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VARIOUS LIDDED BOXES

– BY –  
CLIF  
POODRY



## NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

### FEBRUARY 2010 MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOODTURNERS MEETING...

**DATE** Thursday – February 11, 2010

**TIME** 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

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



**AGENDA** 6:30-7:00 — Bring a chair, if you wish... 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 Clif Poodry for videos from the club's *Lending Library*.

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

7:30-8:45 — **PROGRAM** – Clif Poodry will illustrate techniques for creating lidded boxes and other small pieces and the use of jam chucks in the process.

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.

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

### CLIF POODRY – TURNING LIDDED BOXES AND OTHER FORMS USING JAM CHUCKS

**A**s a change of pace from making bowls, Clif often turns small boxes and other pieces, usually with a delicate finial. These kinds of pieces allow Clif (and other turners) to practice spindle skills and use small scraps of attractive wood that otherwise might be wasted.

Small pieces like these also offer the opportunity to explore new designs, apply variations on a theme, and consider new forms. Although there is much less wood to hog out than when turning a bowl, small pieces often take just as much time to design, turn, and refine.

One of the keys to making lidded boxes or other small items like goblets is the use of a friction chuck, or jam chuck, to hold the piece and help drive it accurately as it is being turned. For his demonstration this month, Clif will make a small lidded box, showing methods he has adapted and modified approaches he has learned from Cindy Drozda and other turners. Clif will also show other uses of jam chucks for unique lids to jars.



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BERT BLECKWENN

**FINALLY** received the AAW Commemorative Gouge that went along with the other award presented at our last meeting to **Phil Brown** for his contributions to MCW. I delivered it to Phil on the condition that he makes use of it and shows it off at our next meeting!

#### Status of Audio/Visual Recording of MCW Demonstrations

We have made progress with our plans to video tape all our demonstrations. At the January meeting, **Stan Wellborn**, **Stuart Glickman**, and new member **Morad Burgul** volunteered to setup and operate the equipment, once we get it assembled. **Phil Brown** obtained an AV stand and **Clif Poodry** donated a large TV to get us started. We were able to successfully check out its operation with both Clif's and my video cameras.

**Jevon Wolf**, Manager of the Woodworks Club, has agreed to store the AV stand and equipment, but we will have to set it up and take it down for each meeting, so our equipment needs to be portable and compact.

I'm using AAW's *Video Support for Woodturning Demonstrations* as the source for our initial design, equipment options, and sources. The next step is to find an acceptable mechanism to allow for switching between 2-to-4 cameras positioned at different locations, with multiple output capability to the audience monitor(s), a demonstrator monitor, a future DVD recorder and possibly, an LCD projector. I have an LCD projector that I'm willing to loan to the club, but Clif's experience with LCD projection was poor because of too much overhead ambient lighting.

After conferring with Phil and Clif, I'm anticipating an additional expenditure for Phase I of \$300 to \$500 for 2 mini-cams, tripods, a channel switching unit, cabling, and possible additional lighting. Phase II would be the addition of DVD recording capability for creating demonstration archives for our Video Library. MCW has a wireless microphone and PA system that we need to integrate as well.

If any members have A/V equipment they are willing to donate, please contact me. We are specifically interested in portable cameras with an S-Video output connection, tripods, microphone stands, and a DVD recorder. Also, any members who have experience with A/V technology, such as converting signals/connections, please let me know.

We will be testing the current equipment along with some loaned equipment at our next meeting, so Clif's jam-chuck demo will be our guinea pig.

#### Supporting the Woodworkers Club with Demonstrations, Workshops, and Participation

In return for the Woodworkers Club great support of MCW, I've been discussing with Jevon how MCW might provide demonstrations and/or activities at the Club. The Club needs 3 to 4 months lead time to advertise an event in their monthly brochure. My hope is to conduct 2 events during 2010. Following are some initial ideas, with different objectives, but I'm looking for member input and support in developing these ideas.



[1] **Weekend Turning Demonstrations.** At 2 to 4 mini-lathes, we would turn tops, pens, boxes, goblets, small bowls, etc. While the Club has one mini-lathe we can use, MCW members would need to provide additional mini-lathes. We would need to equip the lathes with plexiglass shields. Phil and I have mini-lathes available and we could potentially bring 1 or 2 of our mini-lathes on loan to the Warriors-In-Transition program at Forest Glen. Who is willing to take part?

[2] **Co-Sponsor Woodcraft's *Turn For The Troops*** program by manning lathes on Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, or another designated day. MCW would bring in several mini-lathes and MCW members would turn pens for the troops. We could enlist audience donation of pen-kits along with their assisting with the turning. Who is willing to turn pens? Are you willing to do this on Memorial Day and/or Veterans Day?

