



MCW Newsletter

Montgomery County Woodturners

<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>



Next Meeting	Location	Agenda	
Thursday 7 September 2017	Woodworkers Club	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

Mark St. Leger is known for his sense of humor and ability to effectively teach a variety of age groups and skill levels.

Mark's teaching techniques are easily followed and incorporate skill building. Mark will be demoing a Bias lidded convex box with texture options. This unique 3-sided box is turned on the bias. Mark will turn all the jigs to create this box, lid and finial.



Mark is from Virginia and has been turning for over 20 years. He is known for his creative teaching style and techniques. As an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Blue Ridge Woodturners Club in Virginia, Mark has served as vice-president, president, and activities coordinator, along with hosting their club meetings at the high school shop on a monthly basis. He is also a member of the American Association of Woodturners where he has served as a member of the board of directors. Several years ago the



AAW produced a “Skill Building Projects” video featuring some of Mark’s teaching techniques.

Mark has been an active demonstrator and workshop leader for turning clubs, along with demonstrating at many regional and national symposiums. He is currently on the faculty list of Arrowmont School of the Arts in Tennessee, Appalachian Center for Craft in Tennessee, Peters Valley Craft Center in New Jersey, and the John C. Campbell Folk School in North Carolina. Mark also finds satisfaction in teaching woodturning courses for a local college.

His work has been shown at many venues and is in private collections. NO Demo fee will be collected.



President’s Perspective by Ellen Davis

Autumn marks the transition from summer to winter, when the duration of daylight becomes noticeably shorter and the temperature cools down considerably.

Memories of our ice cream social have melted away, we turned the daylight out of at the Ag Fair so what’s our next focused projects for MCW? First we have our Annual Turn for Troops preparation weekend and then during Veteran’s Day weekend we’ll turn, turn, turn some pens. Right on the heels of that fun even will be our 2018 Elections.

Start thinking about the board position YOU want, the impact YOU want to make for the future of MCW. Together let’s make next year better than ever!

Ellen

“Of all the trees we could’ve hit, we had to get one that hits back.” - J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets



Editor’s Corner by Stephen Price

This summer has been a busy one for most of us. Some have traveled near and far and some have dealt with very personal and trying situations. This issue has a little different makeup as last month we had a very special tour for our meeting, and there was no Show and Tell. So photos from the tour make up the last meeting section and some photos from the MC Ag fair make up the show and tell section. The bring-back challenge will resume this next meeting. Enjoy.

Meeting Minutes by Steve Drake

Gary Guenther, president emeritus, called the meeting to order at 7:00 with approximately 30 members and guests in attendance. The meeting was held at the residence of Jerry and Deena Kaplan to allow members to view their collection of wood art objects. The Kaplan's are Patrons of the James Renwick Alliance (JRA), and are members of the Collectors of Wood Art society, Gary thanked the Kaplans for opening their home and asked Jerry to say a few words about the collection. Jerry explained how he and his wife started collecting wood art and invited anyone with questions about any piece to feel free to come ask him. While he said that people were free to handle the objects, Gary asked that everyone please be careful and requested that nobody touch the J. Paul Fennel wiffleball bat and ball.

Gary then explained that another president emeritus, Bert Bleckwenn, had recently suffered an injury and there was a get-well card from the club sitting on the sign-in table for the members to sign. After that, the meeting adjourned to allow members to wander and enjoy the collection.

Binh Pho - remembered

For the woodturning and wood art communities, it is the end of an era. At the tragically young age of 61, Binh Pho has passed on to the next level of existence. I hope he comes back as a tree, or as a piercing tool, or maybe as an air brush.

What is newsworthy is not our sadness at his untimely, and unfortunate passing, but his life, which is positive and enriching and worth remembering and celebrating.

Binh's life is a success story. I will not try to tell it here.

