



# Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners 'Shavings'

*Providing an environment of interest and activities dedicated to the enjoyment of wood turning activities and to promote woodturning to the local community through education and charitable events.*

## From the President



As most of you know, I will be President of the MMAW for the next year. Jay Eggebrecht has been elected Vice President to fill the position vacated by me. Gary Mrozek will serve on the board as Past President. I look forward to working with Jay, the rest of the board, and all the members of the MMAW to

continue to improve and grow the MMAW.

For those of you that I have not had the opportunity to get to know yet, I'll share a little bit of information about myself. My wife of 44 years and I live north of Cold Spring on Big Fish Lake. I have three children, retired several years ago and took up wood turning as a way to occupy some idle time. I don't know how I ever had time to have a job. I do a little volunteer work with the Elder Care Network through the St. Cloud Hospital which has made me grateful to have the good health I have.

I'm not sure what inspired me to get into wood turning but several years ago I was introduced to the CMWA which had a small group of wood turners that met at Gary Mrozek's house. I can't believe how fast the past few years have flown by but I have appreciated all the help and information I obtained from the group and several individual turners. When the decision was made by our group to become a chapter of the AAW, I wanted to be a part of the organization and do what I could to help. I volunteered to be Vice President so I was not selected for my skills or expertise. I'm counting on a lot of our members to step up and help this club move forward. If everyone does a little bit to help, no one gets stuck with too much to do.

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### Sept. Membership Meeting

The MMAW September Membership Meeting will be held at the Visual Arts Center (VAC) in the lower level of the Paramount Theatre, Downtown St. Cloud.

The MMAW September 10th meeting will feature Dick Beumer presenting his and John Caye's tips on lathe safety.

The Challenge Project will be finials. Please bring your finial creations to share with the membership. See page 2 for some information on finials.



**PARAMOUNT**  
THEATRE AND VISUAL ARTS CENTER  
DOWNTOWN ST. CLOUD, MN





### Meeting Notes from the August Membership Meeting submitted by Bill Langen MMAW Secretary



#### MMAW Chapter Meeting, August 13, 2011

President Gary Mrozek announced that the bylaws were approved and are online. He noted that Bill Baker will be taking over as President. Bill Baker said Gary will take on the role of Past President and then spoke briefly of his initiation in woodturning and expressed his conviction that the club will make great strides under his leadership during 2011-2012. Bill Baker led the group in a round of applause to thank Gary for his hard work and leadership.

Members voted on the candidates for next year's officers. The results have been posted online.

Linda Ferber of the Minnesota AW reported that the Symposium made \$6126 for Second Harvest to contribute to Empty Bowls. The raffle for the Powermatic brought in \$17,780.

Connie Orth of Lutheran Social Services thanked the MMAW for our contributions to Empty Bowls which collected \$141.

Larry Sampson was the winner of the 50/50 drawing and split the pot of \$50.

Members brought in fine examples of their work for the show and tell. The wood exchange was also a big success with members taking home quite a variety of wood which we trust will reappear as finished pieces in future show and tells.

### September 10th Challenge

Our challenge project for September is turning a finial. Finials are defined as 1. A distinctive ornament at the apex of a roof, pinnacle, canopy, or similar structure.

2. An ornament at the top, end, or corner of an object such as a post, piece of furniture, etc.

Here are some directions for turning finials <http://www.ptwoodturners.org/Tips%20and%20Handouts/Turning%20Finials%20and%20Ornaments%20with%20pics-Word%2097%20Ver2.pdf>.



### Treadle Lathe Being Demonstrated

Lenny Merdan will be displaying our treadle lathe at the 37th Annual Albany Pioneer Days Sept. 16, 17 & 18. Contact Lenny for more information if you are interested in helping with the demonstration. You can visit [www.albanypioneerdays.com](http://www.albanypioneerdays.com) to view the various activities that will be going on that day.



Albany Pioneer Days

**Don't miss pictures of our members and turnings that were shared at the August meeting. They can be found throughout the newsletter.**



## Notes from the MMAW Board of Directors

submitted by Bill Langen, MMAW Secretary

Meeting was held August 29th, 6:30 pm in room 206 at the St. Cloud Public Library .



Board Members present: Bill Baker, Gary Mrozek, Jay Eggebrecht, Albert Keppers, John Caye, Bill Langen

1. The Board discussed changing the Bylaws provision for removing members and decided to keep existing language.
2. The Board will contact the Paramount to learn if they have a first aid kit and a policy to deal with first aid in case of an accident. The Board authorized purchase of a first aid kit if the Paramount does not have one easily accessible to the lathe area.
3. The Board decided that members will pay \$1.00 per month per item that they borrow from the Chapter library.
4. The Board signed the Chapter Bylaws which will be sent to AAW.
5. In connection with the Chapter's outreach efforts, there was agreement that three sets of basic turning tools need to be purchased. The Board will research the options and make a decision later.
6. The following motion was made and seconded:  
"The President is authorized to make expenditures up to \$100 without Board approval."
7. The Board approved the expenditure of \$22.40 for printing the handout for the safety demo at the September meeting.
8. Ten members have signed up to divide up the purchase of 10 gallons of Anchorseal.
9. There was a thorough discussion of the best format for meetings and the options for soliciting ideas and volunteers for demos.
10. The CMWA has decided to set up a shop and hold its meetings in the Paramount. The Board discussed opportunities to assist and collaborate with the CMWA.
11. The Library and the Civic Center are both interested in displaying our members' work.
12. Lenny Merdan will be demonstrating the Chapter's treadle lathe at the Albany Threshing Show. He would welcome help pumping the treadle.
13. The Paramount will have an Art Crawl on September 16.



