

Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

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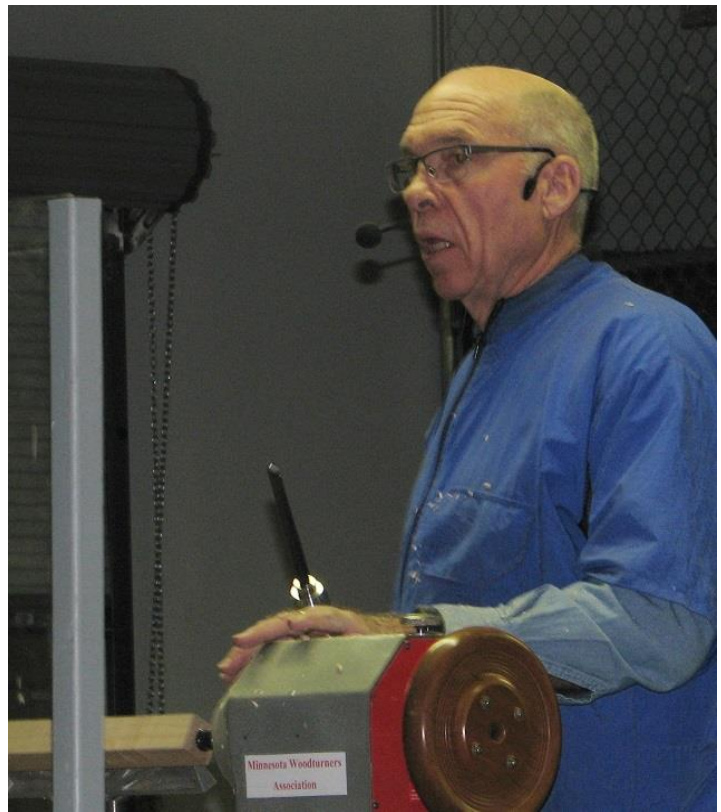
March, 2015

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

Theme for March: Spindles with Two Superb Teachers



**Nick Cook Professional Turner,
Teaching and Demonstration**



**Steve McLoon, Speaker Membership
Meeting. "Fun with Spindles"**

Minnesota Woodturners Association

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II. MWA EVENT CALENDAR

<p>January, 2015</p> <p>6th Membership Mtg Sharpening Systems Nelson, Robinette, etc</p> <p>13th Board Meeting</p> <p>23, 24, 25, Craig Lossing, Pro</p>	<p>February, 2015</p> <p>3rd Membership Mtg Gluing Segmented Work Bob Puetz</p> <p>10th Board Meeting</p>	<p>March, 2015</p> <p>3rd Membership Mtg Fun with Spindles Steve McLoon</p> <p>10th Board Mtg</p> <p>13, 14, 15 Nick Cook, Pro</p>	<p>April, 2015</p> <p>7th Membership Mtg Hollowing Mark Debe</p> <p>14th Board Mtg</p>
<p>May, 2015</p> <p>5th Membership Mtg Making Platters Steve Mages</p> <p>12th Board Mtg</p>	<p>June, 2015</p> <p>2nd Membership Mtg Different Woods Mark Debe</p> <p>9th Board Mtg</p> <p>25-28 AAW Mtg Pittsburg</p>	<p>July, 2015</p> <p>7th Membership Mtg Finishes Mark Palma</p> <p>13th Board Mtg</p>	<p>August, 2015</p> <p>4th Membership Mtg Decorating your work Jeff Luedloff</p> <p>11th Board Meeting</p>
<p>September, 2015</p> <p>1st Membership Mtg A Goblet W Captive Rings Gary Mrozek</p> <p>9th Board Mtg</p> <p>19, 20 Dixie Biggs Pro</p>	<p>October, 2015</p> <p>6th Membership Mtg Pendants Robinette and Farber</p> <p>13th Board Mtg</p>	<p>November, 2015</p> <p>3rd Membership Mtg Put a twist in your work Todd Williams</p> <p>10th Board Mtg</p>	<p>December, 2015</p> <p>No Membership Mtg</p> <p>No Board Mtg</p> <p>Christmas Party</p>

March, April Special Events at a Glance

March 18 Tool Sharpening Class, Neil Robinette's Brooklyn Park 6:00-9:00 PM

March 19 MWA South Central Get together (pork sandwich club) Lone Star Grill, Eagan, Noon.....?

