

May 2014

Montgomery County Woodturners

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

Next Meeting and Demonstration

MAY 8 MEETING WILL NOT BE HELD AT THE WOODWORKERS CLUB. SEE DETAILS BELOW.

May Program - Visit the amazing collections of Jerry & Deena Kaplan by Gary Guenther



For our May 2014 Meeting, we are invited to visit the home of our own Jerry & Deena Kaplan to view their extensive collections of American Arts and Crafts, which include many wonderful turned-wood pieces, as well as paintings, furniture, sculpture, pottery, glass, and much more. You can also check out Jerry's beautiful Robust

Sweet 16 lathe in the work room. We were here in 2008 and 2010 (see below), but, in the last four years, Jerry and Deena have donated a number of pieces to the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh and to the Center for Art in Wood in Philadelphia, and have also acquired a number of new pieces along the way.



MCW has many new members since then, and not everyone was able to attend the earlier visits, so we have been kindly invited to return. Frankly, there is too much here to appreciate in just one visit, and I can't wait to go back. The Kaplans are Patrons of the James Renwick Alliance (JRA), members of the Collectors of Wood Art society, and are very supportive of the arts and crafts. This March, they received the prestigious "One-of-a-Kind Award" for 2014 from the JRA, presented for "significant contributions to the art and craft communities." Their collections have been featured in *"Home & Design"*

magazine. Jerry and Deena will lead some informal guided tours, and

May Program -

you will also be free to look around on your own. Light refreshments will be served – coffee and tea, and I remember some killer cookies. Photography is permitted.

Please Note: Our May meeting will **NOT** be held at the Woodworkers Club, but, rather, at Jerry & Deena Kaplan's home, at our usual 7:00 p.m. starting time. We encourage Members to try to arrive at 6:45 p.m. so we can begin the Meeting promptly at 7:00 p.m. Tim will hold the business meeting, running through the typical Agenda, prior to the viewing. There will be no Show & Tell, no video Library, and no Silent Auction. Please wear your name badges if you have them. Because of limited parking spaces at and around their home, we want to encourage members to carpool wherever possible.

A few photos from our earlier visits can be seen at

<http://picasaweb.google.com/montgomerycountywoodturners/MCWMay08Meeting#>

and

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWMay10MeetingKaplanCollection#>

This is a rare opportunity to view one of the premier art and craft collections in the DC area – don't miss it! ...GG

Special Points of Interest:

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GENERAL ANOUNCEMENTS

MCW Skills Enhancement Program (Bert Bleckwenn)

The Skills Enhancement Session scheduled for Friday May 16, 2014 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:

APRIL GALLERY PICTURES

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWApril14Gallery#>

APRIL MEETING PICTURES

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWApril14Meeting#>

Treasury Report, as of April 25, 2014

April Income:

Demo fees collected	\$480
Library rental	5
Silent auction	69
C-SAPFM seating cost share	200

Ellsworth commission sales 70

Tudor Place-Aley stoppers, net* 75

J. Enders loan** 500

Total income \$ 1,399

Total funds available \$ 2,578.18

April Expenses:

Demonstrator	350.00
Chair purchase & repair	423.08
A/V equipment	<u>948.90</u>
Total expenses	\$ 1,721.98

* Tim Aley contributed half of his income from the sale of bottle stoppers to Tudor Place.

** Enables MCW to maintain an average check balance over \$2,000 to avoid bank changes.

President's Perspective (Tim Aley)

What a great demonstration we had in April! You can never go wrong with David Ellsworth. His experience, knowledge and willingness to share make him without a doubt the best demonstrator there is. In the over seven years MCW has been in existence, he has been here 3 times and many of us have been to all three demos. This was by far the best experience for everyone with the wonderful new video setup.



