Annual  
Fun Turn**

**Pieces Are Due  
March 19th**

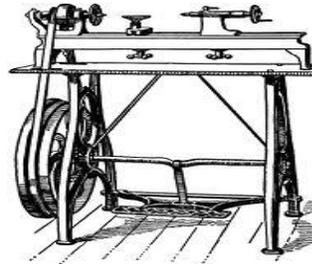


**The Next NWG Meeting is January 16th**

**The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is  
January 16th at Kent in Dartmouth at 6:30pm  
Go to page 17 for more info on the meeting topic!**

## From The President's Workshop

Don Moore



Welcome to 2012, wishing everyone a year of tremendous health and a world of peace for all of humanity. As we watch the turmoil in countries around the world unfold, one becomes aware of how blessed we are to live in Canada. Our precious freedom is something to be cherished.

As is our Guild and the fellowship it entails. It contains depth and diversity, a willingness to share our insights as well as our misgivings, as we all learn from one and other.

Now get ready to watch time miraculously disappear as January turns into February and the NWG - LV Turning Competition entry date arrives. There are workshops with Steve Kennard, Michael Hosaluk, and seminars to attend. If you haven't already registered for our seminar with Michael, to be held at Steve Zwerling's on Feb. 5th., now would be a good time to do so. Opportunities like these do not present themselves often enough in this part of Canada. Regardless of your present level of expertise, the exposure with these events is so multi-beneficial to your development of skill and area of interest.

Last May Maureen and I were fortunate enough to make arrangements to have a workshop with Alain Mailland while we were in France. Just outside the quaint historic village of Uzes is where Alain was living at the time. Not only is he a creative woodturner, he is also a wonderful human being. He actually refers to himself as a professional sander/shaper. Whatever you want to call him, the outcome is exquisite. I worked on Alain's lathe turning one of his multi-axis projects while Maureen turned on Alain's wife's lathe turning very, very thinned walled flowers. He was completely free with all of his techniques and encouraged both of us to push his methods further with our own spin. We spent a wonderful day with him and the wine and cheese afterwards wasn't too bad either.

Next month you don't have to travel to France, you have an opportunity right here in Nova Scotia to experience the privilege of meeting and watching a master turner that has a terrific presentation of a very wide repertoire of projects and methods. I can't promise you wine and cheese, but I can assure you of expanding your exposure to new horizons in turning.

Please enjoy another fantastic edition of our newsletter as you browse and ponder everything offered, in doing so, please mention your gratitude to all of the contributing woodturners, they deserve it.

In the meantime, "keep your bevel rubbing",  
Don

*"If you are not  
already registered  
for the Michael  
Hosaluk demo,  
now is a good time  
to do so!"*

## The Vice-President's Report

Dianne Looker

### Notice of Special General Meeting

Notice of special meeting to vote on becoming a Chapter of the AAW

At the November 18, 2011 meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild (NWG) Executive it was unanimously decided to recommend to the membership that the NWG become a formal chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW).

There is NO COST associated with becoming a Chapter of the AAW. (There are dues for any individual members to join).

**The advantages are:**

1. The AAW provides liability insurance that we do not currently have and which would be very expensive to purchase. (This is the key reason for the Executive's recommendation).
2. We have access to grants from the AAW.

**The possible disadvantages are:**

1. Only dues paying members of the AAW could serve on the executive.
2. Only dues paying members of the AAW would be covered by the liability insurance that protects against accidents. That is, it would be unwise to have someone who is not a member of the AAW do a demonstration for the Guild. (Non-AAW members would, of course, be covered if they were the ones injured).
3. We would have to redraft our by-laws to reflect this change.

This issue will be discussed and voted on at the January 16, 2012 NWG meeting.

Note that this article constitutes formal notice of a "special general meeting" under the terms of our current by-laws.

*"There is no cost associated with becoming a Chapter of the AAW."*

For those members not aware of the American Association of Woodturners:

"The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) is an **international**, nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning. Our mission is to provide education, information, and organization to those interested in turning wood."

For more information on the AAW please go to:

<http://woodturner.org/>

*You may know the AAW by their great woodturning magazine – American Woodturner*

*"You may know the AAW by their great woodturning magazine – American Woodturner"*

## The Secretary's Quill

Ted Monk

There's not much to report from the Secretary's desk so indulge me as I digress...

Well, although the holidays over there still is no time to rest. The Annual Competition begins in just a couple of weeks and I'm sure I'm not the only one that has to burn some of midnight oil to get a few pieces ready before the January 28<sup>th</sup> deadline.

*"There is still lots of time to turn a piece or two and get them into the Competition!"*

If you have never entered the Competition, please do. For me, it is the most important event of the year. It gives me the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and to try something new. For some reason, my 'competition pieces' are always so much more enjoyable to do, and of a much higher quality. There's also the benefit of having my piece evaluated by unbiased peers. While I enjoy the accolades from my friends and family, and often need them ☺, professional opinion gives me great insight into my growth as a turner. I'm sure that you'll find the same thing.

There is still lots of time to turn a piece or two and get them into the Competition.

Trust me, you can't lose.

## The Editor's Desk

Ted Monk

We have another great issue of The Turning Point for you this month, folks! Thanks to everyone for your submissions. Keep it up. It's through sharing that we all win!

This month we have Committee reports and updates, lots and lots and lots of photos from December's First Annual Christmas Social meeting, the second instalment from Dianne Looker about her trip to Norway last summer, some wire burning tips, Dan Graham's flatwork project, a shellac calculator, Fibonacci gauge plans and a whole lot more!

With Dan's submission, and admission, of a flatwork project he recently completed we decided to add a new section to the newsletter called 'Other Projects'. If you have a non-woodturning project, or even a non-wood project, please share it with us! We are always interested in reading about what else you have been doing. Please send us a photo and a description so that we can include it here.

We did get a couple of members to answer our request for sending in tips on wire burning but we were hoping to hear from a lot more. Just think, if every member had sent in just one tip we would have almost 40 of them! What a great resource this would be!

We're still on the lookout for how-to articles. Please take some photos and jot down a few notes of your next project and send them in. Even in their simplicity there's always something that be gleaned by such articles.

We would also like to see photos of your finished projects. Send along a photo or two with some info about the piece; wood type, size, finish used, etc. and we'll start a section to complement our meeting Show & Tell.

With the February meeting a week earlier than usual we're going to have to do some scrambling to get a full size issue of the Turning Point out but we'll do our best. So please get your submissions in as soon as possible.

