



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.
 March 19, 2018. 6:15 p.m.

The next meeting will feature

Gary Landry

Making pens

***BRING IN YOUR COMPETITION
PIECES!***

The President's Message

February 2018

Dave McLachlan

The biggest event of the year is upon us, the Annual Nova Woodturner's Guild Competition. I am hoping that we see a lot of entries this year. You can bring your entries either to the upcoming March 19th meeting, or drop off your entry to the Order Desk at Lee Valley by the end of the business day April 3rd. 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. Submissions should be packaged appropriately to prevent damage during handling.

Our annual competition is a time to showcase our work and support Lee Valley's Turning Seminar events, which are scheduled to coincide with our competition. This is also a time for us to interact with the public and it can be a significant time for garnering new members.

Once again Lee Valley will be providing us with a demonstration area and we are **looking for members to fill the various time slots**. Lee Valley has requested that all members that are volunteering their time to fill these time slots be doing some actual turning to garner interest from the public. This year there is an extended demonstration period running from April 6th to April 27th. There will be a **signup sheet** available at the March meeting or you can contact me directly at mclachlandg@gmail.com to let me know what time slots you are interested in.

We will have a signup sheet for the **April 5th presentation by Ashley Harwood from 7:00 to 8:30**. Ashley's presentation will be "**Rim and Foot Design on a Bowl**". The demonstration will begin with a short slide show featuring different design elements. This will then be followed up with an actual turning demonstration featuring the Push-Cut method on the outside of the bowl to affect the various design elements using a bowl gouge, vortex tool and negative rake scrapers. The discussion will focus on bowl design aesthetics, e.g. bowl shape and curve, proportion of the foot, creating rim and foot designs that work together, and a brief discussion on how to sand the bowl without dulling sharp details. Ashley Harwood is from Charleston South Carolina, and has been part of the international turning circuit from 2011, and in much demand. The cost of the presentation will be **\$30**.

Gary Landry will be doing a presentation this month on Pen Turning, covering all of the various steps involved, from preparing the pen blank to finishing. Turning a really exquisite pen means paying attention to details. This is sure to be an informative presentation.

Thanks to everyone who purchased one of the wooden hubs I made available at the February meeting, we managed to sell all four, the proceeds of which all went to the Guild fund raising effort.

Finally, I want to send out condolences from the Guild to Edmund Benoit and his family on the passing of his beloved wife Maria, whose life was celebrated at the service held at the Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, New Glasgow, March 7th, 2018.

Dave McLachlan

President **David McLachlan** called the meeting to order at 6:45pm with 22 members and 2 visitors present

Visitors:

Jordan hails from Shelburne and has been turning for a couple of years. He like using wood that is rejected from other uses for his turning.

Jim Brennan is from Bedford and has taken some of the courses offered through Lee Valley.

Announcements

Annual Competition:

- We now have a Competition Committee in place. The Committee is being chaired by **Gary Landry** and includes **Dave McLachlan**, and **Darrell Eisner**. [Editor's note: Bill Maes has also joined the committee.]
- Competition Trophies are to be returned at the March 19th meeting.
- The deadline for competition entries is **April 3rd** at the close of business (6pm) at Lee Valley Tools in Halifax.
- Judging: there was an open discussion of options for having two or three judges for the competition. The Executive will consider the options based on member input and make a decision this week.

Demo Opportunity – **Calum Ewing** reported that Lee Valley Tools is initiating a series of Saturday morning wood working demonstrations by youth. They are inviting Guild members who may know a suitable youth (child, grandchild, etc.) to mentor them while demonstrating turning in the store. Lee Valley will supply all needed tools and supplies. If you are interested, please contact **Kevin Hurst** at Lee Valley (902-450-1221) for more info.

Main Presentation: David McLachlan: Making and Using “Donut” Chucks



are making.

