



MCW Newsletter

March 2007

Montgomery County Woodturners

www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org

Volume 2007, Issue 2

Special points of interest:

- Mentor Program Launched
- MCW Website Enhancements
- Members' Gallery
- Member Websites
- Lending Library Operational

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Business Meeting Minutes (Bert Bleckwenn)

The February business meeting topics discussed and decisions made included:

- We had thirty-three members and interested parties present at the February 8th meeting.
- Membership Application Forms and Dues were collected from six additional members bringing the MCW chapter community up to 38 members at the conclusion of our meeting. There were at least two additional participants attending the meeting who were also interested in our chapter and may become members.
- A draft set of MCW chapter by-laws modeled after the AAW local chapter model by-laws were discussed and approved by chapter members. Officer signatures were obtained for the approved by-laws and will be submitted to AAW by Phil Brown.
- The Lending Library was officially formed by Clif Poodry. The chapter discussed and approved a \$2.00 lending fee per item.
- A mentoring signup clipboard was routed around during the meeting with several people signing up as being interested in participating in the program. Donald Couchman should be contacted if you are interested in acting as a mentor or wish to be mentored.
- Eliot Feldman, Program Chair reviewed the upcoming month's meeting program plans. See the Future Meetings section for the details.
- At least a dozen members participated in Show & Tell. Check their turnings out on the MCW web site as well as glimpses of them in the borders of this newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to bring and share examples of their work. We can each learn a lot from others' experiences and challenges.
- Phil Brown presented last month's featured program: *Green and Spalted Wood - Start to Finish: Phil Brown's Techniques*.

Doug Pearson Creations



March Meeting (Eliot Feldman)

The next meeting will be:

Date: Thursday, March 8, 2007
 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM
 Location: Woodworkers Club
 4950 Wyaconda Road
 Rockville, MD 20853
 (301) 984-9033



Agenda

- 6:45 -7:00 PM Arrive with a chair or stool to sit on, get a name tag, bring something to donate for the silent auction and place a bid sheet with it, place your bids, bring a piece for Show & Tell, and meet your fellow chapter members.
- 7:00 - 7:15 PM Brief business meeting and Show & Tell presentation
- 7:15 - 8:50 PM Program: *Surface Treatments and Other Enhancements* by Doug Pearson
- 8:50 - 9:00 PM Pay for and retrieve your silent auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.

Program

Doug Pearson will discuss and demonstrate *Surface Treatments and Other Enhancements*.

Program Demonstrator Profile

Doug began woodturning in the 1970s when his father bought a Rockwell/Delta 12" lathe. In 1995, he got "serious" and attended the beginning and intermediate classes at Craft Supplies USA in Provo, UT. He purchased a Powermatic 3520 (made in USA!) and started doing more turning. He has taken David Ellsworth's three day class. Doug's turnings are currently carried at Creative Partners Gallery in Bethesda and he has also exhibited with Phil Brown at the Sandy Spring Museum and at Gallery West in Alexandria, VA. Doug recently broadened his exposure by making the cover of the Winter 2007 Woodturning Design magazine.

Examples of his work appear in the side bar, with additional examples available at the following retail outlet website where Doug's work is for sale: [Creative Partners Galley website](http://CreativePartnersGalley.com) .

In addition, check out Doug's website: turningsbydoug.com.

New Members (Stuart Glickman)

Member Name	Location
Stephen Balaban	Kensington
Ralph Cady	Silver Spring
Richard Cohen	Rockville
Michael Colella	Kensington
Alvin Dickinson	Wheaton
Marshall Fisher	Rockville
Seth Gottlieb	Bethesda
Ed Grossman	Bethesda
Robert Kaufman	Potomac
Louis Krupnick	Silver Spring
George Powers	Gaithersburg
Stephen Snyder	Frederick
Stanley Sherman	Germantown
Patrick Taylor	Cabin John
Richard Webster	Rockville

**Welcome to our
newest members!**

Help out a fellow turner!

A few members or potential members cannot drive at night, or for another reason need a ride to our Thursday night meetings. If you don't find another member in our membership list near your community, let Don Couchman know of your need. He will help in locating a member to provide transportation.

