



Vol. 2015, Issue 7

**Montgomery County Woodturners**

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

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## Next Meeting

Date: THURSDAY, July 9, 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	Check in your piece for ST&A <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	Program: David Reed Smith - Blue Tape Special Demo
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 - Thursday, July 9, 2015 (Tim Aley)

### Blue Tape Special demo and Ice Cream Social!



**W**hat is the best way to combat the hot weather? Ice cream and cool blue tape! Come early before the meeting and enjoy some ice cream with your fellow woodturners and then stay for the Blue Tape Special!



David Reed Smith visits MCW a second time with a Blue Tape Special. This demo will feature two projects that depend heavily on original blue masking tape. The first will be Blue Bowl Reversing, a method of reversing a bowl to turn the foot that will work with most any shaped bowl. This method allows unfettered access for both your tools and eyes, and is very solid. The second demo is making a Notebook cover using a backup plate so that the cover can be turned eccentrically and thin without difficulty.

The point of the Blue Bowl Reversing demo is more to prove it actually works than how to do it. David will start with a bowl still on the lathe with the outside turned and the inside turned, sanded and finished, and now wants to finish and/or carve the bottom of the bowl. With the bowl mounted on the lathe in a chuck, blue tape is applied to the inside of the bowl and the curved surface of a mounting block. Then the block is attached to the bowl with hot melt glue (best for gaps) and the tenon is trued. Then the bowl is reversed and the foot turned. The completed bowl can be easily removed by pulling it off. You may wish to have a look at his [Blue Bowl Reversing](#) article before the demo.

If you're at all interested in the design or development of your woodturned items, you should have a notebook for notes, doodles and inspirations. And shouldn't that notebook look like it belongs to a woodturner? Using a Backup Plate (lathe-mounted disc) is an easy way to turn even an eccentric thin



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rectangular piece for the cover of a bound notebook without having to worry about chatter, whirling sharp corners, or dubbing over edges when you sand. Blue tape is applied to the entire disc and the back of the cover blank, which is then attached with hot melt glue. Filler pieces are cut from secondary wood and glued on to fill out the disc. The notebook cover is then turned. When finished it's removed with the aid of a putty knife. You may wish to have a look at his [Notebook Cover](#) article before the demo, although it was written before he discovered how handy blue tape is.

David Reed Smith lives in Hampstead, Maryland, which is northwest of Baltimore, with his wife, a semi-launched son, and a part-time cat. He retired in 2013. When he was forced to work for a living he took X-Rays, mostly in the ER of a small hospital. Besides woodturning he makes tatting shuttles. He also runs (if you're generous with speed requirements), hikes, kayaks, reads, and takes naps. [Editor's Note: At least one person will be generous – I have the current family record for the 79 year-old class in the two mile run – 35 minutes. BL]

He began turning seriously in 1984 with a Myford ML-8 lathe and a weekend lesson with Russ Zimmerman. He now has a Ulery bowl lathe, a OneWay 1024, and a Powermatic 3520B, and a basement full of other tools. He is an unrepentant tool junkie. More than one person has asked if he ever actually turns anything or just makes jigs.

He is a moderately prolific woodturning author and has been published in the *AAW Journal*, *Woodturning*, the late *Woodturning Design*, and starting with the June 2015 issue, the redesigned *More Woodturning*. His web site, which has more than 60 articles and a gallery of turned items, is at: <http://www.DavidReedSmith.com> He welcomes questions, comments, and suggestions via email at [David@DavidReedSmith.com](mailto:David@DavidReedSmith.com)

**Demo Fee of \$7.00 will be charged!**



## Editor's Corner (Bill Long)

**S**ome newsletters are a fixed length. Not this one.

My job is to put in one place all the material that has interested any one of you so much that you have written about. Some items we could call 'boilerplate' – the front page, the schedule tables, etc. Some are standard articles, such as this section or the Member News section – they are always there, though the contents will change from month to month.

Then there are what I call 'Special Member Reports' (SMR). These come about when a member has an experience during the previous month that was noteworthy, to the member or to some other member like Gary Guenther (our President) or me.

Sometime we don't have even one SMR. Then there is this month, where we have **four**. They take up eleven pages, more than a quarter of the Newsletter. They are written by four different members: Gary Guenther ("AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh"); Tim Aley ("Montgomery County Fair"); Bob Grudberg ("Cube to 3-Corner Pedestal Bowl"); and Drew Phillips ("David Ellsworth Workshop"). There is a lot of variation in the nature of the events that are reported – the President's report on the latest AAW Symposium, the report on the upcoming Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, and annual event for MCW, a report by a member on an innovative way to make a tri-corner bowl from a cube, and a report from another member about a training event he attended.

With many photos for each report, with the varied writing approach, with the variations in length, the editing work multiples.

Within the next few days I will circulate to all members a 'Manual of Style' for articles prepared for the Newsletter. An example:

Use MS Word to compose the article, preferably of the '.docx' variety, though I can handle '.doc' files.

Margins: Top – 1.8"; Bottom – 0.8"; Left – 0.8"; Right – 0.8". [Note: these margins are the same as the margins in MS Publisher's file for this Newsletter.]

This is only an example. My circulation will cover everything that is significant as I take what any one of you writes and insert it in the Newsletter.

As all of you follow the 'Manual of Style' structure, I will work less to accomplish the same amount of work. And have more time to work with more submissions to the Newsletter!





## President's Perspective (Gary Guenther)

**I**t's Fair Time!

Not yet, you say? Au contraire. Yes, the Fair is in August, but planning and preparations for MCW activities have to start now. This is a "really big shew!" And don't tell me you're too young to understand that line.

Fair? What Fair? Well, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, of course. You know, the one held annually since 1945 at... yeah, the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in G'Burg. This year's dates are August 14-22. Check it all out here: <http://mcagfair.com>

This will be that great time of the year when you eat ice cream while watching cow judging, hear the twang of blacksmith hammers, admire old tractors, feel the rumble of monster trucks, walk the long barns of farm animals, and check out the arts and crafts and cooking, and turn on a pole lathe. We'll be in the Old Timers' area. Here's just a small sample of our activities last year: <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWFair2014>



The MoCo Ag Fair is MCW's single biggest Community Outreach activity. We have a lot of equipment and practice from years of participation, so if you haven't tried it yet, don't be nervous; and if you have, please come back and do it again. It's guaranteed to be a great experience. In our early years, Bert Bleckwenn got us off to a terrific start and created many of the Traditions that Tim Aley is now guiding us in carrying on and adding to, this year with the aid of Rebecca Meyerson. Let me tell you, quite simply, that there is no Program and No Fun without YOU. We will need lots of turning demonstrated during those days by a coterie of MCW Members working together two or three at a time. Tim needs lots of Volunteers to get out there on weekdays and on weekends to turn and teach and play and have fun while showing the Public how much fun our hobby of woodturning really is. We are looking forward to another year of sharing our love and skills of woodturning.

Please consider finding some time to volunteer. MCW is founded to promote woodturning through education to Members and the Public. This is an excellent way to talk woodturning to many people. Children find it fascinating; seniors remember woodshop and the pole lathe; and everyone else is curious for many assorted reasons. Hopefully we can attract a few of them to become new Members as well.

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In addition to the hands-on action, we also like to be well-represented in the arts and crafts area of the exhibits. We have won many ribbons in the past and hope to do it again this year! You have to enter to show and win. For general information, go to <http://mcagfair.com/exhibitors/fair-catalog/> and click on [Arts Crafts Hobbies and Photography Departments 71-76](#) to get a document in .pdf format. For specifics, please contact Tim directly.

