



Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Volume 2016 No 2 Rev 1

February, 2016

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS



Bob Puetz explains the process of taking a burl to a finished bowl. A burl is the lump on the log to the right of Bob.



Minnesota Woodturners Association
Board Members

Officers

President

Rich Auge
rauge2003@gmail.com
(651-332-1566)

Vice-President

Fred Kogler
kogler@comcast.net
651-283-9876

Treasurer

Mark Debe
mkdebe@icloud.com

Secretary/Webmaster

Janese Evans
janese.evans@gmail.com

Members at Large

Program Director

Linda Ferber
linda@garber.org

Librarian

Gar Brown
garfield.brown59@yahoo.com
763-757-0696

Membership Coordinator

Ken Crea
MWA-kencrea@q.com
(651)-633-3271

Member At Large

Ed Mielech
edmielech@gmail.com
651-332-0197

Newsletter

Pete Bryant
kabplb@comcast.net
763-242-3234

Member At Large

Neil Robinette
neilka@embarqmail.com
763-639-1085

In This Issue

- I. Cover Picture
(A Burl to a Bowl, Bob Puetz).....Page 1
- II. Index.....Page 2
- III. Noteworthy News
 - A. **Resumption of Beads of Courage**....Page 3
 - B. Reminder from Library.....Page 3
 - C. Videos/Articles of InterestPage 4
 - 1. Huge Sawmill in action
 - 2. Turning a large bowl
 - 3. Three Unconventional Spindle Turning Tools
- IV. Monthly Meetings
 - A. February Membership Meeting
 - 1. Pre Meeting.....Page 5
 - 2. Tool Talk (Steve McLoon).....Page 6
 - 3. Main Presentation: Processing Burls (Bob Puetz).....Page 7
 - 4. Instant Gallery.....Page 13
 - 5. Members Challenge.....Page 12
 - B. SE Metro Turners Meeting.....Page 14
- V. Chapter Classes
 - 1. Basic Bowl.....Page 17
 - 2. Enhanced Bowl.....Page 18



III. Noteworthy News

A. Resumption of Beads of Courage

At the March meeting, bowls for the Beads of Courage Program are requested. This program was put on hold for the winter months to give the turners a brief rest. Bowls are now needed and your contributions would be very much appreciated.

Diane Puetz notes, “.....I will have the BOC table set up at the March meeting.....and the candy dish will be full!

The cost of mailing bowls out to the kids receiving their beads through the BOC Beads in the Mail Program has gone up....so I applied for and received another grant from Thrivent Financial to help with the shipping costs. Therefore, I will have a few T-Shirts from Thrivent to give out again to those donating a bowl!”

Diane also reports. “Last fall a group of woodturners....Bob Meyer, Neil Robinette, & Bob Puetz cut down 12 cherry trees for the club. Below is a photo of two bowls that were given to the family donating the trees.”



Bob Meyer made the natural edge bowl. Bob Puetz made the Cherry burl bowl.

III. Noteworthy News

B. Reminder from the Library

Gar Brown, librarian, reminds everyone that members wearing name tags and having membership cards in their wallet is good practice. The barcode on both is the means of recording their information when they borrow DVDs from the library. In addition, nametags are significant helps in socializing as the club gets larger. He notes,”This would help the library make speedy and trouble free loans, and maybe help people meet each other.”



III. Noteworthy News

C. Videos/Articles of Interest

1. Cook Woods Huge Saw Mill

Cook Woods has developed a video describing their new sawmill. It can handle logs 45 feet long and up to 67" in diameter. The operator rides on a platform with the saw blade. Go to YouTube and search "Cook Huge Sawmill."

2. Making a large bowl

Lee Tourtelotte found a YouTube video of a woman making large bowls. He comments, "Here is a lady that turns wood bowls in sizes where most men woodturners would fear to tread!" (Wonder who ever termed women as the weaker sex?). Go to YouTube and search "Oland large bowl." <http://www.olandcraft.com/>



Here is a picture of the lady preparing to cut.

3. Three Unconventional Spindle Turning tools

Lee Tourtelotte also found an article on unusual turning tools. He says, "Thought this was an interesting and well written article, on three (3) unconventional spindle turning tools, that are not in popular use, but are carefully examined and evaluated by an accomplished spindle turner, for their possible consideration:

<http://bigtreetools.com/articles/unconventionalTools.pdf>

Thought you might enjoy reading through it, and forming your own conclusions, as I did."



