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NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2009 MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOODTURNERS MEETING...

DATE Thursday – September 10, 2009

TIME 7:00PM – 9:00PM

LOCATION The Woodworkers Club
 4950 Wyaconda Road
 Rockville, Maryland 20853
 301/984-9033



AGENDA 6:30-7:00 — Bring a chair, if you wish... please be sure to wear your name tag... meet and greet other members... register your items for **Show & Tell** with Richard Webster... make your bid on **Silent Auction** items... sign out and pay Cliff Poodry for videos from the club's **Lending Library**.

7:00-7:30 — Business meeting... **Show & Tell**.

7:30-8:45 — PROGRAM – Alan Hollar will demonstrate dealing with the peculiarities and challenges of burls.

[THERE WILL BE A \$10-PER-PERSON DEMONSTRATION FEE.]

8:45-9:00 — Pick up and pay for any of your items from the **Silent Auction**... help pack up and clean up the space.

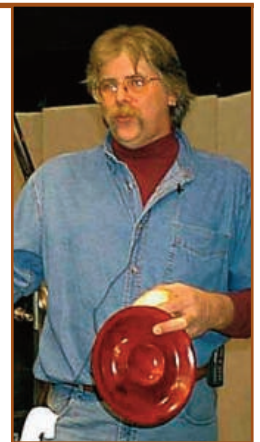
SEPTEMBER DEMONSTRATION
ALAN HOLLAR HOW TO HANDLE BURLS

Alan Hollar has been turning wood since 1986. He is self-taught, introduced to the medium when he needed to make replacement parts as a furniture restorer.

“Turning wood is different from all the other forms of woodworking, similar to playing a musical instrument. You put in hours of practice, days, and years learning the craft... the certain sound of the cut, the way the shavings look, observing profiles...all to internalize the techniques so that you can produce pieces without thinking.”

“I look for an elegance of line and form as these works happen...curves that transition sensibly and smoothly, sometimes including textures that complement or contrast a rugged rim or burl surface. My work is an intuitive process which is informed by years of experience.... However, some wood remains around the studio for many months as I walk by it and ideas germinate.”

Alan’s work is on display in several **Southern Highland Guild** galleries – **The Art & Heritage Gallery** at the Grove Arcade in Asheville, **The Crossnore Fine Art Gallery** in Linville, North Carolina.



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PHIL BROWN

I AM looking forward to our joint, juried exhibit with Chesapeake Woodturners, **Turned Wood 2009**, at the Columbia Art Center. I hope you will join us for the reception on Saturday, September 12th, from 3:00PM to 5:00 PM. CAC has publicized this exhibit with an image in *Galleries Magazine* for September, and included images in their fall class brochure. With the good work of **Hal Burdette, Carl Powell**, and possibly others, we will have images of the selected work on our web site soon after the opening. AAW mentioned this show in their August newsletter to local chapters and listed it in the Museum and Gallery Exhibit page of its Website.

Our **Second Annual Picnic** is coming up on Saturday, September 19th. **Michael & Sue Ann Colella** were gracious and generous hosts last year, and their back yard is a mini wonderland, perfect for a group. Please give us your RSVP as described elsewhere, so Michael and Sue Ann can plan the amount of food to have ready. [See Page 4 for more information and directions.]

At our October meeting, I would like to announce the name of a volunteer who will work on developing a slate of officers for 2010. We will announce the slate of officers in November for our election in December. Since I don't expect much turn over, this should be an easy assignment. I would like to hear from a member willing to contact our present officers and develop a nomination for any vacancies which may occur.

While our meetings focus on turning education, remember there are also schools and local symposiums all around the county offering classes of one day to two weeks duration. As you think about the

skills you would like to develop in the future, review the AAW Website page *Woodturning Schools Offering Instruction or Demonstrations*. And remember there is an AAW *Educational Opportunity Grant* program to help in covering fees. Funds for this program come from the auctions at the symposiums. This year in Albuquerque, the silent and live auction sales were the highest ever, netting \$62,825 for the grant program.

The Fall issue of AAW's journal *American Woodturner* will have a list of board candidates for 2010 and their statements. A ballot and mailing envelope will also be included, and is due before October 21, 2009. There will be no online voting. Your vote and participation in this election is valued.

AAW continues looking for more demonstrators for the 2010 symposium in Hartford, Connecticut. The deadline for applying is October 15th and instructions for applying are on the AAW Website. For more information or assistance, contact the AAW offices at...

inquiries@woodturner.org or call 651/484-9094.

Among the numerous good things **Gary Guenther** brings to our attention, is the 14 wood artists who will be showing at the **Philadelphia Craft Show** this November. At least 8 of them use turning in their creative process. You can enjoy images at...

pmcraftshow.org/artists_wood

If you do go, also visit the **Wood Turning Center** at 5th & Vine Streets in downtown Philadelphia.

Do join us for an interesting demonstration by **Alan Hollar** at our September 10th meeting.

TOOL AUCTION & SALE

PHIL BROWN

Howard County Woodworker's Guild will hold their **6th Annual Tool Auction & Sale** on **Saturday, September 19th**, from **10:00AM to 3:00PM** at the Florence Bain Senior Center • 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia, Maryland.

Open To All – New, Used & Antique – Buy and/or Sell. Items may be dropped off at the Center on Friday the 18th between 2:00PM and 4:00PM and on Saturday the 19th between 7:00AM and 9:30PM. Items must be removed by 4:00PM September 19th or become the property of the Howard County Woodworker's Guild.

A 10% Sellers Fee will be charged. All Items are sold AS IS.

For more specifics and up-to-date information, go to their website www.hcwg.org

For info call Howard Eiserike 301/776-5155 or Dorothy Shannon 410/461-0887

MEMBER NEWS

PHIL BROWN

❖ CLIF POODRY teaches a one-day **Beginning Bowl Turning** class at the Woodworkers Club in Rockville, Maryland on September 19th and November 21st. He alternates to a two-day **Advanced Bowl Turning** on September 15th & 16th, October 17th & 18th, and December 19th & 20th. For more information, see: woodworkersclub.com/practice%20class1.htm



CLIF POODRY

❖ MARK SUPIK offers full-day Saturday **Spindle Turning** and **Bowl Turning** classes between now and October at his commercial shop in Baltimore. The lathes and shop are a treat to see and use. The shop is at #1 North Haven Street in Baltimore, just a few blocks west from the Lombard Street exit off of I-895. 410/732-8414

- Saturday, September 19th [ALL DAY] – Bowl Turning
- Saturday, September 26th – Open Shop - Two Sessions – 9:00AM-Noon & 1:00PM-4:00PM
- Saturday, October 10th [ALL DAY] – Basic Spindle Turning [personalized project in afternoon session]
- Saturday, November 14th [ALL DAY] – Basic Spindle Turning [personalized project in afternoon session]
- Saturday, November 21st [ALL DAY] – Bowl Turning
- Saturday, December 12th [ALL DAY] – Basic Spindle Turning [personalized project in afternoon session]

Class size is limited to 5, with each student on his/her own lathe. All classes include tool use, safety, techniques, and practice in the morning with a focus on projects in the afternoon. Check website for additional class dates and information. Lunch from a great Baltimore deli comes with the class. 20% discount on standard \$150 class fee is offered to members of woodturning clubs.

