

Vol. 2015, Issue 3

March 2015

**Montgomery County Woodturners**

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

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## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be:

Date:	WEDNESDAY March 11, 2015
Time:	7:00 - 9:30 PM
Location:	Woodworkers Club 11910-L Parklawn Drive Rockville, MD 20853 (301) 984-9033

**Note: Please park in the rear of the building (or the last half of the side) because all the spaces in the front are reserved for short term.**

## Agenda

Time	Activity
6:30 - 6:45 PM	Set up for Program
6:45 - 7:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear your name tag</li> <li>Meet and greet other Members</li> <li>Bid on Silent Auction items</li> <li>Sign out and pay Clif Poodry for videos from our Lending Library</li> </ul>
7:00 - 7:25 PM	Business Meeting
7:25 - 7:45 PM	Show, Tell & Ask
7:45 - 9:15 PM	Mike Sorge: <b>Geometric Bowls</b>
9:15 - 9:30 PM	Pay for and retrieve your Silent Auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.
9:30 - 10:00 PM	Select and pay for classes, workshops, tools, wood, books and other items at the Woodworkers Club store.

## Evening Program (Tim Aley)

**O**ur demonstrator for the March meeting is Mike Sorge. Mike comes to us from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Mike has been turning since November 2009 and is a current member of the American Association of Woodturners, Blue Ridge Woodturners, and Central Virginia Woodturners. In 2009, Mike discovered that rescuing, revealing and preserving beautiful timber through the art of high speed sculpting (woodturning) can be exhilarating and honora-



ble. Committed and determined, Mike studied books and videos from professional turners and set upon a path of experimentation, of trial and error, with the goal of developing a style of his own. Through persistent effort his signature Geometrics and Winged Natural Edge emerged, elegantly displaying the inherent natural beauty of the fallen tree for art and utilitarian use, heirlooms for generations of enjoyment.

Mike will be demonstrating one of his Geometric bowls. His distinctive diamond, triangle, and square geometric bowls, boxes and platters feature sculpted flared tips and elegant curves at the top center of each side. The extended sections of wood are aesthetically pleasing.

To get a quick preview of this demo, click the link below to watch Mike Sorge's 5-minute video of turning a 19" curly cherry diamond shaped blank into an elegant bowl.

"Always nice to watch woodturning done right. It is rare to watch someone with the command of tools like yourself. Entertaining!" ~ Mike Mahoney

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7DJvMnOBnY&feature=youtu.be>

## Editor's Corner (Bill Long)

**L**ater in the Newsletter I write about the value of doing some advanced preparation for visiting a craft/art show, using as an example my visit to the American Craft Council's (ACC) show in Baltimore in February. Other shows this year to which some of us may go include:

- Sugarloaf Craft Festival, Gaithersburg, MD, April 17-19, 2015
- Smithsonian Craft Show, Washington, DC, April 23-26
- Sugarloaf Craft Festival, Gaithersburg, MD, November 20-22, 2015
- Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, Philadelphia, PA, November 12-15, 2015



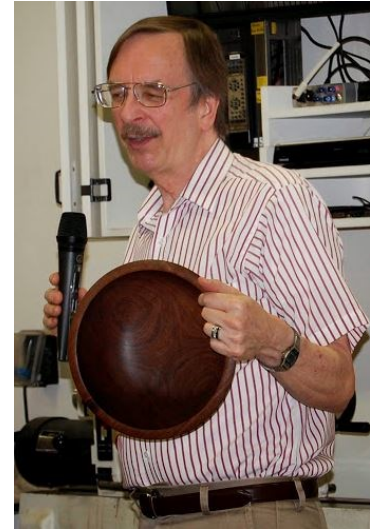
All these shows publish vendors in advance. I will create a list of wood artists (paying attention to Phil's advice to look beyond the narrow category of turned wood) with booths for each of these shows, like the one on page 15, and circulate it in advance of the show.

Anyone of you who knows of additional shows within about a hundred miles, please let me know.

## President's Perspective (Gary Guenther)

**W**ell, I guess the good news is that it has gotten as cold as it's going to get, we survived again, and Spring is right around the corner! We just have to get through March, and hopefully, even then, there will be some days warm enough for me to get my lathe outside and make some curls! That is always an exciting time for me, after my Winter Hiatus, but this year, I am more excited than ever before because I can't wait to start making some pieces for our two new MCW Outreach charity Programs, *Empty Bowls* and *Beads of Courage*.

