

MARCH 2014

Montgomery County Woodturners

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

Next Meeting and Demonstration

The next meeting will be:

Date: **THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014**

Time: 7:00-9:30 PM

Location: **Woodworkers Club
11910-L Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 984-9033**

**Please park in the non-marked spots along
the side and in the back of the store!**

Agenda

6:45 - 7:00 PM 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... bid on Silent Auction items... sign out and pay Clif Poodry for videos from the club's Lending Library.

7:00 - 7:40 Business Meeting and Show & Tell

7:40 - 9:15 Program:

PM

9:15 - 9:30 PM Pay for and retrieve your Silent Auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.

March Program - Back To Basics with Chuck Engstrom

Our March Program is going to be "Back to Basics" by our good friend Chuck Engstrom, who is coming to us from his home in Chestertown, MD on the Eastern Shore. Chuck is a professional woodworker and woodturner whom you may recall from two previous visits, one as a demonstrator and one as a Critique Panelist. He now turns mainly for fun on his many lathes.



Because we have a lot of new Members, and I know a lot of you, new or not, would like some good, solid information on Basics, Chuck is going to share his extensive expertise with us in three important areas: 1) **sharpening**, 2) **holding** pieces of wood on the lathe so that the grain orientation can be varied after you make your first cuts and see how it needs to be balanced, and 3)

February Program - Back To Basics with Chuck Engstrom

sanding. Chuck will have handouts – either electronic or paper.

The “Sharpening” segment will cover all the basic tools, using a standard grinder with typical accessories and jigs. Mention will be made of the new CBN and diamond wheels.

The “Holding” lesson will be an introduction to the Al Stirt “bowl driver” – a simple homemade, chuck-mounted combination of a drive center and faceplate with two adjustable outrider bolts -- popularized by one of the founders of AAW, and one of my favorite turners. <http://www.alstirt.com/PDF%20files/BowlDriver.pdf> Placing the blank between a driver like that and the tailstock center you can move the piece around without restriction, both on the head and tailstock side, even after partial turning you can reorient the piece. It is very handy when turning a blank with the bark still left on, where you would want to get the best orientation for the balance of the piece and centering the grain. CHIPS WILL FLY HERE, as Chuck demonstrates the practical effectiveness of the Stirt Driver on roughing a natural-edge bowl.

The “Sanding” section will quickly highlight some new ideas in tools that Chuck likes – random-orbit sanders that he’s been having good success with recently, and a couple other items of various sizes. Chuck likes to use air-powered tools, so we’ll try to minimize the actual sanding (to keep the very loud compressor sounds to a minimum, and the dust down), but these tools are also available in electric form if that’s your preference.

Here’s a little more about Chuck:

After many years of occasional involvement with woodworking on boats and around the house, he began turning in 2000 when he went to work for a local shop that manufactures custom lighting fixtures, including a number of chandeliers with wooden spindles at their center. Most of the chandeliers were fairly modest in size, but he did end up making a few large ones, as much as seven feet tall!

He no longer works full-time at the lamp shop, but still does some of their chandelier spindles. Over the years he also took on work for a local business that produces posts for various applications: sign posts, lamp posts, porch posts, etc. For these, he turned on a big Hapfo lathe with 20" swing and 12' bed with a motorized carriage for the tool rest, and duplicator cutter head. Tool junkie? Yeah, I think that’s a fair assessment. For fun, he has tried just about everything that turning offers: bowls, boxes, platters, hollow forms, goblets, bottles stoppers, and all the rest, with great success.

Please note that our meeting date of 3/13 is one week later than what would be our normal date. There will be a \$5 demo fee.

Looking forward to seeing you there. Don’t worry about visibility – you won’t miss any of the action, thanks to our new, wall-mounted, 55" video monitor!

...GG

Special Points of Interest:

- **MEMBER DUES**

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GENERAL ANOUNCEMENTS

MCW Skills Enhancement Program (Bert Bleckwenn)

The Skills Enhancement Session scheduled for

from 10:00-1:00.

