



MCW Newsletter

February 2008

Montgomery County Woodturners

www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org

Volume 2008, Issue 2

MCW Newsletter

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Clif Poodry
in action



Recent
Coring Example



Kelton Coring System

February Meeting and Demonstration (Eliot Feldman)

The next meeting will be:

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

Agenda

- 6:45 -7:00 PM Bring a chair, get a name tag, register your Show & Tell item with Mike Collala and Richard Webster, donate to the silent auction, bid on a silent auction item, check out the video library, and meet fellow members.
- 7:00 - 7:15 PM Business Meeting and Show & Tell
- 7:15 - 8:50 PM Program: **Clif Poodry - Coring System**
- 8:50 - 9:00 PM Pay for and retrieve your silent auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.

Program

Clif Poodry - Coring System

Clif will demonstrate use of the Kelton coring system and share techniques, how to correctly sharpen and things not to do. Members may have an opportunity to test out the feel and operation of the coring system.

The Kel McNaughton Center Saver System (aka Kelton Center Saver, McNaughton Bowl Saver, Kelton Saver and Kel McNaughton Coring Tool) enables you to easily produce two or more bowls or a bowl and lid from a single block of wood. Removing several bowls from the center of each blank saves time, money and allows significant conservation of expensive, or highly figured wood. Typically, you can save one rough blank for each inch to inch and a quarter of thickness. Check out a review of the system at:

<http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/center-saver.html>

Biography

Clif was profiled in [Issue #4 of the 2007 MCW Newsletter](#) (click to review)

Examples of Clif's work can be found on his personal website at:

<http://homepage.mac.com/cpoodry/PhotoAlbum.html>

Special points of interest:

- Seneca Creek Joinery
- Teaser - Do you know your lathes?

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President's Perspective (Phil Brown)

I'm having a hard time getting a handle on 2008. It arrived too fast, and before I even completed all my holiday letters and year-end donations. The mostly mild weather in December made it seem like winter had not arrived yet, and thus not time for a new year.

I hope you were pleased with our exhibit in the wall cases at the Davis Public Library during January. I've heard compliments from the librarian, the public passing through, and from some of our members. There was a good mix of sizes and shapes from 13 members, but since more pieces were needed to fill and balance out the display (in my opinion), there are about a half dozen of mine included. While this exhibit is not as exciting as a live demonstration, it takes a lot less of our time and continues for a month, not just a few hours. My thanks to all of you who lent pieces. We need to press some ladies into being involved next time - at the Potomac Library in July.

When you need a copy of our MCW brochure for a friend, go to About MCW and MCW Forms on our web site. It is there as a pdf file.

Concerning your health in the shop, I was surprised to get a call from Joe Dickey, a long-time acquaintance and accomplished turner of many years, now living southeast of Donaldsonville, MD. For several months Joe has been suffering from an upper-respiratory viral infection that he suspects was triggered by turning spalted maple last fall. He wanted to talk about getting a respirator and related concerns. While he was using a 6" dust collection pipe at the lathe, he had not been using any hood device to help focus the air stream, or wearing a mask/respirator, or always being attentive to keeping the shop floor clean, or exchanging/cleaning the shop air. Even though the exact cause of the infection remains unknown, it is certainly appropriate to suspect the dust as the source - both the spalting (fungus) as well as the maple (which believe it or not, is toxic).

After just a short time or over many years, we can develop a lung infection or allergic reaction to most species of wood. While it is nice to smell the wood, it usually isn't nice to us. If you are finding it difficult motivating yourself to take precautions, think about how you still want to be healthy 10, 20, 30 years or more into the future. Now is the time to protect yourself, not after all those years. Do you breath clean air (wear a respirator, two-string mask, clean or exchange shop air, capture dust at the lathe, vacuum settled dust from the floor and bench surfaces) and protect your skin (wear long sleeves and disposable gloves, remove dusty cloths in the shop or laundry room, wash or shower)? If you want more guidance, talk to me or other officers and see the AAW tips at: www.woodturner.org/resources/safety.cfm

If you enjoy the wood furniture of Sam Maloof, visit the Renwick Gallery (17th & Penn Ave NW, DC), second floor, to see his spectacular drop-leaf walnut dinning table and chairs.

