



Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

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**Mark Debe
demonstrates a home
made hollowing system**



**April was the first time
for Mark Debe and Dan
Larson to teach at MWA.
They both did very well.**

**Dan Larson shows how to
add some pizzazz to a bowl**



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In This Issue

- I.** Cover Picture (Two teachers make MWA debut).....Page 1
- II.** Index.....Page 2
- III.** MWA EVENT CALENDAR.....Page 3
- IV.** President's Message Page 4
- V.** Special Interest Items
 - A. American Craft Council Show (ACC).....Page 5
 - B. Microwave Drying.....Page 6
- VI.** Monthly Meetings
 - A. April Membership Meeting
 - 1. Topics
 - a. Parasites moving into Mn Wood.....Page 7
 - b. Homemade Hollowing Device.....Page 8
 - 2. President's Challenge.....Page 10
 - 3. Beads of Courage Bowls.....Page 13
 - B. Lunch Gatherings
 - 1. Hamburger Club.....Page 14
 - C. Area/Regional Turning Meetings
 - 1. Plymouth Area/Region Turning Meeting.....Page 15
 - 2. South East Regional Turning Meeting.....Page 15
 - 3. Northwest Area/Region Turning Meeting.....Page 16
- VII.** MWA Classes
 - A. Make Up Brushes and Seam Rippers (Bob Jensen)...Page 16
 - B. The Taming of the Skew (Jim Jacobs).....Page 18
 - C. Add Complexity, Intrigue, and Pizzazz to your Bowls (Dan Larson).....Page 20
- VIII.** The 2014 MWA Membership Survey: Summary Part 2 (Mark Debe).....Page 24



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 Turning on Perp Axes 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>

April, May Special Events at a Glance

April 15 Tool Sharpening Class, Neil Robinette's Brooklyn Park 6:00-9:00 PM
Ap 18 Add Complexity, Intrigue, and Pizzazz to your Bowls, Dan Larson, Rick Auge's shop 9:00 to 1:00
April 22, Plymouth Area Meeting, Steve Mages Shop 7:00 to 8:30 PM
May 9 Add Complexity, Intrigue, and Pizzazz to your Bowls, Dan Larson, Rick Auge's shop 9:00 to 1:00
May 16 Hamburger Club, 50's Club Brooklyn Center 11:30 to 1:30
May 20 Tool Sharpening Class, Neil Robinette's Brooklyn Park 6:00-9:00 PM
May 21 South East Regional Group Meeting noon-1:30, Lone Oak Grill, 3010 Eagandale Pl, Edina
Another class is in the planning stage. Watch for MWA blasts



III. President's Message



Here we are 3.5 months in to 2015.

Our membership has topped 260 members. Last meeting we had 135 members present.

Meetings are becoming a bit busier, which also means more background noise. During the Demos there have been issues with members not being able to hear the speaker, due to side conversations during the Demo. Those of us who do find it necessary to conduct business on the side. I would request that they either move to the adjacent room or the hallway.

The mentoring Program is off and running with mentors and mentees being matched up. If you are interested in being involved as a mentor, or are looking for a mentor please contact our Vice President Fred Kogler at kogler@comcast.net. Fred is coordinating this program.

The following information is being provided for your convenience:

During Shop classes several members have asked about the source of the rolls of Abranet that I have been using. The rolls are 4" X 24" and are \$4.79 a roll.

I order them through this website. <http://www.thewoodcraftshop.com/>. This company is based out of Bettendorf Iowa.

At our meetings Jeff, or Tim from Woodcraft of Minneapolis are always present. They set up a table with merchandise that can be purchased. They also bring in orders from members who have called the store. This was set up to convenience members who live a great distance from Woodcraft, however, anyone can use this service.

Rockler stores have been offered the same, but as of this time, they have not opted to use this method.

Rockler Maplewood has a new manager, Tony Forliti. Tony is interested in Rockler having a presence at our meetings as well as being a more active sponsor of MWA.



V. Special Interest Items

A. American Craft Council St. Paul

This program is a craft show presenting 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.

The MWA hosted a booth at the American Crafts Council Show. The booth demonstrated bowl turning and and extraction of a bowl from a tree. Manning the booth were Gar Brown and Neil Robinette Fri. 10 AM to 3 PM followed by Paul Lars, Mark Debe, and Bob Puetz.

A few pictures from the MWA booth are shown below.