Bert Bleckwenn spent a lot of time in 2010 getting the video system started. He collected donated tv and video cameras and got them to work. He worked through researching and purchasing a camera to work with it, and in the end it made a great addition to the demonstration. In 2011 Mark Verna took over the videoing duties and has done a great job ever since. Matt Radke has been very helpful, filling in for Mark when he has been busy.

Since the Woodworkers Club move to the new building, logistics and sightlines have been problematic in the turning space for meetings. To solve this, many good ideas were given, discussed, and tried by many people. Finally it was time to update the video equipment and make this work. Bert again took the lead and has worked many hours to make sure that this system was set up and working the best it possibly could. I moved around a lot during the demo was very impressed with the set-up from everywhere I stood. There was not a bad seat in the house. Not everyone got chips landing on them, but everyone could see and hear what was going on. Many people have told me how much better this demo was with the video.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who had a part in the process by either adding ideas, physical work of putting it up, and even donating wood or paying extra in the silent auction. I especially want to thank the Woodworkers Club for allowing us to put up the equipment in their space and Bert for all the long hours of organizing and getting it done.

Keep Turning Safely,

Tim Aley

MCW Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2014 (Jack Enders)

Opening Remarks:

President Tim Aley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, welcoming members and guests. Approximately 50 were in attendance.

New Members & Guests:

Three guests were in attendance for this meeting. Jordan Kitt, Jim van Wyk, and Rick Ellsbury.

Tim again reminded everyone to wear their name tags. Laser-engraved wooden name tags are available also for \$9.00. Fill out a form at the meeting or check out the process at <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/NameBadge.html>

General Announcements and Updates:

New Meeting Layout:

Many thanks to Bert and Kathy Bleckwenn, Margaret Follas, Jim Allison, Manu Suarez, Mike Colella, and Gary Guenther for the new meeting layout and setting up for the meeting. Under Bert's leadership, we now have a custom-built a/v cabinet loaded with equipment, three switchable video cameras (one on a boom), three screens (one for the cameraman and demonstrator), and a new 2-speaker (Thanks to Mike for donating the audio speakers) audio system for the wireless mic. Thanks to Bert and Phil Brown, we now have 60 padded folding chairs and a portable storage dolly. With additional new chairs and additional cameras and tv monitors, and audio system, more attendees will be accommodated in the available space. Specifically, we now have two remote cameras, and a present total of 60 chairs, with another 20 on the way. Matt Radtke has volunteered to be our videographer, to the great appreciation of all members who value the monitor displays of the meeting.

Newsletter:

Members were reminded that the need for more Newsletter articles continues. Sharing experience by submitting stories to the Newsletter benefits everyone and makes our group wiser. Members should submit their stories about their turning experiences or other newsletter content to Editor Mark Verna by April 27th (mark.verna2@verizon.net).

World Wood Day:

Tim thanked Stan Wellborn on behalf of MCW for demonstrating & representing us at World Wood Day in Rockville on March 21-22, expressing hopes that our club's involvement will continue in the future.

[http://www.worldwoodday.org/2014/Country_Content_USA.cfm#Events]

MCW Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2014 (Jack Enders)

Tudor Place Event:

MCW, under the coordination of Phil Brown, demonstrated turning at Tudor Place in Georgetown in DC on Saturday, March 29th, but weather kept most of the people away. In addition to MCW'ers Emily, Koo, Beth McClelland, Jeff Tate and Phil Brown, Chesapeake Turners also participated. Tim expressed MCW's thanks to Phil for coordinating this event.

Membership:

The idea of regional memberships was briefly raised, and more discussions will follow in subsequent meetings.

Upcoming Scheduled MCW and Other Events of Interest to Members:

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

May 8, 2014 Meeting: Jerry & Deena Kaplan Collection, Residence, Bethesda

June 12, 2014 Meeting: Warren Carpenter

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

November 6, 2014 Meeting: Jimmy Clewes

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).

