



# The Turning Point

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Member since 2012

*The next meeting of the Nova Woodturners' Guild is  
On Zoom  
**SUNDAY**, June 12, 2022. 1:00 p.m.*

*The next meeting will feature  
**Our Annual General Meeting (The AGM)**  
This is it, your chance at Power and Glory!*

## The President's Workshop June 2022

Gary Landry

*Thank you for continuing your membership this year, for your participation in our online meetings, for the demos you have presented and your support of the Guild*

And here we are again...one more meeting year finished. It has been our second year under COVID regulations and/or restrictions which prevented us from meeting in person and forced us to use Zoom links to conduct meetings. I'd like to say we will be meeting in person when our '22-'23 meeting year starts but, so far, I am not hearing any news that makes me think we have a venue that will welcome us. The new Executive will be pursuing answers and options in advance of our first meeting in September.

This month, at 1 PM on June 12<sup>th</sup>, we hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) where a new slate of officers/directors will be elected. I encourage each and every one of you to give serious consideration to running for one of these positions. New ideas and fresh enthusiasm is not only welcomed but necessary for any organization to prosper. Please contact **Bill Maes** (Vice-President) directly or through **Calum Ewing** (Secretary) to throw your hat in the ring.

There will be an agenda issued before the meeting outlining the motions that are to come up for a vote during the AGM. Should any member have an issue that they wish addressed at the AGM please draft a motion to be debated and voted on. Please send these motions to Calum.

As we cannot determine how long an AGM will last there will be no demonstration at this meeting. The meeting will end with a Show and Tell segment. Please send photos to Calum before June 10<sup>th</sup> so he can have them ready to share with attendees.

As a final point I would like to personally thank you for continuing your membership this year, for your participation in our online meetings, for the demos you have presented and your support of the Guild. As President I would not have been able to conduct my duties without the constant support and wise guidance of the members of the Executive Committee. I extend to each of them my heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

That is about it. Turn some wood, make some shavings and please stay healthy. As the song says "I'll see you in September".

Gary Landry – President

## Turning Steel on my Wood Lathe?

Richard Ford

I used to have an old Southbend metal lathe, but I needed the space it occupied. I didn't use it very often but when I did it worked great. I sold it to a friend & ever since I always seem to have little jobs popping up that I could have done on the Southbend. Then I had the idea, why can't I cut steel on my wood lathe?

I thought the main thing would be to hold the tool securely and be able to move it mechanically both across the bed and longitudinally.

I found this cross-slide on the internet. Here it is sitting on a 2" block of Ash on my lathe bed, while I figure out how to attach it. I turned the table 180 Degrees so the handle faced me & found some of the Cap screws holding the leadscrew nuts were too short, an easy fix.

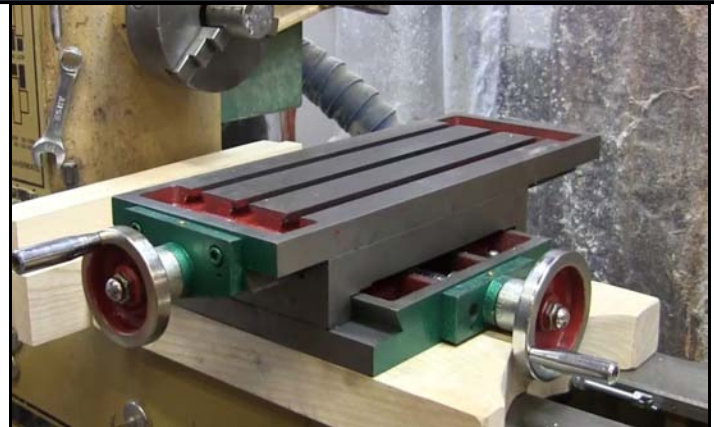
Here you can see the 4 coach bolts that hold the cross-slide in place.

The wing nut bottom right is for tightening up the wedge.

Here looking at the underside you can see the wooden key about 1/32" narrower than gap of the ways, it is secured in a routed keyway parallel to the side of the base.

There is a steel taper block that when tightened with the thumbscrew locks the key against the ways of the bed.