March 23. Make Up Brushes and Seam Rippers, Rick Auge's, Shoreview 6:00-9:00 PM

March 25 Plymouth Area/Regional Turning Group, Steve Mages, 7:00-8:30 PM

April 1, Skew Class Rick Auge's shop Shoreview, 6:00 PM-9:00PM

April 15 Tool Sharpening Class, Neil Robinette's Brooklyn Park 6:00-9:00 PM

April 16 Hamburger Club 50's Grill

April ? Adding Pizzaz to Your Bowls Dan Larson Details TBD and April ? Natural Edge Class Details TBD



III. President's Message



Learning from MWA teachers and the Pros.

I have found there is no quicker way to advance your turning skills and getting yourself to think beyond what happens in your shop than by taking a class.

We have been fortunate to have had some great classes by both MWA teachers and pro-turners over the past several months.

For example, take Nick Cook's small group class. One of the projects offered I was not all that interested in. I thought to myself, "I have no interest in turning a peppermill." Yet, I took the class to support the club. I learned quite a lot in that class, which in turn added to my turning skills.

I would have taken the long way around, and had several "start overs" on many of the projects. I would never have been as efficient as I learned to be in Nick's class.

Here is a second example from the same class. A very long time would have gone by before I ever attempted a goblet, especially, one with a captive ring. It's really easier than it appears to be. Although the little tips you pick up in a class helps minimize common mistakes that can be made. This makes your turning experience much more satisfying and much less time consuming. Five goblets done, three of them this morning. Thanks Nick!

More importantly to me, every class I have taken has helped in reducing my sanding time.

Everyone who has been in MWA for a while probably knows this. Sorry guys! I guess this is for those who are like me and relatively new to MWA.

Here is something for everyone.

Open invite. The gallery director at Lanesboro Arts in Lanesboro, MN. notes we are looking for work by woodworkers to sell in our gallery. If you have an email list or newsletter, we'd love to be posted so that any interested artist can apply to show work here in our sales gallery.

Also if you're an individual artist, you can apply as well. Apply by going to the website www.lanesboroarts.org click on artist opportunities, click on juried sales gallery, click on application.



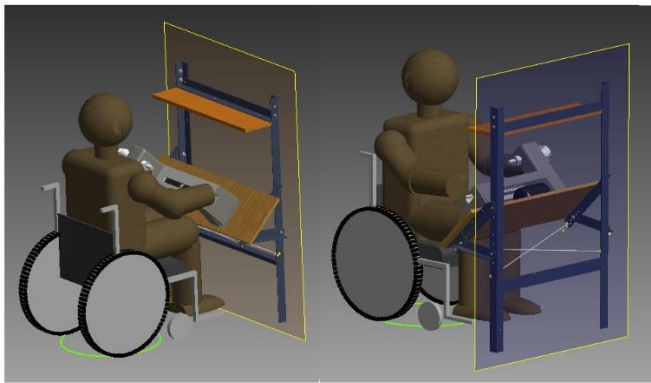
V. Special News

A. Wheelchair Woodturning

In November, 2014, a visitor came forward and said that he wanted to be a wood turner, but didn't know how he could operate a lathe from his wheel chair. His name was Tom Kindom. Neil Robinette and several other members set out to help him.

After a lot of head scratching, George Wurzil (our blind turner) came up with the best idea, hang it on the wall and let the wheel chair move around underneath it. Tom Kindom is a CAD designer and he drew up the plans for it. Dale Johnson is currently making the stand or bracket for holding the lathe above the wheel chair.