MCW Picasa Picture Gallery

Pictures from last month's meeting of our featured Demonstration and meeting can be found on the MCW Picasa website at:

FEBUARY GALLERY PICTURES

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb14Gallery#>

FEBUARY MEETING PICTURES

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb14Meeting#>

ERRATA

The link at the end of Page 17 in the February 2014 Newsletter should be

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJan14Program#>

Treasury Report, as of FEBUARY 25, 2014

February Income:

Membership renewals	\$ 200
Silent auction	37
Name tag	9
Library rental	6
Donation	<u>10</u>
Total income	\$ 262

February Expenses:

Equipment	\$ 1,039.32
Outreach-printing	132.00
Name tag	9.00
Demonstrator	<u>50.00</u>

Total expenses \$ 1,230.32

Total funds available \$ 3,271.14

President's Perspective (Tim Aley)

The American Association of Woodturners is our parent organization and a very good resource for woodturners. AAW produces a superior woodturning magazine, **American Woodturner**; a newsletter for beginners, **Woodturning FUNdamentals**; a member forum for information and photo gallery; and a Professional Outreach Program. They have just updated their website with more features, improved ease of use, and more member and local club access. Please check it out at www.woodturner.org.

As I have noted in the past, AAW gives back to members and to local club members with monthly prize drawings and the local club member scholarship drawing. Please note our lucky winner's picture! I have just received word that they are donating a free registration to the annual symposium to local club presidents. I appreciate this and hope that they continue to do this, so future club presidents will go to the symposium. If you like our monthly meetings with demonstrations and show and tell, you will LOVE the symposium! There are three days of demonstrations and a whole room of gallery items, not to mention all the major woodturning vendors.



Mike Colella and his new



I have my hotel room already booked and I hope to see you there!

Lastly, this is a good time to become a member or renew your MCW or AAW membership because April 1, 2014 AAW dues will increase by \$2. Membership may look a little expensive at first but they offer so much, consider joining the FUN!

Register today!
AAW Symposium June 13-15



MCW Meeting Minutes – February, 6 2014 (Jack Enders)

Minutes: Montgomery County Woodturners Meeting

Opening Remarks:

President Tim Aley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, welcoming members and any guests. Approximately 48 were in attendance.

New Members & Guests:

No new members or guests were in attendance for this meeting.

Tim again reminded everyone to wear their name tags. "Permanent" wooden name tags are available also for \$8.00. Fill out a form at the meeting or check out the process at <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/NameBadge.html>

Parking:

Members were reminded of the new parking restrictions, because of the limited amount of space in front of the building used by all tenants of the building for their retail customer base. MCW members are respectfully and kindly asked to park in the rear of the building. Reserved spaces in front are for retail customers' uses and limited to 30 minutes' time. Towing on behalf of all tenants will be implemented.

Dues are up for Renewal:

Treasurer Phil Brown reported dues are coming in but a few are still outstanding. He is collecting the \$20.00 annual dues for the coming year. Questionnaires for members to complete as an aid to assessing interests and skills for program planning purposes as well as for other group activities were made available. Questions concerning membership can be directed to Phil (philfbrown@comcast.net) or Elliot Schantz (Schantz@bellsouth.net).

Announcements and Updates:

Newsletter:

We would like to have more authors for Newsletter articles. Tim reminded members to share their experience by submitting stories to the Newsletter. Because February is a "short" month, members were advised to submit their stories about their turning experiences or other newsletter content and get them to Newsletter Editor Mark Verna by February 22nd (mark.verna2@verizon.net).

Bring Back Challenge:

Mark Verna won the previous month's drawing which was a hollow form Goncalo Alves bowl by Eliot Feldman. Mark's bring back item for this meeting was a cherry bowl. Duane Schmidt drew the lucky ticket for this prize. *[Members are reminded that the monthly BringBack Challenge is a free raffle exchange wherein the winner of a donated piece is obliged to, in turn, furnish a donated turned object or related tool, etc., for raffling*

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at the following meeting].

Wood Drying Bags-MCW Group Buy:

As a tip from last month's demonstration by Mark Supik, Bert Bleckwenn procured two sizes (16 gal and 33 gal) of industrial strength non-porous transparent plastic bags for controlling the drying of green wood blanks for the benefit of MCW members. They were made available for \$1 each, 6 for \$5, or 15 for \$10 at the Show and Tell table. They will continue to be made available until the supply is exhausted. See Bert (bableck@gmail.com)

MCW Brochure:

Tim announced that a new print run of updated MCW brochures is now available on the Show and Tell table, and asked members to help distribute them to prospective members.

