

# SHAVINGS

Volume 15, Issue 12

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

December 13, 2025.

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

**Our December meeting will be our Annual Holiday get together!**

***Bring a brunch type dish to share, your best friend and your platter or plate that you made so you can get to the front of the food line. Also, something for a gift exchange if you want to participate. We'll supply everything else! We will also announce the election results for 2026.***

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 and treats 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 wood exchange.

Remember that there are MMAW members that are willing and able to stay after our regular monthly meetings to help you with wood processing, sharpening, turning or any other things you would like.

Open Shop Nights are every month on the **First Thursday** and the **Second Tuesday** from 6 – 8:30, come take advantage of it!

Shavings from the Prez,

As we wrap up a great year, I'm extremely grateful for those who have made this club function. A special thanks to Guy Schafer for dealing with my late responses to the letter. Thank you to Fred for pushing through the struggles with the technicals. All the board members who keep me on track. And for those who spend just a little extra time before and after the meetings to set up, then clean up after the mess. Thank you to everyone.

Looking into next year, I would like to see our club continue to grow. Not just in numbers, but as a collaboration of artists. Please feel free to share your art. If you are struggling, reach out to the group as a whole, and we will do our best to point you in the right direction.

We have 3 great demonstrations coming up at the beginning of the year. Earl Felling is going to kick off the year with rings. Followed by Dan Larson with a little different take on rings (the German Toy Ring). Then, Gary Mrozek in March, on how to make a box with your bandsaw. The plan is to keep a few things the same with a tool/wood sale in July and an end-of-summer gathering in August. I would like ideas on what you would like to see during those in between months. Reach out whenever and let me know.

Until we meet again, stay safe in the shop and keep your tools sharp.

Tyler

November meeting

Tyler called the meeting to order at 10 for a well-attended meeting. Our speaker for the day, Dan Larson, was not able to attend but our intrepid president stepped up and took on a fantastic Platter and Plate making demo. We promoted this topic with an eye to next month's Holiday Potluck- encouraging members to turn their own plates or platters and in turn, they would be rewarded with front of the line privileges at all the wonderful treats and hotdishes that will grace our buffet table.

Arts Underground at the Paramount is doing well on Thursday night. Thanks to Guy, Bill and Mark for manning Arts Underground and representing the MMAW and inspiring new turners to join up.

We have gained two new members this month to bring our club membership to 87.

Elections are open! I got my ballot and renewal form in the mail already. Be sure to return yours before the due date of December 4<sup>th</sup> by 5pm in the stamped addressed envelope. Include your renewal form also if you plan to rejoin if you haven't already done so.

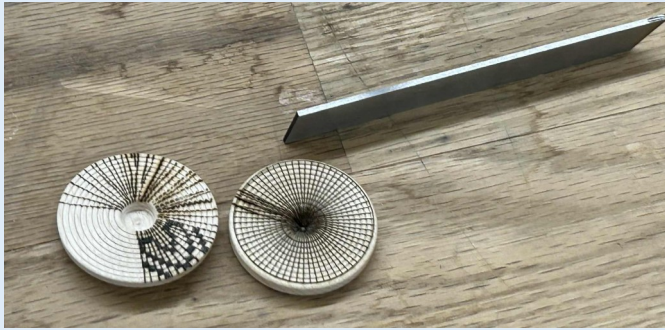
We are still collecting for Empty Bowls- a new site in St. Joe is interested and please continue to make wig stands as there is a great need locally.

Things to be prepared for: The Potluck of course- bring a dish that would serve around 5-8 people. It's always nice to have a mix of hot brunch dishes, breads and bakery, fruit and those sweet treats to end the meal. Secret Santa gifts is an option for those who have turned items to trade. Just wrap your gift and place it on the table for the exchange during the program part of our meeting.

January meeting will feature a demo on Rings, in February, Dan Larson will come by for a demo and member Gary Mrozek will present Bandsaw Boxes for our March meeting.