**The President's Column Continued from Page One**

Our September meeting will be on lathe safety. John Caye and Dick Beumer have put a program together which Dick will present while John is hunting in the mountains. Our challenge project for September will be a finial.

I am going to put together a short survey to poll the members on interests and suggestions for the programs for the rest of the year. I don't think we are in a position to bring in a professional demonstrator yet but we have plenty of talent in our group to get us through the year. I think we have October and November taken care of but be sure and let me know if you are interested in doing a demo.

As a final note, I would like to express my appreciation for all the work Gary has put into getting us this far and I know he will be a big help to me (please) this year.

*Bill Baker*

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**



**The MMAW  
welcomes 2 new  
members:**

**Joy Knopp and Faye Mrozek.**

**Twenty six members renewed  
their memberships at the  
August meeting. This included  
2 family memberships.**

**Nineteen memberships expire  
September 1. Don't forget to  
renew your membership.**

**Thank you to all who have  
contributed to the MMAW  
throughout our first year. Let's  
all try to lend a hand and keep  
the MMAW growing and  
promoting wood turning.**

**History of Woodturning**

The origin of woodturning dates to around 1300BC when the Egyptians first developed a two-person lathe. One person would turn the wood with a rope while the other used a sharp tool to cut shapes in the wood. The Romans improved the Egyptian design with the addition of a turning bow. Early bow lathes were also developed and used in Germany, France and Britain. In the Middle Ages a pedal replaced hand-operated turning, freeing both the craftsman's hands to hold the woodturning tools. The pedal was usually connected to a pole, often a straight-grained sapling. The system today is called the "spring pole" lathe. Spring pole lathes were in common use into the early 20th Century. A two-person lathe, called a "great lathe", allowed a piece to turn continuously (like today's power lathes). A master would cut the wood while an apprentice turned the crank.



The term "bodger" stems from pole lathe turners who used to make the chair legs and spindles. A bodger would typically purchase all the trees on a plot of land, set up camp on the plot, and then fell the trees and turn the wood. The spindles and legs that were produced were sold in bulk, for pence per dozen. The bodger's job was considered unfinished because he only made component parts. The term now describes a person who leaves a job unfinished, or does it badly.

During the Industrial Revolution the lathe was motorized, allowing turned items to be created in less time. The motor also produced a greater rotational speed for the wood, making it easier to quickly produce high quality work. Today most commercial woodturning is done by computer operated machinery allowing for mass-production that can be created with precision and without the cost of employing craftsmen. Despite this, there is still a demand for hand-turned products. Woodturning is also a hobby enjoyed by many people.



### Next Art Crawl

The Paramount Visual Arts Center has contacted the MMAW about the Sept. 16th St. Cloud Art Crawl, 5:00PM to 9:00PM. The VAC will be available to our members for display, sales and demonstrations.



*Art Crawl-downtown St. Cloud*

Contact Gary Mrozek if interested in using one of our lathes to demonstrate, display your work, or if you would like to bring some of your work and try selling it at the September 16th Art Crawl..



**Molly Winton**

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## MOLLY WINTON TO DEMONSTRATE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MN ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 8

Are you interested in attending?

See a well known woodturner/artist in action.

Check out Molly's turnings at:  
<http://www.turningmaven.com/>



Contact Gary Mrozek if interested in attending.

Cost to attend for AAW members, including lunch is \$25.

Need some inspiration to raise your turnings to a new or unique level? This demonstration might be what you are looking for.



THANKS TO FAYE AND GARY MROZEK FOR DONATING THE ANNIVERSARY CAKE, COOKIES AND PUNCH FOR THE AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING.



## Adding Embellishments to Turnings

At the August 17th CMWA meeting John Wilson demonstrated his patent pending attachment for a Dremel. He uses this to carve embellishments on his bowls. The MMAW will be contacting John to schedule a demonstration at an upcoming membership meeting.



### MMAW Members' Classifieds

#### Items that are Wanted or For Sale / Trade

This space reserved for items that MMAW members may want or have for sale/trade.

**The Club's Treadle Lathe is available to members who would like to exhibit it at public or private events. Contact Lyle Knopp**

Send items for the classifieds to Bill Baker at [baker@cloudnet.com](mailto:baker@cloudnet.com) or Nadine Nelson at [nnelson1953@clearwire.net](mailto:nnelson1953@clearwire.net).

### MMAW Board of Directors

- Bill Baker – President
- Jay Eggebrecht– Vice President
- Bill Langen – Secretary
- Lyle Knopp- Treasurer
- Gary Mrozek – Past President
- Albert Keppers – Member at large
- John Caye – Member at large





**Example of small finials serving as handles on the creations:**



**Renew your MMAW membership for Sept. 2011-Aug. 2012**

**Dues will be:**

- \$10...Student membership
- \$20...Individual membership
- \$30...Family membership
- \$10 additional for 10 newsletters mailed to you

**You can pay at the next meeting or mail your payment with a completed Membership Enrollment form found on our website to: MMAW PO Box 227 Sartell, MN 56377**

**Calendar**

**September 10, 2011**

**Topic: Lathe safety**

**Challenge is finials**

**(please note: the calendar will be expanded once the new board of directors is in place and begins meeting)**



**Remember to Use Our Suggestion Box**

Let us know what types of demonstrations you would like to see. Put your questions or suggestions in the box at our next meeting or email them to Bill at [baker@cloudnet.com](mailto:baker@cloudnet.com). Any question(s) received will be addressed at the next meeting.



### Our First Anniversary



### Sharing Our Creations



"Shavings" is a publication of the Mid Minnesota Association of Woodturners, PO Box 227, Sartell, MN 56377