



Minnesota Woodturners Association

An Affiliated Chapter of the American Assn. of Woodturners

3rd Quarter 1999

Volume 13, Issue 3

Toy Safety and Federal Regulations

By Mel Turcanik

Some of us that work with wood end up making toys, whether to bring back a lost youth, use up otherwise unusable bits of scrap too good to throw away, or just because we like to see smiles on kids' faces.

In the old days, a kid would play with anything that he/she wasn't told to. (From the kid's perspective that's probably still true.) If one got hurt the parent might say, "See, that's what happens when you". Today, a kid bumps himself and the first thing a parent does is call, not 911, but a lawyer.

The federal government has helped us out by developing rather complex regulations about what is safe in the realm of children's toys. If you are a manufacturer of toys, you must be aware of the laws involving these items. They contain lists of what is banned, and what is permissible, as well as specific rules as to how things are to be labeled. Personally, I don't have time to study all this stuff, so I don't make toys for children. I should add here that the federal regulations only apply if stuff is sold across state lines. However, if you get sued for personal injury, they will probably be used as a benchmark standard regardless.

Thankfully, the government has now made all the regulations available on the Internet, so you can check it all out without having a legal department under retainer. I asked the Consumer Product Safety Commission for guidance on which laws would be specifically applicable to us as woodturners and the following will take you to those parts of the "Code of Federal Regulations" that are applicable to our work:

Go to www.cpsc.gov On this page select "Business". This will take you to the next page.

Select "Official Federal Information". This will take you to the next page.

Select "Searchable Code of Federal Regulations" This will take you to a page that lists all

Federal Regulations. Click the box for Title 16 and the most recent date. At the bottom of the page, click "Continue". This takes you to a search engine page.

In the "search terms" box, enter the parts of the code that you want to look at. It works best if you just enter one part at a time. Otherwise you end up with hundreds of pages to sort through. The following is the list of parts that were recommended for us:

1303
1501
1500.49
1500.50
1500.51
1500.52
1500.53
1500.44
1500.17
1500.18
1500.19

Most of these are small files that will load in a few seconds at 48k. When the results of the search show up, there will be some things there that you're not interested in, so you need to pick the one from the list that matches what you wanted. You have a choice of three formats, the PDF format gives you the Adobe Acrobat file, which looks just like the original and includes the drawings. I think most people have downloaded a free Adobe Acrobat reader at some point so the loading should be trouble free. I stored mine in a file so that I can go back later and reference them.

If nothing else, looking through the CPSC information, for both business and consumers, should make us more aware of what COULD be dangerous. The things we make should bring joy, not disaster. There is a lot of good information in there, and when it's too hot to be in the shop, it's an interesting place to browse.....providing you can get past all the legalese.

Pear Wood Harvest

By Wayne H. Keifer

Volunteering activities at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum (MLA) and the Fruit Bearing Farm (FBF) has afforded me a wonderful opportunity to see and, in some cases, harvest trees, which are no longer beneficial to the FBF. Leszig, Director of the FBF, has been most co-operative and helpful in my efforts to become familiar with and knowledgeable of various fruitwoods.

During the summer of 1998 I walked through a grove of mature pear trees on Farm Two. While talking with Leszig, he told me that the pear trees fruit was bitter and, basically, not edible. Furthermore, as soon as possible, Leszig was going to cut the pear trees down and burn them.

I asked Leszig if the pear wood was a good and valuable turning wood. He said he did not know but the wood was similar in texture and coloration to an apple tree. This caused me to be curious!! Talking to Leszig about the possibility of harvesting some of the pear wood, he said this would be just great. His only request was to ask the people who would be getting the wood for a small contribution to the FBF. I said this was not a problem and, in fact, was a good idea!