[3] **Skill Enhancement Workshops.** We could focus on a specific turning skill/technique with 30 or 60 minute hands-on sessions offered at a nominal \$15-\$25 fee going to the Club. A \$5 discount might be a way to sign up new MCW members. An initial session might focus on sharpening with participants bringing their own tools for sharpening and possibly their own jigs. We would need to augment the Shop's sharpening equipment with 2 or 3 sharpening stations. Would members be interested and willing to pay a nominal fee for this type of offering? Who would be interested in instructing in sharpening techniques?

Contact me with your thoughts and ideas, and if you are willing to get involved.

**IF YOU HAVE YET NOT DONE SO, PLEASE BE SURE TO RENEW YOUR MCW MEMBERSHIP AT THE FEBRUARY 11TH MEETING.**

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOODTURNERS 2010 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are \$20.00. Renewal is on an annual, calendar-year basis. You may pay your dues by check or cash at our monthly meetings or by check in the mail. Please mail your renewal dues check to —

BILL AUTRY • 9301 BALL ROAD • IJAMSVILLE, MD 21754

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS 2010 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

222 LANDMARK CENTER • 75 WEST FIFTH STREET • ST. PAUL, MN 55102-7704

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Membership categories are shown in the box below. Dues are paid on an annual, calendar-year basis and are tax-deductible, excluding cost of *American Woodturner* [new 6-issue cost will be available in December 2010]. You may pay your dues by check or credit card and mail this application to our national headquarters at the address above. Or, if you prefer, you may join AAW on our website...

[woodturner.org/member/MemberLogOn.asp](http://woodturner.org/member/MemberLogOn.asp)

Membership Category \_\_\_\_\_ Dues Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My check is enclosed made payable to *American Association of Woodturners*.

☐ I prefer to charge my payment to my ☐ MasterCard OR ☐ Visa credit card.

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY CODE \_\_\_\_\_ [3-DIGIT NUMBER ON BACK OF CARD IS REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL.]

### AAW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES/ANNUAL DUES AMOUNTS

#### INDIVIDUAL

GENERAL – \$48.00 FAMILY – \$53.00 YOUTH – \$19.00

SUPPORTING – \$125.00 BENEFACTOR – \$500.00 PATRON – \$1,000.00

#### BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

GENERAL – \$74.00 SUPPORTING – \$250.00 BENEFACTOR – \$650.00 PATRON – \$1,500.00

Our Supporting, Benefactor, and Patron memberships are for those who wish to provide additional support to the Association. AAW is a non-profit organization as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, membership dues, in any category [in excess of the cost of *American Woodturner*], are tax-deductible for federal income tax purposes. Thank you for joining and supporting AAW.



## FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

GARY GUENTHER/MICHAEL BLAKE

### ► SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 21st – 11:00 AM – *Open House at Mark Supik & Co. with a turning demonstration by Jerry Kermode.*

Mark & Nancy Supik are hosting Jerry & Deborah Kermode for Jerry's participation in the juried American Craft Council Show in Baltimore. [Details below.] On the Sunday before, Mark & Nancy will host an Open House at their shop at #1 North Haven Street in East Baltimore. At 11:00 AM, Jerry will provide a demonstration of his turning methods. Between 12:30 PM and 2:00 PM, Mark will conduct a shop tour and demonstrate the big lathes used in the shop. Then, at 2:00 PM Jerry will repeat his morning demonstration.

At [marksupikco.com](http://marksupikco.com) you can find directions to the shop. You can find out more about Jerry and his work at [jerrykermode.com](http://jerrykermode.com). For additional questions, e-mail [nancy@marksupikco.com](mailto:nancy@marksupikco.com) or call 410/732-8414.



### ► SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 28th – 1:00 PM – *Visit to the home of Jeff Bernstein & Judy Chernoff to view their contemporary wood art collections.*

MCW members and guests are privileged to be invited to Jeff and Judy's home outside Laurel, Maryland to see the cutting edge in woodturning and wood art in these two collections that specialize in items made in the last five years. There are also older works by acknowledged masters. Jeff is current President of the Collectors of Wood Art. Don't miss this great opportunity to see two premier, private collections of wood art. Small desserts and drinks will be served. Directions are on the Future Meetings page of the MCW Website.

For more information, go to... [collectorsofwoodart.org](http://collectorsofwoodart.org)

### ► THURSDAY-SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 25th-28th – *American Craft Council Show – Juried Participation by 11 Nationally Known Woodturners & Bowl Turning Demonstrations by Jerry Kermode and Baltimore's Own Mark Supik on Sunday the 28th at 11:00 AM.*

Maryland's premier craft art show this year will feature the work of eleven woodturning artists from across the country. They are — Michael Allison—Storrs, CT [Booth#135], Kim Blatt—Fleetwood, PA [Booth#1131], Gordon Browning—Viola, WI [Booth#836], Allen Davis—Waynesville, NC [Booth#2011], Albert Hall III—Lawrenceville, GA [Booth#4213], Craig Kassin—Franklinton, NC [Booth#133], James Keller—Richmond, TX [Booth#3703], Jerry Kermode—Sebastopol, CA [Booth#2205], Vernon Leibrant—Everson, WA [Booth#3603], Ted McLean—Houston, TX [Booth#1317], Mark Nantz—Colchester, CT [Booth#833].