**The deadline for submissions for the February issue is February 1st, 2012**

## Financial Report

Dan Graham

### Financial Statement:

#### Income at December Meeting:

Membership dues - \$120.00

Raffle monies - \$146.00

Donation by G Marshall workshop - \$10.00

Monies from sale of wood Fun turn - \$123.50

Monies for Michael Hosaluk Workshop - \$455.00

#### Cheque issued at December meeting

For raffle item - \$17.78

#### Account totals from Credit Union Statement dated November 30th:

Credit Union service charge - \$4.00

Equity shares - \$10.00 ( not included in total)

CHQ - \$3102.16

Savings - \$2097.42

Total NWG - \$5199.58

As of the December meeting we have 37 members signed up and payed up.

A couple of things to note; firstly, from my calculations the Fun Turn wood cost the NWG a total of \$16.80. The wood cost \$140.30 and the extra wood was sold for \$123.50. Well done, my Scottish and Irish friends :). Secondly, we have 17 Guild members signed up for the workshop on February 5th with Michael Hosaluk.

If you haven't, and you plan to attend, please get your check or cash to me as soon as possible as there is limited sitting and also so that the Events Committee can plan accordingly. The cost for this day long demo is \$35.00.

NWG Treasury

Dan Graham

## Reminder – Competition Entries Due By January 28<sup>th</sup>!

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

**This year's Competition will be held from January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 11<sup>th</sup> at Lee Valley.**

**Your entries must be received at Lee Valley between January 23rd and January 28<sup>th</sup> inclusive.**

**Pickup for your pieces must be made no later than February 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Award Ceremony will be held at 1:00pm on February 11<sup>th</sup> at Lee Valley. (This will be our February meeting instead of our usual date on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.)**

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

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

## Events Committee Report

*Robert Atkinson*

The Events Committee met on the 12th of December to discuss items concerning our annual Competition and Michael Hosaluk's demo on the 5th of February. Also, it was decided that we should do a write-up on the history of the Competition as we have a number of new members and it would be useful for future members. Originally, I was going to write this and send it to the other members of the Events Committee for their feedback. However, as it is now being written on the 27th of December and going directly to the newsletter; you the general membership will get to peruse it and send me in corrections.

The Competition started in November of 1997 at the Woodshow held at Exhibition Park. At that time we had the 3 levels of Novice, Intermediate and Open. There was only one judge with no written parameters for judging. A good number of times we used the Sorby rep that was demonstrating at the show and other times Bill Luther did the judging. Also, we had the People's Choice Award, where the people attending the show voted for the winner and this is the most coveted award for a turner to win. With the death of one of our founding members and only treasurer to that date, Warman Castle, the trophy was renamed to the Warman Castle Memorial trophy. Winners of this award are: 2005 - Don Moore, 2006 - Denton Ford, 2007 – no award as competition moved from November at Woodshow to January at Lee Valley, 2008 – Dave Wilkins, 2009 – Don Moore, 2010 – Don Moore and 2011 – Gordon Marshall. To encourage more members of the public to vote on pieces last year, we had a turning donated by Don Moore with the winner being drawn from the ballots cast. This year again we have a turning donated by Gordon Marshall as a prize. As attendance and the number of exhibitors continued to decline at the Woodshow, the Halifax show came to an end with the last show being the fall of 2006.

Although the Woodshow came to an end the Guild didn't want to lose the exposure to the public and the ability to recruit new members that the Competition provided to the Guild. Lee Valley agreed to host the Competition at their location in Bayer's Lake and the first Competition there was in January 2008 and this year will be our fifth year there.

It is the aim of the Events Committee to improve the Competition based on feedback from our members, the judges, the public and Lee Valley. We have gone from one judge to three and provided them with the criteria we want them to use in judging. Also, they provide feedback on the forms as to the areas where the competitor needs to improve in their opinion. Last year we had one judge from NSCAD who wasn't a turner, but had a background in shape design to give a different perspective on the pieces and we have continued with that this year. We provide each judge with a package containing all paperwork they need for the entries and the Events Committee brings all pieces of a group (ex Novice – spindle) to the judges to be judged after the Committee members leave. This speeds things up for the judges and allows them to spend more time judging the pieces. Even so it takes the better part of a day to complete their task.

We have established written rules and regulations for the Competition that are posted on our website along with the entry forms. Last year we had to establish a size limit for the pieces as Lee Valley has stated all pieces must be displayed in the display cabinets they provide.

This will be the first year that we will be able to do some turning while staffing our booth during the Competition timeframe. Lee Valley will provide the space, a plexiglass shield and some wood. The Guild will provide our mini lathe and sharpening system. Anyone wanting to turn will bring their tools, safety equipment (face shield, etc) a chuck, wood or anything else they want to use. This allows the public to see what we do and should make the time go a lot faster than just standing around. It doesn't matter what you turn or what level you are at, it should make for a more interesting time. One example would be spinning tops and just give them away to people as a memento. The important thing is just to have some fun doing what you like to do.

We encourage everyone to submit pieces to the Competition as a means to find out what highly skilled craftspeople think of your work, both what they like and where they think you can improve. Take this as an opportunity for taking your pieces to the next level by incorporating some of the ideas offered.

Robert Atkinson  
Events Committee Chairman

## Library Report – Books &amp; Videos

Richard Ford

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

DATE	NAME	ID #	DESCRIPTION
19. Apr. 2010	Alan Hunt		Turning Wood with Richard Raffan
17. Oct. 2011	Alan Hunt		Intermediate Woodturning Projects - Woodturning Magazine
17. Oct. 2011	Alan Hunt		Connections -- International Turning Exchange 1995-2005
17. Oct. 2011	Dianne Looker		Turn It On Vol 1-- Jimmy Clewes.
17. Oct. 2011	Dianne Looker		Turn It On Vol 3-- Jimmy Clewes
17. Oct. 2011	Dianne Looker		Turn It Up Vol 2-- Jimmy Clewes.
17. Oct. 2011	Robert Atkinson		Turned Boxes 50 designs - Chris Stott
21. Nov. 2011	Don Campbell		Unique & Unusual Pens - Dick Sing
21. Nov. 2011	Doug McGuire		Turning Boxes with Chris Stott.
21. Nov. 2011	Doug McGuire		Turning pens & Other Small Projects On Carba-tec Mini Lathe
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		Segmented Turning (2 DVD Set) - Curt Theobald
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		Practical Tips for Turners and Carvers - GMC Publications
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		The Craftsman Woodturner - Peter Child New Revised Edition
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		Turning Projects - Richard Raffan
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		Woodturning I with Bonnie Klein 120min.
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		The Basic Box -- Turned Boxes by Ray Key
21. Nov. 2011	Glenn McCarron		The Finial Box -- Turned Boxes by Ray Key
21. Nov. 2011	Russell Parrott		Bowl Turning - John Jordan
21. Nov. 2011	Russell Parrott		Small and Exciting Woodturning Projects – James A. Jacobson
21. Nov. 2011	Russell Parrott		Hollow Forms and Urns – A Workshop by Mike Mahoney
21. Nov. 2011	Ted Monk		500 Wood Bowls - Juried by Ray Leier, Jan Peters & Kevin Wallace
21. Nov. 2011	Ted Monk		Fun at the Lathe - R. C. Bell