Library Display Project:

Phil Brown still needs additional turned objects to be loaned to the Library Display Program. *(MCW participates in the Montgomery County Library Display Program, with several displays of members' work on month-long displays at several County libraries. It is a good opportunity for both our club and our members to connect with the greater community about our activities and talents. Phil (philfbrown@comcast.net) is the coordinator. We are trying to accumulate a pool of loaned turned objects from which to draw the individual displays, to avoid the often "last-minute" rush and panic of previous months in finding enough objects for the display. Members having turned objects for loan to this program are urged to contact Phil).*

Tudor Place Event:

The Tudor Place demonstration date in April is coming closer, and Phil Brown (philfbrown@comcast.net) noted that turned objects from Tudor Place oak wood for the event need to be in his hands by the end of February. Questions regarding this should be directed to Phil.

MCW and Woodworkers Club:

Tim led a discussion by members present about the continued mutual support of MCW and our host, the Woodworkers Club, prompted by a meeting with Matt and Chris of WC to discuss the ongoing relationship between both groups. It is to both organizations' advantage to encourage increased public interest in woodworking and the wood arts. MCW fulfills the woodturning aspect and in turn generates a market for tools and supplies sold by WC. For its part, the WC has generously made space and equipment available to MCW since its beginning and MCW members have sought ways in which to assist in the WC's success as a woodworkers' community resource. Both organizations have experienced an increase in membership with the result that space availability for demos and hands on activity is be-

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coming an issue needing attention.

To aid in guiding MCW's thoughts on how we can improve our 'footprint' and continue to positively interact with WC, Bert Bleckwenn drafted a comprehensive outline of MCW and WC interaction based on the MCW/WC meeting. (See details elsewhere in this Newsletter). To date, MCW has been experimenting with different meeting layouts and chair placements for demonstrations and show and tell, and with several different AV set-ups to enable larger groups to view the program activity. Among measures to be taken to resolve the problems, an assessment of lathe equipment and tooling will be made by both groups in the upcoming weeks to minimize the floor occupancy space. To assist WC in equipment maintenance, an MCW volunteer group signed up to work with WC on a regular schedule to clean, oil, and do minor repairs and adjustments on the lathes.

Other ideas to increase public interest included supporting an annual (or more frequent) Turn-A-Thon, to draw attention to the WC community resource, and to perhaps a monthly turning demonstration in the retail area to foster interest in turning and to remove any 'mystery' or doubts that a newcomer might otherwise have. Chris Johnstone (WC) pointed out that the average age of our turner group is 65, and it is to our interest to inspire the next generation of turners. He feels that people in general 'don't have a clue' about how to "do" things anymore, and when they are exposed to woodworking or woodturning processes, they can become enthusiastic participants. Some discussion ensued about how to attract attention by youth, including seeking partnerships with established youth groups. It was noted that Boy Scouts chapters in general show little interest in woodworking. The disappearance of vocational workshops in public schools has had a negative effect on participation, as has the increased homework load on students of today, with just about every spare moment they have being fully 'scheduled' with assigned work or sports, leaving very little time to pursue woodworking.

Tim encouraged members to continue to think about ways of engaging the younger generation.

Upcoming Scheduled MCW and Other Events of Interest to Members:

Upcoming Programs:

Tim announced the following changes and featured programs for upcoming meetings:

March 2014 Meeting: Unfortunately, Stuart Batty has cancelled. More information to be made available via members' email.

April 17, 2014 Meeting: David Ellsworth (note this is 2 weeks later than usual date), in conjunction with WC Course

June 2014 Meeting: Warren Carpenter

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September 11, 2014 Meeting: Molly Winton in conjunction with WC Course

MCW members were encouraged to sign up for the WC courses offered by these renowned woodturning experts. Flyers containing course details will be sent out to members when they are received as well as being posted in the WC retail area.

Members with ideas for future programs are urged to contact Program Chairman Mike Colella (mike@colelladigital.com), President Tim Aley (taley19622@aol.com), or Vice President Gary Guenther (gary.c.guenther@gmail.com).