Dave McLachlan covered a range of information how donut chucks are made and a variety of ways that they can be used to assist holding material on the lathe for turning. The basic components of a Donut Chuck are:

- a) A **Hub** – usually made from a block of hardwood threaded to fit the headstock spindle of your lathe, a small manufactured faceplate can be used as well if you desire.
- b) A **Base** – often made from two layers of MDF glued together. In use this will be mounted on the ‘hub’
- c) A **“Donut”** – a plywood or MDF plate with a hole in the centre sized to fit the bowl or other workpiece you

Making the Threaded ‘Hub’

To make threaded hardwood ‘hub’s for your lathe:

- 1) Mount a suitable block of hardwood on the lathe using a faceplate or faceplate ring

- 2) With a forstner bit mounted in a drill chuck mounted in the tailstock, drill the appropriate sized hole in the block for the thread tap you will be using. Use exactly the size of drills specified by the tap manufacturer
- 3) Example: for a 1" x 8 tpi tap:
 - a. Drill a 1" hole, 1/8" deep
 - b. Then drill a 7/8" hole 1 1/4" deep, leaving about 3/8" of wood at the bottom of the hole
- 4) With the headstock locked in position, insert the tap into the hole in your 'hub' and bring up the tailstock to hold the outboard end of the tap in place
- 5) Using the correct-sized wrench, turn the tap into the hole while keeping the tailstock engaged to keep the tap aligned
- 6) After each few turns of the wrench, back the tap out of the hole and clear the chips
- 7) Continue until the hole is fully threaded
- 8) Drill a 5/16" hole through the bottom of the threaded hole to reach the front face of the 'hub'
- 9) Drill 8 concentric holes around the rim of the 'hub' and countersink from the back of the hub. These will accept screws for mounting the 'hub' to the base plate.

Construction & Assembly



Thread the 'hub' onto your lathe spindle. It should be the shoulders of the 'hub' that sit on the shoulders of the spindle when fully seated, not the spindle bottoming out in the threaded hole.

Using a gouge or scraper, true up the face of the hub to make sure there is no 'run out'

Remove the hub from the lathe and insert a 5/16" rod with a sharpened tip into the hole in the centre of the hub. This pointed rod can be used to accurately place the centre of the hub in a dimple marked in the centre of the base plate.

Secure the hub to the base plate with glue and screws.

Mount on the lathe spindle and mark the centre of the base plate. True up the edge of the base with a gouge to make sure everything is running smoothly and balanced.

The 'base' has three or four threaded "T"-nuts inserted at equal spacing around the rim. Mark out the correct spacing and drill holes to fit the 'T'-nuts. Insert the 'T'-nuts from the rear of the 'base' and add a little epoxy to hold them in place.

Cut a circular 'donut' plate from MDF or plywood and cut the hole in the centre to fit the bowl or other form you are turning. You can create a range of 'donut' plates to suit different shapes and sizes of bowl you frequently work on. Drill holes in the edge of the 'donut' plate to match the locations of the 'T'-nuts in the base plate.

In use, the 'donut' plate will be held to the base with 'knock-down' hardware bolts or threaded rod if longer is needed. If using threaded rod, make sure all pieces are the same length and have the same number of washers and nuts to ensure everything is balanced.

Use

With the hub/base mounted on the headstock spindle securely, place the bowl with its rim against the base plate.

Place the 'donut' plate over the base of the bowl and secure in place with 'knock-down' hardware bolts of the appropriate length.



If longer 'bolts' are needed, threaded rod with nuts can be used to secure the 'donut' in place.

Your bowl is now held securely in place to finish turning the base or foot area.

Hints:

- Spraying your wood tap with silicone spray will help to lubricate things and ease thread cutting
- Soaking the inside of the threaded hole in the 'hub' with thin CA (Cyanoacrylate) glue will strengthen the threads and make you hub more durable in use
- When using Cole Jaws to secure awkwardly-shaped work pieces, you can convert the chuck/Cole Jaws combo into a 'donut' chuck by using an MDF backing plate behind the Cole Jaws and placing a 'donut plate over the workpiece and

securing with bolts that pass through the Cole Jaws into the MDF backing plate.

Fun Turn Results

This starting blank for this year's 'Fun Turn' was a 3" x 3" x 3" cube of maple:

- **Stuart Taylor** presented a circular box. He turned the base first then turned the top to get a good, snug fit;



- **Ross Sampson** showed off a nice Yo-Yo. A significant challenge with this project was turning two halves that were identical to ensure the yo-yo



was balanced and would perform well. Ross used a faceplate with a centering dowel to hold each half while turning the outside profile;

- **Harold McLellan** turned a circular box with a top featuring texture applied with the Sorby texturing tool;
- **Darren Eisan** presented a salt cellar with a pivoting lid. Darren inserted magnets in the lid and base to hold the lid in place when closed;



- **Dianne Looker** showed off two small bowls designed to match the chopsticks she presented at last month's Show & Tell;
- **Jim Diamond** turned an interesting ornament with hemispherical hollows turned in all 6 sides of the cube, sized so that they intersected in the interior creating patterns of holes;
- **Norm Jolivet** presented a circular box with some cherry burl inlaid in the lid.



