

Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

Volume 2018 No 9



**September
Demonstrators**

**Ed Mielech &
Rick Auge**

Pens



Minnesota Woodturners Association

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Mike Rohrer - Newsletter

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Beads of Courage



Diane and Bob Puetz coordinate the MWA's Beads of Courage program. Diane is accepting items at the May meeting, which were donated this month by MWA members



MWA members are very generous in their contribution of time and expertise in creating lidded boxes for Beads of Courage



Beads of Courage (pg. 2)



Denny Dahlberg signs in one of his bowls for the National Beads of Courage program



If you haven't contributed a bowl to Beads of Courage yet, contact Diane or Bob Puetz and they'll give you the guidelines for the bowls and a special "Bead" to place in the handle of the cover



Greg Just is a donor of Beads of Courage bowls





Instant Gallery



Bill Breckon - Birch



Rick Auge - Butternut - home
brew friction polish



George Martin - Douglas Fir
Accidental hole plugged



Instant Gallery (cont'd)



Dan Ernst – Cherry Meditation Cup



Mike Rohrer – Photo reactive African sumac



Segmented bowl by Don Schlais



Lots of interest in the Instant Gallery



Instant Gallery (cont'd)



Greg Just's segmented
"3-D" platter just "pops"!
Fantastic!



Instant Gallery (cont'd)



Ken Kruizenga – ambrosia maple
with fungal stain made from fungal
cultures



Dan Larson - maple



You might remember that I demonstrated turning a lidded box at the April meeting. For no good reason, I never showed you the finished box. Here it is!

-Steve McLoon



Instant Gallery (cont'd)



Steve McLoon – end grain bowl



Russ Louks – black walnut & maple



Mike Rohrer – walnut from John Enstrom's mill from July MWA meeting

Tom Sciple – ebony log (heavy!)



Before the Meeting



Bill Breckon and Tom Sciple



Dan Ernst managing the library



Paul Oare



Jeff Koltveit representing Woodcraft



Mike Anderson anticipating an interesting meeting



Glennda & Jim Dalman usually arrive early for the meeting



Bob Myer and Lee Luebke



Before the Meeting (cont'd)



Ed Mielech preparing the demo



Mark Debe, Tom Spielmann & Danny Judd



Duane Gemelke at the membership table



Ken Crea managing the membership details



Jimmy Robertson



Lee Luebke & Roy Estes



Before the Meeting (cont'd)



Mary Allen & Glennda Dalman



Dan Ernst & Mark Relson
sneaking a peek at the challenge



New member Mike Braml talking
with Ken Crea



Neil Robinette & Dale Tjerde



Russ Louks buying
chances on tools



Mike Hunter's guest, Yale
Stenzlen, from Columbia, MD



Before the Meeting (cont'd)



Paul Laes at the ticket desk



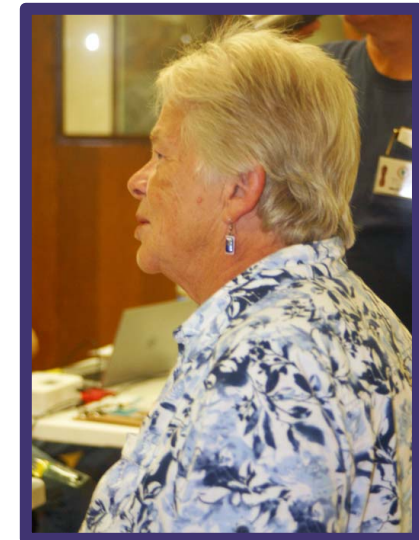
Marc Paulson



Warren Gerber & Mike Hunter



Dan Ernst & John Enstrom in the library



Colleen Schneider



Announcements

Dan Larson announced future classes. See page 69

Two big winners at the State Fair

Denny Dahlberg won 1st place and the prestigious
Peterson Memorial Award

Greg Just won a 1st & 4th place [See page 71]

Lee Luebke has agreed to run for President of MWA.
Elections will be held next month.

Rick announce a sure-fire way to become a millionaire as a
woodturner . . . start out as a billionaire!



SEPTEMBER Demonstration

Ed Mielech & Rick Auge

Pens



Ed and Rick Auge collaborated on this demonstration. As Ed narrated, Rick performed the actions at the lathe.





The demo was augmented with many suggestions from audience members regarding various points of pen turning and this seemed to work out well.



The Auge – Mielech Pen Demo Team

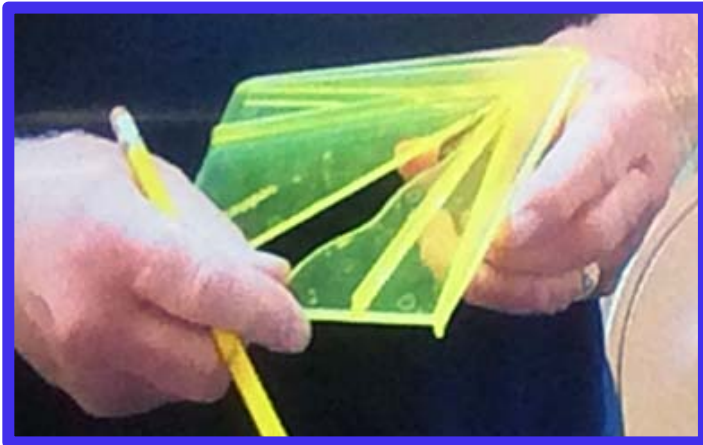
Ed stated that the first step is to decide which kit to buy and which to start with. He suggested that Slimline pens are more difficult and shouldn't be a first choice for beginners.

Next – pick your material. Ed suggests staying away from Inlace material because it always pits.