## Library Report – Magazines &amp; Tools

Jim Diamond

Here is the list of periodicals and tools on loan. Please try to get all of them back at the January meeting:

I Scott:	WT Dec 05:	Dec 2009
I Scott:	WT Oct 01, Apr 02, May 02, Jul 02:	Oct 2010
D McGuire:	WT Apr 11:	May 2011
T Monk:	WT Mar, Jun, Dec 04, Apr, Aug 05:	Nov 2011
G McCarron:	1x8 spindle tap:	Nov 2011
R Parrott:	WT Nov 09, Jan 11:	Nov 2011
D Richards:	WT Jun 11, Aug 11:	Nov 2011
G Price:	Sorby texturing tool:	Nov 2011

The February meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is on

**February 11<sup>th</sup> at Lee Valley at 1:00pm**

And not on the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Mark your calendar now! 😊

## The December 2011 Meeting – Christmas Social

Wow! In the immortal words of the Irish Rovers, "wasn't that a party!" Well, it sure was!

Thirty-five Guild members and guests convened on Halifax Specialty Hardwoods at their new location at 112 Bluewater Rd. in Bedford for our First Annual Christmas Social. From the comments that were made afterwards and the smiling faces, the active chatting and the happy holiday atmosphere during the party made it quite clear that the Second Annual Christmas Social is a must!

The social time began well before our starting time as members and guests began to arrive earlier than normal. Anticipation was definitely high. As they came in they added their goodies to the goody tables, yes, tables. There were two 8 foot by 3 foot tables (that's 48 board feet!) of some of the most delicious snacks that you have ever seen accumulated. There were sandwiches, cookies, cakes, pepperoni, cheeses, crackers, vegetable and fruit trays, devilled eggs, dips, juice, tea and coffee. There's a rumour going around that some of our woodturning meetings are "all about the food", well this cinches it - it is!

Also on arrival, members placed their Show & Tell items on the beautiful Maple 'table' that had been set up specifically for this purpose. The 'table' was actually a stack of freshly milled Maple, what a background for these fine pieces!

Guild Vice-President, Dianne Looker, opened the meeting right on time and introduced Darrell Vallis, owner of Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, who welcomed us to the new store. He also offered us a 15% discount on all purchase this evening and brought our attention to the ten-pack pen blank packages that they offer at an already great discount.

From there the floor was turned over to Doug McGuire who spoke on the Fun Turn, explaining how it works and emphasising the requirement to HAVE FUN!

Next, Events Committee Chairman, Robert Atkinson, spoke on the upcoming Nova Woodturners' Guild Annual Competition. He told us that this year the three judges will be Steven Kennard, Stephen Zwerling and Lillian Yeun from NSCAD, that the Membership Committee will soon be asking members to help with the staffing of the booth at Lee Valley and for those that will be taking advantage of the lathe that will be available at that time that we will be required to bring our own tools, face shield, etc. Also, he suggested that we bring a few small turned items for display to show what kind of things can be done on a lathe.

With the 'business' out of the way it was time to get on to the festivities. To kick this off Guild President, Don Moore, explained the 'card trick' draw for the free ticket to our Michael Hosaluk demo. Then he and Guild Treasurer, Dan Graham, started the draw. Through a process of elimination it got down to 5 remaining members; Dale Rayner, Robert Atkinson, Richard Ford, George Price and Peter Nicholl. At this point Don announced that if any of the other members wanted to make a cash offer to these remaining members for their cards now was the time to make it. Robert was offered \$5. for his ticket but didn't take it. He knows now he should have as he was eliminated on the next round. ;) When it got down to the two finalists; Richard and Dale, there was talk of buying each other's card but each stood fast. Finally, with great anticipation the final card was drawn, Richard was eliminated and Dale was declared the winner of the free ticket to Michael Hosaluk's demonstration at Stephen Zwerling's! Congratulations, Dale!

With all this excitement it was time to eat and everyone proceeded to fill up their plates and cups with the bounty described above.

Following this short break it was time for the Shape Challenge. This was the third in this series presented by Dianne and its focus was on the ogee shape. Quite a few members participated; Dan Graham, Doug McGuire, Robert Atkinson, Glenn McCarron, Gary Landry, Ron Hazlett, Lowell Jenkins, Norm Jolivet, Dale Rayner, Peter Nicholl, George Price, Gordon Marshall, Bill Fisher, Stuart Taylor, Ian Scott and Dianne. The pieces were as varied as could be and all were great, even Peter's pre-bowl. ;) When it was over Dianne announce that there will be another Challenge coming soon and it could possibly be an egg shape. Start practicing now!

## The December 2011 Meeting

*...continued*

Our regular meeting Show & Tell followed the Shape Challenge with several participants; Lowell Jenkins brought in a small bowl, Dave Richards brought in a large bowl on a pedestal, a segmented vase and a set of pens, Ron Hazlett showed us a clock that he made, Darrell Eisner showed his Bluenose pen set that included a pen made of wood from the Bluenose, a dime and a postage stamp, all in a beautiful case, Dianne Looker showed us a plate created using the bandsaw technique and Bill Fisher showed us a shallow bowl. In addition, Gordon Marshall brought in a Fibonacci gauge that he made and Dale Rayner brought in some piano wire to share with the membership which led to several great tips from a couple of members on wire burning (see the article on Page 22) .

By now it was time to replenish the plates so another short break was announced. During the munching a couple of announcements were made:

Gordon Marshall announced his upcoming course at Nova Scotia Center for Craft and Design beginning in March (more info on Page 27) Kudos, Gordon, on your first venture into paid woodturning course instruction!

Past President, Bill Luther, announced that he had spoke with Sarah, the wife of past member Warman Castle (now deceased). She is doing fine and she passed on good wishes and said hello to everyone.

Cheryl Borden, of Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, announced several new woods that they now have available. In addition to the Birch-Walnut, they have also added a Bird's Eye and Curly variety. They have also added an Aromatic Cedar that is sure to be popular.

Finishing off the night was a raffle where the winners chose from pieces of Cherry and gift bags that were filled with some cookies, a first aid kit and items for making your own finishes; syringes, tongue depressors, mixing pots, pencils and plastic covered finishing recipes. The winners were Dave Duggan, Bill Fisher (won twice), Calum Ewing (won twice) and Ron Hazlett.

Socializing! Shopping! Eating! What a great time!