Also, at the Renwick Gallery is a large Ed Moulthrop bowl on exhibit in the same room. The specific piece is entitled "Rolled-edge Bowl" and is a fine

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President's Perspective (Phil Brown)

(Continued from page 2)

example of the Moulthrop family work.

An article *Moulthrop Generations: Turned Wood Bowls* by Ed Philip, and Matt Moulthrop is in the February/March 2008 issue of American Craft, page 82. An exhibit featuring 70 of their pieces at the Arizona State University Art Museum in Tempe is discussed. The exhibit closes February 24th. A catalog is available from ASU and also a book by Kevin Wallace, "Moulthrop: A Legacy in Wood". The large size of their work, together with use of spalted wood of numerous species native to their area, makes their work powerful show stoppers. Except for the mosaic bowls of pine and black epoxy by Philip, most of their pieces incorporate the pith and are stabilized with PEG (polyethylene glycol). I don't believe we have seen other turners replicate their work since it requires a big commitment to the process and the use of an excellent polyurethane coating to lock PEG into the wood. More information on Moulthrop can be found through a search of the AAW web site, such as:

www.woodturner.org/products/videos/video_moulthrop/

Concerning a matter close to home, if you live in Maryland and received a new assessment notice on your residence in the last two months, be sure to apply for the homestead exemption by April.

I hope you are enjoying some turning and can join us at the February 7th meeting.



***Rolled-edge Bowl* by Ed Moulthrop
on exhibit at
The Renwick Galley**

Treasurer's Financial Report (Doug Pearson)

The MCW bank balance currently stands at \$2,079.54.

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 eliot@mathtechinc.com or by phone at 301-493-9666.

Future Planned Meetings:

- February 7 Clif Poodry - Coring System
- March 6 Michael Blake - Making Tools

2008 Meeting Schedule		
January 10	February 7	March 6
April 10	May 8	June 12
July 10	August 7	September 11
October 9	November 6	December 11



STRATHMORE
A MANSION OF THE ARTS

THE WOODWORKERS CLUB

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New York, NY 10012-4019
Phone 212.274.0630
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council@craftcouncil.org

american
craft
Preview the New
American Craft



News about our Members (Phil Brown)

Eliot Feldman and David Fry will be demonstrating wood turning for about 5 hours on February 17th in the Strathmore Mansion. The occasion is Discover Strathmore, a day of free events featuring artists and artisans demonstrating their craft at the Mansion, plus classes and stage performances at the Music Center. See for more information click on program notes at:

<http://www.strathmore.org/eventstickets/calendar/view.asp?id=3252>

Clif Poodry will teach *Beginning Spindle Turning* on Feb. 9th and March 15th, *Advanced Bowl Turning*, a follow-up the introductory January class, on February 16th and 17th, and *Beginning Bowl Turning* on March 29th, at The Woodworkers Club in Rockville, MD.

Check it out at: www.woodworkersclub.com/practice%20class1.htm

ACC Baltimore Craft Show (Phil Brown)

A M E R I C A N C R A F T C O U N C I L
promoting understanding and appreciation of contemporary American craft

From February 22 to 24th, more than 700 of the country's leading craft artists will gather under one roof to present their latest high-quality, handmade work to the public - at the American Craft Baltimore Show - in the Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, in Baltimore. A number of woodturners are expected. While a list of turners is not yet posted on their web site as of this writing, check it out before the show at:

www.craftcouncil.org/baltimore/

Show hours are: Friday, February 22 (10 am - 9 pm), Saturday, February 23 (10 am - 6 pm), and Sunday, February 24 (10 am - 5 pm)

Check out ACC and what it has to offer on their website at:

<http://www.craftcouncil.org/>. They also publish the American Crafts magazine.

AAW Director Nominations (Phil Brown)

An AAW Nominating Committee of Don Derry, John Hill and Larry Genender are seeking qualified candidates for election to the Board in late 2008. The qualifications and process of electing new Board members is outlined on page 28 of the 2007 Resource Directory. If you are interested, either contact Larry Genender directly at Lgenender@aol.com Larry will guide you in initiating the process.

New Members (Stuart Glickman)

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
(No new members)	

***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 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 Couchman at 301-963-6770 to identify a potential mentor.

Use a Mentor!

