

SHAVINGS

Volume 13, Issue 5

A Publication of the Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners

The Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners (MMAW)

is a member 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.

MMAW membership meetings are held the second Saturday of each month.



WE ARE TEACHING THE WORLD TO TURN.

The next meeting is scheduled for

May 13

Meetings are held in the [Tech Site](#) 248 33rd Avenue South Waite Park, MN 56387. There is parking in the front and rear of the building (driveway is on south side). Entrances are in the front and back.

Our May demo will be a discussion about stabilizing wood by Bill Baker.

He will talk about how he stabilizes wood and what types of wood it works with using a pressure pot and Cactus Juice.

The [MMAW](#) is an affiliate of the [American Association of Woodturners](#).

MMAW membership meetings are held the second Saturday of each month.

Socializing with fellow members starts at 9:30AM, coffee is available. The membership meeting starts at 10:00AM (most meetings are about 1.5-2 hours long including the social time) and includes announcements, members sharing their turned creations, a demo or presentation related to turning, and occasionally other activities such as a holiday celebration or

The PCA (Paramount Center for the Arts) is no longer requiring all folks in their buildings to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 48 hours of the event. They are encouraging everyone to wear a mask while in the buildings.

Hello members.



Spring has arrived! Well, I am watching it snow today. I have not been spending any time in the shop. My arm is almost healed so the time is coming if I can work it in around the garden.

We have all the equipment installed for the video system. I am hopeful that we can finish up the grant process before the end of May.

We are working on an instruction manual for the setup and operation that will make getting ready for meeting easier and faster. We are also looking for a few people to serve on an election committee. They will need to look for a President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Director at Large. Please think about helping on the committee or severing on the board.

The Club Picnic will be at our August meeting please let me know if you would like to help organize it. Last month we recorded the meeting and made it available to view. If you have not looked at it, please look it over. It is at [Meeting link](#). It is a work in progress to improve our skills.

I will be hosting a OPEN SHOP after the May meeting. Please stay if you would like. We can get out lathes and turn (bring your own wood), get help with a problem or discuss any thing else you want. Guy Schafer will help make pens with any members that would like to give it a try. For \$4.00 he will supply the pen blank, pen kit and all the other items needed to make and finish a unique one-of-a-kind handmade pen. So, if you've been curious about pens and how to make one come to the meeting and stick around afterwards and give it a try. Bring a lunch if you would like. I plan on being around until 2 PM.



We had a great turn out for the March 11th meeting. Our count was 41 members, the most we've had in a long time.



Fred started the meeting at 10:00. He commented on the large number of people (41) in attendance. The new members present today were Mellissa Chance and her husband and John Derring. They had both taken turning classes through the **Paramount Center for the Arts (PCA)** so they got a free membership in the MMAW for the rest of the calendar year with their registration.

Fred stated that the woodcarver and woodworker clubs are using the new AV equipment. We are working on working out some of the technical issues with the recording, patience please. Also, next week the start of installation of an overhead camera will begin.

MMAW is looking for volunteers to help with several on-going activities. As part of your membership in the MMAW you are asked to volunteer some time for the club besides your membership fee. We are looking for help with the AV setup and running it, greeters to welcome new members at the meetings, clean up after meetings, new officers (president, secretary, treasurer and one board member are needed for next year (we would like an **Election Committee** to look for these new club officers) and more as they arise. .

If you don't have a lathe or tools there are three times a month where you can turn at the Tech Site. Open shop is being held on the first Thursday and the second Tuesday of each month. Woodturners may come to use the lathes and equipment. You will have to supply your own turning wood for this activity. Fred will also stay after the meetings so people could stay to turn for a couple hours then too.

There will be a meeting on April 10th at 4:00 at the Tech Site to discuss classes being offered by the **PCA**. Anyone who teaches or maybe wants to teach is welcome to join the meeting.

There are two Art Crawls this summer downtown. One in June and one in August. The MMAW will be turning outside the Paramount Center for the Arts for one of these events. When it is decided which month, we will let you know. If you are interested in helping with these activities, contact LeAnn Kemper at 320-980-7326.

Our library is now being kept outside of our tool storage area. Check out is on the honor system so use and return when done.

AAW symposium is scheduled for June 1 – 4 in Louisville, Kentucky. Anyone going?

The MMAW webpage has an updated membership list. Gary Mrozek will also have directions for his Tiki Tumblers that he shared. There are also many other items on the Webpage, go check it out.

Doyle Carroll is quitting turning and had a few items to donate to the club. If anyone is interested in the wave bowl jig, tool handle or metal cup inserts contact Fred or Guy. They can be yours for a small donation to the MMAW.

Eddie Och won they 50/50 drawing again and deferred so the lucky winner of \$20.00 was Ben Frey,

Brenda Lodermier shared that the Woodcarvers have a special event class going on April 28, 29 and 30 at the Moose Lodge in Waite Park. There will be 12 instructors and 84 members carving. Stop by to check it out.

Ellen Starr's name was drawn from the people who shared items for the Instant Gallery and won \$10.00. You can't win if you don't share an item

Guy Florek did a demo on re-mounting a once turned bowl to finish turning it. His demo can be seen at this [link](#).

