



The Turning Point

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Member since 2012

*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is at
 Lee Valley Tools
 100 Susie Lake Crescent, Halifax, N.S.
 February 12, 2018. 6:15 p.m.*

The next meeting will feature

Dave McLachlan

Donut chuck for finishing bowl bottoms

February challenge: "fun turn"

The President's Message

January 2018

Dave McLachlan

February already!!! Time is slipping by and there is so much to do in the coming months.

I want to thank **Gordon Marshall** for his excellent presentation on two-piece hollow form turning last month. I know I will be giving this technique a try in the near future.

I also want to thank those members who have stepped up to give presentations for the remainder of the year... **Gary Landry** is giving a pen turning presentation in March; **Zalman Amit** a presentation on thin-form turning to prepare appropriate forms for pierced carving in April and **Don Moore** has offered to give a presentation on bowl turning techniques in May.

For the February meeting I will be giving a presentation on donut chucks, various forms they can take on, how to make them and how to use them. I hope members will find this useful and see their value in turning.

February is also the Fun Turn Show and Tell, so please bring in your Fun Turn projects.

I want to say a few words about the up-coming **Annual NWG Competition**. This is one of our key events for the year; it is the time for us to show what turning is about. It is a time to showcase our work and support Lee Valley's Turning Seminar events which are scheduled to coincide with our competition. It is also a time for us to interact with the public and it can be a significant time for garnering new members.

I encourage members to consider submitting their works to the competition in any of the turning categories – faceplate, spindle and mandrel. To our newer members who maybe haven't entered in the past, I urge you to enter. We have seen some excellent items from newer members in our Show and Tell, worthy of entry to the competition; and it is for you that we have the Novice Class. To our more seasoned turners who maybe haven't entered the competition in recent years, please consider entering again. As I said, above, it is our time as a Guild to show off our best work. If you have had an idea for that special project, maybe now is the time to give it a go. There are still almost two months left before the competition.

Individuals can enter up to two items in each category. **Members can submit their works either at the March 19th meeting or bring them to the Lee Valley order desk by April 3.** If delivering your submissions to Lee Valley be sure to have completed the appropriate submission forms for each submission and the exact submission fee amount. See our website for the forms. Submissions should be packaged appropriately to prevent damage during handling.

In order to facilitate the preparation of the trophies for the upcoming winners of the various classes & categories we ask that last year's winners bring back their trophies and the associated cases to our meeting this month or at the latest to the March meeting.

Finally I want to announce that **Ashley Harwood** has agreed to give Guild members a 1.5 hour demonstration on **Thursday April 5th from 7pm to 8:30pm in the Lee Valley Seminar Room.** Ashley Harwood is an accomplished turner from North Carolina and is a widely sought after presenter. More details will follow.

Dave McLachlan

Meeting Notes

January 15, 2018

Calum Ewing

President **David McLachlan** called the meeting to order at 6:45pm with 29 members and 1 visitor present.

Announcements

There are still places left in the Woodturning for Women seminar with **Ashley Hardwood** at Lee Valley. All other seminars with Ms. Harwood are sold out.

Fun Turn wood is available. The blanks are 3 x 3 x 3" cubes. Finished pieces are due back at the February meeting. A suggested donation of \$1.00 would help offset the costs of this wood.

Turning 150 Project – **Dianne Looker** reported that things are going well and all of the donated pieces for which there are photos are now up on the website. To date we have 128 pieces donated so need only a few more to meet the 150 target.

Main Presentation: Gordon Marshall: Making Hollow Forms with small openings – without hollowing tools.

Gordon outlined the techniques he uses to make hollow form vessels with small openings, without the need for expensive, specialized hollowing tools. In fact, all of the tools needed are typically found in a set of beginner turning tools.

The process involves designing a profile or shape for the finished piece, hollowing out two pieces of wood like shallow bowls and joining the two parts to form the completed vessel. This can be done using either a chuck or faceplate and starting with either one single piece of wood or two pieces of the same or different species.

If using two pieces of wood, once you understand how the process works, you may choose to use pieces of different thickness or contrasting colours or grain patterns as design choices.