This Wiki article is a good, if brief start (note the David Fry quote): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Binh_Pho

And here's a nice ACC article:

<https://craftcouncil.org/magazine/article/storyteller>

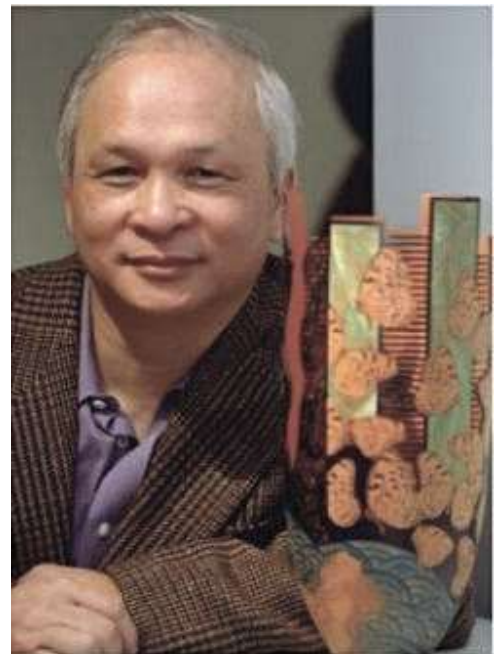


For many of us, those who have met him, and those who have idolized him from afar, this era began

in 1975 at the American Embassy in Saigon, with the city under fire. A young architecture student with a dream was in "the next" group to get on a helicopter. But that was not to be. Instead, he was forced into a "re-education" camp and had to make four dangerous and daring attempts to escape Vietnam before succeeding. He was not deterred and made the frightening passage to America on a "boat" full of other refugees (one of whom was to become his wife). He was one of several people who were interviewed in the 2015 PBS show "Last Days in Vietnam".

I hope and expect that his web site will be maintained:

<http://binhpho.com/>





You can see his life story in his autobiographical works, as beautifully described and illustrated in his first book, authored in collaboration by Kevin Wallace: River of Destiny.

<https://www.amazon.com/River-Destiny-Life-Work-Binh/dp/0971277265>

For those who treasure his life and his work, his second book, Shadow of the Turning, also written by Kevin Wallace, is a worthwhile addition to your home library.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B019EFAKG0/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1

I had the pleasure and opportunities of meeting Binh on at least three occasions. He was a very humble and sincerely friendly man and an outstanding teacher. I'm sure he would give the shirt off his back – I know he would give the sandwich out of his mouth, because he did that for me when I walked up to chat with him at an event before the Pittsburgh Symposium.

If you joined us at Jerry & Deena's house for our August MCW Meeting, you saw Dream of Enchanted Tea and another of his amazing works sitting together on display.



A tea ceremony in the bamboo forest
beneath a full moon
the moonlight casting shadows
the image ever in my thoughts
and coming to me in dreams
with Gelkandar whispers
juxtaposing with the sound of the wind
moving through the bamboo leaves.

Binh served on the AAW Board of Directors from 2009 to 2015, during a very difficult time in the history of the organization, and he was instrumental in helping to keep AAW together and to create the AAW we now know. I remember, during that period, when Paul Fennell (also then an AAW Director) was staying at our house, he spent countless hours on the phone with Binh, day and night. Binh was made an AAW Honorary Lifetime Member in 2017:

<http://www.woodturner.org/?page=Honor2017Pho&hhSearchTerms=%22lifetime+and+members%22>

In recent years, his collaborations with other artists are many and legendary. Just Google his name and hit "images", and you will see a number of them. He provided a memorable day of demos for Capital Area Woodturners in May 2014, and he was very generous with his time and talents. See page 5 here for the tips he took the time to send after his visit:

http://www.capwoodturners.org/newsletter/06_2014_CAW_Newsletter.pdf

Binh was originally scheduled to demonstrate at last year's Mid-Atlantic Woodturning Symposium, but his health issues caused him to have to defer.

He fought his last battle with grace and honesty and with the will to live and beat the odds, as he had done so many times before.

He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, and by those who respect his story and admire his work.

... Gary Guenther



Last Month's Program

Some photos of the incredible collection of wood art from our meeting at the home of Jerry and Deena Kaplan.







Show, Tell and Ask

Photos from the Montgomery County Ag Fair. This was truly Show and Tell out to the community.

















MC Ag Fair 2017

Another successful Montgomery County Ag Fair has come to a close. We survived heat, rain and a couple beautiful days. We talked to many guests and created bags of chips. Ice cream was devoured and free Arnold Palmer's drinks were plentiful. Blue ribbons were won and a purple one on the



Old Timers Christmas Tree was added to by MCW/MCC. Several legs were tired after taking a turn at the pole lathe. Good times were had by all.

