



The Turning Point

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Harvey Meyer

www.harveymeyer.com



MEMBER SINCE 2012

The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild would normally be at Lee Valley Tools but, this month (**SUPRISE!**)

Online via Zoom

May 17, 2021 6:45 p.m.

The next meeting will feature
Richard Ford
and his
“Fantastic Food Safe Finish”
plus other mayhem

The President's Workshop May 2021

Gary Landry

“...no plan of operations extends with any certainty beyond the first contact with the main hostile force”

Field Marshal Helmuth Karl Bernhard Graf von Moltke

It seems that the quotation above may be somewhat applicable to our plans to hold the Annual Turning Competition in the last month. We have once again planned in the face of COVID (the 'hostile force') and, while the planning and initial moves were successful, it has given us a smack in the back of the head. However, we are not giving in to the enemy and have decided to regroup and make new plans based on the hope that our current 'circuit breaker' lock down will end soon and we can once again pick up our plans where we left off.

So, we have gathered together all the competition pieces received at **Lee Valley** prior to the lock down. The intent of the Executive Committee is to await repeal of the restrictions on gatherings like our competition and on travel into the HRM. At that point we will announce a new date for final drop off of competition pieces at **Lee Valley** and I will bring in those pieces previously dropped off at **Lee Valley** but removed for safe keeping. Judging will take place and results of the competition will be announced. We ask for your patience and we in turn promise to do all we can to complete the full competition...including a Zoom meeting to announce the final results.

To some, this may be a blessing in disguise. You can now turn more pieces or you now have time to finish a piece (or pieces) that you could not get in before the previous deadline. As you may have guessed, I have taken a “glass half full” rather than a “glass half empty” approach to these twists in our planning. I have decided to remain optimistic.

Our monthly meeting (via Zoom) will be on May 17th. Our demo will be presented by **Richard Ford** and it is entitled “**A Fantastic Food Safe Finish**”. We plan on holding a Show and Tell segment as well. Be sure to log in early to avoid being left in the 'waiting room' while the queue is dealt with by **Calum**.

As the Annual General Membership Meeting (AGM) is in June, I would ask you to consider letting your name stand for nomination for one of the seats on the Executive Committee.

Please continue to stay safe...and, as I usually do, I remind you to spin some wood to focus your mind on something fun.

Gary Landry – President

I would ask you to consider letting your name stand for nomination for one of the seats on the Executive Committee.

Meeting Notes April 19, 2021

Calum Ewing, Secretary

Meeting held on Zoom Platform

Vice President **Bill Maes** called the meeting to order at 6:55pm with 23 members present.

Announcements:

- The annual competition is coming up with the deadline for dropping off entries this Saturday at 5:00pm.
 - All of the needed documents (rules, entry forms, guidelines, etc.) are on the Guild website under the 'Documents' section.
 - Competitors are reminded that one (1) entry form and three (3) judging forms are required.
 - Competition results will be announced at a Zoom meeting on Monday May 10th. **Calum Ewing** will be sending out a link for this meeting.
 - Any winners from the last competition that still have the permanent trophies are reminded that the trophies need to be returned. Trophies are to be dropped off at Lee Valley with entries and the Competition Committee will collect them from Lee Valley on the setup day.
 - Competition entries are to be collected from Lee Valley by May 15th at the latest.

Guest Speaker

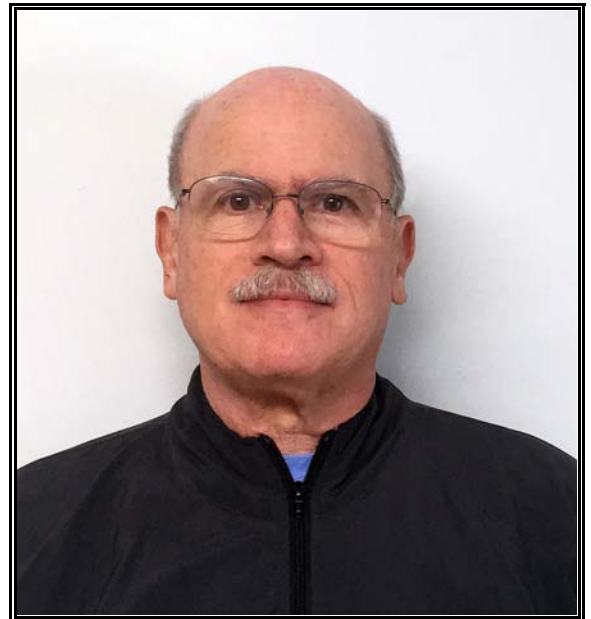
Main Presentation – Making Pedestal Boxes with Harvey Meyer

Harvey Meyer is based in Atlanta Georgia and has been doing both live and remote demos for several years. He is well known for his 'basket illusion' work, but his Pedestal boxes have become his most popular remote demo topic and has been doing these for eight years.

