



## MCW Newsletter

**Montgomery County Woodturners**

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>



Next Meeting	Location	Agenda	
Thursday 20 April 2017	<b>Woodworkers Club</b>	6:30 - 7:00	Set-up, Check-in Show, Tell & Ask items, Silent Auction Shop in the Woodworkers Club Store
7:00 – 9:30	11910-L Parklawn Drive	7:00 – 7:20	Business meeting
	Rockville, MD 20852	7:20 – 7:50	Show, Tell & Ask
	(301) 984-9033	7:50 – 9:20	Program
		9:20 - 9:45	Clean up, claim your auction items and pay for selected items

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 parking.

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### Evening Program

**Next Meeting Thursday April 20, 2017**

**\*\*NOTE NOT OUR USUAL WEEK\*\***

### Platter turning and decoration – Jeff Chelf

There will be a \$10 demo fee.

Jeff Chelf will be turning a platter for us. He will demonstrate tool control to create the platter you had planned. He will then demonstrate several forms of texturing and finishing making your platter stand out in a crowd.

“Having started my professional career as a wooden boat builder, I have a great appreciation for objects that are more than the sum of their parts. Whole days are spent making individual pieces on a boat, many seemingly unimportant, but all of them ultimately vital in the final project. I see a similarity between this truth and the way our own lives unfold. We are all the result of constant modification, disassembly, repair, and neglect leading



I create objects meant to last a lifetime, using locally available materials whenever possible. It is the permanence in my pieces that gives a sense of stability in my life, acting as an anchor to his senses. In a world of chaos, I take great pleasure in creating objects with a sense of stability, and can't imagine any other life for myself." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkdK38jHN5E>  
[www.JeffChelf.com](http://www.JeffChelf.com)

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### President's Perspective by Ellen Davis

Spring is here, finally! Spring always seems to conjure the image of the beginning of something new. Our website is also new. It's fresh, light, quick to respond, and holds MCW's entire 10 Year existence in its pages. Every newsletter and every photograph is on the site and they are now easier to access.

As with the budding of new flowers our website will continue to grow and change to the needs of our membership. Please take a few minutes and look around, you never know, you might find out something you didn't know about MCW, a technique to use, or about a member. Have fun!



*Ellen*

"I am at home among trees" – J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

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### Editor's Corner by Stephen Price

This month's newsletter includes a number of "try it you'll like it" items. Some took much more work and time than I anticipated, so it will change a bit again next month. If there is something you like, or things you think you can do without in the newsletter please let me know. Comments and suggestions are most welcome, especially with regard to the Show, Tell and Ask.

I took the liberty of editing a few articles for a better fit in the space available. So if you have issues with content, come to me. ☺ I will not be at the next meeting so you will have to remember the issue until May. See you then

Stephen

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## Meeting Minutes for 3/9/2017 by Steve Drake

President Ellen Davis called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, welcoming approximately 39 members.

### General Announcements:

- Silent auction has some nice pieces for sale tonight.
- Guests – Gene Torry, George Adams, and Michael Morse were guests at the meeting.
- New members – Paul Sandler and Doug Wolf joined the club at this meeting.
- The next meeting is on April 20, 2017 which is not the usual date.
- The newsletter may be on a tight schedule this month so try to get the items in to Stephen Price as soon as possible.
- Sidney Stone has a number of large woodworking tools for sale. Flyers are on the bench or reach him on email at [sidneynstone@gmail.com](mailto:sidneynstone@gmail.com).

### Bring-Back Challenge and prize raffle:

Stephen Price won last month's Bring-Back Challenge and has donated a spindle turned bird house for this month's drawing. Michael Morse, a guest, won the drawing and will bring something to next month's drawing.

### Membership dues:

Ellen Davis reminded people that it is time to renew your membership in MCW. She also explained that, starting April 1, AAW is discounting their dues by 50% for new members.

### Discount issues:

Steve Drake reminded people that the list of members eligible for the 15% discounts at Hartville Tool would be sent to the company before the next meeting. He also said that the discount at 2Sand.com had been discontinued as it was only good for the store in Gaithersburg and that store had closed.

### MCW website:

The new website is up and running. Jeff Struewing is the new webmaster and has created a great site. Please look at it and make sure everything looks good. If you have a personal website that you would like to have listed on our Member Site section, please send the information to Jeff (<mailto:jeff@struewing.us>). Everyone will be getting a new login and password sent to them shortly.

### Public Library exhibit:

Our next exhibit is in May at the Germantown Public Library. Phil brown has been doing this for several years and is looking for an assistant to help him in 2018. Contact Phil directly at [philfbrown@comcast.net](mailto:philfbrown@comcast.net).

