



## *The Official Journal*

### *Nova Woodturners' Guild Season 7! November 14, 2001*

The third meeting of our seventh season will be **WEDNESDAY November 14, 6:00 pm at BUSY BEE in Dartmouth. NOTE THE UNUSUAL TIME AND PLACE!!!**

#### **October Meeting:**

**Maurice Gamblin**, from the Perth/Andover area of New Brunswick, visited us in October. Maurice is known for turning burls both large and small; I dropped in on his shop recently and saw a burl about 6 feet in diameter attached to a faceplate, ready to be hoisted up onto one of his lathes.



Maurice talked about how he chooses the form to turn, based upon the shape of the particular burl. He then demonstrated his technique on two pieces of wood, one green piece of wood on which he did the rough turning, and another piece which had previously been rough turned and allowed to dry. After rough turning a piece, he seals the outside to allow the wood to dry from the inside out.



After doing the finishing cuts on the previously-roughed-out piece, he demonstrated his finishing technique, using a sanding disk (spun in a relatively high-speed hand drill), quickly progressing through the grits to 2000. He emphasized that after the first grit is used, the others grits need only be used long enough for about three passes over the piece. He also mentioned

that he only uses any disk for 1 to 1 1/2 turnings, since after that they begin to dull to the point where it is not cost-effective to use them. As he sanded, it was easy to see the polish on the piece take shape; after each successive grip the reflection of the lights became more and more defined. When he had finished sanding, the surface was smooth enough that one might have thought it had had a finish of some sort. (In that area, Maurice uses 3 applications of Minwax Tung Oil finish, 24 hours apart.)

The sandpaper he uses is aluminum oxide, for grits up to 320, and silicon carbide for the others up to 2000. He points out that for the finer few grits, he reduces the speed of the drill to about half that used for the coarser grits, since the finer grits tend to heat up the wood more.

There were many more organizational details to this meeting than usual. Thanks to **Bob Hamilton** for doing a lot of general organization and leg-work, Bill Luther and **Robert Atkinson** for supplying the sound system, and **Stuart Taylor** (and his wife, who isn't even an NWG member!) for getting to the carpentry shop extra early to make sure the shop was open, setting up the chairs, and making sure the lathe was ready to go.



## November Meeting:

Once again **Sorby's** travelling road show will be visiting our area. Many of you remember seeing Keith Rowley give some demos at **Busy Bee** a couple of years ago. This year, Sorby is planning on demoing at the **Atlantic Wood Show**, but they have also indicated that they should be able to visit our club for a demo. This year's demonstrator is Tony Kwasniak. To fit in their schedule we will have to have the meeting on **Wednesday, November 14** rather than Monday, November 19. And as **Busy Bee** is the local Sorby dealer, they will be hosting this meeting of the NWG. In order to get as much as possible out of this visit, we will once again be starting the meeting at 6:00 PM. If you need directions to Busy Bee, call **Bill Luther** at 468-8088 during business hours.

## Atlantic Wood Show:

With a couple of people doing double or triple duty, we now have enough people to man our booth at the wood show. Thanks to all who volunteered to man the booth or to help set up.

We plan on having the bowl saver at the show, which we can use on the lathe in our booth which Busy Bee is supplying. So if you would like to try it out, securely attach a 2" diameter spigot about 1.5" long to a bowl blank (at the base end of your blank) and bring it to the show. The Busy Bee lathe has a 14" swing, so don't bother bringing anything with a larger diameter. Should you feel like doing some turning while you are there, the lathe will be set up and ready to go; even roughing out a bowl is interesting to people who aren't familiar with how turning is done.

**Bill Luther** has been out gathering prizes for the turning competition, so it should be worth your while to enter something. The entry fee is only \$5 (or an equivalent food donation) and is donated to the Metro Food Bank.

Finally, don't forget that **we need your turnings** on display at our booth, and that you are welcome to sell your turnings at the show. If you would like to sell some or all of your turnings, please **\*clearly\*** indicate their prices both on the piece and on a sheet of paper with your name, description of pieces for sale and prices. You can bring these pieces to the November meeting, drop them off at **Busy Bee** or **Jim Diamond's** house, or bring them to the show first thing (10:00) Friday morning (November 16).

## NWG Members in the News:

Aside from the upcoming AWS/NWG turning competition, where some NWG members may end up winning prizes, some other members have captured prizes lately. Here are some sketchy details, more information can be obtained from the winners.

In the recent **Shortcuts** competition, woodturning section, NWG members took two prizes:

**First Place - Jamie Wolverton** - This piece of dwarf sumac crotch was still dripping with sap when Jamie visualised this naturalised edge bowl. To retain the clean cut of the bark edge was a feat in itself, let alone the unusual and unique shape.

**Second place: Warman Castle** - Black cherry burl is the wood used to turn this beautiful and humorous piece. Warman's light hearted approach to give the piece a "laced" effect serves the purpose of stabilizing the large crack in the piece.

Out west (Calgary and Edmonton), there was the "*Great Canadian Woodturning Challenge*". **Stuart Taylor** entered a piece and it won first place in the Intermediate Class and also won Viewers Choice/Best in Show!



Even further out west, **Steve Kennard** entered a piece in the *West Coast Woodturning Competition* Open class, turned and carved, entitled "*A Golfer's Dream*"; his entry took second prize.

Congratulations to all four people; it's nice to see our members winning prizes from coast to coast.

## Library News:

**Maurice Gamblin** brought a large bowl and set it down on a "*Best from Woodturning Magazine*" book ("*Bowls; Platters; Hollow Forms; Vases; Vessels; ...*"). That book did not get signed out or come home with the rest

of the library; if you borrowed it (or rescued it) please let **Jim Diamond** know. Thanks.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we used to have two catalogs from Craft Supplies and one from Craft Supplies USA. I don't keep close track of catalogs, but someone was looking for one last meeting. If you have one or more of these catalogs, could you bring them to the next meeting? Thanks. Alternatively, if you have a catalog that you no longer need, the library would be happy to have it.

The overdue list, for people who have had things out from June or earlier. As usual, if you see your initials and don't know what you have out, feel free to call Jim at 469-8838 any evening or weekend. If there is a small letter after the second initial, that is to distinguish between members who have the same initials.

SK: (Mar: 7)

RPa: (Nov 00: 1, Jan: 2)

DPo: (Jun: 3)

DS: (Nov 00: 1)

### **For Sale - Long Handles for Turning tools**



**John Clark**, a former student of **Maurice Gamblin**, makes custom long handles for turning tools. Contact him at 865-9420, or [clark.creatives@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:clark.creatives@ns.sympatico.ca)

Reach us: **Jim Diamond**, NWG President, 469-8838 and Be Reached: Send an Email to Jim at [zsd@alumni.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:zsd@alumni.uwaterloo.ca), identifying yourself as a NWG member and he will put you on our electronic list.

Notes for the Newsletter? If you want to contribute an article, or an ad to the newsletter, contact **Chris Palmer**, 462-3262, [cpalmer@accesscable.net](mailto:cpalmer@accesscable.net)