



# The Turning Point

In this issue:

Presidents Message	2
Meeting Notes	3
Show and Tell	8
Calendar	9
Raffle booth	9
Executive	10
Wood Toxicity of Various Wood Species	



*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is at  
Lee Valley Tools  
100 Susie Lake Crescent, Halifax, N.S.  
January 18, 2016. 6:15 p.m.*



MEMBER SINCE 2012

**The next meeting will feature**  
**General tips, tricks and hacks.**  
**Favourite / least favourite tool demonstrations**

## The President's Workshop

Gary Landry

FEB 2020

Hello to all of you. I hope you are all staying warm, especially in your workshops.

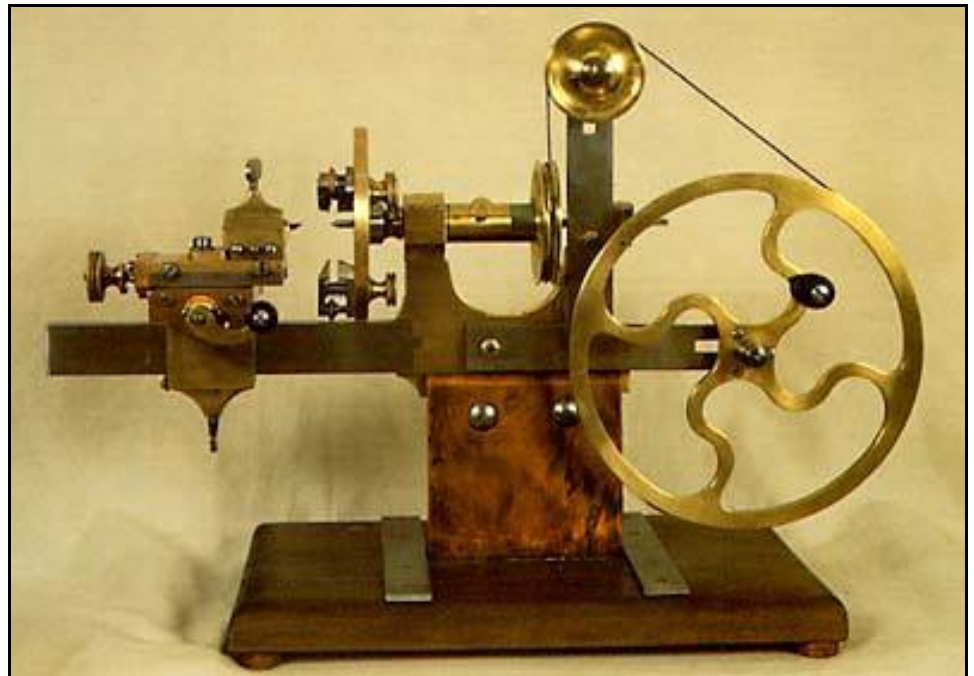
Planning is well underway for the annual Turning Competition at **Lee Valley**. Please go to our website and check all the deadlines given there under the "Calendar" heading. You would not want to miss any dates of importance. Also, expect to receive an email in the near future asking you to volunteer for the live demonstrations in the Lee Valley showroom. This is our major outreach to the public to promote turning in general and our Guild in particular. Please take the time to come in and spin some wood and talk to interested visitors.

Please keep in mind that we have a change in demonstration for the February meeting. We will now be having a general tips, tricks, hacks and favourite/least favourite tool demonstration on that date. Bring in a topic or tool and share your experiences with the other members present.

*A change in demonstration  
for the February meeting.  
We will now be having a  
general tips, tricks, hacks  
and favourite/least  
favourite tool demonstration*

See you on the 24th. Turn some wood and stay safe,

Gary Landry



## Meeting Notes Jan 20, 2020

Calum Ewing, Secretary

President **Gary Landry** opened the meeting at 6:400 pm; with 29 members and 2 guests present: **Andre Ducharme** hails from Windsor Forks, NS and has been turning since the early 70s. He is a member of CraftNS.

**Andrew (didn't get last name)** is new to turning but an experienced woodworker. He like to make paddles, spoons and similar items.

### Announcements:

**Gary Landry** outlined the relevant dates for this year's turning competition:

- Apr 6 Regular Guild members can drop off competition entries
- Apr 11 Last day to drop off entries at **Lee Valley** (5:00pm deadline)
- Apr 13 Show set up
- Apr 15/16 Competition judging
- Apr 20-May 1 Woodturning Demonstrations – Demonstrators needed!
- May 2 Competition Awards presentation 1:00pm

**Norm Jolivet** announced that the raffles at the Christmas social gathered \$111 in the regular raffle and \$80 for the wreath raffle. Thanks to all who contributed.