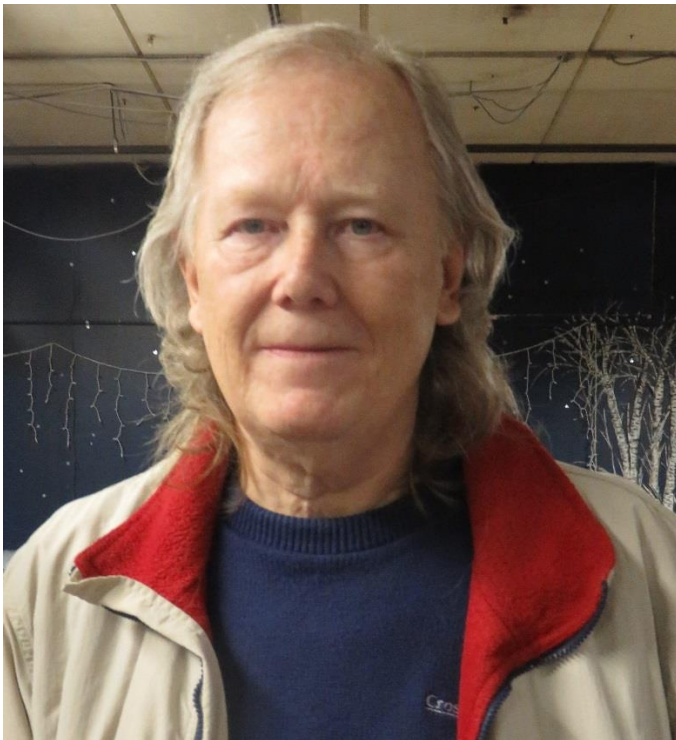
IV. Monthly Meetings

A. February Membership Meeting

1. Pre Meeting



Glen Hambleton (right) and friend arrived early and took seats in the front row center.

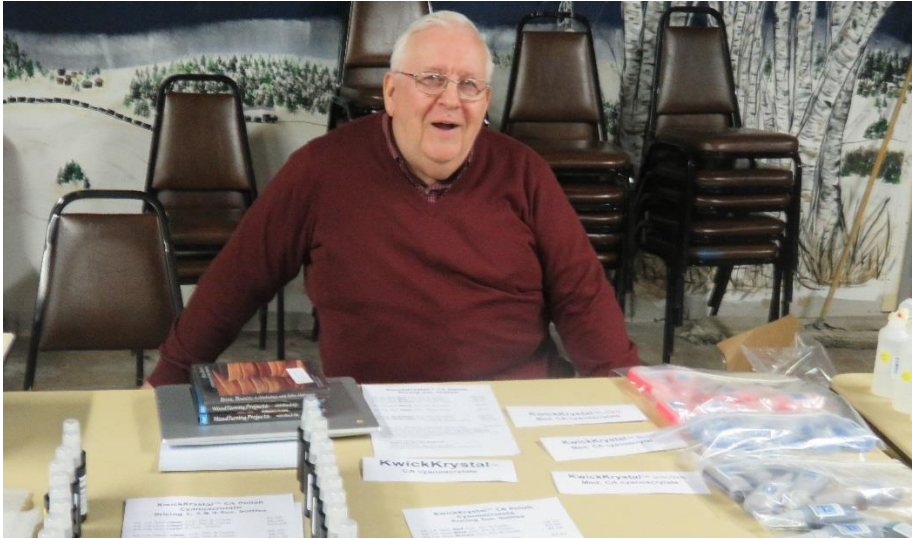


Bob Meyers is the new education coordinator. He has scheduled a lot of classes in March.



Jim Jacobs is teaching 2 skew classes March 5. Large skew appears functional but used to announce classes.





Fred Kogler sells KwikKrystal, a rapid setting CA finish system that he developed. He believes that the secret to CA finishing is control of the moisture content in the CA. He controls this through local manufacture of the product and short shelf life. The product is intended for finishing and filling cracks or chips. The application is done solely via a closed cell, plastic foam. It is applied by spreading on and 4-12 coats can be done rapidly.

