



# Minnesota Woodturners

In association with the American Association of Woodturners

## A Picture Perfect Picnic



Above - Pat and Glenn Church enjoy Rod Olson's fresh sweet corn.



Top right - Paul Kovarik and MWA vice president Don Roden wait patiently as their meat courses cook over the charcoal grill.



Left - Rod Olson removes another batch of his sweet corn for hungry MWA members.

Text by  
Bruce Arones  
Photos by  
Chuck Bjorgen

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Our annual picnic on August 16th was a great success. About 50 people were in attendance, the food was abundant and tasty, and the location – Spring Lake Park Reserve in Hastings – was ideal.

Everyone had a good time, thanks to the good planning of Jim Jacobs. Jim organized games that sparked a lot of interest – tool and lathe accessory identification for the spouses and wood identification for the turners.

The Mushroom Challenge attracted quite a few entries. Awards were won by Dale Martin, Greg Super, Bruce Arones and Jack Frost. A full table of **Show & Tell** items demonstrated the talent and creativity of our members. Duane Gemelke did a great job in presenting the show and tell turnings.

Thanks to everyone who pitched in to help in setting up, cleaning up and other activities.

*more picnic photos on pages 2-3*



# A P i c t u r e -

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Above - Ruth and Don Wattenhofer joined Mike Lucido for the picnic.

Top left - Joyce Arones and Carolyn Allard found a shady spot at the Spring Lake Park Reserve picnic grounds where the MWA 2003 picnic was held.

Middle left - From left, Peggy and Hal Malmlov and Chuck Pitschka settled in for the pot luck lunch.

Bottom left - Jack and Julie Frost brought their own high-tech folding chairs to the August MWA picnic.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

JOHN HAUG  
ANDOVER, MN

GORDON ZIPPERER  
CAMBRIDGE, MN

MARK GJERDE  
RUSH CITY, MN

JIM SANNERUD  
HAM LAKE, MN

DON HULLETT  
DUNDAS, MN

JEFF LUEDLOFF  
SHAKOPEE, MN

## MWA BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS DECEMBER

### CALL FOR CANDIDATES

The Minnesota Woodturners Association will hold its annual election of Board Members on December 9, 2003.

Several Board seats will be open, and you are encouraged to volunteer.

## Treasurer's Report

January 1-August 31, 2003

INCOME	\$5,455
EXPENSES	[3,420]
CK BK BAL	
as of 8/31/03	\$2,902

Submitted by  
Ron Meilahn  
Treasurer/Membership

# Perfect Picnic

## Mushroom Turning Contest



MWA members took their turns casting votes for entries into the mushroom turning competition. From left, Bob Bouvin, Peggy and Hal Malmlov, Barb Martin and Jack Frost.



Winners of the mushroom turning competition: seated, Greg Super, fourth place, Dale Martin, first place. Standing, Bruce Arones, third place, Jack Frost second place.



Duane Gemelke displayed his amusement with the "creatures" created by member Steve Luhman, right, to guard the entrance to his driveway.

## Show & Tell



Above - The popular Show & Tell submissions at recent club meetings seem to be growing in number with every meeting and the picnic was no exception.

Right - Bob Bouvin describes how he turned and finished this large salad bowl for use by his church.



## Wood ID Contest



Bruce Arones, Steve Tiedman, Don Wattenhofer and Hal Malmlov carefully scrutinized the various wood samples for the wood identification competition created by program director Jim Jacobs. A tool identification contest for spouses was also new for this event.

## Members Meeting September

### September meeting focuses on chain saws

Photos and text by  
Chuck Bjorgen

If it's September, it must be an MWA clubmeeting at John Magnussen's shop and that's what it was on a perfect day with perfect weather, no mosquitos and close to 50 members of the Minnesota Woodturners Association. The subject was chain saws, how to select them, how to sharpen and use them safely, all for our needs in woodturning.

Program director Jim Jacobs started the session with a discussion about selecting a chain saw for the average woodturner. Bar sizes ranging from 16 to 20 inches seem to be common among woodturners with gas saws the most popular.



Top left - About 50 MWA members attended the September membership meeting in John Magussen's shop. The meeting combined a tool swap along with instruction on selecting and using chain saws.