Membership Application Form and Interest Profile (Stuart Glickman)

MCW Membership Application forms available at: <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/Membership.aspx>

To become a member, please print out, complete and either mail it or personally deliver it to Stuart Glickman along with a check payable to Montgomery County Woodturners. Please ensure you include your email address as notification of the monthly MCW Newsletter publication is made electronically. In addition, include your personal website if you would like it referenced on the MCW website as a way to showcase your work.

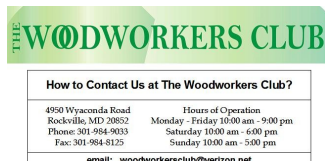
Express your interests and needs. We encourage everyone to complete a MCW Member Interest Profile which is included with the Membership Application form on the MCW website. This is of great benefit to the officers as we develop programs to meet everyone's needs. Please take the time to complete your profile and provide to Stuart Glickman at the next chapter meeting.

Recognition and Thanks

Thanks to Clif Poodry for starting the Lending Library with several contributions from his DVD library.

For those challenged by sharpening, you're encouraged to take advantage of the AAW Sharpening video *Woodturning: Fundamentals of Sharpening* donated to the Lending Library by Clif Poodry. The DVD provides great examples of different sharpening techniques by several well respected turners. Bonnie Klein introduces you to *Sharpening Basics*; John Jordan shows how to sharpen the *Side-Grind Gouge*; Bill Johnston addresses the all important issue of *Grinder Tune-up*; and Alan Lacer tackles the world of preparing *Skews & Spindle Gouges*.

Also, thanks to Richard Webster for his contribution of the book, *Turning Bowls* by Richard Raffan.



**... continued thanks to
Nick Suttora, owner of the
Rockville Woodworkers Club...**

President's Perspective (Phil Brown)

As evidenced by attendance at the February meeting, we have quite successfully launched Montgomery County Woodturners. As I write this, we have 43 paid members. The Newsletter looks terrific as also does the growing web site. All the officers are carrying out their tasks promptly and with new ideas and energy for more. Wow! I'm impressed and proud, and hope you are too.

Bylaws adopted at the February meeting were sent to the American Association of Woodturners (AAW), and soon MCW should be approved as a Chapter. Thus we will be listed in the 2007 Resource Directory that AAW members will receive in April. This will aid in telling wood turners we are here.

If you are not acquainted with AAW, click on their link at the bottom of every page on the MCW web site. While a ways off, a wonderful AAW woodturning symposium will come to the Richmond, VA Convention Center June 20-22, 2008. Every one of you should plan to attend. No excuse accepted. Besides, we will probably be asked to help by volunteering an hour or more of our time at the symposium.

Eliot Feldman left the January meeting fearful that our shy members would not come forth to share their skills. But he did not let us off the hook, and has at least four programs lined up, including Jimmy Clewes from England in June.

An important contribution to achieving our educational objectives is developing a good lending library. As you will read elsewhere, Clif Poodry is making good progress with this, and of course needs CDs, videotapes and books you are willing to share.

I'm pleased to report that Gary Guenther agreed to be MCW Secretary. He will be communicating business meeting decisions and discussions along with any officers' consensus decisions made through email exchanges as part of the monthly newsletter.

Stuart Glickman has our membership information digitized, and can quickly produce lists as needed. Periodically he will email an updated membership roster to members.

We obtained an employer ID number from the IRS, and Doug Pearson opened a checking account at Chevy Chase Bank with himself, Clif and me as signatories. So, now we are ready to do business. Current bank deposits total \$860.

Two members did outstanding work in January to give us a public image. Bert Bleckwenn wrote more than three pages of the Newsletter, and compiled, helped write, and edited the other material into a first class twelve page newsletter. Doug Pearson immediately began designing our web site using Office

(Continued on page 5)



President's Perspective (Phil Brown)

(Continued from page 4)

Live, which costs MCW nothing until we exceed 500MB, which is not likely to happen soon. Email messages will inform you when future newsletters are available, and will direct you to our web site for viewing or downloading as a PDF document. Hard copy will continue to be mailed to anyone without an email account.