Begin with the brass tube bushing and make sure you have a little extra wood for the pen body



A measuring board is helpful



Mark the center for drilling for the bushing

A drill press or a drill bit in the lathe can be used for accurate centering for the bushing



Use a bit with a brad point to center





Ed joins Rick at the lathe

After drilling roughen the brass tube so the glue will stick. Glue in with thick CA glue applied to the wood and the tube.

Let the tubes sit OVERNIGHT

Use a reamer to take out glue from inside.

You need a 90 degree surface for the barrel. You can use a barrel trimming bit. Turn down to the bushing.



The mandrel with the blank

Ed Mielech
Rick Auge Demo



Ed mounting the blank



Rick demonstrated shaping the
barrel with several tools



Turn down to the bushing



Shaping with skew and neg rake scraper



This is where you get creative and shape the barrel

Ed Mielech
Rick Auge Demo



Ed suggests a good tray for all the pieces for assembly



Mistakes to avoid:

- Being too aggressive and “blowing it out”
- Hitting the bushing
- Leaving the wood too proud and having to sand it down to the bushing
- Over tightening and causing a bow
- Cutting aggressively and causing the edge to chip out
- Over tightening the mandrel center



Ready to finish

Rick's tips:

- When sanding, finish sanding with the grain before going on to the next grit
- Get out the dust between grits!
- Burnish with chips in your hand



Finish suggestions: Sanding sealer, Mylands friction finish
Home brew friction finish: 1/3 boiled linseed oil, 1/3 shellac, 1/3 denatured alcohol

Can use CA glue for finish – use ultra thin CA

Ed Mielech
Rick Auge Demo

Use 1 drop on a slip of paper
Only pull the paper along the
wood one way
Make sure there's no moisture

Will CA degrade?

- usually the problem is moisture
- don't spray accelerant on the pen
- put accelerant on a wipe

Steve McLoon
suggests not using
accelerant – use
grades of micromesh



Rick polishing





Ed Mielech
Rick Auge Demo

Our permanent
meeting facilities at
Houck Machine are
absolutely
outstanding



Some of Ed's pens



Thanks, Ed and Rick, for a very instructive and interesting demo. This should inspire folks who do not do pens to get involved.



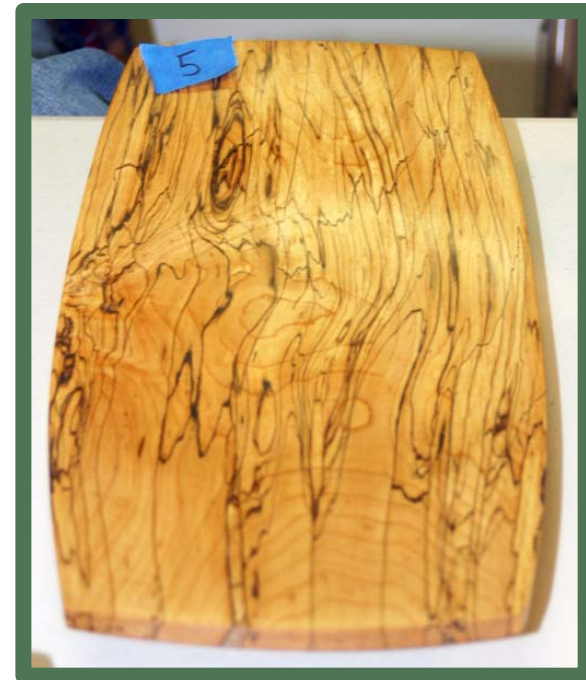
Member Challenge - "Squarish Platter" (page 1)



Member Challenge - "Squarish Platter" (page 2)



Member Challenge Coordinator
Jeff Luedloff

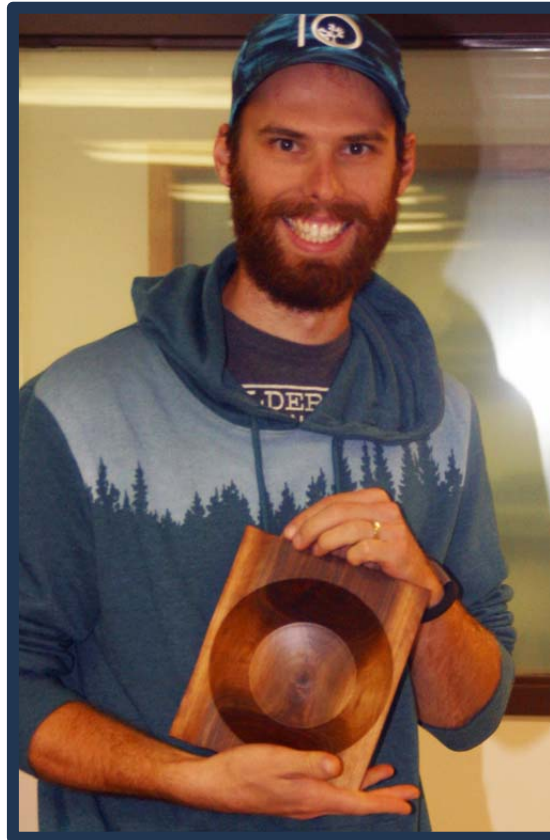


Member Challenge (page 3)