This method is especially useful when you have one of the following situations:

- You don't have a wood blank large enough to create the piece you want
- You don't have a heavy-duty lathe powerful enough for deep hollowing large blanks
- You don't have specialized hollowing tools

The tools needed are:

- Bowl gouge
- Spindle gouge
- Parting tool – thinner is better as you will lose less wood when parting and preserve more of the matching grain



Note: Complete instructions on this method are available on Gordon's website [here](http://woodturninginstruction.com/documents/)
<http://woodturninginstruction.com/documents/>



- a) Decide on wood to be used:
 - One piece blank or two pieces
 - Species – may want contrasting colour or grain if using two pieces
 - Thickness – top piece does not need to be as thick as bottom depending on design
- b) Draw out profile desired for end result – include measurements
- c) Determine how wood will be held on lathe (chuck or faceplate) – to avoid wasting expensive wood, glue waste blocks onto each blank
 - Use a good quality carpentry glue
 - Make sure waste blocks are thick enough for screws holding faceplate or for a tenon to be held by a chuck which the chuck jaws can rest against
 - Any wood can be used – poplar makes a good, cheap choice
 - Avoid using plywood for waste blocks as the laminations can separate without warning under the forces experienced during turning
- d) If using a one-piece blank, mount on the lathe and shape the blank to the desired profile using the diagram from b) above. When final

shape is achieved, mark the joint area with a witness mark to allow accurate alignment of the grain later and part into two pieces using a narrow parting tool, then skip to f), below.

- e) If using two pieces, place them together as they will sit in the finished piece and align the grain so that the grain in both pieces is running in the same direction. This is important so that differences in movement of the grain do not cause separation of the two parts later. Mark the alignment with a witness mark to make future alignment accurate and quick.
- f) Mount each blank on the lathe and shape the outside profile to the desired shape (using diagram and measurements from b) above)
- g) Hollow to desired thickness as you would hollow a shallow bowl or saucer (depending on thickness of blank)
 - Leave the piece that will be the top a little thicker to allow final shaping and profiling at the opening
 - Leave the rim area a little thicker than the rest (eg. 50% thicker) to allow cleaning up and profiling the joint area later
 - Drill or turn an entry hole in the centre of the top to form the opening. Drill into but not through the waste block
 - Using a sanding board and 120 or 150 grit sandpaper, flatten the rim of each piece



- h) Sand and seal the insides of both pieces, being careful to keep the joint area free of sealer; use the same sealer you will be using on the outside of the finished piece

- i) Apply glue to the rim area, align the parts and clamp the two pieces together between centres on the lathe. Don't apply too much pressure with the tail stock to avoid damaging the parts – they are thin and will flex under pressure.
- j) Do any final shaping of the join area and the top profile near the opening to complete the desired shape.
- k) Cut off the top waste block with a saw or parting tool
- l) Clean up the lip of the opening and do any final shaping with a spindle gouge
- m) Sand and finish the whole piece before parting off at the base

Hints:

- You can disguise the join line if it is obvious by burning in a few lines to add a visual accent (one of them on the joint line)
- You can also use a band of colour or texturing to camouflage the joint area
- When parting off the base, if you leave a tiny lip, just inside the diameter of the base, the finished piece will rest on this lip and create a tiny gap between the piece and the surface, giving the impression that it is floating just above the surface
- When thin turning the parts:
 - Make a cut into the rim with a parting tool to define the finished wall thickness. This will give an edge to rub the bevel of your gouge against when starting cuts near the rim and avoid the gouge skating across the rim when starting the cuts.
 - Work from the rim to the centre in steps, taking each step to the desired thickness before moving to the next step. This keeps thick material in the centre of the bowl providing support to the piece and reducing flexing during cuts

Show & Tell

This month's theme for the show & tell was "Food" and members certainly dug their teeth into this opportunity:

- **Stuart Taylor** presented a nice apple-shaped box done in Cherry. Stuart also showed off a series of sturdy wooden spoons with turned handles and the 'spoon' part hollowed with a carving burr and air-driven die grinder;
- **Bill Maes** showed off his nice fruit bowl in Maple with incised groves below the rim;





- **Dianne Looker** turned chop sticks in Maple, decorated with pyrography, and a pen made from a blank of grain embedded in resin;
- **Brian Sharp** presented an elegant tea biscuit dough cutter in Maple, with depth gauge lines on the outside;
- **Norm Jolivet** presented a fine tooth pick holder in Maple.
- Taking literal approach, **Lowell Jenkins** presented a hollow form bowl turned from a turnip. He described the effort as the “ruining of a perfectly good turnip”;
- **Richard Ford** showed off crochet hook set in acrylic and mentioned that he has new video on his YouTube channel on how he is achieving a high gloss finish on plastics.



- **Don Moore** showed of an a carrot. He reported that carrot chisel but is a wet experience;
- **Don Moore** also presented two



interesting ornament turned from ‘wood’ turns well with a skew multi-axis pieces he has created:



- delicate multi-axis and pierced hollow spheres in burl and mounted on a base of spalted Birch.
- Several tiny hollow vases turned on a base of Birch burl - inspired by an archeology dig.

