



# The Turning Point

In this issue:

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Presidents Message    | 2  |
| Show & Tell           | 3  |
| Safety in the Shop    | 8  |
| Shop & Lathe Envy     | 9  |
| Calendar              | 10 |
| Raffles               | 10 |
| Great Mallet Fun Turn | 11 |
| Winners               | 16 |
| Executive             | 17 |



MEMBER SINCE 2012

*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is*

***Cancelled***

*(but normally at Lee Valley)*

**Due to the requirements related  
to the COVID-19 pandemic,  
meetings are suspended until further notice.**

(Hey, I've got an idea....)

## The President's Workshop

Gary Landry

### PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER REPORT - MAY 2020 (COVID-19 EDITION: PART 2)

Hello to you all.

Hopefully our social distancing practices have kept us and our loved ones safe and healthy so far.

It is great to see many members have really adopted the mailing list “members@novawoodturnersguild.com” as a way to keep in touch and share experiences in woodturning during the isolation. Some really interesting work is showing up in that mailbox. I see some have also taken the isolation time to change and improve their shops too. I really have to make special mention of **Edmond Benoit**'s efforts in making well over a hundred Bravery Beads boxes for the IWK as highlighted elsewhere in this Newsletter. I am suffering what can only be described as “feelings of inadequacy”.

Also in this newsletter is a story on **Dave McLachlan**'s mishap when cutting a pen blank on his tablesaw. Please take his words on safety, and the unexpected nature of accidents, to heart. We wish Dave all the best for a speedy and full recovery.

I received a note from the **Scott Manor House** letting us know that they have decided to cancel their entire summer exhibition program due to the uncertainty around COVID-19. This of course means that we will not be holding our planned exhibit and sale in July. We have asked, and received a positive response, for a spot to be saved for us in the summer of 2021. Contact will be made in late 2020 with the President by Scott Manor House to initiate the formal process.

The first two custom made turning smocks ordered from **Rose Cochran** have been delivered to **Jim Wood** and **Stuart Taylor**. The smocks are quite handsome and have been admired by all who have seen them. I believe there are two or three more on order but I am sure if others of you have decided you would also like one that Rose would be pleased to make one for you. Just shoot me an email and I'll send you an order form that I can forward to Rose.

By the time you read this the results of the online mallet/gavel challenge should be known. See the following pages of this Newsletter for details, photos and results.

The 'caretaker' Executive will be holding a virtual meeting in June to assess the continuing effects of COVID-19 on the Guild meetings and will report back to you with the decisions taken.

I have received word from **Scott Croucher** that **Lee Valley** headquarters has decided to cancel all seminars, workshops and demos through the summer months. A decision on the fall season will likely be announced as it is given to Scott.

I didn't think I would have much to put in this message when I started but more has gone on than I initially thought. So, once again, I close out by saying “Please stay safe, stay home and stay healthy”. Now go turn some wood!

Gary Landry  
President (interim) – Nova Woodturners' Guild

## Show and Tell

### William Maes

Remember the three walnut rings? The insert in this little salt shaker is all they were used for. Not the most intelligent use of resources!

Apple core w/walnut insert. Richard's shellac and linseed oil finish.

Bill



### Robert Harold Atkinson

Today was my first day at the lathe for a while. I needed a jig to remove the impeller from a hot tub pump that was seized to the motor armature shaft. The attached pictures show the jig and it worked excellent and the impeller was unscrewed from the shaft with the jig secured in the bench vise and a strap wrench used to turn the armature. The bad news was the end of the armature was so badly corroded that it is unusable. However the turning worked good and it was one of the few times I have used the indexing to mark the position of the slots.

Cheers,  
Robert



### G Landry

I made a couple of French rolling pins for my daughters-in-law last Christmas and when my wife saw them she asked for one as well. So, this week I finally got around to making one. I used hard maple with Indian rosewood strips inlaid into the billet before turning (see picture of end profile). The length is approximately 18 inches with a taper at each end for finger space. The diameter is just under two inches. It is sanded to 400 grit and coated with mineral oil.