Harvey's pedestal box is a lidded box with a small foot and bead detail raising the box on a 'pedestal'. The body of the box has a tulip or "inverted bell" shape.

Most lidded boxes will be created with a tenon on the rim of the box and a mortice in the base of the lid so the lid sits over the tenon on the top of the box. However, the Pedestal box has lid that acts as the tenon that fits into the rim of the box (the mortice). This approach helps to keep profile of the lid low and keep the box from appearing top-heavy.

For this demo Harvey used Bradford Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) – it turns very nicely and readily available in southeast, turns beautifully when green. Oddly, it's a very light white when green and rapidly oxidizes to dark orange on cut surfaces.



- Start with a block 4 inches long and 3 x 3 inches square – this leaves enough wood for all parts.
- Cut the lid off on a bandsaw, about 3/4" thick. You will lose less wood and get a better grain match – even a 1/8 parting tool will consume about 1/4" of loss by time get ends trued up. This is more

Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing



important if wood has a very distinct or flowing grain.

- Harvey uses Steb Centre™ in chuck jaws to avoid needing to change from a drive centre to chuck often.
- Place both parts together in the original orientation and clamp between centres. Pressure and bandsaw marks help to lock the pieces together as well.
- Using a Spindle Roughing gouge with the lathe speed set about 2500 rpm, begin turning the blank down to a cylinder. Start at one corner and take passes cutting a little more off with each pass.
- Turn a tenon that will fit your chuck jaws on each end of the blank with a parting tool.

Note: On an ordinary box, you would normally start with lid and establish mortice in lid then fit box to lid. With Pedestal box, Harvey starts with body of box mounted in chuck.

chuck. Turn end down to 2 3/4" diameter (like a large tenon – the rest of the body will mostly be turned away). This establishes the size of the box.

- True up face of box body with spindle gouge removing as little as possible until true (was cut on the bandsaw so will not be perfectly true)
- With a detail gouge, begin to establish 'tulip' shape working from top down.
- Cut mortice in end of box body with 1/8" parting tool cutting on centre. Place mortice about 1/8" in from edge and cut 1/8" deep. Make sure cutting exactly perpendicular to surface of the top of the body of box so that lid will fit closely with no gaps.
- Once mortice established, can remove some of the wood from the inside to get it out of the way of the lid. Measure inside of mortice with calipers and lock measurement on calipers
- Remove body of box from chuck and mount lid blank in chuck.
- True face of lid with spindle gouge, removing as little as possible (to maintain grain pattern flow)
- Transfer diameter of mortice to face of lid with calipers. Make sure only point of calipers closest to you touches the wood or will catch and be thrown. Once marked, use pencil to darken line needed.
- Cut down towards the tenon line using only half the width of parting tool. Stop lathe and check fit. When close can extend tenon slightly making sure have good tight fit
- Can now hollow out bottom of lid as you have access to it at this point. Use scraper in trailing cut (tool rest above centre and scraper handle raised so is cutting on centre). Hollow the lid to about 1/8" deep in smooth curve. You can do final cuts with negative rake scraper used with the handle level for very smooth final cuts (can start sanding with 320 at this point)

Note: On a negative rake scraper, the included angle of negative rake scraper needs to be less than 90 deg.

- Slow lathe down and drill hole through lid using 1/4" brad point bit. Three purposes for hole:
 - It receives the knob.
 - It receives plug on inside to cover hole.
 - Allows removal of lid later (see below)
- Remove lid from chuck and remount body. Jam fit lid onto body. Make sure the lid is fully

Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

seated on body and check that it is running true. Bring up tail stock for support. Use a parting tool to turn away excess wood, then use detail gouge to give lid gentle ogee shape. Trim away wood at tailstock until reach previously drilled hole and the wood 'knob' drops off.