Eagle Cane Warrior Project: Bert Bleckwenn described a national woodturners program to aid Wounded Warriors...turning basswood shafts to specification for canes. This program has resulted in over 1000 customized and carved eagle canes being given to our wounded warriors. If anyone is interested in participating, contact Bert (bableck@gmail.com). CAW offers free chapter memberships to Wounded Warriors. Also the possibility of 'exchange memberships' has been raised.

Library Display Project: The schedule for upcoming displays is as follows, and volunteers to help Phil Brown with setup are always appreciated:

Silver Spring Library, April 1 (Russ Iler assisted Phil in installing this display)

Davis Library in June 2014

Kensington Park and Twinbrook Libraries in July (smaller exhibits)

Quince Orchard Library in October 2014

Germantown Library in November 2014

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Potomac Library in January 2015
Bethesda Library in February 2015
Quince Orchard Library in September 2015

(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 (philbrown@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).

MCW Skills Enhancement: There will be no Skills Enhancement session on April 20 due to the Easter Holiday (The session was already held on April 6th). Next following session is scheduled for Friday May 16th. 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). The format of the session begins with the first 30 minutes or so dedicated to a specific lathe/tool/accessory enhancement technique, followed by the participant's choice of activity, under the mentorship of Bert.

[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: Members were reminded that 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. MCW volunteers (including Project Coordinator and Leader Don van Ryk) provide mentoring and one-on-one advice and supervision. The biweekly sessions require a steady participation of MCW mentors, and for the most part, the soldiers are matched reasonably well with mentors. However, on occasion Don has come up a bit short of enough volunteers to adequately help the students, and urged the members to join in supporting 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 April 30th and May 14th 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 wood-

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working 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 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.

MCW and Woodworkers Club Interaction: The MCW Turning Area Maintenance Project continues with enthusiastic participation of members. Contact Bert Bleckwenn (bableck@gmail.com) for more information or if you want to join the volunteer group.

New Wood Carving Group to be Organized: The Woodworkers Club already provides accommodations and facilities for meetings of the MCW and SAPFM to foster community interest in all aspects of woodworking. Under the coordination of Bert Bleckwenn of MCW and Matt Nauman of Woodworkers Club, an inaugural organizing meeting of a new woodcarving group will take place on Thursday April 24 at the Woodworkers Club. A preliminary solicitation mailing resulted in over 30 individuals expressing interest in participating in such an undertaking, with specific interests ranging across the full spectrum of carving activities and techniques. Contact Bert (bableck@gmail.com) or Matt (matt@woodworkersclub.com) for further details.

President's Challenge for June Meeting: Since the May meeting will be held off-site, Tim challenged members to turn Mallets for the June meeting at WC.

Show and Tell

Tonight's Guest Demonstrator David Ellsworth graciously agreed to introduce and critique members' show and tell objects. His constructive remarks on shape, finish, material, general design and other attributes were well-received and very helpful to the turners. For this month, ten members brought 10 Show and Tell pieces, as follows:

Matt Radtke – Large Mallet
Bob Grudberg – Segmented Vase
Richard Webster – Bowl, with off-center inlaid bands
Joe Stout – Box with contrasting wood join
Eliot Feldman – Zebrawood hollow form vessel
Mike Colella – Turquoise-inlaid Southwestern-style vessel
Margaret Follas – Hollow form vessel with chip-carved foot
Manu Suarez – Small bowl
Duane Schmidt – Natural edge shallow bowl
Tim Aley – Large pawltonia bowl
David Ellsworth – Critiqued his own hollow form vessel and described his methods of char-

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ring it for finish.

Mike Colella photographed the pieces, and Rebecca Meyerson assisted by 'trucking' the pieces from display to photo booth and back.

