



# The Turning Point

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MEMBER SINCE 2012

*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is at  
Kent Building Supplies  
Mic Mac Mall, Dartmouth, N.S.  
November 17, 2014 6:30 pm.*

The next meeting will feature  
**Coloring /Dyeing**  
**A Shape challenge &**  
**The Fun Turn returns**

## The President's Workshop

Dianne Looker

One wood show down, one more to go... There is another wood show coming up at Exhibition Park, November 14-16. This time we will be sharing a booth with the **Atlantic Woodworkers**, and there won't be demos. But having people at hand to talk about the Guild is still important, so if you haven't done so already, sign up to staff the booth for an hour or so. Write [events@novawoodturnersguild.com](mailto:events@novawoodturnersguild.com) and say when you will be available. The more definite you can be, the better.

And bring in some pieces to show the attendees. Our display really caught everyone's eye last time.

I would also encourage you to sign up to help mentor others on a one on one basis. As I mentioned in my last report, this initiative is not designed to interfere in any way with the existing paid instruction that some of our members give. Rather it is to encourage the rest of us to share our knowledge, even if it is limited. For example even though, heaven knows, I am hardly a world class turner, I am offering to mentor people in the use of epoxy. Many of us have skills that others would like to share. And you can put restrictions on how many students you take on, what time frame, etc. The mentorship forms will be available on the website, so do sign up. For now, we are only getting people to say if they are willing to mentor. Once we have a list of mentors we can then have provision for those wishing to be mentored to sign up.

At the October meeting I gave out a survey on where people would be willing to meet. Virtually everyone who was in attendance completed the survey, and that's great. Not surprisingly, virtually everyone said they were willing to have regular meetings in the Halifax Regional Municipal (HRM) area. I say "not surprisingly" because, of course, that's where we are and have been meeting. Less than a third were willing to meet elsewhere for regular meetings – so if we are to find a new place to meet (and we need to do so) it should be in HRM. That said, people were quite willing to go further afield for special events – exhibitions, special demos or hands on sessions. So the executive will keep that in mind.

In November we will be giving out the Fun Turn wood. Dream up an idea and we'll see what everyone does with it.

One issue that has come up, especially now that we are attracting some new members, is how best to welcome and integrate them. It's easy for us to just sit with people we know, and with people we always sit with. But it may be better to find ways to get to know new people. One opportunity for that will

*I would also encourage you... to help mentor others on a one on one basis.*

## The President's Workshop

Dianne Looker

come at the December social. But we should also think of ways to ensure newcomers feel part of us. The search for a new location, if successful, might offer one possible solution. Currently we are constrained by having to be well and truly out of the building by 9 PM. If we had a new venue, hopefully there would be fewer time constraints. Then we could, say, have a break in the middle of the meeting, where people could mingle and chat. Until then, please make a point of chatting to someone new (at least new to you) when you come to a meeting.

The committee for the Mary E. Black exhibition met on Nov 3 and we agreed that pieces to be considered for the exhibition would be due May 11, 2015. The jurors would likely have a week after that to decide which ones will be included. So, start thinking and start turning!

We are not restricting it to newly turned items so if some of you have some particularly artistic pieces from the past, dust them off. The emphasis is artistic! You can submit up to five pieces, although it is unlikely that the jurors would choose five from one person. We will send out more details later, but there will be a "novice/intermediate" category and an "open". Collaborative pieces are encouraged; if they involve members at different levels of ability (i.e. if one or more is "open" and others "novice/intermediate"), the work will be considered in the "open" category. All participants must be a member of the NWG to submit a piece. So, encourage others to join – and to make a piece for this exciting exhibition.

I'm sure we are all looking forward to the November meeting when Stuart will be discussing issues involved in colouring turnings. If you have used different colouring techniques, bring some pieces along to discuss them.

See you at the November wood show, and the November meeting.

Dianne Looker, President.