### Turn For Troops:

Roman Steichen is coordinating a year-long turning program for making these pens. There will be a pen turning session at the Woodworker's Club on 3/11/17 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please contact [Roman at roman@goodtimescasinos.com](mailto:Roman@goodtimescasinos.com) for blanks and kits to turn.

**Beads of Courage:**

Jeff Tate is still collecting bowls to take to John's Hopkins Pediatric Oncology unit in September 2017. Contact Jeff at [jbhunter@hotmail.com](mailto:jbhunter@hotmail.com).

**Turning Works:**

Bob Browning is developing this program with the eye of delivering an organization 2-4 bowls that they can auction off to raise money. He has a number of bowls in stock now and is looking for organizations that could profit by this program. It was suggested that he also give some MCW brochures to the organizations and request some pictures of the bowls as they are displayed for the auction. Contact Bob directly at [suznbob@verizon.net](mailto:suznbob@verizon.net).

**Wounded Warrior Program:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 10th at 12:30 at the Woodworker's Club. Please check the web site or contact Don Van Ryk at [dvanryk@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:dvanryk@niaid.nih.gov) for more information. Mentors are always needed.

**Skill Enhancement:**

The March Skills Enhancement session was Thursday, March 9th from 10:00 am - 1:30 pm with the last 30 minutes reserved for lathe maintenance. Contact Matt Radtke at [mattradtk@gmail.com](mailto:mattradtk@gmail.com) to reserve a space at the April 16th session.

**Facebook page:**

The [MCW Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/194941367515051) is very active with frequent postings and discussions. Check them out at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194941367515051>.

**Activities and Opportunities:**

**Patina Antique Tool sale:** Saturday March 11th in Damascus, MD – lots of tools for sale and auction. There is also a tool flea market across the street.  
<http://www.patinatools.org/auctioninfo.asp>

**The Center for Art in Wood:** Small Favors: Think Inside the Box Exhibition March 3 – May 27, 2017 in Philadelphia, PA. <http://centerforartinwood.org/event/small-favors-think-inside-box/>

**The Woodworking Show:** March 24 – 26th in Chantilly, VA. Tickets are available online at <http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com/buy-tickets.html>

**CCC Exhibit Opportunity in 2017** The CCC Exhibit Opportunity in 2017 is its juried, biennial exhibition at Strathmore Mansion from April 8 to May 21, 2017. Congratulations to Jeff Tate, Joe Barnard, and Tim Aley for getting their works accepted into this juried exhibit.

**The 5th Annual A-RTS at Rockville Town Square Fine Art Festival:** May 6 – 7, 2017. Saturday 11am – 6pm, Sunday 11am – 5pm. See the website for more information - <http://a-rts.org/> for more information.

**AAW 2017 Symposium:** June 22-25, 2017 in Kansas City, MO. Registration is now open and Information is at <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=2017KC>



**Mid-Atlantic Woodturners Symposium:** October 27-29, 2017 at the Lancaster Marriot Hotel.

Registrations for the Symposium will open in early April. Please watch for updates at

<https://www.facebook.com/MAwoodturners>.

### **Gallery Photography:**

Thank you to Mike Collela for taking the pictures of the Show and Tell items and to Bob Browning for helping him by moving the pieces. Thanks also to Joe Barnard for handling the video displays and recording.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

--Steve Drake, Secretary

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## **Bring Back Challenge**



Stephen Price won last month's Bring-Back Challenge and has donated a spindle turned bird house for this month's drawing. Michael Morse, a guest, won the drawing and will bring something to next month's drawing. (Insert photo of item)



## Last Month's Program



### Perspectives on texture and color

*Steve Haddix provided his insight and techniques adding texture and color to some of his pieces. This article was compiled from his demo outline and notes.*

The goal for the texture demo was to show you enough about texturing and coloring that you have some ideas where you might use these processes in your own work and that you feel confident going out on your own and experimenting yourself. That said, if you end up liking everything that you

produce, or even if everything that you try turns out, then you should decide if you're taking enough chances with your design concepts. Even when things don't work out, some of my favorite pieces started out with a different plan, but evolved as I either didn't like the results or my technical skills weren't up to the challenge.

The advantage of working with plain wood is that it owes you very little – or from a different perspective - as the wood worker you don't owe it very much either. It gives you more free reign to try new ideas knowing that it's ok if they don't work out.

When working with color and texture though, the same design principles apply for shape and balance. You can't fix bad shapes or poorly sanded surfaces by throwing texture or color on top.