[Additional detail and photos of this month's show and tell objects listed above and candid shots during the meeting can be found on the MCW website or at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWApril14Meeting#>

Demo Program

The evening program featured David Ellsworth, internationally-acclaimed turner and author, introduced by Vice President Gary Guenther. David's demonstration featured a sharing of tips and techniques dealing with tools, sharpening, and turning techniques as applied to two bowls—finished and natural-edged.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

--Jack Enders, Secretary

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Dear MCW members,

On May 10th, the Brookside Nature Center, Wheaton Regional Park, 1400 Glenallen Ave. in Wheaton will hold their annual Forest Friends Festival, and event for families, especially the kids. A short description is at <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/calendar/index.php?eID=2723>

On rather short notice a park naturalist asked that we again demonstrate turning, and also have the opportunity to put out work to sell on a table. Last year I sold a few pieces.

I propose using one lathe this year. Pictures of the setup from last year are at: https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWForestFriendsFestivalBrooksideGardens?gsessionid=uVE_Ay7Zj8TnCbFYjDBYgw

I would like the help of 2 or 3 volunteers for a two to three hour shift, to help setup and take down, to turn small objects, and talk with the public.

Time would be from 10 or 11 AM to about 3 or 4 PM on Saturday May 10th. Unfortunately, the place they want us to park is about a quarter-mile away. I found a bike useful. If you like trails and reading about plants and trees, plan to spend some time on the grounds.

Please reply, via e-mail, if you can help with this event.

Thanks

Phil Brown

Member News

MCW will have an exhibit of members work in the Silver Spring Public Library glass cases in May, and at the Davis Library in June. Members lending work this year are **Tim Aley, Phil Brown, Bob Browning, Bert Bleckwenn, David Fry, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Ed Karch, Russ Iler, Bill Long, Paul Mazzi, Jeff Tate, Richard Webster, and Stan Wellborn**. There may also be some pieces created by past demonstrators on exhibit.

Dick Webster had two bowls and one table in a juried show at The Artful Dimensions Gallery on Charles Street in Fredericksburg, VA during the month of April. Dick is very pleased to have an unusual commission to make 6 tables of various sizes in figured cherry and curly maple for a patron in Arlington, VA.

Jerry Kaplan and his wife Deena were recognized for their many and generous contributions to the craft/art community and their outstanding collection with a **One-Of-A-Kind Award** from the James Renwick Alliance on March 29th. For a full description see page 3 at: www.jra.org/documents/W-S2014Quarterlyweblinks.pdf

Mike Colella will again be a guest artist at the MD Renaissance faire, September 27th and 28th.

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

Phil Brown will have three bowls in a multi-media juried exhibit featuring area artists in ***The Grace of Craft***, at Capital Arts Network, 12280A Wilkins Avenue, in Rockville from June 3 to 27, 2014. An opening reception will occur during the evening of June 6th.

Phil Brown will be hosting the International Turning Exchange participants June 8th to 12th for their visits to local collections and museums. Resident Fellow information for this year is at: centerforartinwood.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/2014-ITE-PressRelease-April-20141.pdf

Selected participants for 2015 and 2016 are listed at: www.centerforartinwood.org/residency/ite-fellows/

Clif Poodry teaches *Beginning Bowl Turning* during the evenings of May 19-20 and Aug. 28-29; and *Introduction to the Lathe* June 7, July 8-9, Aug. 4-5, and Sept 29-30 at the Woodworkers Club. A minimum of three students are required to conduct a class. To register, call 301-984-9033, or go to classes at: <http://woodworkersclub.com/classes/>

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 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 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. Sunday June 8th. To register, phone or e-mail Nancy Supik, 410-732-8414, or nancy@marksupikco.com

Four of the five students who took David Ellsworth's class in April are MCW members **Richard Webster, Mary Beardsley, Russell Iler, and Manu Suarez**.

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.

Craft Forms 2014

The 20th International Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Craft will be up December 5, 2014 through January 31, 2015 at the Wayne Art Center in Wayne, PA. The entry deadline is September 12th. See www.craftformsentry.org/ for more information and the prospectus.