Top right and right photo - John Magnussen demonstrated his method for sharpening his saw chains. John files each tooth with an equal number of strokes.



President Bruce Arones brought along an example of an electric chain saw that might be useful when preparing blanks inside the shop or when it might be inconvenient to set up a gas unit for a couple of simple cuts.

Steve Tiedman reminded members that the oil in two-cycle gasoline mixtures might settle out in either the saw's or the main storage gas tanks. He recommended shaking up the saw or the gas tank to get the oil/gas mixture properly distributed.

#### How to Sharpen Your Own Chain Saw

John Magussen demonstrated how he does his own chain sharpening. Using a special chain saw file, J

John marks one spot on the chain and then applies a set number of file strokes to each tooth on the chain until he has returned to his starting mark. "I just saved \$6," said John when he finished his chain.

#### John Demonstrates Excellent Contingency Planning

Then it was outside to an elm tree that John had selected to cut down for the demo. He talked briefly about cutting a notch on the side of the tree in the direction he wanted it to fall. He also cautioned that the final felling cut on the opposite side of the tree should not go too deep or the saw could be stuck in the cut.

As luck would have it the tree was prevented from falling cleanly by surrounding trees. Sure enough, the chain saw bar was wedged into the trunk of the tree where he had made the cut.

After some good-natured ribbing from his fellow club members, John went into his shop and returned driving his skid loader utility vehicle, often generically called a "Bobcat," which is a brand name.

With the bucket, John lifted the top portion of the tree enough to free the chain saw, then pulled the tree backwards to allow it to fall to the ground where he then sawed several sections into manageable logs.



Above left - John made the notch cut on the back side of this elm tree in the direction he wanted the tree to fall.



Top - John's chainsaw captured by recalcitrant trees.  
Bottom - Undaunted, John turned to heavy equipment to fell the tree.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Now I can tell my wife that a Bobcat is a chain saw accessory - and I need one!"*

## September Show & Tell



### How to Prepare Logs for Woodturning

An important question, especially for beginners, is how to convert logs into blanks for woodturning.

John demonstrated his techniques for cutting bowl blanks and how to cut crotch wood to reveal the best figure.

Mike Lucido brought along an old pine burl that had long been buried in a public roadway and recently uncovered during a road project. After some discussion, the burl was sawed into several pieces to reveal interesting figure and very tight growth rings, a testimony to the age of the wood.

Next on the agenda was Jim Jacob's demonstration of his shop-made jig for preparing bowl blanks. A gas powered chain saw was set to work in "chop saw" mode to enable Jim to rough round bowl blanks before mounting them on the lathe. Jim's invention received a hearty round of applause from the members who watched.

During the lunch break, several members went into town but many stayed in the shop to browse the items that several had brought for the tool swap meet. John spent most of this time captive at his Woodfast lathe as several members wanted to get some turning tips from him.

After lunch, the two club lathes brought to the meeting were put into action because a few members wanted to get in some turning time. Perhaps most important though was that the added meeting time, a total of five hours, allowed members to get together and just chat informally. The meeting ended with the wood raffle and cleanup of the shop.

As usual, John, the MWA thanks you for another entertaining and informative club meeting. You are the perfect host.

### Online resources for chainsaw information

The following link is for the U of Missouri extension service, a good one to look at. Be careful typing in the long link.

<http://muextension.missouri.edu/xplor/agguides/agengin/g01959.htm>

This link takes you right to the safety book (in PDF format) for Stihl chainsaws. Lots of very good general information as well.

[http://www.stihl.com/tipstricks/ba\\_smcsus\\_30\\_01.pdf](http://www.stihl.com/tipstricks/ba_smcsus_30_01.pdf)

**More September meeting photos next page**

# Members Meeting September

## Focus on chain saws

### How to Prepare Logs for Woodturning

Photos and text by  
Chuck Bjorgen



Program director Jim Jacobs showed off his chain saw "chop saw" station that he designed to roughly round off bowl blanks.

The cradle to Jim's left allows for cross cutting and splitting log sections safely.



John cut into this pine burl that Mike Lucido brought to the meeting.



As part of his demo, John sawed a piece of crotch wood to best reveal the internal figure that woodturners prefer.