My President's Challenge to you is to make as many spin tops as you can, to give away to kids that come by and watch woodturning. It's great spindle-turning practice, and you can even use it to brush up on your skew chisel skills. Please bring them to donate to Tim at the August Meeting, or bring them with you when you volunteer for the booth. It's a great way to connect with the children.



Joe Howard juggling hedge apples by the Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*) 'significant tree' at Woodlawn Manor



Joe with ex-County Champion Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) at Woodlawn Manor

## General Announcements (Gary Guenther & Phil Brown)

### Washington Artworks MCW Exhibit

MCW's first solo Gallery Exhibit will run from August 7 to 31. The Opening Reception is on August 7 (a "First Friday") from 6-9 p.m. All Members are encouraged to come, along with your spouses and friends. *We particularly hope that those Members showing pieces will attend so you can describe your techniques to the members of the public who come to see the show, which will be advertised widely by WA.* Refreshments and nibbles will be provided.

Setup of the Show will be conducted on the afternoon of July 28. *If you are entering pieces into the MCW Washington Artworks Exhibit, please bring them to the **July 9 MCW Meeting**, properly packaged for transportation.* Wrapping in paper within boxes or bags is strongly encouraged. If you are unable to bring your works to the July Meeting, please make contact Rebecca Meyerson ([r.a.meyerson@gmail.com](mailto:r.a.meyerson@gmail.com)) to let her know that you will be delivering them directly to WA between July 21 and noon on July 28. Pieces will generally not be accepted before or after those times.

### Call for Members to Exhibit at the Montgomery County Fair (Tim Aley)

We demonstrate woodturning at the Fair and offer people the chance to see and touch our mostly unfinished work displayed on a table by the tent, but inside an adjacent Arts and Crafts exhibit building, we try to show off some of our finished work and win a few ribbons. I encourage you to show a piece you turned, and I will even deliver and pick up one piece for up to six MCW members. To take advantage of this offer, bring your piece to the MCW Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and fill out an entry form. The Fair is open August 14 through 22. Pieces for display must be delivered on Wednesday, Aug. 12 or Thursday, Aug. 13 from 3pm to 8pm each day. There is no entry fee. Your pieces must be picked up on Sunday, Aug. 18th from 1 to 4pm. The closest entrance to the Arts and Crafts exhibit building is the south entrance off Chestnut Street in Gaithersburg, with parking on the left along the fence inside the entrance. See the map inside the catalog cover, page 2 of the Fair Catalog, or look for "Map of Fairgrounds" in the link referenced below. There are three age categories for entries: Adults (20 years+), Teenagers (Ages 13-19), and Children (Ages 5-12).

Work from most of us would be entered in categories 368. Wood craft (hollow ware/flat ware, plates, bowls, etc.) and 369. Wood craft, spindle turned items (gavels, baseball bats, etc.).

There are other possible entry categories, which along with rules can be examined in the "Arts, Crafts, Hobbies, and Photography" section of the catalog found at <http://mcag.dev.whatisbold.com/exhibitors/fair-catalog/>



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### Web Album Links for May Meeting

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJune15Gallery>

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJune15Meeting>

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJune15Program>

### Craft Forms 2015

The 21<sup>st</sup> International Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Craft will be up December 4, 2015 through January 30, 2016 at the Wayne Art Center in Wayne, PA. The entry deadline is September 10th. See [www.craftformsentry.org](http://www.craftformsentry.org) for more information and the prospectus.

### Davis Library Exhibit

During July, our MCW Public Library Exhibit will be on view at the Davis Public Library on Democracy Blvd. with pieces by Tim Aley, Joe Barnard, Phil Brown, Margaret Follas, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Ed Karch, Emily Koo, Paul Mazzi, Clif Poodry, Jeff Tate, and Richard Webster. This work will move to the Quince Orchard library in September with installation by Tim Aley.

The web album containing the following photos is at: <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJuly15DavisLibrary>



Mary Beardsley assisted Phil Brown with set up.

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### CAW Demo — Rudy Lopez

On Saturday, July 18 (a week late), Capital Area Woodturners ([www.capwoodturners.org](http://www.capwoodturners.org)) will be hosting well-known turner Rudy Lopez ([www.rudolphlopez.com](http://www.rudolphlopez.com)) from Tampa, Florida for their day-long demonstration. Go on down to Alexandria and check out the action in our sister club.

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Co-State Champion Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*) in Silver Spring

## Meeting Minutes (Jack Enders)

### Business Meeting Minutes Montgomery County Woodturners June 10, 2015

#### Opening and Introduction

President Gary Guenther called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcoming 38 members and introducing two guests: Chris and Jean Grace, visiting from England, who are enroute to the AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh later this month.

Members and guests were reminded to wear their name tags to help us all to get to know one another.

MCW membership now stands at a very healthy and growing 84 paid for 2015.

Gary asked Chris to tell members about his background. Chris said that he and his wife decided to try to link up with active U.S. woodturners groups on this trip, and using the internet, he found MCW. He is Chairman of the South Downs Woodturners Club in West Sussex between Brighton and Worthing ([www.southdownswoodturners.com](http://www.southdownswoodturners.com)). He said that the interaction with other groups is invaluable to bring home to his group new ideas, techniques and new friends and contacts. He and Jane attended the Wounded Warrior Pen Turning session earlier in the day and were very impressed with the project, and the beneficial effects it had on the wounded soldiers. He noted especially these amateurs' concentration on the task at hand and their creative approach to the pen designs. They have nothing like that in his local club, and he will suggest something similar when he returns home. Chris has his own woodworking business, and his website [www.notjustround.com](http://www.notjustround.com) describes his prolific ideas and accomplishments in woodworking, woodturning, making special jigs, chucks, fixtures, and other projects. He has written many articles for Woodturning Magazine and other publications. Members gave him a hearty welcoming round of applause.

Elliot Schantz distributed the Bring Back Tickets. Tonight's prize is Dick Webster's cherry vessel, and the winner for tonight's drawing was Paul Wodiska. (Dick was absent, attending the Arrowmont David Ellsworth Course, along with Matt Radtke, but Margaret Follas brought the piece in for raffle.)

#### Thanks

Gary voiced thanks to Bert Bleckwenn for standing in tonight as Video setup/Videographer for Matt Radtke who is away at Arrowmont, to Bill Long for another outstanding Newsletter issue, and to Jack Enders for his excellent article on last month's program by Michael Mochoco. Gary also thanked Imelda Rocha for shooting the ST&A photos last month.

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We would also like to thank Mike Colella for shooting the Gallery tonight and for emceeing the Show, Tell, and Ask session; Rebecca Meyerson for trucking the ST&A pieces to Mike; Jeff Tate, Tim Aley, and Gary Guenther for shooting candid photos of the Meeting and Program; and Paul Simon and Tim Aley for spearheading the cleanup, with help from many Members.

### Old Business

Officers' actions were reported on two questions raised at last month's meeting:

- 1) **Question of Dual Membership Discount.** The Board voted "No". However this question will likely get some National attention by AAW in Pittsburgh
- 2) **Question of MCW taking a cut on sales at *Washington Artworks* Exhibit.** The Board voted "No". It was felt premature to impose this on our first venture with the Artworks.

### New Business

Gary noted that the woodturning publication *More Woodturning* is under new editorship and available now solely online, at the very reasonable cost of twelve issues for \$25.00. David Reed Smith, our demonstrator for next month, will be writing articles for the new venture.