The show is held at the Baltimore Convention Center at One West Pratt Street.

#### HOURS —

Thursday — 10:00 AM–6:00 PM  
Friday — 10:00 AM–9:00 PM  
Saturday — 10:00 AM–6:00 PM  
Sunday — 10:00 AM–5:00 PM

ADMISSION \$14—One Day, \$20—Two Days  
ACC Members & children 12&under FREE



## MEMBER NEWS

**PHIL BROWN/MICHAEL BLAKE**

- ❖ **CLIF POODRY** teaches a one day Introduction To Bowl Turning on March 21st, May 16th, and July 25th, and alternates monthly with a two day Advanced Bowl Turning on February 21st-22nd, April 18th-19th, June 21st-22nd, and August 15th-16th at the Woodworkers Club in Rockville, Maryland. For more information see:

[woodworkersclub.com/practice%20class1.htm](http://woodworkersclub.com/practice%20class1.htm)

- ❖ **DAVID JACOBOWITZ** is displaying 9 segmented and 9 other pieces in wall cases in the reception area near Admissions in the Hatfield Building (New Clinical Center) at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, from January 15th to March 5th.



CLIF POODRY

- ❖ **STAN WELLBORN** co-authored (with Dick Gerard) one article in the February 2010 issue of *American Woodturner* entitled *Mastering The Four-Jaw Scroll Chuck* [p.47]... and wrote another article in the same issue all by himself entitled *New Law Will Monitor Safety of Handmade Items* [p.10]. This article focuses on destructive, unintended consequences for small manufacturers and handicrafters of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. Intended to protect against lead contamination from foreign companies, the regulations will require craftsmen like toymaker William Woods to spend in excess of \$30,000.00 to perform tests on 80 of the wood toys he makes and sells.

- ❖ **MARK SUPIK's** January–April 2010 schedule for full-day Saturday and Sunday Spindle Turning and Bowl Turning classes and Open Studio time at his commercial shop in Baltimore is now available here and on their website. 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.

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. Lunch from a great Baltimore deli comes with the class. \$50 deposit required and refundable up to one week prior to class date. \$120 class fee is offered to MCW members (a 20% discount).

Saturday, February 6th – Open Studio (lathes available)

Sunday, February 14th – The Right Start (Beer Taps)

Sunday, March 14th – Bowl Turning (knitting bowls)

Saturday, April 17th – The Right Start

Saturday, February 13th – Bowl Turning (end grain bowls)

Saturday, March 13th – The Right Start (fiber arts tools)

Saturday, March 27th – Open Studio (lathes available)

Sunday, April 18th – 2010 Bowl Turning

Additional details at [marksupikco.com/School/schoolcurrent09-1.html](http://marksupikco.com/School/schoolcurrent09-1.html) Call 410/732-8414 to register.

- 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 Bert Bleckwenn at [bableck@gmail.com](mailto:bableck@gmail.com) or call 301/634-1600 OR to Michael Blake at [mb7298@comcast.net](mailto:mb7298@comcast.net) or call 301/589-1815.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**BOB BROWNING**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| ACCOUNT BALANCE 12/31/09.....   | \$ 3,387.83 |
| INCOME: \$460. <sup>00</sup> [2010 Membership/Renewal Dues].....          | \$ 460.00   |
| EXPENSES: \$274. <sup>75</sup> [Trophy and AAW Gouge for Phil Brown]..... | (\$ 274.75) |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE 01/31/10.....                                     | \$ 3,573.08 |

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**BILL AUTRY**

As of December 31, 2009 the membership roster stood at 66.

As of January 31, 2010, 32 2009 members have renewed and 34 2009 members have not renewed.

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## **EXHIBIT NEWS**

**PHIL BROWN**

### ◆ **Potomac Public Library Exhibit – April 2010**

Be sure to bring pieces to our March 11th meeting for the exhibit at the Potomac Public Library on display during April 2010. Approximately 35 pieces of all sizes are welcome and needed, including wall-hung or easel-mounted platters. Only names and phone number will be displayed. Any sale is between you and the interested buyer after the exhibit is over. We could use new pictures of members turning at the lathe for this exhibit – either an 8x10 print or a JPEG file. Pieces will be available for pickup on May 6th outside the Kaplan home, or by calling Phil Brown.

Please download the Information Form from our Website. It is needed with your piece to prepare a label, an insurance list, and plan for installation. Please bring your pieces in a box, or well wrapped for stacking if in a bag, with your name on the container.

MCW will also be exhibiting at the Davis Public Library in June and at the Quince Orchard Public Library in September. Details in future newsletters and/or on our Website.

