

# MINNESOTA WOODTURNERS

## A S S O C I A T I O N

in association with the American Association of Woodturners

October 2002

## Sign up for Hands-on with Bob Rosand!

We have a great opportunity for eight lucky people! AAW board member and professional turner, Bob Rosand, will be conducting a hands-on session Friday evening, October 11th.

The session will be held at the Woodcraft store, located at 9741 Lyndale Ave. S. in Bloomington, from 5:30 PM—8:30 PM. The cost is a mere \$25! You will need to bring your own turning tools, and eye protection (preferably a face shield).

If you'd like to attend, contact Ron Meilahn at 763-862-2100 or e-mail at [ronmeilahn@usfamily.net](mailto:ronmeilahn@usfamily.net). Ron will get you signed up and make arrangements to collect the \$25 fee. You must be an MWA member to sign up; and you'll want to hurry ... places will go to the first eight people who contact Ron!

Once you've signed up, if you're unable to attend the session, please notify Ron as soon as possible so your spot can be offered to the next person in line.



### Annual Picnic

It was a bit chilly on the day of our annual picnic—only three of us in shorts ... can you believe it?! Despite the chill, it was bright and sunny, and I think everyone had a great time! Turn to page 13 for more details.

Photo by John Nicholson

### Inside This Issue:

- |   |  |    |   |
|---|--|----|---|
| 1 | Sign Up For Hands-on With Bob Rosand!                            | 10 | So You Want to Learn Hollow Turning...<br><i>by Joe Yates</i> |
| 2 | President's Corner & New Club Members                            | 12 | Meet Robert "Bob" Rosand                                      |
| 3 | Bob Rosand Demonstration—October 12th                            | 13 | Fun, Food & Animals—Annual Picnic                             |
| 3 | Time to Step Up & Treasurer's Report                             | 14 | Start Now on Block Sets to Benefit Toys For Tots              |
| 4 | Twelve Hands On at John Magnussen's<br><i>by Cathy Nicholson</i> | 15 | Bowl Saver Demonstrations—November 12th                       |
| 6 | The September Tool Swap<br><i>by Cathy Nicholson</i>             | 15 | Craft Supplies Orders   |
| 8 | Club Activity Calendar   | 15 | For Sale and our next Turning Challenge                       |

## Minnesota Woodturners Association

### President

Bruce Arones  
barones@minnmicro.com  
651-433-5364

### Vice President

John Nicholson  
jc.nicholson@usfamily.net  
763-785-1587

### Program Director

and

### Secretary

Roger Ronsen  
roger.ronsen@earthlink.net  
952-890-8713

### Treasurer/Membership

Ron Meilahn  
ronmeilahn@usfamily.net  
763-862-2100

### Newsletter Editor

Cathy Nicholson  
jc.nicholson@usfamily.net  
763-785-1587

### Newsletter Mailings

John Ratliff  
651-770-6471

### Librarian

Linda Ferber  
lindaf@copyequipmentinc.com  
651-454-5774

### Members-At-Large

Don Wattenhofer  
drwatt@usfamily.net  
763-572-1045

Craig Lossing  
craigswoods@yahoo.com  
651-785-4194

Steve Tiedman  
stiedman@mninter.net  
763-789-4505

Chuck Bjorgen  
cbjorgen@citilink.com  
651-633-8850

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Turning related ads are free to members. Commercial ads are billed at \$4 per month, per column inch. To place an ad, call Cathy Nicholson (763) 785-1587 or jc.nicholson@usfamily.net. Ads will run one issue unless you call to extend your ad for each additional issue.

Submission deadline for the next issue:

**November 22nd**

## President's Corner



In the early 1990's the 35 or so chapters of the AAW collaborated on building a totem pole or totem poles; each chapter made one section of the pole. The completed poles were installed at Arrowmont. Over time the pieces have been deteriorated by the weather—to the point that a decision was made to replace rather than repair them. The replacement pieces will be 20 inches high by 20 inches in diameter and made of redwood or some other wood, which is resistant to rot. The MWA made one of the pieces for the original poles and we have been asked to make a replacement piece. I am looking for people interested in helping with the different aspects of this project: design, turning, finishing, then packing & shipping. The AAW has set a deadline of March 1, 2003 to have the

pieces ready to assemble at Arrowmont. If you would like to help with this project, please call me or send me an e-mail.

The MWA has purchased two new Jet mini-lathes which will be available for use at the small group hands-on sessions. This means that more people will be doing hands-on at one time without having to wait to use a lathe.