Editor's Viewpoint (Bert Bleckwenn)

I got excited when I recently received David Fry's email regarding Seneca Creek Joinery and then really got excited upon checking out their website. This was too good to be true. A local source of wood, turning and lathes, woodworking, especially 18th Century techniques, along with a concern and sensitivity for our local environment. I had to check this out. Well, I'm happy to report that I made a visit to Seneca Creek Joinery and had an opportunity to interview the proprietor, Chris Holmgren. As a result of this, I plan to write up my interview notes for the next newsletter and share my perspective with everyone including a variety of ideas of forming a relationship between MCW and Seneca Creek Joinery. I've included a reprint of David Fry's email on page 16 of the Newsletter and the contact information for Seneca Creek Joinery in case you have an immediate need for some native hardwood turning stock or other hardwood needs.



Inside Seneca Creek Joinery
(notice the great wheel lathe!)

In the President's Perspective article, Phil Brown highlighted some exhibit items currently on display at the Renwick Gallery. This reminded me that the Renwick also has Phil's signature work in its collection as well. Though not currently on display, the vessel can be viewed on the web by clicking on the picture or text to the left. I've also recently discovered that Phil does have items on display at the local Thomas Moser Gallery in Georgetown. I'd encourage you to check it out if you happen to be going to Georgetown.

We're doing well in sustaining our membership, but encourage those that have not renewed their membership through Stuart Glickman to do so at the next meeting or send your dues directly to Stuart Glickman prior to February 15th. We will be revising the membership distribution list in February and dropping any unpaid members starting with the March newsletter. Here's the current membership status details.

Membership status and final renewal notice:

- 63 members with 50 paid up for 2008
- Last reminder—unpaid members will be removed from distribution lists after February 15th
- You can send your \$20 renewal (\$30 family) to:
Stuart Glickman, 2896 Glenora Ln, Rockville, MD 20850.

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[Maple Vessel](#)
[1995](#)
[Phil Brown](#)

[turned, sanded, and
varnished maple](#)

[Smithsonian American
Art Museum](#)



Editor's Viewpoint (Bert Bleckwenn)

(Continued from page 6)

Don't forget to register for the AAW Symposium 2008 to be held June 20-22, 2008 in Richmond, Virginia. Online registration is now available through the [Members Only access point located here](#). Additional links to the online symposium registration page are available on the main [2008 Symposium Web-page](#).

See you at the next meeting on February 7th!

Lending Library - New Additions (Clif Poodry)

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

The current edition of *American Woodturner* was donated by Gary Guenther.

Education and Training Opportunities (Phil Brown)**Southern States Symposium**

April 25 -27 Gainesville, Georgia - Georgia Mountain Center

Featured Turners: John Mascoll, Graeme Priddle, Avelino Samuels, and Betty Scarpino

www.southernstates.org/

AAW Symposium

Friday June 20 - Sunday June 22, 2008, Greater Richmond Convention Center, Richmond, VA

See the Winter 2007 issue of *American Woodturner*, page 16, or www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2008/

To aid in helping you find other members willing to share lodging, there will be a clip board at the February and future meetings to which you may add your name. You may also send an email to philf-brown@comcast.net.

Wood Turning Classes in Other Areas

There are 31 locations listed on the AAW web site for taking wood turning classes. See: www.woodturner.org/resources/schools.cfm,. Most locations are far away and would require several days to a week away from home. Two schools of particular interest, that also offer other craft skill courses of potential interest to your spouse include:

Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts, www.arrowmont.org

John C. Campbell Folk School, www.folkschool.org

January Meeting Minutes (Gary Guenther)



Richard Webster



Mike Colella



Davis Library
6400 Democracy Blvd.
Bethesda, MD 20817

Twenty four people attended the January meeting. MCW Treasurer Doug Pearson collected the \$5 demo fees. Silent Auction and Show & Tell tables were set up. Show & Tell pieces were recorded and photographed by Mike Colella. We will have a new “helper” at the Show & Tell table starting in February. Richard Webster will be recording the pertinent information as pieces are brought in. Please work with him to get the sheet filled out with your name, type of turning, type of wood, and size. Mike will pick the pieces up from there to photograph.

MCW Vice President Clif Poodry handled the video library. Two items were rented. This is an excellent resource, and we encourage you to check something out. The inventory of available materials is listed on the web site so you can plan ahead for what you might like to rent.