- Sand lid of box at this point. To remove the lid from box, use a compressor to blow air into hole and create air pressure under the lid and pop it off with no damage.
- Begin to shape box. You must leave enough wood lower down to provide support for hollowing the box. Shape down only to point where ogee shape begins to turn in again towards centre. Rough turn down to shape with parting tool (saves edge on detail gouge for finer cuts later).
- Turn smooth ogee profile on body. Start curve right from lid and make sure curve is smooth all the way and tapers the body nicely.

Hollowing:

- Helpful to drill a starter hole in centre – makes hollowing easier and helps gauge correct depth to hollow. Measure intended depth on outside of body and mark drill bit with tape or marker to gauge correct depth when drilling.
- Ease the face of the mortise in the top of the body of the box (just taking off dust) to loosen fit of lid. Harvey uses a negative rake square scraper with cutting edge on side. Sandpaper would not allow you to keep face perpendicular to box body. You want to get it to an easy fit with no side to side motion.
- There are many different ways to hollow:
 - You can use a detail gouge and cut out from starter hole using side of flute.
 - You can use a cup cutter (carbide) tool like Hunter™ tools. Use it with the cup facing 9:00 o'clock then rotate slightly to 7:05 position. This gets you a very nice surface.
 - You can use Ring tools like Oneway Termite™. Use it in same way as the cup tool above.
 - Small scraping tools, like John Jordan™ or Kelton™ hollowers
- Harvey's preferred method is with small round nose scraper (eg. 1/2" scraper) used with tool rest up and scraper in trailing cut. This quickly removes a lot of wood.
- Check thickness with calipers (you can make one with a piece of coat hanger bent to create a consistent gap. Ride it on inside of box and check consistency of gap on outside of the box at various points along the side.
- Use a negative rake round scraper to gently clean up inside of box, checking to make sure there is no 'nub' in the centre at the bottom.
- Measure depth of interior and place a reference mark on outside.
- Rough turn the outside of the foot further to desired size
- Diameter of foot should be a bit smaller (10-20%) than the largest diameter of box for a good aesthetic to avoid the box looking overly bottom-heavy.
- Using parting tool, turn down to desired diameter of bead detail. A bead is hard to cut in the normal way with a skew chisel or gouge as the wood of the foot is in the way.
- You can use beading tool (eg. D-Way™ beading tool) to cut bead. Hold the flute down on tool rest with handle down about 45 degrees and points of tool cutting on centre. Use the beading tool with a rocking, side to side motion so that each point cuts independently. Cut only until bead is fully rounded. Beyond that point you will be scraping instead of cutting and will get a poor finished surface.
- Shape the foot into nice smooth ogee curve, making crisp 'vee' at base of the bead detail.
- Chamfer the edge of the foot so looks 'lifted' off table and not sitting solidly on table surface.

Meeting Notes continued

Calum Ewing

- Remove the box from chuck and make jam chuck from scrap wood to hold box rim with a tight fit. Mount box in jam chuck and check that is running true. Bring up tail stock for support and turn away most of waste wood with parting tool.
- Can also hold box with chuck with wooden jaws:
 - Make wood disc and cut in quarters.
 - Drill and countersink holes for jaw screws - set the screws deep so can cut away wood as needed to form mortices without hitting the screw heads
 - Use a parting tool to cut mortices to hold rim of box.
- Use detail gouge to clean up chamfer on edge of foot and hollow underside of foot so is slightly concave and box will sit only on edge of foot.
- Making the knob:
 - Mount a dowel of contrasting wood (eg. ebony or rosewood) in long chuck jaws.
 - Turn small tear drop or flame shaped knob using a detail gouge.
 - Turn small tenon to fit hole in lid and part off so the tenon is about half the thickness of lid.
 - Turn a cover for hole on inside with a similar stub tenon to fit in the underside of the hole. It can be simple domed plug. Harvey uses Rose Engine Lathe to create ornate covers for hole in contrasting wood – making a nice surprise ‘gift’ for the owner when they open the box.