The resulting crotch piece that could be turned as a bowl.

## MWA Demos at State Fair

By Bruce Arones

On Labor Day, nine turners celebrated the day by demonstrating woodturning at the State Fair. This was our Club's first time at the State Fair and we created a lot of interest in woodturning for the people passing through the Creative Activities Building.

The bench in front of our booth was occupied almost constantly throughout the day.

A good number of people took membership applications with them, and I believe that our two newest members are the result of our demos at the State Fair.

### Thank you to our MWA Demonstrators

**Bruce Arones  
Dody Bemrick  
Joe Cornell  
Duane Gemelke  
Dan Hansen  
Daryl Hanson  
Wayne Keifer  
John Kempkes  
Bob Singelstad**

## A Note of Appreciation

A big thanks goes out to MWA member Bob Jensen who recently made three additional tool boxes to house the accessories for the club Jet mini lathes. The original two tool boxes were designed and built by Jerry Rausch. Hmmm? We have five tool boxes and four lathes.

— Chuck Bjorgen

### NEW EMAIL ADDRESS? NEW PHONE NUMBER? Keep us in the Loop!

Please advise Ron Meilahn if any of your contact information has changed - especially your email address. Just email updated information to [ronmeilahn@usfamily.net](mailto:ronmeilahn@usfamily.net).

Thank you!

## Advertisements

### PRIVATE LESSONS

Learn **TOOL SHARPENING** on the Oneway Wolverine system. A MUST for anyone serious about mastering woodturning.

One-on-one sessions in my shop will cover tools & equipment, shaping, sharpening and honing. Call now for evening and week-end appointments. \$45/session.  
Steve Tiedman  
**763-789-4505.**

### PHOTOS WANTED FOR MWA WEBSITE GALLERY

Do you have some turnings of which you're particularly proud? If so, we'd like to see them on our website!

Please send a photo to Dave Carley, our MWA webmaster by navigating to [www.mnwoodturners.com](http://www.mnwoodturners.com) and clicking on "CONTACT WEBMASTER". You should be able to attach your photo file to the email.

### FREE MEMBER ADVERTISING

Free turning-related ads for members.

### COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING

\$4.00/month per column inch. To place ad, contact Don Roden at 763-425-3110 or [drodend@mninter.net](mailto:drodend@mninter.net). Ads will run one issue unless you call to extend your add to additional issues.

## Rockler Program to Teach Young Turners An Opportunity for MWA Mentors

by Mary Lacer

Nordy Rockler is working on a project with the Whittier Community School for the Arts at 26th and Grand in Minneapolis. They mix art with regular subjects.

He would like to start a program to teach woodturning to the 5th grade students. He is going to donate some Jet mini-lathes, a set of tools for each lathe, goggles, some wood and whatever they need to get started. He was thinking of someone teaching once or twice a week for about an hour. We would have to talk with the teacher to see what they have in mind.

He needs teachers to donate their time to teach the kids. I suggested that the local chapter may want to take on a community project. He wants to start as soon as we have teachers.

The school was at the MIA when Robyn and John Horn were here to see the 45 pieces that they donated from their collection.

He asked if the MN chapter could draw up a curriculum. He suggested that we could get some publicity out of this for AAW and Rockler.

If you have an interest, please contact Mary at [woodturner@qwest.net](mailto:woodturner@qwest.net).

## FLORIDA WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM

**Dates** - January 9-11, 2004

**Location** - Lake Yale, FL (near Eustice)

Featured demonstrators: Clay Foster, Alan Lacer, Andre Martel, Betty Scarpino plus Florida turners.

Symposium fee is \$85 plus \$25 per demonstration.

For more info, contact

Dave Barriger

407-886-3325 or [dbarriger@earthlink.net](mailto:dbarriger@earthlink.net)

Judy Jackman

941-379-6302 or [jamerkt@earthlink.net](mailto:jamerkt@earthlink.net)

# Club Calendar



## November Meeting

### Topic

Brian Grobe will demonstrate turning an ornament of his own design and speak about turning for craft shows.