When people find out we're woodturners, after they ask what we make, they ask: "Do you sell?" For most of us, the answer is "No, I just make things for friends and relatives and put them on my shelves to display." Well, it doesn't take long to fill up the shelves (don't ask me how I know), and, while the friends and relatives are always grateful, that can only go on for just so long before their eyes get a little wider. Hey, wouldn't it be nice to be able to answer that question like this: "I make pieces for friends and family, and I donate some to worthy charities that help kids with disabilities and serious illnesses." I have committed myself and MCW to give you the opportunity to make that statement. Are you up for the challenge? Are you in? Let's make it happen!



MCW is participating in both of these two deserving programs through our connection with AAW, but you do not have to be a member of AAW to participate. For me, these are now MCW Programs, and I'm looking for big-time support from YOU and all of our Members to make them really memorable. I am asking each of you to donate a bowl to meet my Empty Bowls President's Challenge for our April Meeting. I am also asking for you to seriously consider making a covered bowl for my Beads of Courage Challenge for our May Meeting. I will take care of the transportation to get the pieces to the AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh in June. What we need from you is some time and inspiration and passion. If you need help with the turning, we can supply that through our Skills Enhancement and Mentoring Programs. And what's great, is that you have plenty of time to participate in both programs, if you start now.

As you may know, *Empty Bowls* programs around the country are most often done by pottery clubs. They are primarily designed as ways to give back to the community to help the homeless. A local charity will host a soup dinner, and the entry fee for the meal also permits the participant to pick a nice, handmade bowl, donated by the potters, "for free", as an additional draw. I have personally done this several times, and it is fun and rewarding. For my support, I have some nice ceramic bowls as a reminder of what I have done in the past and what more I can do in the future to support meaningful causes. But, there is no reason the gifted bowls cannot be wooden. Chesapeake Woodturners, for example, is participating in such a local event in the near future.

(Continued on page 5)

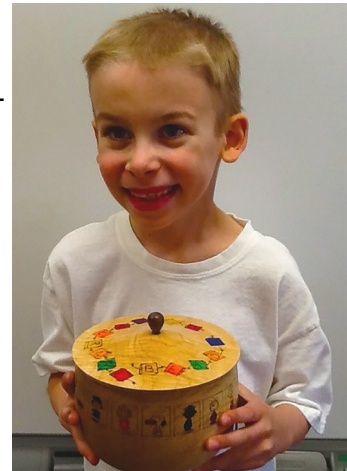


The AAW *Empty Bowls* program works differently. Here, the bowls delivered to the Symposium are displayed, a group at a time, in a special room. Woodturners like you and me, donate \$25 to go into that room and pick a bowl of our choice, turned by one of our colleagues, to take home. And who knows when David Ellsworth's bowl or Bin Pho's bowl might be in the room? All of those \$25 donations will go to "VARIETY the Children's Charity", ([www.varietypittsburgh.org/about-us.asp](http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/about-us.asp)) which has two signature programs that provide individually-customized mobility and communication equipment for disabled children. So it's win-win. For us, it's like a trade to get a selected sample of someone else's work for our collection, but the kids are the ultimate benefactors. Last year in Phoenix, this AAW program delivered nearly \$10,000 to their local charity. That's the value of simple wooden bowls. Now it's up to us to join in and help beat that record, one bowl at a time. I think we can do it. We're not asking for Gallery Quality or your "best bowl". Your best effort for this project is all we ask. That's what everybody does. For many of us, "bowls" is the first answer to the "What do you make?" question. So let's see some for a great cause.



Photo: Variety the Children's Charity

Perhaps even more fun, challenging, and ultimately rewarding is the *Beads of Courage* Program. This is a national program ([www.beadsofcourage.org/pages/beadsofcourage.html](http://www.beadsofcourage.org/pages/beadsofcourage.html)), associated with a large number of children's medical centers in the U.S. and around the world, that provides sets of beads to be given out to children with serious illnesses to mark the many challenging procedures they must endure and win through. The beads, donated by members of the International Society of Glass Beadmakers, are meaningful symbols of courage that honor and acknowledge milestones of their treatment. Every bead tells a story of strength, honor, and hope. Their collection of beads becomes a tangible record of their journey. The beads are typically strung, and are often stored in fabric bags, but every child wishes for a wooden Treasure Box to keep their beads within. The BoC program gratefully thanks all woodworkers who donate their one-of-a-kind, handmade wooden containers to a child in treatment. AAW will be collecting our BoC "boxes" in Pittsburgh, displaying them in or near the Instant Gallery, and delivering them to local, participating children's hospitals or medical centers.