Special thanks to Darrell and Cheryl for hosting this fantastic evening! We'll see you again next year for our Second Annual Christmas Social!



*Shape Challenge - Dan Graham*



*Shape Challenge - Doug McGuire*

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



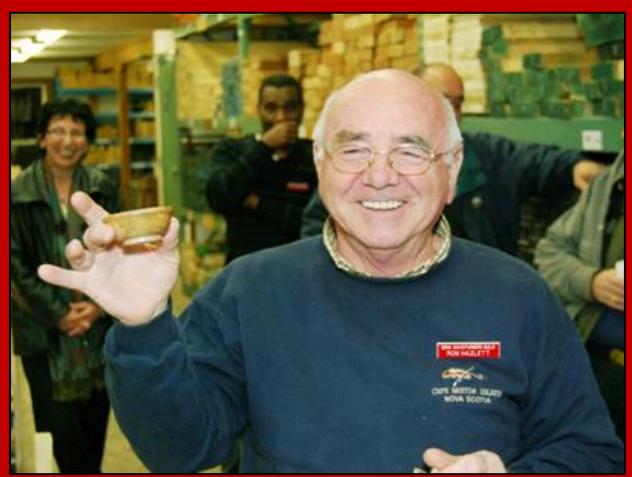
Shape Challenge - Robert Atkinson



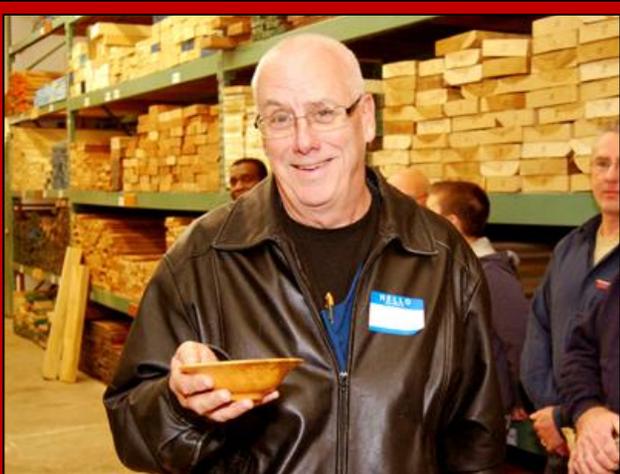
Shape Challenge - Glenn McCarron



Shape Challenge - Gary Landry



Shape Challenge - Ron Hazlett



Shape Challenge - Lowell Jenkins



Shape Challenge - Norm Jolivet

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



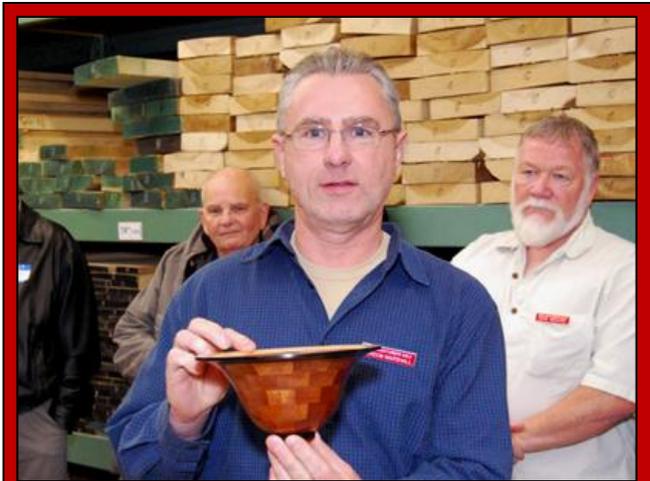
Shape Challenge - Dale Rayner



Shape Challenge - Peter Nicholl



Shape Challenge - George Price



Shape Challenge - Gordon Marshall



Shape Challenge - Bill Fisher



Shape Challenge - Stuart Taylor

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



Shape Challenge - Ian Scott



Shape Challenge - Dianne Looker



Show & Tell - Lowell Jenkins



Show & Tell - Dave Richards



Show & Tell - Dave Richards



Show & Tell - Dave Richards

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



Show & Tell – Gordon Marshall



Show & Tell – Ron Hazlett



Show & Tell – Darrell Eisner



Show & Tell – Dianne Looker



Show & Tell – Bill Fisher



A Grand Display!

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



Dave Richards' Pens



Darrell Eisner's Bluenose Pen



At The Buffet Table



At The Buffet Table



At The Buffet Table



Santa Dan & Prez Don

The December 2011 Meeting

...continued



Bill Luther / Raffle Ticket Sales



Definitely A Scoff!



Chris Palmer - A Self Portrait? ©



The Crowd



Halifax Specialty Hardwoods Backshop



Halifax Specialty Hardwoods Lumber

## NWG Meeting Calendar 2011-2012

Date	Subject	Location/Time
September 19, 2011	Multi-Axis Eccentric Turning - Don Moore Shape Challenge III Introduction - Dianne Looker Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
October 17, 2011	Bandsaw Epoxy Technique - Dianne Looker Show & Tell Fun Turn Wood Pickup	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
November 21, 2011	Stuart Taylor - Hollow Turning Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
December 12, 2011	Christmas Social Shape Challenge III Show & Tell Show & Tell	HFX Specialty Hardwoods 6:30-8:30
January 16, 2012	Woodturning Safety - Dan Graham Pen Turning 102 - Ian Scott Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
February 11, 2012	Annual Nova Woodturning Guild Competition	Lee Valley 1:00-5:00
March 19, 2012	The Annual NWG Fun Turn Competition Entries Show & Tell Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
April 16, 2012	Woodturning Techniques - Don Moore Shape Challenge IV Introduction - Dianne Looker Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
May 21, 2012	Texturing - Doug McGuire Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30
June 18, 2012	Annual General Meeting Shape Challenge IV Show & Tell Show & Tell	Kent Dartmouth 6:30-8:30

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

### Important Dates

- **January 28<sup>th</sup> – Deadline for NWG Competition entries**
- February 5<sup>th</sup> – Michael Hosaluk demonstration
- February 11<sup>th</sup> – NWG Annual Competition Awards Ceremony
- March 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Fun Turn Pieces are due

## The January 2011 Meeting – January 16th

**We have a double feature that's guaranteed to educate and entertain you!**

### **Safety In The Shop**

Shop safety is very important but, unfortunately, it is something that is often overlooked and seldom talked about. Dan Graham is here to change this.

He will lead a discussion on shop safety as it pertains to woodturning and the associated equipment one would use in wood preparation. He will have some examples of safety equipment present as well as some source information will be made available.

Come prepared to join in with your tips, suggestions and your war stories!