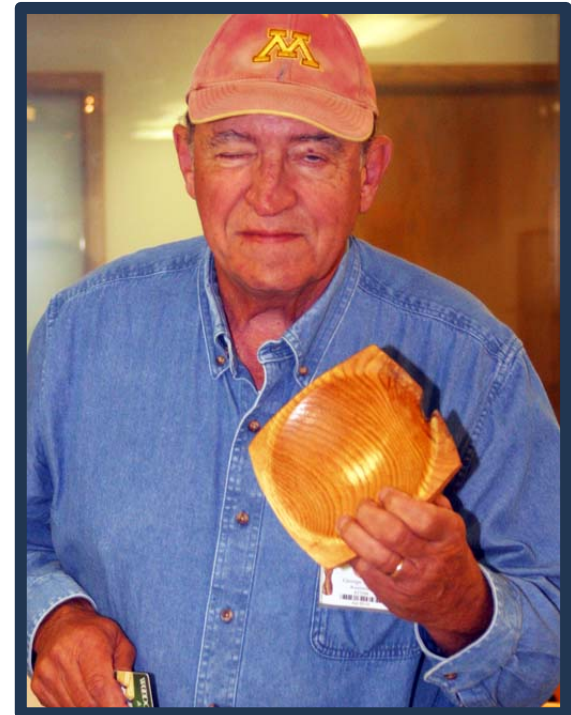
Beginning/Intermediate Winners



1st Place Russ Louks



2nd Place Mark Relson



3rd Place George Martin



Member Challenge (page 4) Experienced Winners



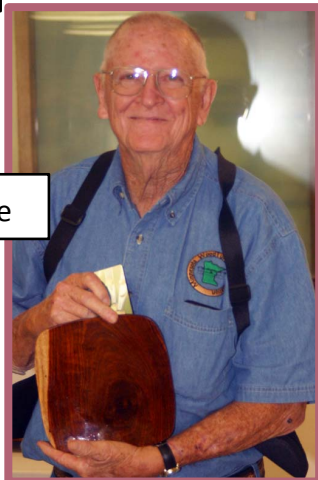
1st Place Dave Blume



2nd Place Ken Kruizenga



3rd Place Rick Auge



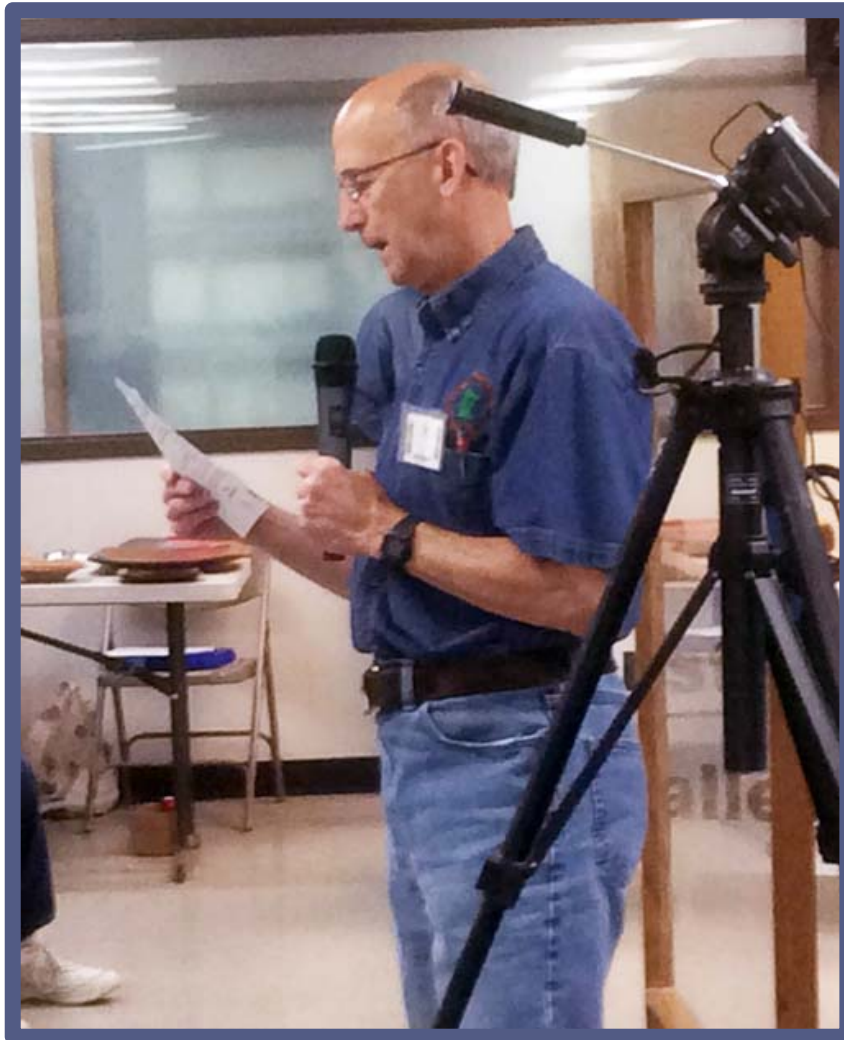
4th Place Tom Sciple



5th Place Dan Larson



Welcome New Members!



**Ken Crea,
Membership
Director**

We gained 7 members
since the last meeting
and lost none leaving
us at 297 current
members



Welcome New Members! (p.2)



Dick Felch
Prior Lake



Heidi Nauss
Fridley



Mike Braml
Roberts

Dennis Johnson
Lonsdale

Anthony Pfaff
St. Paul

Jon Finnesgard
Faribault



Next Meeting

October, 2018 - Saturday morning 9 am

Location: Houck Machine Co.

12811 16th Ave N Plymouth MN 55441

DONUTS

Demonstration:

The meeting demo is by Eric Lofstrom.

See next page for details.

NOTE: There is a time change. Meeting will start at 9 and the demo will start at 9:30

Member Challenge:

None this month. Check website later for details for November meeting



Next Meeting (p.2)

Demonstration:

- MWA is hosting Pro Turner Eric Lofstrom. The Oct. 6 meeting demo is by Eric. This is the normal all day demo. You can come for a few hours, just the morning, or stay all day. We will have morning and afternoon demos.