MCW Skills Enhancement will take place on Sunday February 16 at the WWC from 10am to 1pm. Next following session is scheduled for Friday March 21st. These monthly sessions provide opportunities for members to experiment and practice new techniques, try new tools, and share acquired knowledge. Contact Bert Bleckwenn if you are interested (bableck@gmail.com). Starting this month, the format will be changed with the first 30 minutes or so dedicated to a specific lathe/tool/accessory enhancement technique. Assuming that MCW begins to support the WC Maintenance effort, the initial topic in February will focus on lathe maintenance and we will actually do lathe maintenance before any skill turning commences.

[Skills Enhancement sessions are "open" turning opportunities to perfect one's skills and techniques with mentoring and members who have participated enthusiastically endorse the usefulness of these sessions. Use of WWC lathes and supplies and tools by MCW are provided. They are held on one Friday or Sunday in alternate months. Participants must be active AAW members in order to participate and be covered by the AAW Liability Insurance Policy. The full schedule for the year is given on the MCW website and in the monthly Newsletter.]

MCW Wounded Warrior Project: The bi-weekly Pen Turning sessions with WRAMC's Wounded Warriors continue with great participation and enthusiasm, drawing about 5-7 soldiers at each session, with MCW volunteers (including Project Coordinator Don van Ryk) providing mentoring and one-on-one advice and supervision. The February 5th session had a disappointing mentor turnout...only two MCW members plus WC's Chris Johnstone...mentoring seven soldiers. Tim urged members to step up to support this great service project.

The sessions take place on alternate Wednesdays from 12:30pm-2:30pm at the Woodworkers Club with the next sessions being held on February 19th and March 5th and alternate following Wednesdays. Contact Don van Ryk (dvanryk@aol.com) to participate.

MCW members mentoring this program are uniformly positive about its effectiveness. Helping to assist in the rehabilitation of our wounded soldiers in developing interest and skills in woodturning, using pen turning as the focus, has been very satisfying to the soldiers themselves. Some of the soldiers have never before done any woodworking or woodturning. It is a wonderful effort that benefits both student and mentor. Tim suggested that anyone curious about the program should drop by during one of these Wednesday

MCW Meeting Minutes – February, 6 2014 (Jack Enders)

sessions and see for themselves what it is all about.

Thanks were expressed to those MCW member volunteers who have been able to show up to mentor these good people, and to the Woodworkers Club which very graciously sponsors this worthwhile program with lathes and space and the great help and participation of Chris Johnstone.

Show and Tell

Nine members brought 17 Show and Tell pieces, introduced by Clif Poodry, as follows:

Mike Colella: 5" x 9" Vessel (box elder)
Tim Aley: 6" x 6" Natural Edge Bowl (Tudor Place Oak)
Tim Aley: 7" x 2 ½" Bowl (Tudor Place Oak)
Tim Aley: Two 5" Bottle Stoppers (Tudor Place Oak & Stainless Steel Stopper)
Elliot Schantz: 7" x 5" x 2" Natural Edge Bowl (Maple)
Jim Allison: 9 ½" x 1 ½" Shallow Bowl (Red Maple)
Richard Webster: 8" x 4" Natural Edge Bowl (Spalted Maple)
Jeff Tate: 4 ½" x 1 ¼" Bowl (Tudor Place Oak)
Jeff Tate: 2" x 2 ½" Box with Lid (Tudor Place Oak and Holly)
Jeff Tate: 6" x 7" x 3" Split Bowl Clock (Ambrosia Maple, Bitter Nut Hickory)
Jeff Tate: 6" x 5 ½" Box with Finial (Ambrosia Maple, Oak, Spalted Maple)
Bob Grudberg: 2" x 1" Bird House (Hornbeam, Walnut)
Bob Grudberg: 2" x 1" Natural Edge Mushroom (Hornbeam)
Paul Wodiska: Two Roughed-out Endgrain Bowls (Maple) – In Process
Paul Mazzi: 5 ½" x 6" Coaster Set with Holder (Cherry)

See Gallery Link below for pictures;

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb14Gallery#>

Demo Program

The evening program featured William Peirce, introduced by Program Chairman Mike Colella. William's demonstration featured a unique approach to vessels and bowls using band-saw and sanding techniques instead of turning.

