

Minnesota Woodturners News

Newsletter of the



MINNESOTA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

Local Chapter

American Association of Woodturners

Third Quarter 1991.

Minnesota Woodturners Association Officers

President	William Allshouse	(612) 755-3373
Vice President	Don Wattenhofer	" 572-1045
Secretary	John Engstrom	" 475-0307
Treasurer	Hal Malmlov	" 789-9616
Newsletter Editor	Paul Kachelmyer	" 738-3940
Program Director	John Berglund	1-558-2338

Membership Application and Renewal Minnesota Woodturners Association

Name (Please print)

phone

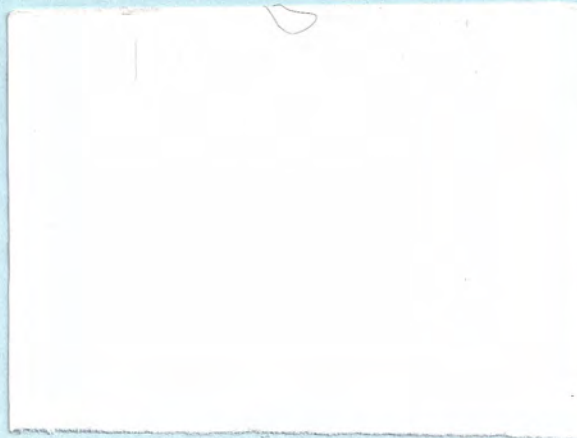
Address

Zip code

Dues are \$15 yearly (starting in Jan.)
but \$10 for new members joining after July 1.
Please check: Amount Enclosed _____.
Renewing member _____. New member _____.

Mail to:
MN Woodturners Assoc
c/o Hal Malmlov
3613 Belden Dr.
Mpls. Minn. 55418

MN Woodturners Association
64 108th Ave. N.W.
Coon Rapids, Minn. 55433



Address Change:

Please note that our mailing address has changed. It is now: Minnesota Woodturners Association, c/o William Allshouse, President, 64 108th Ave. N.W., Coon Rapids, Minn. 55433

However, dues and other financial matters should be sent to: Hal Malmlov, 3613 Belden Dr., Minneapolis, Minn. 55418.

Safety:

Right up front, we wish to remind all members and guests, that woodturning can be dangerous. Many of our members have had accidents, and injuries, of some sort, with the lathe. This is a reminder, that by attending our meetings, you do so at your own risk. This is also a reminder that we ask all members to sign a liability release. If you have not signed one, please ask one of the club's officers for one to sign. Lastly, this is also a reminder that we ask that everyone near a lathe at our meetings, bring, and wear, eye protection.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 7, Saturday, 3:00 pm:

Alan Lacer, the President of the American Association of Woodturners, will be in town, on business. He has offered to spend some time to meet and talk with our members about the AAW, and also to give a short turning demonstration. We will meet at Mary Redig's house at 667 Harriet Ave., Shoreview.

Also to be discussed at this meeting, (and the next meeting), is the frequency of, and the subjects of, the next six months, or so, of meetings. This is totally dependent on the wishes, and efforts of our members. We need to hear three things from you: 1. what do you want to see ?, 2. how often do you wish to meet ?, and 3. what can you do or show ? Please Please Please come prepared to discuss this. Our club's officers want this to be determined by the members, not the officers.

A couple of possible changes in our meetings may be to go to two per month, and also to have meetings where a number of members may show things that may take only brief amounts of time, but would add up to fill a whole meeting.

Please bring items for "show and tell", and a chair.

September 28, Saturday 2:00 pm

John Berglund will give a demonstration at his shop. Among other things, he will demonstrate turning a bowl from green wood, and chain saw sharpening. For those who may not know John, he is one of our most experienced members, and makes his living as a professional woodturner.

John's house is about 10 miles south of Saint Cloud, and is about a one and a half hour drive from the center of the twin cities. Directions to John's: Take I-94 north to the Clearwater exit #24. Turn left (west) and take Highway 24 about 1.8 miles to Highway 40. Turn right (northwest), and go about 1.8 miles to the stop sign at Highway 44. Turn left (southwest), and go about 1.8 miles to John's house, 15695 County Road 44. John's house is the second one past Cresent Avenue. It is a grey house with a grey garage.

Bring a chair, and a jacket if it is cool. You may wish to car pool to this one! Please bring items for "show and tell".

September 27, 28, 29, Friday, Saturday, Sunday:

Our club has agreed to have a booth at "The Woodworking Show" at the Minnesota State fairgrounds, in the Empire Commons Building.

This will be :

Friday Sept. 27, noon - 7:00 pm.