I am always pleased to see the great camaraderie and rapport that our Members have developed with each other -- the pre-meeting discussions among attendees are very lively and friendly. MCW President Phil Brown welcomed participants, asked everyone to get a name tag and introduce themselves to someone they didn't already know. Our goal is for everyone to be on a first-name basis.

MCW Membership Chairman Stuart Glickman collected two \$20 membership dues for next year. At the end of the January meeting, we had 45 members signed up for 2008. (This means 18 members have not yet renewed.) If you haven't paid your dues for 2008 please take care of this with Stu immediately.

Over the past year, our Newsletter Editor, Bert Bleckwenn, has prepared outstanding newsletters each month, and we are going to select what we believe to be the best three to submit to the AAW newsletter contest. We suspect that only about one-third of our members are downloading the newsletter to read it, and we would like to encourage everyone to give it a try. The past newsletters are available on our web site (at the “Newsletters” tab on the left side) and have lots of interesting material that does not go out of date. The web site also has a nice search feature that can be used in conjunction with the Newsletters. Thanks to Bert, a printed copy of all 2007 Newsletters was available for perusal at the meeting.

Eliot Feldman and David Fry signed up to present a woodturning demonstration (lots of chips and action) indoors at the Strathmore Mansion Open House on Sunday, Feb. 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The exhibit of our turned work at the Davis Public Library (on Democracy Blvd. in Bethesda) is open for viewing until the end of the month, and photos of the two cabinets are currently shown on the MCW web site Home page. Phil worked hard all day, overcoming various obstacles, to set this up, and he did a great job of designing and constructing a very attractive display. We encourage you to go see it.

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January Meeting Minutes (Gary Guenther)

(Continued from page 8)

A nice selection of White Rhino sanding discs, Oneway gouges, and Trent Bosch handles and videos, among other things, was displayed during Show & Tell and available thanks to RJ of www.2sand.com. We expect that this will continue at future meetings.

A copy of the current issue (Winter 2007, Vol. 22-4) of AAW's journal, *American Woodturner*, displayed by Clif to show the article on turning cup sheaths, was entered into our MCW Library. If you're not already an AAW member and receiving your own copies, you can check out this issue to see what, you're missing. In my opinion, *American Woodturner* is one of the two best American woodturning magazines available, and it is always a joy to receive.

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. It is time to make reservations – particularly for the banquet. The website is now open for online registration.

Clif Poodry officiated the very spirited Show & Tell period. This is always one of my favorite parts of the meeting. An excellent selection of diverse and nicely-done pieces were presented and discussed. You can view them again below on pages 12-15 or by clicking the "January 2008" link on the Photo Gallery page of our web site. The two pieces that stood out for me were a gnarly boxwood trunk sculpted by mother nature and hollowed by Richard Webster, and a lovely "basket illusion" by Stuart Glickman. Richard also showed a massively-spalted red maple NE bowl. Michael Blake discussed his assortment of beautiful and functional tool handles. Stan Sherman brought a interesting assortment of bowls made from various woods purchased (for a pittance) at previous Silent Auctions. David Jacobowitz presented the results of his experiment with red veneer inlaid within a segmented hollow form. Clif Poodry brought a drinking cup sheath made per an article in the current issue of *American Woodturner*, and Eliot Feldman showed an extremely thin cherry cup with piercing. Please bring your work, completed or in-progress, to the February meeting.

The Silent Auction benefited more of our Members including some lucky person who went home with a beautiful, freshly-cut half log of willow donated by Richard Webster. If I were able to do any roughing right now, I would have bid that one up – whoever got it, please show us the result when it's done! Several people went away very happy with new wood to turn, and your Club treasury benefited \$34. Thanks to all our donors, with special thanks to Phil Brown who always brings something. We appreciate your continuing participation in this vital Club activity -- as always, please support this ongoing event by bringing in some blanks and hunks of wood to share with your friends.

MCW Program Chairman Eliot Feldman introduced our Demonstrator for the evening, Ron Brown. Ron is a professional turner with pieces at a number of galleries; his web site is www.treeturnings.com. In his very interesting and enjoyable demo for us, he rode the lathe like a cowboy, made the shavings fly, and showed us his techniques and tools for turning a natural-edge bowl from a round of beech. He also brought a nice selection of samples of his work illustrating great imagination with a very diverse assortment of woods and shapes.