More details at marksupikco.com/School/schoolcurrent09-1.html

❖ Members supporting the wood turning demonstration at the **Montgomery County Fair** in August that was orchestrated by Bert Bleckwenn were Tom Ankrum, Carl Powell, Clif & Colin Poodry, Bill Autry, Michael Colella, Tim Aley, Phil Brown, Bob Browning, and Paul Simon. [See photos on pages 10-11.]

DON'T BE SHY – PROMOTE YOURSELF. Let us know about your woodturning activities so they can be included in the newsletter each month. Send your information to **Phil Brown** at philfbrown@comcast.net, or call 301/767-9863 OR to **Michael Blake** at mb7298@comcast.net or call 301/589-1815.

FINANCIAL REPORT

BOB BROWNING

Account Balance 07/31/09.....	\$ 3,028.53
Income: \$250.00[Demo Fees] \$7.00[Library] \$70.00[Silent Auction].....	\$ 327.00
Expenses: \$200.00[Demonstrator] \$115.00[Demonstrator Travel] \$72.45[Library].....	(\$ 387.45)
CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE 08/31/09.....	\$ 2,968.08

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

STUART GLICKMAN

As of August 31th, the membership roster is 62.

MCW END-OF-SUMMER PICNIC SUE ANN & MICHAEL COLELLA

WELCOME all fellow woodturners to MCW's **Second Annual Picnic** – to be held at our backyard on **Saturday September 19th** from 1:00 PM till everyone gets tired of talking wood. We will provide the meats (hot dogs, burgers, and good Italian sausage), rolls and condiments, setups, and drinks (sponsored by MCW). All attending should bring a dish to share – picnic salads, fruits, veggies, dips, and deserts of any sort. (We all like sweets). AND most important, bring yourself and a spouse/friend if you choose – we have plenty of room.



My wife Sue Ann and I love to offer our backyard patio for picnics, and the effort to pull it off, BUT a picnic is only successful when a whole bunch of people come to enjoy it. Since we are in our third year with week night, monthly meetings, there isn't a whole lot of time to get to know each other, this is the time. Feel free to bring something to show off, we won't do anything formal, but I always like looking at everyone's work.

Please RSVP at 301/942-6850 any time just so we know how much food to prepare and I can keep track of who's bringing what (so we don't end up with 32 dishes of brownies). Our house is in Kensington, about 10 minutes from the Woodworkers Club. Our address is:

2806 JENNINGS ROAD • KENSINGTON, MD 20895 • 301/942-6850

DIRECTIONS from I-495 West of Connecticut Avenue (from Virginia or I-270):

Take Beltway to Connecticut Avenue Exit, bear Left at exit Y before light. **TURN LEFT** at the light onto **CONNECTICUT AVENUE**. You will be heading North, toward Kensington. Go about 2.5 miles into Kensington, to **PLYERS MILL ROAD**. (Firehouse on left corner). **TURN RIGHT** onto Pliers Mill Road. Go through the blinking light, 2 stop signs, down the hill & up to **JENNINGS ROAD** on your left (about 1/2 mile total). **TURN LEFT** onto **JENNINGS ROAD**. House is 2 blocks, on right.

DIRECTIONS from East of Georgia Avenue, on the Beltway

Take Beltway to Georgia Avenue, Exit 31A towards Wheaton (the 1st exit). Follow Georgia Avenue, north 1.3 miles. **TURN LEFT** at light on to **PLYERS MILL ROAD**. Go to the 4th right (0.5 mile) to **MAYBROOK** and **TURN RIGHT**. Go 1 block to **JENNINGS ROAD**, **TURN LEFT**. House is 4th on **LEFT**.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

PHIL BROWN

➤ **Maple Medley – An Acer Showcase at the AAW 2010 Symposium in Hartford, Connecticut.**

This will be the major juried exhibit at next year's Symposium in Hartford, June 18-20, 2010. They are looking for entries made from the many varieties of the Acer genus that showcase the strength, quality or character of maple as a material. Above all, be creative and imaginative. Following the symposium opening, the show may travel before heading to the AAW Gallery of Wood Art in Landmark Center, St. Paul, Minnesota. As many as three items may be submitted, but only one will be chosen for inclusion in the showcase. Items must be for sale.

The **deadline date** for initial photographic entries is **February 8, 2010**. The application process is demanding and lengthy. If anyone wants to enter a piece, I advise you to begin soon. See the AAW Website for the rules and the application process and forms at: www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/Maple/

➤ **Craft Forms 2009** has an entry deadline is September 17th and fee is \$40.00. **The 76th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature** due date for entries of September 26th. Details for these juried exhibits are in the August newsletter.

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

TIM ALEY, SECRETARY

PHIL BROWN called the meeting to order at 7:06 and welcomed 32 members and guests. Three guests introduced themselves, Fred Glock, Ethan Blake, and Murry Stein.



GARY GUENTHER'S FRIEND FRED GLOCK [L] TOOK SOME OF THE TERRIFIC PHOTOS FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER. ETHAN BLAKE [C] LOOKS ON AS HIS UNCLE PATIENTLY EXPLAINS TO ELIOT FELDMAN HOW A SCREWDRIVER ACTUALLY WORKS. MURRY STEIN [R] ADMIRES STAN WELLBORN'S BIRCH BOWL.

Hal Burdette took gallery photos of the *Show & Tell* pieces, Richard Webster organized their documentation, and Hal trucked the pieces back and forth between the tables.



The **Silent Auction** table overflowed into the parking lot! Phil Brown donated several pieces of Black Cherry including 2 large round blanks. Michael Blake provided two screwdriver sets, with turned handles of Pernambuco and European Pear. Paul Simon donated 3 large pieces of oak on his truck. Bob Browning donated split Walnut logs from the back of his van. Ed Karch also had a truck bed full of Walnut, Cherry, and Oak pieces for the taking.