*Editors Note:*

*The Mary E. Black Gallery Proposal is included in this issue for your consideration*

*Collaborative pieces are encouraged.*

## Mary E. Black Gallery Proposal for 2015 Exhibitions

**Exhibition Title**

Turn, Turn, Turn

**Proposal**

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

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

**Participating Artists:**

The Nova Woodturners' Guild

From its modest conception, the Nova Woodturners' Guild began in Halifax in 1996 with a mandate to encourage and promote the art and craft of woodturning. We continue to do this through our monthly meetings and active involvement within educational avenues and exposure through opportunities which include:

- 1998-Present: Held an annual Atlantic Woodturning Competition, where reward for participation is highlighted and for the past 16 years the registration fees collected were donated to Feed Nova Scotia.
- 1996-2001: Provided demonstrations at NS Designer Craft Council Christmas Market
- 2001-2004: Provided exposure to youth via demonstrations in the Halifax Museum.
- 2004: Exhibition: "Circular by Nature: Current Trends in Nova Scotia Woodturning" at the Mary E. Black Gallery
- 2008: Exhibition: The Place Near and Far Art Gallery, Kennetcook.
- 2009: Exhibition: Marigold Centre, Truro

- 2010: Exhibition: "Turning of Age" at the Anna Leonowens Gallery (A review of this Exhibition was featured in Studio: Craft and Design in Canada, Spring/Summer, 2011.)
- 2010: Created a Scholarship Fund at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design promoting the use of wood in art.
- 2012: Became a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
- 2014: Iqaluit Project, The NWG was Instrumental in securing a full complement of woodturning equipment from General Canada in 2011 for the people of The Far North. Instruction was given in 2011 and 2012 in conjunction with the PEI Woodturners' Guild. In 2014 the CCF in partnership with NACA will be hosting a large conglomerate of quality woodturners to fulfill two weeks of workshops, where the NWG will be represented.

Our membership which averages over 50 men and women range in experience from novice to professional. Many of our members participate in juried shows, competitions, woodturning symposia and international training and collaborations. As well, some provide instruction in their studios and through other venues and locations, locally and internationally.

Some members have received awards and international acclaim. Most notably:

John Macnab - Won the 2009 Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks Arts Award

Steven Kennard - His work is featured in "New Masters of Woodturning" and "New Masters of the Wooden Box"

Don Moore - Invited to the 2014 Emma Lake International Collaboration

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## Meeting Notes Oct 20, 2014

Dave Duggan

**Introduction**

President **Dianne Looker** got the meeting started at 7:00 and asked the new faces to introduce themselves. First was **Chris White** who saw the booth at the Home Show and is looking to learn more about turning, next we had **Andrew Snair** who also gained interest from the Home Show booth. Welcome to both of you.

Dianne then offered a sincere thank you to all that participated in the Home Show event. Particularly **Dave McLachlan** and **Brian Sharp**, who arranged scheduling, picked up the lathe and the barrier. A thank you also goes out to **Gary Landry** for the work on the badges and everyone who did a demo, the weekend was a great success for the Guild. Thanks again.

Dianne then mentioned the mentoring programme. This endeavor is not meant to conflict or intrude on those members that instruct for pay, this is just for information and to share thoughts with other members. There is no remuneration and this is being offered only if both are Guild members. Forms were passed around for those interested in participating.

There was a quick show of hands taken for those that may be interested in purchasing smocks and or badges with NWG emblazoned on them. These items are not currently available but may be in the near future.

The Wood Show at Exhibition Park is still a possibility Nov 13-15, 2014. If this show goes on we will again be looking for volunteers to man the booth.

There was a quick discussion on the Boomerang Box possibly holding this on a bi-monthly basis, it seemed most were in favor of continuing as is and there was a good showing of names in the can this month so this draw will continue.

Mary E Black Exhibition committee has been selected, they are **Dave McLachlan**, **Peter Nicholl** and **Dianne Looker**, if you have any questions please let them know and they can help you out. **Shannon Parker** will be the curator and a couple of jurors have also been secured. We are very happy to announce that **Steven Kennard** and **John MacNab** have agreed to be jurors and I believe the committee is still looking for another. Keep thinking and working on those entries this is a great opportunity for us all weather professional or amateur, seasoned or novice. Remember no artistic ability is required. A number of details were discussed such as photography, advertising and the brochure, nothing is concrete at this time and the committee is working hard to see that all gets done on schedule.

**Binh Pho** is due in April he will be here in conjunction with **Lee Valley** who will be along with the Guild be offering some classes or demos. The numbers, dates and costs are not yet available, we will let you know when we can. Because of Binh Pho's visit Lee Valley has moved their Turning Days to the end of April so we have in turn moved our awards to coincide with that.

