April Demonstrator

Steve McLoon

Lidded Boxes
Minnesota Woodturners Association

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Beads of Courage

Diane and Bob Puetz organize the Beads of Courage program for the Minnesota WoodTurners Association.

BEADS OF COURAGE wants to give ALL children and families coping with serious illness the ability to record, tell and own their stories of courage through the use of colorful beads collected for each treatment experience. Even though Beads of Courage is available in over 250 hospitals around the world, there are many children living in outstate areas where the program is not available.

Bob and Diane Puetz at their spot right by the entrance at every MWA meeting
Beads of Courage

Bob and Diane recording donations to B of C for this month including another kit from Jim Jacobs

Diane accepting a donation from Bob Meyer. Many great items were donated this month by MWA members
Beads of Courage

Some very nice work by Karl Foord which will be greatly appreciated by children in the Beads of Courage program and their families
Beads of Courage

Aveline really enjoys her Beads of Courage lidded bowl that holds all of her Courage Beads, which was made by a member of the Minnesota WoodTurners Association.
This month there were many beautiful creations by MWA members; many more items than usual.

Don Schlais and Glen Hambleton admiring the many items in the Instant Gallery.
Instant Gallery (cont’d)

Two amazing bowl creations by Don Schlais

Bottle stoppers from plywood by George Martin
Instant Gallery (cont’d)

Beautiful eggs with intricate designs by Linda Ferber

Walnut bowl by Russ Loucks
An amazing 3-axis turning achievement in a patina embellished maple piece by Wayne Johnson

Spalted/cracked maple by Mark Paranto
• The handle was turned by Rick Auge. I often prototype tools with Rick.
• The #1 Cutter, 3/8" and 1/2" shank Viceroy tools are selling extremely well. Many turners have asked for longer-reach tools, which is the reason for the #1 Cutter, 5/8" prototype.
• The Robust system uses various sized collets. The collets range from 1/4" to 5/8". With these collets, prototype tools of just about any size can be used with this handle.
• Most turners will use this system on a narrow range of tools, but I like it for the various tool diameter prototypes that are manufactured.

Mike Hunter
Instant Gallery (cont’d)

Steve Mages with his maple bowl

Natural-edge bowl by Tom Sciple
Instant Gallery (cont’d)

Black ash bowl by Roger Erickson

Crabapple by Mark Debe

Pistachio. Very tough wood!! according to Jim Jacobs
Instant Gallery (cont’d)

Bottle stoppers by Tom Sciple. Wood from wood raffles.

Oak burl by Tom Sciple
Before the Meeting

Pres. Rick Auge, Neil Robinette and Jeff Luedloff

Dan Larson & Glen Hambleton closely examining a segmented turning in the Instant Gallery

Jim Jacobs & Lee Tourtelotte

Ed Melich and Lyle Bye checking out tools they absolutely need

Ken Crea helps Glen Hambleton with a membership issue
Before the Meeting (cont’d)

Gordon Fay & Al Feist. Is Gordon reaching for a SECOND donut?

Jeff Koltveit selling popular Australian burls

Paul Laes selling raffle tickets

Al Feist, Ken Hallberg & Paul Oare checking out the Instant Gallery

Bill Breckon checking the AAW app
Before the Meeting (cont’d)

The “Front Room” is always filled with activity before the meeting begins.

Danny Judd, Tom Sciple, Steve Mages and Jimmy Robertson looking over the pieces in the Instant Gallery.

Checking out the split shelf support in the Member Challenge.
• Neil Robinette pointed out the club logo shirt and hat that are available on our website. He appealed to the members to look at the website’s many offerings such as the FOR SALE section that has been updated and will continue to be kept current.

• Rick announced there was a large amount of fresh cherry and nearly-dry miscellaneous wood on two trailers in front of the building ready for the wood raffle.