Instant Gallery



Guy Schafer turned these small bowls from some cut offs from a large red elm burl

Jaden Gonzalous turned this black Ash bowl at Arts Underground.



Gary Mrozek turned these 6 bowls from one piece of Ash from a tree from his back yard. The Tiki tumblers are a game his wife found and he made from plans he found on line. The directions can be found on the MMAW website under More, Tools and Information.



Tyler Smith turned this little Pothead Gnome from poplar , one lidded box from cherry and the other from poplar. He used his LaserPecker 1 Mini to burn/engrave the designs on the tops. There will be more about the laser later in the newsletter.



Jim Preusser made these lidded vessels with acorn pulls on the lids. A couple of them are made from rosewood he got in Costa Rica.



Doyle Carroll turned one of these 3 Twisted candle holder from walnut. After his wife saw it he made 2 more :). He used a Dremel drill with a carbide bit to carve out the twist. The segmented vessel has walnut, cherry and maple in it.





Dale Field made these bowls from several species of wood. He also finished his twisted goblet by adding a base to it.



Michael Gamades made this oak bowl. He made the segmented bowl in Gary's Segmented Bowl class.



Rob Benson made these 2 lampshades. They were turned from green aspen, very thin (1/8 inch) so they don't crack. They have a sliding wire to hold them to the lamp so that as they expand and contract with the weather and humidity the wire slides and the shade doesn't break, learned from experience.



Dan Monson made they 2 large maple bowls from maple and finished them with Waterlox. He is making the maple bat for one of his grandsons.



Guy Florek turned this natural edge red oak burl bowl. He used the other half of the burl, the sister, in his demo on remounting and turning a twice turned bowl.





Doyle Carroll and his segmented vase.



Michael Gamades and his segmented bowl



Guy Florek and his red oak burl bowl.



A workbench full of wonderful turnings from some very talented MMAW woodturners!



Don Monson and one of his large maple bowls.

Meet the Turner



Hi, Roger Swenson here. I grew up in Glencoe MN. After graduating from high school in 1962 I attended Dunwoody. My working part of my life was in the automotive industry, from mechanic to parts dept to service manager in two automotive dealerships. The last 22 years was selling SnapOn tools and I retired in 2006.

My wife Jeanette and I were married in 1968 and have two children. Chuck lives in Avon and had a cabinet shop for 15 years and is now working for Tishler cabinets in Avon. Molly lives in Brainerd and works in the hospital.

In the early 1990s I bought a Delta lathe that collected a lot of dust. Tried a few times to use it but it didn't turn out very good. In 2013 I told Jeanette I was either going to sell it or learn how to use it. Someone at the VA told me about the Paramount classes and MMAW. I signed up for a beginning turning class with Gary Mrozek and joined the club soon after. I was hooked. Ended up with a Powermatic lathe thanks to my friend Dan Monson. Probably bought too many tools but I guess you can never have too many tools. I like to turn different things, from pens to boxes to bowls etc.

I also enjoy flying Radio Controlled airplanes. We have a club in Willmar.

At the March meeting Tyler Smith shared these two lidded boxes that had these designs laser burned on the tops. He used a **LaserPecker 1 Mini** to do it. Here is a link to the site and more information if you are interested. Click on the link and look for the Laser Pecker 1 Mini LaserPecker.net.



Some General Reminders

Elections are coming. We need to elect a new President, Secretary, treasurer and one At Large Board member. We need some volunteers for an Elections Committee to recruit some people to run for these positions, or to fill those positions. If you are interested in running for a positions you can contact any of the current officers to find out what is involved with the positions. We need your help and involvement!

There are three times we have open shop at the Tech Site for interested MMAW members.

The first Thursday and second Tuesday of the month there is open shop along with the Central Minnesota Woodworkers Association (CMWA) at the Tech Site from 6 to around 8:30 or so. The MMAW will also have open shop after every club meeting till around 2:00 or so. If you want some help or just access to a lathe feel free to come to take advantage of the opportunity. All you would need to supply is the wood to turn and any questions you might have.

Pen making opportunity. After the May meeting Guy Schafer will help make pens with any members that would like to give it a try. For \$4.00 he will supply the pen blank, pen kit and all the other items needed to make and finish a unique one-of-a-kind handmade pen. So, if you've been curious about pens and how to make one come to the meeting and stick around afterwards and give it a try. Bring a lunch if you would like. He plans on being around until 2 PM.

Check out the MMAW Webpage links. Next time you are surfing the web, check out the [MMAW Webpage](#). There is lots of information on the site. All of our past Newsletters, Open Shop info. (Arts Underground at the Paramount Center for the Arts), Membership information, Photo Galleries, Current and Events offered, how to Contact the club, Links to other clubs and sites and More (membership list,). Give it a visit and see what you find.



Not only does Tyler Smith have that neat **Laser Pecker 1 Mini**, he also got another new toy recently! As he said, "I've grown up".

When you are trying to open a link in our newsletter a little hand should appear over the link. Do a left click on your mouse and it should take you to the Website. We can demonstrate this at our next meeting.

Video equipment is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