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

MCW Members

Russ Iler helped me set up 50 pieces in three cases at the Silver Spring library.



Russ Iler pictured with the case that is double sided with the outdoors.



The right case is double sided within the library with very distracting background.

Two of the librarians complimented us on the exhibit.

14 MCW members with work on display include: Tim Aley, Phil Brown, Bob Browning, Bert Bleckwenn, David Fry, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Ed Karch, Russ Iler, Bill Long, Paul Mazzi, Jeff Tate, Richard Webster, and Stan Wellborn.

At Tim's suggestion, we also included some pieces created by 6 past demonstrators. These people included: Tom Boley, Mark Gardner, Michael Hosaluk, Steve Antonucci, Mark Sfirri, and Liem O'Neill.

News about our Members (Margaret Follas)

My afternoon with Eliot Feldman.

I want to make some deep vessels and several members of our club explained to me why I could not do it easily with tools I had. Eliot offered to show me how to do it and the tools needed for the job.

He invited me to his home and spent a whole afternoon teaching me in his workshop. He showed me some very beautiful pieces that he has made.

He has several hollowing systems for different purposes; a very large constrained system with over 1in diameter boring bar for hollowing very deep vessels, a 3/4in boring bar with a constrained system and an articulated arm. Both prevent twisting of the tool and provide control with a long tool over hanging the tool rest when hollowing a tall vessel. He has made a lot of special tools to get into difficult places.

Eliot had a lovely piece of cherry mounted on his lathe all ready for me. We started by using a forstner bit to drill down about 1 1/2in. Using his 3/4in boring bar in his constrained system, he taught me how to start hollowing down that far down, finish that level, and then use the forstner bit to drill the hole another inch or so deep. We would clean out the shavings before they could accumulate too much. We progressed down the vessel finishing consecutive levels. He wrapped a piece of sandpaper around an appropriate tool to smooth the inside as we went.

I then tried his articulated arm, also nice to use and preventing rotation of the bar and consequent catches. Both systems had laser light attachments set up to reflect from the wood the desired wall thickness from the cutter so that the light disappeared when I reached that thickness. It shows you where you are cutting and how far from the outside of the vessel. This is a truly wonderful device for obtaining a uniform thickness and preventing you from going through the outside.

He spent an entire afternoon with me. All went smoothly under his attentive oversight and guidance. I took the bowl home to finish with hand held easy tools. Without the laser guiding me, I was not cutting where I thought I was and blew out the bowl. I definitely need an appropriate tool for this job and lots of practice. I liked using both the constrained system with the long bar for easy control, while the articulated arm would be particularly suited for my rotating lathe head.

Eliot is extraordinarily good and he is a kind, calm and encouraging teacher.

Thank you very much Eliot,

Margaret Follas.

EVENING PROGRAM – David Ellsworth

David Ellsworth

Approximately 50 members attended the meeting/demonstration to hear David Ellsworth in his third MCW appearance, and he did not disappoint. Introduced by VP Gary Guenther, David brought his years of experience, and skills to share with members in a most pleasant and enjoyable evening. MCW was able to engage him for the evening as an adjunct to his 2-day workshop at Woodworkers Club following our meeting. The modifications to the WC facilities (audio



-visual equipment and improved seating) added great value to the evening's program. (Thanks to Bert Bleckwenn and team for this improvement, and special thanks to Matt Radtke, our new videographer, for his coverage of the program!)