Attendees showed their appreciation with a hearty round of applause for William.

[Note: A more-detailed description of the program is found elsewhere in the Newsletter and photos can be viewed at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb14Program>

The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

David Fry wrote "Hemispheres of Influence: Woodturning at Yale", published in the *American Woodturner*, Journal of the American Association of Woodturners, February 2014 issue, pages 47-51. This is an expanded version of what is possible in future months and years for MCW members at Tudor Place through bowl sales in their gift shop turned from wood grown on their property.

TUDOR PLACE Nineteen bowls and two bottle stoppers were delivered to Tudor Place in Georgetown, Washington DC last month. Members creating and donating these pieces of white oak were **Tim Aley, Jim Allison, Phil Brown, Martin Cherry, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Duane Schmidt, Jeff Tate, Stan Wellborn, and Don Van Ryk**. Six of these pieces offered were for consignment sale in their gift shop, and five were sold by the next day. The director and staff were quite pleased with our contributions. If you will have more donations ready to bring to our March meeting, they will be delivered on March 28th, when I drop off equipment for the MCW exhibit on March 29th.

Fourteen members lending pieces for library exhibits this year are **Phil Brown, Bob Browning, Bert Bleckwenn, Tim Aley, David Fry, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Ed Karch, Russ Iler, Bill Long, Paul Mazzi, Jeff Tate, Richard Webster, and Stan Wellborn**. As a new addition to displays, space permitting, we will also show a group of pieces by guest demonstrators, which could include work by Tom Boley, Mark Gardner, Michael Hosaluk, Steve Antonucci, Mark Sfirri, and Liem O'Neill. As of this writing, public library exhibits will occur at Silver Spring in April, Davis in June, Quince Orchard in October, and Germantown in November. During 2015 at Potomac in January and again at Quince Orchard in September. Contacts are being made with additional libraries. Unfortunately not all libraries have display cases. The current plan is to return your pieces in December 2013 and obtain new or other pieces at the same time for 2015 exhibits. **Clif Poodry** teaches *Beginning Bowl Turning* during the evenings of April 5-6; and *Introduction to the Lathe* March 11-12, and April 28-29 at the Woodworkers Club. To register, call 301-984-9033, or go to classes at: <http://woodworkersclub.com/classes/> A minimum of three students are required to conduct a class.

Mark Supik's workshops at 1 N. Haven Street in Baltimore include these all-day woodturning workshops from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM for \$150/class, with a 20% discount for AAW and local woodturning club members. Lunch & materials are included.

The Right Start: Learn spindle turning, having fun making bead & cove cuts to create wine stoppers, mallets, and other useful objects on Saturdays March 15th and April 12th, Sunday May 18th, and Saturday, June 7th.

Bowl Turning Fundamentals. Using green wood, learn safe use of the lathe and tools, and basic bowl turning techniques in the morning, then choose your log, turn and finish a bowl in the afternoon on Sunday April 13th, and Saturdays May 17th and June 14th.

Advanced Bowl Turning: Tackle end grain turning or try a natural edged bowl. Or need a larger lathe for a special project? Looking for a bowl in your own piece of wood? This is a class for students who have completed the basic bowl turning class and are ready for the next step.

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

Sundays March 16th and June 8th.

The Next Step Morning Workshops from 9:00 AM to Noon are for students who have completed The Right Start or the Beginning Bowl Turning Workshops. First hour is a demonstration of a specific skill or project. Students then have the remaining time for directed practice of that skill. \$75. The next skill session is **Making Plates** on Saturday March 22nd.

Want to stay for the afternoon 1:00 to 4:00PM Bring a lunch and sign up for *The Open Studio* (for returning students) from 1-4 pm (\$30) on March 22nd.

To register, phone or e-mail Nancy Supik, 410-732-8414, or nancy@marksupikco.com

Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the MCW Newsletter. Send your information by the 25th of the month to Phil Brown, philfbrown@comcast.net, or call 301-767-9863.