Gary

## Show and Tell

### William Maes

I just had to share this—I challenged myself to turning a sphere as part of some spindle gouge practice. I am not very proficient so this turned out to be a complete surprise. Trust me, this was more luck than skill, not to be repeated any time soon!

Stay well,  
Bill



### Douglas Allen

Also here's my Corona "cluster" so far:



## Show and Tell



**Edmund Benoit**

What did the rest of you guys do?

**Dianne Looker**

My duck night light.

I plan to spray it with spray lacquer and glue it to the light with epoxy (tasks yet to be done). The wood is yellowheart.



## Show and Tell

### Don Moore

Piece #478

"Self-Isolation"

A single piece of  
Beech Wood  
190mm x 330mm



### William Maes

I turned this little (8") vase about 2 yrs. ago and while hollowing, blew the bottom right out of it and split the rest in two. **Gordon Marshall** told me to glue it up and just put it on the shelf as a reminder that things sometimes go really wrong. Ever since then I've been wondering if I could fix it somehow because I really hated to see this nice walnut go to waste—and I didn't need the reminder of my errors..

Yesterday I stuck it on the lathe again, and hoping the glue would hold, did a little fine tune turning, a little more glue and sanding. Can you see any cracks?

Talk about luck and some really clean breaks—it's not bad. It does pay to put things aside for a while and try, try again.

Bill

PS. Sorry I didn't take a pic. of the original: it looked really hopeless.



# Show and Tell

## Robert Harold Atkinson

Today, a cherry bowl with a different look. I cut some strips of cherry and glued them into grooves cut in the bowl. As this was just an experiment I didn't bother using any exotic wood as an accent. As with anything new there are a few lessons to be learned.

Stay safe,

Robert A.



Next years 'Fun Turn" . The planning stages.



## Safety in the Shop

David McLachlan

On Friday, April 17, 2020, David McLachlan wrote:

Hi everyone, I just wanted to share this bit of information with you... I had an accident on the tablesaw Tuesday, I thought I was being safe but obviously not safe enough. I was cutting a pen blank from an small section of lilac ( 6" long, 1.75" wide half section that had been flattened on bottom and side). I was using a push stick cutting a 3/4" wide strip, the top edge was live so not exactly flat. As I finished the cut and was pushing the cut piece past the blade, it caught up and kicked back with a substantial force for such a small piece. It hit my wrist opening it up to the tendons. Fortunately the tendons were not damaged and the artery not severed, but I did cut a nerve though and now my ring finger and little finger on my right hand are numb, probably for the rest of my life (doesn't make typing easy). It could have been much worse had tendons been cut.

Please be safe around the tablesaw, or any power tool.  
DaveM



Norm Jolivet to David McLachlan

Sorry to hear (see) about your accident. Take care of that wound.  
On a more macabre note, may I include this incident in the newsletter?  
Norm

David McLachlan to:Norm Jolivet

Sure, even when one thinks they are doing everything right and trying to be as safe as possible, accidents can happen in an instant... in this case it was a pen blank size piece of wood that caused this horrific wound... there is nothing quite like seeing your arm peeled back and all of the tendons and blood vessels exposed.

Fortunately the ER facility I went to (Cobequid centre) wasn't all that busy at that time and I was in and out in an hour or so. My ER doctor, friend and neighbour had a look at it today and felt it was healing well for Day 4. At the moment the flap of skin stitched back down seems to have blood flow and hasn't died back yet. (if that happens this wound becomes so much more serious)... I am keeping a close eye on it and being very careful not to cause further injury.