The potential bulk order for CA adhesives has been shelved for the time being. We did have \$245 in orders lined up but the shipping would have cost \$260, not including the currency exchange and any duty or brokerage fees. So it was deemed to expensive through this route.

**Harold McLellan** has the Abranet order here this evening so anyone who ordered, please see Harold to collect your abrasives.

We have been looking into a bulk purchase of end sealer used when drying green wood. It is available for \$101 per 20L bucket and will cost \$350 to ship a pallet of 10 buckets, so would work out at approximately \$140 per bucket landed here in Halifax. So it is not a great savings. If anyone is interested in proceeding, please let the executive know. **Joe Crouse** mentioned that driveway sealer can be used as a cheap alternative sealer for end grain.

Our planned demonstrator for the February meeting is unable to attend so we will need another demonstrator/topic. Anyone interested in providing a presentation in February please let **Gary Landry** know.

The new Competition Guidelines are now on the Guild website after the Executive reviewed the draft guidelines and provided feedback. Barring any substantive changes, these will be the rules, and guidelines used for this year's competition

Demonstrators are needed for the annual demo showcase during the competition display. **Gary Landry** will be sending a message out to the membership soon seeking volunteers. Volunteers both as singles or pairs (one can turn while the other answers questions) are good. Any skill level can demonstrate and it's good for visitors and customers who are interested to be able to talk with someone who is a relatively new turner. Also, any type of turning is good so that we show off a wide variety of projects and approaches.

### Nominations:

The Annual General Meeting is coming up in June and it is a good time to start thinking about nominations or running for a position – no experience necessary!

## Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

**Main Presentation: Turning Safety**With **Gary Landry**, **Bill Maes** and **Calum Ewing****Wood Toxicity – Gary Landry**

Gary presented a through overview of the issues relating to toxicity of woods that we may be using while turning.

A few basics:

- Virtually any material is toxic if you consume enough of it
- Chemical vary greatly in how toxic they are – even between different forms of the same material
- Individuals also vary greatly in ho they will react to a toxin and how much of a reaction they will experience.

Toxicity can be:

- Acute – causing sudden and severe effects
- Chronic – with low level or longer term effects that are often accumulative – meaning, effects may not be experience until enough of a toxin has built up in the body over a prolonged time period.

In order to get a toxic effect, you need:

- Toxic chemicals in the wood
- A pathway for the toxic chemicals to get into our bodies

Toxicity is greatly affected by the surface area of the wood exposed to our bodies. The smaller the particles, the greater the surface area. So, for example, holding (even licking) a piece of Rosewood may not produce any toxic effects but inhaling Rosewood dust could cause severe effects due to the much higher surface area of the dust.

Wood may also be non-toxic, that is they do not contain known toxic chemicals, but still induce a reaction, such as an allergic reaction. Some reactions can be severe and can be potentially deadly 0- such as those involving anaphylactic shock.

Reactions may be mild, such as a rash or itching after working with a particular wood. This is a warning that your body has become sensitized to that material. Subsequent reactions may be much more severe on later exposures.

There is lots of good information online on the toxicity of different woods but be aware that individuals vary greatly in sensitivity to given chemicals, both between people and over time. Keep in mind that the same species of wood can vary in toxicity depending on where it comes from.

*Editors Note:*

*A copy of 'Toxicity of Various Wood Species' that Gary Landry used in his presentation is attached as a pull-out shop reference. Thanks Gary*

## Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

**Dust and Dust Control - Bill Maes**

Bill gave a clear and well illustrated presentation on the dangers of dust in the workshop and how to control dust where we work.

For effective dust collection, you need a good air flow, measured in cubic feet per minute or a similar measure:

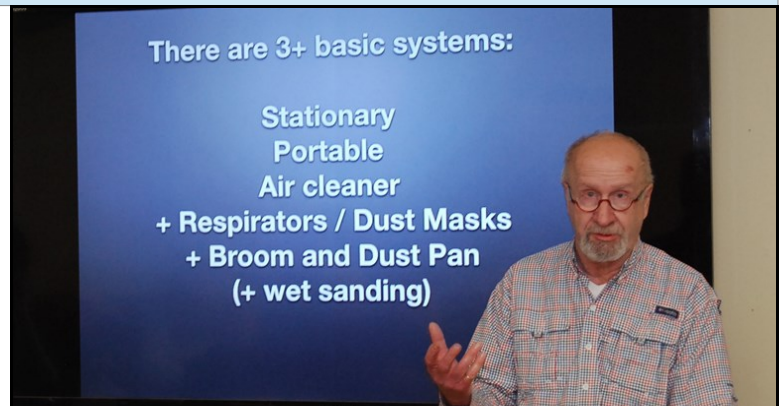
- For chips 350 cfm is a good measure
- For dust 1000 cfm is needed for effective control

By comparison a typical Shop vacuum moves about 70 cfm of air.

