

A Publication of the Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners



SHAVINGS

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.

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Tip when viewing the newsletter on-line.

Need the print larger? Use the "+" found in the tool bar at the top in the middle. Try it!



MMAW membership meetings are held the second Saturday of each month. **Socializing** with fellow members **starts at 9:30AM**, coffee and treats available. Meetings are held in the Paramount Visual Arts Center (VAC) which is located in the basement of the Paramount Theatre, downtown St. Cloud, MN. All city parking is free on Saturdays, this includes the ramp near the Paramount as well as metered street parking. The **membership meeting starts at 10:00AM** (most meetings are about 1.5-2 hours long including the social time) and include announcements, members sharing their turned creations, a demo or presentation related to turning by one of our members, and occasionally other activities such as a wood exchange or a guest turner. (Click on the Paramount marquee for a link to their website.)

Saturday December 12 is the next membership meeting.



The MMAW is an affiliate of the AAW. Click in the middle of AAW logo to reach the AAW Site.

Reflections

From the MMAW President

Thanks to all who attended our November meeting and thanks again to Lenny Merdan for his demo on "Segmented Turnings". Thanks also to Bill Baker for lining up and distributing our turning club order.

The executive meeting was held after the regular meeting and minutes are posted in another area of the newsletter.

Hope to see many of you at the December 14th meeting (Santa may show up!!). Social time at 9:30 AM with the monthly meeting starting at 10:00 AM. The Executive Board will meet right after the monthly meeting.

John Caye will be giving a demo on sharpening with many different ways to accomplish it.

Reflections Cont. P. 6



MMAW Business Items

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance See Board of Directors' Minutes

Expenditures

Income

Calendar

Next Meeting: Sat. Jan. 9

**Demonstration: February
Demo by Ed Brown, Exotic
Blanks**

Other:

A Woodturner's New
Year's Resolution:
Always turn safely

2015-2016

MMAW Board of Directors

Jim Brodd	President
Denny Myers	Vice President
Guy Schafer	Secretary
Byron John	Treasurer
John Caye	Past President
Dan Monson	2 Years Director
Albert Keppers	1 Year Director
Jim Presser	1 Year Director

November Membership Meeting Notes

by

MMAW Secretary Guy Schafer

November 14, 2015

Bill Baker reported that the club ordered approximately \$1700.00 worth of supplies and materials from Craft Supplies USA. Everything has been delivered except for some Sorby Bowl gouges. He said that people did a good job of ordering with correct numbers making it easier for him.

The MMAW was not represented at the October Art Crawl. Nadine was there and said a good crowd showed up.

Gary's event went well with 15 people attending.

Teen Night is going well. 4 - 6 students are showing up each night. Jerry Wervey, Mark Scholer and Guy Schafer are usually there. John Caye, Albert Keppers and Eddie Och have also helped out. More help is always appreciated so if anyone has free time on Thursday evenings from 6:00 till 9:00 feel free to come on over to help.

Empty Bowls has some rough turned bowl blanks and some cherry and birch wood that can be turned into bowls. Feel free to go through your own collections of bowls and if you have an extra one or two please consider donating it to the cause. They can be given to Guy Schafer at any Saturday meeting.

Jim talked about a grant opportunity for AAW members to win a scholarship to attend a class at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts or Campbell Folks School. Our club is eligible to enter one AAW member's name. (At the Executive Board meeting after the club meeting, Albert Kepper's name was drawn from the names collected at the meeting. Congratulations Albert, we hope you get picked at the next level.)

Membership Meeting Notes cont. p. 9

MMAW Mentors

John Caye

Mentor on an as needed basis for all levels from beginner to brushing up on forgotten skills. One week notice is preferred. 320-253-2875

Lyle Knopp

Covering the basics and advanced level turning. Please give a 3-4 day advanced notice. 320-980-3466

Albert Keppers

Willing to help improve skill levels from basic to advanced levels. One week notice preferred. 320-252-6118

Denny Meyers

Will work with you at his shop on all levels from entry and beyond. Denny's knowledge of finishing techniques can help make a good project look great. One week notice preferred. 320-360-0784

Larry Sampson

Willing to share his shop to help anyone wanting to improve their basic skill set. 3-4 days notice is preferred. 320-259-5372

Jerry Wervey

Willing to work with you to improve your skills from entry to intermediate level; those with advanced skills are welcome to stop over as I am always learning as well. 3-4 days notice please.