I requested to Leszig that when he was cutting the pear trees down to call me and allow me to take a piece of pear wood to turn on my lathe. Early April 1999, Phil, an employee of FBF, trimmed the pear trees down, cutting the trunk approximately four feet above the ground. This cutting afforded Susan, backhoe operator, to more easily remove the remaining roots. I picked up some of the small branches and turned the wood. Much to my surprise and pleasure, the pear wood was extremely easy to turn, had cream colored wood with rust coloring becoming evident as the heart wood began to decay or mature (I don't know which). With this in mind, I thought of my MN Woodturner friends and thought they also may want a "piece of the action"!!

At the next Woodturners meeting, I made an announcement. Twenty-one men and women expressed an interest in getting some pear wood.

With a lot of help from Ron Meihlan, I was able to get the names and telephone numbers of interested woodturners. Working with Leszig and Susan, I was able to co-ordinate the wood gathering.

We began with a two-day harvest of the pear wood from the pile of top-trimmings. This was not as successful as a latter effort because the available branches were quite small and not too easy to get at to cut. Later, when Susan had grubbed out the roots of the trees we went at it again. Susan was most helpful to us by piling the roots in a pile and separated well. This made the harvesting of the larger portions of pear wood much easier.

It was a fun and educational experience!! The members were great to work with, we all learned a lot, and when resting we discussed wood turning techniques, and just generally, had fun. Several members have a supply of pear wood. It was my philosophy to take all of the wood that was useable. We did just that. We could always find a way to distribute the extra wood to interested individuals either personally or at some of the meetings.

Susan and Jim have burned all of the remaining pieces of pear wood. I am confident that we have taken all of the usable wood. I have thoroughly enjoyed this experience! Working with Leszig, Susan, Jim and all members of our Wood Turners Club has reinforced my opinion that there are many good people in our culture who enjoy working and learning together.

This could be the beginning of a fun working relationship with the FBF. I had coffee with Susan and Jim on Thursday of this week. I related to them our enjoyable experience and told them that I hope in the future that any more fruit trees that are being destroyed, for whatever reason, that we could be informed. (I volunteer at the MLA and FBF once a week for one half day.) Susan said that there are plum and apricot trees that will be cut but she does not know when this will happen. She had my attention!! We must collectively express our appreciation both verbally and financially to Leszig and the FBF in the future.

News Bits

Chuck Pitschka reports on a trip to the Minnesota History Bldg. in downtown St. Paul. He noticed that there was a showcase on the 3rd floor displaying things handcrafted by people of Minnesota. Here was a beautiful maple hollow-vessel created by our one and only Craig Lossing. Check it out if you go there.

Several members from MWT showed up to move boxes and furniture from the old AAW location to a beautiful new office at 3499 Lexington Ave.. A few of us found muscles we didn't know we had but all of us had a good time working together.

MWA's Ongoing Glue Sales Program

By Ron Meilahn

Our club has been furnishing 'CA' to its members (at cost) for well over six years. In an effort to provide the best value we are constantly shopping around, not only for price but also quality.

Our last several purchases of BULLET brand CA glue from Tower Hobbies have been priced right (under \$5) but the code dates were already 1-2 yrs. old when shipped and some of the Accelerator was slightly discolored, possibly from age. Consequently, the remaining shelf life has, in many instances, been compromised. In all fairness to our supplier they have indicated a willingness to exchange any 'hardened' full bottles but this is of little value once the bottles have been opened, and then get too thick or hard.

Therefore, as a result of numerous complaints we have recently switched brands and suppliers. So, as part of our club purchase this past May, we spent approx. \$560 on fresh 'HOT STUFF' - CA glue and Accelerator at a substantial volume discount from Craft Supplies.

Our new glue inventory/selling price to members is as follows:

Hot Stuff - thin 2oz	\$7.00
Hot Stuff - med. 2oz	7.00
Hot Stuff - thick 2oz	7.00
Accelerator - NCF 2 oz	4.00
30-Minute Epoxy 9oz set	7.00

(prices may change with our next purchase)

Hal Malmlov is our MVVA Glue contact; he can be reached at 612-831-7676 for any special arrangements. Otherwise, we will normally make our stock available at all our regular meetings, except when Rockler or Woodcraft host our meetings. As a standing club policy we will not try to compete on their premises.