After much review, debate and commenting, the officers approved Doug's plan to add an "About our Members" section to the MCW web site. I hope you will take advantage of this service to post up to 10 pictures of your work, shop and/or yourself, plus some descriptive narrative and bio information. This will aid us in getting acquainted with each other and our work. There is no charge for this service for posting up to five pictures and your text, but for additional pictures, there will be a fee of \$5 per picture, and a \$2.50 per picture fee for later replacement of any picture. In addition, Bert Bleckwenn will be happy to edit your narrative and bio before you submit it to Doug. Doug is quite generous with his time to take on these additions to the web site.

We will always be looking for pictures and narrative on members for the Newsletter and web site. If you visit another member's shop, take a camera for a few shots and write down some quotes and comments to send Bert with the pictures.

I am making another appeal for a MCW logo design. Please put your creative hat on and come up with some ideas for a logo. Even an idea sketched out is sufficient. If the idea is selected, I would then ask an artist or graphic designer to develop the idea. At the April meeting, we will review any submitted proposals and have attending members vote on their choice.

I will be helping in the CAW booth at the Woodworking Show, Dulles Expo Center, on March 16th, and plan to have a MCW brochure developed by then to inform any interested turners in our area attending the 3-day show.

I hope you will patronize the store in the Woodworkers Club. As a MCW member, you receive a 10% discount on turning supplies (excluding power tools) during and immediately after our meetings. To facilitate our meetings in the shop, Nick Suttora is asking his customers to stop their noisy work as we meet at no charge in his space. Please show your appreciation.

Mentor Program (Donald Couchman)

Help! Mentors Needed! At our last meeting, we signed up ten members who wanted mentoring. Right now we have only five members who have volunteered to be mentors. Mentors are needed for turners all the way from very beginners to turners who are at least well into the intermediate stage. Please contact Don Couchman if you are willing to help.

The initial set of members desiring mentoring who have signed up have been contacted with instructions to initiate contact with the volunteer mentors.

Become a Mentor!

Editor's Viewpoint (Bert Bleckwenn)

It is great to see younger members joining our chapter with support by their parents, as well as several women members. This diversity helps to expand everyone's views and perspectives. I was impressed by our youngest member, Seth Gottlieb's show & tell piece which caused me to recall my early turned pieces and experiences. I wish I would have had access to a chapter and a set of members like ours when I was first turning.

Listening to Phil Brown during last month's program of the early years' challenges was interesting. Sometimes we forget the simple techniques and the creativity and ingenuity in all of us that allow us to solve woodturning challenges.

What technique or jig are you still using that solves a basic problem? I still use a simple dust collection jig at the lathe which consists of a thin flexible aluminum clothes dryer vent tubing. As you can see in the picture to the right, the tubing is mounted to a dust collection fitting attached to a movable board and connected to the dust collector. I can position the board between my lathe bed and lathe stand. The flexible aluminum tube can flex to wherever I need for turning and sanding. Next time you are trying to solve a dust collection problem where you want to have flexibility in placement, consider this technique. Any Home Depot or Lowes carries the dryer tubing.

I suggest you also check out one of our member's blog site at www.beadsandcoves.com. Patrick Taylor is sharing his experiences on a regular basis as he explores the new world of turning.

You'll notice I've added several other sections such as Tip of the Month and Member's Feedback and Comments. I encourage you to send me your tips and welcome any feedback regarding chapter, website, newsletter or other relevant comments for sharing with the rest of the membership.

Drop me a note at bableck@gmail.com.



David Fry



David Jacobowitz



Bill Casson



Seth Gottlieb



Patrick Taylor

Website Development (Doug Pearson)

Doug hopes you have all checked out the MCW website at www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org. Recently, he has been trying to improve our rankings in search results. A significant factor in getting a higher search ranking is the number of links found connecting to a site. With that in mind, he would like to encourage those of you who have a personal website to include a link to MCW. The more links we can get, the better. Doug will return the favor and include a link back to your site. Please let Doug know if you do add a link to MCW.

