

**MCW Newsletter** 

#### January 2008



Fine Woodturnings by Ron Brown





# Montgomery County Woodturners

www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org

Volume 2008, Issue 1

MCW Newsletter

Page 1

## December Meeting and Demonstration (Eliot Feldman)

The next meeting will be:

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2008 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: Woodworkers Club 4950 Wyaconda Road Rockville, MD 20853 (301) 984-9033

#### <u>Agenda</u>

6:45 -7:00 PM	Bring a chair, get a name tag, register your Show & Tell item with Mike Collela. donate to the silent auction, bid on a silent auction item, and meet fellow members.
7:00 - 7:15 PM	Brief business meeting, Show & Tell
7:15 - 8:50 PM	Program: <b>Ron Brown</b> - <i>Natural-edge Bowls in the</i> Ellsworth Style (\$5.00 demo fee)
8:50 - 9:00 PM	Pay for and retrieve your silent auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.

### Program 1997

### Ron Brown - Natural-edge Bowls in the Ellsworth Style

### **Biography**

Ron Brown is a member of the Chesapeake Woodturners chapter. He lives in Phoenix, Maryland, north of Baltimore. Ron has studied with several fine turners of wood like Ron Fleming, David Ellsworth, Johannes Michaelson and most recently Trent Bosch.

Additional background information and examples of his work can be found at his website: <u>http://www.treeturnings.com/</u>



# Time to Renew your MCW Chapter Membership!

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to renew your MCW membership for 2008. \$20 (\$30 Family) annually is a great bargain. See Stuart Glickman at the next meeting to keep yourself in good standing.

# Special points of interest:

- Davis Library Display in January
- AAW Board Letters

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## President's Perspective (Phil Brown)

Here we are with MCW one year old, growing in membership (don't forget to renew for 2008), with lots of interested members, quality speakers and demonstrators at meetings, active officers and volunteers, a substantial lending library, an excellent newsletter and web site, and our first chapter project - the wall case exhibit at the Davis Public Library. We continue to be supported by Nick Suttora with meeting space at the Woodworkers Club. These are achievements to celebrate and build on as we move into the new year.

As a celebration of sorts, my wife and I enjoyed visits to several museums recently we would not normally see. One was the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, MA, where two of my pieces are on display. Another was the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston where we drooled over *Selections from the Wornick Collection* and also enjoyed the *Ed Rossbach Fiber Art* exhibit and the *Jewelry by Artists* exhibit, both from The Daphne Farago Collection.

As woodturners, I feel we are related to a broad community of studio craft artists. So I want to comment on Selections from the Wornick Collection. Beginning primarily with turned wood in 1985, Ronald C. and Anita L. Wornick of California assembled a major collection of contemporary decorative arts in a variety of media, primarily by American studio artists but also including European, Australian, and Asian artists. Among the 120 pieces chosen for this exhibit is turned (and sometimes carved) wood by Christian Burchard, Jean-Francois Escoulen, David Ellsworth, Ron Fleming, Ron Gerton, Giles Gilson, David Groth, Michelle Holzapfel, Robert Howard, Todd Hover, Stephen Hughes, Bill Hunter, Michael Hosaluk, Bud Latven, William Moore, Ben Trupperbaumer, and other wood workers whose work I admire such as Wendell Castle, John Cederguist, Robin Horn, Gord Peteran, Peter Pierobon, Hap Sakwa (former turner), and Joel Urruty. While seeing the exhibit is best, an alternative is the exhibit catalog, with large, guality pictures, which is available (new and used) and titled after three pieces from the collection, SHY BOY, SHE DEVIL, AND ISIS. Details can be found at: www.mfa.org/exhibitions/sub.asp?key=15&subkey=3858

www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/0878467181/ref=dp\_olp\_2/104-3270912-6051923

A registration form for the AAW Richmond Symposium is in your Winter 2007 issue of *American Woodturner*, and also on the AAW web site. Register soon. If you want to share a hotel room with a MCW member, talk with others at our meeting or submit your interest to Bert Bleckwenn for listing in the February MCW Newsletter.