NATIONAL MARQUETRY SHOW

**PRESENTED BY: THE LAKELAND CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN MARQUETRY SOCIETY.**

PLACE: The beautiful "Minnesota River School of Fine Art"
190 South River Ridge Circle
Burnsville, MN 55337

(Across the river from the Mall of America)

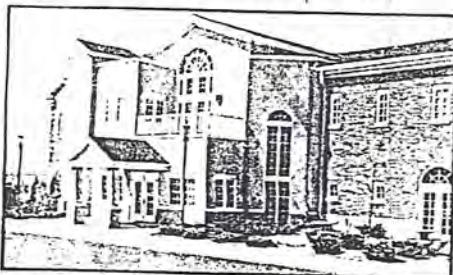
FREE TO THE PUBLIC

TIME: October 2-9, 1999 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Free exhibition of pictures, seminars and demonstrations.

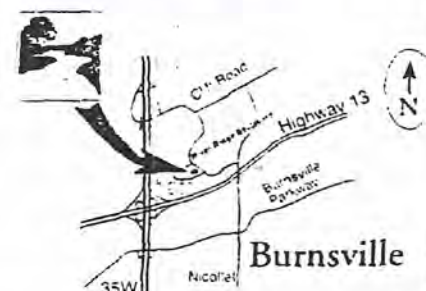
For further information contact:

Will Bondhus
12575 Pleasant Avenue
Suite 115
Burnsville, MN 55337
Phone: (612) 890-2454
www.mrsfa.com



Minnesota River School of Fine Art
190 River Ridge Circle
Burnsville, MN 55337

www.mrsfa.com



GROUP ORDER FROM CRAFT SUPPLIES

A group order from Craft Supplies will be sent sometime in September. Craft Supplies will be sending out a new catalog after September 1st but we will start putting the order together before that using the current catalog. If you already have your wish list made you can submit it to:

Bruce Arones,
16393 Morgan Ave. No.
Marine On St. Croix, MN 55047
(651) 4333-5364

Larry Heyn, or
5135 Rainer Pass
Columbia Heights, MN 55421
(612) 571-2117

Ron Meilahn.
1638 23rd Ave. NW
New Brighton, MN 55112
(651) 633-8902

If you have any questions about the order, you can contact any of these guys.

Video Tape Additions to MWA Library

Our 1999 Library Budget included expenditures of \$400. To this end, our Board approved the purchase of the following eight (8) video tapes at a cost of \$185 as part of our Club buy from Craft Supplies, Inc this past April;

'Turning Wood With Richard Raffan' - R. Raffan
'Turning Projects With Richard Raffan' - R. Raffan
'Hollow Turning' - John Jordan
'Novelties and Projects' - Dennis White
'Elliptical Turning' - David Springett
'Natural Edges and Hollow Forms' - Chris Stott
'Woodturning Wizardry' - David Springett
'Sharpening Turning & Carving Tools' - Jim Kingshott

These tapes are being duplicated (to preserve the original), and should be available for member checkout by mid-September. Meanwhile, if you have any questions about any of our library activities please contact our MWA Librarian, Linda Ferber (ph. 651-454-5774).

Anyone for a piece of history ?

I have an old treadle lathe dating, I think, from about 1890. I am looking for a good home for it since I will not be restoring it myself because of my loss of vision.

Do you know of anyone interested in it?

The lathe is all wood except for the babbitt bearings and the centers. It is about five feet long with a 24 inch wooden flywheel. The belt goes up to an axle with a step pulley and then down to the drive center shaft to another step pulley. The lathe is obviously factory made. It has been used a lot and probably needs rebbabiting of the bearings. I have some belting and babbitt to go with the lathe.

If it would be used for a group non-profit project, I would be willing to donate it to the group. If you know of anyone interested, I'll be glad to give more details.