Gar Brown turning bowl in back, Mark Debe behind table, table showing bowl process, and two visitors



More people talking wood turning. Bob Puetz is on the left retrieving items for demonstration.



V. Special Interest Items

B. Microwave Drying

Microwave Drying

Gary Mrozek



Figure 1

The drying process began at 10:00am. The weight was recorded at 169 grams (figure 1). For the first step of the process, the vase was placed in a ZipLoc™ bag (figure 2). The logic was to establish a balanced baseline (similar moisture content throughout the wood). The bagged vase was placed in the microwave at its lowest temperate (defrost on my unit) for 5 minutes.



Figure 2



Figure 3

When the 5 minute cycle was complete, the surface temperature of the vase was 170° F (figure 3). The vase was left in the bag for 30 minutes until the surface temperature was 62° F (the ambient temperature of my shop). This began the process of 5 minutes of heat (without the bag) and 30 minutes cooling (figure 4).

After twelve cycles over a 7 hour period, the weight of the vase dropped 51 grams. That's the equivalent of 20 pennies. The moisture meter registered <6% . Online research cautioned over-drying the wood. This could cause uncontrolled tear out and/or finishing problems. A typical commercial kiln dries lumber to 6% with an Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) of between 8-10%. EMC is the point where the wood neither absorbs nor loses moisture. Air drying your turned item typically dries to no less than 15%.

This isn't my primary method of drying, but it works when you need to complete a project in a weekend.



10:00am	168g	170° F
10:41am	160g	
11:21am	153g	
11:56am	147g	
12:24pm	142g	
12:55pm	136g	163° F
1:25pm	130g	
2:00pm	126g	
2:45pm	122g	
4:00pm	120g	
4:30pm	118g	
5:00pm	117g	142° F

Figure 4

(Article written by Gary Mrozek for the MMAW newsletter (Saint Cloud Chapter) in December 2014 and submitted by Linda Ferber)



VI. Monthly Meetings

A. April Membership Meeting

1. Topic: Parasites moving into Minnesota Wood

Two representatives from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture made were at the meeting.



Michael Merriman, Plant Health Specialist, DMA gave an overhead lecture on trees that are susceptible to new parasites. These are mainly black walnut and ash.



Kathryn Kromroy, Research Scientist, Plant Protection Division, DMA manned a table with informational literature and answered questions.



VI. Monthly Meetings

B. April Membership Meeting

2. Topic 2: Homemade Hollowing Device

Mark Debe demonstrated a digitized device he concocted to do hollowing. The rig Mark developed shows exactly where the cutting edge of the hollowing tool is relative to the outside surface of the turning piece at all times. It uses the wi-fi signal from an endoscopic camera mounted on the tool-handle to display the image on a smartphone or PC without wires.”

First he gave a detailed power point presentation



Next he described the part and considerations for hollowing



Then he set up his equipment



Finally he demonstrated the device in action.



Mark estimates that his device can be made from readily available parts for \$200 to \$300. If you are interested in making your own, contact Mark for details

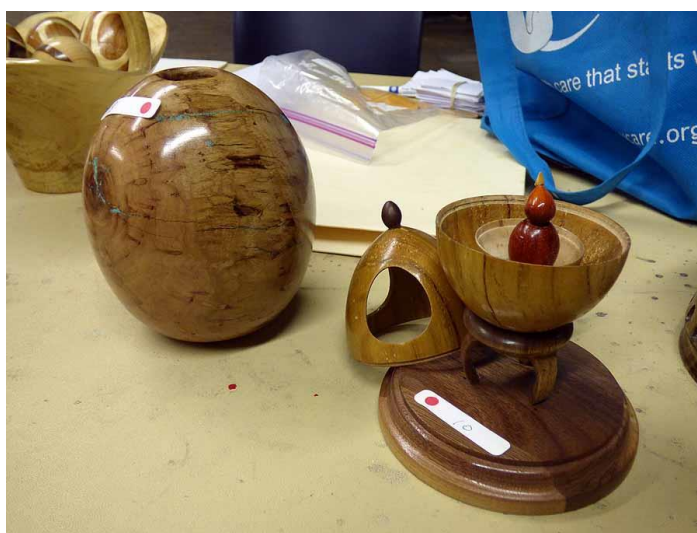


VI. Monthly Meetings

A. April Membership Meeting

2. President's Challenge

There were some excellent eggs submitted in the President's challenge



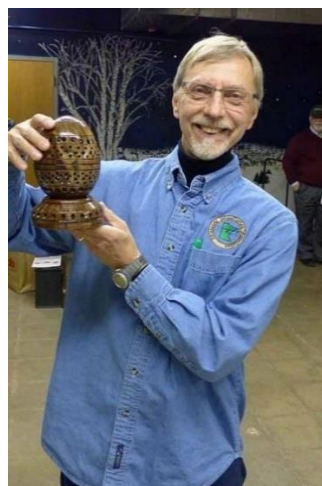
Steve Mages had a really tough time picking the top eggs!