Executive Board Minutes

November 14, 2015

1. Denny Myers talked about the upcoming Wood Expo to be held April 16, 2016. Each club will have 4 tables. John Caye will organize the Woodturner's activities which will include some Teen Night student turners.
2. Gary Mrozek requested that the MMAW donate \$100.00 to purchase a third seat for the Paramount to go along with the two already purchased from his demo. It was moved by Albert Keppers and seconded by Jim Preusser that the club donate the \$100.00 to purchase the seat. It was passed unanimously.
3. Membership was discussed. Jim would like to have a letter ready to be sent to all members in July to get members to return their registrations and dues by September. We currently have 41 paid members, last year we ended the year with 55 members. Jerry Wervey is working on an updated mailing list that will be ready for the next meeting.
4. Denny Myers discussed the need for a better mobility system for the Jet lathe. The cost of a good system is approximately \$300.00. Denny Myers moved and John Caye seconded that we buy the Lift Lock n" Roll Lathe Mobility System. It was passed unanimously.
5. Denny Myers proposed that he and Guy Schafer work on a **AAW Educational Opportunity Grant**. It would be a 2 step proposal. The first step in 2016 would be to send someone to the AAW symposium to observe their teen activities, bringing back ideas to share and incorporate into our Teen Night program. The second step in 2017 would be to put on paper a description of our Teen Night program that would be made available to other groups to use when designing their own programs. Guy moved and Denny seconded that the club allow Denny and Guy to work on this for the club. It was passed unanimously.

Directors' Meeting Notes Cont. p. 5

Demo Scheduled for February 13 Meeting

Ed Brown, owner of Exotic Blanks in Racine, WI, will be here sharing his tips and tricks for turning pens on Feb. 13. Ed turned pens and did craft and art shows for many years in the Chicago area. He and his wife, Dawn, eventually started supplying materials and tools for making pens, razors, game calls, bottle stoppers and other items to turners on-line under the name: Exotic Blanks.

If you are looking for pen components from many of the manufacturers, turning blanks for pens and other smaller projects, or turning supplies, check out Exotic Blanks. **Link below.**

Thanks to Wayne Winkelman who has been working on arranging Ed's visit.

Ed is open to suggestions for topics we would like him to demo. Suggestions can be given to any member of the Board of Directors and they will be forwarded to Ed.

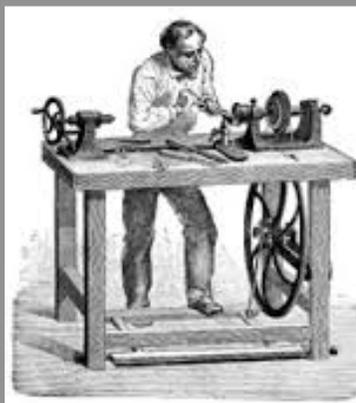
Exotic Blanks Link: <http://www.exoticblanks.com/home.php>



Feather blank and components purchased from Exotic Blanks. Turned by N. Nelson

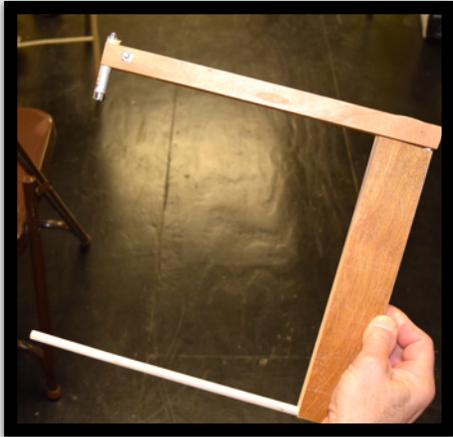
Directors' Meeting Notes Cont. from p.4

6. The idea of creating a lathe and tool replacement plan was discussed. How would it be funded was discussed, how often, etc. Guy will start by trying to estimate how many hours are on the lathes and what other tools and equipment might need replacing. This item will be discussed at future meetings.
7. Ed Brown, a pen turner, will be here for a demo at the Feb. 13 regular meeting. He will also offer a class in the afternoon for members. The afternoon class will be using acrylics. There will be no charge to the club for the morning demo. There will be more discussion at the next meeting.
8. Byron gave the treasurer's report. The Wood Raffle raised \$62.00, the library \$2.00 and the 50/50 \$18.00. This results in a balance of \$2523.18.
9. Guy Schafer suggested that the club set up a schedule or arrange that the MMAW is always represented at future Art Crawls and other events at the Paramount when we are asked if we will do some sort of demo.
10. Albert suggested that we invite Teen Night participants to our MMAW meeting. Guy will do that as well as recruit participants for the Wood Expo.
11. Meeting adjourned.