Jeff Tate has kindly volunteered to Direct our MCW Beads of Courage Challenge. Please note that what we're really talking about here are largish covered bowls with loose-fitting lids with knobs – not the smaller boxes with pop-fit lids that we more often associate with the term. You have already received more-detailed information about size and style and finishes by email. I am very happy to announce that several of our Members are already ahead of the curve and will show their pieces at the upcoming March Meeting. Furthermore, you will find an insightful, first-hand article by our new Member, Steve Haddix, with some very practical thoughts based on personal experience, elsewhere in this Newsletter. Don't miss it. If we're not careful, Steve could put us all to shame. Let's see if we can rise to HIS Challenge!

## General Announcements (Phil Brown)

### Creative Crafts Council Call for Entries

From March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup> you may apply to enter the Creative Crafts Council Biennial Exhibition at Strathmore Mansion at: [www.creativecraftscouncil.org/](http://www.creativecraftscouncil.org/) By May 15<sup>th</sup> notification of accepted pieces will be sent to all applying artists. On June 1<sup>st</sup> you will deliver accepted entries to Strathmore Mansion. On Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> the exhibition opens to the public. And on June 11<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 PM is the opening reception with awards presented at 7 PM. July 26<sup>th</sup> will be the last day and you pick up your unsold pieces on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Using the online application, you may submit up to four pieces for a \$40 fee, or \$50 for non-members of a CCC guild. Since jurying will be done from photographs, good quality images are very important. The fee is the major source of income for the CCC.

While not yet definite, local area jurors are expected to be Betty Cook, jewelry and multi-media artist; Nora Atkinson, Renwick Gallery Curator, SAAM; and Fred Wall, wood artist and retired professor of the former Corcoran College of Art + Design.

The February MCW newsletter has information about this outstanding local exhibition opportunity and the CCC on page 8.

### Item of Interest

Our demonstrator of August 2014, Allen Alexopoulos, was featured on the AAW website as *Turner of the Week* with his Complex Hyperboloid Candlesticks on 2-16-15.

### Call to Enter Local Area Shows

City of Fairfax 39th Annual Fall Festival, October 10, 2015 in Historic Downtown Fairfax, VA.

Application deadline is March 12, 2015, at: [www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event\\_info&event\\_id=912](http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=912)

City of Fairfax 29th Annual Holiday Craft Show. November 21-22, 2015 at Fairfax High School.

Application deadline is also March 12, 2015. [www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event\\_info&event\\_id=911](http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=911)

Art@ the Park 2015, October 17-18, 2015 - Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis, MD.

Deadline is April 4<sup>th</sup>. [www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event\\_info&event\\_id=917](http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=917)

## Meeting Minutes (Steve Drake)

Montgomery County Woodturners Meeting  
February 12, 2015

**P**resident Gary Guenther called the meeting to order at 7:05pm, welcoming approximately 31 members and 3 guests.

### General Announcements:

- Doug Thompson will be demonstrating at CAW on Saturday, 2/14 from 9am-12pm.
- Several excellent demonstrators are coming up, but the dates shift around a little so be sure to check the calendar.
- Skills Enhancement is on Sunday, 2/15. Matt Radtke is leading the Program.
- The Public Library display is in Bethesda and is really impressive. Thanks to Phil Brown and Russ Iler for setting it up. For pictures of our four display cases, see <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb15BethesdaLibrary>. Several members, some accompanied with spouses, joined Phil for the opening of the display.
- Steve Drake announced that the Jimmy Clewes Group Buy was in and ready to be distributed.

### Newsletter:

The latest issue of the Newsletter is out and excellent. Thanks to Bill Long for doing this and to all the people that have contributed articles. Please consider submitting an article on your favorite topic or to share something you have learned or experienced.