Doug is not short on ideas and continues to enhance the website, so check it out on a regular basis. Here's a snapshot of recent enhancements:

- The Members' Gallery is up and running which already portrays pictures of member's work brought in for the prior month's Show & Tell.
- The website now contains a Classified Ads section. As a MCW member, you can submit ads for those extra tools you may have laying around your shop, or maybe you'd like to sell that beautiful new piece you just completed. It's up to you. Check it out on our website by clicking on MCW Classified Ads. This service is free to MCW members.
- A portfolio of major Lathe Manufacturers is also featured on the website with links to each vendor's website. If looking for a new lathe, here's a good starting point.
- Membership Links is operational providing links to a member's personal or professional websites as well. Check them out through the website as Doug will continue to add new sites.

Another website project under development is the creation of 'Member Pages'. If you would like to have your own page on the MCW site, that could include a picture of you, your work and perhaps a picture or two of your shop along with possibly some narrative and a biography of yourself, then please contact Doug Pearson at dspearson@verizon.net. The first 5 pictures and narrative/biography are free to members. Additional pictures beyond 5 (maximum of 10 pictures) requires a fee of \$5/picture and \$2.50 to swap out a picture. Any fees will go to the MCW. Doug encourages you to provide your own pictures. We hope you will consider participating in this project as it would add a nice personal touch to the website.

As background, Doug is developing the current web site on a Microsoft server using Microsoft Office Live. This is a great deal for us, with 500MB of initial space free and any additional space beyond this available in increments of 100MB for \$4.95/month. Currently he is using only 1MB, which is just 0.2 percent of the free space. So it would be some time before MCW would have to buy space. Nevertheless, web space customarily costs, and Doug is donating a lot of his time to build this section.

*Stan Sherman**Clif Poodry**Clif Poodry*

Lending Library (Clif Poodry)

I just enjoyed one of the benefits of being the keeper of our lending library. Richard Webster donated us his copy of *Turning Bowls* by Richard Raffan so I took the opportunity to look it over. Actually, I read it cover to cover. Although geared to a beginning turner, it has many helpful tips for those of us who have been at it for quite a while. It also showed me many useful ways to explain techniques to students. There are ample photographs to stimulate the imagination. I highly recommend borrowing it if it isn't already on your bookshelf.

The contents of our library are listed below. In order to increase our holdings we ask that you consider donating or lending to the club that video or book just sitting on your shelf. I can copy loaned videos, CDs and DVDs for the library. Since we will not sell the copy, copyright is not an issue. For a modest \$2 charge you can check out an item for a month. The best time to arrange check out is before our scheduled demonstrator begins their presentation. If an item is lost or damaged, the borrower will be responsible for replacing it. I will keep an updated list of lendable items, and occasionally publish it in the newsletter, and post it on the web site. As our treasury allows, we hope to add fresh material. We encourage your suggestions regarding items to acquire.

1. DVD Trent Bosch Vessels of Illusion
2. DVD Trent Bosch Decorative Utility Bowls
3. DVD Trent Bosch Sculpting Wood; Beyond the Lathe
4. DVD AAW 2004 National Symposium Techniques Vol. 1
5. DVD AAW 2004 National Symposium Techniques Vol. 2
6. DVD AAW 2004 National Symposium Instant Gallery and Critique
7. DVD Stuart Batty and Mike Mahoney Two Ways to Make a Bowl
8. DVD AAW Woodturning: Fundamentals of Sharpening
9. CD AAW American Woodturning 1986-1993 Volumes 1-8
10. CD AAW American Woodturning 1994-2001 Volumes 9-16
11. DVD Del Stubbs (This is a recovery of most of the contents of his classic 1985 video tape)
12. Book *Turning Bowls* by Richard Raffan 2002

Group Buys (Authur Mensch)

If you have any suggestions for types of items (sandpaper, superglue, log sealer, etc.) that you would be interested in, please let Art Mensch know.

Treasurer's Financial Report (Doug Pearson)

A MCW bank account has been opened at Chevy Chase Bank. As of February 23, the balance was \$860 which equals 43 members.