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 one of the Officers.

January Meeting Demonstration

Natural-edge Bowl - Ron Brown (Gary Guenther)



There's something rewarding, deep inside, a joy, that comes from converting a hunk of wood into a shapely bowl – particularly a natural-edge bowl that carries with it the legacy of the tree. MCW was privileged to watch an expert, Ron Brown, perform this ceremony, if you will, at our January meeting.

Ron is a professional turner (<http://treeturnings.com>) who lives north of Baltimore and is a member of Baltimore Area Turners and Chesapeake Woodturners. He has studied with some fine turners of wood like Ron Fleming, David Ellsworth, Johannes Michelsen, and, most recently, Trent Bosch.

Here is part of Ron's artist's statement:

"As the trees come to me, they are green or freshly cut which means it contains 20-30 % moisture. Turning green wood is my preference. Recycling wood that would otherwise become firewood or decay as it lies on the ground, seems a better use of this natural resource. The trees I use to make my bowls and vessels have come down in damaging storms, or have been cut down due to development or disease. My own philosophy is not to destroy a healthy tree in order to create a bowl. I often use mineral oil to produce a soft, food friendly finish. Each tree has hidden surprises that cannot be seen without getting inside the tree. A knot, bark inclusion, a void, or insect holes are all surprises that give each piece a uniqueness that makes it a 'one of a kind'. I enjoy showing people what a tree looks like on the inside." I couldn't have said it better myself.



For his demo, Ron began with a beech round about 12" in diameter. After some comments about design and shapes, he got to work with his Ellsworth bowl gouge (with its long, swept-back wings). This is Ron's chief tool, and he finds it to be very flexible in application. He also uses a smaller, pointy, detail gouge with the bevel relieved, à la Ellsworth, Michelsen, Bosch, Drozda, etc. (I've got to make me one of those!)



While roughing the outside, Ron felt like adding a feature, so he incorporated a ridge representing a kind of base on the lower part of the bowl. It was cut so that the shape of the bowl was pretty much the same on both sides, as if the band weren't there. This is a very pleasing shape. That's what's great about woodturning – you can do anything you want to! After adding a tenon on the bottom, he roughed the outside quickly, with a



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January Meeting Demonstration

Natural-edge Bowl - Ron Brown (Gary Guenther)

(Continued from page 10)

variety of push and pull cuts, from bottom to top. He came at the bark edge from top down (to keep the bark on) and finished up with some light shearing or tangent cuts to smooth the surface.



Ron took a short break at this point to show us a group of his turnings that he brought along with him. There was quite an interesting variation in shapes and woods, and some pieces were still in progress. Vive la différence.

He resumed hollowing the bowl with the tenon reversed in the scroll chuck, and left the tail center engaged for a while as a safety measure to permit some relatively aggressive cuts. After a while, he removed it and the resulting stub, and continued hollowing with the piece held in the chuck only. At that point, it became a case of "ride 'em cowboy". In order to keep a better arm position, Ron got his right leg over the lathe bed. (I've got to try that too!) The theory here is that this gives bet-

ter tool control than leaning way over the lathe with your arm held out far from your body. While roughing, Ron cuts both ways depending on the ease and feel of the situation. Cutting in the "wrong" direction is not a problem as long as the only fibers you are tearing out are soon going to be removed anyway.



He then got serious, making his final cuts on the wings to determine the thickness of the bowl and continued the cuts all the way across the bottom to the center, maintaining a constant thickness to hopefully prevent cracking while drying. The Ellsworth grind (with its 65-degree nose angle) made it through the full, continuous cut, from wing to center, with no problem. Very versatile. Ron assesses the final thickness with his "digital calipers". Finally, we see the finished product being inspected by MCW Member Bill Casson.



Ron was very relaxed and confident at the lathe and made it look easy. I think we all came away with some new insights. Thanks Ron!