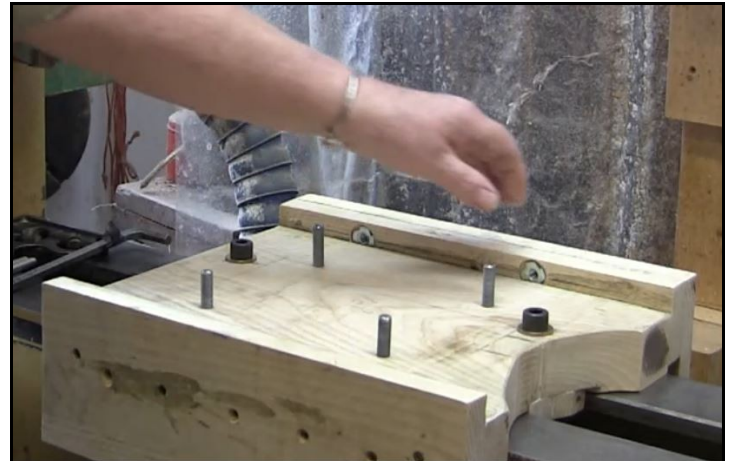
A cover for the tapered block is half shown at at the bottom right. Lastly 2 bars of steel which lock the base on the bed or rotate 90 degrees to allow removal from the bed.



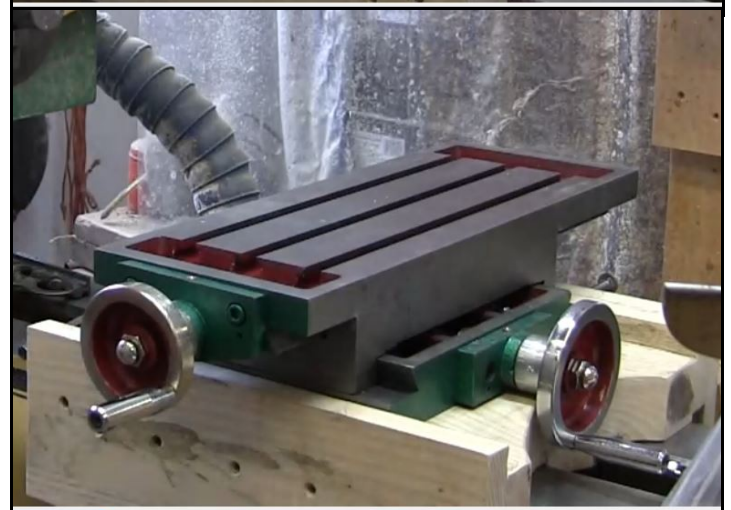
Here I have added 2 side panels, these help locate the cross-slide and help with shimming to true up alignment.

Note the 2 threaded nuts on the back for the jacking bolts.

The side panels also function as legs to store the unit off the lathe.



The crossslide installed and snugged up against the front side panel.

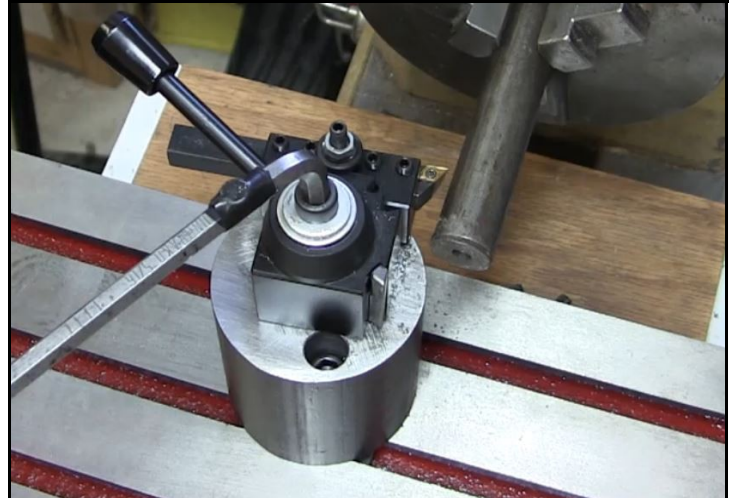


This is the first cut.

The small quick-change tool post has been temporarily mounted on some 123 blocks and parallels to machine the end of a 3" bar that will be used to support the toolpost in a more solid fashion.



Here the 3" barstock has been turned on each end and with a few holes drilled, is mounted to support the toolpost.