• Rick then announced our spring Crafts Supplies club buy starting this week, with the deadline of midnight Sat. April 21st. All the details are in an email dated 4-9-18.

• Next was Gordon Fay who announced a new location for members interested in meeting other turners from our club in an informal setting in Arden Hills, the address is 3355 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills MN. The first meeting will be April 17th from 1-3 PM.
• At this point Rick began an AAW video of Trent Bosch who gave a 10-minute summary of his method of drying wood.

• Next Jim Jacobs previewed his upcoming class on the skew, scheduled for Sat May 12th. One class at 9 – 12, and a second class from 1 -4, (a repeat of the first). You can sign up for am or pm and get the same class. Details will be posted on the website soon.

• Dan Larson announced his beginner bowl class for Sat. 4-28-18. Details are on the website under “Events & Classes”.

Announcements (cont’d)
March Demonstration
Steve McLoon
Lidded Boxes

As usual Steve gave a very well presented demo on turning a lidded box. He started the demo by telling the members there are “No Rules”. Every step he suggested has several options for design, wood type, size, and a host of other “rules”.
Nevertheless, Steve did suggest some ideas that have worked for him:

1. Use straight grained wood to make it easier to match grain.

2. Boxes turned and hollowed from end grain will tend to be more stable than side grain like a bowl.

3. He showed a slide presentation of various lids in order of difficulty to turn. (see picture)

4. He nearly always sketches his plan out prior to turning.
Steve illustrating the area of the log from which the box should come
Steve went on to go over SHARPENING as a **must** for all turners.

Then on to a 4x4x8 inch blank he mounted on the lathe. He started with a 5/8 bowl gouge using it to turn a cylinder, and using a spindle roughing gouge for the same purpose as an example of tools being multipurpose.
Steve then turned a spigot, using a bedan tool and mentioning that the spigot must be 90 degrees at the base (with straight jaws) for best holding and reminding the members that the chuck jaws need to enclose the circumference of the spigot at least 40% or more as per the manufacturer. Also remember to check the tightness of the chuck often while turning.
After the blank was turned to round and the spigot was turned on both ends he parted off the lid portion with a 1/16\textsuperscript{th} inch parting tool so the grain will match as closely as possible. This brought up the issue of how much of the blank should be the base and how much the lid. 70/30?, 50/50? Now we go back to “No Rules”. He showed several examples of boxes he has turned, some short with a small lid and others tall with a small lid. It’s your box! Do what you like and experiment.
On to hollowing the base: He starts nearly all his boxes by drilling out the center with a large Forstner bit to reduce the amount of time to complete. He suggests using a Hunter tool for hollowing. He then turned the 1/8 inch lip for the top to set in. Next, he put the top section in the chuck, turning a nice deep curve into it and cutting a deep recess to fit the base.
Replacing the base in the chuck, he fit the top on it and finished turning the top of the lid. If the top is loose when on the base he has solutions. 1) wet both surfaces so they swell and fit tightly enough to turn the top of the lid 2) put one or more layers of Kleenex between the two, and 3) he has used 3M electrical tape over the joint just in case.
Finally, to make sure the two parts of a straight sided box are perfectly parallel he has a shop made sander on a flat block and sands the box on the lathe using the length of the block to flatten any imperfections out of the box.
Embellishments: Steve had some boxes with a medallion recessed in the top and he showed us how he does this: Pretty simple, while the lid is being turned and shaped he cut in a recess with his bedan tool to fit the medallion so it ends up flush with the top.
A complete description of Steve’s demo is available at his website under “Fun Stuff & Technical Articles” Link: http://www.millennium-studio.com.

Ed. note: Steve’s website is really great and worthwhile to look at everything!
Great demo, Steve!
Thanks for all the work you put into it.
**Member Challenge** – Object with one or more paper joints that has been turned, taken apart and re-glued. (page 1)
Member Challenge (page 2)

4th Place John Chance

5th Place Ken Gustagson

6th Place George Martin
Welcome New Members!