DaveM

### *Editors Note:*

*Please be careful out there. We are all bored and preoccupied with the situation we find ourselves in but, that is a good reason to get our minds off of it and concentrate on what we are doing in the shop. Take care of yourselves.*



## Shop & Lathe Envy



### Jim Kuzma

400 sq ft 2 car garage with 8 ft ceilings. I added a pony panel and a bunch of plugs and lights. I have used my Covid time to make some major changes to my shop. The biggest one was modifying my DC to add another branch and pick up 3 machines. Its a 600 CFM unit with a 1 micron canister filter so, 1 thing at a time. I now have 3 branches, 1 for my table saw, 1 that I switch from my lathes to my router table or planer as needed, and the 3rd to service my SCMS, band saw, and drill press. I also built a cardboard prototype shroud for the SCMS. I have used them all and gone from the "make a mess and sweep it up" stage to getting about 90%. The drill press still needs a bit of work but still much better. I also built some internal dust collection for both lathes so I could do them with 1 connection. That works great for sanding. The chips need to be swept up.



### Douglas Allen

My baby - A circa 1950 Henry Craftmaster Lathe with 3HP 240v DC Treadmill motor and a KBMD variable speed controller. Headstock has a substantial 1 & 5/16" diam. spindle (centre measurement) with standard 1" RH and LH outboard threads. I've turned up to 16" bowls with outboard arrangement. Has reverse for sanding and tachometer. Henry Power Tools company was located in London, Ontario. Would be interesting to know what others use for a lathe(s)

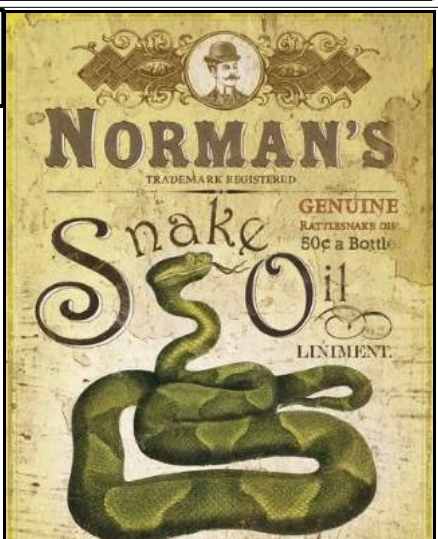
## Calendar of Events

| Date               | Subject   | Location  |
|--------------------|---|---|
| September 16, 2019 | Using Collet Chucks<br>(Dave McLachlan)   | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| October 21, 2019   | Inside out Ornament Demo<br>(Richard Ford)  | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| November 18, 2019  | Ford's Awesome Duplicator<br>(Richard Ford)   | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| December 9, 2019   | Christmas Social  | Halifax Specialty Hardwoods,<br>112 Bluewater Rd. Bedford |
| January 20, 2020   | Lathe Safety (Calum Ewing)<br>Dust Control (Bill Maes)<br>Wood Toxicity (Gary Landry) | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| February 24, 2020  | General tips, tricks, hacks<br>favourite/least favourite tool demonstration           | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| March 16, 2020     | <b>Cancelled</b>  | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| April 6, 2020      | <b>Cancelled</b>  | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| May 2, 2020        | Awards Day Lee Valley<br><b>Cancelled</b>   | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| May 11, 2020       | <b>Cancelled</b>  | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |
| June 15, 2020      | <b>Cancelled</b>  | Lee Valley Tools,<br>100 Susie Lake Crescent              |

The Raffle Booth Norm Jolivet / Yogi Gutz



**NOT THIS MONTH,  
OR NEXT.**



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

### Jim Kuzma

I took the idea of a separate handle with a steel rod for reinforcement from the original challenge. I also turned it into a dead blow by hollowing the head and adding about a 1/2 pound of split shot stinkers. Aesthetically I added the Celtic knot, handle, and head plug in a contrasting wood. Finish is 3 coats of tung oil. Materials are a hard maple glue up, Zebrano handle, Celtic knot, and plug, lead stinkers. Tech specs are about 10" long, head tapers from 3 to 2 3/4, Finished weight is about 20 oz.