Tom Ankrum, David Jakobowitz, & Bob Browning had a very quick, but heated, game of craps.



"TWENTY BUCKS ON NUMBER 7..."
"TWENTY BUCKS ON NUMBER 11..."
"NO, NUMBER 1..."
"YOU CAN'T BET ON NUMBER 1..."
"OKAY, EVERYTHING ON SNAKE EYES!"
"WE GOTTA STOP & WATCH THE DEMO!"

Entries were collected for **Turned Wood 2009**, our joint exhibit with Chesapeake Woodturners. The final deadline for submitting pieces for consideration is September 2nd. Post cards were available to distribute to friends and family.

Bert Bleckwenn spoke on our picture use policy that was updated and put on the website for comments. Bert also reported on the upcoming **Montgomery County Fair** turning demonstration, schedule, and his design for a display banner.



This year's picnic will again be at Sue & Michael Colella's home on Saturday, September 19th.

Lynn Bailets' birthday was recognized of with a surprise cake provided by his wife.



Clif Poodry lead a diverse and informative *Show & Tell* discussion of Apple and Hickory burls, aging Cherry, off-center spindles, wood movement, and large bowls.



Program Chair **Gary Guenther** introduced one of the world's top turners and AAW Charter Member, **Paul Fennell**, for the evening's demonstration.

AUGUST SHOW & TELL

HAL BURDETTE/GARY GUENTHER/TIM ALEY



GARY GUENTHER

TWO PIECES TURNED FROM THE SAME WORMY DOGWOOD LIMB.
LEFT 3 1/2" x 4" END GRAIN RIGHT 3 1/2" x 4" SIDE GRAIN



STAN WELLBORN 16 1/2" x 3 3/4" BOWL [BIRCH, WITH DYED OUTSIDE] PRESENTED BY PHIL BROWN



DENIS ZEGAR

6 1/2" x 4 1/2"
BOWL
[APPLE BURL]



AUGUST SHOW & TELL HAL BURDETTE/GARY GUENTHER/TIM ALEY



**ELIOT FELDMAN,
MICHAEL BLAKE,
AND CLIF POODRY**
[PIGNUT HICKORY BURL]

LEFT
13" x 3" BOWL
ROUGH CUT FROM THE LOG BY CLIF, TURNED
BY ELIOT, SANDED & FINISHED BY MICHAEL

ABOVE
TWO KNIFE HANDLES
MADE FROM SCRAP PIECES OF THE LOG



MICHAEL BLAKE
TOOL HANDLES

TOP 1 1/2" x 4 3/4" OVAL [SPALTED MAPLE]
BOTTOM 1" x 4 1/2" OCTAGON [SPALTED MOABI]

AUGUST SHOW & TELL HAL BURDETTE/GARY GUENTHER/TIM ALEY



TIM ALEY

12" x 5" BOWL [AMBROSIA MAPLE]

12" x 6" BOWL [AMBROSIA MAPLE]



ED KARCH

1 1/4" x 2" THREADED LID BOX
FOR VIOLIN BOW ROSIN
[CHERRY]



AUGUST SHOW & TELL HAL BURDETTE/GARY GUENTHER/TIM ALEY



9" x 6" NATURAL EDGE BOWL
[MAPLE, WITH TURQUOISE INLAYS]



RICHARD WEBSTER



9" x 5" TEXTURED EDGE BOWL
[CHESTNUT, WITH TURQUOISE INLAYS]



AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR

ALEY/BLECKWENN/COLELLA



MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOODTURNERS BANNER AT THE FAIR



BERT BLECKWENN
ORGANIZER EXTRAORDINAIRE!



MICHAEL COLELLA
SHOULD HE BE TRUSTED WITH A DANGEROUS FARM IMPLEMENT LIKE THIS? NO BLOOD ON THE GROUND, BUT WHERE ARE HIS THUMB & FINGERS?



COLIN POODRY
HAS THIS FELLOW PAID HIS MCW & AAW DUES YET? DON'T WE NEED TO GET HIM A PAIR OF GOGGLES THAT FIT AND HAVE HIM START TEACHING SPINDLE AND PEN CLASSES PRETTY SOON?



ANDREW ORTEGA
I BET HIS UNCLE CARL TOLD HIM THIS WOULD BE FUN! WE SHOULD PROBABLY MAKE THIS YOUNG MAN AN HONORARY MEMBER OF MCW!



BILL AUTRY
LOOKS RIGHT AT HOME, DOESN'T HE? DO YOU THINK BILL HAD ONE OF THESE LATHES IN HIS CABINET-MAKING SHOP ALL THOSE YEARS AGO?



BOB BROWNING
GREAT SHAKER HAT! BOB LOOKS PRETTY HAPPY TO SEE THIS OLD LATHE... MAYBE HE KNEW THE SHAKER WHO INVENTED AND BUILT IT.



CARL POWELL & BILL AMTMANN
SWEATING IT OUT OVER A COOL BEVERAGE! "YEAH, THE KID COMPLETELY BOUGHT IT WHEN I TOLD HIM TURNING THAT CRANK ALL AFTERNOON WOULD REALLY BE FUN!" YUK, YUK, YUK, YUK!

AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR

ALEY/BLECKWENN/COLELLA



TIM ALEY & HIS DAUGHTER ANGLEA

LOOK WHO'S TURNING THE HAND CRANK HERE! THIS IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF HAVING A DAUGHTER. THERE'S NO WAY UNDER THE SUN... ON THIS EARTH, EVER... THAT A GIRL COULD BE CONNED INTO THIS END OF THIS JOB. SHE'S NOT GONNA GET HOT, SWEATY, AND MUSS UP HER HAIR! SHE'S DOING TO FUN PART!



TOM ANKRUM & CLIF POODRY

TOM CAME TO THE MCW MEETING BEFORE THE FAIR WEARING THIS SAME COMBAT HAT AND A BELT & HOLSTER FOR HIS GOUGE... READY TO DO BATTLE... THEN, AND NOW IT SEEMS.



MICHAEL COLELLA & ONLOOKER

"SEE, AS THE LATHE IS SPINNING, YOU SIMPLY PLACE YOUR GOUGE ON THE TOOL REST, RUB THE BEVEL, AND SLOWING RAISE THE TOOL HANDLE UNTIL YOU..."



MICHAEL COLELLA & NEW FRIEND

"UUUUH! DO YOU MEAN I SHOULD LIKE TAKE THAT TOOL THINGY AND STICK IT ON THE SPINNING THINGY AND LIKE SCRAP SOME OF THAT LIKE WOOD STUFF?"