A view of the concept is shown below along with a picture of Tom



While all this was going on, another wheelchair bound person heard about the plans and grew interested as well. Currently, it is planned to complete the first unit and test it with Tom. After that, modifications are expected and the design will be tuned. Once final, the design will be open to other woodturners in wheel chairs.

The newsletter will be tracking progress, but for the latest up to date information, ask Tom how his lathe system is coming along!



B. American Craft Council St. Paul

You may be interested in attending and/or volunteering at this event.

This program is a craft show like no other! Attend a three-day celebration of all things handmade, where more than 225 top contemporary jewelry, clothing, furniture, and home décor artists from across the country gather under one roof. It's your chance to touch, feel, and explore high-quality American craft and meet the makers behind the fabulous work.

The MWA is hosting a booth at the American Crafts Council Show. Several of our members will be demonstrating bowl turning and and extraction of a bowl from a tree. Stop by and check it out if you get a chance. Volunteers are always welcome.

SHOW DATES AND HOURS

Friday, April 10: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 11: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 12: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LOCATION

The St. Paul RiverCentre is at 175 W. Kellogg Blvd.

ADVANCE TICKETS

Save time by purchasing your tickets online. [Tickets are onsale now!](#) Just [click](#), print your tickets, and then present them at the show door. It's that easy!

\$11 one-day pass

ON-SITE ADMISSION

\$12 one-day pass

FREE for American Craft Council members and children 12 and under.



C. Northern Woods Exhibition

You may wish to attend and/or submit an entry for this meeting.

This program is put on by the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild and MWA members are invited both to attend and participate.

2015 NORTHERN WOODS EXHIBITION: April 23-26 at Eden Prairie Center

The Northern Woods Exhibition is an annual woodworking show and friendly competition sponsored by the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild. The show provides an opportunity for Guild members (and non-guild members) to present and discuss the best in high quality woodworking design and construction with fellow woodworkers and the general public. The pieces on display are more than furniture. They are works of art.

New for 2015:

- Increased prize amounts
- You may now enter an unlimited number of pieces and any two of them are eligible for judging.

Considerations for students and members of other clubs:

- Entries are not limited to 'recent' work. Any piece may be entered as long as it has not been previously exhibited at Northern Woods.
- Entry fees are waived for all full time students.
- The Guild offers member reciprocity for members of other woodworking related organizations. If you have friends in other woodworking-related guilds or clubs, let them know their non-member fee will be waived.

Visit the Guild website now to review the [rules for entry](#), [awards categories](#), and complete the [registration form](#). **Deadline for entry is March 31.**

D. Library Additions

Ray Munro reports that the library has recently purchased the following 16 new DVD's.

Woodturning: Definitive Beginner's Guide, Tim Yoder

Holiday Turnings by Tim Yoder

Get Turning by Tim Yoder

From Tree to Bowl by Tim Yoder



Elegant Finials by Cindy Drozda
Metal Inlay Techniques by Ted Sokolowski
Turning For Food by Nick Cook
Turning for Fun and Profit by Nick Cook
Build Elegant Wooden Kaleidoscopes
Pen Turning with Barry Gross
In Depth Hollowing Techniques by Lyle Jamieson
Hollow Turning by John Jordan
Spiraling Into Control by Jeff Salter
Woodturning Wizardry by David Springett
Tree Topper by Tim Yode
The Spirit of Woodturning by David Ellsworth

Ray also advises that even though these DVD's were put out without announcement at the March meeting, every single DVD was checked out at that time.

E. Board Member Changes

Paul Laos has resigned as member at large. He continues as an active member of MWA. The Board has elected Ed Mielich as member at large. The membership responsibility of Paul was not transferred to Ed. The board has made this a non board position and is seeking volunteers to handle membership.