Finishing:

- Harvey’s finish of choice is Minwax™ Antique oil.
 - He applies a coat and wipes off, then lets the piece dry overnight. The first coat ‘pops’ the grain
 - Each subsequent coat builds the sheen, up to 5 coats for a nice gloss.
 - Buy finish in pint-sized cans so that it gets used up before all the driers evaporate and it becomes useless.
 - Use clean white t-shirt fabric (cotton) only. Paper towel will leave dust in the finish.
 - The oil will slightly yellow light-coloured wood, so you can seal wood to to maintain light colour by sealing with a 1 pound cut of ultra-blonde shellac and let dry overnight before sanding with 400 grit paper to remove any raised grain. Then finish with the oil.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Links to Resources (mentioned in Harvey Meyer’s demo):

Hunter Tools www.huntertoolsystems.com

John Jordan Woodturning

www.johnjordanwoodturning.com

Sorby Tools www.robert-sorby.co.uk

Oneway Tools www.oneway.ca

Kelton Tools www.kelton.co.nz

D-Way Tools www.d-wwaytools.com

Minwax www.minwax.ca



Events

Calum Ewing <calumewing@eastlink.ca>

To: NWG Members

Fri., Apr. 23 at 12:29 a.m.

Hello Turners,

This afternoon, **Premier Rankin** announced a suite on tightened restrictions to bring the current upsurge in COVID-19 cases under control. These included:

- limiting travel into and out of HRM to essential travel only
- limiting indoor and outdoor gatherings to five people
- banning all cultural events and performances
- restricting retail businesses to 25% of their capacity

In light of these new requirements, the Guild Executive met this evening to consider options relating to our annual turning competition. With travel restrictions impacting the ability of judges, committee members and competitors to participate and compete, we have decided to postpone the competition for the time being.

We will work with **Lee Valley** to ensure the security of competitions already submitted and determine options for moving forward.

Once we have more information about how the restrictions are impacting **Lee Valley** and our ability to proceed with the competition, we will inform you of a new deadline for dropping off entries and dates for the competition.

While this is frustrating for all concerned, decisions are being made with the safety and security of members, **Lee Valley** staff and ours judges in mind.

Thank you for your understanding and stay safe,

Calum

Calum Ewing
NWG Secretary



Shavings

Dave McLachlan

WOODEN COLLET EMERGENCY HOLDER.

So you have just made an outer rim for an insert clock face, which was mounted on a jam chuck to remove the tenon and finish the back. While sanding and buffing the back (the front was already finished and buffed) it flies off the jam chuck and damages the front face. No chance to fix it using the jam chuck. No way to hold it without damaging the outer rim... What to do?

Make a wooden holder that can contract on the outer rim and run true.

I started out with a 5" square waste block of maple a little more than an inch thick... attached a 2" ring faceplate to the back, mounted it on a chuck and turned a 100mm dovetail tenon on the front. The block was then reversed, *[REMOVE RING FACEPLATE]*, and held in 100mm jaws to hollow it out so that there was an inner depression to insert a pushing block, an internal gallery to square up the clock face and then a holder section with straight sides the diameter of the clock face. Then it was off to the band saw to cut some saw kerfs as seen in the photos below. Note that the bottom was about **6mm** thick and had a **10mm** hole in the bottom to be able to push out the face if it happened get stuck.



Now that all is needed is to align the wooden holder back in the 100mm jaws (note the jaw numbers written on the second photo), push in the clock face and tighten the jaws.

It is now possible to repair the damage to the face and refinish.

Dave McLachlan

EDITORS NOTE:

ENSURE THE SAW KERFS ARE WIDE ENOUGH FOR UNRESTRICTED MOVEMENT TO ESTABLISH A SECURE GRIP ON THE WORKPIECE.

NOTE THE GRAIN ORIENTATION TO THE SAW KERFS AS WELL.

Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 21, 2020	AGM	Online via Zoom
October 19, 2020	Zalman Amit with Don Moore Care and Use of Carbide Cutters	Online via Zoom
November 16, 2020	Richard Ford Turning a Hollow Christmas Ornament	Online via Zoom
December 21, 2020	Gordon Marshall Colouring and Airbrush Techniques	Online via Zoom
January 18, 2021	Stuart Taylor Turning a Goblet	Online via Zoom
February 15, 2021	Gary Landry – Adhesives Dave McLachlan - Tree to Turning Blank	Online via Zoom
March 15, 2021	A “Best Of” theme. best work, favourite tool, most helpful jig, greatest website, etc.	Online via Zoom
April 19, 2021	Harvey Meyer Pedestal Box Demo	Online via Zoom
May 17, 2021	Richard Ford Fantastic Food Safe Finish	Online via Zoom
June 21, 2021	AGM	Online via Zoom
	BBQ?	