### **Pen Turning 102**

Ian Scott will follow up his 'Introduction To Pen Turning' demonstration that he did in May of last year with some 'more advanced' projects.

Ian plans to demonstrate different variations on a Slimline pen; different shaping, changing/doing away with centre band, changing the tube length, adding finger grips, woodburning. He will also show how to turn European style pen where you have to cut a tenon for the band.

We all know that whatever he chooses to demonstrate it will a great demonstration!

### **Show & Tell**

As always, we love to see what you have been working on. Please bring in some items to show us. We're always interested in your latest project (even the ones that didn't turn out!), a new tool, an interesting jig or anything else turning related!

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

**The January 16th, 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!***

## Cruising In The Fiords – Part II (The Turning Part)

*Dianne Looker*

I wrote in an earlier note about the cruise part of the woodturning cruise I went on this past summer. (I did that because I figured some of you might be able to entice some spouses or partners to go for the cruise part in future years. ;-) This note is about the woodturning part. Yes, there was, indeed, woodturning on the cruise...

The lathes were located on a lower deck in what would otherwise have been the vehicle storage section of the boat. There were five lathes for the guest internationally renowned turners, four brought and used by various tool manufacturers, and five for lowly passengers (such as myself) to use for "practice". At first the system of accessing the lathes and turning instruction was a bit unclear. (They had a couple of couple key to the organizational part of the cruise drop out at the last minute due to medical or family crises). Each of the guest turners was available for instruction, but they all seemed to have a different system for signing up for these sessions. And some (not me ;-) were a bit intimidated by the idea of approaching the likes of Richard Raffan or Jimmy Clewes to set up a time.

The general idea was that the guest turners would do instruction in the mornings (which is when other enticing classes like knife making, carving, chip carving and felt making also took place). In the afternoons (when we tended to be in harbor in some new town), the ramps would be lowered and hordes of Norwegians interested in woodworking and wood turning would crowd on board. That is when the guest turners would do demonstrations – so the locals could see what real experts could do with various tools and techniques. (and trick them into thinking "now if only I had that tool, I could..." ;-). There were tool companies selling not only a host of turning tools, but also others selling sanding equipment, jig saws, carving tools, pyrography equipment, books and DVDs and various finishes and accessories used in woodworking. Few of the passengers bought any of this largesse as the exchange rate on the Norwegian kronor was such that anything was a lot cheaper back home (unless, of course, "home" was Norway...).



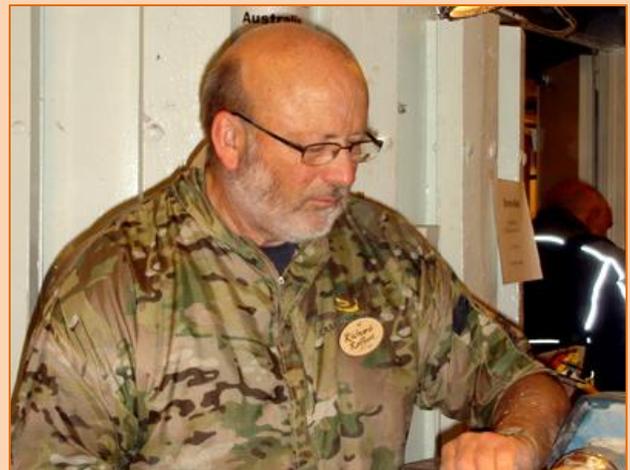
*Clive Brooks of Robert Sorby*

The afternoons (which were also the time for any excursions one wanted to take into the neighboring town), were when passengers could book time on the practice lathes. They had on board instructors to assist you – and it turns out they were amazingly skilled woodturners in their own right. I worked mostly with Mark Hancock (<http://www.markhancock.co.uk/>), who was very helpful as well as charming. I also called on David Muckle (who seems not to have a website) a few times but found him less helpful. He seemed to forget that the goal was to teach me techniques, rather than to produce a polished finished product. So he tended to take over rather than show me how to do something and let me do it. Mark was much better at that. (There were at least two others instructors I didn't work with).

## Cruising In The Fiords – Part II (The Turning Part)

...continued

And I signed up for lots of instructions from the famous guests. I had Bonnie Klein (from whom I'd taken lessons before) advise me on various smaller tools similar to ones she uses. (Check out her work and her woodturning tools at <http://www.bonnieklein.com/>). Richard Raffan (from whom I've also taken courses before the cruise) (<http://www.richardraffan.com/>) showed me the finer points of how to use various scrapers, especially his spear pointed scraper.

*Bonnie Klein**Richard Raffan*

Mark Baker (whose website <http://www.markbakerwoodturning.com/> is still under construction) tried to advise me on various surface treatments. I decided I'm not into carving, and I think he decided there was little hope for me, but what can you do...

*Mark Baker*

## Cruising In The Fiords – Part II (The Turning Part)

...continued

The biggest treat for me was working with Jimmy Clewes (<http://www.jimmyclewes.com/>). He is not only an expert woodturner, he is an exceptional teacher as well. No danger of him taking over and doing it for you. He hardly touched the tools or the bowl I was making. But he showed me, step by step, how to improve some of my techniques. Alas, I have a lot of improvement still needed. However, I am not only plotting to take a mini-course from him this summer when he comes to Saskatchewan, Trudy (one of my drinking buddies on the cruise) from Victoria and I are planning a trip to Las Vegas in April to work with him – what can I say.. ;-)



*Jimmy Clewes*

The work that Rolly Munro (<http://www.rollymunro.co.nz/>) was doing was so far beyond my skill level that all I could do was watch and marvel (and occasionally stand in the shower of the shavings that were flying off his lathe). Clive Brooks from Sorby Tools (<http://www.robert-sorby.co.uk/>) convinced me to try out their spiraling system and, of course, then I had to have one (which I now do). (He also kept saying “here comes Trouble” when I’d show up, so that became my nick name.) Mike Hunter from Hunter Tools similarly convinced me to try their hollowing tools (see <http://www.hunterwoodturningtool.com/>) and I now have one and am planning on ordering others. I had hoped to sign up for some time with Nick Agar, but we never managed to find a time (<http://www.turningintoart.com/>).