MICHAEL COLELLA & OLD FRIEND

"WOW! THIS IS LIKE REALLY COOL AND STUFF, YOU KNOW? I NEVER THOUGHT I COULD LIKE EVEN DO THIS. THIS IS AWESOME, DEF'NUNTLY!"



MICHAEL COLELLA

"ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID? ARE YOU TALKIN' TO ME KID?"



MICHAEL COLELLA & NEW BEST FRIEND

"HOLY MACKERAL! IF THIS KID STOOD UP STRAIGHT, HE'D BE A HEAD TALLER THAN ME! AND HE OUTWEIGHS ME BY 50-60 POUNDS! WHERE'S MY OLD FRIEND WITH THE PONY TAIL AND THE BLUE T-SHIRT? DON'T TELL SUE ANN I THOUGHT THAT."

AAW INFORMATION & NEWS

MICHAEL BLAKE

AAW MEMBERS BENEFITS – OLD & NEW, ALL GOOD

WE'LL be talking much more about the **American Association of Woodturners** [AAW] at coming meetings and in coming newsletters. We will focus here on highlighting the benefits that make membership in AAW more than worth the annual dues.

First and foremost, AAW membership includes an annual subscription to *American Woodturner*, the previously-quarterly journal of the Association. I've heard reference from several sources that this is not a *magazine*, but a *journal*. It sure looks like a magazine to me, but whichever word you use, it is an **exceptional** publication.

When I started working with wood seriously, I subscribed to every woodworking magazine in the country. When I started turning, I joined AAW and starting receiving the journal. I can honestly say *American Woodturner* is one of the top 3 or 4 wood-working publications in the world. And that includes *Woodturning*, published monthly in England.

Now, a subscription to *American Woodturner* is an even better value. The Board of Directors recently voted to publish 6 times-a-year, beginning with the first issue of 2010.

Next, I'll highlight a **new** benefit that has the potential of literally making members enough money to pay for their subscription and more.

AAW has added a section to their Website where members – only members – can offer their work for sale. The link to this new Gallery section is...

woodturner.org/resources/bb/

There are 3 sub-sections **Artists/Gallery Market Place** – for buying other member's pieces and selling your own. **Collectors/Museum Corner** – for buying Museum quality items. **Collectors/Museum Wish List** – for collectors, museums. and galleries to post items they want to acquire.

Spies have told me that AAW intends to redo their Website in the coming year so navigation and posting may be easier in the future. MCW members who are AAW members as well who have an interest in buying or selling should use the link above to get directly to this new Section.

For doubters, our demonstrator for September, Alan Hollar, is a big fan of this significant new AAW benefit. No wonder... my spies have also told me he's sold over \$3,000.00 of his work there recently.

CLICK IT

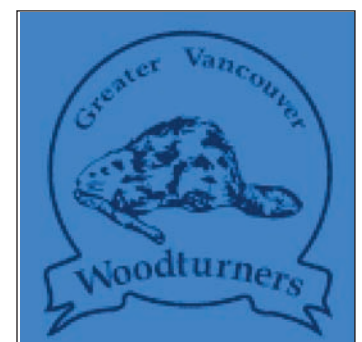
GARY GUENTHER

RECOMMENDED WEBSITE – www.gvwg.ca/Newsletters.htm

THIS is the index page for the Newsletters of the Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild. The GVWG is an AAW chapter in British Columbia, Canada. They have some well known members, including **Art Liestman**. They are very active and get top turners for demos. In recent years, I have made a point of viewing their excellent Newsletters because of interesting articles and good photos of their monthly galleries, which are often focused by a "President's Challenge".

It is noteworthy that this Newsletter was recently judged to be the Third best AAW Newsletter for 2009 – after MCW's and Chicago's, who tied for First Place.

Back issues are available on this page beginning with the year 2002. One very helpful aspect here is that this index page includes not only the links but short Tables of Contents for each issue. Great idea.



Alas, I cannot recommend the remainder of the site because it is largely out of date. There are several years of old Galleries that may be of some interest, but the Newsletters are the reason for coming here.

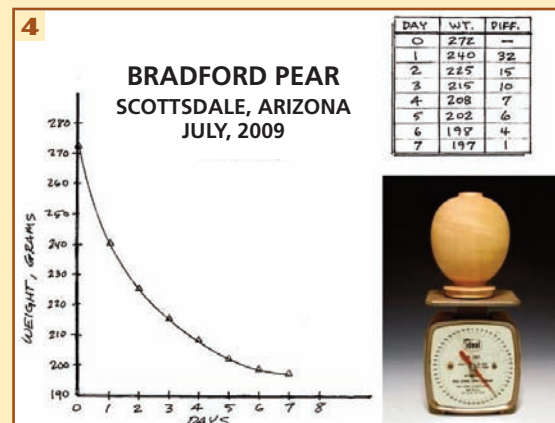
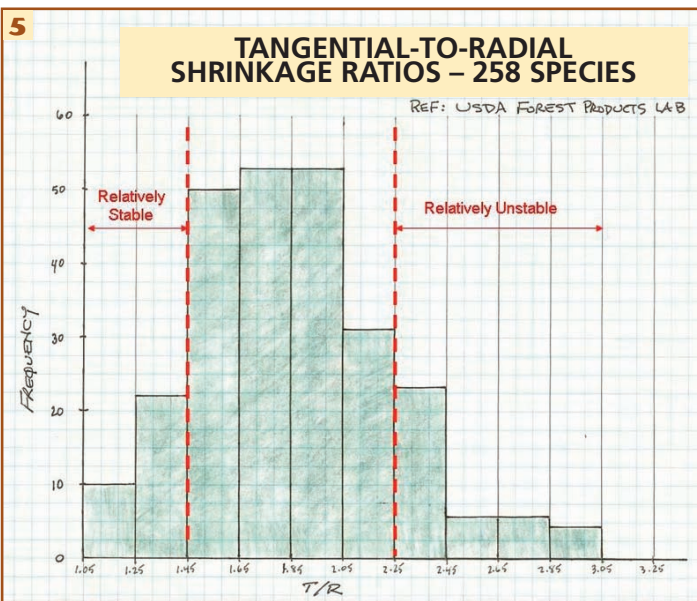
AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

J. PAUL FENNEL is a woodturner known around the world for his original and creative texturing, piercing, and carving enhancement techniques for bowls and hollow vessels. [1] Those of us fortunate enough to attend his demonstration at MCW's August meeting discovered an artist who is clearly deeply grounded in the underlying natural and technical principles that lead to success in woodturning.

With the two charts shown here [2 & 3] (and also on our Website), and clear, easy to understand sketches, Paul illustrated how tangential shrinkage is far greater than radial shrinkage. The differences in these rates of shrinkage can often cause serious splitting, cracking and distortion as a turned piece dries.