Member's Feedback and Comments (Bert Bleckwenn)

To Phil Brown: *"Just wanted you to know that I think the Club is working great and that your demo was very valuable for your target audience. I enjoyed seeing and holding your wonderful trumpets in a partly done condition. Not only are your shapes great, I've rarely seen such wonderful pieces of raw wood, with extraordinary grain structure, spalting, and fiddleback. Wow."* (Gary Guenther)

Tip of the Month (Bert Bleckwenn)

With the cold winter, are you looking for something that helps alleviate the pain of standing on cold garage or basement shop floors? A couple of products/techniques besides using the usual area rubber mats are:

- Try a horse trailer/stall mat product in a 4'x6' - 3/4" size made up of recycled tires. Great on the feet and saves the edge of your turning tools, if ever dropped. A little heavy. The mat can be acquired at the Poole Store, 16315 Old River Rd, Poolesville, MD 20837 (301) 948-5372 which is a rural general store that serves local horse enthusiasts. Current price is \$39.95.
- Try out the Drycore subfloor product available from any Home Depot. Current price is \$5.98/square. It comes in 2'x2' panels 7/8" thick constructed of random chipboard to provide uniform expansion/contraction and a plastic footed sheet applied on the bottom to provide both a level of vapor protection and air insulation. It has a sealant applied to the surface, but will take floor paint for added durability and looks. It was used for a 12x16 foot area in my former basement shop for three years as a test for a future shop design, and it worked great. I'm planning my next shop as a detached building with concrete floors and this product laid over the top.

Contact Bert Bleckwenn at bableck@gmail.com if you would like additional details.

Exhibit Opportunity

Applications are available for a juried exhibit of contemporary craft-art objects at Strathmore Hall, North Bethesda, MD, that will be exhibited from May 26 to July 6, 2007. Your entry form must be submitted by March 15, 2007. This exhibit is sponsored by the Creative Crafts Council (CCC), a volunteer group of representatives of craft guilds of all media, except wood, in the metropolitan area. However wood is welcome at a non-member fee of \$40 per application. Jurying will be by three local collector-members of the James Renwick Alliance, which is the support organization for the Smithsonian Renwick Gallery at 17th & Penn Ave NW. Your wood object should be well designed, original, and considered contemporary, not a copy or reproduction of early American styles or antiques which are unlikely to be juried in. Applications are available from Phil Brown (while the supply lasts), from Tony Glander at tony@fitzpatrickglass.com, and when posted at <http://www.creativecraftscouncil.org/>

*Mike Vore**Stuart Glickman**Gary Guenther**Eliot Feldman*

Future Planned Meeting Programs (Eliot Feldman)

- | | |
|-------|---|
| April | - Pens by Donald Couchman |
| May | - Sanding Techniques by Clif Poodry |
| June | - Professional English Turner, Jimmy Clewes |
- (Note: there will be a \$10 participation fee per member for this demonstration.)

Silent Auction (Doug Pearson)

We will launch a silent auction of donated items to benefit Montgomery County Woodturners (MCW) at our March meeting. You are welcome to donate items which you believe someone else might purchase, such as wood, woodturning/woodworking magazines, books, tools, etc.

Bid forms will be available on which to list your item, your name and a suggested opening minimum bid price. Please bring your item(s) and complete the bid form before 7 PM. Bidding will close by 8:30 PM, or at the end of the demo program if it ends earlier, with a line crossing out further bidding space. Doug Pearson, Treasurer, will be available to collect the winning bid amount as you leave with your new treasure and before 9 PM when the Woodworkers Club closes. If there is no bid on your donation, please remove the item when you leave.

Enter the MCW Chapter - Logo Selection Contest

Create a logo design for MCW!

Make several.

Just the sketch of an idea is sufficient.

Bring it to our April 12 meeting.

Members vote on the preferred design.

Your design could be MCW's future image!

Member's Show & Tell (Clif Poodry)

At the February meeting we had a good turnout of items for show and tell. Questions were asked. Advice was given. This is one of the advantages of having a club. We learn and benefit from the experience and enthusiastic support of the membership.

Also, check out the snapshots from last month's Member Show & Tell sprinkled across the various newsletter pages.