The two new lathes added to the three we had, plus accessories, and some new audio-visual equipment along with club banners and a few odds and ends make up an extensive club inventory. The lathes are currently traveling around for the hands-on sessions, but at some point we'll need to think about where we can house all of the equipment so that it is readily available for club functions. Any ideas out there?

Something new on the horizon is an MWA web page. New member Dave Carley is our web guru. The web page will be developed over a period of time. There are some general ideas of what will be included on the web page, but if you have suggestions for additional content, please contact any board member. The board will have to approve any additions to the web page.

### New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

Steve Vadnais from St. Paul, MN  
Mike Palmateer from Harris, MN  
Wayne Van Every from Greeley, CO  
Bill Klopp from New Richmond, WI

# October Meeting to feature Bob Rosand

The October meeting will consist of an all day demonstration by Bob Rosand; he will be demonstrating Christmas ornaments, lidded boxes, oil lamps, tools and an acorn ornament!

**Date:** Saturday, October 12th

**Time:** 9:00 AM—4:00 PM (with an hour for lunch)

**Location:** The Auditorium at MCAD

⇒ **Admission: \$20 per person** (Mail checks ahead of time to Ron Meilahn, or pay at the door—visitors are welcome—for the same \$20 admission fee).

**Activities:** Library rentals and Show 'n Tell



For more about Bob Rosand, see page 12.

MCAD: 2501 Stevens Avenue S., Minneapolis

## Time To Step Up!

Many of the terms of our MWA board positions will expire at the end of this year. Elections for these positions will take place at our annual holiday party on Dec. 10.

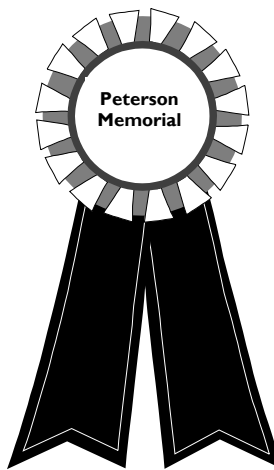
If you've ever thought about serving our club, or if you know a member you think could do a good job as an officer or board member, please submit names of candidates to board member Chuck Bjorgen. The various board positions are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. Only two of those positions do not end this year. And don't be shy. You can nominate yourself!

**Contact Chuck at:**

cbjorgen@citilink.com

or

(651) 633-8850



## CONGRATULATIONS TO GREG SUPER!

MWA member **Greg Super** was awarded the **Peterson Memorial** award for a turning he entered in the Minnesota State Fair. His winning piece was a round, lidded vessel with circular insets and inlay.

Great job Greg!

## Demos at the Washington County Fair

The MWA was represented at the Washington County Fair again this year. Members who demonstrated were: Bruce Arones, Linda Ferber, Duane Gemelke, John Nicholson, and Jim Jacobs.

## MWA Treasurer Report

(first 9 months of 2002)

<b>PAID MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$6,583</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>(\$8,176)</b>
<b>CHECKBOOK BALANCE 9/30/02</b>	<b>\$1,567</b>



# Twelve Hands On at John Magnussen's!

by Cathy Nicholson



John Magnussen demonstrates turning the birdhouse roof.  
Photo by Chuck Bjorgen

Fourteen people met for a hands-on session at John Magnussen's on August 10<sup>th</sup>, and it was a blast! There were six experienced turners paired with six less experienced or novice turners (along with Pat Donahue, a friend of John Magnussen's, and me as spectators).

Our hands-on program coordinator, Chuck Bjorgen, introduced himself and the other experienced turners, who were: Hal Malmlov, Boyd Annis, Don Wattenhofer, John Magnussen, and John Nicholson. The "students" for the day's session were: Bonnie McDermid, Carol Wagner, Irv Swanson, Chuck Pitschka, Eric Nelson, and Bob Sterns.

John Magnussen kicked things off by demonstrating how he applies paints to pieces still on the lathe. Some of you may remember the pieces he brought for Show 'n Tell last December—he has achieved some attractive results utilizing the centrifugal force created by the lathe. John also demonstrated making a birdhouse ornament, which was to be the project for each hands-on participant. (He had even prepared birdhouse blanks for each of the session participants—what a guy!)

Hal Malmlov followed John, and gave an overview of how he makes birdhouse (slightly different than John's method) and Christmas ornaments. Don Wattenhofer showed and explained his home-made chuck, used to hold spheres, enabling him to turn holes in the hollowed spheres—great for making Christmas ornaments. After the demonstrations each participant paired up with an experienced turner and the chips began to fly!