- NOTE: There is a time change. Meeting will start at 9 and the demo will start at 9:30

As a benefit of membership this is a free pro demo to all MWA Members. \$45 for non-members.

- Nomination of officers who are up for reelection or to fill vacant spots.

- Beads of Courage will be there. We will work in a Tool and Wood raffle during the breaks.



MWA Future Classes - Professional Demo



Eric Lofstrom

Professional turner, Eric Lofstrom, will present a demo from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, Oct. 6. This will be FREE for members and \$45 for non-members. Members will not have to stay the entire session if they need to leave at noon. The Tool & Wood raffles and nominations for officers will be conducted during the breaks. See website for details of small group class on Friday, Oct. 5.



Eric will present a limited attendance, hands-on class on Friday, October 5 Starting at noon



"As an artist, I aim to create clean-lined forms with minimal distraction. I use grain, color, and texture to invite an intimate conversation with my work."

Visit Eric's website at
www.ericlofstrom.com.



PROFILES IN TURNING

Mike Lucido



This is the 12th in a series of profiles of members of the Minnesota Association of WoodTurners



MWA: Mike, when did you start woodturning and how did you get started?

Mike: In junior high school. My father was a machinist in the maintenance department of a foundry and had previously been a cabinet maker. He didn't have a lathe at home, but but he had basic woodworking equipment with the experience to use them. I took a woodshop class and at school, they had a lathe. I found that turning was very different from the experiences I had helping my father, and I enjoyed it.



The pattern shop at the company where my dad worked, was renovating. The shop used a pattern-maker's lathe with wooden ways, large cast iron legs, headstock, tailstock and tool rest. It ran off a line shaft system that drove all the shop's machinery. My dad got the lathe, brought the big thing home and put a motor on it.





Mike still has many of his dad's tools including these interesting long clamps and hand screws that haven't changed in generations

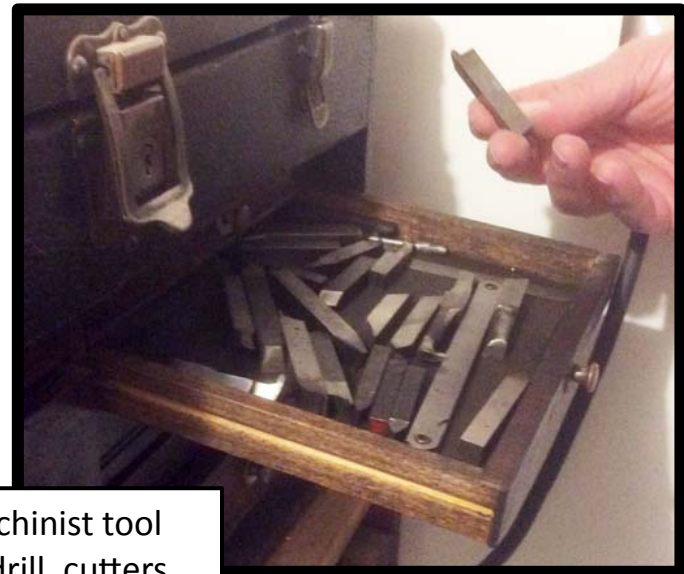
MWA: So, you really got started early.

Mike: My dad really supported me. Getting the lathe and putting the motor on it made it possible for me to turn. The big, old lathe was in the garage in Rockford, IL, where I grew up for many years. The history of the town was supportive in a way; it was a town filled with shops, furniture factories, and lots of tool and die businesses. I eventually brought the lathe to Minnesota.

Profile
Mike Lucido

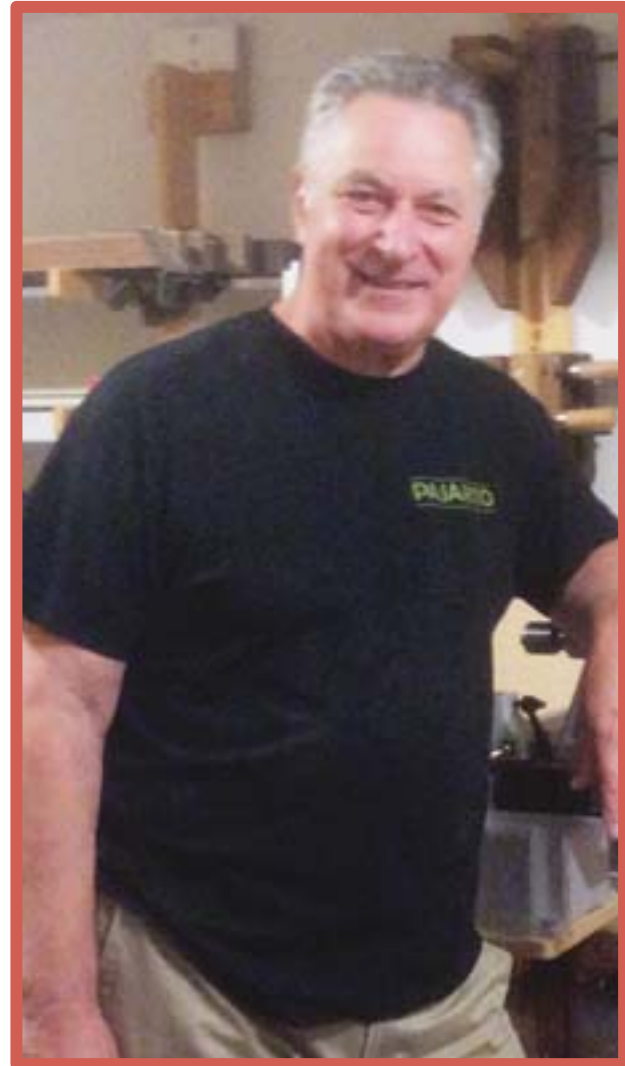


Mike's dad's machinist tool chest with taps, drill, cutters, etc.