**AAW Carpool:** Carl Powell announced that he is looking for other MCW members to carpool to Pittsburgh. Paul Simon accepted and announced that he would like to have another member share his hotel room. Interested members were asked to contact Carl and Paul directly.

**Washington Artworks:** MCW will be having its first solo exhibition August 7-31 at Washington Artworks on Wilkins Avenue, Rockville. There will be an opening night reception on August 7 from 6 to 9 pm. Gary reported that 18 members have signed up. The limit is 2 pieces per person. Items can be listed for sale, or not for sale, as desired. For sellers, Washington Artworks will take a 30% commission, so selling participants were urged to set their prices accordingly. Items for the exhibit should be brought to the July meeting, or otherwise by special arrangement. Thanks to Rebecca Meyerson for volunteering to be the coordinator for the exhibit. Also, thanks to Phil Brown for arranging the loan of 13 pedestals from the Creative Crafts Council Show for the displays. Volunteers are needed for demos at the opening reception, and adding to Clif Poodry and Tim Aley, Bill Long and Rebecca Meyerson have agreed to this task.

**Pricing:** A brief discussion was held on the topic of pricing for those who might wish to offer their pieces for sale. A general universal rule is that prices should be sufficiently high so as to avoid destroying or undercutting the market for good pieces.

Clif Poodry advised that homework is important in comparing existing prices at similar shows. "Showy" items generally command higher prices than plain items of similar work-

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manship. He said that one should establish a price and if you don't get it, take the item home, rather than reduce the price. Features that build the price include finish, intrinsic appearance (e.g., grain design, spalting, etc.), and shape. Some of the better small items can go for \$125 or higher. He mentioned *Appalachian Spring* (Congressional and Savage Mill Shopping Centers) as a convenient local artisan sales shop to get an idea of the market for wood turnings.

Mike Colella pointed out that 'functional' items are generally less pricey than 'artistic'. He said that Craft Shows are another source for getting cost comparisons. A well-made original turned platter can bring \$175-195.

Phil Brown commented on the importance of finish. He cautioned that items to be used for food purposes must have 'food-safe' finishes. He uses mineral oil for such situations. It can be renewed easily by the buyer when necessary, and restores the luster to the piece. Other items not intended for food use can be finished with other volatile compounds, appropriate to the intended use. Small bowls generally range from \$70-100, while highly finished artistic pieces can go for \$700-900.

Gary thanked Clif, Mike, and Phil for their comments and urged members to engage them for any further specific detailed questions they may have.

**Montgomery County Fair (August 14-22):** MCW will again participate in the Old Timers Exhibit Area at the Fair. Rebecca Meyerson has volunteered to help Tim lead this important program. Thanks were expressed to both. A sign-up schedule was circulated to fill the demo slots for each day of the fair. Gary urged members to step up and support this program. It not only advertises MCW's activities, but it is a lot of fun for those who participate.

**Creative Craft Council (CCC) Juried Exhibit at Strathmore:** MCW is a member of the CCC. Three of our members have been juried in to the exhibit: Phil Brown, Mike Colella, and Tim Aley. Tim's bowl is on the cover of the Exhibit brochure! An opening night reception is scheduled from 7 to 9pm tomorrow (Thursday, 11 June). The 30<sup>th</sup> Biennial Exhibit runs from June 6 to July 26<sup>th</sup>. Members should make an effort to stop by and see the exhibit.

**Discontinued Publications:** Steve Drake announced that Woodturning Design, which ceased publication several months ago, is still appearing as available on e-Bay, but as with most rare items, the overall inventory is low, so members wishing to obtain back issues should act promptly and search e-Bay.

### Program Updates

**Hands-On Mentors:** There are currently six MCW Members signed up as Mentors. Gary asked for additional volunteers and to contact him to be either a Mentor or Student.

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**MCW Video and Book Library:** Clif Poodry is in charge of our in-house library. Books and DVDs are available for rental at \$2.00 per rental. A true bargain! There is a book on Rude Osolnik, who is the subject of the *Click It* article in the June Newsletter. Our meeting are videotaped, so if you must miss a meeting, you can view it later on DVD. Please pay rental fees to Clif, and if you have an item out, please remember to return it promptly.

**Skills Enhancement Program:** One monitor is proving to be not enough, so from now on, we'll plan to have two. In Matt Radtke's absence, Emily Koo and Eliot Feldman are supervising for the June session. If anyone wants to volunteer to assist Matt after he returns, please advise Gary or Matt. The next Skills Enhancement date is this coming Sunday June 14 at 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. There are only four slots remaining for this session, so please sign up early to avoid disappointment. Sunday sessions are more popular than Fridays...usually a waiting list -- you can't just walk in.

**Wounded Warrior Program:** Program Director Don Van Ryk reported on the session this morning. Six soldiers attended, with three MCW volunteers. We need to get more folks on the roster. Next session is Wednesday June 24 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. at Woodworkers Club. Please advise Don if you can help out with mentoring these young men and women in turning pens, watch fobs or bottle stoppers.

**Empty Bowls Program:** Gary will be pleased to accept additional bowls tonight and will deliver them to the AAW Symposium.

**Beads of Courage Program:** This is now a permanent MCW Outreach Program that turns lidded bowls for local venue pediatric cancer boys and girls to keep their beads of courage in. The beads mark the patient's progress in his/her cancer treatment and the program is highly popular with the children and their parents. Donations of lidded bowls of about 8" diameter are strongly encouraged, and Jeff Tate will be taking the first batch to the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology Unit in the near future.

**Future Programs:** David Reed Smith, an innovative turner, will demonstrate on July 9, and Barbara Dill, a master at multi-axis turning will demonstrate on August 6.

**Show, Tell, and Ask (ST&A):** Mike Colella emceed the ST&A Session. Ten members submitted 14 items. The Newsletter contains a detailed description and photos of this session.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**Evening Program:** Program Director Tim Aley introduced MCW's own Eliot Feldman, who presented his techniques and tools for hollow form turning.

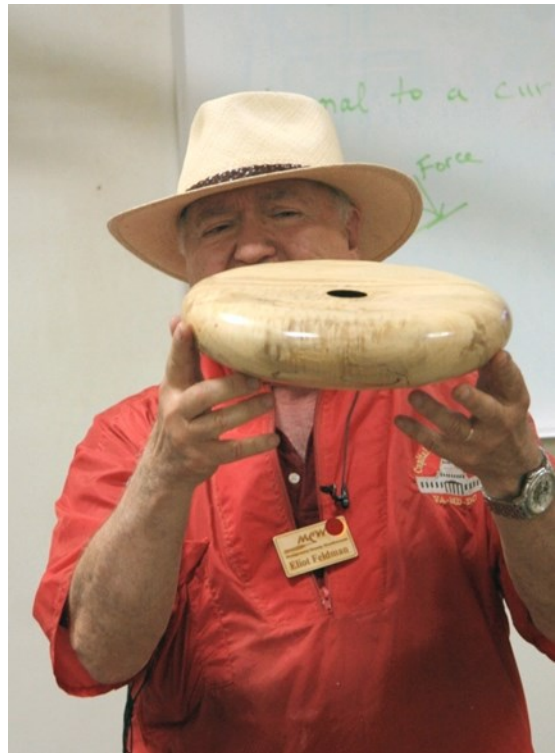
Respectfully submitted:  
*Jack Enders, Secretary*

## Last Month's Program (Jack Enders)

### Techniques and Tools for Hollow-Form Turning: by Eliot Feldman

**M**CW's own Eliot Feldman was introduced by Program Director Tim Aley, reprising for the club his October 2008 MCW demo. He shared many of his techniques for achieving his spectacularly attractive thin hollow form turnings, and demonstrated some of the tools that he employs.