We are looking to present at a few booths at the local carver's weekend "Snowdaze" at the end of April. Sign ups and suggestions for demos or make and take projects are encouraged. It would be a great way to spend part of a day promoting your hobby, sharing ideas with other turners and maybe learn a few tricks from our veteran turners and maybe learn a bit from the carvers too.

# Instant Gallery



John Menning had some mystery wood he wanted identified, no luck with that.



Ellen Starr did some experimenting with a homemade beading tool in preparation for some small basket weave jewelry.



Chuck Hunt made 5 wig stands and was inspired by Karen Maier's lighthouse from last month to turn his own version.



Karen Maier shared an egg and egg cup she turned.



Brent Benson finished turning this bowl that his father had started. He is going through his dad's (Bob) box of started projects that he wasn't able to finish before he died so Brent is working on them.



# Instant Gallery



Tyler Smith shared these trees that he demoed at the October meeting.



Ellen Starr turned this fabulously figured maple bowl, a WOW piece of wood, nice bowl too!



Karen Maier turned another lighthouse at Arts Underground.



Staying with the lighthouse theme, Eddie Och made this lighthouse for a woodcarving friend who will finish it with some carving.



Guy Schafer shared something he turned but didn't get a picture at the meeting and now he can't remember what he shared? Old age? How about that, sound familiar?



Tyler Smith, our illustrious President, demonstrated making a plate or platter.

**Remember to make one of your own and bring it to the December meeting to show the group. Those that share will be able to cut to the front of the line when it is time to eat, heads for you, backs for the folks who didn't do their homework:)**



Just like in church, some folks just have to sit in the back

**Tools you can have for FREE if you pick them up!**

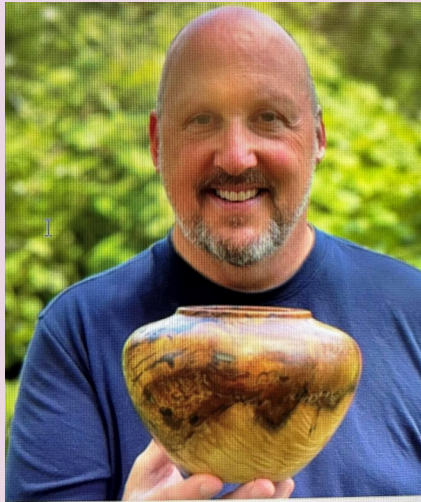
George, at 320-2494354, has a Shop Smith he'd like to get rid of. It can be yours if you pick it up. Lathe, disk sander, table saw, drill press, jointer and he added the bandsaw attachment all in one machine. Give him a call if you are interested. Check out this link if you are [interested](#) to learn more.



Jointer to give away, free! Here is a [link](#) for information about this model. You can still buy new knives for it. Contact Guy at 320-420-5119.



## Meet the Turners



My name is Bob McClintick, and I'm the marketing and communications director for the Initiative Foundation, a Little Falls-based nonprofit that serves 14 counties in Central Minnesota with a focus on community and economic development. In a typical year, the Initiative Foundation does about \$2 million in grants to local nonprofits, schools and local units of government. During the two-year peak of COVID, in addition to our typical grantmaking, we pushed out more than \$25 million in small business relief grants, nonprofit relief grants, and several hundred grants to regional child care providers so they could a) remain open and b) provide care for front-line workers. The Initiative Foundation also provides entrepreneurial programming, nonprofit development programming, and relief and response activities when natural or man-made disasters strike in the region. As the Initiative Foundation's marketing and communications director, one of the more recognizable features of my job is to publish IQ Magazine. Maybe you've seen it? It's a free publication for Central Minnesotans and features solutions-based stories about the economy and communities

My wife Lisa and I have three children: a son, Jon, who's 23, and twin 18-year-old daughters, Katie and Kylie. Lisa and I met while studying mass communications at St. Cloud State University. We started our careers as newspaper reporters and editors but exited the industry in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Lisa has been a freelance writer since we adopted our son in 1999. Her work has been featured in Midwest Living, AAA Living, the Star Tribune, St. Paul Pioneer Press, USA Today and more. In addition to her freelance work (other clients include the Minnesota Department of Tourism, the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, Burpee Seeds, etc.), Lisa is a frequent Paramount Studio for the Arts educator, where her focus is journaling, sketch journaling and memoir writing. She's pretty cool.