MWA: How long have you been a member of the MWA?

Mike: From the beginning. There was no club when I was first getting together with other turners, particularly Mary Lacer and Brent Lossing. They were involved in the formation of the MWA. Turning has really changed and developed since then. I'm not sure when the American Association of Woodturners was founded, but Mary was involved early. It seems to me that it is not an accident that the AAW is headquartered in St. Paul.



Mike: Turning was really basic when this club was formed, with just a small number of tools, and few if any scroll chucks for turners. Tools, chucks, and lathes, all have exploded. I think I only got two tools with the lathe. One was a diamond point and the other was a large spindle gouge from Greenlee Company, from Rockford, IL, my hometown. My dad, (carefully) took the temper out of files for me to use as turning tools, using basic metallurgy knowledge. It was much later when the club was formed that other tools were added. The club was involved in providing opportunities for members to make some turning tools in the '80s and '90s.



Some of Mike's earliest
turning tools



MWA: How did your turning hobby progress?

Mike: It has only been just prior to retirement that I have been able to really spend a lot of time turning. There were many big gaps in my turning career. I have had almost all of these blanks you see in my shop from the early days of the club formation. It's time to turn them. The wood is dry! I am just completing a bowl that I roughed out in Dec 1988.



Just a few of the
blanks in Mike's shop

Forms are what I like – I struggle to produce pleasing forms with good proportions. I am always looking for good forms. For example, yesterday I was at the State Fair and I saw a fishing bobber that was a sphere, red and white, and it was simple but just caught my attention. There are many really elegant, simple forms. You see a lot of clunky stuff and I've made my share; I struggle to get a shape I really like. You like what you like in terms of projects. Certain things really appeal to me - for instance eggs! It's not the most difficult shape but I love arriving at the proper shape, nicely rounded on one end and the perfect tapered roundness on the other end. That is a shape that I tried early, over a period of time, using various figured woods.



Profile
Mike Lucido



Mike has been pondering the form for this burl for a while. He's now ready to deepen the bowl and undercut the sides



MWA: Where and how big is your shop?

Mike: My shop is in my basement. When we moved to this place, having a really good space for a shop was a significant consideration. The area is generally “L” shaped and about 30 feet by 18 feet. There’s room for all my stuff with enough space to easily get around. I have accumulated a lot of stuff and everything’s got a little story.

Profile
Mike Lucido



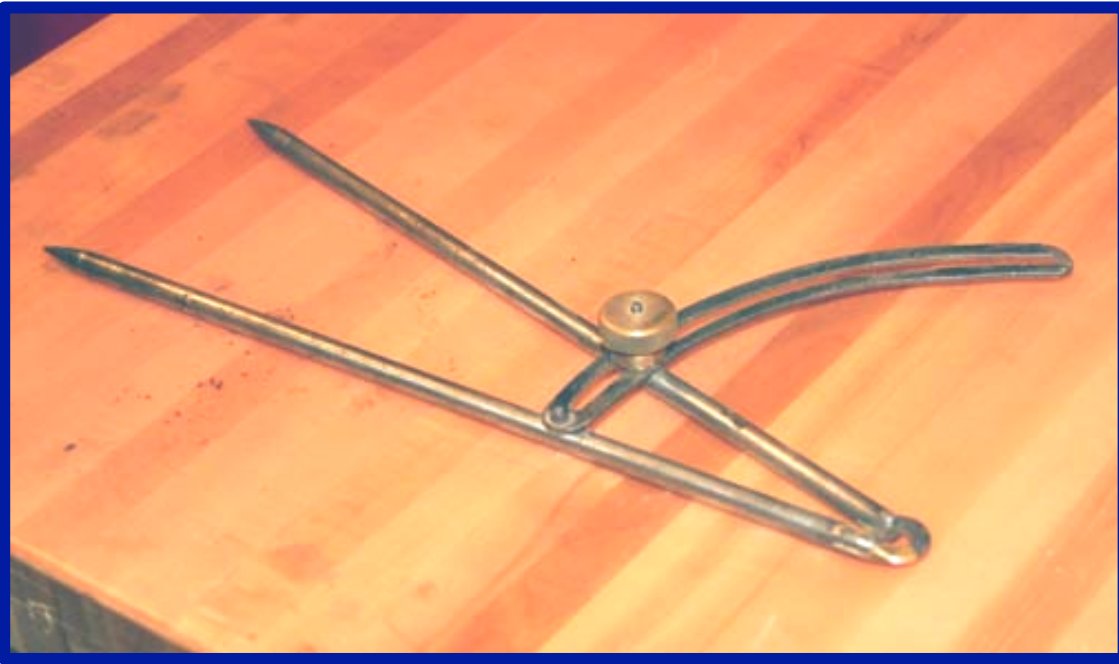


Tool caddy designed by Jim Jacobs. The beautiful butcher block bench came from a restaurant remodeling.