F. Free Copy AAW FUNDamentals

The AAW has published a new issue of *Woodturning FUNDamentals* March 10. This magazine should have broad appeal to woodturners of all skill levels, but is normally available to AAW members only. In an attempt to show the merits of this publication to woodturners everywhere, This one time, it is offered free to anyone accessing the AAW website (www.woodturner.org) and clicking on the icon *Woodturning FUNDamentals*. This will provide access to the magazine free of charge.

FYI, the contents of the magazine is as follows.

Projects

- Turning a Bracelet from Wood Scraps, Dave Buchholz
- Turning Fishing Lures, Mark Palma

Tips

- Starting Out in Woodturning, Dave Schell
- Using the AAW Forum, Steve Worcester
- Explore the Wealth of the AAW Archives, Linda Ferber



- Shop Tips:
Jaw Grippers for Small Projects, Keith Varnham
Easy Tenon Measuring, Lee Sky
Clean Up Your Shop, Harvey Rogers
What is a Safe Drive Center? Northwest Woodturners Newsletter

Videos

- Safe Use of the Bowl Gouge, Neil Scobie
- Positioning Your Arm for Smooth Turning, Lee Sky

Members' Gallery

Information about the AAW 29th Annual International Symposium in Pittsburgh

VI. Monthly Meetings

A. March Membership Meeting

1. Social



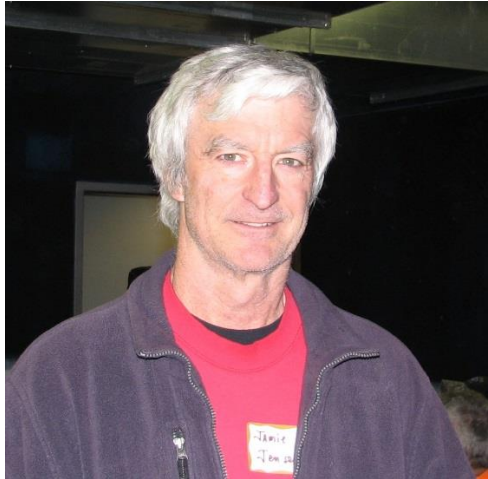
Tom and Mary LaValle enjoy a night at the MWA. They have front row seats for the Steve McLoon performance.



Dale Jenson starts his Grandson Ryker off right with a visit to the MWA. Ryker is fascinated as Linda Ferber applies finish to a wooden ball.



Jamie Jenson is a visitor. He used to teach woodturning at the U of Mn as a graduate student, but hasn't done turning for some time. He is interested in starting up again. He thoroughly enjoyed Steve McLoon's presentation. "Fun with Spindles."



New Member George Martin. He is an experienced wood carver, but is new to turning.

The crowd gathers for the meeting.



VI. Monthly Meetings,

A. March Membership Meeting

2. Topic: Fun With Spindles

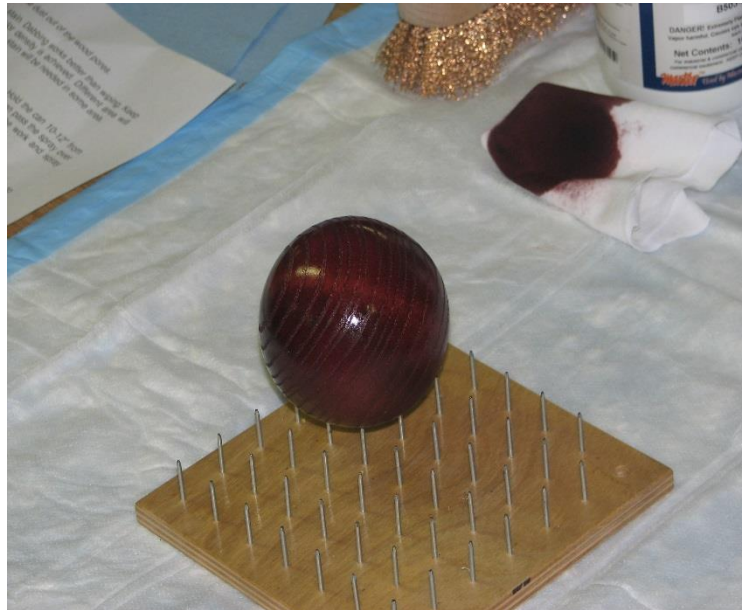
Steve McLoon was interactive with the MWA before, during, and after his presentation. Prior to the meeting he set out the following items for discussion.