### David McLachlan

The first mallet is a beech head with a Padauk handle, weighing in at 700 g. overall 10" - 4" L x 2-1/2" D Beech head, and a 6" long handle.

The second mallet is hard Maple with a roasted curly Maple handle, weighing in at 720g. 9 3/4" overall, 4 1/8" L x 2-7/8" D head, with a 5-3/4" handle.

Both mallets have a 25mm / 12mm x 135mm steel core (330g)



### William Maes

Made from a 3" x 3" x 12" block of maple. It was made on the fly with no plans or templates.

Weight: 385 gm. (13.6 oz.) Width: 70 mm. (2.75 in.) Length: 260.5 mm. (10.25 in.)



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

### Robert Harold Atkinson

The head is beech, there is a decorative ring of Gabon ebony and the handle is bird's eye maple. The diameter is 3 3/8" (23.5 cm), length is 9 1/4" (23.5 cm) and the weight is 1.12 lbs (510 g). I drilled a 1" hole 3.25" into the head and had a corresponding tenon on the handle plus the thickness of the ebony. I used Titebond glue to glue them together.

As I got tired of my old mallet rolling off the bench, I made this one so it would stand upright as well as lay down.



### Calum Ewing

Materials: Head is figured Maple; handle is Goncalo Alves  
 Dimensions: 10.25" overall; Head is 3.75" long and 3.25" diameter at the top with a slight taper; 14.75oz / 420g

The handle has a 2.75" tenon fitted into a 7/8" mortise drilled with a Forstner bit. Sanded to 400, then polished with Ford's NovaSilk, then three coats of Castelin's OB Shine Juice. The top of the head is slightly dished so that it will stand on its head easily.



### Don Shubaly

My blank was an end cut-off of a newel post. A contribution to recycling.



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

**Gary Landry**

Head is spalted White Birch with worm holes and the handle is Wenge and birds eye Maple. Finishing was done by applying multiple coats of a gloss spray lacquer

When turned, it seemed to me that the handle was feeling a bit narrow in my hand. So I decided to add some thickness on one end by adding a piece of birds eye maple.



**Douglas Allen**

This is my first time for a mallet - other than a simpler prototype. I chose to build a dead head mallet with copper rings fabricated from 1/2" copper pipe and an oval handle shape. A bit of a learning process and certainly room for improvement. Unfortunately after messing up several handles, I had to settle with an extension to make handle long enough. Thus a bit of a mongrel - Apple, Beech and Cherry. End result does feel comfy and well balanced.



**Richard Ford**

Here's the mallet I made using a piece of Iron Wood I was given about 10 years ago

It has a steel core and Ash handle, It weighs in at 18.2ozs.

Like all the others I've seen today way too pretty to pound on stuff.



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

### Don Moore

My three submissions have been long in the making, just over 26 years. All three have been made with Nova Scotia Deadwood and have my “Trademark” countersunk hole in the handle. The texture finish is one of my favourite’s, “Abuse and Disrespect” found in most shops in Nova Scotia. The larger one was first turned round and later squared, in most recent years this tool has become my “fine adjust” balancing system on my



outboard when turning large Cherry Burls, the black tape on the handle is where the “Early Warning System” goes when in active use. The midsize mallet is a sucker for punishment and could easily challenge the Energize Bunny for duration of use. Now the smaller one, Ooooh the smaller one,... is really a pain in the arse at times, it has the attitude of ”I can do it, I can do it”, “use me, use me”... It’s very lucky to still be a member of the family. The four of us have shared some terrific memorable times and some best forgotten memorable times.

### Dianne Looker

It’s a mallet not a gavel, and therefore it’s designed to hit things. So, a large, fairly solid head piece, a shaped handle with “bumps” for ease of holding. The turning of it was fairly straightforward. But I wanted to embellish it a bit, to make it special. After sanding, I put spray lacquer on the outline to seal it. The rest of the mallet got a wax coating. Something easily replaced and repaired – it is, after all, designed for hitting things....