John Magnussen gives Bob Sterns some pointers.

Photo by Chuck Bjorgen

John Nicholson was asked for some impromptu sharpening

Boyd Annis keeps a watchful eye on Irv Swanson.

Photo by Chuck Bjorgen





instruction, and was kept busy sharpening tools for the remainder or the session! Each of the hands-on participants completed a project: birdhouse ornaments for everyone except Bonnie, who chose to make a Christmas ornament. A very enjoyable day, as the following comments illustrate:

**"... was very impressed by everything that went on. I learned a lot, talked to a lot of very nice people, got to do a little turning, and in general had a ball. Although I cant' be very active in the club, I really enjoy sessions like this one. Thanks for the opportunity!!!"**

**- Bob Sterns**

**"Our turning session at John Magnussen's shop was terrific! ... Hal was a great coach—in just a couple of hours he taught me to make a wlanut and maple Christmas tree ornament (including hollowing work, which I had never done). Learning from a master is at least three times faster than learning from a book—and much more fun."**

**- Bonnie McDermid**



Above: Boyd Annis assists Carol Wagner in the foreground, while Hal Malmlov watches Bonnie work on the icicle for her Christmas ornament.

Below: Chuck Pitschka turns under Don Wattenhofer's guidance.

Below left: Erik Nelson works on his birdhouse roof.

All photos by Chuck Bjorgen



**"I thought the session was great. I loved the Mercury lathe. I loved the chance to pick up some valuable info from all of the experienced turners. Lots of the "good stuff" wasn't necessarily from the official parts of the session. There was talk about sharpening, about jigs for different things, and all kinds of things. It was great. And the official parts were good, too. I liked getting two perspectives on making the bird house ornaments. It just shows there are so many different ways of accomplishing the same thing in turning. You use what you know, or what you're comfortable with."**

**... I enjoyed watching the experts demonstrate, and I also got a lot out of watching the less experienced turners doing their thing. It was a great experience."**

**- Erik Nelson**



# September Meeting: we tool swapped, did some turning, and basically had a great time!

by Cathy Nicholson

Roughly 35 people attended our September meeting at John Magnussen's. It was a wonderful day ... and really, how could it have been otherwise? We were surrounded by tools, turners (friends), and snacks; we enjoyed gorgeous weather, turning demonstrations and John Magnussen's hospitality. We couldn't really go wrong with a set up like that.

The business portion of our meeting consisted of several announcements from Bruce Arones:

1. The club has purchased two more lathes; we now have five lathes and a grinder for club use—hands-on sessions, etc.
2. We have also purchased equipment that will enable us to project club presentations onto a big screen, and feed to speakers that should allow everyone to hear what's going on! Contact John Nicholson if you'd like to par-

ticipate in running and/or setting up the equipment at club functions.

3. Terms for many of our board members will expire in December. Would you like to join the board, or nominate someone for a position? If so, contact Chuck Bjorgen—details on page 3.
4. The club will be making one piece for an AAW collaborative totem pole to be installed at Arrowmont. Contact Bruce if you'd like to assist in any part of the project.

For the remainder of the meeting we were immersed in tools, turning demonstrations, and comraderie.



Above: Steve Vadnais does some spindle work while Brian Grobe works on hollowing.

Upper right: Irv Swanson and Don McCay watch Brian's technique.

Lower right: John Magnussen demonstrates "inside-out" turning for (left to right) Carol Wagner, Irv Swanson, Art Nelson, and Greg Super. John's demonstration spanned a couple hours off and on—we had to wait for the glue to dry. John has just begun experimenting with inside-out turning so we all learned some things as he went along. We had some interesting discussions about different ways to achieve the desired shape (hole) in the piece once it's turned right-side out.

Some club members have turned inside-out pieces for previous Show 'n Tells or turning challenges, including Boyd Annis, and John Engstrom; but after the interest generated from John's demonstration, I'm expecting to see more inside-out turnings at future club meetings.