I wanted to thank everyone that helped out this year at the fair! We had a great turn out of members and people wanting to know more about us. We had one new member sign up at the fair and many brochures taken. A couple of members had so much fun the first time at the fair they came back for more!!!

Tim shared...

I want to thank Jim Allison, Jeff Gilbert, Don Van Ryk, Ellen Davis, Amy Rothberg, Mary Beardsly, Bill Pavan, Roman Steichen, Paul Mazzi, Paul Wodiska, Mike Colella, Dick Webster, Russ Iler, Bob Anderson, Joe

Barnard, and Phil Brown.

I want to give a special thanks to Margaret Follas and Bob Browning for their continued multi-day support.

A huge thank you to John Laffan (member and Carver rep) for being there with me every day! I don't know what I would have done without you!

Make sure you mark your calendars for another fun time next year.





Member News by Phil Brown

Tim Aley was one of two MCW members submitting display pieces under three classifications at the County Fair, and won first place in each class for a maple spoon, a holly birdhouse ornament and an oak crotch bowl.

Joe Barnard and Phil Brown installed the MCW member exhibit on view during September in the Potomac Public Library.

Phil Brown's vessels are in Wood Work, along with two other artists, at The Gray Gallery in Winchester, VA during September. A brief 50 second video of Phil turning is on the gallery web site: www.thegraygallery.com/blog

David Fry wrote a wonderful article about Betty Scarpino's turning and sculpture, published on pages 48-54 of the American Woodturner, August 2017.

Allan Star, like Tim, won a Champion Rosette in models and Champion and First Place for his loader at the County Fair.

Clif Poodry is scheduled to teach Introduction to the Lathe on Sept. 11 12, Oct. 2 3, Nov. 13 14, and Dec 11-12 at the Woodworkers Club, and Matt Radtke teaches Beginning Bowl Turning during the evenings of Sept. 20 21, Oct. 16 17, Nov. 29 30, and Dec 18-19. A minimum of three students are required to conduct a class. To register, call 301-984-9033, or go to: 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 local woodturning club members. Lunch & materials are included. To register, phone or e-mail Nancy Supik 410-732-8414, or <mailto:nancy@marksupikco.com> for details click on "Get Schooled Here" at www.marksupikco.com

The Right Start: Learn spindle turning, having fun making bead & cove cuts to create wine stoppers, mallets, and other useful objects on Sunday, October 15th; Saturday, November 1th; and Sunday, December 10, 2017.

Basic Bowl Turning uses green wood from recently downed local trees, and moves from log to bowl in one day on Sunday September 10th, Saturday, October 14th; Sunday November 12th and Saturday, December 9th. And More Bowls on Sunday, November 15th, is a review the basics, bowl design, sharpening, natural edge bowls.

The Next Step-Morning Workshops (\$75) include Bowl Finishing: Sat. Nov 18th and Lidded Boxes, Saturday, Dec. 16th.

Rich Foa and Richard Webster had pieces in the Glen Echo Park Labor Day Art Show, September 2-4, in the Spanish Ballroom.

Juried Exhibit in February, 2018? (Phil Brown)

I am working with representatives of Mid-Maryland Woodturners, Chesapeake Woodturners, and the Gallery Director on an expected juried exhibition of turned wood at the Blackrock Center for the Arts in Germantown, MD, next February. Turners from a yet undefined distance from Germantown or other criteria will be eligible to apply on line at a cost of \$35. Most of the pedestals will be lent by Chesapeake Woodturners, my self, and Mid-Maryland. I hope that many of you will apply, offering



good quality and well designed work. Digital photos will be required. More information and application instructions should be available in September.

Fine Woodworking magazines available (Phil Brown)

Two older sets of Fine Woodworking are available in their entirety. Picking selected issues only is not allowed. A few issues could be missing. A donation to MCW would be appreciated, such as \$0.10 or more per copy for all the issues in a set.

Set #1 begins with issue #1 (1975) and ends with issue #199 (2008). Set #2 begins with issue #16 (1979) and ends with issue #189 (2007). The early issues each had one woodturning article.

Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the MCW Newsletter. Another MCW member needs to step forward to compile this information since Phil is stepping down as compiler of this news column. This is a good opportunity to have more contact with members and learn what they are doing.