### Sorby Texturing Tool

Wheel options include different cutters that vary by pitch (number of teeth per inch) and different outcomes (orange peel texture versus cut grooves). The end result on the wood depends on the ratio of the wheel diameter and pitch to the diameter of the wood. Sometimes just reducing the diameter of the wood slightly can result in a more consistent cutting pattern and works better on harder, but not brittle, woods. It can be used for distressing or primitive designs on softer woods. Speed – around 500 rpm, but +/- 200 RPM is ok. The small Sorby texture tool has bronze bushing and needs a drop of oil before every use to prevent wearing out. The larger has ball bearings that do not need oiling.



The resulting spiral varies with the set tool angle. The indexing line and number allow you to produce consistent results when switching from leaning right to leaning left (and vice versa). The spiral tool is presented to the wood on center line like a cutter, engage the teeth and then raise the handle to apply pressure (dropping the cutter just below center). Hold the cutter with a gentle pressure to give it time to work. Rocking the handle back and forth from (left/right) gently allows you to expand the cut across the wood. To re-engaging the teeth back into



the prior groove, use very light pressure when presenting the cutter until you feel the cutter drift back into the prior grooves. You can use a quick cut for accent lines while holding for a longer period to time will create an actual spiral.

Diamonds - You get a pleasing diamond pattern when you cut with the index first on 2L and afterward on 2R. Use medium pressure so not to tear out wood and make sure both passes are cut for the same time for an even result. Clean up the torn fibers by burnishing with wood shavings of a brush



Squares - Leave the wall thickness so you have room to

reshape the outside if you're not happy. Set a right angle between patterns to show a square.

Raised band - show how cutting away the surrounding wood creates a banded bowl look.

Straight lines - Holding a cutter with the teeth horizontal creates a pattern of straight lines that can look very pleasing as well, especially on the rim of the bowl or box. Rim looks better balanced / symmetrical. You can also combine the pattern of the big wheel and the small wheel cutter to create an interesting look

Embossing / Orange Peel - Creates a coarse pattern – good for more primitive designs. To get a random pattern, vary your pressure while using random stabbing motions in- and out to alter the appearance. The pattern can be used on the rim of a platter to create a primitive hammered texture look and also looks nice between accent lines.

Ways to accent the lines - Use 3-point tool (or tool of your choice) to create accent lines on either side of you texture to make your patterns stand out



Combine with other pattern sand or Other Textures

Chatter tool - Works on end grain so good for boxes, tops, etc. You can make or buy. Faster speed creates courses pattern, slower equals tighter pattern.

Wagner Tool / Ron Brown's Best – knurling tool that embosses a predefined pattern (as opposed to cutting the pattern)



The Wood Elf - used to make a couple texture patterns in pre-cut coves

Hand Textures – when you look at Nick Agar’s work, you see frequent use of hand applied textures as well, including:

- Dremel patterns  
Other texture or accent options
- Leather texture tools – Show the tools, results depend on the wood
- Wood burner or wire
- Carved lines – with power chisel or with hand chisels

Adding color to accent textures

To accent textures there are three choices

- Rub a color on the surface while the wood is turning using a pad that is only slightly wet so not to get dye into the grooves
- Color the whole texture (including the grooves) and then add a surface color or wax for contrast
- Color the entire surface and then rub a color into the texture (like a liming wax or milk paint)

Options for color

Dyes – Spirit dyes are alcohol based, can still be thinned. Typically have some shellac in them for shine. Can be airbrushed, brushed, wiped.

Milk paint- Milk paints are high in casein protein and polish nicely once dry. They typically dry in about an hour but can be accelerated with hair dryer. They can also be thinned to air brush with very good results. Cautious when air brushing milk paint not to over-atomize the paint and have the it dry in the air, resulting in a powdery surface that won’t properly adhere.

Reactive paints - contain metal powders that chemically react to create an aged patina

Typical wood stain or burnishing with piece of oily wood can give interesting color bands as well.

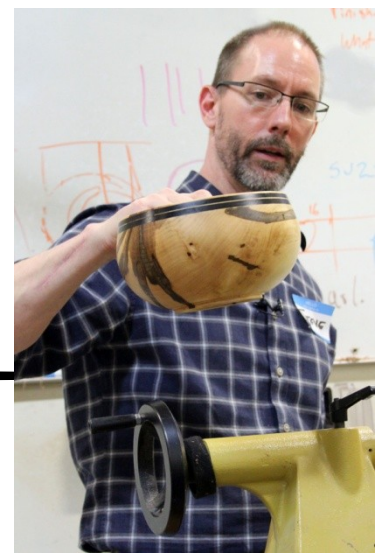
Surface waxes

Patinating / Gilding wax – pigments mixed into the wax, sits on the surface, thinned with alcohol or lacquer thinner. Apply the artist wax on top of the airbrushed bowl to show a metallic look. Light passes with finger or makeup sponge to avoid getting wax in the texture. One site recommends a light coat with a fixative to lock in the color below

Liming wax – colored and thinned wax that fills pores or cracks to accent the wood. Can be applied over finished or painted wood.