His tools are shown at the rear. It was his intention to demonstrate an egg (4 eggs upper left), a moody bird (2 birds to the right of the 4 eggs), a candle stick (2 candle sticks to the right of the moody birds), and a table leg (partially seen in the lower portion of the picture). Time prevented him from turning a moody bird. The sheets of paper in front of each item were details on how to make each piece.



Also prior to the meeting, he trained Linda Ferber FOR 5 MINUTES on the process of finishing called liming. This method is basically using colored paste wax or “liming wax” to fill the pores in wood. This approach can create an interesting effect as is shown in the eggs of the above photograph. The steps are to sand egg to 400g, wipe on several coats of Behlen Solar-lux stain, spray the egg with at least 3 coats of Deft semi-gloss lacquer, and rub on white liming with 0000 steel wool. It is best to use ring porous wood. Shown below are the materials, trainee Linda Ferber (with instruction sheet) and trainer Steve McLoon. The second picture shows a nail stand with stained wood ball drying.



Good Trainer, good trainee, simple process, all of the above? Whatever, Linda did a great job! While Linda was staining the wooden ball, Steve began turning his projects. It was a real two ring circus!



In his spindle work, Steve used the standard spindle process: Turn on centers, make tenon(s), chuck, turn in chuck, reverse using jam chuck if necessary, and finish turn in the reverse orientation. This is the basic process also used by Nick Cook. Shown in the picture in the left is turning in the chuck using a revolving center as support.



Steve proceeded to turn an egg, a candle holder, and a table leg. The following was noted:

1. Steve uses a steb center to drive. "It releases when a catch occurs and prevents wood flying all over."
2. Steve uses either a roughing gouge or a spindle gouge to rough.
3. Steve does not use a skew, but would like to take Jim Jacobs skew class sometime.
4. An egg can be perceived as 1/3 cone, 2/3 sphere.
5. Turning a sphere is a great exercise in tool control.
6. He has Ten Commandments of sanding containing 13 rules. The most repeated commandment was "Don't use sandpaper to change shape-go back and turn."
7. Steve finds sanding therapy?
8. Gar Brown noted that the standard receiving hole for a candle was 7/8"

Steve did not have time to make a moody bird. For those of you that are interested in the design, liming instructions, the 10 commandments of sanding, and other of his projects, see Steve. He has well written and accessible documents. He can be reached at s.c.mcloon@gmail.com.

VI. Monthly Meetings

A. March Membership Meeting

3. President's Challenge



The March challenge was to turn a tall narrow vase. The winner was Denny Dah1berg. He is shown with his entry.



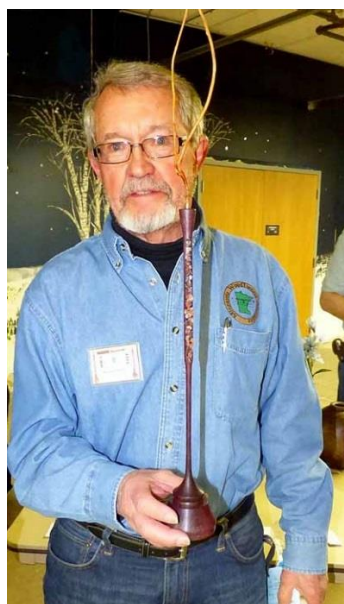
Other winners are shown below with their entries.



