

SHAVINGS

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.

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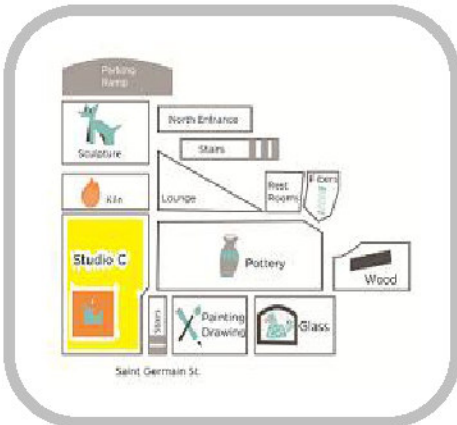
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MMAW membership meetings are held the second Saturday of each month. Located in Studio C. (see map) **Socializing** with fellow members starts at 9:30AM, coffee and treats available.

Meetings are held in the **Paramount Visual Arts Center (VAC)** which is located in the basement of the Paramount Theatre, downtown St. Cloud, MN. All city parking is free on Saturdays; this includes the ramp near the Paramount as well as metered street parking.

The membership meeting starts at 10:00AM (most meetings are about 1.5-2 hours long including the social time) and include 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. (Click on the above Paramount marquee for a link to their website.) The MMAW is an affiliate of the AAW. (Click on the above AAW marquee for a link to their website.)



Next Meeting Saturday August 11, 2018

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Presidents Letter
August 2018

Greetings MMAW Members'

The picnic was a big success thanks to the efforts of all. Well done and thanks to all that helped with the picnic.

The spin top challenge was fun and interesting with some nice tops to play with. We had two top friendly visitors that made off with a top each.

As I stated during our meeting/picnic, I'm looking for someone to help me with the materials list and to supervise remodeling the MMAW storage space at the Tech Center. No work, just supervise.

Our August meeting demo will be Lyle and Denny presenting the ins and outs of hollowing with different systems. There will be an opportunity to have hands on the tools and to ask questions. Lyle has done some very nice work with his system, is very knowledgeable.

I do want to remind everyone that Bill Baker is taking orders for the club. See him for details.

The Presidents Challenge this month is a goblet. Lets see whatcha got. With our vice presidents spot open it was looking like someone was going to do a second term. I'm happy to announce that Jerry Wervey has stepped up and accepted the VP position and will be the 2019 club president.

Thank you Jerry.

The last item is a reminder that we have the Art Crawl on August 10th. We need more members to help out. Give Guy a call or e-mail him.

Denny Myers
President

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Meeting minutes from July 14, 2018

Denny Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00.

The August meeting is on the 11th at the Paramount. The demo for the meeting is on hallowing. The President's challenge will be to make a goblet.

Guy had some cards with information on the 6th annual Segmenting Symposium Oct. 12-14, 2018 in St. Louis, Missouri. There will be 46 rotations with 11 different demonstrators that target skill levels from novice to advanced. Information can be found at segmentedwoodturners.org. This is a group that is affiliated with the AAW. He also had copies of the sharpening jigs that Dan Carlson had at the May meeting on Sharpening presented by Neil Robinette and Dan Carlson.

Guy also had the T-Shirts to pass out to the people that pre-ordered them. Sweatshirts were there too. There are still 2 – 2XL and 2 – L T-Shirts left. They are for sale on a first come first serve basis for \$12.00 each. Call Guy Schafer (320-420-5119) if you want one of these.

We are still in need of volunteers for the August 10th Art Crawl. Guy will make calls to get more volunteers. Bring your own supplies or we will have some wood and tools available. Try to have an easy to make project so we can have lots of people turning and spectators can watch a project from beginning to end. Call Guy Schafer (320-420-5119) if you'd like to volunteer.

Guy reported that Doug Thompson of Thompson Tools donated 6 - 1/2 inch or 3/8th inch unhandled bowl gouges to the Arts Underground program. Thanks very much to Doug from Thompson Tools for this wonderful donation.

Denny judged the top entries with several people winning Craft Supply USA gift certificates. I can't remember who won which areas, but there were some wonderful tops entered.

The meeting was adjourned and the picnic started. There was wonderful food for all with many spouses joining in for the event. Thank you to everyone that came and for all the great food. Thanks also to Roxanne for spearheading this event.

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We are officially invited to turn at the August 10th Art Crawl so we need people to be there to help with this very visible and important activity. We will have a table that you can sell or display some of your turnings if you'd like.

3:30 to 5:00 one or two more people to help with set up

5:00 to 6:15 one more person

6:15 to 7:30 three more people

7:30 to 8:45 four people

8:45 to 9:15 3 more people to help take down

Please check your calendars and volunteer to help with this activity. It is a wonderful way for the MMAW to be visible in the community and to attract more members.

Contact Guy Schafer at 320-420-5119 to volunteer.