All photos by Chuck Bjorgen







Photos this page:

1. Everyone talks tools! - Photo by John Nicholson
2. Jim Jacobs looks on as Duane Gemelke examines the vacuum chuck that Jim made. - Photo by Chuck Bjorgen
3. Don Robinson and Bill Klopp are entertained by Steve Tiedman on the lathe—that Steve ... he's just an entertaining sort of guy! (Don had a great T-shirt on, it had a quote purported to be from George Washington that went something like, "Yeah, so I cut down that Cherry tree ... it had a burl on it!") - Photo by Chuck Bjorgen
4. Show 'n Tell items, from front to back:
  - ♦ Katalpa bowl by Bruce Arones.
  - ♦ Mesquite natural edge bowl by Jim Jacobs.
  - ♦ Walnut bowl by Bruce Arones.
  - ♦ Pink Ivory box (saucer shaped) by Jim Jacobs.
  - ♦ Walnut and Birch bowl by Carol Wagner—her first bowl!
  - ♦ Three lidded boxes by Chuck Bjorgen; one is spalted Maple, turned from a tree that Chuck planted as a sapling 32 years ago; one is Pear and the third is Maple.
  - ♦ Bacote and Maple candlestick holders by Brian Grobe (each candlestick is three pieces).
  - ♦ And finally, an OLD candlestick holder by John Magnussen, turned from something out of the wood pile ... according to his signature on the bottom, it was turned in 1892!

- Photo by John Nicholson



# Mark these dates on your Calendar

*Activities you don't want to miss!*

## January 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## July 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## February 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

## August 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## March 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## September 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## April 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## October 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## May 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## November 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## June 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## December 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### January

- ♦ **9th**—The board of Directors meeting was held at the AAW Office in Shoreview.
- ♦ **15th**—The January meeting consisted of “How to Photograph Your Work”, and a discussion on Finishing.

- ♦ **18th-20th**—The Woodworking Show was held at RiverCentre in St. Paul.

### February

- ♦ **13th**—The February meeting was held at Woodcraft, and featured egg turning demonstrations.

### March

- ♦ **6th**—Board of Directors meeting was held at the AAW office in Shoreview.
- ♦ **16th**—Bowl making demonstration(s) were featured at the March meeting.

### April

- ♦ **9th**—A slide show and review of two recent exhibitions: Nature Takes A Turn and Wood Turning Since 1930 was featured at the April meeting.

### May

- ♦ **11th**—Soren Berger, a New Zealand turner, demo'd at our May meeting.

### June

- ♦ **23rd**—Club members demonstrated at Maplewood Rockler's 2nd Annual Woodworking Carnival.

- ♦ **26th**—An exhibit of Fred Somers' oil & pastels opened at the Ripple River Gallery. Reception was held June 29th.

- ♦ **29th - 30th**—Club members demonstrated at the MN Craft Council's Art Fair at St. Kate's.



## August

- ♦ **2nd - 4th**—Club members demonstrated at the Washington County Fair. See page 3.
- ♦ **7th**—"Time and Place", featuring the work of Jo Wood, a bead artist, and Tina Fung-Holder, a fiber artist, opened at the Ripple River Gallery. Reception was held August 10th.

- ♦ **17th**—Annual Club Picnic was held at Brookdale Park. See front page, plus the article and pictures on page 13.

## September

- ♦ **11th**—The board of Directors met Wednesday, at 6:30, at John Ratliff's house.
- ♦ **14th**—Tool Swap 'n Shop was held at John Magnussen's. See page 6 for article and pictures.

## October

- ♦ **2nd**—"The Elements", an inaugural portfolio exhibit by the Northern Printmakers Alliance, will open at the Ripple River Gallery. Reception to be held October 5th.
- ♦ **5th - 6th**—Fall Colors & Apples Open House at the Ripple River Gallery.
- ♦ **11th**—Bob Rosand will be giving an evening Hands-on session for eight people. See front page for details!
- ♦ **12th**—Our membership meeting will consist of an all-day demonstration by well known turner Bob Rosand. See page 3 for details and a map. **note:** there will be a \$20 fee for each person attending.

## November

- ♦ **6th**—The board of Directors will meet Wednesday, at 6:30, at Roger Ronsen's house in Savage. Any member with something they would like brought before the BOD should contact any board member listed in the newsletter, and it will be put on the agenda.
- ♦ **12th**—The membership meeting will be held at Roseville Area High School from 6:00—9:00 PM. Bowl Savers will be demonstrated; see page 15 for directions and details.

## December

- ♦ **10th**—Our Annual Holiday Party will be held at the AAW office in Shoreview. See pages 14 & 15 for the Toys For Tots blocks and the holiday challenge. More party details in the next newsletter.

### **The electronic newsletter — it worked!!**

This is the last hard copy newsletter you'll be getting ... unless I've been notified that you don't want to receive the newsletter electronically!

You will receive e-mail notification several days before each newsletter issue is transmitted, just as you did on our test transmittal.

**Reminder:** be sure to let me know if you prefer to receive your newsletter through the US mail; send me an e-mail at [jc.nicholson@usfamily.net](mailto:jc.nicholson@usfamily.net).