Upcoming Outreach Activities - by Phil Brown

Tudor Place is planning a "Tree Fest" on Saturday March 29th from 10 AM to 3 PM when they will plant another sizable white oak to replace the tree they lost. Weather permitting, we will support the occasion with an outdoor wood turning demonstration using one of our mini lathes. A sign-up sheet for 4 demonstration volunteers will be at the MCW March meeting, with followup by email if needed.

Exhibit Opportunities

"BEYOND BOUNDARIES: WOOD ART FOR THE 21st CENTURY" is an exhibition sponsored by Collectors of Wood Art over the short but significant period of October 30 - November 2, 2014 at SOFA CHICAGO. The application deadline is March 20, 2014. See details at: <http://collectorsofwoodart.org/news/detail/550>

VMRC Juried Multimedia Art Exhibition occurs each year in the Park Gable Gallery at VMRC in Harrisonburg, VA. Entries are due by March 15th. A \$35 entry fee is charged, but no commission is taken on sales. See the exhibition prospectus at:

<http://www.vmmc.org/files/vmmc/29/29064c43-6389-4c52-a6c8-edcb897a5782.pdf>

City of Fairfax 38th Annual Fall Festival, October 11, 2014 to October 11, 2014. Application deadline March 13, 2014. http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=767&admin_verify_view=true

City of Fairfax 28th Annual Holiday Craft Show. November 15, 2014 to November 16, 2014, Fairfax High School, Fairfax, VA. Application deadling is March 13, 2014.

http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=766&admin_verify_view=true

EVENING PROGRAM – William P. Peirce, William Peirce Woodworking

Cutting, Gluing and Laminating – Techniques for Forming Vessels



Program Chair Mike Colella introduced the evening's program and our featured guest, William P. Peirce, of William Peirce Woodworking in Silver Spring, MD. His presentation centered on cutting, assembly, and finishing unique styles of bowls, vases and other container vessels without a lathe...not a typical MCW turning demo.



A career academic in Physics, English, Writing and Reasoning in high school and community college, William developed a 30-year parallel activity in woodworking and sculpture, eventually becoming engaged in the craft full-time. William learned to make band saw bowls from an article by Peter Petrochko, the 'grand master' of band saw bowls, that appeared in



Fine Woodworking, March/April 1983 (#39). He perfected his personal techniques for creating beautiful wooden bowls, containers and other cylindrical vessels without using a lathe. This is accomplished through band saw cutting out nested concentric curvilinear closed shapes, with angled edges from a single laminated work piece

and stacking and gluing these shapes atop one another to produce a hollow vessel form. Unlike most lathe-turned objects, these forms can vary from a true circular or oval cylinder or conic sections to reflexive wall cylinders or conical sections.



William's pieces are frequently abstract, drawing attention to the construction of the particular piece. His designs are original and made with fine craftsmanship. He believes that wood deserves respect and care when he transforms it from a once-living tree to a piece of art for someone's home. He is a believer in recycling wood left over from other projects, integrating them into a new project.

He enjoys an established prominent place in the regional arts community, with awards for his creations that are exhibited and sold at Strathmore Mansion and the Terasol Artisans Gallery and Café, as well as at Glenview Mansion Gallery in Rockville, Sugarloaf Mountain Craft Fairs, the National Craft Fairs Ltd., the Maryland Federation of Art Gallery in Annapolis, Partners Gallery (Waverly St. Gallery) in Bethesda, and Peirce Mill in Rock Creek Park, DC. The full range of his work can be viewed at <http://mysite.verizon.net/respcjwi/index.html>

He began by commenting on several 'sample' pieces on display, and passed around a few of them to the assembled audience. Some of his pieces have holes placed in them, and he said he is often asked why? His answer is that a hole is an artistic device to add an element of thought to the piece. It adds incongruity and irony; with a hole in the side, its contents could spill out. It also shows how thin and fragile the bowl is. It adds something visually interesting to an area of the piece that can often use some variety. He suggested that we think of it as a window into the soul of the bowl, and humorously pointed out that if there happens to be a



EVENING PROGRAM – William P. Peirce, William Peirce Woodworking

peg in your wall, you can hang the bowl from it! He pointed out that these bowls will hold dry things like fresh fruit, but not wet things like salads. Extra coats of food-safe varnish can adapt them for salad purposes, but they are not meant to contain liquids or sauces, nor should they ever be put in the dishwasher, oven or microwave.