Filled lines / filled defects

Milliput - Colored epoxy that can accent or contrast other colors in your wood. Use the parting tool to cut in a line perpendicular to your surface – generally 3/32 is my goal. There are lots of ideas on YouTube about combining milliput in geometric patterns. It is







available on Amazon. Tape the surface around the line to avoid getting the milliput in the end grain. Let harden at least 12 to 24 hours before sanding

Other inlays using thin CA glue rather than epoxy to avoid air bubbles using copper, stone or aggregate. Create your own defects or extend the existing defects to heighten the look

Other techniques

Stabilized wood - Using a vacuum with a color resin pulled into the wood. Good for hardening punky woods, but not intended to fill gaps.

Modeling Paste - Apply to surface of your bowl or platter. Emboss patterns in the paste. Sand or further carve new patterns once dry. Paint similar to other textures.



Reveals - Painting colors on a surface. Applying a tape or frisket to the surface to protect the surface. Apply a contrasting surface paint over the entire area. Remove the frisket to allow the original color to show through.

Pyrography - On it's own or using markers to add color

For interesting YouTube videos, google Mike Peace and Sorby Texture.

Resources:

Woodcraft – Sorby Texture Tools, Milk Paint power or pre-mixed, Chatter tools, liming wax

<https://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/> - Spirit stains, gilding wax, KJR sanding system

Hartville Tools – crown cutters (may be less expensive than Sorby optional cutting wheels)



## Show, Tell and Ask



**Richard Webster 11" x 6" bowl [cherry]**



**Bob Browning**  
4" shoe maker awl [osage orange] and original as a pattern  
3" small awl [Hickory]  
1 3/4" x 1 1/2" pill box [walnut]



**Bob Grudberg**

**8" x 5" bowl [walnut], an 8" x 8" natural edge bowl [walnut], and an 18" x 9" natural edge bowl [cherry]**



**Stephen Price: 5 1/2" x 4" crochet bowl with music [maple], 5 1/2" x 5" box [maple]**





**Jeff Tate 6" x 3" vase [says cherry but we say honey locust], 6 1/2" x 3" box [black cherry, we believe him on this one], and 18 Turn for the Troops pens [mixed]**



**Tim Aley 8" x 3" bowl [Chinese elm]**



**Roman Steichen: pen [blue acrylic, oak and walnut], pen [red acrylic, hickory shells], and pen [thin blue line revolver pen]**



**Gene Torrey 8" x 5 1/2" bowl [scarlet oak burl]**





Steve Drake  
3" x 3" cup [chestnut], and a 10" x 1/2" plate [chestnut]



Bob Anderson  
8" x 5 1/2" burl [unknown rock like wood]



**Joe Barnard**

7" x 4 1/2" bowl [pine], and 12" x 2 1/2" wand and box [cocobolo / oak]



**William Flint**

6" x 4 1/2" bowl [spalted oak], 6" x 4 1/2" bowl [spalted oak], and a 6" x 4 1/2" bowl [spalted oak]





**Ken Lobo**

2 1/2" x 5" box [sapele], 6" x 5" bowl [sycamore, jatoba], and 8" x 6" bowl [pine, sapele]





**Anna Sattah 8" x 12" x 2" fish**



**Jordon Kitt big bowl [maple burl], and a pair of winged bowls [walnut crotch]**



**Eliot Feldman 7" x 3 1/2" hollow form [unknown]**



**Mike Colella 9" x 3" bowl [walnut]**



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## Member News by Phil Brown

Tim Aley, Joe Barnard, Phil Brown, Dick Webster, Tina Chisena, and Jeff Tate together have nine pieces in the Creative Crafts Council exhibition at Strathmore Mansion, opening with a reception from 7 - 9 pm on April 13th. Work in seven media categories will be shown on the first and second floors. The exhibit opens to the public on Saturday April 8, and closes May 21. Strathmore Mansion is at 10701 Rockville Pike North Bethesda, MD, next to the Music Center. Hours are Tue Fri & Sat: 10am–4pm; Sun: 12–4pm; and Wed: 10am–9pm.