Eliot has been turning for over 40 years. He is a founding member of MCW and served as the Program Chair for our first 2 years. He has sold work in the Sansar Gallery in Bethesda and is a regular participant in MCW shows and Panel Critiques. More recently, Eliot is often the first person to raise his hand to mentor new turners in his shop as a way of giving back. His specialty is thin hollow forms with very small openings. He credits his interest in this to a class he took from David Ellsworth. Eliot excels at making fine hollow forms. A sampling of the pieces he brought to the meeting emphasizes their diversity and the skills involved in making them. His pieces are thin and light and all sizes and shapes, with his 'signature' small openings in a slight depression.

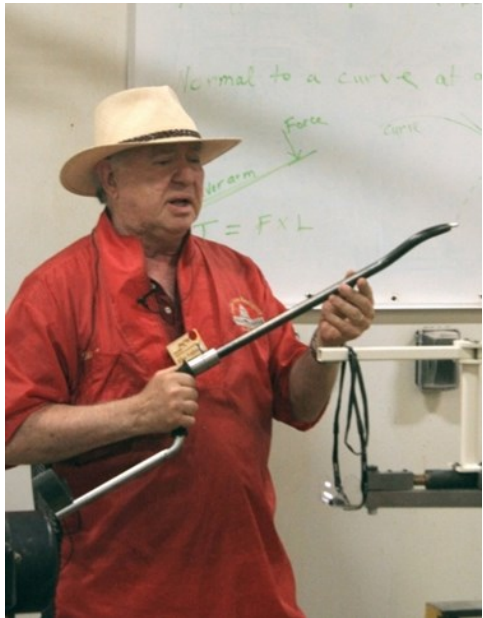




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Eliot's talents are not limited to woodturning; he is also an accomplished painter, with his works in several local galleries. He is a member of Washington Artworks, and we will see some of his paintings there during our MCW Exhibit in August.

After brief comments about the display pieces, Eliot turned to discussing some of the unique aspects of hollow form turning. Because of the peculiar cutting tools' offset geometry of inside turning through small openings, it is vital to understand and appreciate the effects of torque on the stability of the tool and the turner's physical strength and endurance. The term 'torque' here is used to describe the twisting forces, or moment, about the axis of the shaft of the turning tool. Under many circumstances, control of these forces can exceed a turner's physical ability. Some of the well-known woodturner artists have had some severe shoulder, elbow, and wrist muscle injuries resulting from the steady/pulsing torque reaction to the forces encountered by the offset cutting tool's edge. This is not unlike repetitive stress injuries suffered in other occupations.



For small hollow forms, these forces are not particularly difficult and can generally be handled with relative ease by pure manual control of the cutting tool. Larger "arm brace" systems are designed to help control torque on medium-size hollow forms. For larger hollow forms, especially with a high size-to-opening ratio, these forces call for the use of specialty fixtures, or hollowing jigs, that securely hold the cutting tool so as to counteract the torque, while featuring geometry and linkage that allows internal maneuvering of the cutting tool to the extent desired by the turner.



Eliot showed samples of typical cutting tools for hollowing, from small, swan-neck, hand-held scrapers to arm brace devices to assist in medium hollowing, to large robust "captured" boring-bar tools essential for hollowing large vessels. The small hand-held tool's swan-neck feature keeps the cutting edge aligned with the axis of the tool itself, so that any torque generated is relatively small. It is limited, however, by the size of the opening, and the overall diameter of the cavity...it cannot easily undercut or cut deeply for large, flat hollow forms. For these tasks, tools with articulated tips are commonly used that can be adjusted for side and undercuts as the hollowing proceeds. But these tools produce torque, and the turner may soon reach the limits of physically controlling the tool.

The hollowing process begins with starting a "pilot" hole, drilled to a depth equivalent to the desired inside vertical dimension of the vessel. This hole provides a starting point for the hol-

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lowing tool to widen or expand the internal space. Depending on the wood, the tool, etc., chip clearance is a continuing challenge, and the lathe is stopped periodically to either vacuum or blow the chips out of the cavity. Green wood may require shop-made hook tools to pick some of the damp strands from the cavity. Dry wood produces finer chips or dust. Some of the advanced circular cutting tools with a guard can prevent catches by limiting the depth of cut, similar to the throat adjustment on a bench plane. Eliot prefers to guide the tool to just slightly above center for best results, because if the edge catches, it will be pulled downward into empty space, not into wood.



As the form is hollowed, the tool must reach further into the cavity, which presents a problem with tool “overhang”, i.e., the distance from the tool rest at the entrance opening to the inside bottom-most cutting surface. Large overhangs will induce chatter and loss of control. Eliot’s rule of thumb is to match tool to vessel, so that the maximum overhang is no more than 10 times the diameter of the barrel of the tool.

Another challenge for hollow turning is to manage a uniform and thin wall thickness with accuracy. Historically, this was done with mechanical calipers, either manufactured or shop-made. Eliot showed both commercial and shop-made solder wire calipers. It is a time-consuming procedure to ‘guess’ at the depth of the internal cut and then stop the lathe and check the actual thickness with the caliper. With the advent of small laser pointers, the contemporary hollowing jigs feature a mount for a laser pointer above the work and directed downward towards the cutting tool. The laser is positioned to shine its beam a fixed desired distance from the cutting tool edge, i.e. the wall thickness. This is typically 3/16” to 1/4” to 3/8” offset from the cutting edge to produce the respective wall thicknesses. As the tool is maneuvered inside the hollow form, the laser beam’s point is projected onto the rotating exterior surface of the work piece, accurately indicating the location of the cutting tool inside the form. As the wall thickness is reduced to the desired dimension, the laser beam shifts outwards until it just ‘kisses’ the rotating surface, signaling that the desired wall thickness has been achieved. A major advantage of this laser system, besides accuracy and wall thickness consistency, is that the turner has a dynamic reference all the time, so that no stopping of the lathe is necessary to check wall thickness.



To enable large forms and large offset cuts, the turning community has evolved several designs of so-called “captured” hollowing jigs, from relatively simple, to large and massive

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complex fixtures. All are designed to constrain the twisting moments or torque on the tool, permitting the turner to control the tool beyond what would normally be physically possible. Eliot displayed and demonstrated three basic “captured” jigs: (1) the Don Derry, (2) the Elbo Tool – modified, and (3) the Spin Doctor. Each of these features laser locators. These jigs fit into the tool post socket of the banjo and/or clamp onto the lathe bed itself. They accommodate many different configurations of cutting tools or boring bars for the particular geometry of the work piece.

Eliot demonstrated the use of each of these hollowing jigs accompanied by a running commentary of tips and cautions. He explained the procedures in attaching the rigs to the lathe, setting up the tool rest, and fitting the hollowing tool/ boring bar in the torque restraint gates. He showed how the hollowing process is affected by the configuration of the tool that is limited by the size of the opening in the work piece. The articulated cutting tool must be able to be passed through the opening and then positioned where the desired cutting is to take place. As the interior is hollowed from the central “starting” hole, the articulation angle of the tool may have to be successively adjusted as the interior hollowing progresses. It involves stopping the lathe, making the adjustments, re-inserting the tool and restarting the lathe. There is always the risk of inadvertent contact by the tool’s barrel with the rim of the opening that can damage the planned design. And, of course, the smaller the opening, the greater the challenge!