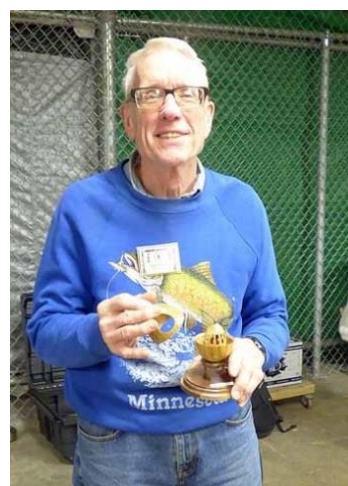
The winners and their eggs are shown below:



**John Haug
First Place**



**Dan Larson
Second Place**



**Todd Williams
Third Place**





Paul Gustafson
Fourth Place



Duane Hang
Fifth Place



Mark Debe
Sixth Place



David Skjelbostad
Seventh Place

NOTE:

**THE MAY CHALLENGE WILL BE TOYS OR
PULL TOYS. ALSO, THE MINNESOTA
WOODTURNERS DISPLAY FOR THE 2015 AAW
SYMPOSIUM WILL BE TOYS OR PULL TOYS**



VI. Monthly Meetings

A. April Membership Meeting

3. Beads of Courage

Bob and Diane Puetz prepared a nice poster for beads of courage.



Note the totals in the center (160 Bowls and 27 toys)





There were also ten additional bowls delivered to the meeting.

VI. Monthly Meetings

B. Lunch Gatherings

1. Hamburger Club



The notorious hamburger club keeps meeting and eating! This picture was taken at the 50's Club Thursday April 16.

Left to Right: Rick Auge (arm, leg, and nose), Steve McLoon, Phil Murray, Steve Mages, Paul Laes, Mike Hunter, Bob Puetz and Lee Tourtelotte, the empty chair belongs to Neil Robinette who took this picture.



VI. Monthly Meetings

C. Area/Regional Turning Meetings

1. Plymouth Area/Regional Turning Meeting

This group met Wednesday March 25 at Steve Mages shop. Seven people attended. The following was noted.

- A. Al Feist brought a rolling pin with a beautiful finish. He applied 5-6 coats of tongue oil while sanding to 1500 grit between each coat.
- B. A discussion of how to stabilize “Punky Wood” (e.g. box elder) led to several methods
 - a. Apply Wood Hardener from Minwax. This product is similar to Pentecryl and the sealer the MWA sells
 - b. Use bondo to fill all cracks.
 - c. CA and sawdust. Duct tape inside, fill and pack with CA and sawdust, turn off excess. An issue with this approach is that you need to have enough stock to remove CA stain that develops.
- C. Steve demonstrated his bowl coring equipment and several people used the device for the first time.
- D. Chuck maintenance was also discussed. (Generally no maintenance done)

The next meeting of the group will be at Steve’s shop April 22, 7:00-8:30. Meetings are generally held at Steve Mages shop on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Steve is the area coordinator and everyone is welcome. Contact him at 612-483-0778 for directions.

VI. Monthly Meetings

C. Area/Regional Turning Meetings

2. South East Area/Regional Turning Meeting

The Southeast Regional Group is affectionately nicknamed the Pork Sandwich Club. The group meets on the 21st of May next time. The meeting location is The Lone Oak Grill 3010 Eagandale Place, Eagan, MN.

Fred Kogler is the coordinator.

The idea is to invite anyone and everyone that can make a noon -1:30 PM gathering to talk turning. a couple video clips from the AAW web site have been shown, a show and tell is often held and input to our MWA general association and its activities is provided. No business is conducted, but all enjoy the friendship and common interest of woodturning. We have lots of fun trying to stump Jim Jacobs about woods, jigs and whatever comes up.



VI. Monthly Meetings

C. Area/Regional Turning Meetings

3. North West Area/Regional Turning Meeting

The group has held a first formation meeting and is planning to meet for a turning at the shop of Neil Robinette sometime near the end of April. Neil Robinette is the coordinator.