NOTE: While the chart below [5] illustrates the principle of ratios between tangential and radial shrinkage for 258 wood species, we plan to publish the precise ratios for specific species in the October issue of *Turning Journal*.

Next, Paul illustrated how he weighs a rough-turned piece to accurately determine when a piece is dry enough to complete. Simply subtract the weight from the weight of the day before. When the difference in weight stabilizes at 1 or 2 grams, the piece is dry enough. In this case, this piece of Bradford Pear took seven days to dry thoroughly. [4]



AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

Mounting an already-rounded blank of Bradford Pear, [6] Paul turned the basic shape of the vessel with a combination of spindle and bowl gouges. While working, Paul discussed his view of using formula proportions for shaping his pieces. He prefers to use his experience, eyes, and the feel of his tools to let the shape develop naturally. [7]

In addition to the basic curved shape of this vessel, Paul also turned a tenon and a shoulder on the bottom and a slight tenon at the top. Once satisfied with his basic shape, he uses a heavy-duty, square-end scraper to begin smoothing the outside surface. This scraper clearly shows its years of use and sharpening with about 4" of the blade remaining, but it still does a great job of smoothing gouge marks. [8]

To smooth the surface in tight areas the square scraper cannot easily reach, Paul next brought out the first of his own handmade tools – an sheer scraper, with a teardrop shaped cutting head with the cutting edge ground to 90°. [9]

[See *Your Mileage May Vary* on Page 17 below for a closer look at this , well-designed, and well-made tool.]

Next, Paul re-mounted the piece in a scroll chuck holding the tenon he turned earlier. He continued to use a tailstock center to ensure that the piece remains as close to being centered as possible. And, he really bears down with the chuck key to make sure the piece is held in the chuck a firmly as possible. [10]

After moving the tailstock out of the way, Paul used a long $\frac{3}{8}$ " bowl gouge (with his own handle) to cut a small, cone-shaped tenon that will fit in a hollow tail center. [11]

With the tailstock again moved up to keep the piece well centered, Paul used his square-end scraper to re-true and smooth the piece. Paul uses the tailstock as often as he can to maintain alignment, keeping the piece a true as possible. This attention to detail and process significantly reduces sanding. [12]

With the tailstock moved back again, Paul used the $\frac{3}{8}$ " bowl gouge to remove the cone-shaped tenon in the top so he can begin hollowing. [13]



AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

With the tenon removed, Paul next used a short bowl gouge to make a dimple to provide a start for a drill bit that will make the starter hole the full depth of the interior. [14]

The next step was carried out with a specialized tool many of us had never encountered before – a pneumatic “gun” drill.

This long drill bit has two holes running the entire length of the shaft. Once attached to an air source, and as the bit is advanced into the vessel, dust and chips are blown back out of the vessel around the flutes of the bit. [15&16]

Also note that Paul drilled this hole completely freehand with no support or guiding device other than his eyes and hands. Before starting this hole, Paul had measured carefully for the correct depth. Once he began, it was only a few seconds before it was done – if you blinked, you probably missed it. While not the kind of specialty tool for weekend turners, it was a real treat to see this gun drill in action. [17]

After drilling the beginning depth hole, Paul began enlarging the opening with a short $\frac{3}{8}$ " bowl gouge. He reversed the direction of the lathe for the hollowing process to allow him to work in a more comfortable position, with his elbow held close to his body. [18]

NOTE: When running the lathe in the opposite direction, the chuck can unscrew. It should be attached to the lathe spindle with a set screw. A set screw was not available on this occasion, so Paul used a good deal of extra pressure when tightening the chuck to the spindle.

He switched to a long, straight hollowing tool and did the majority of the hollowing with this tool, with the lathe still running in reverse. [19]



AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

Not to belabor the obvious, Paul Fennell is a real tool lover. The gun drill discussed above is a great example, but Paul also makes many of his own tools – handles, cutters, and blades.

A small array of Paul's tools are shown here [20]. The most unique are the square, cross-shaped tools he designed and made for hollowing under the rims of his vessels.

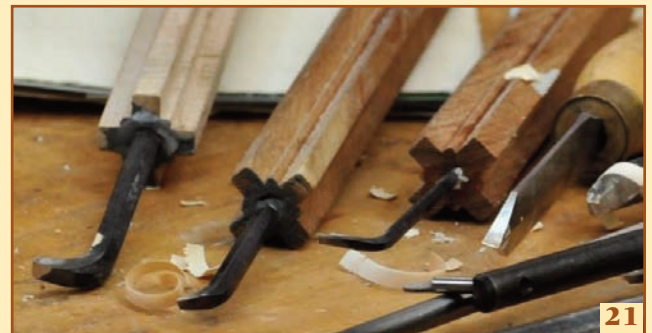
Shown in close-up here [21], Paul cuts these unusual handles on a table saw and uses Allen wrenches, ground to his own design, as the business end of these scraping tools. The shaped blades are glued into the handles with J-B Weld metal epoxy.

Because the cutting tips of these hollowing scrapers are not on the centerline of the shaft, these tools generate a lot of torque. Note that these tools have been ground purposely for reverse turning.

Returning to hollowing, still with the lathe in reverse, Paul illustrated and explained exactly why these unique tools are so practical. The shape of the handle provides a very stable grip, with virtually no chance of the tool slipping in his hand like a round standard-handled tool. This unusual handle shape and configuration provides a very secure grip for the thumb and the fingers, not just the skin of the palm. By turning in the reverse direction, stress and strain his hands and arms are significantly reduced. [22]

Next, Paul produced a handmade thickness caliper from his bag of tools and showed how he uses it to easily gauge the thickness of the shoulder section of his vessels. [23]

After inserting the curved end of the caliper into the opening [24], Paul rotated it to a position parallel to the lathe bed and moved the adjustable block to take the measurement.



AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

The piece Paul had shaped and rough hollowed to this point [25] was removed from the chuck and replaced with a similar piece that had more of the hollowing done previously.

This shortcut was used to better illustrate the next specialized tool Paul demonstrated – a fiber optic light source. Light is projected through a custom, shielded, flexible cable with a rigid tip. [26] The 150-watt unit is made by Fiberoptics Technology and can be acquired from Paul.