Show & Tell Camaraderie (Gary Guenther)



Show & Tell Table



Richard Webster
Natural-edge bowl
5x10" - Spalted red maple



David Jacobowitz
Segmented bowl
6x6" - Bocote W/Red veneer



Stan Sherman
Small bowl
4x7" - Spalted Hickory

Show & Tell Camaraderie (Gary Guenther)



Stuart Glickman
"Basket of Illusion"
5x4" - Cherry



Clif Poodry
Coffee cup
9x3" - Oak, stained red



Mike Blake
Tool handles
Mixed woods



Eliot Feldman
Open vessel w/ piercing
4x3" - Cherry

Show & Tell (Mike Colella)



Michael J. Colella

Mike Blake
Tool handles
Mixed woods



Michael J. Colella

Eliot Feldman
Open vessel w/ piercing
4x3" - Cherry



Michael J. Colella

Richard Webster
Natural edge bowl
5x10" - Spalted red maple



Michael J. Colella

Stan Sherman
Small bowl
4x7" - Spalted Hickory



Michael J. Colella

Richard Webster
Vessel w/natural side
9x4" - Boxwood

Show & Tell (Mike Colella)



Stan Sherman
Small bowl
4x4" - Walnut



Stan Sherman
2 bowls
3x4" & 3x5" - Apple



Stan Sherman
Small bowl - natural edge
4x5" - Crabapple



David Jacobowitz
Segmented bowl
6x6" - Bocote W/Red veneer



Clif Poodry
Coffee cup
9x3" - Oak, stained red



Stuart Glickman
"Basket of Illusion"
5x4" - Cherry

Seneca Creek Joinery - Reprint of Email from David Fry (Bert Bleckwenn)

Hi everyone:

Having just paid my first visits to Chris Holmgren of Seneca Creek Joinery, I'm eager to share my excitement about finding a place where tree professionals from all over the area bring their logs for milling, splitting, grinding, etc. Chris has hundreds of logs in his yard, some of which span over 4 feet in diameter. I just picked up a 14-foot burlled silver maple log from him at just a small fraction of what you would pay by the piece retail; same for a cherry log I also brought back. Keep in mind that the overwhelming majority of the logs--oak, poplar, pine, etc.--may not be of great interest to woodturners, but there is still some cherry and figured maple on hand. If you plan to go out to his place, just a half-mile off Route 28 near Lewis Orchard in Dickerson, call ahead to see what he's got and to arrange a convenient time to visit.

Chris represents one of the new breed of wood merchants. He's a cabinetmaker, turner, and maker of reproduction furniture and tools, as well as a tree products engineer. His organization has a Federal grant and state support to integrate all aspects of urban/suburban tree recycling. If turners show interest in what he's doing, he's willing to tailor his operations to fit their needs. Of course, Chris has to pay his bills as everyone else does, so he deserves fair compensation for his products and services. But where else around here can one find a large selection of logs and labor-saving equipment--saws, skidders with monster jaws, band and circular mills, kiln, etc.--and an extremely knowledgeable and good-humored guy to work with? And as I said, I paid out a pittance in view of my haul. BTW, I have no financial interest in his operation other than as an inspired new customer.

Contact Chris at 1-800-972-7453 or woodsurgeon@starpower.net or visit his Web site at www.woodsurgeon.com. I think you'll be pleased.

Best wishes,

David Fry, Cabin John

**Seneca Creek Joinery**

Chris Holmgren, Proprietor

19701 Peach Tree Road

Dickerson, MD 20842

(301) 972-7453

(800) 972-7453

F (301) 407-0369

woodsurgeon@starpower.net

www.woodsurgeon.com

TEASER - Do you know your lathes? (Bert Bleckwenn)

***** Let's have some fun! *****

So you think you're an expert in recognizing lathes. Well here's a real brain teaser for our members. What is the source of the lathe picture depicted below and who is the owner?

Send your guesses to Bert Bleckwenn (bableck@gmail.com). If no one is successful in making the correct identification in the next few days, I'll provide additional clues via email prior to the meeting.



YMMV (Gary Guenther) *Tips Hints Ideas Clues***Links to educational aarticles by Steve Russell**

I recently ran across a web site by Steve Russell, a production woodturner. He has posted a large number of very well-written educational articles on a wide variety of topics of specific interest to woodturners. Some of the articles are quite basic for beginners, and some delve into more sophisticated techniques. I find them to be practical, well thought out, and comprehensive. I have selected some of the ones that I found of most interest and included them below. Others are available from the index page and tips library. Although the name of the site is 'woodturningvideosplus.com', the articles are web pages, not videos.