Thanks, Cathy (newsletter editor)

### **Directions to Ripple River Gallery:**

**from Deerwood:** Five miles south on Hwy. 6, then 3 miles east of Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge on County Road 14 to Partridge Avenue (formerly County Line Road), then north 1/4 mile on Partridge Avenue.

**from Aitkin:** South on Hwy. 169 to Bennettville, then 3.2 miles west on County Road 11 to Partridge Ave.

### **Host a Hands-on Session!**

The MWA is in need of volunteers to host hands-on mini-sessions as educational experiences for both new or experienced woodturners. Members hosting a session can set the agenda as their experience and shop space dictates. The session may be hands-on or strictly a demonstration of favorite techniques. You set the topic, number of guests, day, time and duration of any session you host.

Club members who are also members of AAW are automatically covered by the Association's liability insurance. The club must know in advance if you are planning such a session to qualify for this coverage.

Please send a note to Chuck Bjorgen at the following email address if you'd like to volunteer to host a mini-session:

[cbjorgen@citilink.com](mailto:cbjorgen@citilink.com)

# So You Want to Learn Hollow Turning ...

by Joe Yates

**Article submitted by John Nicholson, reprinted with permission of the author**

If you want to learn and be proficient at hollow turning, you are among the majority of wood turners. If you fully understand and are proficient in this area, you are probably in the small minority of the woodturning world.

If you are a beginner, you need to have instruction. This is not a good area for trial and error. Before you buy your first hollow turning tools, you should carefully assess your lathe capacity and your level of expertise, and decide what sizes and shapes you want to turn. You can make or purchase very simple and inexpensive tools, or you can spend well over \$500 for a system. The choices you make depend on the size of pieces you have the lathe capacity and ability to turn and how much you are willing to spend.

If you need direction, find a mentor if you can. If you are unable to find a mentor, pay for instruction. An excellent videotape, that I viewed many times when I first started, is John Jordan's "Hollow Turning." This video demonstrates the Dennis Stewart system and also does an excellent job of explaining the basic principles.

This area of turning can be very risky. In order to practice safe turning you should

get proper instruction and purchase the safest tools, not the cheapest tools. In the beginning you should start small, with large openings, and use firewood or scrap wood. All the standard safety instructions should always be exercised with care such as using a proper face shield, etc. Most importantly of all is to always use common sense. Never try to exceed your own ability, the ability of your lathe, or the ability of your tools.

When I started turning five and a half years ago, I spent over 100 days with a professional. He was very good with the Dennis Stewart arm brace system and had me using the system within the first two months of training. He thought I was unduly fearful, and I did and still do have great respect for the potential danger of this system. While I still use that system, I now use a larger version of the Lyle Jamison system with a laser light attachment for most of my work. This system has very little stress and is very safe if used properly.

The tool selection in this area is staggering. Most of the tools have just come on the market within the last five years.

The cheapest tools are versions of the David Ellsworth

type tools – using a 3/16" high speed square cutter attached to the end of a piece of round, square, or rectangular steel. These tools are tricky, so learn to use with care. The tips are difficult to sharpen if they are glued or soldered to the tool. If the tips can be removed, as in several systems, the tips are easily sharpened by placing them upside down on your grinder table at the proper tilt to match the bevel.

Kelton has a new system that uses the same general principles as the Lyle Jamison system. I have not used this system, but Fred Holder, the editor of "More Woodturning", has an excellent review of this system in his December 2001 issue. If you do not already subscribe to his publication, you should seriously consider it.

In addition, Robert Sorby has a system similar to the Dennis Stewart system and has a variety of smaller and less expensive hollow turning tools. Chris Stott also has an inexpensive set of miniature tools.

A commercial version of the Lyle Jamison system is now available as is the laser attachment. I can also use a hook tool, Soren Berger's cutter tip and the Rolly Munro system that I purchased through Soren, with my sys-



tem. All of these have their place.

Woodcut has an interesting system, as does Hamlet which controls the amount of blade presented. Bierton Craft Turners of England uses a round cutter, as does the Munro system. You see these systems in the Craft Supply catalog and/or the Packard Woodworks, Inc. catalog. As you can see, the wide variety of choices is mind boggling, especially if you have not used or mastered any of them.

If you have a large lathe, like I do, (a One way 2436) you can go up to the long boring bars used by Frank Sudol and James Johnson of Kerrville, TX (go to the web site [www.bayareawoodturners.org](http://www.bayareawoodturners.org) and check out the Johnson homemade lathe which weighs 1500 lb). For a mini-lathe you need small tools. Most of us need something in between.