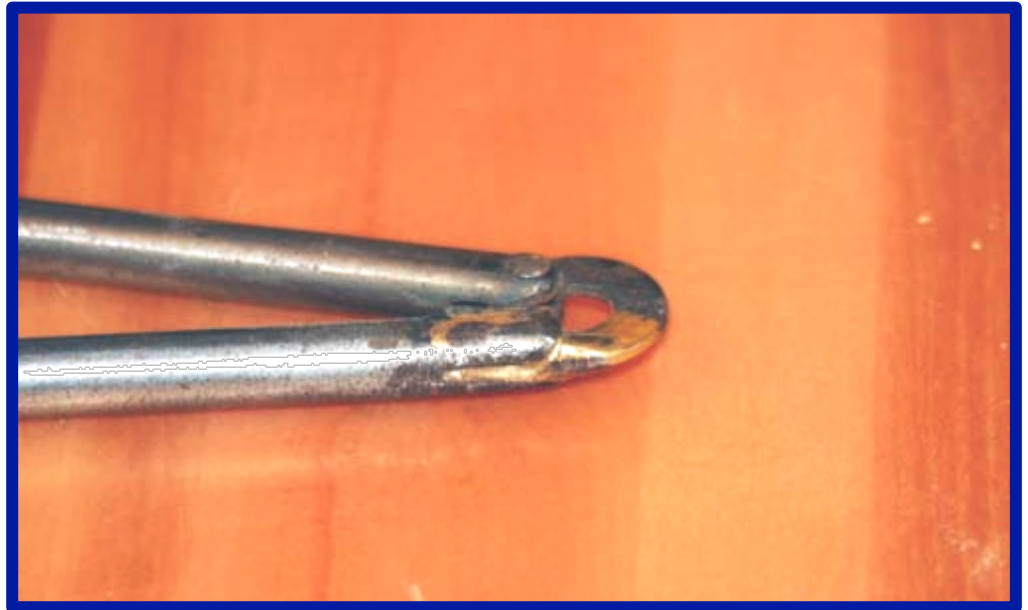
MWA: There's really a mix of old and new.

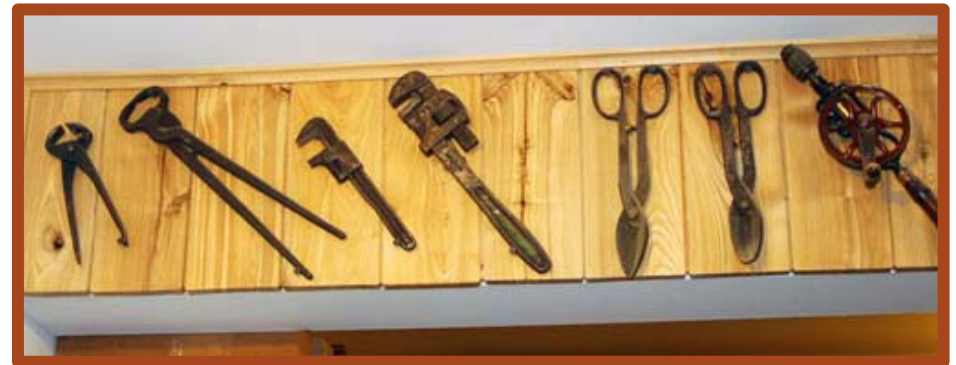
Mike: This beautiful bench came out of a restaurant kitchen from the Mall of America that was being remodeled. Jim Jacobs provided some glue-ups that I used to make the legs. The cabinets came from another restaurant. My son-in-law is a chef. Right now he co-owns the "Chef-Driven" Mexican restaurant, Pajarito, in St. Paul on 7th St.

Profile
Mike Lucido



Hand-made dividers made
by Mike's father





A collection of Mike's dad's tools decorate his shop

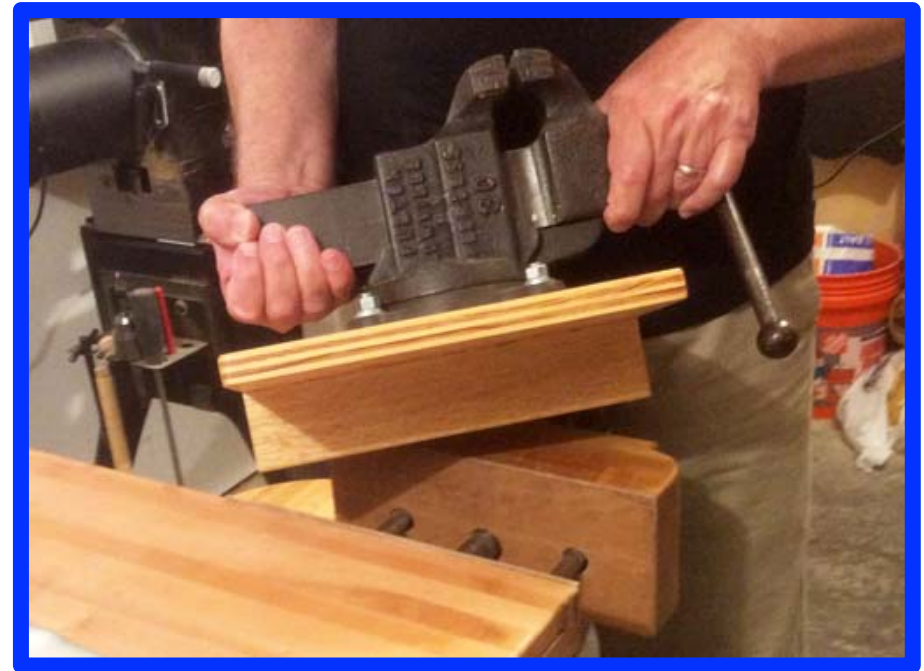
MWA: What about this very old bench?

Mike: This old bench belonged to a neighbor's Swedish grandfather.



MWA: The midi lathe is attached in an interesting manner using the bench vice.

Mike: Yes, my son came up with this method for quickly and securely attaching portable things to a workbench using the bench vice.