Common issues with dust collection systems are high noise (often over 80 decibels) and static electricity can build up in the ducts leading to sparks and potential fire hazards, so it is important to make sure all duct work is properly grounded.

Options:

- Stationary systems
  - Typically \$200 to \$1500
  - 800 CFM and higher
  - Normally use 4 Inch diameter ducts
- Portable Systems
  - Cost about \$500
  - Connect to one or two machines at a time
  - Typically operate about 1250 CFM
  - Filter dust to about 30 microns in size; some models can be upgraded with 1-micron filters
- Vacuums / Small portable Systems (eg those made by Festool and Bosch)
  - Have HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Absorbing) filters so get good collection but they are not very powerful in terms of air volume moved (CFM)
  - Best suited to small hand tools, rather than lathe or large machine use
- Cyclone Separators
  - Used in concert with a vacuum or dust collector
  - Separates out dust and chips before air gets into the collector
  - Greatly prolongs filter lifespan
- Air Cleaners
  - \$200 - \$600
  - Cleans ambient air in the workshop, suspended from ceiling
  - Notably quieter at 40 – 60 decibels
  - 1 to 5 micron capability
  - A 400 CFM unit will circulate a 400 sq ft room 7 ½ times per hour
  - Best mounted near a wall so it causes the air to circulate around the workshop and reduce dead zones
  -



## Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

- Respirators
  - Cost from \$2 to \$600
  - Effectiveness varies greatly with the model chosen
  - Check reviews and talk to other turners who have a model before making a choice
- Pre-empt Dust
  - Wet sanding with finish as a lubricant or sanding paste like NovaSilk greatly reduce dust in the air when finishing.

### Basic Lathe Safety – Calum Ewing

Calum presented an overview of safety topics to be considered in order to ensure as safe and healthy experience at the lathe:

#### Workshop

Make sure your work space is open, clear of debris, does not have extremes of temperature and good air circulation.

Set up your turning area at the lathe so that you have easy access to tools, accessories and supplies – avoid placing items where you will have to reach over spinning work to get them

Make sure you have good, bright overall lighting. Specific task lighting can be a great help in seeing (especially when hollowing). Clamp on por magnetic lamps are great for this.

Have a First Aid kit handy. Make sure you have a Fire extinguisher nearby, and make sure it is placed between your work space and the door. Check it and have it serviced annually at a minimum.

#### Lathe Set-up:

Adjust the height of your lathe (put it on blocks if too low or make a platform to stand on if too high) so that the spindle height is correct for your body. It should be at about the height of your elbow when standing with arms relaxed at your sides.

Consider adding ballast and/or anchoring the lathe to the floor so it does not move around when turning unbalanced work

Have a good padded anti fatigue mat across the front of your lathe to avoid leg and back strain from long periods standing at the lathe

Arrange for dust extraction and collection at the lathe to prevent dust build up while you are working

Keep your lathe well maintained and repair or replace any damaged parts

Make sure you have places to keep tools and accessories where they will not fall due to vibrations on the lathe and are easy to access.

#### Preparation for Turning

Make sure your work piece is well secured – no one wants to have a wood blank leave the lathe unexpectedly!

Use the tailstock whenever possible (not just for spindle turning) to help secure the stock – especially during the initial turning getting the blank perfectly round and centred.

Make sure the tool rest is at the correct height and clear so the stock will not impact it. Turn the lathe by



## Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

hand at least a full revolution to check clearance. Make sure you keep your tool rest smooth and file out any nicks so that tools don't catch in them during use.

Adjust your lighting for the best view of your work

Make sure you are wearing comfortable clothing with no loose or baggy sleeves, etc. – nothing that can catch on spinning work

Always wear the appropriate safety gear including

- Goggle / safety glasses
- Face shields
- Ear muffs or ear plugs – especially during initial smoothing of rough stock
- Respirators – especially during sanding

### Securing stock

Make sure stock is properly secured using

- Faceplates – use all screw holes and use only proper wood screws or sheet metal screws, never deck screws or drywall screws
- Chucks – make sure jaws are properly secured
- Spur drives
- Safe Drivers
- Screw chucks
- Mandrels

### Turning Speeds

Be aware of maximum safe speeds for turning your stock:

- Spindle Turning
  - 1 in or less diameter    Up to 3000 RPM
  - 2 in                            2000 RPM
  - 3 in                            1500 RPM
  - 4 in or larger            1000 RPM or less
- Faceplate

Maximum safe speed is 6000 to 9000 divided by the diameter of the stock in inches. As follows:

$$\text{Max Safe Speed} = \frac{6000}{\text{Diam.}} \text{ to } \frac{9000}{\text{Diam.}}$$

Before Turning on the Lathe

- Is work well secured?
  - Tailstock
    - Locked in position?
    - Ram Extension – not too far?
    - Ram locked?
  - Tool Rest
    - Clear of stock?
    - Correct height?
    - Locked in position?

Be aware of the "Line of Fire" – the area at right angled across the lathe bed where the stock is mounted. This

## Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

is the zone through which the blank will travel if it comes off the lathe. Make sure you stand clear of the Line of Fire when you turn the lathe on.

**Miscellaneous Tidbits**

- Listen !
  - Listen for vibrations or other abnormal sounds
  - If the sound of your cutting changes gradually, you probably need to sharpen the tool
  - If the sound of the lathe or your cutting changes suddenly, turn the lathe off immediately, something has changed. Find out what and fix it before resuming
  - Be aware of a sudden "buzzing" sound. It usually means some part of your stock has come loose and is about to become a projectile.
- Use draw bars whenever using accessories in the headstock that are mounted with the morse taper shaft. They prevent the accessory from working loose and parting company with the lathe at speed.
- Chuck Cuffs are good protection for your hands to avoid getting "bitten" by chuck jaws that are protruding
- Use masking tape warning "flags" on any protruding corners of a blank. If you get too close, you feel the gentle slapping of the tape before the wood bites you.
- 

Be especially aware when turning Banksia flower pods. They have a thick layer of red "fuzz" just under the skin that should not be inhaled. They also often have large, flat, sharp-pointed seeds in many of the holes that will come out unexpectedly and fly through the air like arrowheads. A thick shirt or turning smock is good protection from these wooden darts.

## Show and Tell

Calum Ewing

**Dianne Looker** showed off a nice dibbler for gardening turned in Apricot and a newspaper starter pot maker in Maple

**Andre Ducharme**

presented a suite of his turnings:

A turned and carved vase in Cherry, a sphere (painted) on a carved stand, A tall lidded box with a finial in Black Limba, a natural edge bowl in Oak and a natural edge hollow form in Cherry with a tung oil finish. A platter in Padauk with an Ebony insert in the centre and a legged

bowl in Tamarind with Wenge and Ebony

**Lowell Jenkins** showed off his nice shallow dish in Cherry burl



**ALL THE PHOTOS CAN BE BLAMED ON CHRIS PALMER**



## Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 16, 2019	Using Collet Chucks (Dave McLachlan)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
October 21, 2019	Inside out Ornament Demo (Richard Ford)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
November 18, 2019	Ford's Awesome Duplicator (Richard Ford)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
December 9, 2019	Christmas Social	Halifax Specialty Hardwoods, 112 Bluewater Rd. Bedford
January 20, 2020	Lathe Safety (Calum Ewing) Dust Control (Bill Maes) Wood Toxicity (Gary Landry)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
February 24, 2020	General tips, tricks, hacks favourite/least favourite tool demonstration	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
March 16, 2020	Carbide Cutter Tools ( sharpening? ) (Zalman Amit)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
April 6, 2020	Turning Finials (R. Atkinson)	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
May 2, 2020	Awards Day Lee Valley	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
May 11, 2020	Turning a Goblet Stewart Taylor	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent
June 15, 2020	AGM	Lee Valley Tools, 100 Susie Lake Crescent

The Raffle Booth

Norm Jolivet / Yogi Gutz

The regular raffle was held with **Leo Westhaver** taking home a walnut blank; **Brian Sharp** collecting a Maple blank; **Dianne Looker** scooping up some Cherry Burl slabs; and **Jean Louis Bourque** taking home a Maple blank.

Remember, all donations accepted and anonymously too.



## Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2019/20 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 who ever 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?
<b>Executive</b>	executive	(sends the message to all positions on the list)	
<b>President</b>	president	Gary Landry	
<b>Vice President</b>	vice-president	Bill Maes	
<b>Secretary</b>	secretary	Calum Ewing	
<b>Treasurer</b>	treasurer	Dave McLachlan	
<b>Members at Large</b>	members-at-large	Bill Luther	
<b>Committees</b>			
<b>Library</b>	library	Jim Diamond Richard Ford	<b>C</b>
<b>Web Site</b>	webmaster	Richard Ford	<b>C</b>
<b>Membership &amp; Promotion</b>	membership-chair	Brian Larter	<b>C</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	newsletter	Norm Jolivet	<b>C</b>
<b>Competition</b>		Vacant	<b>C</b>
<b>Guild Photographer</b>		Chris Palmer	
<b>Fund Raising</b>		Vacant	<b>C</b>
Raffles		Norm Jolivet Yogi Gutz	
<b>Nominating</b>		Bill Maes	<b>C</b>

## Toxicity of Various Wood Species

This chart first appeared in the June 1990 issue of American Woodturner. It has been posted on many websites and presented in many formats.

Wood Species	Reaction	Areas Affected	Potency 1=Low 4=High	Assimilation Source	Incidence
Bald Cypress	Sensitizer	Respiratory	1	Dust	Rare
Balsam Fir	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	1	Leaves, Bark	Common
Basswood	Sensitizer	Respiratory	1	Dust, Wood	
Beech	Sensitizer, Cancer	Respiratory, Skin, Eyes	2	Dust, Leaves, Bark	Common
Birch	Sensitizer	Respiratory	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Black Locust	Irritant, Nausea, Malaise	Eyes, Skin	3	Leaves, Bark	Common
Blackwood	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Boxwood	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Cashew	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	1	Dust, Wood	Rare
Cocobolo	Irritant, Sensitizer,	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Dahoma	Irritant	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Ebony	Irritant, Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Elm	Irritant	Eyes, Skin	1	Dust	Rare
Goncalo Alves	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Rare
Greenheart	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Hemlock	Cancer	Respiratory	?	Dust	Uncommon
Iroko	Irritant, Sensitizer, Hypersensitivity Pneumonia	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Jelutong	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	2	Dust, Wood	Uncommon
Mahogany	Sensitizer, Hypersensitivity Pneumonia	Skin, Respiratory	1	Dust	Common
Mansonia	Irritant, Sensitizer, Nausea, Malaise	Eyes, Skin	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Maple (Spalted)	Sensitizer, Hypersensitivity Pneumonia	Respiratory	3	Dust	Common

Mimosa	Nausea, Malaise	Internal	?	Leaves, Bark	Uncommon
Myrtle	Sensitizer	Respiratory	2	Dust, Leaves, Bark	Common
Oak	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Leaves, Bark	Rare
Obeche	Irritant, Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Oleander	Direct Toxin	Cancer, Nausea, Malaise	4	Dust, Wood, Leaves, Bark	Common
Olivewood	Irritant, Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Opepe	Sensitizer	Respiratory	1	Dust	Rare
Padauk	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	1	Dust, Wood	Rare
Pau Ferro	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	1	Dust, Wood	Rare
Peroba Rosa	Irritant	Respiratory, Nausea, Malaise	2	Dust, Wood	Uncommon
Purpleheart	Irritant	Nausea, Malaise	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Quebracho	Irritant	Respiratory, Nausea, Malaise	2	Leaves, Bark, Dust	Common
Redwood	Sensitizer, Hypersensitivity Pneumonia	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	2	Dust	Rare
Rosewoods	Sensitizer, Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	4	Dust, Wood	Uncommon
Satinwood	Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	3	Dust, Wood	Common
Sassafras	Sensitizer	Respiratory	1	Dust	Common
Sequoia	Irritant	Respiratory	1	Dust	Rare
Snakewood	Irritant	Respiratory	2	Dust, Wood	Rare
Spruce	Sensitizer	Respiratory	1	Dust, Wood	Rare
Tupelo	Sensitizer	Eyes, Respiratory	1	Dust	
Walnut, Black	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	Common
Wenge	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	1	Dust, Wood	Common

Willow	Sensitizer	Respiratory, Nausea, Malaise	1	Dust, Wood, Leaves, Bark	Uncommon
Western Red Cedar	Sensitizer	Respiratory	3	Dust, Leaves, Bark	Common
Teak	Sensitizer, Hypersensitivity Pneumonia	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	2	Dust	Common
Yew	Irritant Direct Toxin	Eyes, Skin Cardiac	2 4	Dust Dust, Wood	Common Common
Zebrawood	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	2	Dust, Wood	

References:

1. Woods Toxic to Man, author unknown
2. Woods, B., Calnan, C.D., "Toxic Woods." Br. Journal of Dermatology 1976
3. ILO Encyclopedia of Occupational Health and Safety 1983
4. Lane, K., McAnn, M., AMA Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants, AMA 1985
5. Poisonsdex, Micromedix Inc. 1990