INDEX PAGE: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/woodturning-education-articles.html

DRYING BLANKS

- Air drying with end grain sealer: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/air-drying-wood.html
- Paper bag drying: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/paper-bag-drying.html
- Boiling 1: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/boiling-green-wood.html
- Boiling 2: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/boiling-protocol.html

TIPS LIBRARY: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/woodturning-tips.html

- Cryogenic tool treatment: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/cryogenically-treated.html
- Wood stabilization: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/wood-stabilization.html
- Dealing with torn grain: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/torn-grain.html

FINISHING

- Oil finishes -- Reducing color change in light woods: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/oil-finishes.html
- Oil finishing products and techniques: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/oil-finish.html
- All about wax finishes: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/wax-finishes.html
- Microcrystalline waxes: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/microcrystalline-wax.html
- Buffing: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/buffing-wheels.html

DECORATION

- coloring, burning, metal leaf: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/decorative-techniques.html
- Using wood dyes: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/wood-dyes.html

CA GLUE

- all about CA: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/cyanoacrylates.html
- super glue tips and tricks: www.woodturningvideosplus.com/super-glue.html

Additionally, Steve sells videos and eBooks on his site. You can also sign up for his "eZine" – an excellent monthly electronic newsletter, containing more of the same types of articles, that will be automatically sent to your email address. I signed up. Check it out; I think you may find some things of interest.

Always use common sense. Things that work in one situation may not work in another. Follow all Safety Rules. If it feels wrong, it probably is; stop and rethink.

Your Mileage May Vary

Safety Tip (Gary Guenther)**Using an arm brace for hollowing**

A couple of recent threads on the Wood Central forum discuss the potential danger of using an arm brace when hollowing. The originals are at:

- www.woodcentral.com/cgi-bin/turning.pl?noframes;read=175533&v1=e2vrt43&v2=woodturning&v4=Japanese+chisel&v5=ly34ts5w
- www.woodcentral.com/cgi-bin/turning.pl?noframes;read=175665&v1=e2vrt43&v2=shellac&v4=Freud+bits&v5=n4bpyf9g

Turners have had arm and shoulder injuries resulting from having their arms effectively locked to the tool during a bad catch, as opposed to being able to have the tool jerked out of their hands. On the other hand, not only do many turners report using arm braces for decades without a problem, they go farther to express the thought that the better control they feel with an arm brace actually reduces the frequency and severity of the catches they experience. Furthermore, having a loose tool flying around can be dangerous too. There were also comments about the fact that the pistol grip part of the arm brace provides a better, more natural, angle for the wrist that can prevent tendonitis and repetitive use (carpal tunnel) syndrome.

Turning tools and techniques are very personal, and each turner has to achieve a level of comfort in their unique situation. The question comes down not to if you use an arm brace, but how you use it if you use it. There is a right way and a wrong way, and that is the point of this Safety Tip.

There was complete agreement in the above dialog about the fact that when you use an arm brace *it is very important to keep your elbow tucked in tight to your body*. Do not, repeat, do *not* hold the arm brace away from your body. The question that comes immediately to mind is: "How can I use it that way?" There are a number of possibilities. If you have a short-bed lathe, there is no problem. If you have a long-bed lathe, here are some possibilities:

- sit on the lathe bed (Ron Brown demonstrated this approach at our January meeting);
- work off the back side of the lathe; and
- reverse the direction of the lathe rotation (only if your chuck locks to the spindle and you know what you're doing!).

The bottom line is keep your elbow in tight to your body and move your body. This is basic turning technique. Don't be reaching out there where a catch can wrench your arm and shoulder.

Safety First and Always.

January 2007 AAW Board Letter (Phil Brown)**AAW Letter from the Executive Director**

January 2, 2008

Dear AAW Members,

Welcome to the New Year and best wishes from everyone at the AAW headquarters in St. Paul. We are enjoying a real Minnesota winter for a change, with plenty of snow and hundreds of skaters daily using the rink right outside our offices and gallery in historic Landmark Center.

2007 was a year of change for your association. I am honored the board selected me as AAW's first full-time executive director just over a year ago. After a year on the job I am more excited than ever about the association's continued growth and truly amazing record of accomplishment as well as by the potential to do even more to better serve our members in the future.