**PHOTOS BY CHRIS PALMER**

## Meeting Notes continued

Dave Duggan

**Featured Event:**

This meeting featured **Dave McLachlan** turning Duck calls. Dave is obviously very experienced in duck calls, there were a number of different styles and Dave had turned them all. Dave explained that any wood is good but the best ones would be the species that are naturally resistant to moisture.

The calls come in kits with the reed and lanyard included, some include the mouth piece but all need the body turned. Over the years Dave has developed a number of specialized pieces to do the job. A pin chuck is one that seems he wouldn't do without having created this first in aluminum and now in stainless. He also has different size pins for different chucks and calls along with small tools for making small designs and even a burn ring in the one he demonstrated.

After turning a call from start to finish it was assembled and tested and it sure enough sounded like a duck. Thank you Dave for the demonstration I'm sure you'll get lots of questions from here on out.

Photo – Calum Euwing



Meeting Notes continued

Dave Duggan

Show and Tell:

**Robert Atkinson** brought in a number of items, three bowls one each of spalted maple, cherry and apple. Robert was trying to assess wall thickness as it pertains to the diameter of the bowl, Robert also has a pen he turned for a friend made from Beech.



Robert Atkinson

**Harold McLellan** showed a number of bottle/wine stoppers made from cherry, mahogany, chestnut and a maple burl.

**Richard Ford** was shopping recently and showed a purchase he made at Busy Bee. It's a glue or finish container which includes a cap or lid possibly a brush and is used instead of dipping from the can. Thanks to all that took the time to bring in items to show.



Harold McLellan



Calum Ewing



Richard Ford



**Boomerang Box:** The boomerang box was up next and last month's winner **Dianne Looker** came ready and prepared. **Calum Ewing** is the proud recipient of a peppercorn box made of oak. Dianne changed the design a couple of times while turning the box and ended up with a great design in the end. Calum will now turn something for next month's winner.

Raffle Draw:

**Harold McLellan** received a pair of NWG patches and choose a spalted maple piece donated by **David Barry**

**Bill Fisher, Gordon Murray, Gary Landry and Peter Nicholl** each received a bowl blank. Thanks to all the purchased tickets better luck next month.

Thanks to all that attended, spoke, showed items and participated. We look forward to next month's meeting. There were 27 people in attendance.



Dianne's travels, continued....

*Photos provided by D. Looker*

**From Tree to Bowl** – a presentation by **Dale Larson**, Ottawa 2014

Well, I thought my woodturning traveling days were over. But I found myself in Ottawa for the Thanksgiving weekend and the next day there was a special presentation to the **Valley Woodturners** in Ottawa. So, what could I do ?!

**Dale Larson**, current president of the **American Association of Woodturners**, was there giving a demonstration. He called it "From Tree to Bowl". The first part of his presentation was a slide show where he showed cutting the tree (he paid an arborist \$500 to do it the way that best preserved good pieces for turning), then choosing the section of the tree for a bowl. (I took all kinds of notes, but somehow, this last weekend when faced with chopping up trees that I'd gotten when hurricane Arthur struck, the cuts were less obvious. I suspect I am a slow student...) He especially likes the crotch wood for the figure it leaves in the bottom of bowls. When asked about sealing wood when cut he pointed out that sealing the logs doesn't prevent cracking; it only buys you time. It's best to rough turn things from the wet wood.

He then talked about preparing the bowl doing a rough turning. He had some wet wood there, and demonstrated it. Several times he emphasized "do it the safe way, not the fast way!" – whether it means turning the lathe off to move the



tool rest (how many of us fail to do that?!), or removing the bark if it starts to come off, and \*\*\*\* **DON'T TURN WOOD WITH CRACKS!**\*\*\*\*

After rough turning a bowl from wet wood, he talked about how best to store it. He recommends that one should round the "corners" on the lip of the bowl, rather than leaving them square. Apparently square edges dry differently and are more likely to crack. Indeed, he rounds the edge of the tenon. The bottom he turns so that it is equal to or less than the wall thickness 1" – 1 & ¼" thick. Having a consistent thickness throughout the bowl is best. He waxes just the end grain (with paste wax), inside and out. He labels all his rough turned bowls and stores them on stickers in his shop. He's careful not to have the rough turned bowls touch each other – the spacing allows air to circulate and





touching would promote mould. If one from a turning session starts to crack, he puts the others from the same session in large garbage bags with dry wood chips. Then checks in a week to see how things are progressing. Once dry (after several months, or even a year) he turns them a second time.