IV. Monthly Meetings

A. February Membership Meeting

2. Tool Talk (Steve McLoon)

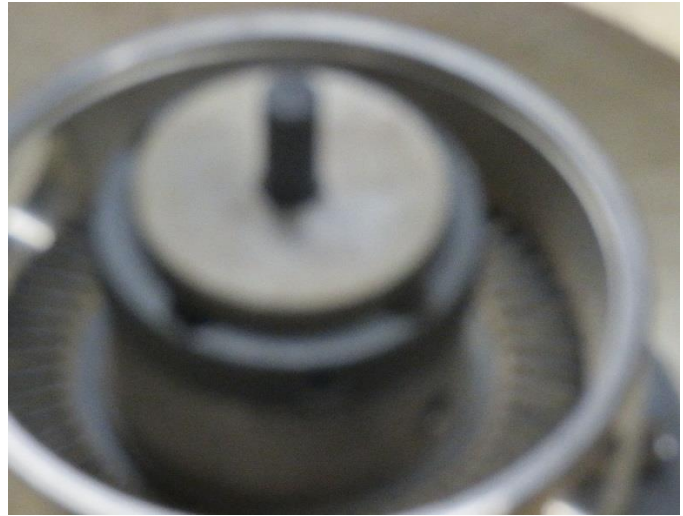


Steve McLoon gave a tool talk. His first two tips were in regard to pen turning. First, for greater precision in pen tuening he recommends not using the bushings as a guide. Instead he suggests using calipers to measure and match the wood to the pen part at the joint. Secondly, he notes that tightening the nut on the pen arbor causes issues. Instead he recommends making a slip fit bushing and compressing the assembly through the tail stock. Such an assembly less pen body and bushings is shown below

Slip Fit Bushing replaces nut



Steve also recommended a method for removing a bowl from a chuck and then being able to accurately replace it. He puts a centering mark inside the bowl from the tailstock. He then removes the chuck and the bowl in tact. Using a bushing made to fit to the chuck thread ID and a punch, he then uses the punch to mark the bottom of the bowl. He reassembles with the punch and bowl realigned and out of the lathe. See the picture at the right of the set up ready to punch the bowl center in assembly with the chuck.



IV. Monthly Meetings

A. February Membership Meeting

3. Main presentation



Bob noted that a full burl is simply a raised circular ring on a tree occurring above ground or below ground. A burl cap is a dome shaped growth on the trunk of a tree. According to Craig Lossing, a burl is a genetic defect wherein many branches start at once at a single place. Because the inside is so jumbled, the modeled pattern of bowls from burls is often very attractive. By cutting a burl out of a tree, the tree is generally killed. Bob generally works with ash, oak, pine, birch, and walnut burls.



HERE ARE SOME FRESH CUT BURLS



THIS IS A BURL BOWL ROUGH CUT AND READY FOR THE FINAL FINISH CUT. NOTE THE UNUSUAL PATTERN ON THE INSIDE



BOB'S APPROACH TO BURLS

Bob's primary interest in turning burls is to sell them at markets, fairs and shows. He finds that people like things that are different and funky. A burl having grain direction all over the place is appealing to many customers.

Bob notes that procurement of burls is risky. One doesn't know what is inside until after it is purchased. Often the internal portion of a burl is rotten. As such, free burls are the best (aren't they always?). Lumbermen general burn burls and often will cut large burls and give them to you. If burls must be purchased, size, weight, and a maximum bowl market price of \$150 should be considered.

Regardless of price, however, Bob recommends that the purchaser visualize what the finished product will look like before any purchase. He says "stand back and look at the burl and decide what you want to make."

Once at the shop, the burl is split using a chainsaw. The best cut is marked with tape as shown below.



Bob lays out the bowl outside diameter with a compass. Bob generally uses a band saw to turn burl blanks round. A skip tooth chistle point blade is preferred because it gets wood out of the cut faster. See below.



An Elio drive is used to mount the piece to the lathe as shown below. This drive has been found to be slip and strip free.





The rough turning now begins:

EZ turning tools are used to avoid taking time to sharpen. Bob makes his own handles which are longer than the standard. He also uses a Hunter carbide tip tool for finishing and sharpens it with a 600 grit diamond hone.



These burls are rough cut wet and dried. Shelf drying is much too long and microwave drying is too turner time intensive. The alcohol in tote method is preferred from a time standpoint, but also for reasons of minimum cracking and warpage. This method is as follows:



- Put rough turned piece into denatured alcohol (DNA) bath
- Leave it for at least 24 hours, longer for more green pieces.
- Remove piece and pour excess back into tub
- Let dry for 15 – 30 minutes
- Wrap bowl with paper and store
- Piece can be finish turned as soon as two weeks after removal from alcohol, but check moisture content if possible. A maximum of 11% moisture is desired.

The process is shown pictorially below:



After drying, any cracks are plugged. A thick CA is put in the bottom of the crack followed by sawdust, and capped with a light CA. Then, the finish turning is done, the outside is sanded with a dual action sander, and the inside is sanded with a Milwaukee Right angle drill with a foam pad.



Bob finishes the bowl with a wipe on polyurethane.

Bob recommends searches on YouTube for videos on cutting and turning burls.