Mike: The tool to be mounted is fastened to piece of plywood, which is attached to a block that is held tightly in the bench vice





Mike has made and tapped a variety of wood chucks for mounting

Profile
Mike Lucido



MWA: What kind of a lathe do you have?

Mike: I have a Laguna 18/36 that I've had a couple of years; it replaced the old pattern maker's lathe my dad got me when I was a kid. The Laguna has a riser to fit my height. It's a good value. You get a lot of lathe for the money. I like it! The headstock on the Laguna can be repositioned along the bed. However in the current lathe location, it's not easy to do. I'll have to move it a bit to make using that function easier.



Mike: When we moved into this place, the old lathe had to be taken apart to move it in so I sold it to Mary Lacer. I know that as of recently, she still had it. I also have this Delta midi lathe for small projects that I can easily mount using the bench vice system that I showed you.



Mike has a special mount with a Morse taper for mounting a chucked piece in the tailstock. He can't turn it, of course, but it works well for attaching centering devices, etc.

MWA: What is your favorite type of turning?

Mike: You know there really isn't one single type of turning that is my favorite. First of all, I haven't done everything and I'm just getting into hollowing. The wood is what really matters – the wood and the grain.



Mike: Take a sphere; when you start you don't know what is hidden in the wood and the result can just be spectacular. I like to do whatever strikes me at the time. Hollowing is something I want to get involved in. I also love small boxes because some have simple but elegant forms – I guess that's why I noticed the silly bobber at the fair.

MWA: So you're not emphasizing just one or a few types of turning.

Mike: As I explore all of the different things we can do, there are just so many possibilities you've got to pick your fights. I'll explore different techniques if it seems right in a controlled and gradual manner.

Profile
Mike Lucido





An early box elder bowl Mike still likes a lot



Various shapes Mike has enjoyed over the years

MWA: Mike, what's your greatest challenge?

Mike: I think it's getting outside my comfort zone – trying new things, taking a risk. You have to take risks and do new things. It's just a matter of how often? How far should I go?

MWA: What type of wood do you prefer to turn, wet or dry?

Mike: I do more dry turning. I have so much wood that was rough turned years ago. I have to use all this great wood. Wet turning is fun, but I do like the piece to be true when I'm finished with it. I turn primarily dry wood because that's what I have and adding more doesn't seem necessary. .



Mike has had fun “playing with pigs”



MWA: Do you have a favorite species?

Mike: Cherry is really nice! But spalted maple is really exciting; I've got a lot. I have some really nice holly – it's so white! Or yew? The growth rings are really tight. I may be getting some Kiwi to try. But cherry and figured maple are really fantastic!



Handles from various species

MWA: Do you have some favorite pieces that you wouldn't give away or sell?

Mike: Probably a couple I'm working on right now.



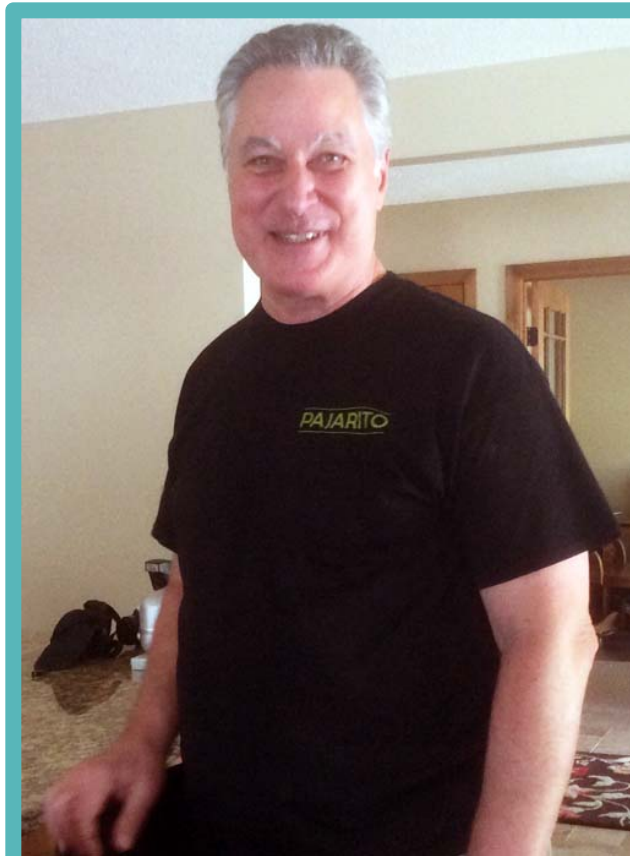
Mike: I recently did a hollow form I really like – it's a nice piece. Does my wife think I keep and display too many? Maybe my results are getting better or she's appreciating them more because she's better about my keeping and displaying pieces. That's probably also a reason for turning useful things. I've made replacement chisel handles, mallets and cooking utensils.

As part of the evolution in turning, I've noticed that among turners including myself, thinness of pieces used to be a bigger thing than it is today.



MWA: What did you do before you retired?

Mike: I went to a technical school and then got a BSEE at Marquette University. I worked for Allen-Bradley out of Milwaukee. They made electrical controls and automation equipment. Then I worked for an electrical distributor that sold a wide variety of industrial electrical equipment.



Mike: When you get electrical power to a plant, what are you going to do with it so it is useable? As an electrical engineer I wasn't just selling a product, I understood many of the applications that are common with industrial customers and how to solve them.





MWA: Any last thoughts, Mike?

Mike: Being exposed to the creativity that people have, just amazes me. There's plenty of creativity and talent in our club. I find what woodturners actually can do is truly amazing. If you understand your craft or art, you can do wonders. I participate in my own humble ways. I'm not in competition with anyone.

Thanks, Mike.