Clif Poodry teaches Introduction to the Lathe on March 13 & 14, April 10 & 11, and May 8 & 9 at the Woodworkers Club, and Matt Radtke teaches Beginning Bowl Turning during the evenings of March 22 & 23, April 17 & 18, and May 15 & 16. A minimum of three students are required to conduct a class. To register, call 301-984-9033, or go to: [www.woodworkersclub.com/classes/](http://www.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 \$165/class, with a \$20 discount for AAW and local woodturning club members. Lunch & materials are included. To register, phone or e-mail Nancy Supik 410-732-8414, or email them at [nancy@marksupikco.com](mailto:nancy@marksupikco.com)

The Right Start: Introduction to the lathe, use of three basic tools used in spindle turning, great projects on Sunday, April 9th, Saturday, May 20th or Sunday, June 11th

Bowl Turning: Basic bowl turning from log to finished bowl. No woodturning experience? Please consider The Right Start as your introduction to woodturning. Turned some bowls already? This class is a great review of proper technique to eliminate those catches and save on sand paper. These classes are on Saturday, April 8th, Sunday, May 21st or Saturday, June 10th.

Open Studio (for returning students) is \$30 per open period of 9 AM to 12 and 1 4 PM, Sat, April 22, and May 27th or June 24th

Not sure which class is right for you? Give Mark a call (410-732-8414) or send him an email: [mark@marksupikco.com](mailto:mark@marksupikco.com)

Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the MCW Newsletter. Send your information by the 23rd of the month to Phil Brown, [philfbrown@comcast.net](mailto:philfbrown@comcast.net)

The Makers of Maryland's Panel Discussion: Materials for Making. A fascinating discussion of the materials we make with. A woodturner, a blacksmith, a furniture maker, a glass blower, and a textile maker will discuss their craft and medium as well as how we can incorporate them into our projects. Following, each panelist will hold a "flash" breakout discussion and answer questions. Our own Ellen Davis will be the panelist representing woodturning and the event is being held on Saturday, May 6, 2017, from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM, at the Hyattsville Municipal Building

April 27-30: Smithsonian Craft Show <http://smithsoniancraftshow.org/> -This is widely acknowledged within the craft community as being one of the top three shows in the U.S. every year. It is ultra-high quality, heavily juried, and intimately sized (around 150 crafters, compared to the ridiculous 800+ at the Baltimore ACC Show).



Their web site fails miserably when I attempt to get a listing of wood artists, but there are always some very good ones, albeit in a minority compared to the total of others in ceramics, textiles, glass, metal, etc. This is an outstanding way to spend a day. It's best to go on a week day -- the weekends are quite crowded. April 21-23: Countryside Artisans of MD Studio Tour [www.countrysideartisans.com](http://www.countrysideartisans.com)

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## Turning Works Reset

Our initial effort to donate turned bowls to Interfaith Works's Empty Bowls event fell through when they changed their schedule of events and were not able to use the bowls in the near term. We retrieved the bowls and although some members withdrew their bowls, 17 bowls remained in our inventory.

Given the probability that Interfaith was overwhelmed by the number of bowls received at one time (a bolus of bowls?) I raised the possibility with Ellen about gathering a list of appropriate charities and offering just 2-3 bowls from the Club inventory for specific events. This has the advantage of giving the Club a wider audience for its works of art. This plan was accepted and I asked the members to contact me with suggestions of recipient organizations sponsoring events that cater to folks that are likely to appreciate turned art. E-mail me at [suznbob@verizon.net](mailto:suznbob@verizon.net) with contact information of the charities you suggest.

(I had to interrupt the completion of this article to brave the cold at the PATINA Tool Show and Sale at Damascus. I bought some tool bits to complete the hollowing tools I'm making, a set of old Buck turning tools for when my son gets a lathe, and some gouges for carving: all for less than two twenties. I hope all of you were just as lucky.)

Now back to Turning Works, thus far, I have delivered three bowls to The Capital Area Food Bank for their "Blue Jeans Ball" event April 23 at the Washington Marriot Marquis and next week will deliver three more to Habitat Metro Maryland for their 12th Annual Golf Classic At Whiskey Creek Golf Course on June 2. Silent auctions are an important part of each of these events. So, in closing, please pass along your

suggestions and please help to keep the inventory of bowls up to the demand.

Bob Browning 240-354-1422



Bob delivering bowls to Jessica Warren of Habitat for Humanity



## Turn for Troops

Our 2017 Turn for Troops campaign is off and running! We currently have 133 pens completed with an additional 132 pen kits out to members. Jeffrey Tate has turned 48 pens and has a standing order for 20 new kits each meeting. Paul Wodiska has completed 30 pens. Jeff Struewing has a standing order for 10 new kits each meeting.