IV. Monthly Meetings

A. February Membership Meeting

4. Instant Gallery

Some of the excellent submissions are shown below.



White Oak by Joe Gerber.
Friction finish over linseed oil.



Box Elder by Dave Blume
with laquer finish



Walnut by Bob Meyer (Fragile!)



White Birch by Bob Grant



IV. Monthly Meetings

A. February Membership Meeting

4. Members Challenge.



The challenge for February
was a candlestick holder



First Place Lee Tourtelotte

Second Place Tom Kindom
(first time entry!)





Third place Mark Debe



**Fourth Place Dan Larson
(That metal candle stick holder is wood!)**



**Honorable mention, nice work, and good pictures from Left to Right:
Rod Nelson, Al Feist, and Eric Kaslowski**



IV. Monthly Meetings

B. South East Metro Turners Meeting

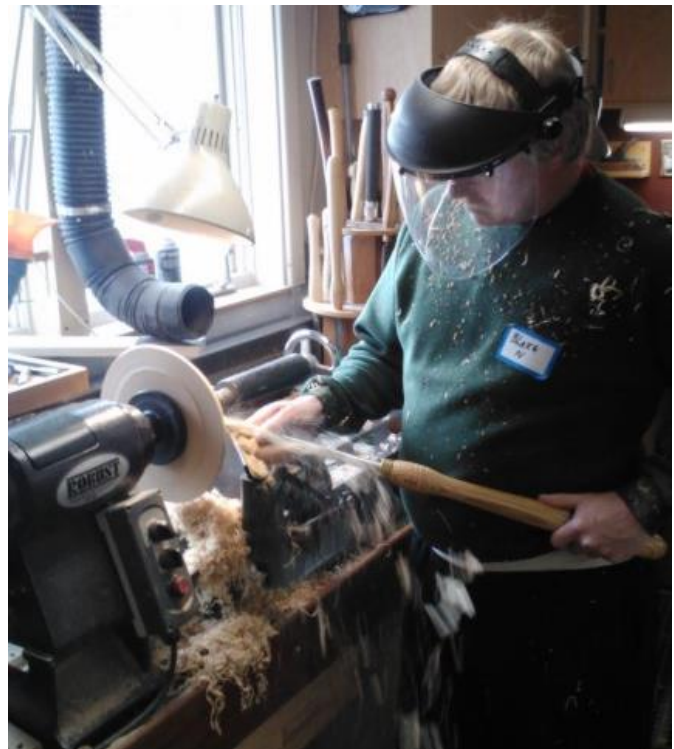
Jim Jacobs hosted the January SE metro small group. It was a busy day making shavings and talking turning. The group enjoys meeting in different members' shops and sharing ideas.

The group starts generally with show and tell.



From Left to Right: Gordan Fay, Mike Lucido, Gar Brown, and Charlie Prokop.

It took Blake Nelson very little time to decide he really needs a Robust lathe.



Jim demonstrated stave construction... he glues the octagon 4 sides at a time. The two "halves" are then flattened on a router table and the two halves are glued together. Note the strips hot melted on to act as "skis" as it passes over the router table. By using this method, less saw accuracy is required than if joining each individual member.



Muriel Gavin's wooden ginger bread house made by her husband Burton. This was done by CNC. Burton has built many toys for charity and also made the truck for the football /toy box last year. Muriel's cookies were great too!



V. Chapter Classes

A. Basic Bowl

The basic bowl class of January 23, 2016 was a resounding success. Everyone left with a bowl. A couple turners even were unhappy with their work and started with a new blank and finished that one. In the group picture from left to right: Genevieve Wilson (holding her bowl), Dick Hicks, Eric Koslowski, Collene Schneider, Bob Meyer (Instructor), Don Latulippe, Dick Humphry, Dan Judd, and Al Fiest.



There was group instruction
by Bob Meyers.....



.....As well as individual
teaching. Here Bob is shown
with student Dick Humphry





Dan Judd, Genevieve Wilson, Collene Schneider, Don Latulippe, Dick Hicks, and Al Feist (left to right) all make the chips fly during class.



V. Chapter Classes

B. Enhanced Bowl

This class took the students from the basic bowl to decorating, carving, power carving and finishing. Had fun and everyone went home with a bowl again!

Left to Right: Genevie Wilson, Duane Hang, Doug Schrieber, Mary Hurwitz, Dick Hicks, John Rotschafer, Dick Humphrey, Jessica Rotschafer, and instructor, Dan Larson, in front.



Dan taught and everyone listened closely.



Here are some examples of their work.