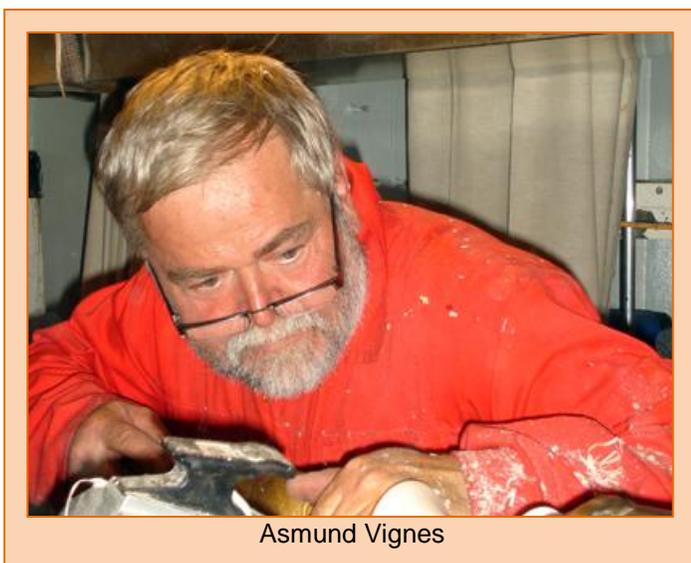
*Rolly Munro*

## Cruising In The Fiords – Part II (The Turning Part)

...continued

In the evenings there were occasional slide shows and presentations by one of the guest turners. One by Terry Scott (<http://www.timberly.co.nz/terry.htm>) particularly blew my mind. There was no lack of inspiration on board, that's for sure!

The next to last day we were in port there was both a silent auction (where I managed to snag a couple of Rolly Munro's unfinished works), and a live auction. One constraint in the live auction is that they (understandably) did it in Norwegian kronor, and I (and others) found by the time we translated the amounts into currency that we could understand, the bid was lost. One item I regret not bidding on was a platter by Glenn Lucas (<http://glennlucas.com/>), with turned tops made by every one of the other guest turners. What a prize that would have been (although the platter was large enough to present packing challenges). After the auctions I also bought a piece by Asmund Vignes (<http://asmundvignes.com/>) which I've shown at a Guild meeting.



Asmund Vignes

So, despite the fact that I didn't talk much about turning when I spoke to the Guild about the cruise in September, and there was little about turning in my last write-up for the newsletter, there was, in fact, a *lot* of turning that went on. And what fine turning it was!

It was a truly amazing and inspirational time and I don't for a second regret going. I know some of my fellow passengers plan to go on the next one, which is likely to be in three years' time. I don't know if I will, but I am certainly not ruling it out.

I hope some of you get a chance to go when next it happens. And I hope at least a few of you have enjoyed reading my account of it all.

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Wow! Sounds like the trip of a lifetime! If you have a woodturning related trip, seminar or instruction that you have attended please share it with us! We would love to read about it!

## Wire Burning Tips

During the December meeting talked turned to 'wire burning', the act of creating darkened decorative lines on your woodturnings.

Wire burning, also known as friction burning, is commonly done by making a small groove in your work with the tip of a skew then by drawing a wire taut in the groove. By applying pressure friction is created which burns a brown line in your piece.

Here are some tips that were sent in from a couple of members regarding this quick and easy enhancement:

**Norm Jolivet** says:

Spindle forms:

- Use the tip of a skew or parting tool to provide a starting groove.
- Almost any type of wire can be used for burning rings into the side of a bowl or spindle.
- Some examples would be steel fishing leaders, piano wire, guitar strings (steel), snare wire (brass), bailing wire, electrical wire (copper, solid, stripped).
- Try it and see if it works. Rotational speed, pressure, and wood species will affect your success.
- A coping saw or hacksaw frame could be used with burning wires. For that matter, mount the blade in upside down and burn with the back of the blade. Might work!
- A sturdy, sample piece of countertop laminate (Formica). Use the toolrest for support.

SAFETY:

- Always use handles with friction burning wires. If the wire should snag, your hand will be cut. If you wrap the wire around your finger it will cut it off cleanly!
- A turned dowel with a central groove or a hole drilled through works well.
- Always anticipate that the wire will break and, if pressing into the work, try not to fall into the spinning work.

Faceplate forms;

- Use the tip of a skew or parting tool to provide a starting groove.
- Insert the narrowed end of a piece of wood (coffee stir stick) or Formica into the groove and press. Rub, don't cut!

One other thought - if the handles are slightly tapered they could be stored by placing them in a series of holes in a rack. The fine ones tangle so easy.

**Ted Monk** says:

Use different gauge wire for different width burn lines and use the appropriate gauge for a particular sized turning.

Be careful how much pressure you use to create the friction required to burn. With thin wall turnings it is possible to burn right through... or so I have been told... seriously... I've haven't been able to turn something so thin to worry about it. ;)

**Don Moore** says:

With regard to the "Ebonizing" with piano wire, my safety tip is to put a basin of water on your lathes' "ways", directly under the area of the piece being burnt, thus lessening the odds of setting your shop on fire. The comment about using a piece of dowel on both ends of the wire is also very important, or better yet, have someone turn you a couple of wooden handles. I personally prefer the "F-flat" string, but the "C" is a good second choice... ;)

## Other Projects – A Church Lectern

Dan Graham

Here are a couple of photos of a project the church I go to wanted for Christmas. Of course, true to form I delivered it on the night of December 23<sup>rd</sup>. :)

It is made of Oak and I used biscuits for the joinery. It is finished with double boiled linseed oil to fit in with all the other items in the church.

I was very pleased by the finished project and I haven't been struck by lightning yet so I guess everyone approves. ;)

However, I am starting to think flat wood rather than round - Oh my goodness, did I really say that?! ☺



*Great job, Dan!*

We're sure that there are a lot of us, like Dan, who falter from time to time and visit the "dark side". If you have a non-woodturning project, or even a non-wood project, please share it with us! We are always interested in reading about what else you have been doing. Please send us a photo and a description so that we can include it here.

## Shellac Calculator

Norm Jolivet

## Shellac Calculator

## Weight

1 lb. =16 oz.  
1 lb. =454 gm.

## Volume

1 US Gal. = 128 oz. liquid.  
1 US Gal. = 3785ml.

A one pound cut would be:

16 oz (weight) added to 128 oz (liquid) = 0.125 oz. (w)/ oz. (l)

454 gm added to 3785 ml = 0.12 gm./ml.

To mix shellac to the desired "cut", add the amount of shellac solids shown in the chart to the appropriate amount of alcohol. i.e. To get 'one pound cut' shellac, add 60 grams of solids to 500 ml. alcohol.

**METRIC: grams**

Shellac 'pound cut'	1/4	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	3	4	5
Alcohol ml.								
100	3	6	12	18	24	36	48	60
200	6	12	24	36	48	72	96	120
300	9	18	36	54	72	108	144	180
400	12	24	48	72	96	144	192	240
500	15	30	60	90	120	180	240	300
600	18	36	72	108	144	216	288	360
700	21	42	84	126	168	252	336	420
800	24	48	96	144	192	288	384	480
900	27	54	108	162	216	324	432	540
1000	30	60	120	180	240	360	480	600

To mix shellac to the desired "cut", add the amount of shellac solids shown in the chart to the appropriate amount of alcohol. i.e. To get 'one pound cut' shellac, add 1.25 ounce (weight) of solids to 10 ounces (liquid) alcohol.