Bottom Finder

At the November meeting Larry Sampson shared a bottom finder jig that he made using a laser purchased from the Dollar Store. A very useful jig at an affordable cost. Thanks Larry for sharing this with those in attendance.



Reflections Cont. From P. 2

Please bring a turning to share for our instant gallery, a chunk of wood for our monthly wood exchange and your favorite Christmas ornament to share.

And last but not least, "BE SAFE" in your woodturning. Always wear a faceshield when turning and a dust mask when sanding.

Jim Brodd

MMAW President

November 2015 Members' Instant Gallery



Thank you to the members who shared their creations



Paramount Seat Campaign

On October 24, 2015, the MMAW conducted an all day woodturning demonstration to support the Paramount Theater's new seat campaign. This was a gesture from the MMAW showing our appreciation for hosting our club meetings and providing space for our classroom and equipment storage. The proceeds from this event generated \$550.

This was enough to sponsor 3 new seats (Row QQ, Seats 31, 32, 33 in the upper balcony). These seats will have donor plaques on the arm rests with Mid MN Association of Woodturners engraved on them. Thanks to all who attended. Thank you to the Board of Directors who donated \$100 on behalf of the MMAW and to those of you who provided a cash donation towards the seat campaign even though you were unable to attend.





Ornaments From Around The World



Axminster Four Jaw Chucks

by Nadine Nelson

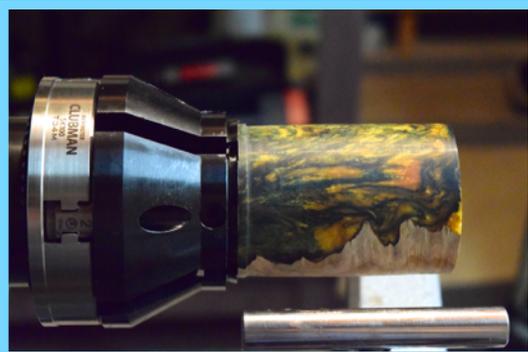
Not as well known in the USA as OneWay or Nova chucks, Axminster chucks (manufactured and sold by Axminster [UK] or sold by Lee Valley [Canada]) are superb chucks. There are three sizes: the 80 mm and 100 mm Clubmen and the largest chuck, the Evolution.

The selection of jaws will satisfy the needs of most turners. There are face plate rings and screw chucks available to fit the chucks. All available jaws fit the 100 mm Clubman and the Evolution. There are fewer available jaws that fit the 80 mm Clubman.

One of the most popular jaw sets available, and not available for any

sanding/finishing of the back of a piece. The O'Donnell jaws require a small flat tenon (not dove tailed) and are tenacious grippers. They also expand into a turned recess. No matter the piece being worked on, smaller or larger, there are O'Donnell jaws for the job. Also available is a set of three O'Donnell jaws, spigotted together and secured with four screws, giving a range of three sizes, 25 mm, 38 mm or 50 mm, by simply undoing the screws and sliding the inserts in or out.

O'Donnell jaws are great when working on lidded boxes, twig vessels, bowls, hollow forms, etc. As long as the vessel is such that a tenon or recess can be created on the blank, the jaws are up to most gripping requirements.



Axminster 100 mm Clubman chuck with O'Donnell jaws holding a box blank/lid

other brands of 4 jaw chucks (that I am aware of), are the O'Donnell jaws. These “nose cone” shaped jaws allow for access to the back of a vessel for turning as well as allowing for easier

Click on the photo of the chuck below for a link to the Axminster site:



A few suppliers of highly figured wood blanks for turning:

Bad Dogs Burl

<http://burlsource.com>

Cook Woods

<https://cookwoods.com>

North Woods Figured Wood

<http://www.nwfiguredwoods.com>

January Challenge from Jim Brodd

MMAW President Jim Brodd challenged all members to make a segmented creation to share at the January membership meeting. Check out the library at the December meeting for materials related to segmenting. Happy creating!