John Haug 2nd Place



Mark Debe, 3rd Place



Ken Hallberg, 4th Place

The Challenge for April is Easter Egg(s)

VI. Monthly Meetings

A. March Membership Meeting

4. Beads of Courage



Bob Puetz was delighted with 8 new Beads of Courage Bowls. Imagine how he would look with 18!



VI. Monthly Meetings

B. Lunch Gatherings

1. Pork Sandwich Club (South Central Group)

This is a group of MWA turners on the South Side who (like the Hamburger Club) want to hang out together for lunch. There is no agenda, no speaker, no time to end. It is open to all members who are interested. Jim Jacobs named it the Pork Sandwich Club but, Fred Kogler wants to call it the “South Central Group.” So far their meetings have been announced via MWA blasts. They have had two gatherings at the Lone Star Grill in Eagan. The pictures below are from the first meeting Friday February 28.



**Gar Brown and Lee
Tourtelotte- looking good.**



**Warren Gerber and Mark
Parranto check out Turnings**



Fred Kogler joins the group



Dave Olson

**Holden Gavin and
Jim Jacobs deciding
who picks up check**



The group shared some nice work.



CNC machining example from Holden and Muriel Gavin



Beads of courage bowl with glass beads in handle. Lee Tourtelotte



Box with verneer inlays.
Jim Jacobs



Home made sanding arm. Lee Tourtelotte



VI. Monthly Meetings

B. Lunch Gatherings

2. Hamburger Club (North Group)

This group is from the North side, but as the pork sandwich club it is open to turners from any area. It generally meets the Thursday of the week following the general meeting at noon at the 50's grill in Brooklyn Center. This group has been meeting for a long time. Mike Hunter is the coordinator. Mike describes the event as no topics-just a gathering of woodturning friends. He sends out an email reminder and maintains a list of interested people. See Mike for the latest details of a meeting and to be added to that list.

On March 12, the group had a late start. This enabled our guest professional turner to arrive at the airport and join the group. All the attendees are shown below.



From Left to right: Gar Brown, Steve Mages, Pete Bryant, Ron Miller, Reed Jacobs, Mike Hunter, Linda Ferber, Pro Turner Nick Cook, Bob Boettcher, Lee Tourtelotte, and Bob Puetz. Did you notice that Gar and Lee went to the Pork Sandwich Club luncheon too?

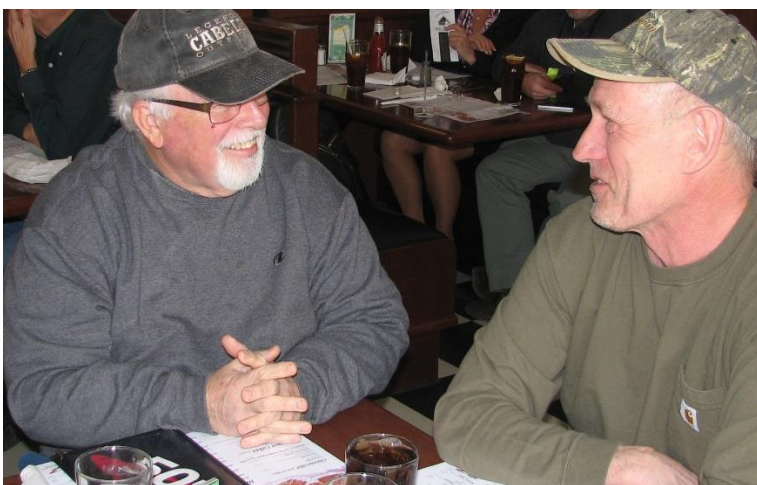




The last time Nick Cook taught at MWA (six years ago), he left an unfinished wooden angel, Gar Brown finished the job, and Steve Mages showed the result to Nick.



You are watching the resolution of world problems here.



This discussion resulted in a plan to get together at Reed's shop and test carbide tools.



The Hamburger Club had some nice work too.



Platter in rear (Reed Jacobs), Angel on lower right (Gar Brown), Laced Bowl on lower left (Lee Tourtelotte), Box in center (Unknown).