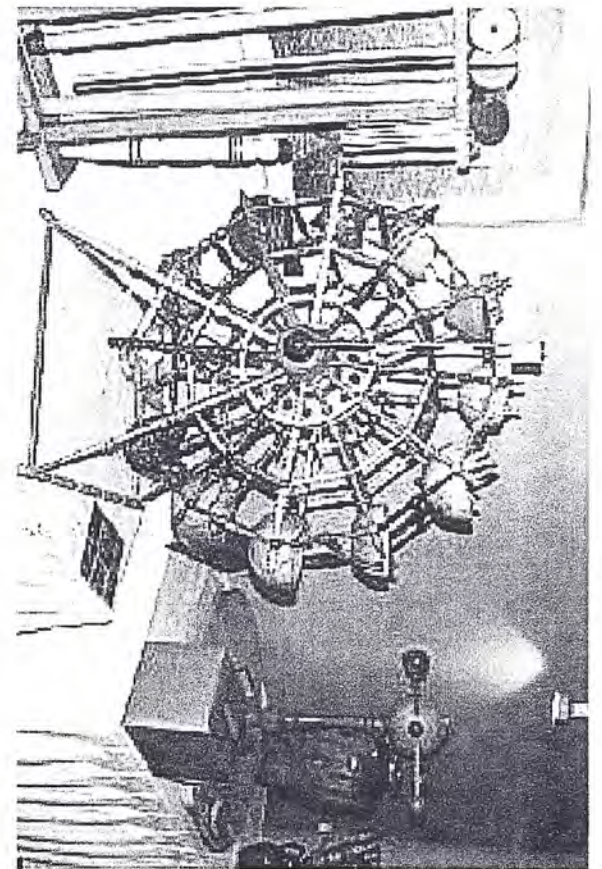
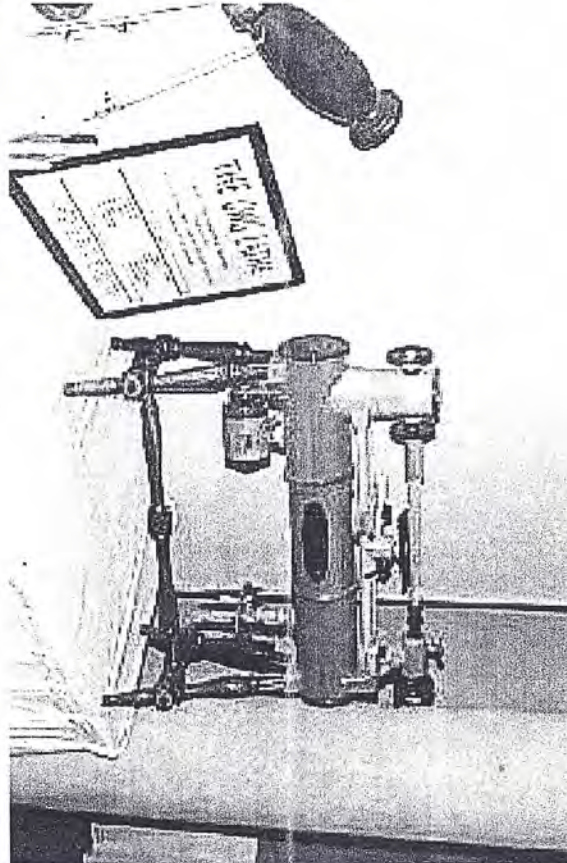
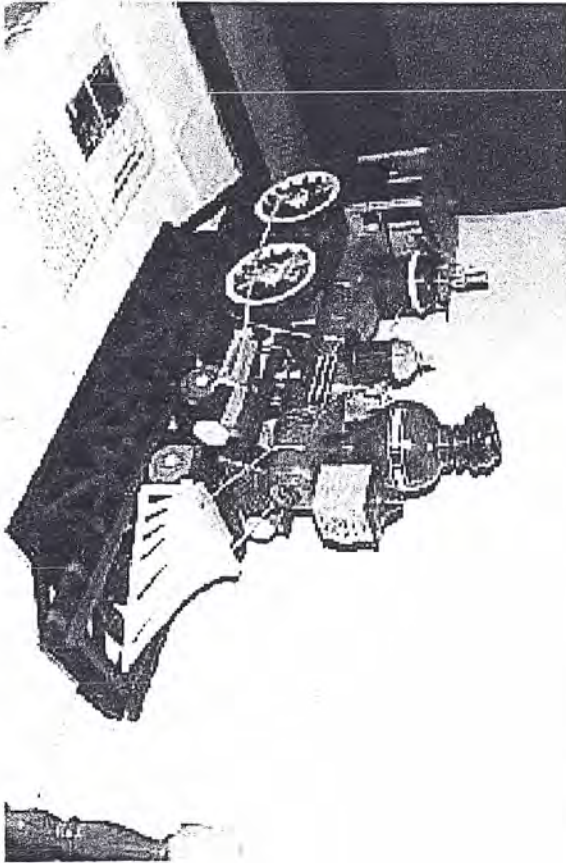
My phone is 218-485-4254

