

SHAVINGS

Volume 16, Issue 1

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

January 10th, 2026.

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 January 10 meeting Will have
Earl Felling

Demonstrating how he makes rings.

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!

Letter from the Prez,

We had an amazing turnout for the last meeting of this year. Thank you to everyone that made the year and event a huge success.

Looking ahead, we have some new and exciting demo's coming to the club. Earl Felling is doing rings for us in January, Dan Larson is doing a German toy ring in February, Gary Mrozek is teaching bandsaw boxes in March, and Guy Schafer is teaming up with yours truly for a pen demo in April. What a way to start the year, right?

Until next year, have a very Merry Christmas, a fantastic new year, and lastly, stay safe in the shop and keep your tools sharp.

Tyler

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am after lots of visiting by a large crowd of folks.

We had two visitors. Lonnie is a friend of Art Buhs who was a member and has rejoined our group. John is a friend of Guy Schafer who invited him after seeing him at the Jingle and Mingle event in Sauk Rapids. Welcome.

Several people shared their platters along with one tree and two snow people. Look for the pictures later in the Newsletter. Dave Johnson and Guy Florek won \$10.00 gift cards to Craft Supply USA in a drawing of people that had a item for sharing.

Fred is looking for someone or some people to help him with the video taping, camera work and possible live streaming. If anyone has an interest in media and or is tech savvy this would be a great way to give back to the club. **(from our membership form.....Do you acknowledge that, like all membership based organizations, it requires the volunteer help of all members to operate? As a new member or returning member of the MMAW we ask you to consider 6 hours of annual service to the club.)** Contact Fred at, ftschr@hutchtel.net or 320-552-2763 if you are interested in this.

Tyler shared the up-coming demonstrations with the group.

January will have Earl Felling demonstrating making a ring for your finger.

February has Dan Larson will be demonstrating a different kind of ring, a [German](#) Ring.

March will be Gary Mrozek showing us how he makes a bandsaw box.

April will have Tyler Smith and Guy Schafer demonstrating pens how they can be finished.

If you haven't already renewed your membership and you intend to,

You can go to the [MMAW](#) page and find the membership renewal form under the Membership tab.

You can print the form, fill it out and bring it to the January meeting along with cash or a check for \$25.00

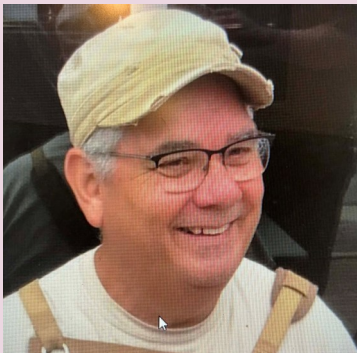
There will also be forms at the meeting.

Meet the Turners, again



(First published 4-24)

I have had a problem my whole life, and it's getting worse in my old age. My wife, Ellen, complains about it all the time. TOO MANY HOBBIES. It all started in high school when I got into Ham Radio. Then in college it was Judo and Sailing. A few years later it was Scuba Diving, Back Packing (with Ellen), Rock Climbing (without Ellen), and Mountain Climbing. I'm "good" at all my hobbies, but I'm not "very good" at any of them. There are just too many, and there are more to come. Go (The game of Go that is. See usgo.org), Astronomy, Flying model airplanes, and real airplanes (Cessna 182), Birding (with Ellen), Travel (5 continents), Photography, and Computer Programming (Python). Finally, Wood Working. I have made several pieces of furniture, but now I am making smaller things like boxes and segmented bowls. My shop is in my third garage so it is a little cramped. I have many modern tools, and some not so modern. The oldest is a Shop Smith that my father purchased new in 1951. It's my go-to table saw, disk sander and lathe. It can also be a drill press, and it can mix cookie dough. (All described in the Shop Smith user manual.) When I come up another hobby two), I'll let you know. Mike Heneghan



(First published 10-22) Gary Mrozek here. Prior to my retirement, my

friends who retired before me, said they're busier now than when they were working. My wife Faye and I both retired in 2018 and concur with this. We both worked at the same company where I managed the printing department and Faye managed customer support. We've been enjoying our new busy lifestyle ever since. We raised two children, our daughter and her family live locally and our son and his wife in Maryland. We have two grand-girls, 9 and 12 who accompany us at our summer lake home most weekends. They're in the water or on the water every minute they can. As a family, we enjoy craft projects on these weekends; from tie-dye tee shirts to painting rocks with various sayings that are strategically placed along the roadway for the public to enjoy.