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Eliot concluded his presentation to the accompaniment of a rousing round of applause from the members. Afterwards, members closely inspected the captured tool rigs and the hand tools and engaged Eliot in one-on-one questions.

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### **Bring-Back Challenge** (Gary Guenther)

*It's nice to have a woodturned item in your collection from one of your friends.*

**E**ach month, more or less, we raffle off a piece made and brought in by a Member, and the winner's responsibility is simply to turn a piece of his own and bring it to the next Meeting to raffle off, in turn. It's a fun, if random, way to trade work.

In our June Meeting, guest Chris Grace drew the winning ticket, and a little bowl made by Richard Webster was won by Paul Wodiska, who is clearly happy with the event, as Jack Enders looks on.

Next month, Paul will bring something to raffle off to the next lucky winner.



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

Name	Description	Wd.	Ht.	Ln.	Wood(s) Used
Tim Aley	Bowl	8	2.5		Maple?
Mike Colella	Bowl; "Empty Bowls" donation for AAW Symposium	10	3		Ebonized Oak
Joe Stout	Lidded Bowl; "Beads of Courage" donation	8	4		Walnut & Maple
Elliot Schantz	Box	4.5	3		Oak
Elliot Schantz	Bowl	3	3.5		Spalted Maple
Steve Haddix	"Mosley", a Tortise Box; "Beads of Courage" Donation	6	4		Spalted Silver Maple
Clif Poodry	Spheres, several sizes, various finishes				Maple, Walnut, Oak, Osage Orange, Cherry
Bob Grudberg	Cheese Bowl	10	2		Oak
Steve Drake	Cane	3		39	Mahogany, Purple Heart
Paul Wodiska	Bowl Gouge	2		30	Walnut
Joe Barnard	Windsor Chair Part	1.5		11	Cherry
Don Van Ryk	Lidded Bowl; "Beads of Courage" donation	6.25	5.5		Cherry

**T**hree **Surprises**: Tim A started the bowl some time ago, came back to it for the Symposium; much more work than anticipated. For Mike C, ebonizing the bowl came about because it was stored against some metal in his studio, which left several dark spots. And Steve D started his cane about one and a half years ago, then it bowed as it dried out, so he put it aside; then it straitened out so he finished it.

Finishes, anyone? Well, yes, if your name is Elliott S - he used lemon wax for both of his pieces.

Anybody who loves cheese and has \$80 to spare, talk to Bob - that is what he said he would sell it for. And the cheese knife will be thrown in for free!

And don't forget Clif P - he made a number of riBALLd comments about his spheres.

## Member News (Phil Brown, Gary Guenther)

### AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh

**S**eventeen MCW Members, plus some family members, attended the 29<sup>th</sup> annual AAW International Symposium in Pittsburgh: **Tim Aley & Cindy, Bob Anderson, Phil Brown & Barbara, Mike Colella, Gary Guenther & Vicky, Steve Haddix & Marjory** and their son **Christopher, Jerry Kaplan & Deena, Jordon Kitt, Emily Koo, Ken Lobo, Beth McClelland, Carl Powell, Matt Radtke, Amy Rothberg, Paul Simon, Mark Supik & Nancy, and Mike Twenty.** That's one fifth of our total Membership – a good showing. **Christopher Haddix** attended the Youth Program and won a Jet Mini-lathe at the end. **Mike Colella** was engaged by AAW to be the Roving Videographer for the Symposium. He was everywhere! Good job, Mike; it looked like a fun, all-access gig.

### Exhibits

**Tim Aley, Phil Brown, and Mike Colella** have pieces in the CCC exhibit which continues open thru Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup> at Strathmore Mansion, 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda. An exhibition catalog with pictures of some pieces is on view at: [creativecraftscouncil.org/2015-exhibition.html](http://creativecraftscouncil.org/2015-exhibition.html), and you can purchase a printed copy for \$20 plus postage at this site.

The following Members are signed up to display their work at the MCW Exhibit at *Washington Artworks* in August: **Tim Aley, Bill Autry, Joe Barnards, Phil Brown, Mike Colella, Ellen Davis, Jack Enders, Eliot Feldman, Margaret Follas, Bob Grudberg, Gary Guenther, Ed Karch, Jordon Kitt, Ken Lobo, Clif Poodry, Carl Powell, Allan Starr, Don Van Ryk, Richard Webster, Stan Wellborn, and Ilya Zavorin.** We are very pleased with the level of participation in this, our first solo show. **Rebecca Meyerson** will be handling the registration of the pieces and helping with Setup. **Clif Poodry, Tim Aley, Bill Long, and Rebecca Meyerson** have agreed to demonstrate woodturning at the Opening Reception.

### Champion Tree Tour

**Bill Long** participated in a Champion Tree tour on June 10, sponsored by Carol Bergman, Forest Ecologist at Montgomery County Parks Department, with Montgomery County Forestry Board member and Big Tree Program Founder and Manager, Joe Howard. Trees visited included American Elm, English Elm, White Pine, Black Walnut, Kentucky Coffee, Tamarack, European Linden, and Black Cherry.

The European Linden was included a few years ago in the Champion Tree tour taken by Gary Guenther. Gary always takes loads of pictures, and he took a picture of this tree. The picture was used as a blank-space filler in the May Newsletter, on page 16.



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Bill had made earlier contact with Joe Howard on the possibility that a tree on the Grosvenor Estate in North Bethesda is a Rock Elm (see the same Newsletter issue, pages 20-23 for the story about the tree). On June 9, Joe called with an offer I couldn't refuse; he had discovered a limb had fallen off the European Linden tree, and it was full of burls. I brought them home - they will show up soon at MCW meetings.

## Classes

**Ken Lobo** attended Al Stirt's class at Arrowmont.

**Drew Phillips** attended David Ellsworth's weekend class at David's home workshop in Pennsylvania and reports it to be an outstanding experience. [See photo essay elsewhere in this Newsletter.]

**Matt Radtke** and **Richard Webster** attended David Ellsworth's *Bowl and Vessel Turning* class from June 7 to 13 at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. Check out these good-looking guys! You'd be happy after a week with David too!



**Clif Poodry** would like to find a turner to take over the classes he has been teaching. Until a replacement instructor is found, Clif teaches *Introduction to the Lathe* July 15-16, 2015; and *Beginning Bowl Turning* during the evenings of August 22-23. A minimum of three students

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are required to conduct a class. To register, call 301-984-9033, or go to classes at: <http://woodworkersclub.com/classes/>

**Mark Supik** teaches *Spindle Turning, The Right Start* from July 22-26 at the APPALACHIAN CENTER FOR CRAFT, in Smithville, Tennessee. [www.tntech.edu/craftcenter/workshops/](http://www.tntech.edu/craftcenter/workshops/)

### Outreach

**Phil Brown** arranged visits to six local private collections for six ITE Fellows from the Center for Art in Wood in Philadelphia, and **Phil & Barbara** and **Jerry & Deena Kaplan** provided housing for the group during their three day visit in June. See their blog photos for June 14-17 at: <https://internationalturningexchange.wordpress.com/2015/>

**Mike Colella** and **Tim Aley** donated bowls for our Empty Bowls Program to go to AAW in Pittsburgh.

**Steve Haddix**, **Joe Stout**, and **Don Van Ryk** donated lidded bowls for our Beads of Courage Program to go to Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology in Baltimore.