Joel

Along with manning a demo booth at the Washington County Fair some of our members also had time to win some ribbons. Ed Johnson won a blue ribbon for one of his special "square" bowls. Paul Keller won a red ribbon for a walnut bowl trimmed with turquoise. Rod Olson won the Grand Champion award for a quilt stand. Those of you at the club picnic also got to see these items. Good job, guys !!

By the way the picnic was enjoyed by those attending. Larry Heyn took home the 1st place certificate for the best bat. Many beautiful turnings were also displayed. Great park but the bees have to go !!

Random selection of some of the
collaborative
turnings at the symposium.



MWA Board

President:

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Duane.gemelke@corp.honeywell.com

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Librarian:

Linda Ferber (651) 454-5774

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Larry Heyn (612) 571-2117
Bruce Arones (651) 433-5364

Secretary:

Ken Tempero (612) 476-9024

Newsletter Editor/Membership:

Don Robinson (612) 441-8207
e-mail: dmrob@worldnet.att.net

Member Helpline

Do you have a question or need help with a project or turning? The following members have volunteered to try and answer your questions or point you in the right direction.

Mel Turcanik (507) 634-4986
John Engstrom (612) 475-0307
Jim Jacobs (651) 437-2302
Ed Johnson (651) 224-4194
John Magnussen (612) 477-6294
Don Wattenhofer (612) 572-1045

If any others wish to volunteer for this list please call Don Robinson @ (612) 441-8207.

For Sale

Some of the most exciting
Turning-Wood in the world
is available right here in
Minnesota!

- Incredible Exotic Burls
- Beautiful Boards •
- Fantastic Prices

Call Craig Lossing at
(651) 785-4194 Today!

Membership Application/Renewal MINNESOTA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

Name (Please Print) _____

Telephone # _____

Date _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Dues are \$20 Yearly (starting in January)
But \$10 after July 1st (2nd half year)

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please Check: Renewing Member ☐ New Member ☐

Are you a member of the AAW ? Yes ☐ No ☐

You will receive all issues of the newsletter starting
with the next mailing after you join along with a
new members kit.

I would be willing to:

Help out at meetings	<input type="radio"/>
Be on a planning committee	<input type="radio"/>
Help at demos/shows	<input type="radio"/>
Serve on the Board	<input type="radio"/>
Contribute to newsletter	<input type="radio"/>

Mail To:
MN Woodturners Association
c/o Ron Meilahn
1638 23rd Ave NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

Future Meetings

Saturday, Sept. 11 from 11:30 to 2:00

Artistic Woodcarving Studio

@ 3216 Aldrich Ave. So.

Located 2 blocks south & 1 block west of the Rockler store at Lake & Lyndale. Go around to the garage in back. Do not ring doorbell. Bring your own chair.

Kostav Papadakis will demonstrate techniques on integrating woodcarving and woodturning. Kostav is a well known and experienced carver from this area. He will give us some new ideas to expand our horizons for improving turnings. He will answer any specific questions you may have been storing up. If you have a vessel that may be a candidate for carving bring it along. He may have some ideas for you.