David's background is extensive as a practitioner, author, teacher and demonstrator. For those who want to know more about him, there is ample information on the internet (www.ellsworthstudios.com) about his accomplishments and present work. David is well-known as a teacher, conducting courses in his home workshop in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. His first experience with the lathe was in a woodshop class in 1958. He studied architecture, drawing and sculpture in college at Washington University, University of Colorado and fine arts at the New School for Social Research. His work is displayed in numerous museum collections in the U.S. and England. He started the woodworking program at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass, CO and followed with opening his own private woodturning studio. Interested in pushing the limits of turning, he developed a series of bent turning tools in the mid-70s necessary for making the thin-walled hollow forms for which he is known worldwide. His first article "Hollow Turning" appeared in the May/June 1979 issue of Fine Woodworking, and his book, "Ellsworth on Woodturning," was published by Fox Chapel in 2008. He is the founding member of the American Association of Woodturners, of which he was president from 1986-1991 and its first Honorary Member. He has authored over 50 articles on articles related to craft and woodturning and has operated the Ellsworth School of Woodturning in Bucks County since 1990. He is the recipient of fellowship grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts and the PEW Foundation. In 2009, he was elected "Master of the Medium" by the James A. Renwick Alliance of the Smithsonian Institution. He is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Collectors of Wood Art, and a Fellow and former Trustee of the American Craft Council.

David's evening program featured the turning of two bowls: a cut rim and a natural edge.

[Note to the reader: Because of the extensive amount of information shared by David, the following commentary is best understood when accompanied by viewing the captioned photo gallery on the MCW website: <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/>

EVENING PROGRAM – David Ellsworth

[MCWApril14Program#6008312836057502498](#)



As he proceeded with the turning process, David discussed the factors that must be addressed in the task: safety, sharpening, tool selection, tool use, stance, procedures and lots of techniques. He presented all of this while turning the two bowls – the first, a 'cut edge', and the second, 'natural (or bark) edge'. The MCW provided David with a side-grain round of yellow poplar for these bowls. For the bark edge, the bark goes to the tailstock



side and will be removed. Subtly emphasizing safety while teaching, David puts on his face shield even to talk about putting tool to wood. He described the proper angle of approach with his 'signature' bowl gouge. The bowl blanks must be mounted and balanced between centers in the lathe, using the usual adjustments in placing the head and tailstock centers. He demonstrated the trial-and-error adjustments of live center and drive center locations to achieve balance and grain orientation. Good practice is to constantly tighten the tailstock ram during rough turning, especially if the piece is large. He uses Robust lathes in his home shop and values their double tailstock bearing.

The first piece was the cut rim bowl, turning all the bark off, using his Ellsworth grind spindle gouge. Holding the tool level on the toolrest, but at a 45° angle laterally, he performed the roughing cut, presenting the lower edge to the work, cutting tangentially. The second cut is a slicing cut, changing from the roughing cut by dropping the tool handle about 20-30°. The workpiece should be scribed with the largest diameter circle followed by cutting away excess or waste. He uses spur centers for these operations at first to give flexibility in adjustment of the workpiece before committing to using a more rigid scroll chuck. This adjustment is made to achieve the desired grain orientation.



In cutting the tenon or dovetail, David uses a re-ground 3/8" spindle gouge with a rounded bevel that allows the tool to work in very tight corners. Mounting the workpiece in the chuck, he stresses that the chuck jaw surface should be the reference surface, not the bottom of the jaw.

Once the workpiece is in the scroll chuck, the 'chain-sawed surface' of the blank can be worked on with a 'pull' cut, and smoothed for subsequent hollowing. The foot/bowl surface interface can also be worked on, using the 3/8" rounded bevel spindle gouge, which is ideal for this close work.



He described slicing vs shearing cuts. The energy should be devoted to the tool rest, not the wood. Many rim shapes are possible, but he favors a slight rounding of the edge, with a shear scraper cut while at the same time preserving the crispness of the form. Care in employing the tool in hollowing recognizes that as the rotating wood surface comes down on the

EVENING PROGRAM – David Ellsworth

high side of the tool, it will tend to deflect it in that direction. He further described the details of deploying the tool in the finishing cut. To maintain desired bowl thickness, he recommended watching the bevel on the tool and keep it parallel with the outside surface of the bowl.