Yes it works great.  
Lets check to see if it cutting parallel.



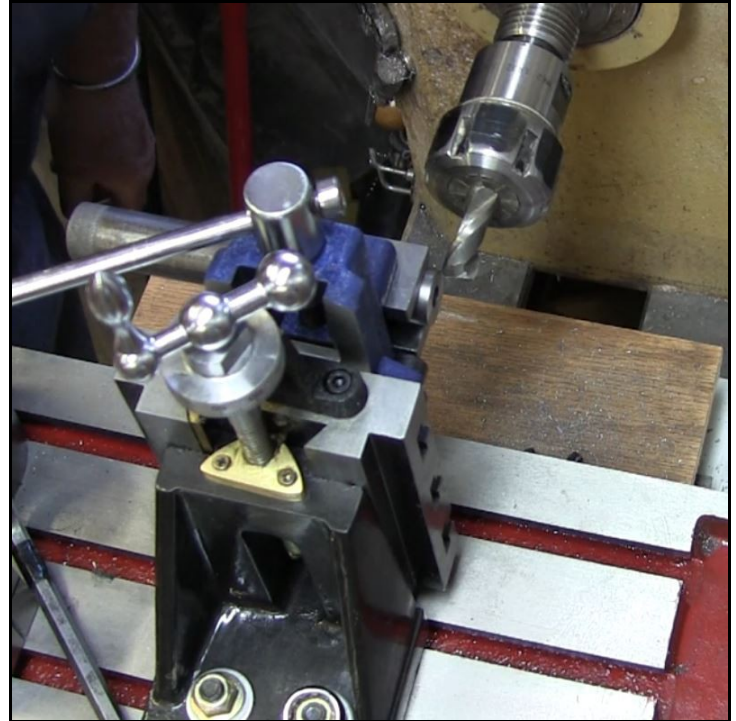
It was close. I had to put a 0.020" shim between the crossslide and side-panel one end. Got it in one. Some lucky.  
It should be right the next time it is mounted.



Well with the turning side working so well I had to try milling.

Back to the internet and purchased a vertical slide with a small vice.

With a milling cutter mounted in the headstock I milled a flat along the shaft I had turned earlier.



Beautiful!

Worked out great.

Is it worth it?

Well you have to decide for yourself.

For me, yes just what I wanted.

Well almost. That space I wanted to save by selling the Southbend, has been taken up by the toolbox on wheels I am using to store the turning attachment and the chuck, toolbits, milling cutters, clamps and assorted tooling etc.

My wife says there's no hope for me.

I think she's right....

Richard Ford ....

See my YouTube Video on this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1h1v13C45UA&t=243s>



Total Cost of purchased items,  
Taxes & Shipping included.

Cross Slide: \$220 Cdn

Quick Change Tool Post: \$128 Cdn

Vertical Slide & Vice: \$190 Cdn

## Show & Tell

**William Maes**

Salt and pepper mills:

Ebonized red oak and curly maple.

Ebonizing the pepper mill was a simple process of soaking a piece of steel wool (oils removed by washing in soapy water and rinsing) in white vinegar for two days and applying the mixture, after straining, with a brush.



## Attention Turners !

David McLachlan wrote:

Hi Gary I am sure that you also got this message from AAW, but probably we should have something in our next newsletter about this danger. I wasn't aware myself of this electrocution danger thinking maybe it was low enough amperage that it might be safe. I see this technique often on Pinterest so many of our members might consider trying it out.

G Landry To:David McLachlan

Yes I did see this previously. It was a main feature on one of the AAW publications. It even stated that the AAW would not permit the use of home made fractal burners at any of its events. They MAY have also said they would not show any items that were made with one. I think this goes back to someone using a microwave transformer to make a burner (hardly UL or ULC approved !!!) and the death of at least one turner using one at home or his shop.



## AAW Reiterates the Dangers of Fractal Burning

For the past five years, AAW has continued to monitor reports of death and serious injury resulting from the technique known as fractal burning. The AAW Board of Directors established a policy prohibiting this practice across all areas under AAW's control in 2017.

Following two recent deaths in Wisconsin attributed to fractal burning, AAW's Safety Committee, which is responsible for promoting safe woodturning practices, again wants to raise awareness in the woodturning community about the inherent dangers surrounding this technique.