Thursday Evening, Oct. 14

from 6:15 to 7:30 PM

Minneapolis Institute of Arts

2400 3rd Ave. So, (612) 870-3131

If coming from the south on 35W, exit at 31st / Lake St. and work up to 24th & 3rd. If coming from the north, use the 11th St. exit. Call number above for more specific directions. (cont'd)

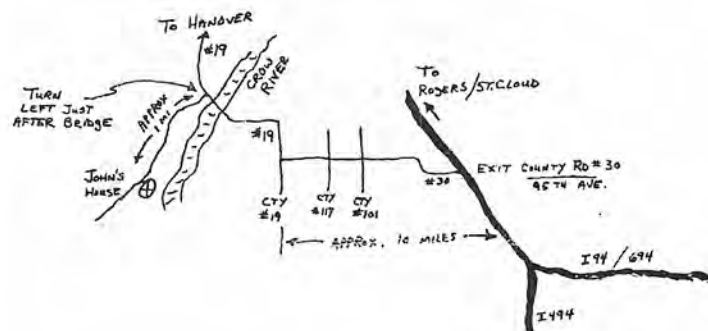


This meeting will feature a guided tour of ceramic vessels. The intent is to give us more insight into form and shape. Since pottery and ceramic vessels are essentially the same as wood vessels in terms of shape we should be able to relate to art objects on display at the Institute.

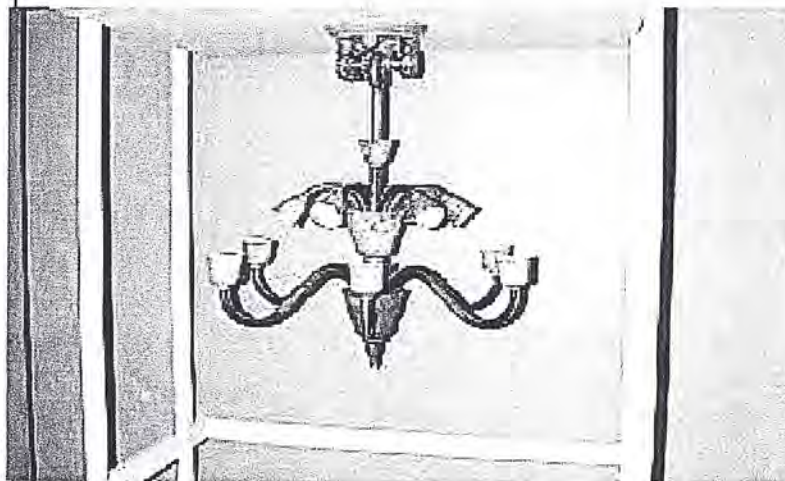
Saturday, November 13th

@ John Magnussen's shop (see map)

We will make our own tools. If you have any specific tools in mind please call one of the board members and we will try to include it in the mix. We are thinking of a complete Hook tool, tool handles, etc.



Our very own collaborative entry



Minnesota Woodturners Association

Dedicated to providing education, information and an organization to those interested in woodturning.

The Minnesota Woodturners Association was formed in 1987 with approximately 25 charter members and now has about 100 members. The Association is non-profit and all work by members is done voluntarily.

The skill level of our members ranges from complete beginners to skilled professionals. Membership includes a few professionals but hobbyists make up the majority. The members live mostly in the Twin Cities metro area, however there are members in all areas of Minnesota stretching into western Wisconsin.

The Association normally schedules meetings once a month during fall, winter and spring of the year. (September thru May) The meetings are normally held on Tuesdays or Saturdays and the group meets in a different location each time. The meeting locations vary from members shops, educational associations, to the various woodworking stores located throughout the metro area.

The newsletter is published quarterly.

The meetings usually consist of some sort of turning demonstration or related subject. The subjects of the demonstrations vary from basic techniques to advanced levels. The meetings are always open to questions from the members and we invite and encourage them to share their knowledge and skills freely. The Association tries to arrange at least one professional demonstration each year, with past professional demonstrators coming from all areas of the United States, England and as far away as Australia.



Editor
Minnesota Woodturners Assoc.
13400 Island View Dr
Elk River, MN 55330



First Class Mail