



# Shavings

A Publication of the Mid-Minnesota Association of Woodturners



## President's Message



Well this winter is sure dealing us way more snow and cold than it should. But as my son said, "What do you expect, sunny and 70° like Florida?". The last time I talked to the folks who live in Florida it was 37° and dropping. So, should you happen to be fortunate enough to have a shop with heat, it can provide ample opportunities for you to turn a piece or two.

Last month's challenge to start the year was a bell. This month's undertaking is a mallet - a simple

project but one that can be used in the shop for years to come. Straight hardwoods like maple, ash, elm, beech all work well for the making of a mallet. Woods like dogwood and ironwood while sounding good are too hard and will in the end damage chisels and other tool handles.

Should you decide not to work on the challenge project, make a bowl and bring it for the Empty Bowl Project. Bowls are always welcome as this is a project that's forever in the works. This year the event will be held March 30th, 2014, at Calvary Church. I believe this is the 13th year. Your help is appreciated. Bring your bowls to the February and March meetings. What a great way for a bowl that you turned to make its way into someone's home. So try out a newly acquired skill on one of your Empty Bowl Project bowls. (*Continued on Page 2*)

## Saturday, Feb. 8th Chapter Meeting

The February 2014 meeting of the MMAW will be held at the Visual Arts Center (VAC) in the lower level of the Paramount Theatre, Downtown S. Cloud. Ken Peterson will discuss his jig for making wooden marbles, and Jerry Wervey will make a lattice earring using a simple jig and a shop made tool.

February Challenge: a turned mallet. Feel free to use your imagination. Bring your Empty Bowls.

Check out John Huseth's clever homemade dust collector on page 4.



*President's Message continued from Page 1)*

Lenny Merdan started the new year with an in-depth explanation of what goes into making heavy equipment out of lots of very small pieces. Thanks Lenny!

Jim Brodd is chair of the Wood Expo and will be giving us a quick rundown of what needs to be done and how we can help. I hope that you take the time to make this event a success. Lots of hard work goes into it before, during and after. So offer your time and skills to make the load easier for all involved. Look for more information via email blasts.

Jerry

### **Minutes of the MMAW Chapter meeting Jan. 11, 2014**

#### **1. Show and Tell-**

- ~ Dick Lundstrum had four bowls (walnut and apple) and a wooden mallet.
- ~ John Caye shared a Chinese Elm bowl and later in the meeting a boxelder bowl without red to show off the nice grain.
- ~ Albert Kremers had a segmented bowl made of red oak, walnut, maple and mahogany. He also had two bells for the challenge.
- ~ Nadine Nelson shared some of her pens and lidded boxes.
- ~ Jim Preusser had two lidded boxes made from birdseye maple. The little one started out as a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch board.
- ~ John Huseth had two bells and an angled segmented bowl. He also shared his off-set chuck that he made.
- ~ Gail Schlicht had a spalted basswood bowl.
- ~ Jerry Wervey had 2 cherry empty blank bowls he started to remind people to not forget about the empty bowls project. He also had a bell with a curved handle and a mallet.
- ~ Eddie Och shared his take off on the easy wood tools he made.
- ~ Les Sova had two bowls one made from Mediterranean olive and one from butternut.
- ~ Guy Schafer had the surviving bell of three he attempted to make. The two cedar ones did not make it.

2. **50/50 drawing** was won by Tom Lillehei. He got \$18.00 and he will sell tickets at the next meeting.

3. **Lenny Merdan** shared his wooden toys/creations. (It's hard to call them toys!) The plans are from Toys And Joys. The plans you get are life size and very detailed. Excellent presentation!

4. **Jim Brott** talked about the Wood Expo which is on March 22. Many hands will be needed to set up and take down as well as to be present during the day to show support for the club.

5. **Brad Knowles** talked about the Honor Cane project. All three wood clubs in town are helping with the project. We need to turn the cane and others will do the rest.

6. **Empty Bowls.** The event is March 30, noon to 4:00. We need to start finishing bowls and get them turned in. Bring finished bowls to the February or March meetings. If you need want rough turned bowls to finish there are many to choose from. They can be picked up at Teen Night or at the regular meetings. We will be doing a bowl turning demo at the event on March 30. If you would like to help with this let Guy Schafer, Mark Scholer, Eddie Och or Cliff Borgerding. **Also, any bowls you have at home you would like to donate to this event would be greatly appreciated.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:10

## Executive Board minutes Jan. 13, 2014

Present Jerry W., Gary M., John C., Roxanne W., Lyle K., Guy S.

1. Discussed The upcoming Wood Expo planned for March 22, 2014. Gary will get a link set up on the MMWA web site so members can have easy access to the Wood Expo information. Our club will have space with the treadle lathe and a couple other lathes for members to demonstrate turning items at. All club members should try to be there to help with demos, answer questions and to show support for the club. It should be discussed at the regular meetings. At the Expo Club members can display and sell items.
2. Discussed the clubs lathes and repairs and some fixes needed for safety. Some ideas were discussed about what types of demos to do and how to organize it. Lyle has some props showing the turning process that we may use and possibly having all MMAW club members wearing nametags.
3. Empty Bowls was discussed. Guy said he'd talk to Carole at Place of Hope to get more info and set up for the Wood Expo and the Empty Bowls event.

Meeting adjourned.

Guy

Here is the result of the discussion with Carole of Place of Hope concerning the Empty Bowls event.....

The Empty Bowls event is scheduled for March 30, so it works well with our meeting dates to make some decisions. The hours are noon to 4:00. They had over 1000 people last year.

1. Feb. 15 they are having a fundraiser/concert with a silent auction. We will/can give them a couple of our donated bowls and they will add two tickets to the event for the auction. We can include some of our literature with it. She wants us to help put a suggested price on the bowls. We can pick a couple of bowls at our Feb. meeting which is on the 8<sup>th</sup>. I can deliver the bowls and literature to them before the 15th.
2. She is ok with doing pre-sales for the event at the Wood Expo. They will have someone there to answer questions and sell bowls. They sell tickets for \$10.00 for the event. We can decide to put whatever price we feel is appropriate on the bowls. They get \$10.00 and we can get the rest. We'll have to talk to decide what to price the bowls at, but we have two meetings before we need to do that.
3. She would love it if we would do a demo on the 30th. She was not sure where we would set up, possibly by the door as people come in or in the cafeteria. I told her we'd need an 8 by 8 foot area to be safe? (more space, less???) She will give it some thought and we'll make a decision on that later. I'll talk to the Empty Bowls people and at the next meeting we can try to get a sign-up for it.



Here's a useful

website that members might enjoy. It's called [aroundthecloud.org](http://aroundthecloud.org) It's a great place to keep informed of a wide variety of events happening in the greater St. Cloud Area. The MMAW members who are offering woodturning classes through the Paramount art listed there.

## SHOW AND TELL



### John Huseth's Dust Collector

Jan. Demo: Lenny Merdan's  
Incredible Models



A discarded motor and fan from a forced air furnace, a sheet of 3/4 inch plywood, a few pieces of chain and fasteners, an afternoon's work and I have a good whole shop air cleaner. The motor, fan and filter you want to use will determine the size and shape. I sized the filter opening to use the same filter as my house filter. When I replace the house filter, I blow out the old filter and put it in this unit. My only complaint is that it moves too much air. Is there any way I can reduce the motor speed?

*The Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners (MMAW) is a members based not for profit organization, providing an environment of interest and activities dedicated to the enjoyment of woodturning activities and to promote woodturning to the local community through education and charitable events.*