Commenting on grinding/sharpening the tool, he noted that a “slightly inward” configured side bevel on the gouge is less sensitive to dig-in than a vertical bevel. In finishing the interior of the bowl, there may be some high spots which should be leveled by firm application of the gouge from further out and then ‘fed in’ into the high spot while riding the bevel.



He showed a shop-built wooden jam chuck threaded with a Beall thread die to match the spindle threads. It was essentially a hollow cylinder form with adhesive shelving liner material fastened to the circumferential edge that presses against the inside of the bowl. With the hollowed bowl pressed against the jam chuck, using the original center point in the tailstock, he removed the tenon and base cut while remaining aware of the thickness. A nicely-curved food was formed and the final cut freed the bowl from its restraint. The result was

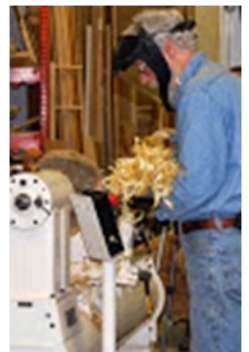
a functional bowl with pleasing shape and balanced heartwood grain pattern. As it dries, it will oval, but it should not crack, given the uniform 3/8” wall thickness.



The second bowl featured a natural edge. The basic workpiece preparation and mounting/balancing in the lathe was essentially the same as for the cut rim bowl. With the bark at the headstock end, he used a backward slice cut to remove excess bark while preserving the bark on the edge. A slicing cut is used on the bowl surface with a gradual transition from roughing cut to finishing cut.

Demonstrating the formation of the tenon, David emphasized making the shoulder ‘nice and flat.’ David explained and demonstrated tool angles used for different cuts, noting that good turning requires some ambidexterity in turning with either hand. After achieving the bottom shape, the workpiece was reversed in the chuck.

To preserve the bark edge and prevent it from detaching, the technique is to cut towards it, even though this violates the usual practice of avoiding cutting ‘backwards’ into unsupported fibers of the grain structure. He used a shear scrape to do the final shape refinement and to remove previous tool marks. Prior to beginning the hollowing, David re-tightened the chuck...particularly important to do regularly when turning green wood.



EVENING PROGRAM – David Ellsworth

David described tool use while hollowing, especially in the 'transition zone' between the bowl sides and bottom, going into end grain. Remember that due to rotation you are cutting into end grain twice on each revolution. The tuner should experiment with varying the gouge orientation/angle, while feeling the differences in the cut and searching for the so-called 'sweet spot' gouge position that works best for the individual.



As the hollowing proceeded, he checked for depth, to ensure that the hollowing did not penetrate the bottom of the bowl. The hollowing completed, the bowl's thin walls transmitted light so that it appeared to "glow." The next step is to reverse it again against the jam chuck, using the center point to preserve perfect alignment via the tailstock.



Mounted against the jam chuck, David determined the final configuration of the bottom and proceeded to remove the base cut to the edge of the tenon. This was a very careful cut, given that the bottom of the inside of the bowl was below the tenon. He shaped a subtle foot to give the bowl a little lift. The final cut was made, as the bowl separated smoothly as it stopped turning.



All the bark remained firmly attached. The thickness was 3/16" at the rim and 1/4" at the base, which is better than perfect! Side by side, the two bowls were great examples of a master's touch in the art of turning.



David's running commentary as he shaped and finished both bowls provided a rich store of tips and techniques for skill enhancement and the members showed their appreciation for his demonstration with a rousing round of applause. Following the conclusion of the program, David made himself available for many questions from the membership.

(Note: additional photos with commentary of the demonstration may be viewed on MCW's website:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWApril14Program#>

Furthermore, Ellsworth's book "Ellsworth on Woodturning" is loaded with details on the topics addressed in tonight's meeting, as well as abundant other useful information.)

--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 Jerry & Deena Kaplan Collection, Residence, Bethesda	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 Jimmy Clewes	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	Matt Radtke
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