Matt Mortenson
Minneapolis

Jay Young
North Branch

Luke Brock
St. Paul

Richard Lee
New Hope

Phil Chambers
Spring Lake Park

Sam Rose
Mendota Heights

Jacob Foerst
Forest Lake

Vic Spaulding
Roseville

Greg Renstrom
Shafer
Next Meeting

May 5, 2018 - Saturday morning 9 am
Location: Houck Machine Co.
12811 16th Ave N Plymouth Mn 55441
DONUTS

Demonstration: Mike Mahoney
Live Video Demonstration

Member Challenge:
Toy, puzzle or game, wand, (magic wand, wizard's wand, Harry Potter inspired wand, etc)
PROFILES IN TURNING

Gordon Fay

This is the ninth in a series of profiles of members of the Minnesota Association of WoodTurners
MWA: Gordon, when did you start woodturning and how did you get started?

Gordon: I retired in 1990. I didn’t know what to do once I retired. I had gotten a brochure from Anoka-Ramsey about the lost-wax casting technique and there I met a retired superintendent of schools and we got on very well. At Anoka-Ramsey a group of four of us World War II vets became good friends. I took a lot of classes at Anoka-Ramsey Community College and the University of Minnesota in computers, ceramics, stained glass, bronze casting, glass blowing and other crafts.
MWA: That’s a lot of classes. Did you do anything else in the craft field?

Gordon: I took some classes at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska in carving moose antlers and stone carving. I did lots of things but never got to be a master in any of them, I sort of made a mess, but I have lots of good memories. I made a lot of furniture for my kids.
MWA: This great shop where you work belongs to Dave Carlson. How did you work that?

Gordon: I met Dave Carlson on a committee at church and we got along very well and became friends. We saw eye to eye and often were a group of two opposing the remaining more conservative members of the committee.

We got talking about an old lathe I had and Dave said it would be better off in his shop so he picked it up and brought it to his shop. This was sometime after I had retired. Now I’ve been woodturning for quite a while.
MWA: How long have you been a member of MWA?

Gordon: I think I joined 17 or 18 years ago.

MWA: MWA: How did your turning hobby progress?

Gordon: When I got access to Dave’s shop I got to turn more and it really got to be a lot more fun. I met other guys in the club who really helped me. I’ve gotten to be good friends with Dan Larson. I’ve gone over to his shop and he’s come over here. There are so many fine people in the club.

Gordon enjoys the shop with a full complement of all types of woodworking tools.
**MWA:** Where and how big is your shop?

**Gordon:** Well, it is Dave’s shop. But it is great. It is a 6-car garage with very high ceilings and a HEATED FLOOR! It has hot and cold running water and air pressure. Dave designed and built this the way he wanted it.
Dave Carlson enjoys having Gordon work in his shop as much as Gordon enjoys being able to use it.

**MWA:** You’re really lucky to have such a good friend as Dave Carlson.

**Gordon:** That’s for sure. Dave started out teaching Shop. Then he built houses. Then he got into the trucking business. He delivers engineered beams and other building materials around the state. He’s just retired.
MWA: What kind of a lathe do you have?

Gordon: The lathe I mostly use now is a Nova dvr. We have Dan Larson’s old Nova dvr, which has an extension. This is actually Dave’s lathe. We have a few other lathes we can use. When Dave brought my old lathe to his shop I knew I needed a better one and found a lathe for sale up state so we brought that back. When the AAW Symposium was in St. Paul in 2001 I bought two lathes. I sold the better of my old lathes at the club for $100. Later I sold one of the ones I had gotten at the Symposium; it was still in the box.
**MWA:** What is your favorite type of turning?