Raffle:

Bill Maes and **Lowell Jenkins** collected a turning book each, and **Bruce Moore** and **Dianne Looker** took home a set of 3 Maple blanks

Meeting wrapped up at 8:50 pm

ISSUE DATE	NAME	ID #	DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR
10. Apr. 2017	Bill Fisher	064BJ	Turned Boxes 50 designs -	Chris Stott
18. Sep. 2017	Calum Ewing	097BU	Turning Hollow Forms Techniques & Projects –	Mark Sanger
22. Jan. 2016	Calum Ewing	104BB	The Airbrush Artists Handbook –	Fred Dell & Andy Charlesworth
15. Jan. 2018	Darrell Eisner	022BN	The Pen Turners Bible –	Richard Kleinhenz
15. Jan. 2018	Darrell Eisner	089BL	The Art of Turned Bowls -	Richard Raffan
15. Jan. 2018	Darrell Eisner	091BN	Ellsworth On Woodturning	
15. Jan. 2018	Dianne Looker	074BV	Useful Beauty: Turning Practical Items On A Wood Lathe -	Dick Sing
15. Jan. 2018	Dianne Looker	095BS	Fixtures and Chucks for Woodturning: Everything You Need to Know to Secure Wood on Your Lathe -	Clarence Green

Some interesting video links

Click [here](#) or paste the URL below for a nice tutorial on doing three piece finials... **Dave McLachlan**
<http://www.woodturnersunlimited.com/index.php/tutorials/30-step-by-step-3-piece-lid-and-finial>

CATCHES: Turning Terror

(submitted by **Calum Ewing**)

Catches. The bane of turners developing skills or learning new tools. The sudden, unexpected moment where the wood takes control and the laws of physics take over your turning session. The result: sudden design alterations, or worse projectiles (chinks of wood or tools) leaving the lathe and finding victims elsewhere in the shop.

Understanding what causes catches and how to avoid them is critical to successful, enjoyable and safe turning. One of the advantages of membership in the American Association of Woodturners (NWG is a member chapter) is regular emails with links to useful information. A recent email included a link to a set of videos by **Tim Yoder** on catches with the roughing gouge. These videos are very well done, clearly explained and make great use of graphics and slow-motion video so you can see clearly exactly what is happening when a catch happens. Here are links to the complete series on YouTube:

- Part 1: The Roughing Gouge <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8Ual0mhmVs>
- Part 2: The Bowl Gouge <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0T9m2DadbhQ>
- Part 3: The Spindle Gouge <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9CVfpGI9zc>

Part 4: Scrapers

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ObTYKYx156Y>

Part 5: The Skew Chisel

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moFyOPVEZzw>

Part 6: The Parting Tool

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtUVjAiRAKU>

Each is about 10 minutes long and well worth the watch – both for developing and experienced turners.



Resale Opportunity

Ross Farm Museum in New Ross, is looking for turned wooden items that they can sell in the gift shop at the museum (wholesale or consignment).

The Pedlar's Shop has a wonderfully diverse range of goods, with a strong emphasis on quality Nova Scotian products. The shop would like to include some Nova Scotia-made turned wooden items in their offerings. These could be toys (eg spinning tops, yo-yo's, etc.), functional items (like candle sticks, etc.) or kitchen wares (eg. bowls, spoons, spurtles, egg cups, etc.).

If you are interested please contact the Shop manager, Ethel Feener directly at

ethel.feener@novascotia.ca or call 902-689-2210.

From the editor Looker

Dianne

I welcome articles/reports/ discussions – do send them to me if you have things that might interest our members.

In preparation for seeing her in April, Check out **Ashley Harwood**'s website:
<http://www.ashleyharwood.net/ashleyharwood/Woodturning.html>

Also check out early bird prices for the woodturning symposium in Saratoga Springs, NY. It's called "**Totally Turning**". <http://www.totallyturning.com/> I've already booked my hotel room. Early bird registration ends on March 16, 2018.

And don't forget the symposium in **2018 Saskatchewan Woodturners Symposium**, Friday, July 20 - Sunday, July 22, 2018 in Saskatoon. <https://www.picatic.com/2018SaskWoodturnersSymposium> The early bird deadline is March 31, 2018.

I am hoping to get to both Saratoga Springs and Saskatoon. Hope to see some of you there!

A homemade polish

This is a beeswax and olive oil product that I found works really well on cutting boards and salad bowls. I got it from the Internet - http://www.amberdusick.com/woodmouse_loves_crafts/2010/07/how-to-make-beeswax-wood-polish-woodmouse-recipe.html

Woodmouse Beeswax Wood Polish Recipe: (From Amber Dusick – she is the “I” in this article)

- 1 part beeswax
- 4 parts oil (options include olive oil, coconut oil, jojoba oil, walnut oil, etc)

Simple, eh? Just beeswax plus an oil.