### Website:

Carl Powell has rebuilt the Web Site and organized two new mail lists ("freewood" and "eMentor"). Please consider signing up for these. The freewood address has over 40 members and has already helped several people. The eMentor list is a way for any member to ask a question and get some "expert" advice on how to accomplish their task. Initial response has been positive but, so far, eMentor has few people signed up and could use more participation. Please consider joining. Thanks to Carl for this effort. Appreciation is expressed to Jeff Tate for taking the pictures for the Web Site Gallery and to Jim Allison for the 'trucking'.

### Bring-Back Challenge:

Previous winner Stan Wellborn was absent but will bring something to the next meeting. Phil

*(Continued on page 8)*

Brown won the drawing and will also bring something to the next meeting.

In-Home Mentoring:

Stan Wellborn researched the new insurance, and Gary completed the forms. We now have insurance to cover mentoring in member's homes and at the monthly Skills Enhancement sessions. You do not need to be a member of AAW to be covered. Eliot Feldman is the Program Director, and you can contact him about finding or being a Mentor. {Ed. note: Eliot has resigned for personal reasons; please contact Gary to become a Mentor.}

Wounded Warrior Program:

Dick Webster reported that the recent session had been a great success but more participation by other Members is needed.

Empty Bowls Challenge:

Gary explained the concept behind the AAW Empty Bowls project. These should be brought to our April Show Tell & Ask for display and will be collected to be donated to the AAW for sale during the Symposium. Proceeds will benefit "Variety, the Children's Charity" of Pittsburgh which helps disabled children (<http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/>). Gary also recommended that anyone at the Symposium should further participate in this charity by purchasing a ticket to visit the bowls room, as bowls by well-known turners are put out for sale randomly throughout the Symposium, and even the less-well-known turners will share some exciting creations.

Beads of Courage Challenge:

Jeff Tate discussed the Beads of Courage Program and showed a lidded bowl he had made for the project. The bowls should be about 6-8" in diameter and about 4-6" tall with a fairly loose lid. More information on the Beads of Courage can be found at <http://www.varietypittsburgh.org/>. It is recommended that these Bowls be brought to the May Show Tell & Ask where they will be collected to be transported to the AAW meeting in Pittsburgh.

AAW Pittsburgh Meeting:

Gary ran out of time and moved this item to his March Agenda. Everyone that has attended a past Symposium highly recommended it to anyone that has not attended. Recommendation was made to register and to get your hotel room now. Also, AAW is looking for volunteers for a variety of jobs in Pittsburgh. Please consider helping out, and contact Gary if you would like to participate

Safety Tip:

Make sure you have a good first aid kit in your shop. If you need something, you need it



NOW and HERE, not at the store or in the house. Also make it a habit to check it at least annually to make sure things have not deteriorated or expired. Even bandages can eventually lose their sticking power.

Show Tell & Ask:

There were 20 items at the meeting from 13 members. For the details, see the ST&A section on page 11.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Meeting Photos:

Photos of the Show Tell & Ask Gallery for February can be seen at :

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb15Gallery>

General photos of the meeting can be found at: <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb15Meeting>

Photos of the February Demonstration are at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb15Program>

All our Web Albums can also be accessed from links on the Web Site Photo Gallery tab.

--Steve Drake, Acting Secretary

### Last Month's Program

The program last month, Margaret Lospinuso,s demonstration on 'Making "Critters"', is well documented and captioned at <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFeb15Program>, so there is no separate write-up here. For a brief overview, here are four pictures.



This is her third coloring of this platter rim, and she is still not sure she likes it. Looks very good to me! - GG



Here we have a "White-footed Escargot Rex". What can the head and back fins on this dino be made from? - GG



Add one color. And you thought the wool was dyed after sheering. - GG



They come in many forms... - GG

**Show, Tell & Ask (Bill Long)**

The following members presented objects:

Name	Description	Wd.	Ht.	Ln.	Wood(s) Used
Richard Webster	Small Bowl	9	3		Spalted Maple
Joe Stout	Small Bowl	5	3		Holly w/ inlay
Joe Stout	Hollow Form	6	3		Maple
Tim Aley	2 Plates	10	0.5		Honey Locust
Tim Aley	2 Bowls	11.5	2		Oak
Steve Haddix	Vortex Bowl	9	5		Spalted Maple
Elliott Schantz	Hollow Form	6	3		Cuban Mahogany
Ellen Davis	Pen			5.5	Red Cedar
Russ Iler	Bud Vase, natural form	2	6		
Joe Barnard	Bowl	9	4		Chinese Chestnut
Bob Grudberg	Bowl	17	7		Maple
Clif Poodry	Bowl, end grain turned	10	2		Maple
Clif Poodry	Hollow Form	8	7		Maple
Jeff Tate	Hollow Form	4	3		Bradford Pear
Jeff Tate	Hollow Form	8	4		Bradford Pear
Jeff Tate	Lidded Bowl	7	2		Bradford Pear
Jeff Tate	1/4 Cup Measure	4	2.5		Oak
Phil Brown	Leaf Bowl by Emil Milan	9		22	Lapacho

Comments during the ST&A session were:

- Richard Webster: The wood was spalted by burying it in composting wood chips for two months; Clif Poodry noted that spalting happens more rapidly during summer months.
- Joe Stout: This is his first hollow form;
- Steve Haddix: This is his second ever piece; he thanked Gary for eMentoring.

- Tim Aley: The two plates and the two bowls each form matching pairs.
- Ellen Davis: Ellen meant to bring another piece tonight, but it blew up on the lathe, so she decided to make the pen instead; she has gotten several orders from family and friends for more.
- Jeff Tate: The lidded bowl is for our Beads of Courage project.
- Phil Brown: This is not turned; rather, it is a piece I have owned for a long time that was made by Emil Milan, and is presented to inspire all of us.



## Member News (Phil Brown)

**I**a moment of nostalgia, I was surprised to find that **Bert Bleckwenn** had been quoted in a blog post by the Smithsonian American Art Museum on December 7, 2010 at: [eyelevel.si.edu/2010/12/as-the-wood-turns-lathe-demos-at-the-renwick.html](http://eyelevel.si.edu/2010/12/as-the-wood-turns-lathe-demos-at-the-renwick.html)

And **Clif Poodry** is shown at: [eyelevel.si.edu/2010/10/picture-this-turning-wood.html](http://eyelevel.si.edu/2010/10/picture-this-turning-wood.html)

**Phil Brown, Ken Lobo, and Mike Twenty** have pieces in the Chesapeake Woodturners exhibit in the Circle Gallery of the Maryland Federation of Art at 18 State Circle in Annapolis. The reception is Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 PM, with awards presented at 4 PM. The exhibit is up through March 28<sup>th</sup>. Jurors were former MCW Critique Panelists, Judy Chernoff and Jeff Bernstein. This exhibit runs concurrently with *Focal Point*, photographs hung on the walls. The Circle Gallery is open Tuesday - Sunday, 11 AM - 5 PM. See the turned wood catalog at: [http://mdfedart.com/pdf/MFA%20Show%202015%20Catalog\(2\).pdf](http://mdfedart.com/pdf/MFA%20Show%202015%20Catalog(2).pdf)

**David Fry's** book review of *Across the Grain: Turned and Carved Wood, Fuller Craft Museum, 2013* appeared on page 14 of the February 2015 issue of *American Woodturner*. This catalog is available in the MCW Silent Auction for \$5 until our supply is exhausted.

**Clif Poodry** would like to find a turner to take over the classes he has been teaching at WWC. Until a replacement instructor is found, Clif teaches *Introduction to the Lathe* March 16-17, and April 7-8, 2015; *Beginning Bowl Turning* during the evenings of March 30-31 and April 20-21. 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 4:00 PM for \$150/class, with a 20% discount for AAW and local woodturning club members. Lunch & materials are included. To register, contact Nancy Supik 410-732-8414, or [nancy@marksupikco.com](mailto:nancy@marksupikco.com) Classes for 2015 will be posted soon.

- The Right Start: Learn spindle turning, having fun making bead & cove cuts to create wine stoppers, mallets, and other useful objects on Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- More Bowl Turning: Ready to tackle end grain turning or try a natural edged bowl? Need a larger lathe for a special project? Looking for a bowl in your own piece of wood? A class designed for students who have completed the basic bowl turning class and are ready for more. Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Next Step Morning Workshops (\$75) For those who completed *The Right Start* or the *Bowl Turning Workshop*, from 9:00 AM to Noon. First hour is a demonstration of a specific skill or project. Students then have the remaining time for directed practice of that skill. The next topic is *Making Plates* Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. On these dates Open Studio follows from 1-4 pm (\$30).

**Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the MCW Newsletter. Send your information by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to Phil Brown, [philbrown@comcast.net](mailto:philbrown@comcast.net), or call 301-767-9863.**

## Jimmy Clewes Group Buy (Steve Drake)



In November, Montgomery County Woodturners was privileged to host Jimmy Clewes as a demonstrator. During his demonstration, he used quick-disconnect metal collets on his wooden tool handles to permit him to quickly and efficiently switch in freshly sharpened tool steels. When asked about them, he mentioned that he did not carry his signature tools and collets system with him for sale. He felt that it would be a conflict of interest to be demonstrating his techniques and trying to sell tools at the same time. He was, however, willing to give MCW Members a 20% discount if we wanted to put together a group order.

After the meeting, I approached Gary about my coordinating the Group Buy if there was enough interest. A show of hands at the December meeting demonstrated that at least 6-8 people were interested. I produced a flyer and contacted Jimmy with it to make sure that the details were correct. With his blessing, I distributed the flyer to the Members and took orders at the January meeting. A total of 25 tools were ordered by 9 members for a total cost of \$1,143. The order was placed with Jimmy, and the tools arrived by the end of January. Most of the tools were distributed either privately or at the February meeting, and the rest will be distributed as soon as the purchaser attends a meeting.

Coordinating such a purchase is an exercise in patience, faith, and learning. There are several things I would point out to anyone coordinating such a purchase in the future:

1. Make sure the details of the options are clear (pictures help).
2. Set closing dates for when orders must be in.
3. If you accept cash payments, use a receipt book.
4. Triple check ALL math and use a spreadsheet to confirm things.
5. Be prepared for communication issues to come up and just breathe deeply when they do.

In then end, it was a successful purchase and several members acquired some excellent tools.

### Visit to American Craft Council Show in Baltimore (Bill Long)

My family and I are life-long craft show goers, but my new interest in wood crafted into art has given me new purposes for attending the shows. I was well rewarded at the American Craft Council show in Baltimore last month. I went on Friday, Feb. 22, but was able to be there for only about 5 hours.

I learned that preparing ahead of time for such a large show will make a visit far more efficient. Making a list of booth numbers for all wood artisans is an easy task since so much in-

Artist	Category	Thumbnail	Booth	Artist	Category	Thumbnail	Booth
Michael Baermeister	Wood		1900	Michael Mode	Wood - Turned		308
Warren Capenter	Wood - Turned		1704	Mark Nantz	Wood - Turned		705
Martha Collins	Wood - Turned		902	Gregg Palm	Wood		2601
Cindy Drozda	Wood		317	Paul Petrie Jr.	Wood - Turned		424
Mark Gardner	Wood - Turned		2203	Steven Potts	Wood - Turned		305
Albert Hall IV	Wood - Turned		2307	Norman Sartorius	Wood		818
Richard Heys	Wood		515-1	Michael Scarborough	Wood		817
Kieth Holt	Wood		801	Koji Tanaka	Wood		302
James Keller	Wood		2105	Holly Tornheim	Wood		800
Craig Lossing	Wood		414	Shanti Yard	Wood - Turned		1124
Cliford Lounsbury	Wood		1212				

(Continued from page 15)

formation is available from the show's robust website, as shown below.

Phil Brown had alerted all of us that the roster of exhibitors was available on the ACC site, and that some turners were listed under the *general* category 'Wood' rather than the more specific 'Wood – Turned' category.

I spent significant time with four of my favorites. They were Mark Nantz, a turner of high wood art, who combines highly-figured wood, frequently tinted, and always with precious metal inlays. His work is out of my price point, but is lovely to see and to touch. And I spent some time with Cindy Drozda, who has a piece in my very small collection. I also visited with two carvers, Holly Tornheim and Norm Sartorius. My wife Laura and I bought a piece from Holly a few years ago. Norm, as some of you know, is one of my mentors – it was he who encouraged me to get back into woodturning so I could express my creativity with pieces of art of my own making. Norm was honored at the show as the recipient of the Collectors of Wood Art Award of Excellence for Art in Wood for his lifetime body-of-work. He is the one with the red shirt in the photo at the right.