We encourage everyone to stay well-informed and keep turning safely.

### From the AAW Safety Committee

### Fractal Burning Kills; AAW Reiterates the Dangers



The AAW Board, through its Safety Committee, wants to re-emphasize the dangers associated with the process known as Lichtenberg, or “fractal,” burning, an embellishing technique that uses high-voltage electrical current to burn patterns on wood. This often unsafe, life-threatening practice has once again surfaced in the news and on social media, following a two-victim incident in April 2022.

In 2017, the AAW Board of Directors voted to ban any fractal-burning demonstrations and equipment sales at AAW-sponsored events. The ban prohibits displaying fractal-burned pieces at any AAW-sponsored event and promoting the practice via articles in AAW publications. Sadly, since the AAW Board adopted its policy on fractal burning in 2017, there have been thirty-three reported deaths directly attributed to fractal burning, and an unknown number of injuries and close calls.

## **Learn About the Hidden Dangers**

Fractal burning poses a significant hidden risk of electrocution. It speaks volumes that there are no UL-rated fractal burning units commercially available. Many of the YouTube videos that show how to build these devices at home do not adequately address the inherent safety concerns. Many users think they are being safe, but the number of serious injuries and deaths says otherwise.

To learn more about what makes fractal burning dangerous, visit the AAW website. This webpage lists known deaths, the AAW’s official position on fractal burning, as well as other resources.

## **AAW Chapters Take Note**

The AAW Board’s 2017 policy explicitly extends its position to its chapters: “AAW-chartered chapters are strongly urged to refrain from demonstrating or featuring the process in chapter events.” Yet the practice persists at the chapter level. The AAW Safety Committee, with endorsement from the Board of Directors, requests once again that its members and chapter leaders join in the AAW’s efforts to discourage the use of fractal burning. Do not promote the practice via newsletter articles or social media posts, and do not allow fractal-burned pieces to be displayed in instant galleries, exhibitions, at chapter meetings, or on chapter websites.

Further, due to liability concerns, the AAW Board has decided to disallow chapters that promote, demonstrate, or allow the use of fractal burning to be eligible to obtain, or renew, insurance through the AAW for their chapter.

—AAW Safety Committee: **John Beechwood III** (Chair)  
**Steve Pritchard, Kevin Jesequel, Kent Crowell**

## 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	Richard Ford Making Birdhouses	Online via Zoom
February 20, 2022	Richard Ford Making Small Birds for Birdhouses	Online via Zoom
March 20, 2022	Dave McLachlan - Mandrels Types, Uses and Designs	Online via Zoom
April 24, 2022	Kai Muenzer. A Happy Box with Tilted Lid	Online via Zoom
May 15, 2022	Steve Zwerling Sharpening	Online via Zoom
June 12, 2022	AGM	Online via Zoom

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

### On The Web

Next years' Presidents Challenge (proposed)

Pick one. Due by January

Turnings by [Claude Lethiecq](#)



## 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

<b>Position</b>	<address>		
<b>Executive</b>	executive (sends the message to all executive positions on the list)		
<b>President</b>	president	(or) pres	Gary Landry
<b>Vice President</b>	vice-president	(or) vp	Bill Maes
<b>Secretary</b>	secretary		Calum Ewing
<b>Treasurer</b>	treasurer		Dave McLachlan
<b>Director at Large</b>	director-at-large		Brian Sharp

### Committees

<b>Library</b>	library	Jim Diamond Richard Ford	<b>C</b>	
<b>Web Site</b>	webmaster	Richard Ford	<b>C</b>	
<b>Membership &amp; Promotion</b>	membership	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>C</b>	
<b>Newsletter</b>	newsletter	(or) news	Norm Jolivet	<b>C</b>
<b>Competition</b>	competition	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>C</b>	
<b>Guild Photographer</b>	photographer	(or) photos	Chris Palmer	
<b>Fund Raising</b>	Raffles	Norm Jolivet Yogi Gutz	<b>C</b>	
<b>Nominating</b>	nominations	Bill Maes	<b>C</b>	
<b>Members Group</b>	members	30+ members		

To add or remove yourself from the group email: [webmaster@novawoodturnersguild.com](mailto:webmaster@novawoodturnersguild.com)

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