Do come to our next meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>. I'm sure you will enjoy Ron Brown's demonstration. He is a long-time member of Chesapeake Woodturners.

## Treasurer's Financial Report (Doug Pearson)

The MCW bank balance currently stands at \$1,571.54

#### **New Members** (Stuart Glickman)

Member Name	Location	1
Justin Fields Bill Lantry	Rockville Silver Spring	Help out a fellow turner!
Joe McArdle	Bethesda	A few members or potential members cannot drive at night, or for another reason need a ride to our
Welcome to our		Thursday night meetings. If you don't find another member in our membership list near your community,

newest members!

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 for \$20.00 payable to Montgomery County Woodturners. A Family membership is \$30.00. 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 it to Stuart Glickman at the next chapter meeting.

## Member Discounts (Clif Poodry)

#### **Rockville Woodworkers Club**

http://www.woodworkersclub.com/

MCW and other club members, remember to support the Woodworkers Club by purchasing turning supplies during our meetings and save 10 percent on the retail price.

#### Woodturning Club Member - Login

#### http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com

Club members: Save 10% on all finishes & disc abrasives with Craft Supplies USA! Just mention your club name and save, all year long. You can always see current club specials by clicking on the members login button on their homepage. New 15% specials are updated on the 1st of the month, which can be accessed by clicking on the hotlink above and going to the club member login located on the lower right portion of the page.

## **Mentor Program** (Donald Couchman)

For personal help from a more experienced MCW member, contact Don Coachman at 301-963-6770 to identify a potential mentor.



MCW Newsletter

#### Editor's Viewpoint (Bert Bleckwenn)

We had 27 members complete their membership renewal for 2008 as of our Dec 6th chapter meeting. And are now up to 31 paid-up members. See Stuart Glickman at out next meeting to renew, if you have not already done so. Or, make out a \$20 check to MCW (\$30 for a Family membership), mail to Stuart Glickman at 2896 Glenora Ln, Rockville, MD. Any questions, Stuart can be contacted at 301-279-2355 / stuartglickman@gmail.com

I was scanning the WoodCentral site recently and came across a reference to a Beall Buffing System video available free on the Woodcraft site. It demonstrates the technique to properly load the buffing wheels with various compounds. Check it out at: :

http://www.woodcraft.com/family.aspx?familyid=2036&mode=videos#tabs

I also came across an extensive index of woodturning websites developed and maintained by Rob Wallace from Ames, Iowa. It contains a broad array of sources relating to wood turning that you might find useful and worth saving in your web browser's Favorites or Bookmark list. The site contains 10 pages that are grouped, indexed, and well organized by subject category. This is a nice piece of work and great contribution to fellow turners. Check it out at: <u>http://rwallace.public.iastate.edu/WTlinks.html</u>

The Silent Auction continues to be a great source for fine turning material. It's an opportunity to obtain species of wood that you may not have previously turned. Who knows... you may even pick up a great find like the maple burl that led to Clif Poodry's covered bowl creations, as depicted in the Meeting Minutes on page 6.

Thanks to Bob Browning for bringing in some nice pieces of osage orange. Your generous and thoughtful donations of woods (and other related items) are needed each month to keep this important and exciting MCW activity going. I encourage other members to also contribute to the Silent Auction.

## **Silent Auction**





**Beall Buff System** 



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PLAY 🔤 email 🔗 get link 💿 get code 🔳 🌘
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Beall VIdeo

## Lending Library - New Additions (Clif Poodry)

The standing library inventory is located on the MCW web site under the members-only section.