It's great to hear from one of the earliest members of the Minnesota Woodturners Association!



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings

•HAMBURGER CLUB

We generally meet the Thursday of the week following the club meetings. Our September meeting will be Thursday, September 13. Keep an eye out for the October 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.

50's Grill, 5524 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center

•PLYMOUTH AREA SMALL GROUP

Next Meeting: Wednesday September 19, 7pm

The usual meeting place is [10501 Belmont Rd, Minnetonka](#).

Steve Mages [952-544-5286](tel:952-544-5286)

The usual sharing of our treasures and discussion.



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

Lake Johanna Sub Group

This is a new sub group that has been 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](#)

at the big white house on the corner of Stowe (enter from Stowe Ave).

The next meeting will be Tues. October 9 from 1-3 PM with a demo and discussion on lidded boxes. Please bring something you've turned for show and tell.



The Sept. 11 meeting, introduced by Gordon Fay, concentrated on coring with Dan Larson leading the discussion and demonstrating 2 coring systems



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

Mike Lucido, Mike Rohrer, Mark Fay, Dan Larson, Bill Breckon, Chad Anderson, Gordon Fay, Andrew Chandler, Jerry Hanscom, Neil Robinette, Dave Carlson and Ken Hallberg attended the Sept. 11 meeting



Bill Breckon, Chad Anderson, Andrew Chandler & Jerry Hanscom

Dan Larson explained that the reasons for coring are to get extra bowls from the same piece of wood and to save expensive wood from just turning into sawdust. The biggest reason not to core is the expense of the system.

Dan said there are 3 main systems available, the Woodcut, McNaughton and Oneway. Dan and Neil Robinette agree that the Oneway is the way to go, primarily because of the support system under the cutting blade.



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)



Dan cored a cherry blank using the Woodcut system



Dan always starts with the largest bowl and separates the inner core



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)



Bill Breckon & Neill Robinette



The favored Oneway system



The group gained a great insight into the methods of coring and the differences in function and cost among the 3 main systems



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

SE METRO SUB GROUP

SE Metro Sub Group August meeting was hosted by Charlie Prokop in his shop. Topics of discussion included sources of fresh cut silver maple, drying green wood turnings, re-work of green turnings, finishing projects, improving turned forms, incorporating turnings into furniture and many other topics. August attendees are shown in the photo to the right. Several very beautiful pieces were shared for inspiration.



Doug Ashton, Mike Lucido, Warren Gerber, Bill Campbell, Charlie Prokop, Jim Jacobs, Jay Schulz (empty chair)



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

SE Metro



Ahhh what to do with those pesky pith splits ... cut them out and replace, re-turn the edge, fill and stabilize, ... Jim Jacobs leads a discussion on the options available for a newly turned maple bowl.



Left - Warren Gerber showed a stunning mesquite table top with turquoise fill he finished. He was seeking suggestions for a frame or skirt construction in order to incorporate some turned legs for the project.



Right - Charlie describes the process for fabricating the segmented hollow form blank with 45-45 right triangle stave glue-up. Left – Doug Ashton holds Charlie's template pattern.



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

SE Metro



Challenge anyone? Jim Jacobs shows his squarish platters to the group.



Left– Doug and Mike plan the optimal fun from turning this crabapple root mass. Below – Charlie, Doug and Mike strategize the processing of both the massive basswood burl and the seasoned crabapple root.



Jay Schulz shows a partially complete beer stein from a recent set. Turning is done ... now what? The group talked about the merits of epoxy versus natural oil finishes for beverage vessels.



Area & Regional Meetings & Gatherings (cont'd)

SE Metro



Left - Doug Ashton is talking about finished tips to remove the wipe marks and highpoints on tung oil finishes. The discussion included good tips on wet sanding as well as polishing and buffing.

Right – Charlie offers Jay some suggestions on improving the form on a cherry burl bowl. The experience and talent in this group is mind boggling.

Thanks to Jay Schulz for the text and pictures for the SE Metro August meeting



Future Classes

- Wounded Warriors – Sept. 15
- Sharpening Class – Sept. 19
- Travel Mug Class by Greg Just – Sept. 22
- Natural Edge Bowl- Bob Meyer – Sept. 29
- Small Group Class with Professional Turner, Eric Lofstrom – Oct. 5
- Christmas Ornament –Richard Hicks & Mike Hunter
- “Taming of the Skew” – Jim Jacobs – Nov.10
- Pen Turning – Ed Mielech

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF ALL FUTURE CLASSES



Future DEMONSTRATIONS at Monthly MWA Meetings

- Pres. Rick Auge passed around a list on which attendees at the September MWA meeting could present ideas for demonstrations at the monthly MWA meetings next year.
- Rick would like to get input from members who were not at the meeting.
- If you were not at the meeting, or if you were and have an idea you did not add to the list, please send Rick requests for demonstrations at meeting as well as classes you would like to see or participate in.
- Please email your ideas/requests to Rick at <http://mnwoodturners.com/>



MWA Members Win State Fair Awards

Denny Dahlberg won a 1st place award and the coveted Peterson Memorial Award for his segmented hollow form.



Greg Just won a 1st place award for his segmented football and a 4th place award for his Three Sided Bowl



Editor's Notes

- Thanks to Jay Schulz for his putting together the PowerPoint of the SE Metro meeting
- Please consider doing a Member Mini Class for the newsletter; so many members could contribute to our knowledge and skill but would not like to get up in front and demonstrate
- I will miss the October meeting so Lee Tourtelotte and Neil Robinette will be collecting information and pictures for me
- Please give me any comments for improvements or additions to the newsletter

Mike Rohrer, Editor mdrprof@gmail.com