And then there are the few turners & carvers whose booths I visited, chatted with the artists for a bit, took some photos, got exposed to new ideas, and had a really good time. I had already noted in my copy of the show brochure where Warren Carpenter's booth was and intended to stop by as I went systematically up and down the aisles, but I ran into Richard Webster who said I had to go there, so I did immediately. And I was rewarded well.

Warren has several 'signatures' for his work. One is that he turns a lot of burl and makes a lot of natural-edge bowls. Another that attracted my attention was an raised ring in the inside of some of his large bowls, as can be seen in the photograph above.

(Continued on page 17)



(Continued from page 16)

Of course, when a turner displays a lot of high-end artistic pieces, as shown in the previous photo, they also take a number of small pieces that don't cost a lot, because the volume of those sales may be the main way they make enough money to cover the costs of the trip. Warren is shown in the next photo with his wife, standing in front of a display of wine bottle stoppers. He was in a discussion with a customer about a commission to make about 40 of them as meeting favors. It was in this context that he said I should stick around – while I was there he made four sales.



My next stop was with Paul Petrie, Jr. He makes vessels that have three main characteristics: (1) a hollow form, (2) high attention to 3D geometry; and (3) detailed carving. He makes hollow forms that have a flat, rather than rounded, 'roof' where the entry hole is and a tall lip above the entry hole, using specially designed hollowing tools. In the first picture below; except for the decoration at the hole into the hollow form, the object is a single piece of wood. Then he works out, in detail, the figures he wants to carve on the lip or the whole piece. Finally

he does the carving, using an air-powered dentist's drill, claiming that it gives him better control than a Mototool or similar electrical device.

The attention to 3D geometry at such an early stage for a piece, really in the planning stage, stands out to me. A good demonstration of that approach to making artistic objects is the walnut vase by Paul shown to the right.

From there I went for the big, bold, and beautiful, that is, if you share one of my occasional names – 'Ugly Wood Turner'. The booth was



(Continued on page 18)

*(Continued from page 17)*

that of Shanti Yard of Little River Woodworks in Floyd, VA, a little town just south of Blacksburg, in the Virginia foothills. Shanti collects wood on his own farm or other farms in the area. Almost all the wood he gets is burl wood, and some of it is at the base of the tree, so there are also roots involved. Some of the wood is maple, some cherry, some ash. All the pieces are really big, and none of them is well-behaved.

The scale of his pieces can be seen from the photo to the right – the piece behind his left arm is about 20” high, and the piece next to it is about 20” around. The first piece noted is ash burl, and the second is cherry burl.



Besides working mostly with very large pieces, Shanti preserves as much of the internal characteristics of the piece as he can. This frequently involves turning the piece to get the round core shape and leaving extensions that are in the wood., as shown in the picture to the left.

I peeked in the booths of Mark Gardner, Albert Hall IV, Keith Holt, James Keller, Michael Mode, Steven Potts, Michael Scarborough, and Koji Tanaka (carver).

In addition to those I knew about there were six additional booths I didn't know about, so I did not visit the following: Michael Bauermeister, Martha Collins, Richard Heys, Craig Lossing, Clifford Lounsbury, Gregg Palm

This was a really useful trip for me, though I wish it had been a bit better. And, as is always the case, I would have liked to have many more hours to visit, chat, photograph, make mental notes, maybe occasionally even buy a piece to take home.

For some thoughts about repeating the description of participants in future shows, see the Editor's Corner, page 3.

Bill Long

### Safety First (Bill Long)



Tim Aley, Program Chair, recently followed up our discussions about the need for a First Aid Kit by purchasing one on Amazon. It was made by the SAS company, comes in a metal box, and contains common items needed for immediate first aid of there is an accident.

Included are alcohol cleaning pads, antiseptic towelettes, burn cream, cotton swabs, latex gloves, safety pins, a splinter remover, a tweezer, and a large assortment of bandages.

The Kit will be kept in the lathe room at WWC for use for our monthly meeting, for Skill Enhancement Sessions, and for the Wounded Warrior Pen Turning sessions. It will be taken into the field anytime one of our members has a turning session in the larger community.