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## **CALL FOR ENTRIES**

**PHIL BROWN**

### ◆ ***A Lifetime Of Perspective – A Seniors' Art Exhibit at the Jewish Community Center***

For artists in all fields age 65 and over, this annual exhibit will run from May 16th to June 6th. Call Kandy Hutman, 301/348-3864, for an appointment to show her up to 3 of your turned pieces. One will be selected for you to deliver on Tuesday, April 20th. Space will limit the number of pieces and artists exhibiting. There is no charge to enter and no commission taken on sales. The exhibit is made possible through the generous support of the Deena and Jerome Kaplan Family in memory of Deena's parents. The Jewish Community Center is at 6125 Montrose Road in Rockville.

### ◆ ***Design In Wood Exhibition 2010 – San Diego, California***

Design in Wood is co-sponsored by the San Diego Fine Woodworkers Association and the San Diego County Fair. It is the largest juried woodworking exhibition of its type anywhere. The exhibition is open to all interested adult woodworkers. There are three classes for woodturners to enter pieces:

Class 14 Wood Turning – Center Work: Parallel to the ways of the lathe

Class 15 Wood Turning – Embellished/Mixed Media

Class 16 Wood Turning Laminated/Segmented

An entry form can be downloaded from [sdfwa.org/2010DIWEntryForm.pdf](http://sdfwa.org/2010DIWEntryForm.pdf). Online registration starts in mid-March and all entries must be submitted by 5:00 PM PST on Friday April 30th. Submission is by digital photographs with your entry form. See [sdfwa.org/diw/2009/photogallery.htm](http://sdfwa.org/diw/2009/photogallery.htm) for a photo gallery of last year's winners. I see no reason why MCW members could not easily hold our own with the turners from the left coast.

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## **CRAFT SCHOOL CLASSES**

**PHIL BROWN**

### ◆ **Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts – Gatlinburg, Tennessee – 2010 Summer/Fall Workshops**

An online catalog of 2010 workshops at Arrowmont is available at: [arrowmont.org/Arrowmont2010Workshops.pdf](http://arrowmont.org/Arrowmont2010Workshops.pdf). Wood turning and wood working classes are listed on pages 34 to 42 of the pdf file. Classes begin May 30th and go through October 17th. Notice in the background of the picture on page 34 that there are two totem poles of turned wood objects created a few years after AAW held its organizational meeting at Arrowmont.

### ◆ **John C. Campbell Folk School – Brasstown, North Carolina**

The John C. Campbell Folk School has 58 woodturning classes scheduled this year, with classes running all year long. See the list at: [folkschool.org/index.php?section=subjects&subject\\_id=46](http://folkschool.org/index.php?section=subjects&subject_id=46)

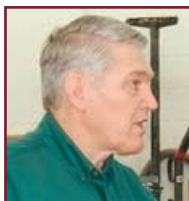
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## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

MICHAEL BLAKE

**BERT BLECKWENN** called his first meeting as President and the first of 2010 to order at 7:05. He reviewed the upcoming meeting highlights for 2010 that program chair **Gary Guenther** has scheduled.



Gary underwent by-pass surgery on December 30 and is doing well. He reported that missing this month's meeting and first Critique Session was almost worse than surgery – almost. Wishing him a speedy recovery and expect to see him at the next meeting.

The sheer volume of the Lending Library is making it impractical for Clif to bring everything to each meeting. The Library inventory is on the website. Contact Clif Poodry, if interested in borrowing something.

**Hal Burdette** is busy taking gallery shots of the Critique Session pieces. **Richard Webster** is assisting with documentation, and **Don Van Ryk** is ably assisting with the photography. **Tim Aley** and **Stuart Glickman** will be taking the candid photography throughout the meeting. Bert Bleckwenn captured the Critique Session on video.

Two new members joined at the meeting, **Mike Twenty** and **Morad Burgul**. Art student **Christina Verna** daughter of Mark Verna came to see the critique.



MIKE TWENTY



MORAD BURGUL



CHRISTINA VERNA

The club's bank balance is \$3,387.83 as of 12/31/09. MCW membership is from January 1 to December 31 and membership stood at 65 members as of end of year. Please renew your membership by paying your \$20 dues to Membership Chairman **Bill Autry** or Treasurer **Bob Browning**.

MCW members are not



MCW TREASURER, BILL AUTRY

required to belong to AAW, but are strongly encouraged to do so. Along with the individual benefits of AAW they provide insurance coverage for MCW sponsored activities but they require event participants and officers to be AAW members. Membership is \$48 per year.

Bert gave an update on the Warriors In Transition Program.

As our founding president, **Phil Brown** was recognized for his efforts in organizing and starting the Montgomery County Woodturners chapter in 2007 and in nurturing its growth and expansion over the past three years. The title President-Emeritus was conferred upon him and he was presented with a Crystal Statue inscribed *Phil Brown, MCW Founding President, 2007-2009, Montgomery County Woodturner*. In addition, an AAW 20th Anniversary Commemorative 3/8" Signature Bowl Gouge made of M4 Steel with a Cocobolo Handle has been ordered, but did not arrive in time for this month's meeting.