Membership Meeting Notes cont. From p. 3

Jim reminded people of some upcoming events for turners. Refer to e-mail blasts you have received from the MMAW for classes from the MWA in Minneapolis and the upcoming juried show coming to St. Cloud next January and February. There is also a large symposium in Mesa Arizona February 26 – 28 for any of you looking for a warm get-a-way.

Larry Sampson shared a laser bottom finder he made with a Dollar Store laser. Nice little item!

Lenny Merdan gave a presentation on making segmented items. He did a great job! Thanks Lenny.

Jim Brodd has challenged all members to come with a segmented piece for the January meeting.

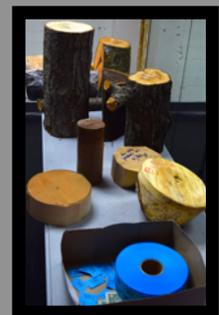
The Wood Raffle was held with LeAnn Kemper cleaning up ☺.

LeAnn Kemper won \$18.00 with the 50/50 drawing.

Meeting adjourned.

Wood Raffle

Thank you to all who participated in the November wood raffle. We will be doing another wood raffle in December. Please bring wood to the December membership meeting for the wood raffle.



First Woodturning Cohort

In May 2015 the Paramount Visual Arts Center in St. Cloud, MN sent an email to the members of the Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners (MMAW), a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. The Paramount partners with the MMAW and provides meeting space and a classroom for the MMAW. In exchange, the MMAW provides instructors for community classes offered at their facility. This email was to seek input from the MMAW as to what classes they would like to see offered in the fall of 2015 and who could help.

MMAW member responded with five woodturning related classes and the instructors for them. One of these was by member Gary Mrozek who pitched a new woodturning class proposal that mirrors successful classes in other art mediums at the Paramount. These classes are referred to as Cohorts. A cohort is loosely defined as a study group where the cohort members decide a common goal to pursue as a group. The goal is to learn from each other rather than a traditional syllabus where an instructor teaches the group. The result of the cohort concept is that the group gets multiple perspectives from each of its members on what works, what challenges they experienced and a support system that encourages learning.

Gary's proposal for the Woodturning Cohort included a field trip on the first scheduled meeting day. This field trip was to travel to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area to visit venues that included the Gallery of Wood Art, the studio of Jim Sannerud (woodturning professional) and the home of David and Ruth Waterbury (local wood art collectors). The goal of the Cohort was to seek inspiration from all the pieces they saw and, as a group, decide on an aspect of a piece that they found mutually inspiring. With this visual experience, the Cohort would return to St. Cloud; its focus was to emulate the feature and based on how the experience moved them, make it their own. This challenged the group to take their varying degrees of woodturning skills to a more artistic level.

The Cohort met three more times to share their progress, ask questions on techniques and/or tools used by other members. It also provided hands-on opportunities to experiment with this new information. On the last day of class, we had local photographer Carol Weiler arrange a photo shoot of the group's works to give the members the experience and tips on

how to photograph art, a common requirement for submitting entries to many juried art shows.

The experience of the Woodturning Cohort was well received and future offerings will be scheduled through the Paramount Visual Arts Center.



The Cohort members include: (left to right) John Caye, Guy Schafer, Gary Mrozek, and Denny Myers. Not pictured: Linda Ferber.



The Cohort with the Gallery's curator Tib Shaw

Cohort Continued On Page 11

Cohort Continued From Page 10

The Cohort's Chosen Piece was turned by Leon LeCoursiere Saskatchewan, Canada

Untitled, 1997
 Curly birch, polychrome
 From the Permanent Collection of the American Association of Woodturners, donated by Lois Laycraft in memory of Frank Sudol.
 Photo: Tib Shaw/AAW



The Finished Pieces from the Cohort



Jim Sannerud demonstrated his technique for making a traditional Norwegian bowl.



David and Ruth Waterbury



Segmenting Demo

Thank you

Thank you to Lenny Merdan for sharing his method of segmenting at the November meeting.