Being very well prepared, he had a dry, rough turned bowl ready for the next step, which was to turn a finished bowl. Interestingly, he uses a face plate on the bottom to ensure it stays on the lathe. (That is, the foot is held using a face plate, not a chuck.)

First he leveled the top. Then worked on the middle. On the outside he advised coming down a bit from the top to avoid chipping the edge. If there is tearout when you are cutting, you are moving faster than the tool is cutting – slow down! Cutting the inside, start from the edge and cut parallel to the outside. Cut the first third, and finish it as you can't come back. He advises against leaving the rim flat (**Jimmy Clewes** said the same thing).

His finish cut is with a scraper with a burr, cutting at 45 degrees. If there is still some tear out on the end grain, stop the lathe and scrape with a cabinet scraper. Scrape with the lathe off. Never use a cabinet scraper on the inside.

He doesn't power sand the outside, although he does power sand the inside. And I am sure he told us the logic of all this, but I didn't note it, so there you go... He uses silicon carbide sandpaper, because he says it's sharper than aluminum oxide. He sands to 320, hand sanding with the grain after 100 grit. His preferred finish is walnut oil and beeswax, although he cautions that you shouldn't oil if you plan to use lacquer.

And then there was a finished bowl! It was a very full evening – a solid three hours with just a short break between the slide show and the turning. My head was full, and it was a great time.



'Craft in America' is a PBS series consisting of 13, one hour programs. They cover aspects of the artist and craftsman with a view of history and the future. A very interesting and thought provoking collection of videos.

<http://video.pbs.org/program/craft-in-america/episodes/>

## Library Report

Richard Ford

14 Dec. 2009	Peter Nicholl	92BP Practical Tips for Woodturners - The best from Woodturning Magazine
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	11VB 1996 AAW Symposium Techniques Demos.
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	13VD 1999 AAW National Symposium Techniques Vol – I.
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	14VE 1999 AAW National Symposium Techniques Vol II.
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	44VQ Bowl Turning - John Jordan
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	45VR Hollow Wood Turning - John Jordan.
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	47VT Elegant Finials Third edition – By Cindy Drozda
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	48VU Finial Star – By Cindy Drozda.
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	57VF Turning Projects with Richard Raffan
13 Jan. 2014	Steven Kennard	86VO Mastering Woodturning Bowl turning Techniques Glenn Lucas
17 Feb. 2014	David Barry	50BU Decorative Techniques for Woodturners - Hilary Bowen
17 Mar. 2014	Dave McLachlin	49BT The Craftsman Woodturner - Peter Child New Revised Edition
15 Apr. 2014	Ian Scott	38VH Turn It On Vol 2-- Jimmy Clewes.
15 Apr. 2014	Ian Scott	40VK Turn It Up Vol 1-- Jimmy Clewes.
15 Apr. 2014	Ian Scott	42VM Turn It Up Vol 3-- Jimmy Clewes.
12 May. 2014	Yogi Gutz	29VY Dennis White Teaches Woodturning – Vol 3: Boxes, Goblets and Screw Threads.
15 Sep. 2014	Bill Fisher	91BN Ellsworth On Woodturning
15 Sep. 2014	Peter Nicholl	70VX-11 Woodturning II with Bonnie Klein Bowls & Projects 105min.
15 Sep. 2014	Peter Nicholl	71VY Woodturning I with Bonnie Klein 120min.
19 Oct. 2014	Calum Ewing	46BP Carving on Turning - Chris Pye
19 Oct. 2014	Calum Ewing	63BH Turned Bowl Design - Richard Raffan
19 Oct. 2014	David Barry	30BX Woodturning A Fresh Approach - Robert Chapman
19 Oct. 2014	David Barry	31BY 500 Wood Bowls - Juried by Ray Leier, Jan Peters & Kevin Wallace
19 Oct. 2014	David Duggan	97BU Turning Hollow Forms Techniques & Projects – Mark Sanger
19 Oct. 2014	Doug Allan	47BR The Complete guide To Sharpening - Leonard Lee
19 Oct. 2014	Harold McLellan	76BX The Woodturners' Workbook - Ray Key
19 Oct. 2014	Harold McLellan	77BY Woodturning Forms and Materials - John Hunnex
19 Oct. 2014	Leo Westhaver	41BJ Useful Woodturning Projects - The Best from Woodturning Magazine
19 Oct. 2014	Leo Westhaver	80BB Woodturning Masterclass - Tony Boase
19 Oct. 2014	Yogi Gutz	71BS Turning Wood - Richard Raffan