Turners seem to keep buying more tools in their quest for the magic one that will make them a world-class turner. The great majority of people have to master a tool through hours of use and repetition. For most of us, this means hundreds of hours, not just a few. I like my "hundred rule" but few turners have the patience and persistence to follow it. Make one hundred of any item, the same shape, using the same tool and technique in a relatively short time span and you should have it mastered.

After you have selected your tools, then select your wood.

Most woods will crack if you do not remove the pith. I do leave the pith in with Norfolk Island pine and Cuban Mahogany. Frank Sudol uses Aspen, I think, for his large pieces in which he turns the log form. I like to use Red Maple infested with Ambrosia Beetle but I use large enough logs that I can cut around the pith. I use a chain saw for my blank preparation but a band saw is in order for many people and for smaller pieces.

Most people who do a lot of hollow turning use green wood and turn it end grain. End grain pieces have much less distortion and cracking when drying and are quick to turn because the waste is sawdust chips rather than long shavings that quickly clog the interior. I start out with my pieces between centers using a 1.5" spur drive and 1.5" Roughing gouge. I shape it with a 16 or 19mm P & N spindle gouge using the standard spindle turning techniques.

I often copy other turners' shapes. I usually pattern my pieces after pottery shapes and highly recommend the Southwestern Pottery Book that can be obtained from Craft Supply, Utah, for shape and form ideas.

After I have the piece rounded true I decide which end will be the top after I look at the grain figure orientation. I then use my straight McNaughton blade and the McNaughton tool holder to square each end and prepare the bottom for a faceplate. You can use a large part-

ing tool for this. I use my One-way or Vicmarc scroll chuck on some smaller pieces but one is much safer using a faceplate. I use a #3 square head drive, #12 screws 1.5" long that I purchased from Craft Supply on my 6-10" vases. I do not use glue blocks.

After the blank is mounted to the faceplate, I finish shaping it with a 1.25" roughing gouge, bowl gouge, and a 16mm spindle.

After I have the outside shaped and have mounted the blank to a faceplate, I use a Forstner bit mounted in a Jacobs chuck or my Johnson-jig (no longer available) to bore to the desired depth. I measure this with a rod and by eye. The laser jig can be used later to determine the exact location of the bottom.

After the hole is bored, I remove the remainder of the interior with the tools mentioned above and usually finish with the Sorby curved tool with a scraper attached.

Depending on the species and the moisture level of the piece, you can turn it from 1/4 - 3/8" thick and coat the exterior with Anchorseal, allow it to dry and then finish the piece. If the wood is fairly stable and your ability allows you to turn it to 1/8" thick or less uniformly, you can skip the twice turn method.

I sand the inside, as far as I can reach, by hand and then sand the outside using primar-

*(Continued on page 12)*

# Meet Robert “Bob” Rosand ...

Information provided by Bob Rosand

Robert Rosand has always worked with wood. Some of his earliest memories are of his father calling him to the basement to hold a board while he cut it. As a result, Robert became skilled in carpentry and worked in the construction trade after high school. He briefly left his love of wood to serve four years in the navy and then to earn a degree in psychology, but the smell of sawdust drew him back to carpentry and later fine cabinetmaking. After reading about turning wood on the lathe in magazine articles and pouring over books on woodturning, Robert bought his first lathe. That was in 1980 and he is still turning on the same lathe today. Robert is primarily self-taught as a result of holding a book in one hand and a gouge in the other while standing at the lathe. Since then he has created his own niche in the world of woodturning. He favors turning maple burl into beautiful thin delicate bowls with natural edges. “I prefer simple and organic shapes with little embellishment. I let the wood

speak for itself as no two pieces of wood are alike. My turning is just exposing what nature has done. I enjoy maple burl because it is clean cutting with a lovely texture and feel. I’m inspired by the process of turning wood. It is satisfying watching clean shavings coming off of the tool and hearing the sound of a good cut.”

Robert is also a talented teacher and demonstrator in woodturning circles. He has demonstrated at the seventh annual AAW symposium, Purchase, New York, the international “Turning 10” symposium in Greensboro, NC, and for numerous local chapters of the American Association Of Woodturners (AAW). He enjoys sharing his skill, tips, and techniques with others and derives great satisfaction in helping others improve their skills on the lathe.