- **Robert Atkinson** turned a hollow vessel with a tiny entrance hole using the '2-part' hollowing method demonstrated at last month's meeting. He disguised the join with a number of grooves on the surface;

- **Calum Ewing** showed a small plate created by slicing the blank and joining the slices to form a larger blank. The joints were disguised with a spider web of burned lines – and a small spider turned from Ipe;



- **Bill Maes** presented a circular lidded box with a small walnut finial on the lid. Bill used a rubber strap to protect the finished box held in the chuck jaws while he finished the bottom of the box.

strapped to protect the finished box held in the chuck jaws while he finished the bottom of the box.

A draw was held among the Fun Turn participants and **Bill Maes** won a \$25 Gift Certificate for Lee Valley Tools.



Show & Tell

- **Stuart Taylor** showed some small tool handles he had made with ferules. To make the ferules, he used short sections of tension springs from an old trampoline;



- **Darren Eisan** presented an interesting mushroom-shaped ear ring holder turned from maple and cherry;
- **Dianne Looker** showed off some finish she had made from olive oil and beeswax. It provides a nice, sating finish that is completely food safe – and it's good for your hands too! She also showed a



brace that can be mounted in your tail stock to allow for finishing the bottom of a bowl – a small commercial equivalent of the ‘donut chuck’.

Jordan showed off:

- a large bowl he had turned using a piece of Walnut showing compression grain patterns
- a shallow bowl turned

in Ash using only a narrow scraper;

- **Scott Hubley** talked about his process for making spalted maple and had a few samples. He starts with normal maple and adds specific fungus cultures, ‘incubating’ the wood to allow the fungus to spalt the wood.



Raffle:

Dianne Looker won a set of digital calipers. **Richard Ford** and **Leo Westhaver** each won a wood working book

Meeting wrapped up at 8:40pm.

Library Report

Richard Ford

ISSUE DATE	NAME	ID #	DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR
10. Apr. 2017	Bill Fisher	064BJ	Turned Boxes 50 designs -	Chris Stott
15. Jan. 2018	Darrell Eisner	022BN	The Pen Turners Bible –	Richard Kleinhenz
12. Feb. 2018	Harold McLellan	023BP	Modified Slimline Pens –	Don Ward
12. Feb. 2018	Harold McLellan	069BP	Turning Pens and Pencils	Kip Christensen & Rex Burningham
12. Feb. 2018	Harold McLellan	098BV	The Creative Woodturner –	Terry Martin

Demo Opportunity

Like to demo wood turning? Know a youth that would like to show off their skills?

Lee Valley Tools is starting a series of demonstrations on Saturday mornings that will involve youth demonstrating woodworking in the stores. The Halifax store has suggested that some NWG members might be interested in showing off woodturning during the upcoming turning showcase in April. Lee Valley will supply all needed tools, and supplies for a youth (or two) to demo some turning in the store. If you are interested, please contact Kevin Hurst at Lee Valley at 902-450-1221.

Lee Valley Demo booth schedule – Call for volunteers – Contact mclachlandg@gmail.com

		Noon-2:30	2:30-5:00	1:00-3:00
Apr-06-2018	Friday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-07-2018	Saturday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-08-2018	Sunday	Not available	Not available	Volunteer needed
Apr-09-2018	Monday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-10-2018	Tuesday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-11-2018	Wednesday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-12-2018	Thursday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-13-2018	Friday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-14-2018	Saturday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-15-2018	Sunday	Not available	Not available	Volunteer needed
Apr-16-2018	Monday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-17-2018	Tuesday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-18-2018	Wednesday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-19-2018	Thursday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-20-2018	Friday	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	No
Apr-21-2018	Saturday	Competition	Presentation	Awards

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

At the March meeting I brought along a live center that can allow access to the bottom of the bowl – a mini ‘donut chuck’ in a way. It’s called a “Force driver” and it’s available from Stockroom Supply. See:

<http://stockroomsupply.ca/shop/woodturning-tools/force-driver-series/force-driver-300.html>

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!

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
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ADDRESS

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