**Also Show & Tell**  
Video Library

### Date

November 11th

### Time

6:30 pm -9:00 pm

### Location

Roseville H.S.  
Woodshop

### Directions

Roseville Area High School is located on County Rd B2 (1 block north of Hwy 36) between Hamline and Lexington Avenues. The meeting is held in the School's woodshop on the east end of the building.

As you enter the school parking lot, veer left (east) to the end of the building. The door to the woodshop is on the south side of the dumpsters.

### HAVE A TOPIC FOR THE BOARD?

If you would like to bring a topic to the Board's attention, please contact any board member and we'll include it on the meeting agenda.

Board members listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

## CRAFT SUPPLIES ORDERS DUE OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>

Your **CRAFT SUPPLIES** order will be collected at our October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting or you may send your order directly to Ron Meilahn **no later than Thursday Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

To qualify for a discount and free shipping, our club order must total a minimum of \$1,000 and be shipped to one address. As in the past, we consolidate our individual orders and submit to CS, who will advise us of net cost; we will then notify each member to send payment while the order is being shipped.

For each item ordered, you must include:

<b>page #</b>
<b>item #</b>
<b>item description</b>
<b>quantity</b>
<b>price</b>

Send your orders via email or surface mail as follows:

**EMAIL**  
[ronmeilahn@usfamily.net](mailto:ronmeilahn@usfamily.net)

**SURFACE MAIL**  
Ron Meilahn  
13968 Alder St NW  
Andover, MN 55304

If you have any questions, call Ron at 763-862-2100.

### OCTOBER

#### 3rd & 5th

David Ellsworth conducts two hands-on sessions for small groups.

#### 4th

Monthly meeting to be an all-day demonstration by professional turner, David Ellsworth.

#### 23rd

Deadline for Craft Supplies orders to be sent to Ron Meilahn.

### NOVEMBER

#### 5th

Board of Directors meeting to be held.

#### 11th

Monthly meeting will feature Brian Grobe demonstrating how to turn Christmas ornaments.

### DECEMBER

#### 9th

Our fabulous Holiday Party!

**PLUS** Election of Board Members for 2004.

### JANUARY

#### 13th

Wayne Kiefer will demonstrate bowl turning and show us his finishing process.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of every other month; January, March, May, September, and November.

Board meetings are held at 6:30 pm at the following location:

**AAW Offices**  
**3499 Lexington Ave No Suite 103**  
**St Paul, MN**



# From Your Program Director

by Jim Jacobs  
Program Director

School is back in session, fall is in the air (a welcome relief) and it's time to get back into woodturning after taking the summer off.

I have started to plan meetings and demos for next year and came up with a list of possibilities (right):

If you are willing to demonstrate any of these or have anything else you would like to demo for our group, please contact me. It would be nice to have some newer members demonstrate and share their talents.

Jim Jacobs  
651-437-2302  
email  
woodmanmn@aol.com

## Notes about Craft Supplies Order

Catalogs will be available at the October meeting or you can request one by calling Craft Supplies (CS) at 1-800-551-8876.

Product discounts may vary, and some items may be back ordered.

## SHARE YOUR SKILLS WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP- DEMONSTRATE AT A MONTHLY MEETING

Sharpening turning tools

Chucking methods

Jigs, tips and tricks by members

Turning spheres

Pens

Full sized birdhouses

Segmented turnings

Split turning

Inside out turning

Hollow forms (1 and 2 piece)

Spindle duplicating

Exotic woods

Finishing techniques

Tool making

Metal spinning

Thin-walled goblets

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### MWA BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS DECEMBER

#### CALL FOR CANDIDATES

New members, long-time members! Step forward and run for the MWA Board!

# Happy Holidays!



Mark your calendar now for our club's holiday party. Please bring your spouse (or significant other) to enjoy the evening.

As always, there will be fabulous people, wonderful conversations, great food, prizes, raffles, a gift exchange and who knows what else Jim's cooked up for us?

## Date

Tuesday  
December 9th

## Time

6:30 pm -10:00 pm

## Location

AAW Offices  
Lower Level  
3499 Lexington Ave No.  
Shoreview, MN

## Directions

Located on Lexington at Harriet Avenue in the Catholic Aid Assn. Bldg. From I-694, drive 3/4 mile south. From Hwy 36, drive 2.5 miles north.