Two ladies in the restaurant admired the work and inquired about pricing.

VI. Monthly Meetings

C. Area/Regional Turning Meetings

1. Plymouth Area/Regional Turning Meeting

The next meeting of the Plymouth area woodturners is March 25th at 7:00 PM at Steve Mages shop. We will talk a bit about chuck maintenance and working with less than solid wood using stabilizers-what kind, how, etc, and bowl coring devices. As usual bring something to share, finished, in process, success, or even a piece you are unhappy with and why.

2. Northwest Area/Regional Turning Meeting

Neil Robinette is starting up a small turners group for the northwest side. He has identified 25 potential turners for the group. He held a kick off luncheon and thirteen people attended. There will be a turning meeting in Neil's shop in the near future.

Please advise Neil at neilka@embarqmail.com if you are interested in joining



VII. MWA Classes

A. Sushi Tray Classes

This class taught by Steve McLoon involves taking different kinds of boards as shown on the left to and turning them to sushi trays shown on the right.



The process involves mounting the top of the tray on a woodworm screw and forming a base on the bottom which will be used as a tenon when machining the top. Kiln dried wood is recommended to prevent chipping the corners when turning. The final thickness of the rectangular trays are 1/8".



Rick Auge and Dan Larson mount a tray on a woodworm screw. Bob Lunde and Jenny Tice are starting to turn.



Reed Jacobs seems to have some apprehension of the corners.



A lot of chips were flying.



Phil Columbo



Tom Midtboe



Warren Gerber



Dan Larson



Jenny Tice



Bob Lunde

Steve McLoon demonstrated each step, made sure directions were followed, and carefully watched each student.



In the end, everyone was pleased with the completed sushi tray despite the issues of cutting and sanding the corners. Note the thickness of the finished plate. Nice job Reed!



VII. MWA Classes

A. Nick Cook Professional Demo/Classes

Nick Cook is an accomplished wood turner with a top of class reputation, a teacher of exceptional ability, and a gifted speaker with a good sense of humor.

He grew up around his father's woodworking equipment and became interested in the art of woodturning in the mid-70s after several years in furniture design and manufacture.

He was one of the 40 founding members of the AAW in the 1980's and has developed special relationships with a number of other world class wood turners of that time such as Bonnie Stein, Alan Lacer, Mary Lacer, David Elsworth, etc. Nick served six years on the board of directors of the AAW, including one as vice president. It was exciting to listen to him talk about the early history and rapid growth of the AAW which now has over 15,000 members.

As a wood turner, Nick has done nearly everything-craft shows, competitions, galleries, exhibitions, one of a kind pieces, on line sales, written articles, woodturning videos, lectures, teaching, etc. Today about 80% of his work is contract turning, 10% of his time is spent on teaching, and the rest is



lots of small stuff. The week before he came to MWA he made two eight foot long columns for a customer.

He teaches because he enjoys it and that may explain why he is so good. This is his second visit to MWA to teach, and several of those who attended his first classes six years ago took the second classes just to be with Nick.

It was a privilege to be under the watchful and caring eyes of a turner such as Nick.

Over the years Nick has developed a number of projects that teach fundamental principles to students of woodturning. His approach is to present a list of projects to each hands on project and have each student select a project to do. For example, in the Friday small group, there were 13 projects for 8 turners to select. As a result, each student is on his own and most students were doing different projects. Nick was able to shift from project to project and to instantly plug into the individual student's need. When he does a large group demonstration, he selects from the same stable of projects and explains the fundamental lessons as he does each. Being in both groups was highly beneficial since one could view the proper method as compared to his own.

Nick is fond of the oval section skew and has friendly arguments with Alan Lacer who favors the rectangular cross section skew. He believes that learning the skew makes all other tools easier to use.

Throughout his teaching, Nick emphasized tool control. He repeated the mantra, "See how little you can take off. Go slow and hold the tool lightly. It's all about finess. Don't push."