Bert gave an update on the plan to video tape each month's demonstration. The objectives are to provide live video display of demonstrators during meetings to enhance member experience, to produce a DVD for the Lending Library (not for distribution), and to provide video snippets for the Website.

## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

MICHAEL BLAKE

To get started:

- Clif Poodry donated a 37" Sony Bravia TV.
- Clif Poodry is loaning use of video camera, we will need to purchase our own camera.
- Phil Brown selected and purchased a tall AV stand with lockable cabinet
- The Woodworkers Club is willing to store the stand and TV in their Classroom.
- Bert Bleckwenn will donate a lockable/rollable storage case, if needed
- A trial run will be carried out at February meeting using loaned equipment
- Stuart Glickman, Stan Wellborn, and new member Morad Burgul volunteered to help set up, operate, take down, and store the equipment.

With Bert's preliminary ideas as a foundation, he, Phil, Clif, and Gary will seek help and advice from other members with experience and formalize a final plan.

They will research/recommend/make purchases of camera(s)[main and satellite], tripods/stands, cabling, dust covers, recording unit, splitter mic/speakers, etc.

Phil Brown introduced the three panelists for our first *Show & Tell Critique Session*... Carolyn Romano, David Fry, and Barbara Wolanin.



CAROLYN ROMANO



DAVID FRY



BARBARA WOLANIN



## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

PHOTOGRAPHS IN THIS SECTION BY TIM ALEY, HAL BURDETTE & STUART GLICKMAN

### DENIS ZEGAR 4" x 6" VASE [MANZANITA BURL, WITH TURQUOISE INLAYS]



**COULD** Denis possibly be attempting to charm and subvert two of the panelists even before the proceedings begin?

Barbara commented on the attractive shape and pleasing size of the vessel, but wondered if the inlays fight too much with the dramatic grain.

David confirmed how difficult Manzanita can be to turn and thought filling the burl inclusions might be a case of *gilding the lily*.

Carolyn agreed about the pleasing size and shape and also emphasized that the turquoise needs to be an accent.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### RICHARD WEBSTER 12" x 4" NATURAL-EDGE BOWL [MANZANITA BURL]



IN his opening remarks, Richard let us know his wife thought this was the *worst bowl he had ever made*. Fortunately, in the coming divorce, he is virtually assured to get custody of the bowl.

As he turned the piece, he kept running into imbedded stones that heavily damaged the tips of several of his gouges.

Barbara thought the bowl was unique, graceful, and elegant. David commented on how well balanced the bowl was for a natural-edge piece and liked the small foot. After careful inspection, Carolyn said she thought the angle of the foot was too sharp... it should have *flowed* from the sides more.





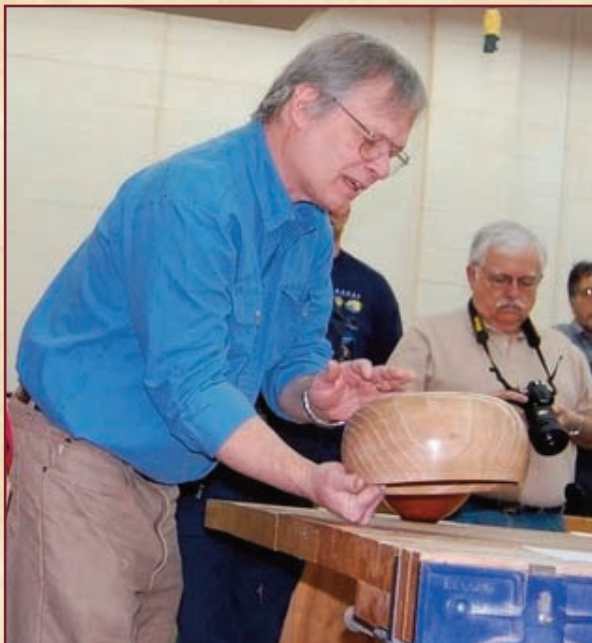
## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### STAN WELLBORN 9" x 5" BOWL [BLACK LOCUST]



**WITH** a coarse and prominent grain, Stan used a Liming wax to help fill the pores and accent the grain of this Black Locust. The wax turned a spot black, but the grain has a *flow* Barbara and Carolyn especially liked. Carolyn like the *rhythm* of the gain and how the rim of the bowl picks up light. David told Stan that Black Locust will darken with time and the current black spot will become less prominent. David also pointed out ring porous woods like Locust, Ash, and Oak can often give a piece visual *lift* with the rhythmic grain, but are ignored by many turners.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**DAVID JACOBOWITZ** 9" x 5" SEGMENTED HOLLOW VESSEL  
[LEOPARDWOOD, SATINE, ZIRICOTE, MARBLEWOOD, BLACK & WHITE VENEERS]



DAVID's segmented piece drew a considerable amount of interest. Carolyn very much liked the feel of the Southwest in the wood combinations and how the most intricate segments were in just the right place for emphasis.