### Mentoring

**Richard Webster** is Mentoring **Margaret Follas** and **Ellen Davis**. **Bob Grudberg** Mentored **Emily Koo** in segmenting in his shop in Pennsylvania and is willing to do the same for others. **Matt Radtke** Mentored **Emily Koo** in coring in his new shop.

Thanks to **Eliot Feldman** and **Emily Koo** for Mentoring the students at the June Skills Enhancement session.

### Davis Memorial Library Display

MCW member work is on display at the Davis Library on Democracy Blvd. during July with pieces by **Tim Aley**, **Joe Barnard**, **Phil Brown**, **Margaret Follas**, **Bob Grudberg**, **Gary Guenther**, **Ed Karch**, **Emily Koo**, **Paul Mazzi**, **Clif Poodry**, **Jeff Tate**, and **Richard Webster**. Mary Beardsley assisted Phil with set up. This work will move to the Quince Orchard library in September with installation by Tim Aley. <https://picasaweb.google.com/106891946865477202075/MCWJuly15DavisLibrary>

**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.**

## AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh (Gary Guenther)

**S**eventeen MCW Members attended the 29<sup>th</sup> annual AAW International Symposium at the Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh from June 25-28. Over 1400 AAW Members attended.

Activities began on Thursday evening and ran through Sunday afternoon. There were 171 individual 90-minute demonstrations and programs to choose from in 11 rotations, plus 10 Youth programs and 10 Spouse programs, for a total of 191 available programs. Christopher Haddix (Steve's son) took an intro class, two pen workshops, an ornament workshop and a kaleidoscope class. There was also an additional lunchtime session for teaching Disabled Veterans from the WWII era to turn pens.



Christian Burchard hollows one of his famous madrone burl basket forms

Four major gallery shows and three auctions highlighted the action, along with two Banquets, a Trade Show, and the Instant Gallery, in which all attendees could display up to three works for show and/or sale. The Instant Gallery had 857 pieces and, additionally, included a display of the Beads of Courage boxes that were donated by members to support that Program, and an area for selling the many bowls that were donated by members for the Empty Bowls charity (including eight from MCW).

This doesn't even mention the dozens of chance meetings in the hallways with friends of long-standing from clubs around the country or the occasions of making new friends while

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striking up casual conversations with people you knew you just had to chat with. You just can't beat schmoozing with 1400 happy woodturners.

Quite frankly, it was ten pounds of curls in a five pound bag. You had to plan your time carefully (some even used computer programs) and have your track shoes on in this huge venue. But it was worth every stride of hiking and every second of lost sleep. The food in the Trade Show area was surprisingly good -- the chicken gumbo was memorable.

When it's all added up, it's not inexpensive to attend a Symposium, but it's well worth every penny, and then some. Next year, off to Atlanta! They've got a lot of great clubs down there as a volunteer pool, and I'm sure they'll do another great job. I'll be catching up on my sleep in advance.



State Champion Eastern Red Cedar  
(*Juniperus virginiana*) in Rockville



County Champion Deodar Cedar  
(*Cedrus deodara*) in Silver Spring

## Montgomery County Fair (Tim Aley)

**It's that time of year again. Join us at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair!**

**I**t's that special time of the year again so start making plans, make some items to enter in the arts and craft, turn some tops beforehand to donate, and sign up for several demonstration time periods.



**This year's Theme – Celebrate and Educate!**

### Christmas Tree Ornaments



As an annual tradition, we've been asked again to make ornaments for the Old Timer's submission to the fair's Christmas Tree Decorating Contest. Our contributions have greatly helped in the Old Timers winning the Christmas Tree Contest for the last two year. Any ornaments on the small scale are appropriate such as tops, snowman, and icicles, carved Santa or other holiday ornaments. You can either turn an ornament before hand and give to Tim Aley at the August 6<sup>th</sup> MCW meeting or turn an ornament while demonstrating at the fair.

### Details for participating in this year's fair as a MCW member

We have another great opportunity for MCW members to conduct daily turning demonstrations at the upcoming Montgomery County Agricultural Fair August 14-22 at the fairgrounds located in Gaithersburg, MD. We've had a great MCW volunteer turnout the past few years and hope we can continue with continued member participation this year.



The Montgomery County Carvers will be joining us again this year, but will take over the adjoining 10'x10' area of the shared 10'x20' tent. We will be located in the same great location in the Old Timers area as last year with the continued tent arrangement with closable side panels all around to keep out any inclement weather.

We are staffing each day from 10:00AM-8:00pm with shifts consisting hours from 10-3 or 3-8 with a lot of flexibility to accommodate individual schedules. Each shift needs to have two MCW members present. In addition, the Carvers will be staffing each day with two of their staff demonstrating wood carving of many types.



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## MCW Fair Committee – Need Volunteers

Again this year, we would like to set up a small committee of 3-4 members to assist with the setup and takedown of the MCW fair demonstration area. If you are interested and willing to volunteer, please contact Tim Aley at [Taley16922@aol.com](mailto:Taley16922@aol.com) or call 301-706-6291.



## MCW Fair Volunteers

We need to have MCW members to volunteer for demonstration slots for the 10-3 and 3-8 time slots from Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. You're encouraged to sign up for one or multiple slots. Given work schedules and other personal commitments. The time slots are very flexible, so if you need to come or leave an hour later or early, that is fine. Just specify any variations when you sign up. We will also need members to assist with setup and takedown, so sign up, if you can help with that as well. You can sign up now by emailing Tim Aley or at the July or August MCW meetings. In addition, a separate email from Tim Aley will be sent out also asking you to sign up during July and early August. Tim will provide final schedule confirmations just prior to the start of the fair with the free fair passes handed out at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**[A Reminder: You must be an MCW member to demonstrate at the fair.](#)**

## Fair Dates & Times:

Fair dates: Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

Fair Hours are 10:00 AM to midnight each day except for opening day on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> with an opening time of 3:00PM.

**We demonstrate in the Old Timers area, which is open on Sunday starting at noon, August 16<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. We actually start demonstrating on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.**

## MCW Key Dates & Time:

- **MCW, MCC, and Woodworkers Club Setup:** Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 3:00pm
- **MCW & MCC demonstrations:** Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - 10:00am-3:00pm - Morning Shift

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- o 3:00pm-8:00pm - Afternoon Shift
- **MCW, MCC, and Woodworkers Club Shut Down:** Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00-12:00

**Location:** Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD

For additional fair details, directions, maps, etc. check them out at: <http://www.mcagfair.com/>

### **Demonstration format:**

We will be set up under a 10'x20' tented area with a large shade tree providing additional coverage. Our location is in a high traffic and prominent area directly across from the Blacksmith's area and the Old Timers Building.

Members of each two-person team can alternate between demonstrating and interacting with the public. In addition, we will either have the Spring Pole Lathe and/or the Great Wheel Lathe available for doing basic spindle turning demonstrations.

Demonstrations consist of explaining the basic concept of turning to the audience, any history or perspective of turning that you can provide and lots of Q&A along with very basic demonstration techniques of turning. The focus is on demonstrating and engaging the audience and not necessarily trying to complete any finished objects. So, you don't need to be an advanced turner at all. Turning can be anything you like. We will have 2-3" thick by 20" billets available for use on the Spring Pole lathe as well as a variety of smaller bowl blanks suitable for the Midi-lathes. You can also bring your own wood and/or project to demonstrate on as well.