We have two new additions to our library. The club received a DVD from the 2006 AAW Symposium: Techniques - Volume 2 and I am putting in my copy of Cindy Drozda's *Fabulous Finial Box*. If you have been fortunate enough to attend one of her workshops or seen one of her demos, you know what a fine instructor she is. This video does not disappoint. In it she shows you how to make one of her signature little boxes with an elegant, delicate finial on the top. You may find yourself watching and then turning and then watching some more as you pick up new tips and techniques. I am sure that you will find watching the Drozda video so valuable that you will want to contribute beyond the \$2 fee to the library fund.

Speaking of the library fund - since the establishment of our library it has provided \$46 to the club treasury. One downside is that one of the videos that I put in the library - my copy of the AAW Sharpening video - has disappeared. Would one of you be willing to contribute your copy?

## New MCW member retail web site up and running - www.2sand.com

One of our members has just launched a new retail internet site that is up and running which fellow members may find of interest. While the list of items for sale is starting out small, members are encouraged to check out the site and patronize one of our fellow members. The current items for sale include videos and turning handles by Trent Bosch along with Oneway Mastercut bowl and spindle gouges. An assortment of sanding disks is expected to be offered shortly. Check it out at: **WWW.2sand.com** 

## 2008 AAW Symposium - Call for Entries (Phil Brown)

In 2008, during the symposium in Richmond, Virginia, AAW will feature "Turned for Use II," a juried exhibit. If you are interested in participating in this exhibit, there is still time to fashion a piece and submit your application. The application deadline is February 10, 2008. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2008/TurnedForUseIIApplicationForm.pdf">www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2008/TurnedForUseIIApplicationForm.pdf</a>

### Emerald Ash Borer Alert (Phil Brown)

The emerald ash borer is a serious invasive insect that, prior to Maryland's detection in late August 2003, had only been detected in the U.S. in Michigan (2002) and Ohio (2003). The insect feeds on and kills ash trees one to three years after infestation. To help control the spread of this dangerous beetle, Maryland citizens and visitors are being asked to comply with the established quarantine and refrain from transporting firewood from the infested area in Prince George's County to any other area AND from other states into Maryland. If you suspect EAB infestation, please contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 410-841-5920. Also see: www.dnr.state.md.us/dnrnews/infocus/emerald ash borer.asp

### Future Planned Meeting Programs (Eliot Feldman)

If you have suggestions for future meeting demonstrators or would consider demonstrating something yourself, please contact our program director, Eliot Feldman at <u>eliot@mathtechinc.com</u> or by phone at 301-493-9666.



"Before" A recent Silent Auction item offering



"After" Clif Poodry has an eye for what is hidden in a log just waiting to come out!

## December Meeting Minutes (Gary Guenther)

Twenty-five people participated in the December meeting. Silent Auction and Show & Tell tables were set up. MCW Vice President Clif Poodry handled the video library. This is an excellent resource, and we encourage you to check something out. The inventory of available materials is listed on the MCW web site so you can plan ahead for what you might like to rent.

MCW President Phil Brown welcomed participants, asked everyone to get a name tag and introduce themselves to someone they didn't already know, and encouraged Show & Tell participants to take their pieces to Mike Colella to be recorded and photographed. Mike would appreciate it if you would take your pieces directly to him and log them in on his clipboard sheet (name, type of form, type of wood, and size). He will place them on the S&T table after he photographs them. At Phil's invitation, five new attendees introduced themselves and briefly described their interests.

Membership Chairman Stuart Glickman was available to collect \$20 membership dues for next year. If you haven't paid your dues for 2008, please take care of this with Stu at the January meeting. Three new members joined MCW this month, bringing our total to a very healthy 63.

A brief election of 2008 Officers was held. The slate of officers remains unchanged for our second year of operation. Members are encouraged to begin thinking about how they might choose to serve in 2009 when we will expect some turnover.

AAW membership was discussed and highly recommended. Membership must be received before December 31, 2007 if you would like your name to be included in the 2008 Resource Directory. The AAW journal, *American Wood-turner* is one of the very best woodturning magazines available and is always a joy to receive in the mail.

Members participating in MCW's Davis Public Library turned-wood exhibit dropped off their pieces in a collection box. This show will be open for viewing during January.