A few highlights of the past year:

·We welcome Tom Wirsing and Corey Anderson to the AAW board of directors and, at the same time, thank Tony Cortese and Sean Troy for their service to AAW during their tenure as board members.

·We have had several staff changes at AAW. Tib Shaw became the first full-time coordinator at the AAW Gallery of Wood Art in Landmark Center. Under Tib's leadership and creative initiatives we already are seeing increased visibility and attendance. Linda Ferber is the new AAW office manager. Linda brings years of administrative experience to her position and is a woodturner as well. She replaces Eunice Wynn who is retiring in March, 2008 after over fifteen years of service. We thank Eunice for her dedication and long service to AAW.

·The 2007 Portland, Oregon symposium was a great success, and we look forward to another well-attended symposium June 20-22, 2008 at Richmond, Virginia.

·AAW's membership base continues to grow. At the end of 2007 there were over 13,000 active members and 277 local chapters. AAW has members on every continent except Antarctica, and we are working on that! Our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your interest and support.

·The new AAW Star Chapter program that recognizes local chapters which achieve 100% membership in AAW is off to an excellent start with seven chapters so recognized during the first year of this program.

·Throughout 2007 the AAW board of directors engaged in a board development and strategic planning process designed to help focus time and effort on shared long-range strategic policy issues. The board approved a complete set of new board policies late in 2007. A new AAW strategic plan is nearing completion and should be ready for board review and adoption during the first quarter of 2008.

·During 2007 we acquired and installed new integrated membership database management software. This new software system already is making it easier for AAW members to renew or change their membership profile information, register for the annual symposium, order merchandise and cast ballots in the annual board election.

·Board, staff and professional members are working together to restructure the AAW Professional Outreach Program to better serve and recognize the needs of this group of AAW members.

These are just a few of the things AAW has been working on during the past year. As always, feel free to contact us via letter, email or telephone whenever you have questions or need information about the association or woodturning in general.

Thank you.

Lawrence Sommer

AAW Executive Director

Books for Wood and Tree Identification (Phil Brown)

This is list of wood and tree identification books tderived from a list hat Sheryl Kochman devel-
oped years ago. (Some books may no longer be available.)

Books for Wood Identification

- Identifying Wood: Accurate Results With Simple Tools, R. Bruce Hoadley
- What Wood is That: A Manual of Wood Identification, Herbert Leeson Edlin
- Encyclopedia of Wood (Art of Woodworking), Time-Life Books
- Fine Woodworking on Wood and How to Dry It: 41 Articles Selected by the Editors of Fine Woodworking Magazine
- Wood, The Best of Fine Woodworking Magazine
- Woodworker's Guide to Selecting and Milling Wood, Charles Self
- Wood: Classic Woodworking Woods and How to Use Them, Better Homes and Gardens
- World Woods in Color, William Alexander Lincoln
- Encyclopedia of Wood: A Tree-by-Tree Guide to the World's Most Valuable Resource, William Lincoln, Aidan Walker, John Makepeace, Bill Lincoln, Lucinda Leech, Luke Hughes
- Identifying Wood, Aidan Walker
- Textbook of Wood Technology: Structure, Identification, Properties, and Uses of the Commercial Woods of the Untied States and Canada, Alexis John Panshin

Books for Tree Identification

- The Tree Identification Book, George Wellington Dillingham Symonds
- The Pocket Guide to Trees of North America, Alan Mitchell
- Field Guide to North American Trees: Eastern Region (The Audubon Society), Elbert L. Little
- Familiar Trees of North America: Eastern Region (The Audubon Society Pocket Guides), Jane Friedman ed, Jerry F Franklin
- The Illustrated Book of Trees: The Comprehensive Field Guide to More Than 450 Trees of Eastern North America, William Carey Grimm
- Winter Tree Finder, May T. Watts, Tom Watts
- Tree Finder: A Manual for the Identification of Trees by Their Leaves, May T. Watts

Montgomery County Woodturners Newsletter

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



Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 7, 2008

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

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

Program: **Clif Poodry -
Coring System**

We're on the Web at:

www.montgomerycountywoodturners.org

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Exhibit Committee	Phil Brown, Hal Burdette, and Clif Poodry		