## Upcoming Events

Events Committees

Submission Deadline	Event Dates	Event Details
	Nov. 14 – Nov. 16, 2014	East Coast Woodworking Show
	April 23 – May 2, 2015	NWG Turning Competition
	April 25 – April 26, 2015	Guest Turner - Binh Pho
May 11, 2015	July 16 – Aug. 30, 2015	Mary E. Black Gallery, Halifax

## Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 15, 2014	Discussion on lathes, big show and tell of what you turned over the summer	Kent Building Supplies Mic Mac Mall
October 20, 2014	Duck calls – how to make them	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
November 17, 2014	Coloring /Dyeing (Shape challenge presented)	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
December 15, 2014	Christmas Social	Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, 112 Bluewater Rd. Bedford
January 19, 2015	Photography (Shape challenge result)	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
February 16, 2015	Cutting Theory <i>When wood and metal meet</i>	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
March 16, 2015	Head to Paper to Lathe Fun Turn results	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
April 20, 2015	Turning materials other than wood (Shape challenge presented)	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
May 2, 2015	Awards Day LV	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
May 11, 2015	Combining Wood and Metal	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall
June 15, 2015	AGM (Shape challenge result)	Kent Building Supplies, Mic Mac Mall

### The Raffle Booth

Norm Jolivet

We had 5 draws in the Raffle at the October meeting with a spaulted log section and bowl blanks supplied by **Stuart Taylor**. There were 27 members in attendance.

I still have 2oz. (60mL) syringes available. These are brand new, sealed and sterile. These units have a long tip and are perfect for dealing with oils, thinner, varnish, finishing products, getting the gas out of the lawnmower etc. and at \$1 / two, cheaper than the pharmacy at \$2 ea.

Norm,  
jolivetn@yahoo.ca Hey, you could even phone me! 902-354-2165



## Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2014/15 Executive

*Our e-mail reflects a more consistent method of communicating with the various offices in the Nova Woodturners' Guild. The recipients will change as the need arises but a note sent to the president will go to who ever is president at that time. For example to write the Chair of the Events committee write "events@..." To write the president, it'd be "**president@...followed by novawoodturnersguild.com**"*

Position                      <address>@novawoodturnersguild.com                      Name                      Chairperson

**EXECUTIVE**    executive (sends the message to all positions on the list)

<b>President</b>	president	Dianne Looker	
<b>Vice President</b>	vice-president	David McLachlan	
<b>Secretary</b>	secretary	Dave Duggan	
<b>Treasurer</b>	treasurer	Peter Nicholl	

<b>Members at Large</b>	members-at-large	Gary Landry	
	members-at large	Ian Scott	

### COMMITTEES

<b>Library</b>	library	Jim Diamond	<b>C</b>
		Richard Ford	

<b>Web Site</b>	webmaster	Ian Scott	<b>C</b>
<b>Website Forum</b>		Norm Jolivet	

<b>Membership &amp; Promotion</b>	membership-chair	Gary Landry	<b>C</b>
		Norm Jolivet	

<b>Newsletter</b>	newsletter	Norm Jolivet	<b>C</b>
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<b>Events</b>	events	Brian Sharp	<b>C</b>
		Dave McLachlan	

<b>Competition</b>	competition-committee	Calum Ewing	<b>C</b>
		Edmund Benoit	

<b>Guild Photographer</b>		Chris Palmer	
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<b>Fund Raising</b>		Norm Jolivet (Raffles)	<b>C</b>
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<b>Nominating</b>			<b>C</b>
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