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Woodworm Screws

Mike Peace

Many turners do not take advantage of one of the easiest and quickest ways to mount some projects on a lathe—the woodworm screw. This is basically a large screw chuck.

While you can buy a dedicated screw chuck, most scroll chucks come with a woodworm screw. This is a machined screw held within the jaws (Photo 1). A woodworm screw is cylindrical rather than tapered like a typical wood screw and has sharp, deep threads. These threads are designed to bite into the workpiece with a minimum of damage to wood fibers. The screw has a base that fits beneath and against the underside of the jaws to prevent it from being pulled from the chuck.

Woodworm screws also have four grooves or flat areas for the jaw slides or chuck jaws (or both) to fit against, to prevent the screw from twisting and coming loose. Some, like the one that came with my Super Nova 2, have a channel that the jaws close around.

The woodworm can speed up the process of getting the exterior of small bowls formed and a tenon turned for a chuck to grab onto. Another advantage is that you can remove and remount the piece with a good chance of it running true.

How to use

Insert the screw into the #2 jaws and start to tighten the jaws. Pull the screw forward so the base fits against the back of the jaws, and then finish tightening. This will prevent any tendency for the screw to creep forward when it is being used.

Ensure that the workpiece has a flat surface where it will touch the top of the chuck jaws. Pre-drill a hole into your workpiece slightly smaller in diameter than the screw size, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) deep. Teknatool says drill a $\frac{5}{16}$ "- (8mm-) diameter hole for their woodworm screws. Oneway specifies a 9mm- or $\frac{11}{32}$ "-diameter hole for their Stronghold and Talon chucks. Check the instructions that came with your chuck for hole diameter.

A woodworm screw has its best hold in face-work such as a platter or small bowl, but can do well with small endgrain projects. Most of the holding strength comes from the large jaw surface that is pulled against the wood. One way to strengthen the grip even more is to make a large-diameter hardwood washer of side-grain flat stock that fits around the jaws when closed and is even with the top of the jaws (Photo 2).

Woodworm screws are not suitable for hollowing projects or other work where the work piece tends to project out from the chuck toward the tail stock more than about 4" (100mm). Longer projects tend to cause leverage problems that require a stronger holding method than a screw chuck.

Tips

- Use tailstock support as long as possible.
- Keep the rpm at a safe speed for the size of the piece, but probably no more than 600 rpm.
- Do not use this chucking technique with punky or otherwise unsound wood.
- When using on softer woods or green wood, you can strengthen the wood fibers by adding thin CA glue to the walls of the drilled hole.

- Do not leave green wood on a screw chuck overnight. Rust can make it extremely difficult to remove.
- If you cannot remove the piece with two hands, remove the screw from the chuck with the piece attached and try unthreading the screw with a wrench.
- After threading on the blank, try rocking it side to side to ensure there is no movement.
- Rub a little candle wax on the screw threads to make it easier to remove the work. Keep in mind that when turning, the workpiece can actually get tighter.
- Sometimes the standard hole is too deep for the wood. An example would be when turning a plate from $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) stock. Simply add a spacer made of MDF or plywood, $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " (3mm to 6mm) thick, to shorten the amount of screw that is exposed (Photo 3). The woodworm for the Super Nova2 or Nova G3 projects about $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16mm) while the one for the larger Titan chuck projects $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) beyond the jaw surface. A hole only $\frac{3}{8}$ " (10mm) deep can securely hold a 12"- (300mm-) diameter platter.



Photo 1



Photo 2

The screw in photo 1 projects $\frac{3}{4}$ " (20mm) beyond the jaws. The one in photo 2 projects $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16mm).

=====Sidebar=====

Small projects

Sometimes a woodworm screw is just too big or long for your project. You can easily make a screw chuck for small projects of a production nature. Mount a scrap of wood onto a faceplate (or use a threaded glue block screwed onto a woodworm screw).

A #10 machine screw will hold well for small projects where you are only taking light cuts. With the faceplate and wood scrap mounted onto the lathe, drill a center hole for the screw. The hole should be small enough in diameter for the threads to hold the screw firmly in place. Remove from the lathe and screw the screw in from the back.

Remount and turn a taper to match the bottom of the project. You can use this taper as a visual reference to size your project without the need for calipers. This is a great technique for small production-style projects like knobs or chessmen.

A small amount of thin CA glue applied to the screw threads before screwing the workpiece onto the screw will provide additional holding, yet the piece can still be removed easily.



Smaller-size shopmade screw chucks provide fast and easy mounting of small projects such as chessmen (right). Use a lag bolt if more support is needed, as shown in the example on the left that uses a faceplate and a scrap of plywood.

Mike Peace started turning shortly after retiring and enjoys a wide variety of turning from ornaments to hollow forms. He is active in three woodturning chapters in the Atlanta area. You can see pictures of Mike's work and read his published articles on his website, mikepeacewoodturning.blogspot.com.

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