



Volume 3 Number 11 July 8, 2013

# Shavings

A Publication of the Mid-Minnesota Association of Woodturners



## From the President...Alan Sias



Ok, so July is here, and it is time to get things rolling for the election. We will be doing the nominations this month, with the elections next. Please make sure that you are there for the meeting if you can be.

As for actual turning, I hope that you all are getting plenty of time behind the lathe. My time has not happened there, unfortunately. I have been busy doing all kinds of other things and haven't had much time to do the turning. I have great ideas, and wonderful wood to work with, but the time just hasn't been there.

This month, other than the nominations, we are having people bring in their jigs, and showing how they work. Bring one in, heck, bring two or more in, and show us why you have it, and how you use it. I know that I'm looking forward to the meeting to see what you all have done.

I also want to make my gratitude public for Mike Borka. Mike volunteered to take the role of newsletter editor on this year. He did a great job. I know that he had a hard time fitting it in sometimes, but he did a great job. He let me know that he is moving and changing positions. He no longer has access to the computer that he used to do the newsletter on. We could use some help on getting it published.

I hope that you guys are all doing great this summer, that you didn't lose too many trees, and that you might have been able to take advantage of the downed trees to refurbish your supply. Keep turning, and be safe!

## July 13th, 2013 Chapter Meeting

The next **Chapter meeting** of the **Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners** is:

**Saturday, July 13th**

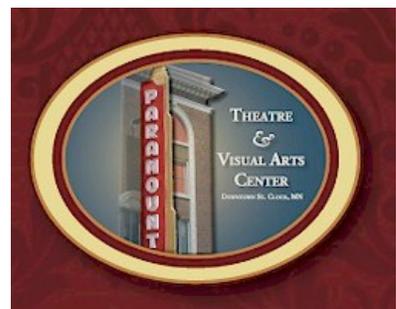
at the Paramount Theater and Visual Arts Center  
in downtown St. Cloud MN.

Bring a jig or fixture that you purchased or built for your lathe and tells us how you came up with it. If the jig is used as a turning aid, bring a sample of what you made with it, we'd like to see that too!

As always, bring other Show & Tell items to share with the group.

The doors to the studio will open at 9:00AM with set-up from 9-9:30 followed by Social time with coffee and treats.

The meeting starts promptly at 10:00 a.m.



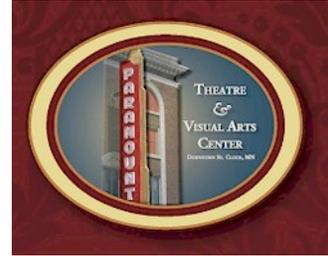


# Remember

The Paramount Visual Arts Center allows MMAW members to use our studio space until 3:00PM on the day of our Chapter Meeting. Denny Myers has offered his services as a mentor to anyone interested in staying around after the meeting. Contact Denny at (320) 360-0784 to make arrangements.

## July 16th Bowl Turning Basics

Albert Keppers has generously offered to host a small group beginner's bowl making get-together. Albert is well known to all who attend the MMAW monthly meetings as he can be counted on to bring both challenge items and turnings for show and tell. He will focus on basic techniques and tools for a basic bowl and will be happy to answer your questions. Tentative time is 9:30 AM to noon. See Albert at the July 13th Chapter meeting for more details or call him at (320) 252-6118.



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## Liam O'Neill

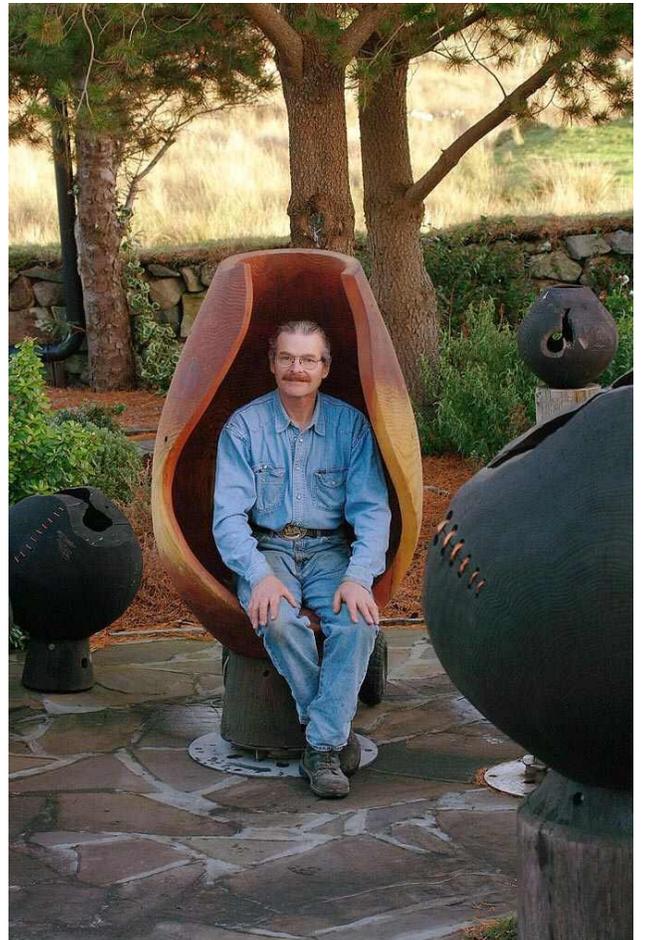
Coming to St. Cloud on  
Thursday October 10th from 6-9PM