Saturday Sept. 28, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Sunday Sept. 29, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

This has been a once a year show where a number of woodworking suppliers sell their wares. A number of our members have found out about us from our booths at these shows in the past. Our purpose for being at the show, is to gain exposure to woodturners who may be interested in joining our club. We are asking for about a dozen of our members to volunteer to staff our booth for several hours, this year. Please call William Allshouse 755-3373, to volunteer to spend some time staffing our booth. If you are at all available to do this, please do contact William, for, in past years, we have not gotten enough volunteers.

October 8, Tuesday, 7:00 pm:

We will meet at William Allshouse's house for a talk by William on chucks, faceplates, and other methods of holding wood on the lathe. William owns a lot of chucks, so this is a real opportunity to learn about them, without going through the big expense of buying them!

William's house is located at 64 108th Ave. N.W., Coon Rapids , Minn. This is about one mile north of Highway 10 and just west of University Avenue (one mile west of Highway 65 - Central Avenue). From Highway 10 go approximately one mile north on University Avenue to its intersection with Northdale Blvd and 109th Ave N.E., turn left (west) and go one long block to Butternut street, turn left (south) and go about three blocks to 108th Avenue N.W., turn left again and William's house is about 1/2 block down that dead end street.

Please bring a chair, and items for "show and tell".

Book and Video Library:

John Engstrom says that we now have about a half dozen videotapes in our library that are available for use by our members. People may check them out for one month, or until the next meeting. We will be starting a policy whereby when someone checks out a tape, they will be asked to pay \$2.00, for which they will be given a postage paid mailer. If they cannot return the tape at the next meeting they can use the mailer to mail the tape to John before the meeting. If they return the tape, and mailer, at the next meeting, they will be given their \$2.00 back. There has been a high demand for our tapes, so hopefully this will make them more available.

Several people have videotaped some of our demonstrations in the past. We would appreciate it if those people would be willing to let us copy their tape for our library. Please contact John (475-0307) on this.

Creating a tape for the club: John Engstrom has volunteered to videotape individual members doing a demonstration in their own home workshops. This sounds like a wonderful idea, especially for people who don't want to demonstrate in front of a crowd. It would also allow the opportunity to get the best camera angles, and to reshoot things, if the demonstrator wants to do something over. I know that a lot of you have something unique to offer here, please call John if you are willing to do this.

Tool library:

In the past we mentioned that we were proposing to start a "tool library" for the club. At the April meeting, it was decided, by the members, that because of potential legal liabilities, that we would not have such a library.

One thing that was proposed, was that members with unique tools, chucks, etc, might demonstrate their use (or nonusefullness in some cases) at our meetings. If you may be able to do this, please volunteer to do so. Any such demonstration, or discussion, need not be long, just something that will benefit others.

From "Central New England Woodturners News"

Drying Wood in a Microwave Oven

The object of drying any wood is to bring it from a green state to one of defined dryness in a CONTROLLED fashion. This can be done to wet bowl blanks by air drying using a number of methods to control the rate at which the moisture leaves the wood. Some of these are coating the wood with paste wax, painting the wood with greenwood sealer, placing the wood in a brown paper bag, and placing the wood in a pile of damp shavings. Drying time using these methods is usually 3 to 12 months depending on the wood species and thickness. If you are in a hurry you might want to try.....

Microwaving. Using a microwave oven, you can dry a 1 inch thick 8 x 3 bowl blank in one evening. You can also split wood beyond usefulness and start a wood fire in your kitchen unless certain methods are followed. Here is what I have developed over time using trial and error methods:

- 1) NEVER, NEVER use full microwave power. This can overheat the piece and set it ablaze. Instead, use the defrost setting or 30% depending on your oven controls.
- 2) The size of the piece determines how long to nuke it. A good rule of thumb is to set the timer for one minute for each inch of blank diameter. As soon as the oven stops, take the piece out and let it cool down out of the oven. Handle with care! It can be very hot.
- 3) As soon as the piece is completely cooled off, put it back in for another cycle. Repeat this as many times as necessary to get the piece dry. It is dry when it comes out of the oven hot, but no steam is visible.
- 4) To control the rate of drying, you can coat the piece with wax or a greenwood sealer, but these materials do get cooked off and could contaminate your oven. Microwave pizza that tastes like cheese, sausage, and bowling alley wax is pretty awful. The best way I have found to control drying is to wrap the piece in plastic wrap or seal it in a Ziplok bag. Steam may build up in the bag and pop it open, but it is a very small pop.

Quick review:

- <> Wrap piece in plastic or place in a Ziplok bag.
- <> Microwave at 30 or on defrost.
- <> Use 1 minute per inch of blank diameter.
- <> Remove and cool blank outside of the oven.
- <> Repeat cycle until no steam is seen coming from the blank.

Cheers - Bob Howland