After a brief introduction to the full scope of his wood art, William described his techniques for creating the many different bowl shapes and exhibited several samples of the variations in design that are possible. Forming the bowls begins with cutting out a series of concentric rings with a band saw from a single board. The board itself may be solid or laminated with contrasting individual woods. The

band saw table is initially tilted at a slight angle, allowing the sawing of concentric rings with a slanted edge from the same board. After the first ring is cut, the angle is increased slightly. Increasing the tilt angle with each succeeding ring produces different shapes, for instance, with 2-3



degrees, the shape tends to tall and thin, while larger increases of, say, 3-5 degrees, produces a rounder shape. He mentioned that one has to increase the successive angle by at least 2 degrees, or the resulting bowl wall gets too thin. Starting with the largest outer ring, it is glued atop the next smaller ring, and this sequence is repeated, gluing all the rings together, including the bottom piece, in a stack, forming the rough bowl. Using ten successively finer sandpaper grits in a drill press with foam-backed sanding pad, beginning with 36 or so and progressing to 400, the completed rough bowl is sanded to its final shape and smooth finish.



Describing the cutting of the concentric rings, the process starts with the basic board which may be plain or glued up contrasting woods. It is run through a planer with snipe laths on each side and the cutting pattern is drawn on the prepared board. He pointed out that the bandsaw blade entry creates a small kerf in the ring itself, in order to progress to the next successive inner ring. After completion of the cuttings, the kerf may be filled by inlaying a contrasting veneer to glue and close the kerf and leave an intact ring. Alternatively, the unfilled kerf may be glued closed to produce an "invisible" line. He uses 1/8" and 1/4" bandsaw blades and Titebond III® waterproof glue. He assembles the rings by stacking two at a time, gluing and clamping between two scrap boards. Sanding removes the glue squeeze-out when dry.



As an example in making a symmetrical mixed wood bowl, a pattern is drawn on the original board and cut into eight rings. The original board was created by starting with a 4-inch square of zebrawood and gluing two pieces of 4" x 3/4" lacewood on both sides; then the ends were sanded evenly and two more pieces of 5-1/2" x 3/4" lacewood were glued to form a square. Sanding the new ends evenly, the process was repeated with 1/4" yellow-

EVENING PROGRAM – William P. Peirce, William Peirce Woodworking

heart, ½" bloodwood, and ¾" ash, producing a square of nearly 10" x 10". The assembly time is paced by the time for glue drying and subsequent layups. Once the square was finished, it was sent through the planer to even out the tops and bottoms. A layer of 9" x ¼" maple was glued to one side to provide stability.

Next the band saw table was tilted to 12 degrees to cut out the first ring; with each new ring, the table was tilted an additional 2 degrees for 4 or 5 rings, then increased to 3 degrees for the remaining rings. The bowl was then formed by gluing and clamping two rings together at a time, matching the patterns, and letting the glue set overnight. This was repeated until the bowl form was eventually completed. Sanding followed, inside and out, with successively finer grits of sandpaper, using a 3" foam hook-and-loop disk mounted in a drill press to achieve the final smooth shape. A final rubbing with fine steel wool completed the shaping process and the bowl was finished with two coats of food-safe oil and varnish mix (Watco® Butcher Block).



William sketched out several cutting patterns for the audience, commenting on details of cutting angles and lamination patterns. The bowl bottom piece is solid, with a hollow ground (i.e., sanded) into the base. He discussed stacking with intermittent layers that allows the visual alignment to be accomplished by the eye, since without this separating layer, due to the geometry of the cut, it is not possible to accurately align each ring in a perfect pattern. The intermittent layer provides the disturbance that 'fools' the eye into seeing an aligned pattern.



He uses a variety of contrasting woods, including purpleheart, sycamore, bloodwood to accent the basic woods. The extent of the variations possible with this layering and gluing technique is seemingly endless, employing contrasting woods and arranging the alignment of the successive layers. His website (see beginning of article) shows the pricing of his various pieces, but he noted that the Baltimore Craft Show prices for his work varied from \$375 to \$2000, depending on size and complexity.