**Gordon:** Segmented! I got into it just by chance. I saw a picture of a segmented bowl and I knew I really wanted to do that. I make a full scale drawing of every segmented bowl I do. I like doing segmented bowls for several reasons, one of which is that if I am running short of a species I can use up pieces of wood that would be thrown away; I consider that “free wood.” I can almost always figure out a way to use it.
Gordon does a full scale drawing for every segmented vessel he turns.
MWA: What is your greatest challenge in woodturning?

Gordon: According to Dave it’s my getting out of the house to get over here to the shop. For segmented turning you must figure out all the different forms of segmenting. You don’t want to waste wood. That’s why I do a full scale drawing of every segmented piece I do. I draw out the plans to scale and it tells me what I have to cut. It takes a little geometry, that’s all.
**MWA:** What type of wood do you prefer, wet or dry?

**Gordon:** Most of what I turn is wet, green wood. Dave gives me advice and I don’t always listen. We don’t always agree.

**MWA:** What’s your favorite species?

**Gordon:** Cherry, without a doubt! In the shop we always have cherry, walnut, red oak, bur oak and hard maple available. That’s great. Dave harvests trees and air-dries the wood.
**MWA:** Do you have some favorite pieces that you wouldn’t give away or sell?

**Gordon:** Oh, yes! And I have some favorite pieces I’ll probably never see again. When we moved to the retirement center a lot of things just disappeared. Most of my pieces I give away. I give a lot to fund raisers at the church for the youth for their trips and missionary activities. I sell some. I don’t actively try to sell pieces but if somebody wants to buy one, I put a price on it and they can buy it for that price or not. I have sold a number of cremation urns.
Gordon: I sold a piece once for $3000. However, it was a metal sculpture. At Anoka-Ramsey lots of the equipment was old and lousy. I went to some Legion clubs and got them to donate to the school’s Foundation to buy equipment. I sold my metal sculptures for the Foundation. The money we earned we gave to the Foundation and told them what needed to be bought. That really improved the equipment.
MWA: Gordon, what did you do before you retired in 1990?

Gordon: I was the County Engineer for Winona County from 1954 to 1968. Then I became the State Aid Engineer for the Minnesota Department of Transportation. I was with MNDOT from 1968 to 1990. I loved that job. I traveled all over the state to the 97 counties and 112 cities. I got to know so many wonderful people. My job was to set up standards, rules and regulations to allocate MNDOT money to these cities and counties.
MWA: That sounds like a very interesting as well as an extremely important job.

Gordon: I could have gotten promoted to Assistant Commissioner of MNDOT but I turned it down. The relation I had to the people who worked with me and the people I knew all around the state was great and it was just a great job. I had no reason to leave; money doesn’t give you happiness. Working with good people is wonderful. The people working for me were capable of doing anything. I didn’t like anyone to tell someone I was their “boss.” When asked about people that worked for me, I always introduced them as people who “work together with me.”
MWA: You told me you’ve been planning something you’re pretty excited about.

Gordon: Dave has consented to bringing other turners into the shop monthly in the middle of the month. We’re recruiting folks and will announce it at the next MWA meeting. We’re going to call it the Lake Johanna Wood Turners group, a sub group like the SE Metro Sub Group, the Hamburger Club, the Plymouth Group. We’re hoping to meet the first time on April 17th. We’ll try to do as the other groups with demos by those who have something to show, work on the lathes, have critiques, etc. Why do this? To make ourselves and others better woodturners. But the main object is to HAVE FUN!
Gordon Fay

This bandsaw is just for metals

The woodshop is definitely well-equipped

One of several other lathes in the shop
**MWA:** Gordon, any last thoughts you’d like to mention?

**Gordon:** I wish I had started some of these things earlier. I’m 93. I’m running out of time; I realize that. It’s easier to sit and talk about anything than actually do it. Dave and I work closely together and we try to stay away from religion and politics. I’ve been married to the same wonderful woman for 72 years in May. I’ve made a lot of mistakes in my life, but when I married my wife that wasn’t a mistake! I have 3 sons, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**Thanks, Gordon. You are certainly an inspiration to all of us!**
Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings

**Hamburger Club**

We generally meet the Wednesday or Thursday of the week following the club meetings. Our April meeting was Wednesday, April 18. Keep an eye out for the May meeting. We meet at 11:30 am with lunch to be ordered about 11:45 am.