I used to like motorcycling. But many of you know how that ended. I'm also a 10-year member of the Powder Ridge Ski Patrol. I haven't skied since my 2021 motorcycle accident, but I hope to give it my best shot when the winter of 2022-2023 descends on us. I'm also trying to get back into the game of golf. My wicked-awful slice is the only thing holding me back.

I started turning about seven or eight years ago when my wife Lisa came home from a North American Travel Journalists Association meeting with a beautiful wood-turned pen. She paid \$70 for it. And she told me, "You should make these!" To which I replied, "But I've never turned ANYTHING, and I don't have a lathe!" At a Christmas gathering that year, I asked my brothers if any of 'em had a lathe. My gearhead brother Bill said he had two—take your pick! So I commandeered the one that looked the best—made by Toastmaster!—pulled up some YouTube videos and started to figure out pen-making. After about 20 pens and a whole lot of learning, I upgraded to a better lathe—a Jet 1014 mini lathe. I don't have too much shop space, so that's what I still use to this day. As I've expanded my abilities, I've really come to love the Zen-like experience of sourcing and processing my logs. For a little background, my Dad built a sawmill and went into business with it in 1977. I was his hired man for two years (1983-84) while I attended our local community college. I wasn't overly fond of the sawmill work at the time—it was a good motivator for me to stay in college—but it instilled in me a deep appreciation for the process of transforming logs to lumber. So I suppose woodturning, for me, is an extension of my experience during my sawmilling days. I love the smell when you slab out a log. And I love the transformation from slab to blank to finished product. These days I'm mostly turning bowls and platters, but I've also done lidded boxes, spoons and scoops. I have stacks of maple, walnut, silver maple, apple and cherry wood, so I guess you could say those are my favorite varieties to turn.

## Meet the turners



Sad to report that we lost a woodturning friend recently, Rob, Brent's father passed recently so here is his "Meet the Turner" from October 2023.

Rob Benson here, I am retired. I was a School Administrator for 23 years. I and my wife have been married 61 years. We have 2 sons, 6 Grandchildren and 1 Great grand daughter. My son Brent is a member of the club. My hobbies are many – Woodworking – Fishing – Gardening – Jigsaw Puzzles – Teaching Confirmation at Church – Writing Articles for a Hometown Newspaper – Teaching Diamond Willow Carving – Saying "Yes Dear" to my Wife. (Makes for long and Happy Marriage) Doing the math to get the most usable material out of a bolt of cloth while my Wife Quilts. I started woodturning when I was playing Little League Baseball and wanted my own bat. My Uncle had a lathe and worked with me – I made my own bat. My favorite thing to turn was Lampshades. (I turned 21 Lampshades over the years.) My Favorite wood to turn depends on what I am making, Bowls would be Cherry, Walnut, or Maple. Lampshades – Aspen. Of course any solid Hardwood Burl is always #1.



Hi, Dan Drevlow here. I was born in, and grew up in St. James, MN. I am happily married to Chris and we have 2 daughters. I was an Industrial Arts Teacher for 10 years, then I worked at Medallion Kitchens in Waconia, then went to work at Goeble Fixtures Co. in Hutchinson and then spent the next 19 years or so getting new experiences. We moved from Norwood to Wilmer and we are enjoying it. I started woodturner 5 - 6 years ago. I like to experiment with turning. I like to make bowls and have been enjoying making gnomes and snowmen. I have started to do some segmented turning so I'll see where that takes me.