### **Actual Demonstration Suggestions:**

Keep it simple. Most observers will be interested in the basics.  
Open with a brief history/perspective of turning.  
Keep the dialogue going – Plan to spend more time talking than turning.  
Encourage Q&A – This should be educational and informative.  
Talk about MCW – who we are, what we do, encourage attending a meeting, if they are interested  
We will have MCW brochures available for the taking

### **What to Turn:**

Whatever you are comfortable with... It doesn't have to be a finished product  
Between-centers spindle turning will be the norm on the Spring Pole Lathe as the headstock arrangement is set up for only spindle turning.

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A chair rung with a series of beads and coves is likely a good, basic demonstration, a tool handle or a gavel will suffice along with some very basic skew work. Use the green wood which should be really easy to turn for demonstration purposes and less challenging when talking to the audience. If you want to get fancy, turn a continuous stream of shavings from a piece of green wood to impress the audience, which should be easy with any of the green wood.

### **What will be provided on site:**

One Jet Midi-lathe, One Nova DVR Lathe and the Spring Pole Lathe will be set up under half of the 10'x20 tent. The MCC will be setting up workbench(es) in the other half of the 10'x20' tent area.

A sharpening station and sharpening accessories will be available.

A basic set of turning tools, chucks, accessories and supplies for the lathes will be available.

Face shields and safety glasses to promote good safety habits

A portable, light-weight display table will be set up and taken down each day for the display of sample turned objects, and MCW information.

Large, lockable tool boxes will be on site for the storage of most tools, accessories, supplies and loose parts. While all the necessary tools will be provided and stored in the tool boxes, you are encourage to bring your own favorite turning tools and accessories that you can easily carry.

Several sitting chairs will also be available for your comfort.

### **What volunteers will likely want to bring:**

Bring your own set of basic turning tools (rouging gouge, spindle gouge, detail gouge, bowl gouge, scraper, parting chisel, and skew chisel should be sufficient) and a calipers to demonstrate sizing techniques.

Diamond stone or slip stone to touch up your tools might be helpful. Since most of the wood will be green, there should be limited need to even touch up your tools.

There will be rolls of sandpaper (150, 240, 320 grit) available for your use. Use the shavings to burnish the work.

There will be some limited amounts of finishing supplies such as some BLO and wax for very basic finishing and pen-turner's finish.

Bring a bottle of water or plan to purchase refreshing lemonade at one of the nearby stands. There is also a free tea and lemonade stand for volunteers with badges

### **Demonstration Time Slots and Duration**

While the fair is open from 10:00 AM to mid-night, the mid-day and early evening time period up to about 8:00pm is the prime traffic time. Demonstration periods have been set up for 10AM-3:00PM and 3:00PM-8:00PM.

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Given many members' work schedules and other commitments, time slots are very flexible, it's OK to arrive a little later and closer earlier, if no traffic is occurring. If you have a lot of traffic at closing, it's your discretion how long you continue demonstrating.

Demonstrators are asked to take set up or take down the display table, sample turned objects, and MCW brochures. The large, Stanley storage chests are used to store the items. **A key for the Stanley Lockable Storage Boxes will be hidden with the location provided to all the volunteers for accessing and storing items.**

**Other points of interest:**

**Passes** – Free day passes will be provided at the August monthly MCW Meeting since we are volunteer demonstrators. Some passes may allow parking, but it tends to be at the opposite end of where we are demonstrating. The best approach is to park at the designated Lake Forest Mall area and take the shuttle to the Chestnut Street Entrance. The Shuttle Bus will be dropping you off roughly a block away from where we are demonstrating. Plan what tools and items you plan to bring so you can carry them on the shuttle bus.

**Parking** – There is some parking on site depending on the traffic and your specific pass restrictions as well as free parking and shuttle service from Lake Forest Mall.

**Liability** – The Old Timers Group who hosts us has liability coverage. In addition, since this will be an MCW sponsored event, members with MCW membership will also be covered by our liability insurance.



### Cube to 3-Corner Pedestal Bowl (Bob Grudberg)



In May, Bob brought a three-corner pedestal bowl made from a cube of laminated walnut and Eastern red cedar. (It won Cover honors in the May Gallery web album and was consequently highlighted in *Tailstock* in the June Newsletter.) Bob also brought in a series of in-process forms to show how it's done. Here are the steps, in one image, to illustrate the process and to encourage you to make your own.



## David Ellsworth Workshop (Drew Phillips)

A class with David Ellsworth in his home is an experience several of our Members have had, and it is one that none will ever forget. This panoramic shot gives a feeling of the shop environment – David presiding over students at Robust lathes, and huge piles of curls on the floor.



In the backwoods of Pennsylvania, tucked away on a 40-acre property, David Ellsworth hosts a weekend course for five students in his home. David briefly mentioned this class last year during his demo at MCW, and I was curious, as David Ellsworth was the only turner I knew by name. I thought if I could study under him for a weekend, it would be a good excuse to get out of the house and turn.

Not much information was out there on the class other than pricing. I thought I was too inexperienced to attend the class, and it almost caused me to not sign up. Boy am I glad I signed up. It turns out that most of David's students are at about my level. To use an analogy, I would say I was at a 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade level when I entered David's shop; 72 hours later, I feel like I have my high school diploma!

David spent a lot of one-on-one time with me because the other students in the class all had bachelor degrees -- to continue my analogy. We focused a lot on bevel angles and how to properly set up a hunk of wood. I'm only slightly embarrassed to say that it never even occurred to me to set up the wood before turning. I would always just throw it on and go at it; remember, I was in 3rd grade.

I am by no means trying to turn away any of you old timers out there from taking the class -- far from it. But I can tell you from paying attention to the experienced turners, if you are stubborn and set in your ways, you won't get much out of the class. If you are willing to listen, willing to learn, and willing to try something new, you can still learn a whole lot from David. One of the experienced turners in the class was the latter type. He clearly learned new tech-

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niques and just as often as I was, I would hear him exclaim "Oh! Now I get it!" and proceed to turn with eagerness. Our most experienced student (19 years) said that although David tried to show him new things, he found it difficult to adjust his muscle memory and left the class thrilled to work with David but with no new skills.

The class was an incredible weekend for me. Probably different from most people in the club, I'm not retired. In fact, I have a three-year-old bundle of energy, so I'm on the opposite end of the "free time" spectrum. Getting away to turn with David was thrilling, relaxing, and one of the most enjoyable weekends I've had in years. He is an amazing teacher. There was never a moment of embarrassment for asking a silly question. He never talked down to me or showed any signs of frustration, even when he had to explain the same technique to me over and over and over. If you can afford the class, I HIGHLY recommend that you register now. The waiting list is close to a year. For anyone out there who's stuck in elementary school, this is the quickest way to get that diploma!

Being in David's home for his weekend class offered me the opportunity to tour his personal gallery, located above this "modest" shop. It contains many of his classic hollow forms that he is so well known for. Here is one of several displays.



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My eye was immediately drawn to his "Line Ascending" sculptures, even though they're not made on a lathe. David explained to us that he created this new sculpture motif out of necessity and frustration. The story goes that another artist sent David a hunk of wood that he knew David would not be able to turn on a lathe. This friend said he was not only trying to test David's artistic limits, he also wanted to frustrate him. After months of brooding over the wood and trying to figure out what he could make with it, the idea of the "Boy Scout" telescoping cup kept coming to him. He couldn't get that shape out of his head. After a few sacrificial chunks of wood, he was able to create the line that we see today on his band saw. It is his latest creation, and it is very interesting to see pieces in his shop at several stages of completion.