No topics ... just an open dialogue of woodturning friends.

Any member that would like to be included on the mailing list please send an email to [MLH55410@aol.com](mailto:MLH55410@aol.com).

50's Grill, 5524 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center

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Lake Johanna Sub Group

This is a new sub group being organized by Gordon Fay. Members interested in meeting other turners from our club in an informal setting in Arden Hills, the address is 3355 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills MN

The first meeting was April 17th from 1-3 PM.
PLYMOUTH AREA SMALL GROUP
April meeting:
We had a short sharing of turnings and plenty of miscellaneous discussion, including air filtration

Next Meeting: Wednesday May 16, 7pm

The usual meeting place is 10501 Belmont Rd, Minnetonka.
Steve Mages 952-544-5286
As usual, bring a turning, problem or idea to share. In the absence of a specific topic, we will spend a few minutes talking about spindle gouges and their use.
SE METRO SUB GROUP

Bill Campbell, Lee Tourtelotte, Steve Miller, Neil Robinette, Mike Rohrer, Glen Anderson, Dave Olson, Dick Zawacki and Jim Jacobs attended the SE Metro Sub Group meeting on Friday, March 23 at Jim Jacobs’ home and shop in Hastings. Jim had provided several beverages and wonderful donut holes for snacks.

Jim Jacobs, Glen Anderson, Lee Tourtelotte and Neil Robinette discuss various adjunct tools for hollowing
The main topic for the get-together was HOLLOW FORMS. The attendees brought a good number of hollow forms for “Show and Tell” as well as many hollowing tools of various designs.
Although Jim had taken the effort to set up 3 lathes, all the work and practice was performed on Jim’s beloved Robust Liberty. After suggestions, drawings and discussion on the general shape of the hollow form we were going to work on (a great lesson on why vessels should not be designed by a committee) Jim started shaping the wood.

Jim showed how he sharpened his “Jacobs Made” heavy scraper upside down with an 80 grit stone to create a fantastic bur. He then demonstrated getting silk-thin shavings and leaving a surface that looked like it had already been sanded.
It was great having the club’s sharpening guru, Neil Robinette, in attendance as there were lots of questions and answers about sharpening, “U”, “V” and “parabolic” flutes in bowl gouges, and many other sharpening questions. Several of the attendees brought a wide variety of hollowing tools and hollowing systems. These included some shop-made systems, some very sophisticated, some simple.

The hollowing systems ranged from simple “L”-shaped extensions that attached to the shaft of hollowing tools for anti-torque support to very complicated systems with laser pointer indicators. All of us got to set up the laser pointer to determine a thickness for the hollow form and practice with it.
Mike Rohrer brought his Hunter tools, one of which was a reverse swan neck tool. Many attendees hadn’t turned in reverse and in trying this tool found out how pleasant it was on the neck, back and shoulders to be turning on the “back side” of the spinning blank and not being forced to bend way over and bend the neck in order to see the tool working inside the vessel.

Steve Miller using the Hunter “Reverse” swan neck tool with the lathe running in reverse. Note cutting is being done right side of the opening instead of the left.
Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings

Jim had provided wood for people to take. Dick Zawacki had brought a couple of logs with large burls and there was good discussion on how to make the best of the burls. After some committee votes, with Dick having the final decision, Jim used his Stihl electric chainsaw to cut the logs. It was fun for everyone to see the results and discuss how they would then use these blanks to make vessels that would accentuate the best of the burl.