**IMPERIAL: ounces**

Shellac 'pound cut'	1/4	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	3	4	5
Alcohol oz.								
1	0.03	0.06	0.13	0.19	0.25	0.38	0.50	0.63
2	0.06	0.13	0.25	0.38	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25
3	0.09	0.19	0.38	0.56	0.75	1.13	1.50	1.88
4	0.13	0.25	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.00	2.50
5	0.16	0.31	0.63	0.94	1.25	1.88	2.50	3.13
6	0.19	0.38	0.75	1.13	1.50	2.25	3.00	3.75
7	0.22	0.44	0.88	1.31	1.75	2.63	3.50	4.38
8	0.25	0.50	1.00	1.50	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00
9	0.28	0.56	1.13	1.69	2.25	3.38	4.50	5.63
10	0.31	0.63	1.25	1.88	2.50	3.75	5.00	6.25
11	0.34	0.69	1.38	2.06	2.75	4.13	5.50	6.88
12	0.38	0.75	1.50	2.25	3.00	4.50	6.00	7.50
13	0.41	0.81	1.63	2.44	3.25	4.88	6.50	8.13
14	0.44	0.88	1.75	2.63	3.50	5.25	7.00	8.75
15	0.47	0.94	1.88	2.81	3.75	5.63	7.50	9.38
16	0.50	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	10.00

# Shellac Calculator

...continued

The following is excerpted from:  
 The Complete Illustrated Guide to Finishing  
 by Jeff Jewitt, Taunton Press

### Modify premixed shellac

Premixed shellac is typically sold in a 2-, 3-, or 4-lb. cut, which may need to be diluted for certain applications. You can also convert premixed shellac to a different cut, using the chart below.

### Shellac Conversion Ratios

To convert remixed shellac to a dilute cut, add the appropriate amount of alcohol, as shown in the chart. For example, to convert a 2-lb. cut to a 1-lb. cut, add 2/3 of 1 part alcohol to a 1 part existing 2-lb.-cut shellac solution.

Parts Alcohol : Parts Existing Cut

Desired cut	1/4 lb.	1/2 lb.	1 lb.	1-1/2 lb.	2 lb.	3 lb.
Existing Cut						
1/2 lb.	1 : 1					
1 lb.	3 : 1	7/8 : 1				
1-1/2 lb.	4-1/2 : 1	1-2/3 : 1	1/3 : 1			
2 lb.	5 : 1	2 : 1	2/3 : 1	1/4 : 1		
3 lb.	8-3/4 : 1	3-3/4 : 1	1-1/2 : 1	3/4 : 1	1/3 : 1	
4 lb.	11 : 1	5 : 1	2 : 1	1-1/4 : 1	3/4 : 1	1/4 : 1
5 lb.	12-3/4 : 1	5-3/4 : 1	2-3/4 : 1	1-1/2 : 1	1 : 1	7/8 : 1

(Update: Several readers have questioned the proportions in the chart. The numbers are correct, however, and here's why: The mathematics for shellac dilution do not follow a general ratio formula because you are working with the weight of a substance in a volume. For example, say you want to take a 2-lb. cut down to a 1-lb. cut. It would seem logical that it would be a one-to-one reduction of shellac to alcohol, but it's not. When you dissolve 2 lb. of shellac in 1 gal. of alcohol, you displace the original volume by 20 percent, thus giving you 1.2 gal. total in which 2 lb. of shellac are dissolved. So a 1-gal. volume of a 2-lb. cut shellac contains only 1.66 lb. of shellac. Three lb. in alcohol gives roughly 1.3 gal; 4 lb., 1.4 gal, and so on.)

Shellac is a resin secreted by the female lac bug, on trees in the forests of India and Thailand. It is processed and sold as dry flakes (pictured at right), which are dissolved in ethyl alcohol to make liquid shellac, which is used as a brush-on colorant, food glaze and wood finish. Shellac functions as a tough natural primer, sanding sealant, tannin-blocker, odour-blocker, stain, and high-gloss varnish. For more information go to:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shellac>



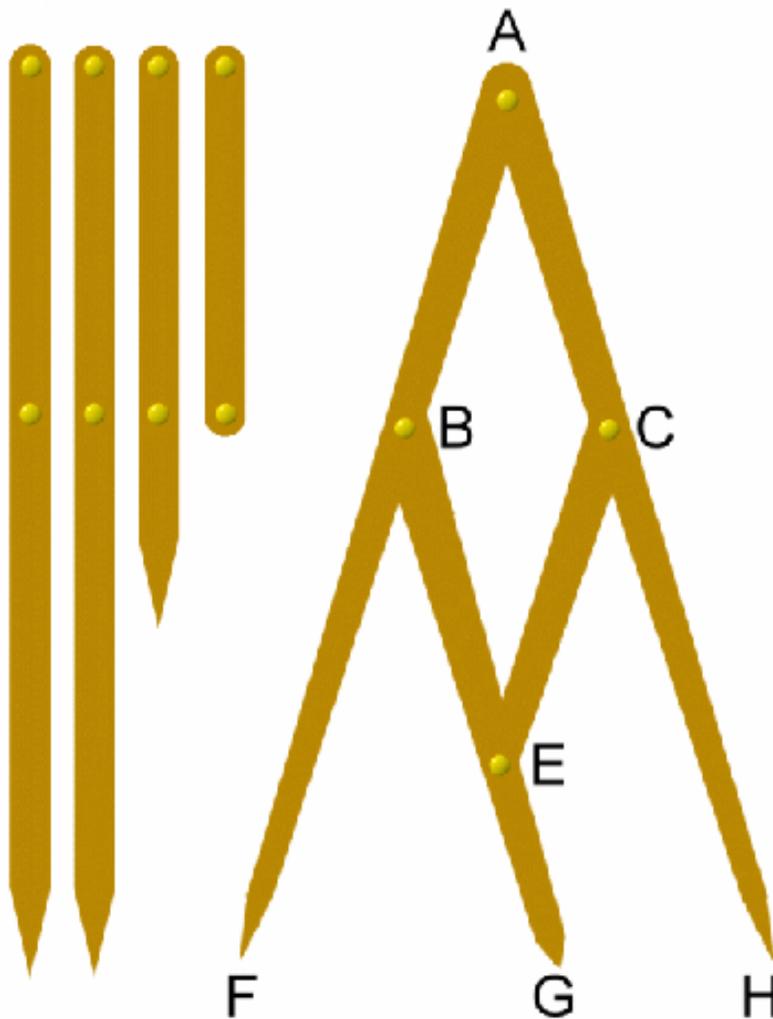
## Fibonacci Gauge

Gordon Marshall

Here's how to make your own Fibonacci gauge to quickly calculate The Golden Mean:

## Golden Section Gauge

$$\begin{aligned} AF &= AH = 340\text{mm} \\ BG &= 210\text{mm} \\ AB &= AC = BE = CE = 130\text{mm} \\ EG &= 80\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$



© Gary B. Meisner, [www.goldennumber.net](http://www.goldennumber.net)

Image courtesy of <http://www.goldennumber.net>, Gary B. Meisner, Copyright 2006-2011.