### Future Meetings Schedule (Tim Aley)

Date	Demonstrator	Notes
3/11/2015	Mike Sorge	Special Wednesday meeting
4/9/2015	Joe Dickey	
5/14/2015	Michael Mocho	One week later than usual
6/11/2015	TBA	
7/9/2015	TBA	
8/6/2015	Barbara Dill	
9/10/2015	TBA	
10/8/2015	TBA	
11/11/2015	John Lucas	Special Wednesday meeting
12/10/2015	Annual Potluck & TBA	

**Skills Enhancement Schedule (Matt Radke)**

Session Date	WeekDay	Session Date	WeekDay
1/9/2015	Friday	7/10/2015	Friday
2/15/2015	Sunday	August No Session – Fair	n/a
3/12/2015	Thursday	9/11/2015	Friday
4/10/2015	Friday	10/11/2015	Sunday
5/15/2015	Friday	11/13/2015	Friday
6/14/2015	Sunday	12/13/2015	Sunday

**Wounded Warrior Program (Don Van Ryk)**

Session Date	WeekDay	Session Date	WeekDay
3/5/2015	Thursday	8/5/2015	Wednesday
3/19/2015	Thursday	8/19/2015	Wednesday
4/2/2015	Thursday	9/2/2015	Wednesday
4/15/2015	Wednesday	9/16/2015	Wednesday
4/29/2015	Wednesday	9/30/2015	Wednesday
5/13/2015	Wednesday	10/14/2015	Wednesday
5/27/2015	Wednesday	10/28/2015	Wednesday
6/10/2015	Wednesday	11/11/2015	Wednesday
6/24/2015	Wednesday	11/25/2015	Wednesday
7/8/2015	Wednesday	12/9/2015	Wednesday
7/22/2015	Wednesday	12/23/2015	Wednesday



### Treasury Report (Phil Brown)

Income Items			Expense Items		
February Income:			February Expenses:		
	Membership	\$395.00		Demonstrator	\$19.00
	Name tag	9.00		Name tag	9.00
				Exhibit reception	16.00
	Total income	\$404.00		Total expenses	\$44.00
	Total funds available	\$3,530.40			

### Member Discounts (Steve Drake)

**W**oodworkers Club Rockville, Maryland – [woodworkersclub.com](http://woodworkersclub.com). The Woodworkers Club, a Woodcraft affiliate, offers MCW Members a 10% rebate on all regularly priced

items. After reaching certain plateaus of spending, you will become eligible for a rebate which you will receive by email



and is good for 3 months. Non-qualifying items are power tools, items already on sale, gift cards, and items from companies that prohibit discounting (Festool, SawStop, Leigh, and a couple others). Our relationship with Woodworkers Club is very synergistic and important to us, and I encourage you to make your woodturning and woodworking purchases from them. If they don't have something in the store that's in the Woodcraft catalog or on their web site, they will get it for you, and you can save on shipping by picking it up at the store.

**Exotic lumber, Inc. Frederick, Maryland** – [exoticlumber-inc.com](http://exoticlumber-inc.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 with membership badge. We have warehouse locations in Frederick and Annapolis, where you are welcome to select from our extensive selection of turning blocks.



**2Sand.com** – [2sand.com](http://2sand.com) is a coated abrasive specialist focused on fast service and fair prices providing superior sanding discs, sheets and belts. MCW Member receive a 5% discount (cash or check) at the Gaithersburg store at 8536 Dakota Drive ([800-516-7621](tel:800-516-7621)).



## Chapter Contacts (Gary Guenther)

### Officers

President	Gary Guenther	gary.c.guenther@gmail.com	301-384-7594
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### Volunteers

Position	Member
Wounded Warrior Support Program Director	Don Van Ryk
Skills Enhancement Program Director	Matt Radtke
Public Library Exhibit Director	Phil Brown
Lending Librarian	Clif Poodry
Videography	Matt Radtke, Bert Bleckwenn
Gallery Photography	Michael Colella, Jeff Tate
Candid Photography	Jeff Tate, Tim Aley, Gary Guenther
Web Albums	Jeff Tate, Gary Guenther, Tim Aley, Michael Colella
Show, Tell & Ask Leader	Bill Long
Show & Tell Recording	Richard Webster
Demo Fee Collection	Bob Grudberg
Wood Identification	Ed Karch
Setup Committee	Jim Allison, Margaret Follas
Clean-Up Committee	Paul Simon
Member News Reporter	Phil Brown
Montgomery County Ag Fair Coordinator	Tim Aley
Brochure Boss	Phil Brown