Parking in the lot at rear of building. Enter building and go to lower level.

Please come prepared to pay your dues for 2004 - still just \$25.00. Checks can be made payable to MWA.

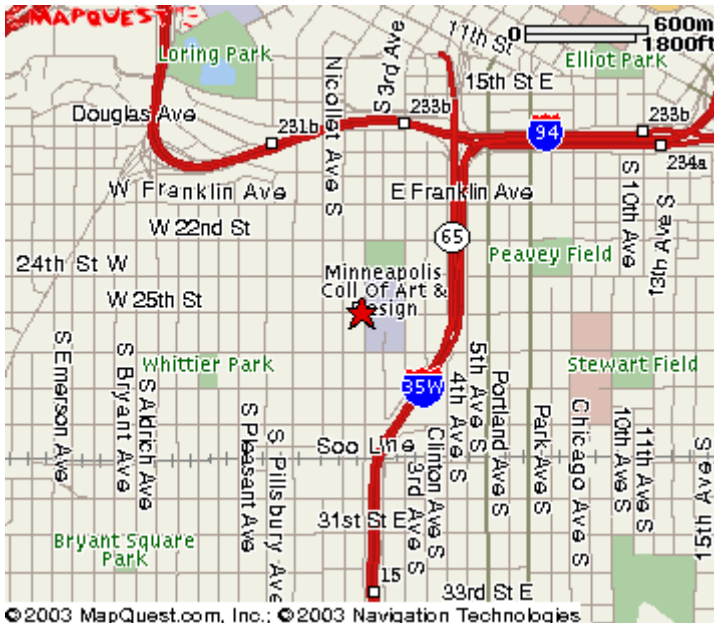
**Come  
Celebrate  
With Us  
at our  
Holiday  
Party!**

# Special Sessions October

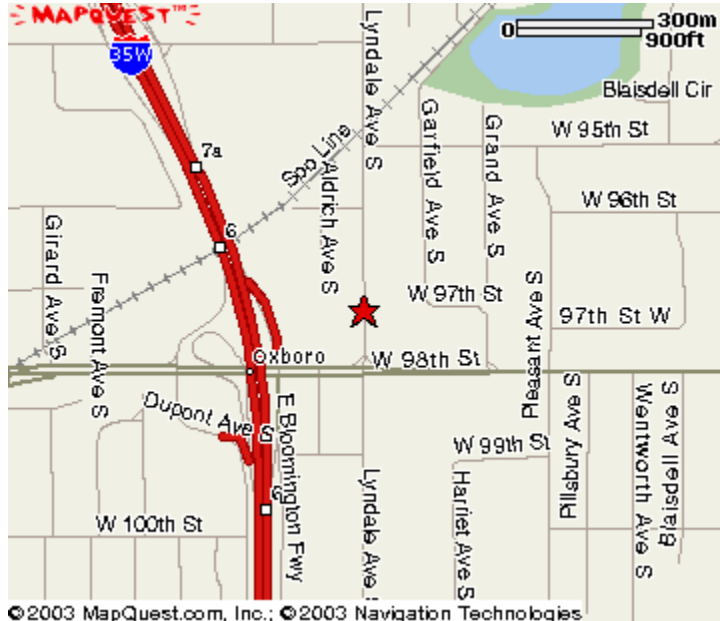
## David Ellsworth

### All-Day Member Meeting

October 4, 2003  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
MCAD  
2501 Stevens Ave  
Minneapolis  
Cost \$35  
See map below



© 2003 MapQuest.com, Inc.; © 2003 Navigation Technologies  
Map to MCAD



© 2003 MapQuest.com, Inc.; © 2003 Navigation Technologies  
Map to Woodcraft Supply

### Small Group Hands-On 1

October 3, 2003  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Woodcraft Supply  
9741 Lyndale Ave So  
Bloomington  
CLASS FILLED  
See map above

### Small Group Hands-On 2

Small Group Hand-On  
October 5, 2003  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Woodcraft Supply  
9741 Lyndale Ave So  
Bloomington  
CLASS FILLED



Minnesota  
Woodturners Assn  
13968 Alder Street NW  
Andover, MN 55304  
www.mnwoodturners.com

FIRST  
CLASS  
MAIL