27

Our resident hollowing guru – Eliot Feldman – certainly appeared to be mesmerized by this fascinating tool and he wasn't the only one. [27]

With overhead lighting turned off, Paul fearlessly inserted the optical tip through the vessel opening, followed by a hollowing tool. [28]

He continued carefully with this “spooky” and somewhat “scary” process until he got the vessel walls to a consistent thickness under 1/8". [29]

With a fine-grit paper, Paul smoothed out whatever tiny ridges or scratches remained. Thanks to his careful scraping at previous stages of the shaping, Paul spent just a few moments sanding, as advertised. [30]



25



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AUGUST DEMONSTRATION GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

Paul next parted off the vessel at the shoulder [30] and then mounted a pre-turned cup-shaped jam chuck and trimmed it slightly on the inside [31] for a better fit for this piece. [32]

He then put high-adhesion, green masking tape around the vessel where it will contact the jam chuck for a tighter fit. He placed the vessel into the mouth of the chuck and gave it a little persuasion with the end of a gouge. [33&34]

Next, Paul taped the vessel to the outside of the jam chuck. He rotated the piece by hand and gave it a few light taps with his gouge handle, using the tool rest as a reference, until the piece no longer wobbled. [35-36]

Using his short blade $\frac{3}{8}$ " bowl gouge, Paul trimmed and smoothed the base of the vessel with a very light touch. [37]

Finally, using a tiny, pointed detail tool, Paul added his signature decorative grooves to the inside of the base. [38]

Paul inspected the results of the shaping and decorating the base of this vessel, now ready for his signature and some finish. [39]

Shown here [40] is the delicately contoured edge of the base and the four decorative grooves.



PHOTOS BY GARY GUENTHER, FRED GLOCK, AND TIM ALEY

YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY

GARY GUENTHER

PAUL FENNELLS UNIQUE TOOLS

COULD probably write a year's worth of articles from what I saw and learned at J. Paul Fennell's excellent demonstration for MCW. Blind hollowing in the dark and judging wall thickness by the intensity of the light transmitted into the vessel via a fiber optic bundle? [1-2] That takes things to a whole new level. I know JoHannes Michelsen uses transmitted light for his hats too, but it's still an awe-inspiring concept. The results are amazing. Just look at that wall thickness and regularity! [3]

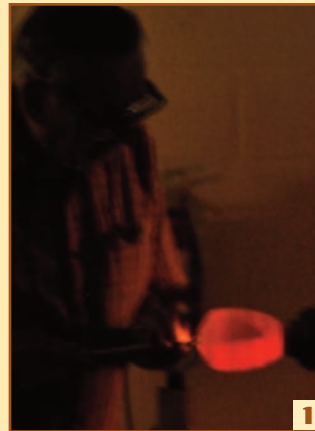
I don't think I'll be doing this at home, but there were many other nice, simple things evident in this demo that we might all take advantage of. Paul did not invent all of these things, but he certainly uses them to good effect, and if they're good enough for him, they're...

FIRST, is the homemade multi-tip shear scraper with the teardrop cutter. [4] It does a nice job in spaces that would be awkward to access with an ordinary tool, and it works without moving the tool rest. The round shaft permits it to be used easily at any angle. [5] This goes on my "make" list.

SECOND, is Paul's "Jimmy Johnson" caliper – a different type of measuring gauge that works well around difficult-to-measure shoulders at the necks of hollow forms with a small hole. [6] The two sides slide up and down relative to each other in a central metal or wooden block tapped for set screws, and the measurement at the tip is transferred to an equal measurement between the block and a calibrated spacer mounted on the bottom of the straight side. Beyond the neck area, he uses traditional calipers.

NOTE: In photo [7], Paul has not yet rotated the caliper to the angle at which the measurement will be made, down the axis of the vessel, parallel to the lathe bed.

THIRD, is a "gun drill". [8] I was unaware of these things till now, so I found this to be a novel approach. It uses compressed air passing through holes in the bit shaft to clear chips quickly and efficiently. [9-10, next page] I don't remember if he said where he got this bit, and I'm not going to go out and buy one myself, but what an idea! It sure works.



YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY

GARY GUENTHER

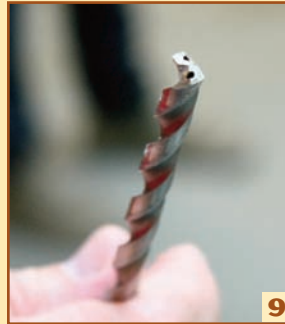
PAUL FENNEL'S UNIQUE TOOLS... CONTINUED

FOURTH, is cross-shaped handles for improved grip on high-torque tools, like angled hollowing tools whose cutting edge is not on the center line of the shaft. [11] He starts with a square wood blank and just cuts out the corners with a table saw. Several of his handles have a slightly more complex shape with a little more material left in place at the base of the cuts for added strength near the shaft. This shape provides a good, firm grip with the fingers and thumb, rather than with the skin of the palm. I'm still a chicken and prefer an outrigger (torque arrestor) on angled tools, but that's just me.

FIFTH, for final turning of the vessel foot, Paul uses a wooden cup chuck turned to fit the piece. [12-13] He often uses the same one over again for similarly-sized vessels. The fit can be adjusted in either direction -- by turning away a little material or by wrapping the vessel with a few rounds of masking tape. This tool permits him to complete the bottom without leaving a nib that has to be sawed and sanded off – that's a good thing. Push the vessel in to get a firm fit and then tap it with a tool handle to true it up, rotating it near the tool rest and looking for wobbles. The final cuts have to be done with a light touch because the vessel can shift if you get too aggressive. A little extra tape is there “just in case”.

SIXTH, we have this little detail tool for cutting super-fine decorative rings to finish the foot of a vessel. [14] It's a piece of $\frac{3}{16}$ " drill rod cut to length and ground with four faces into a pointed negative-rake scraper. (First grind the end into a symmetric wedge, next grind a small, shallow, negative rake on the top, and finally, grind a flat, triangular-shaped bevel on the end under the pointed tip, and you've got it.) The delightful mesquite handle is the frosting.

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.