William presented a fascinating introduction to a wood art alternative to conventional turning that creates interesting, functional and artistic hollow vessel shapes, and members present expressed their interest and appreciation with many questions and a rousing round of applause at the conclusion of the program.

[For additional detail and photos, please access the MCW website at:
<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb14Program>

--Jack Enders, Secretary

Future Meetings (Mike Colella)

Please call Mike Colella at 301-942-2853 with your ideas

2014-2015 Meeting Schedule		
January 9, 2014 Mark Supik	February 6 2014 William Peirce	March 13 2014 Chuck Engstrom
April 17 2014 * David Ellsworth	May 8 2014 TBD	June 12 2014 Warren Carpenter
July 10 2014 TBD	August 7 2014 TBD	September 11 2014 Molly Winton
October 9 2014 TBD	November 6 2014 TBD	December 11 2014 Annual Members Critique Meeting
January 8, 2015 TBD	February 5 2015 TBD	March 5 2015 TBD

* one week later than normal

2014 Meeting and Skills Enhancement Capabilities & Schedule

**Update your calendars now so you won't miss MCW meetings and
Skill Enhancement programs in 2014!**

2014 MCW Meeting and Skills Enhancement Schedule			
Month	Meeting Date (7:00-9:00PM)	Skills Enhancement Day	Skills Enhancement Date (10:00AM-1:00PM)
January	Thursday, January 9 2014	Friday	January 10th
February	Thursday, February 6, 2014	Sunday	Feb 16th*
March	Thursday, March 13, 2014 *	Friday	March 14th
April	Thursday, April 17, 2014 *	Sunday	April 20th
May	Thursday, May 8, 2014	Friday	May 16th*
June	Thursday, June 12, 2014	Sunday	June 15th
July	Thursday, July 10, 2014	Friday	July 11th
August	Thursday, August 7, 2014	Sunday	No Session - Fair
September	Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014	Friday	Sept 12th
October	Thursday, October 9, 2014	Sunday	Oct 19th*
November	Thursday, November 6, 2014	Friday	Nov 21th*
December	Thursday, December 11, 2014	Sunday	Dec 14th

*** One Week Later**

Membership Application Form and Interest Profile

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

To become a member or renew, please print out, complete and either mail it or personally deliver it to Bill Autry along with a check for \$20.00, payable to Montgomery County Woodturners. New membership in the 2nd quarter is \$15, 3rd quarter \$10, and 4th quarter \$5. A Family membership is \$30.00/yr. Please ensure you include your email address, as all communications are electronic via our website and periodic email notifications.

Member Discount Program

EXOTIC LUMBER, INC. FREDERICK, MARYLAND – www.exoticlumberinc.com

With over 130 species in stock, Exotic Lumber has one of the widest selections available on the East Coast. We offer a 10% discount to MCW members. We have warehouse locations in Gaithersburg and Annapolis, where you are welcome to select from our extensive selection of turning blocks.



HARDWOODS, INC. FREDERICK, MARYLAND – hardwoodsincorporated.com

10% off on 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.



2SAND.COM – 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).



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.



CRAFT SUPPLIES USA – 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 on the link above and going to the club member login located at 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 at meetings.





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

MCW Contact Information

OFFICERS

President	Tim Aley
President Emeritus	Bert Bleckwenn
Vice President	Gary Guenther
Treasurer	Phil Brown
Program Chair	Michael Colella
Membership	Elliot Schantz
Secretary	Jack Enders
Webmaster	Carl Powell
Newsletter Editor	Mark Verna

VOLUNTEERS

Web Albums	Tim Aley, Michael Colella, Gary Guenther
Show & Tell Recording	Richard Webster
Mentor Program	Donald Couchman
Gallery Photography	Hal Burdette, Michael Colella
Photography Assistant	Donald Van Ryk
Lending Library	Clif Poodry
Audio /Video	Mark Verna
Challenge Coordinator	Elliot Schantz
Wood Identification	Ed Karch
Candid Photography	Tim Aley, Gary Guenther
Exhibit Committee	Phil Brown, Hal Burdette, Clif Poodry
Skills Enhancement Coordinator	Bert Bleckwenn
Warrior Support Program	Don Van Ryk
Clean-Up Committee	Jack Enders, Gary Nickerson, and Paul Simon