These dates are the third Monday in their respective months. Things may change.

What's on the Web? Norm Jolivet

Dilbert

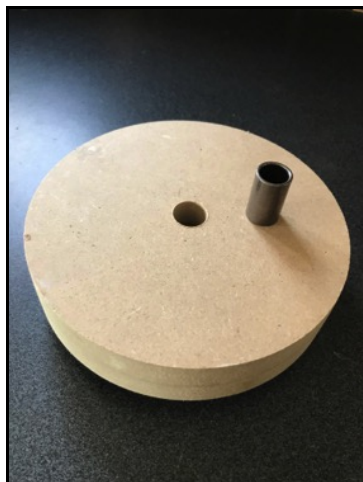
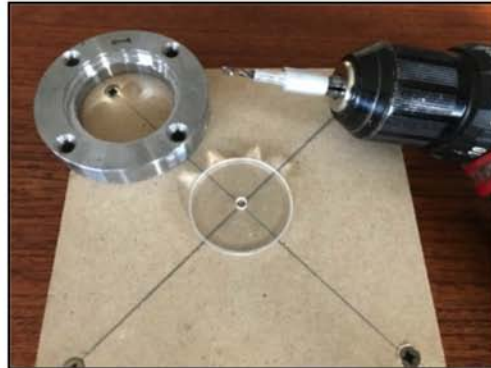




Making a MDF Honing Wheel

I was inspired to try making a MDF honing wheel based on the Razor Sharp system from Lee Valley (<https://www.leevalley.com> item 08M4210) .

I started out with two pieces of 5/8" MDF 6 1/2" square which I glued together and mounted a ring faceplate to it. The mounting of the faceplate was facilitated using a custom-built aluminum guide to ensure the holes bored for the mounting the faceplate were exactly centered. A custom acrylic centering ring made getting the faceplate exactly centered easy.



It was then off to the bandsaw to knock off the corners making it ready to mount on the lathe... It was quick work to get the disk to an even 6" disk, which was bored out on the lathe to ensure a 5/8" bore was true. To facilitate the disk running true over the long haul a 1" long x 1/2" ID (5/8" OD) bronze bushing was epoxied into the bore.

To check if the wheel was balanced and free from wobble, I mounted a MT2 x 1/2" grinding wheel arbor onto the lathe and then mounted the new MDF wheel on the lathe to finalize truing it up (note that if the wheel ever need to be trued again after some use it is a simple matter to re-mount it on the lathe grinding wheel arbor again to re-true it).

Shavings

David McLachlan

From the photo it can be seen that the 1¼" wide wheel was a bit wide for the arbor and it was also a bit wide for the grinder arbor it was to be mounted on... Since the bushing was only 1" long I opted to make recesses on both sides down to the bushing length that would allow the use of the proper backing plates to mount the wheel on the grinder.



To do this I mounted the MDF honing wheel into a Cole chuck and made the necessary recesses deep and wide enough to accommodate the backing plates.



So here you have the final 6" x 1¼" MDF, charged up with LV green honing compound. I didn't pre-treat the wheel with a wax like the Razor Sharp System, but I think it may have helped to do so. The honing wheel is mounted on a reversed grinder so that the wheel top edge is turning away from you so there is no chance to dig into the wheel with the tool being honed. For the moment I am just using this free hand, but I hope to make an adapter so that I can use the Robert Sorby ProEdge sharpening guide on it to get the final hone on gouges that have been first sharpened on the ProEdge.

I will find this honing wheel also useful for honing my carving tools.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY DAVE MCLACHLAN

Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2020/2021 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?
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Executive	executive (sends the message to all positions on the list)		
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President	president	Gary Landry	
Vice President	vice-president	Bill Maes	
Secretary	secretary	Calum Ewing	
Treasurer	treasurer	Dave McLachlan	

Members at Large	members-at-large	Brian Sharp	
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Committees

Library	library	Jim Diamond Richard Ford	C
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Web Site	webmaster	Richard Ford	C
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Membership & Promotion	membership-chair	Brian Larter	C
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Newsletter	newsletter	Norm Jolivet	C
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Competition		Vacant	C
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Guild Photographer		Chris Palmer	
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Fund Raising		Vacant	C
Raffles		Norm Jolivet Yogi Gutz	

Nominating		Bill Maes	C
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