LENDING LIBRARY UPDATE

CLIF POODRY

There are two new DVDs from the 2008 AAW Symposium. There are two new project DVDs, *Turning Projects From Scrap* by Bob Rosand, and a 2-DVD set *Projects Along the Woodturning Trail*, by Alan Lacer. We also have three new books. *500 Wood Bowls*, *The Art of Turned Wood Bowls*, Edward Jacobson, and *Wood Turning - From Tree to Table*, Bowers. I haven't been bringing the full collection of books to meetings, nor the large collection of tapes that we got from the Gold Coast Turners. **Let me know if there is a title you want me to bring to a meeting.**

VIDEOS

1. Vessels of Illusion, Trent Bosch [DVD]
2. Decorative Utility Bowls, Trent Bosch [DVD]
3. Sculpting Wood: Beyond the Lathe, Trent Bosch [DVD]
4. Two Ways to Make a Bowl, Stuart Batty & Mike Mahoney [DVD]
5. The Skew Chisel, Alan Lacer [DVD]
6. Son of Skew, Alan Lacer [DVD]
7. Projects Along the Woodturning Trail, Alan Lacer (2 DVDs)
8. Turn it On with Jimmy Clewes [DVD]
9. Cindy Drozda's Fabulous Finial Box [DVD]
10. Turning Projects from Scrap, Bob Rosand [DVD]
11. Del Stubbs (Recovery of classic 1985 video tape) [DVD]
12. The International Turning Exchange 2006 [DVD]
13. AAW Woodturning: Fundamentals of Sharpening [DVD]
14. AAW 2003 Symposium Techniques Vol.1 [DVD]
15. AAW 2004 Symposium Techniques Vol. 1 [DVD]
16. AAW 2004 Symposium Techniques Vol. 2 [DVD]
17. AAW 2004 Symposium Gallery & Critique [DVD]
18. AAW 2005 Symposium Techniques Vol. 1 [DVD]
19. AAW 2005 Symposium Techniques Vol. 2 [DVD]
20. AAW 2006 Symposium Techniques Vol. 1 [DVD]
21. AAW 2006 Symposium Techniques Vol. 2 [DVD]
22. AAW 2007 Symposium Techniques Vol. 1 [DVD]
23. AAW 2007 Symposium Techniques Vol. 2 [DVD]
24. AAW 2007 Symposium Gallery & Critique [DVD]
25. AAW 2008 Symposium Techniques Vol. 1 [DVD]
26. AAW 2008 Symposium Techniques Vol. 2 [DVD]
27. Dennis White Teaches Woodturning: Turning Bowls [VHS]
28. Dennis White Teaches Woodturning: Classic Profiles [VHS]
29. Woodturning: A Foundation Course, Keith Rowley [VHS]

BOOKS

1. *Turning Bowls* by Richard Raffan, Richard Raffan
2. *Hand or Simple Turning: Principles & Practice*, John J. Holtzappfel
3. *The Principles & Practice of Ornamental or Complex Turning*, John J. Holtzappfel
4. *The Practical Woodturner*, F. Pain
5. *Woodturning in Pictures*, Bruce Boulter
6. *Woodturning Techniques*, W. J. Wooldridge
7. *500 Wood Bowls*, Katherine Duncan-Aimone, Editor
8. *Rude Osolnik: A Life Turning Wood*, Jane Kessler & Dick Burrows
9. *The Art of Turned-Wood Bowls*, Edward Jacobson
10. *Mark Lindquist: Revolutions in Wood*, Robert Hobbs
11. *Enter The World of Lathe-Turned Objects From The Wood Turning Center*

12. *Re:Turning, Works by Stephen Hogbin 1970-1990*
13. *Put A Lid on It: Containing Human Experience*, AAW
14. *Turning 20 - Still Evolving*, AAW
15. *Step Up to the Plate*, AAW
16. *The Woodturners Companion*, Ron Roszkiewicz
17. *The Fine Art of Small-Scale Woodturning*, William R. Duce
18. *Turning Threaded Boxes*, John Swanson
19. *Adventures in Woodturning*, David Springett
20. *Small and Exciting Woodturning Projects*, James A. Jacobson
21. *Woodturning Traditional Folk Toys*, Alan & Gill Bridgewater
22. *The Fundamentals of Woodturning*, Mike Darlow
23. *Turning Wood with Richard Raffan*, Richard Raffan
24. *Woodturning: A Foundation Course*, Keith Rowley
25. *The Art of Turned-wood Bowls*, Edward Jacobson
26. *Wood Turning: From Tree To Table*, Bill Bowers
27. *Fine Woodworking's Woodturning Basics*, David Heim, Editor
28. *Intermediate Woodturning Projects*, The Best From Woodturning Magazine

BACK ISSUES OF AMERICAN WOODTURNER

1. *American Woodturner* - Volumes 1-8, 1986-1993 on CD
2. *American Woodturner* - Volumes 9-16, 1994-2001 on CD
3. *American Woodturner* - Volume 17, 2002 - 4 Issues
4. *American Woodturner* - Volume 18, 2003 - 4 Issues
5. *American Woodturner* - Volume 19, 2004 - 4 Issues
6. *American Woodturner* - Volume 20, 2005 - 4 Issues
7. *American Woodturner* - Volume 21, 2006 - Winter
8. *American Woodturner* - Volume 22, 2007 - Spring

GOLD COAST WOODTURNERS VHS TAPES

1. *Hand Thread Chasing*, Alan Batty
2. *Vessels of Illusion*, Trent Bosch
3. *Bowl Turning*, John Jordan
4. *Hollowing*, John Jordan
5. *The Basic Box*, Ray Key
6. *The Finial Box*, Ray Key
7. *Wood Turning With Bonnie Kline*, Bonnie Klein
8. *Turned Boxes with Threaded Lids*, Bonnie Klein
9. *Woodturning: Box Turning and Related Projects*, Bonnie Klein
10. *Turned Boxes*, Richard Raffan
11. *Turned Projects*, Richard Raffan
12. *Woodturning Wizardry*, David Springett
13. *Skill Building*, Mark St. Ledger
14. *Decorative Effects*, Chris Stott
15. *Decorative Effects and Coloring*, Chris Stott
16. *Turning Bowls*, Chris Stott

LENDING LIBRARY UPDATE, CONTINUED

CLIF POODRY

GOLD COAST WOODTURNERS VHS TAPES

17. *Bowl Turning with Del Stubbs*, Del Stubbs
18. *Bowl Turning*, Dennis White
19. *Boxes and Goblets*, Dennis White
20. *Twists and Advanced Turning*, Dennis White
21. AAW Who We Are, What We Offer
22. AAW Scenes from 1994 Symposium
23. AAW 1995 Symposium Instant Gallery
24. AAW 1995 Symposium Instant Gallery Critique and Demos
25. AAW 1997 Symposium Instant Gallery
26. AAW 1997 Symposium Techniques
27. AAW 1998 Symposium Gallery and Techniques
28. AAW 1999 Symposium Techniques V1
29. AAW 1999 Symposium Techniques V2

31. AAW 1999 Symposium Gallery Critique
32. AAW 2000 Symposium Gallery Critique
33. AAW 2001 Symposium Gallery Critique & Techniques 1 & 2
34. AAW 2002 Symposium Gallery and Techniques 1 & 2
35. AAW 2003 Symposium Gallery Critique
36. AAW 2003 Symposium Techniques V1
37. AAW 2003 Symposium Techniques V2
38. AAW 2004 Symposium Gallery Critique
39. AAW 2004 Symposium Techniques V1
40. AAW 2004 Symposium Techniques V2
41. Turned Wood 1997 Del Mano Gallery
42. Turned Wood 1999 Del Mano Gallery

TURN THE PAGE

GARY GUENTHER

AMERICAN WOODTURNER

I JOINED our professional woodturning society, the American Association of Woodturners, when I first decided to become a woodturner. For me it was an obvious choice. I wanted to receive AAW's journal, to enjoy the other benefits of membership, to feel a connection to the community, and to support the many important and worthwhile programs of the organization, such as the Chapter structure, the yearly Symposium, the Educational Opportunity Grant program, the Professional Outreach Program, the online Forum, and more. I have not been disappointed in any respect, and I consider paying my modest yearly membership dues to be a privilege.