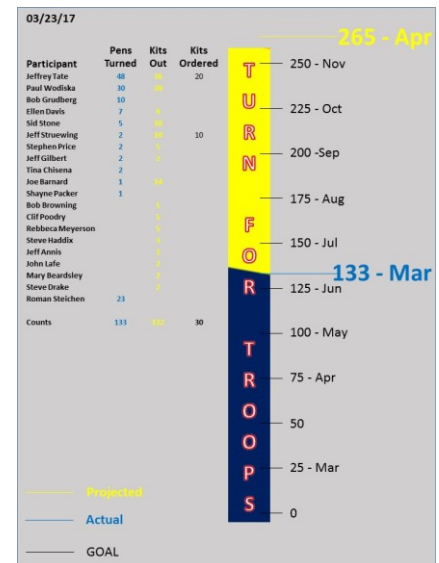
We had a TFTs turning session on Saturday March, 11, Jeffrey Tate, Sid Stone, and Shayne Packer came out and we turned 10 pens. If you'd like to participate but can't because you don't have a lathe, or a mandrel, or your turning studio is the great outdoors and you'd like to be able to turn some pens in the warmth of WWC, contact Roman and he'll set up another pen turning session.

Our (MCW) goal for this year is to have 250 pens turned by the November meeting we will meet that very soon. Look for our goal to be adjusted in the near future.

To request pen kits outside of our meetings, or WWC turning sessions contact Roman via: [MCW's Facebook page](#) or email [Roman@GoodTimesCasinos.com](mailto:Roman@GoodTimesCasinos.com) or call 301-792-6836

If you haven't had the opportunity to participate, please consider doing so.

If you have some spare time and you'd like to help prepare pen blanks please let Roman know.



## Shop Tip



AAW VIDEO SOURCE: FLICK OF THE WEEK

[Ebonizing Wood Three Ways with Les Casteel](#). In this video, Les presents a comprehensive lesson on ways to ebonize wood, and combines it with fun and science!

AAW Explore: Food Safe Finishes by Rob Wallace

Question: I am a woodturner and a member of the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild. I would like a listing of the FDA-approved wood finishing products such as oils, etc. Thank you

~ Dennis, Wisconsin

Answer:

The topic of food safe finishes is a recurring theme for many woodturners and woodworkers who envision placing their projects in contact with food, drink, or any materials meant to be consumed. Some of the concerns raised about whether something is "food safe" or not stem from invalid



assumptions about the nature of the available finishes used to protect the wood, accentuate its figure, and reduce infiltration of moisture and other materials from the food into the wood. While in their liquid state, most finishes should be considered “toxic” and unsafe for human consumption due to the presence of solvents used to carry the actual finish into or onto the wood surface. However, once the finish has “matured” to its final state, many would argue that nearly all finishes are “food safe,” specifically with regard to direct contact with food, such that no undesirable chemicals will leach out of the wood and finish into the food material being consumed. If you don’t eat or drink the finish, it’s food safe!

We first need to determine the kind of finish desired, as to whether it forms a film on the surface of the wood, or whether the finish penetrates into the porous structure of the wood. For those pieces that will not be subject to damage from food handling utensils, film finishes, such as polyurethane, lacquer, “varnish,” or even shellac would be acceptable to use, for example, on serving platters. For those pieces where a film finish is likely to be damaged (cutting boards, salad bowls, etc.) a penetrating oil finish is recommended. For film finishes, once the carrier solvents have been permitted to fully leave the finish, and the surface has “dried,” one might consider these surfaces food safe. For example, it is necessary to allow polyurethane finishes to fully polymerize and lose their carrier solvents (essentially making a “plastic” film finish), and to allow soluble finishes such as shellac and lacquer to fully evaporate away their solvents. Assuming you don’t serve food mixes containing high concentrations of alcohol or lacquer thinner, which would dissolve these finishes, the surfaces should also be considered “food safe.” In fact, purified shellac is a frequent ingredient used in various pharmaceutical products (e.g. coated tablets or pills), and is fully ingestible and generally safe. However, once the finish has “matured” to its final state, many would argue that nearly all finishes are “food safe.”