I've been woodturning since 2006. I did not love it at first. At that time there was very little instruction or mentors available to me. In 2008 I was instrumental in starting a woodturning subgroup of the Central Minnesota Woodworkers Association to address these needs. We met monthly for 2 ½ years in my garage. This subgroup eventually became the MMAW. I tend to take the summers off from woodturning. This off-time has me doing more woodcarving and embellishments to previously turned items. The best thing about taking the summers off from woodturning is it's like returning home to an old friend in Fall. I enjoy turning bowls to hollow forms, both large and small, from the log and segmented. I'm very committed to the Paramount Center for the Arts where I've served on various committees, sell my products in their Gift Shop and teach several public woodturning classes throughout the year.

Meet the Turners, again



(First published 8-22)

Hi, LeAnn Kemper here. I am a Senior Auditor with Cetera Financial Group. Until March, 2020 I was traveling 20 weeks per year to audit investment sales offices. Since then I am doing the same work from my home office. My husband Mark is a retired Electrician. He spends a lot of time working on our retirement home in Outing, MN. My son David lives in Pine Island with his wife, Krystal and my Grandchildren; Mayzie and Harvey, and a third child expected in late July. My other son Ben works in Grand Rapids and lives in Outing. We have a spoiled Dachshund, Frankie in our St. Cloud/Outing home. I set up my Grandfather's rustic rug loom at our property up North. I hope to make rugs and other items yet this year.

About 5 years ago I needed a gift for a Christmas exchange that required a hand-made gift. I took a basic turning class at the Paramount and was hooked. Now I just need to find more time to turn on a regular basis to improve my skills. I have a midi Delta that I bought from Guy Schafer. Practicing on basic bowls as I try different wood, finishes, etc. to improve my skills. I'm working on a series of covered boxes this summer and would like to turn more pens.



(First published 10-22)

Dick Beumer here. I have 5 children and am a widower. I was in the Airforce and while serving I was stationed in Japan and Washington DC working as a Flight Mechanic. I worked for the City of St. Cloud to pay the bills and I was the Airport Manager when I retired. Besides gardening I spend a lot of time working with metal. I weld it, machine it, and turn it. I'm standing in front of my Grizzly milling machine, a big drill press, in the picture. I started woodturning about 25 years ago and was with the group that started the MMAW group as an offshoot of the Central Minnesota Woodworkers Association (CMWA). I never had any favorite things to make or turn. I would learn how to do one thing and then move on to the next Idea and things to learn.

Editor's note: Dick has made tool rests, face plates and other odds and ends for the club and the Art's Underground program, donating his time, materials and talent.

Thank you Dick, it is greatly appreciated.

What Are The Odds?

Every day when George got to work at the woodshop, he muttered a quiet prayer as he clocked in. "Dear Lord," he whispered, "please let me win the lottery so I don't have to sand anymore." Day after day, for thirty years, he said the same prayer. The one day, there was a note from God on his time-card. "George," it said, "I have heard your prayer more than 62,000 times. Don't you think it's time you actually bought a lottery ticket...?"

He who works with his hands is a laborer

He who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman

He who works with his hands and his head and his heart is an Artist

St. Francis of Assisi

We had a great turn out for our December
13 Holiday Meeting.

Lots of great food and lots of people,
considering it was **well below zero** when
most people headed to the meeting.



Instant Gallery



Fred Schmoll finally dusted off his lathe and turned this great platter.



Jim Preusser made this exquisite cherry burl platter

Guy Florek shared his walnut tree.



Dave Johnson shared his 3 piece tea set and his in-laid platter. He had a rough time with an exploding bowl and a broken bandsaw blade, but he survived!



Bob McClintick had a very nice walnut bowl/platter.

Instant Gallery



Karen Maier didn't turn this on a lathe but a potter's wheel, it was turned and it is a plate!



Tyler Smith made this platter.



Art Buhs made this snow person



Earl Felling shared his take of a snow person.



Instant Gallery



Chuck Hunt turned this ash platter. The color is much truer in the picture where he is holding the Platter.



Guy Schafer turned this ash platter. It was a first turn by Mike Hunter that he found in the box of started turnings. Mike picked a beautiful piece of wood.



Election results for 2026

Tyler Smith will return as President

Tom Harlander will give the Treasurer's job another go

Sharon Giesfeldt is our returning Secretary

Karen Maier is our newly elected Board Member, joining **Dan Drevlow**