Robert is the former page editor of the “Turning Tips” column for American Woodturner magazine. He has also written a number of articles for American Woodturner and American

Woodworker. He was recently featured in a book, *The Art Of The Lathe*, by Patrick Spielman and has been included in several AAW project books. He is a juried member of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and a founding member of the AAW. From 1991 to the present, Robert is recognized by the board of AAW for outstanding contribution to the field of woodturning. He is presently serving his second three-year term on the AAW board of directors. He has won numerous awards and his turned birdhouses and birdhouse ornaments have consistently won awards at the Vita Birdhouse Competition. His works are in private collections throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan.

Robert Rosand lives with his wife, Susan, two cats, and eight lathes in a house that he built in the woods of Pennsylvania. He can be contacted by writing to his studio at 198 Dug Road, Bloomsburg, PA 17815 or by calling 570-784-6158. You may also E-mail him at [rrosand@ptdprolog.net](mailto:rrosand@ptdprolog.net).

*(Continued from page 11)*

ily a 5” Oscillating vibrator sander with the lathe slowly turning. At the end I sand with the grain while the piece of wood is not turning. I leave pieces on the face plate allowing them to dry a for a few days, and use a Danish oil finish (Waterlox or minwax an-

tique oil).

Oneway sells an adapter that attaches to your Oneway live center and I attach the face plate to the adapter. I use a combination of my Oneway vacuum drum and my vacuum system to jam chuck it. I part off the bottom with my vacuum

system turned on. I detach the adapter and faceplate and apply light pressure on the piece with the tail stock. I use a 10 or 12 mm spindle gouge and sandpaper to finish the concave bottom. Sign and finish the bottom.



# Fun, Food, and Animals at our Annual Picnic

by Cathy Nicholson

Picnics are always a good time, and ours was no exception. In addition to the predictably good food (when is a potluck not good?), including fresh corn, courtesy of Rod Olson and Erwin Nistler, and the animal challenge, we just plain had a good time visiting with members' spouses and families!



Show 'n Tell ... beautiful work, wouldn't you agree?

All photos by John Nicholson

There were some excellent entries in the animal challenge (see pictures on this and the back page). Ron Strelow's life-size dog, modeled after his own dog, was very impressive, and the biggest entry, standing over 2 feet tall. The smallest entry was Mary Lacer's bug, at maybe two inches tall. A variety of turning techniques were used to create the various animals: both Don Wattenhofer and Hal Malmlov created threaded coin banks. The head of Don's piggy bank unscrewed, and Hal's cow bank unscrewed in the middle—both had very expressive faces (the banks I mean, not Don and Hal). Linda Ferber turned three (beautifully sculpted) flowers with butterflies and bugs attached. Bruce Arones' entry was a seal balancing a ball on his nose—turned on multiple centers from one piece of wood. Duane Gemelke's duck was very nice; turned, then cut apart (some pieces removed), glued back together and finished with a bit of sculpting on the head. Erwin Nistler made

*(continued on page 16)*



Left: Ron Strelow's animal challenge entry Above: everyone seems to be enjoying the picnic  
Below, left to right: Duane Gemelke, Bruce Arones, Linda Ferber, & Hal Malmlov—the winners!



# Start Now on the Block Sets to Benefit Toys For Tots

... we'll collect them at our holiday party in December

Yes! We'll be making block sets again this year as a donation to Toys For Tots. Our goal is to make 10 sets of 30 blocks in 15 different shapes. They're quick and easy to make—choose to make an entire set, or only specific pieces. (We're still looking for a person to coordinate our donations to Toys For Tots; if you're interested, contact Bruce Arones at barones@minnmicro.com or 651-433-5364.)

All blocks should be uniform in size. Avoid tropical woods, woods that splinter easily, and dark colored woods (walnut, etc.). Sand all edges. Leave a natural finish or finish with non-toxic paint or dye.

There will be a sign up sheet at the October and November meetings so we can keep track of which people will be making what pieces, and in what quantity. You (or your spouse) may also sign up to sew the draw-


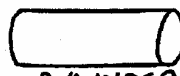

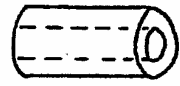


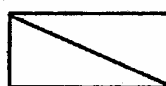









string bags, that are used to hold the block sets.

Bring all your blocks to the holiday party in December, where they'll be bagged, and then donated.

This project helps bring joy to lots of deserving kids at Christmas ... let's make blocks! Lots of blocks!