Phil reported that we have obtained a sufficient number of names to participate in the Hartville Tool discount program. If you are not yet included and would like to be, please contact Phil.

Don't forget to put the AAW National Symposium on your calendar! It will be held in Richmond on June 20-22, 2008, and organizational activities have begun. The national Symposium is a very exciting event, and it will never be any closer. Everyone is strongly encouraged to plan to attend and to consider donating a few hours of time on a committee. It is not too early to begin planning and reservations.

Clif Poodry officiated the Show & Tell period. This is always one of my favorite parts of the meeting. An excellent selection of diverse, interesting, and

### December Meeting Minutes (Gary Guenther) (continued)

finely-done pieces were presented and discussed. They can be seen, thanks to the photography of Mike Colella and the computer work of Doug Pearson and Pat Taylor, by clicking the link on the Gallery page of our web site Too many items were brought to mention them all here, but several that stood out for me were a very large, figured, spalted maple platter by Phil Brown, a set of maple-burl covered bowls by Clif Poodry, a unique art sculpture by Stu Glickman, a segmented southwestern form by David Jacobowitz, two lovely platters by Richard Webster, and two large bowls by Tim Aley. Clif created a total of three covered bowl sets by using a McNaughton coring system on the large chunk of burl he purchased a few months ago in our Silent Auction (donated by Mike Colella). The "before" and "after" shots are included on the prior page. He definitely found a lot of wonderful things inside that hunk - that is the essence of wood-turning. Please bring your work, completed or in-progress, to the January meeting.

Bob Browning brought some nice chunks of osage orange for the Silent Auction. This is a popular turning wood because of its unique yellow color (before it inevitably ages to lovely shades of brown). There was also a nice variety of cherry, walnut, dogwood, crabapple, etc. Your Club treasury benefited \$33 from the silent auction contributions. Thank you for your participation, and, as always, please support this ongoing event by bringing in some blanks and hunks of wood to share with your friends.

Program Chairman Eliot Feldman introduced Don Couchman, an MCW member and our Demonstrator for the evening. Don showed us the tools, jigs, materials, and methods involved in making pens.

After Don's demonstration, Nick Suttora, our host at the Woodworkers Club, briefed everyone on the status of the wood studio in the new VisArts Center in Rockville. While the studio is still under construction, it will offer courses in woodturning and woodworking.

If any of you have suggestions for changing or adding something in the Club to suit your personal needs better, please discuss your ideas with any one of the Officers.

#### News about our Members (Phil Brown)

At least 13 members are participating in our MCW display at the Davis Public Library on Democracy Blvd in Bethesda scheduled for January. They are **Bert Bleckwenn**, **Phil Brown**, **Don Couchman**, **Eliot Feldman**, **David Fry**, **Stuart Glickman**, **Gary Guenther**, **David Jacobowitz**, **Doug Pearson**, **Clif Poodry**, **Pat Taylor**, **Richard Webster**, and **Ilya Zavorin**. The display will be set up January 2<sup>nd</sup> and probably come down February 1<sup>st</sup>. Drop by to see it.

**Phil Brown** and **David Jacobowitz** each have two pieces in the Senior Artists Alliance exhibit at the Columbia Arts Center, January 3 to February 5, 2008. The Center is at 6100 Foreland Garth in Columbia, MD, 410-730-0075, just off of Tamar Drive.

#### AAW and Utah Symposium Conflict Eliminated (Phil Brown)

Kip Christensen announced that the 2008 Utah Symposium will be held at the Utah Valley State College on May 22 - 24, 2008, rather than at Brighan Young University in June. This change in dates is important to the entire woodturning community because the May date no longer conflicts with the AAW Richmond Symposium on June 20 - 22, 2008. Attendees and demonstrators are now free to attend both Symposia instead of having to choose between one and the other.