I have always found the AAW Journal, *American Woodturner*, to be an excellent publication that maintains a nice balance between what I may be able to do and what I aspire to do, and between the techniques of the craft and the appreciation of the art. In my opinion, that balance has been maintained to this day. I often get a little antsy with anticipation the week or two before each new issue is due in the mail. I read through the articles quickly and then pick one or more for a repeated reading and study in depth. I doubt there has been an issue that I didn't get one or more ideas directly applicable to my own future turning techniques and projects. I file each issue carefully for future reference.

One of the nice things about learning and practicing is that I am not the same person I was a year ago. I have different skills and interests today than I did a year, or two, or three ago. Some articles that may not have interested me in the past will interest me very much today. I always thoroughly enjoy getting out a back issue of *American Woodturner*. I see "new" things. I understand things I may not have before, and I find projects that are now of interest and within my current skill level.

So, this month, instead of reviewing a new book, I am recommending that all you AAW members go to your collection of past Journals, pull out some back issues, and browse through them again. You may find it an enjoyable exercise, and find something new to make or to learn or to appreciate.

If you are not a member of the AAW, I recommend you take this opportunity to join. Starting in 2010, AAW will publish six issues each year rather than the current four. After being fixed for a number of years, AAW membership dues will be going up only 6%. What a great deal.

Published six times a year (beginning in 2010) by
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Paperback – avg 80 pages Dimensions: 11" x 8½"

Newsstand/Bookstore price – \$7.50 per issue

Included in membership in AAW. For information see...

www.woodturner.org/org/mbrship/

FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

GARY GUENTHER

► October 8th – John Jordan – Design, Hollowing, Carving, and Texturing

John has been featured in many of the major woodturning exhibitions in the past 20 years. His signature turned, carved, and textured vessels have received many awards and are featured in numerous private and corporate collections, as well as permanent collections of more than 25 museums, including the Smithsonian's **Renwick Gallery** and the **Victoria & Albert Museum** in London. His pieces are initially turned on the lathe, from green logs, using simple, home-made tools and basic techniques, evolved over years, that work for novice and experienced turners alike. Each piece is then carved and textured with a wide variety of hand and powered tools. John is in great demand as a demonstrator/teacher, and his writings and work are frequently seen in print publications and videos. His most recent article is in the Spring 2009 issue of *American Woodturner*, where his work also graces the cover.



► November 12th – Warren Carpenter – Bowl Turning

Warren Carpenter found his passion in woodturning in 1999. He says – “*There are few things better than finding a burl and figuring out the best way to turn it into artwork.*” Warren is a past president of the **Carolina Mountain Woodturners** and a frequent teacher of woodturning at **Arrowmont** and numerous other venues. He exhibits in many galleries in the Southeast and owns his own gallery in South Carolina. Warren has a unique sense of humor and teaches with tremendous energy. He will show us some interesting aspects of bowl turning with burl or crotch pieces.



► December 10th – Bill Autry – Techniques for Design, Layout, Carving, and Turning

For over 20 years, MCW member Bill Autry ran a cabinet shop specializing in high-end custom furniture. Many pieces included turned components, and often included reeding, fluting, and carving. Multi-axis turning was used to produce legs for tables and benches. Split-turning was used to create identical items to be applied to mirrors or cabinets. In the early 1990's he taught intermediate and advanced woodcarving for Fairfax County, including woodturning. He judged the *Artistry in Wood* show, sponsored by Northern Virginia Woodcarvers, for 6 consecutive years where many turned items were included. Designing and building items to customer specifications requires detailed drawings and computer-aided design (CAD) has been used over the past several years to create such drawings. This is very different from mounting a piece of wood on the lathe and shaping it as the mood suits. Bill will demonstrate both face-grain and spindle work including layout, design, and carving techniques for surface decoration on bowl and platter rims, and offset leg turning for an occasional table.



AND COMING IN 2010

► March 11th – David Ellsworth

If you have suggestions for future demonstrators, or would consider demonstrating yourself, please contact Gary Guenther by e-mail at <gary.guenther@att.net> or call 301/384-7594.

MCW MEETING SCHEDULE - 2009

Meetings are held on the Thursday before the second Saturday each month, from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM, at the Woodworkers Club in Rockville, Maryland. See our website for a map to the meeting site.

2009 MEETING DATES **JAN 8** **FEB 12** **MAR 12** **APR 9** **MAY 7** **JUN 11**
 JUL 9 **AUG 6** **SEP 10** **OCT 8** **NOV 12** **DEC 10**

MCW'S TURNING JOURNAL

A monthly publication of Montgomery County Woodturners – An American Association of Woodturners (AAW) Chapter.

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THE MCW WEBSITE IS <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

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Web Albums.....	Carl Powell	Candid Photography.....	Tim Aley
Mentor Program.....	Donald Couchman	Candid Photography.....	Gary Guenther
Group Buys.....	Stan Wellborn	S&T Recording.....	Richard Webster
Lending Library.....	Clif Poody	Wood Identification.....	Ed Karch
Still Photography.....	Hal Burdette	Photography Assistant.....	Donald Van Ryk
Exhibit Committee.....	Phil Brown, Hal Burdette, and Clif Poody		

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ROCKVILLE WOODWORKERS CLUB – woodworkersclub.com

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



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Club members can save 10% on all finishes & disc abrasives from 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 using on the link above and going to the club member login located on the lower right portion of the page.



HARTVILLE TOOL CLUB – hartvilletool.com

Members get a 15% discount, with MCW receiving a 3% rebate. If you have not signed up for this program, let Stan Wellborn know you want to do so. He will let Hartville know you are an MCW member and sign you up. Catalogs and ordering instructions are available or at meetings.

