



The Turning Point

In this issue:

Presidents Message	2
Meeting Notes	3
There is a Crack...	4
Show and Tell	5
Happy Holidays	6
Calendar	7
What's on the web?	7
Executive	8



Member since 2012

*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is
On Zoom
SUNDAY, December 19, 2021. 1:00 p.m.*

*The next meeting will feature
Members selections of videos as
"Things I have Learned"*

The President's Workshop December 2021

Gary Landry

Happy Holidays to all.

This month's message will be relatively short.

We will hold our monthly meeting on December 19th at 1PM. Details on where and what we will be doing will be given by Norm in another part of this Newsletter.

We had a pretty good attendance for November's meeting. Several members were on hand to discuss their entries in the annual turning competition and all entries were shown in a slideshow prepared by **Dave McLachlan**. Sponsor prizes were drawn for among the competition entrants and a tool handle from Dave was drawn for from among the attendees at the meeting. Specifics will be listed in the Newsletter below.

I have donated a \$25 gift card for Lee Valley to be drawn for among the attendees at the December meeting. You have to be present to have your name in the draw.

The Exec have discussed the possibility of the Guild holding some sort of raffle online to generate funds to support our continuing operation. In consultation with NS Gaming it was determined that this is not possible (the actual word used was 'illegal'). Raffle tickets must be sold physically and not virtually to comply with the legislation and regulations. Perhaps when we once again meet face-to-face?

Well, as I type this, we are under threat of a howling snowstorm with up to 15cm of snow predicted. The one good side of our current situation is none of you have to leave your houses to attend a meeting no matter the weather or road conditions. Yeah, I know! I'm clutching at straws here but you have to take the positives where you find them these days. Here's to a better year in 2022 where hopefully we can once again meet face-to-face.

May the best of the holiday season, however you celebrate it, be granted to you and your loved ones.

Please stay safe and I hope you get some time to turn some wood during this busy month.

Gary Landry – President

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Meeting Notes

Norm Jolivet

Well, the Editor [*Hi there! - Ed.*] has posted the bad news on the cover for all to see. We will not be having our usual Christmas 'lumber yard' meeting. **Halifax Specialty Hardwoods** decided that with the current restrictions, it would be problematic to hold a meeting and comply with the ever changing rules. Sigh!

This means another Zoom meeting, BUT, it also means since we are all at home, we can celebrate with the food and beverage of choice. A suggestion is each attendee would be encouraged to have a beer, a mixed drink or glass of wine in hand at some point during the meeting. Simultaneous consumption of a festive food is optional. Just turn off your mic when eating something crunchy, please.

We (the executive) were kicking around the idea of a modified version of the 'jigs, tips, tricks and hacks' shows we have done in person in the past. **This time we will encourage each person to send a link to Calum in advance of the meeting.** The link will be to a short 10-20 minute YouTube type video on a woodturning subject that we enjoyed or learned something from. Thus "Things I Have Learned". We may as well capitalize on our virtual platform.

We also encourage you to do a show-and-tell of the ornaments that you made, as well as any other creations. You can wrap them back up later.

As an incentive, a draw will be held with the following guidelines.

1 ticket for attending the meeting, and

1 ticket for submitting something for show and tell.

So, if you bring something along to brag about you get 1 ticket.

Someone who attends the meeting gets 1 ticket, and therefore, someone who does both gets two chances.

By the way, someone who sends in a picture but can't attend gets 1 ticket.

This way both forms of participation are rewarded independently.

Oh! The prize?

President-for-life **Gary Landry** has kindly offered a \$25 gift card for **Lee Valley Tools**. (What a nice guy!)

Well, that's about it. Let's look forward to some fun videos and better times

Meeting Notes Continued

Norm Jolivet

Results of November Prize draws:

At the November meeting we had a number of prizes to hand out so random draws were held to determine the winners.

Competition Prizes

We held draws for the major prizes donated by sponsors of our annual competition. Each competitor who entered the competition had one chance of winning and the results were as follows:

Pen making kit, donated by **William Wood-Write**
(www.penblanks.ca) - **Dianne Looker**

Hunter Carbide turning tool, donated by **Branches to Bowls**
(www.branchestobowls.com) - **Dave McLachlan**

Pen making kit, donated by **William Wood-Write**
(www.penblanks.ca) - **Robert Atkinson**

Hunter Carbide turning tool, donated by **Branches to Bowls**
(www.branchestobowls.com) - **Xavier Tyler**

Meeting Attendees

There was also a draw held for attendees at the November meeting. Everyone who connected to the Zoom meeting had a chance to win:

Carbon fibre tool handle with collet tool holder, donated by **Dave McLachlan** - **Calum Ewing**

Norm Jolivet
Raffle Master

There is a Crack in Everything

A spinning top in African Blackwood by Dianne Looker

Even though she is over 70 years of age, my sister loves toys and she loves spinning tops. I have turned several tops for her over the years, but she wanted a “large” one. So, I got out some African Blackwood I had and started on the design. I put a lot of thought into the design, wanting lots of weight towards the bottom so it would spin well and spin longer, but also wanting it to look beautiful.



The original plan was to turn the general shape, and then insert concentric grooves on the top of the main body of the spinning top and fill them with brass powder for a highlight.