Liam O'Neill has accepted our invitation to demonstrate his skills for the MMAW in St. Cloud!!

David Ellsworth says:

*"Liam O'Neill is one of the great studio woodturners from Ireland. He specializes in decorative open bowls and turned outdoor sculpture, and is the author of the classic 'Irish grind' bowl gouge. His vast knowledge and experience plus his natural sense of Irish humor has made him one of the top demonstrators since he first came to America back in the mid-1980s."*

Twenty-one members responded to our initial email blast. Total enrolment will be limited to 30 members. If you are interested in one of the remaining 9 seats, contact Gary at [gary@treesremembered.com](mailto:gary@treesremembered.com) by July 31st. Names will be selected at random and you will be contact . Cost is \$25





## Thank you to Our Nomination Committee

Per our bylaws, each year a nominating committee of 3 members will be appointed to solicit nominees for our general election in August.

Thank you to this years nominating committee:

John Caye

Denny Myers

Jim Brodd

## MMAW Bylaws

Each August, MMAW members have an opportunity to vote on changes to our bylaws. As per our bylaws, a vote will be taken at our August 10th Chapter meeting and passed with a simple majority of the members present. This is your opportunity to take part in this democratic process. Take a moment to review our bylaws found on our website at <http://www.midmnwoodturners.org/bylaws.html> If you have questions or recommended changes, contact one of our current Board of Directors by July 14th 2013 to sponsor your recommendation:

**Alan Sias – President**

**Bill Baker – Past President**

**Jerry Wervev – Vice President**

**Lyle Knopp – Treasurer**

**Bill Langen – Secretary**

**Roxanne Wyatt – At Large**

### Our Current 2013-2014 Candidates are:

**Vice President — Jim Brodd**

**Treasurer — Lyle Knopp**

**Secretary — Guy Schafer**

**At Large — Gary Mrozek**

We will call for additional nominees at the July 13th Chapter meeting. You may also write in a candidate of your choice during the August 9th election.



**At Our August 9th Chapter Meeting**

# Buying tools

By Bob Rosand

American Woodturner Fall 2008

## What set of tools should I buy?

My answer is don't buy a set. Every set I've seen seems to include one or two tools that you don't need. It's better to buy individual tools and learn how to use them. When you shop for tools, make sure you buy high-speed steel (HSS) tools. They hold an edge better than the carbon-steel tools that used to be popular. If you stumble across some garage-sale bargains or inherit a set from a relative's estate, chances are those are carbon steel. (Some deceptive marketers actually pass off new carbon steel as HSS.

If the price seems too good to be true, be careful.) There is nothing wrong with carbon steel, but if you are just starting out and have difficulties sharpening, you will probably blue the steel, removing the temper. The great thing about HSS is that you can blue the edge and the tool will still stay sharp. (The blued edge dulls instantly.)

I've also had people tell me that they purchased yard-sale tools (old, worn-out carbon-steel tools) to practice on until they got better at turning.

The problem with this is that as a novice turner, you're compounding your problems: Now you have some inferior tools that you're not sure how to use.

Buy the best tools you can afford, even if you buy only one tool at a time. Another reason I dislike tool sets is the uniformity of handles. A matched set of tools looks great hanging on your wall, but when you are turning and the chips cover the bed of your lathe, it's difficult to identify each tool. Virtually all of my tools have different handles, and I can identify each one amid the chips when I am hard at work.

## What tools should I start with?

I'd suggest a 3/4" spindle roughing gouge, a 3/8" spindle gouge, a 1/2" skew, and a diamond parting tool. If you want to turn bowls, select a 3/8" or 1/2" bowl gouge, although my personal favorite is a 3/8" bowl gouge. The next tools I would add are a 1/2" round nose and 1/2" square nose scraper.

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## Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners

*Is a not for profit, membership based organization, providing an environment of interest and activities dedicated to the enjoyment of wood turning activities and to promote woodturning to the local.*