VII. MWA Classes

A. MakeUp Brushes and Seam Rippers

Taught by Bob Jenson

The picture below shows some finished products and demonstrates the variety of things that can be done with them.



Bob started the class by demonstrating how to turn the seam ripper handle.



Left to right: Dan Larson, Joe Zwirn, Bill Johnson, Ed Jacobson and Roger Erickson follow Bob's every move with an intensity seldom seen at an MWA class.



Bob turns the makeup brush handle



Teacher and student finished brushes



VII. MWA Classes

B. The Taming of the Skew Taught by Jim Jacobs



In this class, Jim teaches all the cuts that the skew can make. With each cut, he gives a short description and then demonstrates the cut. Here he shows cutting beads with the skew.



Then he checks the technique of each student and offers suggestions. Dan Nelson is under scrutiny here.



**Gary Novak makes
some nice beads
without supervision.**



**Lyle Bye, Ken Crea,
and Steve Mages (left
to right) are off to a
good start as well.**

Also attending the class but not shown were Dick Zawicki and Patrick Kraft.



VII. MWA Classes

C. Add Complexity, Intrigue, and Pizzazz to your bowls! Taught by Dan Larson

Dan started the class with a thorough explanation of his techniques of simple carving and decorating of several of his bowls he brought along.



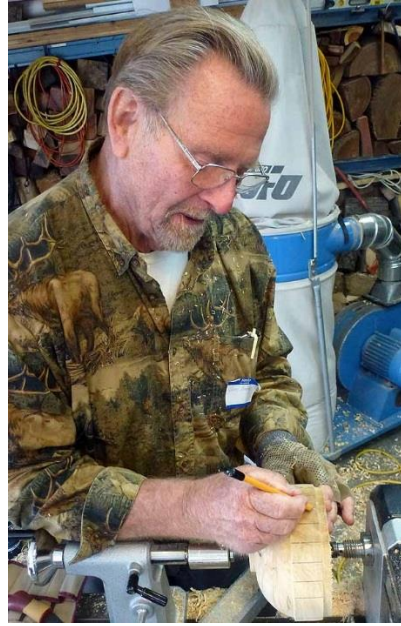
Most of the tools both power and hand tools are ones we will find in our shops. The basic turning tools are bowl gouges and detail gouges.



Each of the members brought their fresh cut blanks and chose one of Dan's finished bowl to replicate. All blanks were to be from fresh cut wood and completely turned in one session, oiled inside and out to prevent cracking, then painted or buffed.



Bill Sydlo



Jerry Norby



Warren Gerber

In the meantime Dan worked on his own bowl on Rick's Robust lathe stopping to illustrate details.



From time to time, Dan would demonstrate hand tools under the watchful eye of Phil Plumbo.



The class ended before any painting could be done, but Dan explained the system he uses. He also had a table with typical finishes.

Students were: Warren Gerber, Jerry Nordby, Ron Solfest, Bill Szydlo, and Phil Plumbo



Some up close samples of Dan's finished bowls are shown below



The 2014 MWA Membership Survey:
Summary Part 2, by Mark Debe, Treasurer

Starting with last month's newsletter and continuing this month and the next, we are summarizing the quantifiable results from the 2014 fall survey sent out by the MWA board. For a summary introduction to the survey objectives, format, question types and response levels, please see last month's newsletter, where results were presented from the demographic multiple-choice questions, Q1 – Q5. This month we address questions Q6 – Q8 dealing with communication preferences, and Q9 – Q13 with experience level.

Communication Preferences (Q6-Q8):

- 81% of respondents listed Email communication as their preference (Fig. Q6).
- 90% of respondents have visited the website in the past year (No Fig., 114 out of 127 responses).
- 94% of respondents receive MWA blasts and of those that do, 98% read them (Fig. Q8).

Experience Level (Q9-Q13):

- 63% of the responses to Q9 consider themselves to be of intermediate skill and 27% at a beginner level (Fig. Q9).
- 56% of the respondents are turning daily to weekly (lucky fellows indeed, Fig. Q10).
- Functional turnings are preferred by 1.5 times as many respondents as artistic turnings, with little other categories favored (Fig. Q11).
- 30% of respondents sell their work at some time (39 out of 131 responses, No Fig.)
- Bowls are favored over all other types of turning choices listed by about a factor of two. But all other types are practiced approximately to the same degree (Fig. Q13). Note, many other types were also written-in by the respondents.