Similarly, oil finishes are often supplied as dissolved in a solvent which must leave the oil behind in the wood as it evaporates, and then allow the oil to “cure.” That is, if the oil finish used is composed of one of the so-called “drying-oils,” such as linseed, tung, or walnut oils. These oils do not actually “dry” in the evaporation sense, but actually undergo spontaneous cross-linking of their molecular structures (in the double bonds of their fatty acids) with the incorporation of oxygen from the air. The fully-cured oils would also be considered food safe. In some commercial preparations of oil finishes (such as those using primarily linseed oil), metal-based chemicals are added to increase the rate of cross-linking with oxygen; without these “metallic driers” some of these finishes would take quite a long time to cure. Are the metallic drier chemicals “toxic” – yes, if they are ingested in their soluble form – however as the oils cure and become cross-linked, very little, if any of these additives should leach out into one’s food. Even if the wood itself is ingested containing the cured, crosslinked oils, it is doubtful that a sufficient amount of metallic drier and cross-linked oil could be considered toxic in any significant concentration. Finishes sold as “salad bowl” or “butcher block” finishes are chemically related to other penetrating oil finishes that “dry” and should be considered “food safe.” Oils that do not “dry” such as olive, peanut, canola, and “vegetable oil” will turn rancid through degradation of the oil’s fatty acid components, and impart bad odors or flavors in foods used on these surfaces. Although these degradation products are generally not toxic, they are undesirable, and these types of oils should not be used on utilitarian wood products. Mineral oil, which “never dries or turns rancid” is sometimes used, and as long as a purified (USP) form of mineral oil is used (and replenished as needed), it, too, may be considered a food safe finish.



Finally, waxes such as beeswax and carnauba wax may also be considered food safe, provided any solvents used as a carrier for the wax are allowed to evaporate fully.

~ Rob Wallace, Ames, Iowa

[rwallace@iastate.edu](mailto:rwallace@iastate.edu)

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## Treasurer's Report by Phil Brown

March Income			March Expenses:	
Memberships	\$235.00		Demonstrator Expense	\$20.00
Silent Auction	61.00		CCC 2017 dues	50.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$296.00</b>		<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>

**Total funds available:     \$5,462.33**

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## MCW Calendars

Activity calendars are provided as best information available at the time of publication. Please confirm the published dates as we get closer to the date of the activity.

### Future Meetings Schedule

Date	Program/ Demonstrator	Notes
April 20, 2017	Jeff Chelf	(different date than usual)
May 11, 2017	-open-	

## Skills Enhancement Schedule Matt Radtke

Skills Enhancement Dates (subject to change). You must contact Matt Radtke at [matt.radtke@gmail.com](mailto:matt.radtke@gmail.com) to reserve your spot for Skills Enhancements.

Sun April 16 from 10am - 1pm

Thur May 11 from 2pm - 5pm





Thur June 8 from 2pm - 5pm  
Sun July 16 from 10am - 1pm  
Thur August 13 from 2pm - 5pm  
Thur September 14 from 2pm - 5pm  
Sun October 12 from 10am - 1pm  
Thur November 9 from 2pm - 5pm  
Thur December 14 from 2pm - 5pm

## Wounded Warrior Program Schedule Don Van Ryk

Wounded Warriors program dates (subject to change). Please contact Don van Ryk at [dvanryk@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:dvanryk@niaid.nih.gov) to let him know if you will be there to assist.

Friday April 21 starting at 12:30pm  
Friday May 12 starting at 12:30pm  
Friday June 16 starting at 12:30pm  
Friday July 14 starting at 12:30pm

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## Chapter Contacts

### Officers

President	Ellen Davis	<a href="mailto:ellen@TwistedTreeDesign.com">ellen@TwistedTreeDesign.com</a>	301-728-5505
Vice President	Bob Anderson	<a href="mailto:Robert.anderson4@verizon.net">Robert.anderson4@verizon.net</a>	301-270-6005
Program Chair	Tim Aley	<a href="mailto:Taley16922@aol.com">Taley16922@aol.com</a>	301-869-6983
Secretary	Steve Drake	<a href="mailto:skdjmdb@gmail.com">skdjmdb@gmail.com</a>	301-208-8265
Treasurer	Phil Brown	<a href="mailto:philfbrown@comcast.net">philfbrown@comcast.net</a>	301-767-9863
Membership Chair	Jim Allison	<a href="mailto:Jim-elaine@allison.net">Jim-elaine@allison.net</a>	301-706-6164
Newsletter Editor	Stephen Price	<a href="mailto:Prices1950@yahoo.com">Prices1950@yahoo.com</a>	240-353-4771
Webmaster	Jeff Struewing	<a href="mailto:jeff@struewing.us">jeff@struewing.us</a>	240-988-6422
President Emeritus	Gary Guenther	<a href="mailto:Gary.c.guenther@gmail.com">Gary.c.guenther@gmail.com</a>	301-384-7594