He said the project has rejuvenated his creative spirits and that he enjoys the challenge of creating something that people don't understand. He said people often want him to define it, and he doesn't. People see a spinal cord or a rattle snake tail. They try to relate it to everyday objects, but if that was his intention, he isn't revealing it. It's a wonderful piece to see in person -- the pictures do not do it justice.



## Safety First – Using Cole Jaws (Gary Guenther)

One of the problems woodturners face is how to hold a piece to turn off the last nub on the bottom – to remove all evidence of how the piece was held on the lathe. There are many ways to do it, depending on the situation. One good one, at least for some shapes, is to use Cole jaws on your chuck. This is basically a big, round metal plate, cut into four pieces and screwed to your chuck jaws. The sections have a number of holes into which can be screwed bumpers (buttons, grippers, pick your favorite name) that are used to grip the periphery of your work piece – usually from the outside, but sometimes even from the inside. This note relates to the former, outside case.



Bumpers come in a variety of sizes and shapes, and their utility depends on the shape of the work piece. Some of them are fairly short, while others are quite long (tall). These tall ones are the ones I'm talking about. The image here is fairly representative.



The safety problem arises because when the chuck is spinning, the bumpers become invisible, and you become tempted (trust me) to stick a finger or tool in there. Believe me, that is not a good idea. Don't ask me how I know!

The solution is simple: wrap a couple layers of masking tape around the periphery of the bumpers, right out to their ends. Then they are easy to see and have hopefully been rendered safe from careless intrusion.

## **CLICK IT - Web Site of the Month (Gary Guenther)**

*A recommendation of a web site link I believe to be worth your viewing time:*

**O**n June 10, our Wounded Warriors session and our Meeting were graced (sorry, I had to say it) by the presence of Chris and Jean Grace, who were visiting in our area from England. They found out about us through our excellent Web Site (thanks, Carl), and I invited them to join us for the day of activities. It turns out that they are one of four pairs who founded the South Downs Woodturners, near Brighton, on the Channel coast south of London, and Chris is the current "Chairman".



Their club is very active, and they have a great web site, so this is our *Click It* for this month. [www.southdownswoodturners.com](http://www.southdownswoodturners.com) It's always valuable seeing what other clubs are doing. Take a look at the "About" page, which gives a nice summary of their activities. On their long (!) 'Home' page, which is a time history of their activities, Chris Grace can be seen demonstrating in the January 2015 slot. Note that being in a wheel chair does not slow him down in the slightest! On the Competition page, you can see Chris handing out the awards.

If you see something interesting there that you would like MCW to do, please contact me about it.

Chris and Jean are heading for AAW/Pittsburgh, so we look forward to seeing them again there.

*Please have a look and see what you think. All you have to do is Click It!*



### Future Meetings Schedule (Tim Aley)

Date	Demonstrator	Notes
7/9/2015	David Reed Smith	
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
7/10/2015	Friday
August No Session – Fair	n/a
9/11/2015	Friday
10/11/2015	Sunday
11/13/2015	Friday
12/13/2015	Sunday

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

Session Date	WeekDay	Session Date	WeekDay
9/2/2015	Wednesday	11/11/2015	Wednesday
9/16/2015	Wednesday	11/25/2015	Wednesday
9/30/2015	Wednesday	12/9/2015	Wednesday
10/14/2015	Wednesday	12/23/2015	Wednesday
10/28/2015	Wednesday		

**Treasury Report as of June 24, 2015 (Phil Brown)**

Income Items			Expense Items		
<u>June Income:</u>			<u>June Expenses:</u>		
Membership	\$25.00		Name tag	\$9.00	
Name tag	9.00				
Silent Auction	23.00				
Demonstration Fees	10.00				
Total income	\$67.00		Total expenses	\$9.00	
Total funds available	\$3,467.69				

## Member Discounts (Steve Drake)

**Woodworkers 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** – [exoticlumberinc.com](http://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 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)).



## Craft Supplies USA

([www.woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com)) is a family-owned and operated business serving the woodturning community. Individual MCW Members can save 10% on all finishes & disc abrasives -- just mention "Montgomery County Woodturners" and save, all year long.



**CRAFT SUPPLIES USA**  
THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG  
[woodturnerscatalog.com](http://woodturnerscatalog.com) • 1-800-551-8876



*(Continued from page 38)*

**Hartville Tool** ([www.hartvilletool.com](http://www.hartvilletool.com)) is a nationwide retailer of general and specialized tools for woodworking and home improvement. They offer free shipping to all. If you have accepted the MCW offer to “opt in” to be a member of the Hartville Tool Club, you will get a 15% discount on all tools (excluding sale items, gift cards, special orders, and Festool products). If ordering online or by phone, mention your Hartville Tool Club membership in the “checkout notes”. (The discount will be applied manually when the order is processed for shipment, not at the time of order. The discount will not show on your e-receipt, but it will show on the packing slip that comes with your order.)



**North Woods Figured Wood** ([www.nwfiguredwoods.com](http://www.nwfiguredwoods.com)) North Woods is a multi-generational family-owned supplier of wood and wood blanks specifically selected with the woodturner in mind. They specialize in Pacific Coast native species of trees and have sizes from single pen blanks up to 1,500 lb. whole burls. With 20+ species in stock, there is something for everyone. Members get a 15% discount by mentioning their MCW membership during a phone order or by entering “WOODTURNERS” as a coupon code during online ordering.



**Chapter Contacts—Volunteers (Gary Guenther)**

Position	Member
Wounded Warrior Support Program Director	Don Van Ryk
Skills Enhancement Program Director	Matt Radtke
Beads of Courage Program Director	Jeff Tate
Public Library Exhibit Committee	Phil Brown, Russ Iler, Mary Beardsley
Washington Artworks Exhibit Project Leaders	Rebecca Meyerson, Eliot Feldman
Montgomery County Ag. Fair Coordinator	Tim Aley
Lending Librarian	Clif Poodry
Videography	Matt Radtke, Bert Bleckwenn
Gallery Photography	Michael Colella, Jeff Tate
Candid Photography	Tim Aley, Gary Guenther, Jeff Tate
Web Albums	Gary Guenther, Tim Aley, Jeff Tate, Michael Colella
Show, Tell & Ask Leader	Michael Colella
Show, Tell & Ask Recording	Richard Webster
Demo Fee Collection	Bob Grudberg
Wood Identification Wizard	Ed Karch
Setup Committee	Jim Allison, Margaret Follas
Clean-Up Committee	Paul Simon
Member News Reporter	Phil Brown
Discount Deacon	Steve Drake
Brochure Boss	Phil Brown

**Chapter Contacts—Officers (Gary Guenther)**

President	Gary Guenther	gary.c.guenther@gmail.com	301-384-7594
President Emeritus	Tim Aley	teaturning@gmail.com	301-869-6983
Vice President	Matt Radtke	mattradtke@gmail.com	240-606-7005
Program Chair	Tim Aley	taley16922@aol.com	301-869-6983
Secretary	Jack Enders	jendersaero@verizon.net	301-530-8118
Treasurer	Phil Brown	philfbrown@comcast.net	301-767-9863
Membership Chair	Jim Allison	jim-elaine@allison.net	301-706-6164
Newsletter Editor	Bill Long	bpra@earthlink.net	301-530-5626
Webmaster	Carl Powell	cmepowell@gmail.com	301-924-6623

**TAILSTOCK – ST&A “Gallery” Cover shot for June (Gary Guenther)**



**S**teve Haddix earned Cover honors in June for his imaginative, spalted-maple tortoise box, “Mosley”, made to donate to our Beads of Courage Program.