Summer Woodturning Workshops at Arrowmont

The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts 2007 summer workshop catalog is out. Woodturning is offered in seven one-week sessions. Also a sculptural class is listed below:

- Woodturning Basics, Alan Lacer, June 3-9
- The Pleasure of Green Wood, Christian Burchard, June 10-16
- Woodturning Projects with a Purpose, Joe Ruminski, July 1-7
- Turning & Sculpting Wood, Trent Bosch, July 8-14
- Turning Wood Into Art, Christophe Nancey, July 15-21
- Woodturning Techniques, Eli Avisera, July 29-August 4
- Basics of Woodturning, Nick Cook, August 5-11
- Spooning, Mark Sfirri, July 15-21. (Sculptural objects based on a spoon, involving design, layout, turning, carving, texturing, and surface ornamentation, scheduled in their woodworking program.)

There are also wood working classes in sculpture, veneering, model making and furniture making techniques during the summer. For a catalog call 865-436-5860, or email: info@arrowmont.org, or use their web site: www.arrowmont.org. Arrowmont, located at Gatlinburg, TN, is a craft school providing very reasonable cost housing and meals on campus. The wood shop is about 13 years old with a first-class lathe room that CAW members and other AAW chapters helped finance. If not a turner, your spouse might enjoy a class in another media at the same time as yours. One week fall classes will occur in September and October 2007.

Member Representation in Galleries, Exhibits and Shows and Classes

Sansar

Phil Brown, Eliot Feldman and David Fry currently have their work represented and for sale at Sansar. Whenever you are in the Bethesda downtown area, go check them out. Sansar is located at 4805 Bethesda Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Senior Artists Alliance—Thru March 28th

Stuart Glickman and David Jacobowitz continue to have turnings in the Senior Artists Alliance exhibit at the Sandy Spring Museum, 17901 Bentley Road, Sandy Spring, MD, through March 28.

Gallery of Mountain Secrets

Clif Poodry sells most of his work through The Gallery of Mountain Secrets in Monterey VA. The Gallery is located at Main St & State Route 250, Monterey, VA.

Virginia Craft, Folk & Art Festival—March 3-4

Marshall Fisher and his wife Suzanne will have their creations represented at the Virginia Fine Craft, Folk & Art Festival, on Saturday and Sunday March 3 and 4 from 10AM to 5PM, at the Cultural Center, Northern VA Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA.

Introduction to Bowl Turning Class—March 31st

Clif Poodry will teach *Introduction to Bowl Turning* on March 31st at The Woodworkers Club, 4950 Wyaconda Road, Rockville, MD. Phone: 301-984-9033. See: <http://www.woodworkersclub.com> for registration details.

Montgomery County Woodturners Newsletter

Newsletter Editor:
Bert Bleckwenn
Phone: 301-718-1850
email: bableck@gmail.com

Montgomery County Woodturners -
A local chapter of the American
Association of Woodturners (AAW)



Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 8, 2007

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

Location: Woodworkers Club
4950 Wyaconda Road
Rockville, MD 20853
Phone: (301) 984-9033

Program: ***Surface Preparation and
other Enhancements***
by Doug Pearson

We're on the Web at:

www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org

MCW Contact Information

Officers

President	Phil Brown	philfbrown@comcast.net	301-767-9863
Vice President	Clif Poodry	cpoodry@aol.com	301-530-4501
Program Chair	Eliot Feldman	eliot@mathtechinc.com	301-493-9666
Secretary	Gary Guenther	gary.guenther@att.net	301-384-7594
Membership	Stuart Glickman	sglickman@compuserve.com	301-279-2355
Treasurer	Doug Pearson	dspearson@verizon.net	301-229-6395
Newsletter Editor	Bert Bleckwenn	bableck@gmail.com	301-718-1850

Volunteers

Mentor Program	Donald Couchman	bigcouch@aol.com	301-963-6770
Group Buys	Arthur Mensch	jamensch@aol.com	301-840-9378
Web Master	Doug Pearson	dspearson@verizon.net	301-229-6395
Lending Library	Clif Poodry	cpoodry@aol.com	301-530-4501
Photographer	Mike Vore	mike@verizon.net	410-992-4953