## Volunteers

Wounded Warrior Support Program Director	Don Van Ryk
Skills Enhancement Program Director	Matt Radtke, Eliot Feldman assistant
Public Library Exhibit Committee	Phil Brown, Russ Iler, Mary Beardsley, Jeff Tate
Beads of Courage Program Director	Jeff Tate
Turning Works Program Director	Bob Browning
Montgomery County Ag Fair Program Director	Tim Aley
Turn for Troops Project Leader	Roman Steichen
Backup Secretary	open
Backup Newsletter Editor	open
Lending Librarian	John Laffan, Joe Barnard backup
Videography	Joe Stout, Joe Barnard, Bert Bleckwenn
Gallery Photography and recording	Mike Colella, Jeff Tate, Tim Aley
Candid Photography	Tim Aley, Jeff Tate
Web Albums	Tim Aley, Jeff Tate, Mike Colella
Show Tell & Ask Leaders	Mike Colella, Matt Radtke, Clif Poodry
Show Tell & Ask Recording and Trucking	Richard Webster and Jim Allison
Demo Fee Collection	Bob Grudberg
Setup Committee	Jim Allison, Margaret Follas
Clean-Up Committee	Paul Simon
Discount Deacon	Steve Drake
Brochure Boss	Phil Brown

## MCW Resources

**MCW Hands-on Mentoring Program:** Hands-on mentoring is one of the most effective ways of learning turning techniques, tool use, and safety. We all have unique knowledge and ideas to impart. We encourage all Members to sign up to share a few hours of their time and knowledge at the lathe with each other, on a peer-to-peer basis, either in their homes or at Skills Enhancement sessions. We particularly encourage our new Members and beginners to use this opportunity to learn techniques and safety. Please let Ellen Davis know if you would like to participate.

**Skills Enhancement:** Once a month, we have an open lathe session at WWC, alternating on the Fridays and Sundays after the Meetings, under the guidance of Matt Radtke and Eliot Feldman. Please check the Newsletter and Web Site Calendars for monthly dates and reserve a limited slot in advance with Matt at [mattradtk@gmail.com](mailto:mattradtk@gmail.com). Everyone shares skills and information, and its lots of fun.



**MCW Facebook Group:** Ellen Davis has created a Facebook Group just for MCW Members. The idea behind this is to allow you to post pictures of your work, ask questions, and provide another venue for our members to get to know each other better. For our MCW Facebook Group, please click the following link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194941367515051/> and request to be added to the group. If you do not have a Facebook account and want one, please contact Ellen. We have over 45 Members involved.

**MCW Lending Library:** Now Free! Books and DVDs are available for borrowing. We have a good selection of video demonstrations and instructional materials from many top professional turners. If you missed a Meeting and would like to see the Program, you can check out the DVD. Please sign the form to check them out from John Laffan. If you have titles out, please return them promptly. There is no charge for this service.

**Silent Auction:** Not everyone has access to a chainsaw or a band saw, which makes it nice to have access to reasonably-priced, properly-sized turning blanks. Thanks to the generosity of Phil Brown and other Members, our Silent Auction provides this benefit at every Meeting. Please bring your 'road kill' to share with other Members.

**Discounts:** Steve Drake has assembled a selection of retailers who provide MCW Members with monetary discounts. First and foremost, of course, is the Woodworkers Club, but we have a number of others too. Please check out the list of participating merchants on the Web Site or at the end of each Newsletter.

**Web Site:** <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org> Thanks to Webmaster Jeff Struewing we have an outstanding Web Site.

**Newsletters:** Thanks to new Newsletter Editor Stephen Price, all Members receive the AAW's 2016 *Best Chapter Newsletter* by email every month. Further, the MCW Newsletter Archive, accessible on the website, is a tremendous resource, containing the complete history of all MCW programs and activities from day one, as seen on a monthly basis through the years. All past issues back to Volume 1, Issue 1 in 2007 are available at <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/newsletters/>

**Our Hosts:** Our most important resource is our space. We are deeply indebted to our hosts, [The Woodworkers Club](#), for their continuing support in sharing their facility with us as we move into our tenth year. Please give Amy, Chris, Matt, and Ralph your individual expressions of appreciation, both verbally and with your wallets. If you need something, they will get it for you, either off the shelves or from the catalog – with no shipping charge.





## Member Discounts

**Woodworkers Club Rockville, Maryland** ([www.woodworkersclub.com](http://www.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**

([www.exoticlumberinc.com](http://www.exoticlumberinc.com)) With over 130 species in stock, Exotic Lumber has one of the widest selections available on the East Coast. We offer a 10% discount to MCW Members with membership badge. We have warehouse locations in Frederick and Annapolis, where you are welcome to select from our extensive selection of turning blocks.



**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

**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)



**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.



**Tailstock**



Eliot Feldman 7" x 3 1/2" hollow form [unknown]