Here he demonstrates the light touch as he hollows out a bowl with finger tip control and guidance by feel-not sight. Can you do this?



Here are some notes from his teaching that may prove helpful.

1. You can use open end wrenches as a caliper.
2. Cut beads on the heel of the skew.
3. Use a 3/8" gouge out end grain. Cut from the center out. Push the tool away from you.
4. Today, kids don't play with tops. Tops are a novelty to them.
5. Drill at a maximum of 600 RPM.
6. When drilling, hold onto both the bit and chuck for safety.
7. Fix a tenon/mortise fit by putting a paper towel over the tenon and pushing together.
8. Nick sands his work starting at 180-200 grit and going up to 400.

VII. MWA Classes

A. Nick Cook Professional Demo/Classes

1. Friday Small Group



Bob Boettcher fine tunes his garden dibble handle.



Steve Mages is making an angel just like Gar Brown six years ago.



Dan Larson likes the skew finish he put on his honey dipper.

Comments

Bob Boettcher: Nick is a really good teacher.

Steve Mages: It's good to have a variety of projects

Dan Larson: After many failed attempts on my own, Nick finally showed me how to use the skew.





Janese Evans makes chips fly on her peppermill.



Nick helps George Martin get started.



Rick Auge starts goblet. See Page 3, President's Letter.

Comments

Janese Evans: They say that practice makes perfect, but only when you practice the right things the right way. Nick makes sure that you practice the right things the right way.

Rick Auge: These are simple things done very well. The details are perfect. I always learn something when I take these classes.



Nick shows Rick how to turn a captured ring on the stem of a goblet



Steve Mages angel ready for finishing and assembly



VII. MWA Classes

A. Nick Cook Professional Demo/Classes

2. Saturday Large Group Demo



A good crowd showed up at 9:00 am Saturday morning.



Nick started off normal-quickly.



In the first 45 minutes, he did all these pieces.





**Here are some more things
he turned in the course of
the morning.**



**Nick and Alan Lacer have a friendly
competition to see who can turn the smallest
top. Nick made the top in the right hand for us
and hopes to beat Alan later this summer.
Compare the small top to the normal top in the
left hand!**

**Nick would pause often to emphasize some
critical point or to tell a pretty good joke.**



At the break, there was a chance to socialize.



Left to Right: Rick Johnson, Ken Johnson, John Haug, Jeff Loedloff.

Muriel Gavin and Jim Robertson discuss wood carving and the new CNC equipment of the Gavins



VII. MWA Classes

A. Nick Cook Professional Demo/Classes

3. Sunday Small Group Class

The Sunday group was just like the Friday group, but there were new students.

Two guest students were a grandfather and grandson. Granddad (George Spaulding) took his grandson (Sam Portham). Granddad is an AAW member but not an MWA member.

Another guest student was Beth Dow who is a graduate art student from the University of Minnesota.





Warren Gerber works on a spurtle. Dick Hicks labors in the background right. George Spaulding is seen in background.



Sam Portham (age 16) turns his first bowl in front of his Grandfather George Spaulding. Mark Debe and Nick Cook confer to the rear.

Comments:

Dick Hicks: Nick does in one hour what I do in four days.

Sam Portham: I am really enjoying this class.

George Spaulding: I am interested in joining the MWA. Send me some information.



Chuck Screffler with his skew



Mark Debe shows goblet with a captured ring.



Steve McLoon shows goblet with four captured rings.



Comments:

Chuck Screffer: This is a great chance to practice spindle work.

Mark Debe: I like the method of hollowing out end grain with a spindle gouge.

Steve McLoon: I am taking this for the second time. The discussions with Nick are great.



**Beth Dow at Saturday morning
Large Class without safety glasses**



**Beth Dow at Sunday Small Class with Garden
Dibble and safety glasses. Mark Debe and Sam
Portham are in the background**

Comments:

Nick has been very patient and informative. I learned a lot from him.