However, as I turned the pieces, some deep holes showed up in the wood. Never daunted, I changed the design.

I filled the cracks and voids with the brass powder and decided to name the piece after a line in Leonard Cohen song: “there is a crack in everything; that’s how the light gets in”... Brass balls at the top and bottom finished it off.

One challenge the design change created became evident as I sanded the piece (and I was sanding it to a high gloss as I was entering it in the competition for our local turning group). Especially at the “lower” grits – 120, 220, 320 – my usual practice is to sand with the lathe on slow speed, and then sand parallel to the grain, with the lathe off. I had to switch to doing everything with the lathe off, sanding very carefully by hand as

the brass powder seemed to create grooves as it was picked up in “lathe on” sanding. Given my desire to sand it as well as I could, this process involved backtracking to somewhat coarser grits when I found a flaw as I held the piece to the light and examined it carefully. Eventually it was sanded to 12000 with micro mesh and finished with just oil and wax to give it a sheen.

Then I had to design a holder. Originally the plan had been to put the spinning top in a little glass dish (which was bought to hold a tea candle) that had a gentle slope to its side. The dish would then be centered in a small turned “plate” of African Blackwood.

However, the change to a focus on a crack in the wood in the top itself nudged me to change the design of the holder as well. I had a piece of spalted apple that fit the bill. It had a crack in its side, and its rough, organic look and feel contrasted well, I thought, with the smooth gloss of the spinning top. While it isn’t evident in the photo, the brass ball at the bottom of the spinning top can be seen through the concavity at the side of the holder.

I am pleased with the result, and I’m sure my sister will be as well – but don’t tell her about this – it’s a secret until Christmas...

[Previously published in the WIT November newsletter – Ed.]



Show & Tell

William Maes :

This is a bowl/plate I just completed:

Red oak, 10 1/2 in. by 2 in.
Finished using "Feed-n-Wax"
The bottom grain is really interesting.



Here's to a New Year



Happy Holidays – take your pick

December 17 - Saturnalia: 17–23 December – An ancient Roman winter solstice festival in honor of the deity Saturn,

December 19 - St. Nicholas Day (Святий Миколай) - Ukraine

December 21 - Yule

- Winter Solstice / 1st Day of Winter (Northern Hemisphere)
- Pancha Ganapati: a modern five-day Hindu festival celebrated from 21 through 25 December in honor of Ganesha
- Yalda - Persia / Iran
- Dongzhi Festival - Winter Solstice Festival
celebrated by the Chinese, Taiwanese, Japanese, Koreans, ...

December 23 - National Pheffernusse Day
Festivus (for the rest of us) - Silly
Last day of Saturnalia.

December 24 - Christmas Eve
- National Eggnog Day

December 25 – Christmas, the 1st of the 12 days of the Christmas Season (Twelvetide).

December 26 - Boxing Day
- St. Stephen's Day (Ireland)
- First day of Kwanzaa

December 31 - New Year's Eve
- Hogmanay - Scotland

January 1 - New Year's Day
Last day of Kwanzaa

January 5 - The 12th and last day of the Christmas Season (Twelvetide).

January 6 - Epiphany
last of the 12 days of Christmas

January 7 - Orthodox Christmas Day

So when someone tells you “Happy Holidays” ...Wonder!

Calendar of Events

Date	Subject	Location
September 19, 2021	Richard Ford Video presentation "Turn a Chess Piece"	Online via Zoom
October 17, 2021	Phil Rose presentation via Zoom Embellishing Techniques	Online via Zoom
November 21, 2021	Competition Show and Tell	Online via Zoom
December 19, 2021	"Things I Have Learned" Submitted videos	Online via Zoom
January 16, 2022	Gordon Marshall Building and Using his Segmenting Jig	Online via Zoom
February 20, 2022	Gordon Marshall Follow-up demo on Segmenting	Online via Zoom
March 20, 2022	Steve Kennard A Teardrop Shaped Box	Online via Zoom
April 10, 2022	Open	Online via Zoom
May 15, 2022	Dave McLachlan Blind Mandrels	Online via Zoom
June 12, 2022	AGM	Online via Zoom

(Third Sunday of the month, 1:00 pm.)

What's on the Web? Norm Jolivet



Dilbert



Nova Woodturners' Guild – 2021/22 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 <address> should be followed by @novawoodturnersguild.com to send mail to that person

<address>@novawoodturnersguild.com

Position	<address>		
Executive	executive (sends the message to all executive positions on the list)		
President	president (or) pres	Gary Landry	
Vice President	vice-president (or) vp	Bill Maes	
Secretary	secretary	Calum Ewing	
Treasurer	treasurer	Dave McLachlan	
Director at Large	director-at-large	Brian Sharp	
Committees			
Library	library	Jim Diamond Richard Ford	C
Web Site	webmaster	Richard Ford	C
Membership & Promotion	membership	Vacant	C
Newsletter	newsletter (or) news	Norm Jolivet	C
Competition	competition	Vacant	C
Guild Photographer	photographer (or) photos	Chris Palmer	
Fund Raising	Raffles	Norm Jolivet Yogi Gutz	C
Nominating	nominations	Bill Maes	C
Members Group	members	30+ members	

To add or remove yourself from the group email: webmaster@novawoodturnersguild.com

Note: to email all NWG members you must go via the club secretary.