## December Meeting Demonstration - Don Couchman (Gary Guenther)

MCW Member Don Couchman was profiled in the August 2007 MCW Newsletter. He has been turning since 1993 and has made some very nice bowls, among other things.

For his demonstration, he discussed the process of making writing pens. The key ingredients are pen kits, a drill press and a clamp to hold the blanks, a mandrel for holding the parts on the lathe for turning, and some clamps for getting things pressed together. There are lots of details to be concerned about so as to end up with a quality product, and some practice (and learning by trial and error) is definitely required. Relatively fine tolerances are needed.



Pen making is a great way to use small scraps of nice wood. These scraps are cut to size, drilled out for brass inserts, and then turned, two at a time, to the desired sizes and shapes for the pen barrels, appropriate to the style of the kits purchased. Don uses a simple detail gouge with a fairly straight nose, as opposed to the more



swept-back types that one often sees these days. Don points out that it's easy to spend money for specialized tools, but that the common tools we already have in the workshop can often be adapted for use, at a significant savings. He also discussed various finishing products that may be used.

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Don completed a slim-line pen, made with previously turned components, and displayed a set of others made from various woods. I came out of this demonstration with a much better understanding of the tools, materials, and processes involved in pen making than I had when I came in. Thanks Don.



# Show & Tell



S&T Table



**Richard Webster** 



Phil Brown





David Jacobowitz

Stuart Glickman

### November 2007 AAW Board Letter (out dated portion removed)

Dear AAW Members,

**SOFA** - The November Board of Directors meeting was held in Chicago at the site of SOFA (Sculpture Objects and Functional Art), the world's leading exposition devoted to contemporary decorative art and design. A record 34,000 attendees at the three-day show browsed the aisles populated by 100 galleries and dealers from 20 countries.

There were also 7 special exhibits including Israeli and Palestinian art on the theme of reconciliation, Australian contemporary ceramics, the contemporary furniture of John Makepeace, and Contemporary Furniture at Crabb Tree Farm.

Del Mano exhibited an extraordinary collection of wood art featuring many world-class woodturners from the U.S. and abroad. If the displays themselves were not enough to keep one busy, there were also 29 lecture presentations, several of them on wood art. It was a truly overwhelming event, one I would urge all who can to experience for themselves. There was much to admire and plenty to inspire!

The AAW once again had a presence at SOFA with a booth hosting the "Basic Black" exhibit which included pieces by Sharon Doughtie, Gorst duPlessis, Liam Flynn, Mark Gardner, Matthew Hill, Todd Hoyer, John Jordan, Mary McKinney, Betty Scarpino, David Sengel, Hayley Smith, Al Stirt, Jacques Vesery, and Molly Winton. There was a gallery talk on the basic black theme presented by Irish turner Liam Flynn and Alan Lacer.

The AAW also sponsored one of the 29 lectures. Charlotte Brown, Director of the Gregg Museum of Art & Design from North Carolina State University in Raleigh gave a very personal and amusing critique of 27 pieces of contemporary woodturning.

**On-Line Survey -** We are running an on-line survey seeking comments and suggestions regarding American Woodturner. Please take a moment (well actually, about 10 minutes) to complete the survey and express your preferences for material that has been published and suggestions for what we can do better. This is your chance to make yourself heard on all the things you have wanted to say. What do you love about the journal? What do you hate? Do you have a terrific idea for an article? Let us hear about it! Send you ideas or written pieces to Carl Voss, the editor, at carlvoss@mac.com, or any board member.

#### 2008 Symposium in Richmond

We are expecting the 2008 symposium to be the best to date with expanded SIN (Special Interest Night) activities, more rotations than ever, and increased participation by our POP (Professional Outreach Program) members. The Resident Artists Program will also be a fascinating addition to the mix of activities. Attendees will be able to watch the creation of a complex piece from start-to-finish over several days.

Due to size limitations of the banquet facilities, attendance will be limited. Banquet tickets must be purchased separately from the registration, so if you wish to attend the banquet, sign up early.