*Look for more party details in the next newsletter.*

## Size and shape of each block:

SHAPE		QUAN. PER SET TOTAL PCS. REQ. (FOR 10 SETS = 300 BLOCKS)			
A	 SQUARE BLOCK 2X2X2 1" HOLE 7/8" DEEP	4 40	i	 CYLINDER 1 3/4 X 4	2 20
B	 1 1/2 X 2 X 4	3 30	J	 CYLINDER 2 X 3 WITH 1" HOLE	1 10
C	 1 1/2 X 2 X 4	3 30	K	 TREE 1 3/4" DIAMETER, 4" HIGH	1 10
D	 1 1/2 X 2 X 4	3 30	L	 2" DIAMETER 1 5/16" TENON, 3/4" LONG	2 20
E	 3/4 X 2 X 2 SQUARE BLOCK WITH 10' TAPERED HOLE	2 20	M	 2" DIAMETER 1 5/16" TENON, 3/4" LONG	1 10
F	 3/4 X 2 WITH 1" HOLE	2 20	N	 2" DIAMETER 3" HIGH CASTLE	2 20
G	 2" DIAMETER 1 5/16" TENON, 3/4" LONG	1 10	O	 2" DIAMETER 4" HIGH LIGHTHOUSE	1 10
H	 10' CONE 1 3/4" AT BASE FITS INTO BLOCK E	2 20	P	 CLOTH BAGS TO HOLD 30 BLOCKS	1 10



## For Sale

**Shopsmith lathe duplicator**

New in the box, never used, **\$350**

**Shopsmith Scrollsaw**

Free standing, barely used, **\$700**

Call Tom Schwartz  
at 651-489-5847

## Are you ready for another Turning Challenge?

The challenge for our Holiday Party will be a **Holiday Ornament or Decoration!** Very timely, don't you think?

You're not limited to Christmas ornaments ... think *Holiday* ornament **or** decoration ... that leaves it pretty wide open!

You should get some great ideas at the Bob Rosand demo, October 12th. (Shameless plug for our next meeting.)

## November Meeting—What is a Bowl Saver System?

Come to our November meeting for the answer! Even if you know what a bowl saver system is, you'll find the demonstrations interesting ... maybe you'll want to add one to your Christmas list. Or, if you have one, come pick up some tips and start turning bowls for everyone you know!

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12th

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

**Location:** Roseville Area High School, located on County Road B2 (1 block north of Highway 36) between Hamline and Lexington Avenues. The meeting will be in the School's woodshop, which is located on the east end of the building. As you enter the parking lot, go to the left, which is east, down to the end of the building. The door to the woodshop is on the south side of the dumpsters.

**Program:** Two bowl saver systems, the Oneway and the McNaughton, will be demonstrated.

**Other Activities:** Library rentals, Sealer sales, Show 'n Tell, and a Wood Raffle.

*Please bring your own chair!*

## Orders from Craft Supplies (CS) due October 25th!

Your Craft Supplies orders will be collected at the October 12th meeting, or you may send your order to Ron Meilhan (see info below) no later than October 25th. If you don't have a Craft Supplies catalog, call them at 1-800-551-8876, and have them mail a catalog to you. (Catalogs will be available at the October meeting.) To qualify for the discount, we must order a minimum of \$1000 in products, and the order must be shipped to one address. The larger our order, the bigger our discounts!

**Note:** Product discounts are not guaranteed, and some products may be back ordered.

- For each item ordered, you **must** include: the page #, quantity, item #, description, and price.
- Send your orders via e-mail to Ron Meilhan, [ronmeilhan@usfamily.net](mailto:ronmeilhan@usfamily.net), or mail them to Ron at:  
13968 Alder Street NW., Andover, MN 55304
- If you have any questions, call Ron at 651-633-8902.

*As in the past, we will submit the entire order to CS, who will advise us of the net cost; we will then notify each member to send in his or her check while the order is being shipped.*



*(Continued from page 13)*

four Knight chess pieces (two pictured below); and Amelia Redig turned a



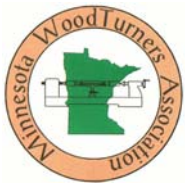
butterfly, using the skew, which she was justifiably proud of. The Nicholsons' hedgehog, turned off-center the morning

of the picnic (that was a comedy of errors, let me tell you), completed the entries. Thanks to everyone who participated!

... and the winners were:

- 🏆 1st—Hal Malmov
- 🏆 2nd—Linda Ferber
- 🏆 3rd—Bruce Arones
- 🏆 4th—Duane Gemelke

*All photos by John Nicholson*



**Minnesota Woodturners Assn.**  
13968 Alder Street NW.  
Andover, MN 55304

***First-Class Mail***