David commented on how well the colors were integrated and so well balanced. As the turner on the panel, David pointed out the ingenious construction of the segments which allowed David to "build" the vessel instead of simply cutting away the excess.

Barbara found the shape and the combinations of wood pleasing, but prefers satin finish to David's glossy one.

We can but wonder from whence such a preference originates.



## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**CLIF POODRY** 2 1/2" x 5" SPIRITS VESSEL [WHITE ASH, WITH TURQUOISE INLAY – TURNED, CARVED, & PAINTED]



THIS simple, but surprising, piece is Clif's abstract vision of a woman wrapped in a blanket, wearing a turquoise necklace. Carolyn felt the addition of the turquoise gave the piece another dimension. Barbara said she got the woman-in-the-blanket feeling immediately, but thought the turquoise was a bit out of place. David pointed out that the piece was distinct, ingenious, economical, and a complete artistic statement. Even though Clif maintained his carving skills are rudimentary and used the paint to cover over *mistakes*. Despite that, David suggested Clif should make a future piece out of Desert Ironwood, without paint.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### STUART GLICKMAN 8" x 14" SEGMENTED, HANDLED VESSEL [MAPLE]



**INSPIRED** by Roman pottery, Stuart wanted this piece to look like a vessel that had been broken and put back together. Barbara was drawn to the complexity and the classical shape.

Carolyn felt Stuart had successfully achieved the broken-put-back-together feel with flow of the grain patterns that are continuous in places and static in others.

David was especially drawn to the lack of a finish on the piece, feeling it clearly enhanced the feel of pottery. David found the gourd-like shape very compelling, again adding to the feel of pottery.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### MARK VERNA 8" x 4" NATURAL-EDGE BOWL [WHITE ASH]



**MARK** reported that everything about this bowl simply worked out better than he thought possible. Carolyn commented on how the flat areas on each end gave the look and feel of handles. Mark said the flat areas just happened. Barbara liked the look of a basket with its simple, but elegant shape. Mark said the shape occurred as the piece was drying. David liked the boat shape, how great the bark looks, and the soundness of the natural-edge. Also, David spoke about this piece of Ash being from a slow growing tree with close, consistent growth rings. The shape and size is a function of the size of the tree – this tree being just the right size.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**DON VAN RYK** 7" x 2½" MUSHROOM BUD VASE [SPALTED MAPLE OR TULIP POPLAR]



**HERE** we have our own quiet giant – with a surprisingly whimsical flair – and his take on a bud vase. It's also a mushroom. The general consensus was that the wood is Tulip Poplar, not Spalted Maple.

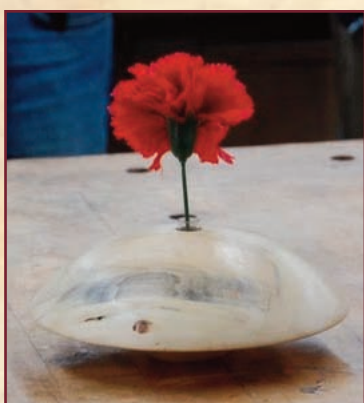
Barbara suggested that Don might consider adding a piece of darker wood to the center hole. She did not see what was coming.

Carolyn said she like the simplicity of the piece, but had not seen the underside and did not see what was coming either.

David turned the vase over to reveal the hollow-shaped underside and liked the surprise of that feature, but did not see what was coming.

Standing there with his best *aw shucks* look, Don slowly revealed what he'd been carefully hiding in his hand – flower for the hole. Maybe he should have been a magician – terrific misdirection.

Then David said he liked it better with the flower and it seemed Carolyn and Barbara agreed.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**TIM ALEY** 13" x 6" SALAD BOWL [BLACK CHERRY CROTCH]



**TIM** was so busy taking photos, we never managed to get a shot of him with his own bowl. Nonetheless, this is one of Tim's great large bowls.

Not only is this a spectacular piece of limb-crotch Cherry, but Tim also did a terrific job of bringing out what was there.

Barbara was impressed with the functionality as a salad bowl and its very graceful, pleasing shape.

Carolyn said she felt like this was several bowls in one and was very impressed with the extremely delicate, thin rim. But she also thought the rim cried out for a smaller base.

David was taken with the extremely active grain of the entire piece, not just the limb-crotch section. He also explained why the functionality of the piece as a salad bowl made a smaller, more delicate base impractical in this case.



## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### BERT BLECKWENN WINE BOTTLE SET [WALNUT]

COASTER 5" x 2½" — DRIP CATCHER 1½" x 2½" — STOPPER 1¾" x 2"



FROM his perch atop a workbench Bert explained he had made this set about 3 years ago and has never been particularly pleased with the shapes of the curves. Barbara thought the shapes of the three pieces were incompatible. Carolyn felt the thinness of the coaster rim did not go well with the more bulbous shape of the other two pieces. David felt the shape of the pieces did not work well with the shape of the bottle. Then, Carolyn removed the stopper, put the drip catcher on the bottle in the opposite direction, replaced the stopper, and *viola!* On the right below is a shot of how the re-orientation made everything work better.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**DOUG PEARSON** 10" x 15" HOLLOW VESSEL [SPALTED MAPLE]



*AFTER dropping off the face of the earth for about a year, Doug strolled into the December meeting with this exceptional hollow vessel with numerous dramatic voids. He revealed the top of the vessel was originally flat, but he had carved the edges for a more organic look to go with the spalting voids.*

Barbara liked the shape, the grain/spalting variety, and the organic look. Carolyn liked the carved top, but thought it could have been more definite, less tentative.

David agreed the top could be a bit more dramatic and organic. He was also impressed with the consistency of the overall profile of the piece, considering how many large spalting voids Doug had to deal with.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### ILYA ZAVORIN 12 1/2" x 2 1/2" PLATTER [HONEY LOCUST]



**THIS** graceful platter is just the second one Ilya has turned. He had put no finish on the piece and was looking for advice about what to use. Carolyn thought the platter looked good with no finish and David agreed.

Ilya did want to apply some kind of finish for protection but was concerned about getting the piece too dark, losing the subtle colors of the wood, and the possibility of future yellowing. David suggested Ilya could get an good idea of how dark a finish would make the platter by simply applying a little water. Bill Autry recommended using Water-White Lacquer available at Industrial Finishes on Southlawn Lane in Rockville. [industrial-finishes.com](http://industrial-finishes.com)

After a close inspection by Barbara and herself, Carolyn pointed out that the base came straight out of the platter but might look better if it were curved.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

ELIOT FELDMAN 6" x 9½" HOLLOW VESSEL [BLACK CHERRY]



AS a master of the hollow form, Eliot's vessel is deceptively simple, turned from an average piece of Black Cherry. It is the *line* of this piece that makes it exceptional.

The shape of the vessel *lifts* the eye and creates a feeling of lightness. What's more, the shape and line of the piece bring out what dramatic features the grain has to offer.

Both Carolyn and Barbara agreed that the shape and line were dramatic, yet graceful. The vessel has a pleasing, classical feel and look.

David called this vessel a *virtuoso* piece, pointing out how the flair at the bottom was critical to creating the proper line and lift.



## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**PHIL BROWN** 14" x 6½" BOWL "VORTEX" [SPALTED MAPLE]



**PHIL** named this bowl *Vortex* and after seeing it – and lifting it – you know why he chose that word. Carolyn was especially taken with how heavy the bowl is when it looks so light. Since Barbara has been urging Phil to try new forms, she commented how this piece is more of a sculpture than a bowl.

Phil explained how the spot he is pointing to here was an unusually large void and took a long time to fill properly so there would be enough structural strength. The inside shape of this piece is similar to Phil's well known "flare" vessels and he has used straight sides like this on other pieces. But it is the combination of the two shapes (made necessary by the voids) that make this piece stand out. Whether intentional or not, Phil has shown with this piece that a bowl's inside shape and outside shape do not have to be the same. David – who is familiar with Phil's body of work – called this piece *very impressive* with a *great, sculptural shape*.





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

**STAN SHERMAN** 14" x 4" SEGMENTED PLATTER [OUTER RIM MORADO, CENTER BOWL CEDAR]



**STAN's** questions about this unique segmented piece had to do more with function than with esthetic design. He had intended for the platter to be for use with cheese and dip.

But, he was concerned that chips would fall off the outer rim in its current form and David and Barbara both agreed the inside of the rim could be scooped out for that purpose. After close examination, Carolyn suggested Stan consider rounding over the outer edge so there would be an easy way to pick up the platter. The shot on the left below shows precisely how easily an old pro like Professor Sherman can charm and delight... Denis Zegar, take note. (Don't you wish you knew what Stan said to get this reaction?)





## JANUARY CRITIQUE SESSION

MICHAEL BLAKE

### GARY NICKERSON 7 1/2" x 2" BOWL [CLARO WALNUT]

THIS pleasingly sized and shaped bowl is Gary's first piece brought to *Show & Tell*. Carolyn, Barbara, and David all commented on the size and shape and clear functionality of the piece. Carolyn offered that the outer edge should be more rounded more so it's can be picked up more easily. Everyone who got a close look at this piece was struck by the dynamic grain of the walnut and David commented on how there was no graft line that occasionally shows up in Claro Walnut.



**BELIEVE IT OR NOT,** the members who brought items and the talented and knowledgeable panelists somehow managed to get through every piece close enough to our cutoff time as not to cause the Woodworkers Club staff any problems. Tim Aley took a shot of the clock on the wall to prove that we made it!

**Our first Critique Session was a clear success!** Thanks to Richard Webster for suggesting and pushing the concept... to the members who were brave enough to bring their pieces... to Barbara, Carolyn, and David for their frankness, clarity, and diplomacy... and to Gary Guenther for pulling the whole thing together so well it went off with nary a hitch despite his absence – sorry you missed it... we'll have to do it again, maybe twice!



## FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

GARY GUENTHER

- ♦ **March 11th – David Ellsworth** – *Small hole shoulder hollowing and turning two natural-topped, bowls [the second bowl turned at "production" speed], plus critique our Show & Tell items.*

An icon and living legend in the woodturning community over the past 30 years, David has become known as one of the premier creators of turned wooden vessel forms. He *invented* the technique of *blind turning* thin-walled hollow vessels through a small hole with bent tools. His first article, titled *Hollow Turning*, appeared in the May/June 1979 issue of *Fine Woodworking* magazine. His signature gouge grind is one of the current standards. He is a founder of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). He was AAW's first President from 1986-1991 and its first Honorary Lifetime Member. He has written over 50 articles on woodturning and operates the **Ellsworth School of Woodturning** at his studio in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. His works are included in the permanent collections of 35 museums, including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, and the Mint Museum of Craft + Design in Charlotte, North Carolina, as well as countless national and international private collections, including the White House. He was recently honored in Washington, D.C. as a Fellow of the American Craft Council. For more, see [ellsworthstudios.com](http://ellsworthstudios.com).



- ♦ **April 8th – Patrick O'Brien** from CAW will turn his signature winged, natural-edge bowls and his natural-edge goblets from branches.
- ♦ **May 6th** – Return visit to **Jerry & Deena Kaplan's** home and their outstanding craft art collection.
- ♦ **June 10th CAW's Tom Boley** will show how he turns his natural-edge "barking bowls".
- ♦ **July 8th – David Fry** will demonstrate how to turn small objects out of metal.

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

## SPECIAL FEBRUARY EVENT REMINDER

- ♦ **SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 28th – 1:00 PM** – *Visit to the home of Jeff Bernstein & Judy Chernoff to view their contemporary wood art collections.*

MCW members and guests are privileged to be invited to Jeff and Judy's home outside Laurel, Maryland to see the cutting edge in woodturning and wood art in these two collections that specialize in items made in the last five years. There are also older works by acknowledged masters. Jeff is current President of the Collectors of Wood Art organization. Don't miss this great opportunity to see two premier, private collections of wood art. Small desserts and drinks will be served. Directions are on the Future Meetings page of the MCW Website.

## MCW MEETING SCHEDULE – 2010

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.

|                           |              |               |               |              |               |               |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>2010 MEETING DATES</b> | <b>JAN 7</b> | <b>FEB 11</b> | <b>MAR 11</b> | <b>APR 8</b> | <b>MAY 6</b>  | <b>JUN 10</b> |
|                           | <b>JUL 8</b> | <b>AUG 12</b> | <b>SEP 9</b>  | <b>OCT 7</b> | <b>NOV 11</b> | <b>DEC 9</b>  |

## MCW'S TURNING JOURNAL

A monthly publication of Montgomery County Woodturners – A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners.

Editor: Michael Blake – Phone: 301/589-1815 – Email: mb7298@comcast.net

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

## MCW CONTACT INFORMATION

### OFFICERS

|                   |                |                          |              |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| President         | Bert Bleckwenn | bableck@gmail.com        | 301/634-1600 |
| Vice President    | Clif Poodry    | cpoodry@aol.com          | 301/530-4501 |
| Program Chair     | Gary Guenther  | gary.guenther@att.net    | 301/384-7594 |
| Membership        | Bill Autry     | bill_autry2004@yahoo.com | 301/524-7198 |
| Secretary         | Tim Aley       | taley16922@aol.com       | 301/869-6983 |
| Treasurer         | Bob Browning   | suznbob@verizon.net      | 301/774-0305 |
| Webmaster         | Carl Powell    | cnpowell@gmail.com       | 301/924-6623 |
| Newsletter Editor | Michael Blake  | mb7298@comcast.net       | 301/589-1815 |

### VOLUNTEERS

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

## MEMBER DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

**STAN WELLBORN**

### HARDWOODS, INC. • FREDERICK, MARYLAND – [hardwoodsincorporated.com](http://hardwoodsincorporated.com)

10% off all turning stock, lumber, moldings, finishes and hardware. 10% off on all Amana router bits and blades that list for \$75.00 and under and 20% off those that list for over \$75.00. 5% off all plywood and veneer products.



### ROCKVILLE WOODWORKERS CLUB – [woodworkersclub.com](http://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.



### 2SAND.COM – [2sand.com](http://2sand.com) or call 800/516-7621

2Sand.com is a coated abrasive specialist focused on fast service and fair prices providing superior sanding discs, sandpaper sheets, and woodturning tools to woodshops. MCW Member Discount is 10% (discount code available in the restricted area of the MCW Website).



### CRAFT SUPPLIES USA – [woodturnerscatalog.com](http://woodturnerscatalog.com)

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](http://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.