Please feel free to address any concerns, questions or comments to any board member at any time. Our contacts information can be found here. Or to post them on the AAW's Forum. We want and need to hear what you think about your organization and publication!

Jean LeGwin AAW Board Member

(Note: See Message from the Board (11/30/07) on the AAW web site for links to more information about topics discussed in this and the December letter on the next page.)

## December 2007 AAW Board Letter

Dear AAW Members,

Your AAW continues to work at bringing more and better exhibitions of woodturning to you and the public. This past year, in addition to our annual theme exhibition, "Turning Green", we had three other exhibits at the Portland symposium. One, a first, "Japanese Bowls - A Western Perspective" was a big success. In addition, the demonstrators from Japan brought a great number of pieces for display reflecting woodturning designs from their country. A third exhibit featured the work of the three POP Merit Award recipients: Giles Gilson, Stephen Hogbin, and Mark Lindquist.

For those who did not see the 2005 "reTURN to the Land of Oz" exhibit in Overland Park, Kansas, it was recreated in the summer of 2007 at the World Forestry Center in Portland.

To top all this off, another first, the AAW "Woodturning in Basic Black" exhibit was brought to the Chicago SOFA (Sculptural Objects and Functional Art) show in November. Indeed, 2007 was a year rich with AAW woodturning exhibits.

The year 2008 will feature "Turned for Use II", a juried exhibit in Richmond, Virginia, during the symposium. If you are interested in participating in this exhibit, there is still time to fashion a piece and submit your application. The application deadline is February 10, 2008. For more information, click on this link to access the Application Form. In addition, there will be a POP-sponsored exhibit at the 2008 symposium in Richmond similar to the Japanese bowls format, only this time showcasing "Spheres".

Most of these exhibits could have been seen, or can be seen currently, at the AAW Gallery in St. Paul, where three or more exhibits are featured each year. Unfortunately, many members are unable to view these shows at the symposium or St. Paul. The good news is that a large portion of their content can be seen online at the AAW website after the exhibit closes. Note that all of the underlined blue typed text in this letter point to pages on the AAW website; just click on any of these links to access the page we're discussing.

Here are AAW website links where our exhibitions can still be seen and enjoyed:

- Turning Green Exhibition catalog available at the AAW store Catalogs
- Japanese Bowls Catalog available at the AAW store Catalogs
- Turning to the Future See an exhibit of what our young turners are doing
- Connextions A collaborative exhibit between the AAW and the International Society of Glass beadmakers
- Open/Closed The AAW, in cooperation with the Northern Clay Center, hosted this first joint exhibit
  of works by nationally recognized contemporary turners and potters. The exhibit featured both functional and sculptural work and focused on form and material, highlighting the similarities and differences between the two media.
- Woodturning in Basic Black SOFA Chicago, November 2007 and AAW Gallery early 2008
- AAW Gallery More exhibitions content, from 2006 back to 1996

We have an extremely rich legacy of fine woodturning exhibits that have been produced by the AAW, with work created by its members. I think there is little doubt that the future will provide an even more splendid and marvelous array of wood-turned work that we woodturners and the public can enjoy.

Bill Haskell, AAW Board Member Exhibitions Committee Chair and Treasurer

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Montgomery County Woodturners Newsletter		Next Meeting		
		Date:	Thursday, January 10,	2008
			7:00-9:00 PM	
Newsletter Editor: Bert Bleckwenn Phone: 301-718-1850 email: bableck@gmail.c	Bert Bleckwenn		Woodworkers Club 4950 Wyaconda Road Rockville, MD 20853 Phone: (301) 984-9033	3
Montgomery County Woo A local chapter of the Ame Association of Woodturne	erican	Program:	Ron Brown - Natural-edge in the Ellsworth Style (\$5.00 Demo Fee)	Bowls
E CODTURNER 19 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10			e're on the Web at: omerycountywoodturners	s.org

# **MCW Contact Information**

# **Officers**

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