Instructions: Fill a measuring cup with **one cup of your chosen oil**. Use a cheese grater and shave your beeswax or pound it into bits with a hammer. I bought a cheese grater solely for my beeswax polish making because I don't want to use utensils that touch our food, especially for making polish that go on items to be sold. Getting it into tiny bits will make the melting process go much quicker but this is optional. **Add beeswax to your measuring cup until it reads 1 and 1/4 cups.** This means you've added 1 cup oil and 1/4 cup beeswax.

Next, you need to **melt the beeswax**. Heat in the microwave or in a double boiler on the stove top. It will need to be heated very hot, beeswax has a melting temperature of just under 150 degrees F. Stir it around and make sure all the beeswax is fully melted and dissolved. Suddenly, the beeswax melts and your mixture will look just like a liquid oil. Careful, it is hot! If you want to add essential oils* (I don't use them)

now would be the time to blend them in, before it cools.

Pour it into a container with a wide enough opening for stirring. As the mixture cools, **you'll need to stir it** every once in a while to prevent it from separating. It will cool down and thicken around the edges of your container first, so scrape the sides. Stirring just a few times over a couple hours is enough. Stirring will ensure an even, creamy blend of your wood polish. If you don't stir it at all, the center will be oily while the edges will be harder and waxy and it is difficult to blend together once it is fully cooled.



Use it: Once fully cooled, gather all the wooden items in your house and **rub it into the wood**. Just a little goes a long way. **Wipe off the excess** with a cotton cloth and if you have extra on your hands feel free to use it as a lotion, even as a lipbalm. Your hands will be silky smooth. Little ones love to help with this too!

About Beeswax: I get my beeswax locally from [Bill's Bees](#) and it smells subtly like orange blossom because his bees hang out in orange groves. Yum. If you have a local farmer's market check and see if there is a honey vendor. Even if they don't have beeswax there for sale (most don't) just ask them. You might even get lucky

and have a big ol' bag handed to you for free. I'm sure there are online places to buy beeswax but I've never had to get it that way so no advice there, sorry.

About Oils: I use organic jojoba oil on all the toys that I sell for a variety of reasons but other oils could work well for you. The main reason I stick with jojoba is that the shrub grows natively here and I'm a geek when it comes to sourcing locally. Jojoba oil has a long shelf life so a batch will last a very long time without going rancid. Plus, there is no allergy risk unlike using walnut oil. Olive oil and coconut oil are other options if jojoba oil isn't local or affordable where you are. And walnut oil is perfectly great too if you know your own family has no nut allergies. I do not include mineral oil (although it is perfectly safe to use) simply because it is a petroleum product and not appropriate for toys labeled as eco-friendly.

About Storage: Store it in an airtight container, away from direct sunlight. Jojoba oil based polish will last for two years while olive oil will last one year. If you don't think you will use your polish very fast and are worried it will go rancid, store it in the refrigerator, this doubles the shelf life.

Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 18, 2017	Budget Review Shaving Brush Demo – Richard Ford	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
October 16, 2017	X-mas ornament Turning demo Gary Landry, Dave Dugan	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
November 20, 2017	Closed Form Turning – Gordon Marshal	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
December 11, 2017	Christmas Social	Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, 112 Bluewater Rd. Bedford
January 15, 2018	Gordon Marshall Hollowing a closed vessel Show & tell challenge: “Food”	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
February 12, 2018	Making and using a donut chuck to finish bowl bottoms Dave McLachlan Fun turn due	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
March 19, 2018	Making pens Gary Landry	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
April 16, 2018	Thin walled vessels and piercing Zalman Amit Show & tell challenge: “Colour”:	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
April 21, 2018	Awards Day Lee Valley	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
May 14, 2018	Bowl turning Don Moore Show & tell challenge: “2 by 2”	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
June 18, 2018	AGM Show & tell challenge: “Finial”	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent

Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2017/18 Executive

Our e-mail now 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 whoever is president at that time. All the following addresses should be followed by @novawoodturnersguild.com to send mail to that person

Position <address>@novawoodturnersguild.com Name Chairperson

ADDRESS

Executive executive (sends the message to all positions on the list)

President	president	David Mclachlan	
Vice President	vice-president	Gordon Marshal	
Secretary	secretary	Calum Ewing	
Treasurer	treasurer	Brenna Swinamer	

Members at Large members-at-large Dianne Looker

Committees

Library	library	Jim Diamond	C
		Richard Ford	

Web Site Website	webmaster	Trevor Edis	C
		Norm Jolivet	

Membership & Promotion	membership-chair	Gary Landry	C
		Norm Jolivet	

Newsletter	newsletter	Dianne Looker	C
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Events	events	Dave Dugan	C
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Competition		Vacant	C
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Guild Photographer		Chris Palmer	
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Fund Raising		Vacant	C
		Norm Jolivet (Raffles) Yogi Gutz	

Nominating		Vacant	C
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