

# *The Official Journal*

## *Nova Woodturners' Guild Season 7! January 21, 2002*

The fifth meeting of our seventh season will be **Monday, January 21, 2002 at the Carpentry Room at NSIT, 7:00 pm .**

### **December meeting:**

26 members were in attendance at the December meeting.

The prizes for the woodturning competition at the **Atlantic Wood Show** were given out. All prizes were won by **NWG** members, which made it easy to distribute them. The winners and their prizes were:

### **Open**

1st place: **Denton Ford** 'Aztec bowl' (\$100 Lee Valley, \$150 Cash, \$75 Busy Bee)



2nd place: **Stuart Taylor** 'Hollow cherry log' (\$75 Lee Valley, \$100 Cash, \$50 Busy Bee)



3rd place: **Jamie Wolverton** " (\$50 Lee Valley, \$50 Cash, \$25 Busy Bee)

### **Novice**



1st place **Robert Atkinson** (\$100 Lee Valley, \$150 East Coast Specialty Hardwoods; \$25 Tool Traders.)



2<sup>nd</sup> place **Jim Diamond** 11" birch bowl (\$125 Busy Bee; \$75 Lee Valley; \$25 Tool Traders)

3rd place **Dave Paul** (\$50 Lee Valley, \$25 Busy Bee, \$50 Tool Traders)



As well, all the winners received a full years subscription to **Canadian Woodworking Magazine**.

Thanks go out to **Craig Blois** of the **AWS** for hosting the competition and donating \$300 cash for prizes, and to **Bill Luther** who did all the leg-work in rounding up the other prizes, for co-ordinating with Craig, and for gathering the judging panel. I think Bill deserves special note, because he was able to collect a lot of prizes during the time in which he was extremely busy preparing the **Sorby** visit as well as his company's exhibition at the **AWS**. You may have heard the saying "If you want something done, give it to a busy person."; perhaps next November I'll ask Bill to build me a new house.

As you may recall, the entry fees from the turning competition were donated to the **Metro Food Bank**. **Bill Luther** got a letter from the food bank thanking us and telling us that 35 families were helped with this money.

**Stuart Taylor** brought in a nice piece of ash (\*ahem\*) for the raffle. **Bob Hamilton** won it, and \$31 went into the bank. Thanks once again to Stuart, who has frequently brought in pieces of wood for raffles.



The main presentation was by **Warman Castle**. Before beginning his demo, he passed around a miniature box made by a turner in Germany. This box was just big enough to hold a German pfennig, which is itself about the size of a penny. The pfennig turned out to be a (metal) box itself, and it contained a heart-shaped piece of a dried rose petal. Warman talked about a couple of reasons why pfennigs are associated with good luck.

Warman demonstrated the turning of a square-edged bowl. He starts by carefully centering the square blank on a faceplate and then turning the underside. This is the tricky part, since one has to avoid having their fingers pummelled by the corners, and avoiding tear out at the edges is difficult. Also, one must avoid making the legs too thin, otherwise they will be very fragile. Having finished the turning of the underside, some of the area can be sanded while the turning is spinning, but some will need to be done by hand. After sanding the bottom, attach a tenon, ensure it is centered (i.e., turn it cylindrical), and reverse it to turn the top.



There was some discussion of how to attach the tenon. Warman uses hot-melt glue and advocates putting one coat of finish on before gluing, so that the bowl is not marked by the process. It is, apparently, very important to make sure that the glue is very hot, since if the glue is just melted and the wood is cold, it will not stick well. Warman mentioned that he has seen **Maurice Gamblin** warm up the wood by resting it on a warm (but not hot) wood stove for a few minutes before gluing. **Don Moore**, who uses hot melt glue regularly, points out that he has a thermo-nuclear powered hot melt glue gun which occasionally vaporizes a stick of glue, but that he has no problems with glue failing. Perhaps even more interesting to people who haven't used this technique, it seems that the glue holds well against the twisting forces of turning, but easily breaks

off when you are done. In n-gineer speak, you could say the glue bond is strong in torsion and shear, but not in tension. I think.

**Stuart Taylor** explained how he made his hollow cherry logs, and **Don Moore** explained how he made his rocking bird bowl (possibly not the correct name).



## January meeting:

The topic of the January meeting will be "home-made tools". **Stuart Taylor** will be leading the discussion and will bring in several of his home-made tools and jigs. Any other members with home-made tools or jigs are heartily encouraged to bring them along to the meeting. Even things that did not work out as well as planned are welcome; as the saying goes, "Learn from the mistakes of others, because you won't live long enough to make them all yourself."

## Finishing Seminars:

**Sam Sorensen** of **Chemcraft Atlantic** in Burnside is widely known as a finishing guru. I (**Jim**) investigated the idea of having him come to one of our meetings and give us a presentation, but he had a better idea. He puts on seminars occasionally (typically on Saturday) to which people can come and actually try out various finishes. For better or worse, he can only accomodate about 10 people at a seminar, so we can't have our monthly meeting there. Instead, I would like to see if I can arrange one or more seminars for the members of the guild. I hope to have more information by the next meeting and will announce it there. Assuming the arrangements go through, I will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting for people who are interested. If you are interested in attending a seminar but don't get to the next meeting, e-mail me or call me *after* the meeting.

## NWG in the "news":

We received a thank you letter from the **NS Department of Natural Resources** thanking us for our participation in the annual field day at **Don and Katy Moore's** woodlot. Now, it was **Bill Luther** and **Tom Conrad** doing most of the work of waving the NWG flag, but the DNR doesn't need to know that.

## Library news:

The library now has a couple of copies of the Sorby catalog, for those of you who did not get your own copy at the November meeting. We also have a new copy of the Crafts Supplies (UK) catalog. I e-mailed Crafts Supplies USA trying to get a copy of their catalog as well, but so far nothing has shown up, and I'm not hopeful (they wanted money, and I didn't give them any). If anyone has the library's copy (1999 catalog) and wishes to return it, please note that there was probably no "NWG" stamp inside the catalog.

So far (knock on wood), the "self-serve" library withdrawals have been working out well... nothing has gone AWOL for months. Thanks to everyone for their care. If you do sign something out yourself, please note whether the item is a book or a video, and if it a video, please note the "copy" number. Also, make sure you write down a fair bit of the title; we have a lot of items with very similar names, and even a number of videos with the same name, but by different people. If you check out a magazine write down its month/year or it's issue number.

Thanks to **Don Quinn** for donating a bunch of magazines ("The Woodturner" and "Woodturning") to the library.

One of the problems with running the guild library is that some of the reading materials were, apparently, not designed to be used by dozens of people; after a while some of the covers have gotten a bit ratty or come off entirely. Recently you may have noticed that some of the reading materials have had their covers covered with clear plastic laminate. **Gordon Murray** has been doing this covering on some materials he has borrowed. Thanks go out to Gordon for this effort, and we wish him plenty of time in 2002 for more reading.

Not many overdue books this time. Does this mean that people got jump-starts on their new year's resolutions?

SK: (Mar 01: 7) DQ: (Sept 01: 1) DS: (Nov 00: 1)

**For sale:**

Maple and birch burls for sale; all sizes. Call **Calvin Lambert** at 893-4921.

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)