Bill Campbell, Glen Anderson, Lee Tourtelotte watching as others try hollowing
Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings

In the middle of the day the group had lunch, consisting of Poor Boy sandwiches ordered and delivered by Jimmy John’s along with homemade and store-bought cookies. *Editor’s Note: There are so many names for this sandwich around the country, some of them are: Submarine, Hoagie, Grinder, Wedge, Hero, Poor Boy, Po’ Boy, Blimpie, Bomber, Sub, and many others.*

It was a fun and educational day. As one attendee said, “This was a very productive retirement day.”

*Note: Jim is not retired, Friday is his day off.*
• Dan Larson announced his beginner bowl class for Sat. 4-28-18. Details are on the website under “Calendar”.

• Jim Jacobs will present 2 classes on the skew, scheduled for Sat May 12th. One class at 9 – 12, and a second class from 1 -4, (a repeat of the first). You can sign up for am or pm and get the same class. Details will be posted on the website soon.

• Members who sign up should e-mail Jim for his handout info, which he wants them to read BEFORE the class (woodmanmn@aol.com)

• Class attendees should bring whatever skew they have. Jim will have sharp skews available to try and buy for $55.00.

- Do you break into a cold sweat when you hear the word "skew"?
- Do you have a death grip on your skew?
- Do you clench your teeth when using the skew?
- It's time to take Jim's skew class!
- Students will learn what causes catches and how to prevent them
- How to properly sharpen the skew and present it to the wood
- 7 different cuts which are done with the skew
- With practice ..you too, will love your skew!
Mike Mahoney will do a remote demonstration for the May 5 MWA meeting.

Mike Mahoney has been a professional wood turner since 1994. His bowls are featured in galleries across the United States. Mike’s work is sought after by collectors all over the world. Mike is often requested to demonstrate and teach for wood turning clubs, craft schools and symposia. He has traveled around the world to discuss and demonstrate his craft. He is considered an authority in woodturning.

For more information on attending Mike’s classes, see the workshop info sheet. For more discussion on woodturning, read Mike’s blog at mikemahoney.bowlmakerinc.com

Artist Statement:
“I am passionate about my craft and the American Craft movement. I am dedicated to producing quality craft and educating the public about woodturning. My wood comes from urban sources (tree trimmers and local cities). I produce all my work on the lathe without any embellishments after the fact, creating a very traditional feel with contemporary ideas. I want my work to be attractive as well as useful. For my work to be admired is one thing, but for my work to be used fulfills my purpose as a craftsman.”
MWA Classes

Trent Bosch was at the MWA April 20, 21, and 22.

Trent Bosch

A report on Trent’s Friday and Sunday classes and his all-day Saturday demonstration will be covered in the May newsletter.
Shop Classes - Rick Auge’s intent is: In the absence of scheduled classes it offers members an additional hands on turning / learning resource. He intends to put any open shop dates on the website calendar; members should always check the calendar for dates and instructions regarding reservation or registration.

•Because we only have 10 lathes people will have to register or make reservations for this. The exact method has not been decided because we cannot do online registration without charging a fee.

•In the past we have tried to do email reservations, however with cancellations and additions it becomes a bit email intense.

KEEP YOU EYES ON THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS REGARDING SATURDAY SHOP CLASSES

We are in need of instructors and ideas to expand beyond our classes beyond our normal bowl and bowl variation classes.
• I extend my sincere thanks to Lee Tourtelotte and Neil Robinette for covering the April meeting for me and providing all of the images and information regarding the meeting so I could write the newsletter.

• This newsletter is later than usual because I was in New York City for a couple of weeks visiting grandchildren. I left the day before the April meeting and returned just in time for Trent Bosch’s Saturday demonstration and Sunday class. I will report on Trent’s demo and class in the May newsletter.

• I hope you enjoy reading the profile of Gordon Fay as much as I did producing it. What a gentleman and asset for the MWA! And he is still active in thinking of new ways to engage with and assist fellow woodturners, organizing a new sub group of the MWA, the Lake Johanna Group.