I was quite shaken by the shooting tragedy in Nova Scotia mid-April. I was shocked and saddened, and struggled to take it in. I wanted to do something to symbolize “Nova Scotia Strong”.

I found various images of Nova Scotia. Once I settled on the detailed outline, I experimented with filling it in with colour or with solid black. I liked the simple outline best. The black rims around the mallet head and handle bottom can be symbols of our grief. So, I made a shaded rim to symbolize the dark clouds that have swirled around us ( if you can see it in the photo, that rim is not a solid black, but shaded). I wanted something that symbolized the hard dark times, but also that they haven’t overpowered us.

A bit heavy on the symbolism for some people, I suspect. But we were to do something that reflected us, and this was my way of trying to work through some of those feelings.



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

### Yogi Gutz

This is a Gavel I made for a local High School Student Council. Not an entry, just interest. It is made of Claro Walnut.

Yogi Gutz



### Norm Jolivet

Since I inadvertently started this fiasco, I had better add something to it.

Paduk handle, lamination of dyed Maple veneers, Maple head all held together with epoxy on a 5" steel rod.

Specs. 3" dia., 9" overall, 17 oz. (481 gm.)

A bit heavier than I wanted, but come Whacking Day, I'm ready!



### Mark Hazen

This was my first try at a wooden mallet, since I am not counting a mallet turned back in the 90's for a stone carving course I took. It is from a single piece of Ontario maple with burnt lines on handle for grip and a concave top face so that it will sit upright on the bench when not in use. 3.5" in diameter and 10" in length.



## The Great Mallet/Gavel Fun Turn

**By popular vote - David McLachlan** [\$25 gift certificate - Halifax Specialty Hardwoods]

I decided that a 25mm / 12mm x 135mm steel core (330g) would probably work and had two made. The first step was to mount wood for the mallet head between centers and put a dovetail tendon on one end and rough it out to round. Then I mounted the blank in a 4 jaw chuck and set up a 25mm carbide Forstner bit in an ER16 short straight collet chuck mounted in a MT2/ER32 in the tailstock to drill out the headstock (see photo for the setup) which allowed me to drill deeper than the length of the drill. Then I glued in the steel core with epoxy, and once it was set mounted the handle shaft in the headstock with a MT2/ER25 collet holder with a 12mm collet. Turned the mallet head to final dimensions and finish.



Next I mounted a 1 1/4" square blank in my Pen Jaws and bored it out to 11mm and finished with a 12mm straight reamer to get a perfect fit to the handle shaft. I mounted a short stub 12mm shaft in the MT2/ER25 collet holder with a 12mm collet in the headstock as a drive center and a live center in the tailstock. I went with a more conventional handle shape, since I like having a knob at the end of the handle, which keeps it from slipping out of your hand when using a more relaxed grip, as one tends to use when carving. I made the aluminum accents out of some 1/8" flat stock drilled out to 11mm and reamed to 12mm. These blanks were held in a Taig lathe 1" arbor shaft with a turned down 12mm stub and cap washer to hold it in place.

The beech/paduak mallet is 10" overall - 4" L x 2-1/2" Dia. beech head, 6" long handle. Weighing 700 gm. The maple/roasted maple one was 9 3/4" overall, 4 1/8" L x 2-7/8" Dia. head, with a 5-3/4" handle. 720 gm

**2nd Place: (A three way tie)**

**Norm Jolivet, Jim Kuzma, Robert Atkinson**

**Random draw:**

**[\$25 gift certificate - East Coast Hardwoods]**

**Doug Allen**





## 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?

**Executive**      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 |  |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|--|

### Committees

|                |         |                             |          |
|----------------|---------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Library</b> | library | Jim Diamond<br>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<br>Yogi Gutz |          |

|                   |  |           |          |
|-------------------|--|-----------|----------|
| <b>Nominating</b> |  | Bill Maes | <b>C</b> |
|-------------------|--|-----------|----------|