(Pssst... the above website is a treasure trove of Golden Ratio, Golden Section, Golden Mean, Divine Proportion, Fibonacci, Golden Number and Phi information... if you're into that sort of thing... ;)

## Shavings

### Turn A Segmented Bowl From A Board

Instructor: **Gordon Marshall**

Saturday & Sunday, March 3 & 4  
10:00-4:00 (12 hours/ 2 days)

\$165 + materials fee \$35 payable to the instructor on March 3

Class Size: 5 (prior wood turning experience required)

Registration Closes February 27

Using a single board, students will cut appropriate sized segment pieces to be glued together into 5 rings that will make up the bowl. The resulting "glue up" will be turned to reveal an 8" diameter bowl 3" tall. The student will leave the class with a bowl that has been turned, sanded and with a quick-dry finish applied.

For more info go to: <http://www.craft-design.ns.ca/>

### Craftsmen At Work In Nova Scotia

Here are a couple of videos from the Nova Scotia Archives that feature a variety of craftspeople displaying their talent and work, courtesy of the Craftsmen Work Committee at the Gaelic College of Crafts run by Mary Black (yes, the Mary Black of Mary E. Black Gallery fame). They feature film from around the province, with many scenes shot in Cape Breton. They look to be from the 1960's and give a bit of insight into our art and craft heritage.

Part 1 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=855s3QGrSdE&feature=BFa&list=PL80BDE201602E11F2&lf=BFp>

Part 2 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJ26xa9EwdY&feature=BFa&list=PL80BDE201602E11F2&lf=BFp>

### Pen Making With Richard Ford

Guild member, Richard Ford, has uploaded a new series on pen making to his YouTube Channel. It is in 5 parts and 67 minutes long:

Part 1: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXNaN2VK3Sw>

Part 2: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7NTm9c7vck>

Part 3: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1H68b-R6Ro>

Part 4: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTAPUJHNdHw>

Part 5: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTimIPd1x9A>

You can find more excellent videos by Richard's here: <http://www.youtube.com/user/PopFord>

Be sure to subscribe to his channel and you'll receive notice each time he posts a new one!

And speaking of pen making, here's a new item: The Better Pen Mandrel - <http://www.penmandrel.com/>

## Shavings

...continued

### Denton Ford Pieces In 500 Wood Bowls

Although belated, it is worth noting that past member, Denton Ford, has two pieces in the book, 500 Wood Bowls, released in 2004. The pieces, 'Maple Burl Shell' and 'Cherry Shell' were created in 2002. Kudos!

This book is available from the Nova Woodturners' Guild library.

### John Lucas Adds More Videos

Woodturner, John Lucas, from Tennessee has added several new videos:

Using The Parting Tool: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9W2m9JCG6IY>

Skew Practice: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vA91yJ9KhKU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vA91yJ9KhKU)

Using The Spindle Roughing Gouge: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8YYYYA-6jQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8YYYYA-6jQ)

### All Fired Up

Joe's shop was on fire; he was on the line with the fire department, naturally quite upset.

"What's your address, sir?" the fireman asked.

"It's umm...umm...I can't remember!" Joe yelled.

"Calm down sir!" the fireman said. "If we don't have your address, how can we possibly get there?"

"Don't you still have those big red trucks with the sirens?!" Joe shrieked.

### Wood Central Woodturning Articles

Here's a slew of turning articles on Wood Central that include a chatter tool on the cheap, making a spiral texturing tool, making an index wheel and a whole lot more!

<http://www.woodcentral.com/cgi-bin/articles.pl#turning>

### Nabob Newbee

A new helper was hired at the wood shop and was duly sent out in the morning for coffee.

He held up the thermos for the waitress to see.

"Will this hold six cups?"

"Sure", says the waitress.

"Good," the helper replied.

"Give me two black, one with cream, and three with cream and sugar."

### Make Your Own Tools

Here are some articles on making your own woodturning tools including a hook tool and 3 sided skew:

<http://hiltonhandcraft.com/WoodturningArticles.asp>

### Using The Crush Grind Pepper Mill Mechanisms

The Crush Grind mechanism is a popular brand for making pepper mills. Here are a couple of links to help you with using them:

<http://www.crushgrind.ca/instructions.htm>

[http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/pdf/crush\\_grinder.pdf](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/pdf/crush_grinder.pdf)

How to turn a hollow egg: [http://marleyturned.com/Video\\_Hollow\\_Egg.html](http://marleyturned.com/Video_Hollow_Egg.html)

*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](mailto:tedmonk@gmail.com)*

## 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](mailto:tedmonk@gmail.com)

**The deadline for submissions for the February issue is February 1st, 2012**

*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](mailto: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 2011-2012 Guild Executive

**President:** Don Moore

[moorewood1@gmail.com](mailto:moorewood1@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Dianne Looker

[Dianne.Looker@msvu.ca](mailto:Dianne.Looker@msvu.ca)

**Secretary:** Ted Monk

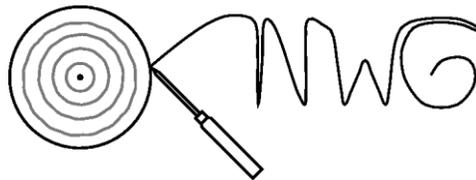
[tedmonk@gmail.com](mailto:tedmonk@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Dan Graham

[djgraham@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:djgraham@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Past President:**

Bill Luther



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

**Members At Large:**

Ian Scott

Gary Landry

Gordon Marshall

Doug McGuire

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## Committees

### Library

Jim Diamond

Richard Ford

### Website

Ian Scott

Norm Jolivet

### Membership & Promotion

George Price

Gary Landry

### Fund Raising

Norm Jolivet (Raffle Master)

Bill Luther (Competition Prizes)

### Newsletter

Ted Monk

### Events

Don Moore

Robert Atkinson

Dan Graham

Gordon Marshall

Peter Nicholl

Ted Monk

### Insurance

Alan Hunt

Don Moore

Darrell Eisner

### Constitution & By-laws

Dianne Looker

Jim Diamond

### Guild Photographer

Chris Palmer

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