If you're planning to come to the Maryland Renaissance Festival it runs Aug. 26 thru October 23 weekends AND FREE for seniors (over 62) on Labor Day Monday. Be sure to stop by Mike Colella's booth Sleeping Beauties (near the entrance on Queens Path), to see some familiar wood items and yes magic wands. "HAZZAH"!



Turn for Troops

Our current count is 406 pens completed. When everybody completes the pen kits they have taken we'll be at 475!

Roman will be at the November meeting and I'll have all of the pens we've turned, plus prepared notes to include with your pens. The note will look something like this:

You can sign the note and include it with your pen, or you can use your own note, or that note can be included without signature, your choice. This will be a good opportunity to take a picture of all of your pens.

The Veteran's Day Turn for Troops weekend will be on Nov 10, 11, and 12. We will have a preparation session two weeks prior on Sat, Oct 28, 10am.. We are looking for volunteers for the prep session as well as the open to the public turning days. We need your help. If you have the knowledge and capability to do any of the following, we are looking for you:



1. Cut blanks
2. Drill blanks
3. Sand tubes
4. Glue tubes in blanks
5. Trim/Square blanks to tube

6. Package prepped blanks for turning at the open session
7. Teach/mentor/guide inexperienced turns at the open session
8. Turn pens
9. Assemble Pens

Please let Roman know what you can do to help, and when you're available.

3rdGenPenShop@gmail.com (new email address) 301-792-6836

Roman will be out of town and unavailable for the next two months (of meetings). He will be prepping kits and turning them into WWC. If you'd like to make a pen or two, or three, please make arrangements with WWC to pick it/ them up.

Shop Tip

We all know what an egg looks like, don't we? So it should be a simple task to turn a wooden egg on our lathe. Well, maybe not as simple as it sounds, but it is a great project to develop spindle turning skills, so let's click here to get started.



Read this and other skill building articles in the current issue of Woodturning FUNDamentals. American Association of Woodturners, 75 5th Street West, 222 Landmark Center, St. Paul, MN 55102



Treasurer's Report by Phil Brown

August Income			August Expenses:	
Memberships	15.00			
Silent Auction				
Total Income	15.00		Total expenses	0.00

Total funds available: \$5,529.33

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

Meeting	Program/ Demonstrator	Notes
September	Mark St. Leger	3 corner box
October	Andy Dipietro	Slideshow and presentation from Woodtuning to Sculpture, Finding your voice
November	TBD	
December	Burn, Video and Pot luck	Fractal burning, Video hollowing and pot luck
January 2018	Annual Panel Critique	

Skills Enhancement Schedule Matt Radtke

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

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 Don Van Ryk

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

Due to a conflict at Walter Reed the WWP pen turning session for November has been changed from the 3rd to the 17th of the month. Same time and place. Hope to see you then.

Chapter Contacts

Officers

President	Ellen Davis	ellen@TwistedTreeDesign.com	301-728-5505
Vice President	Bob Anderson	Robert.anderson4@verizon.net	301-270-6005
Program Chair	Tim Aley	Taley16922@aol.com	301-869-6983
Secretary	Steve Drake	skdjmdb@gmail.com	301-208-8265
Treasurer	Phil Brown	philfbrown@comcast.net	301-767-9863
Membership Chair	Jim Allison	Jim-elaine@allison.net	301-706-6164
Newsletter Editor	Stephen Price	Prices1950@yahoo.com	240-353-4771
Webmaster	Jeff Struewing	jeff@struewing.us	240-988-6422
President Emeritus	Gary Guenther	gary.guenther@iname.com	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	Joe Bernard, Phil Brown, Russ Iler, Mary Beardsley
Beads of Courage Program Director	Steve Haddix
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, Tim Aley
Candid Photography	Tim Aley
Web Albums	Tim Aley, 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. 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 50 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.

WoodEzine

Hi Folks, This month, WoodEzine has a bit of a new look that we hope will make it easier to navigate. In this issue, you'll find ...

- The second of two reports on new products that we saw at AWFS.
http://www.woodezine.com/NewAtAWFS_02.html
- A look at a new casework connector system from Europe called OVVO.
<http://www.woodezine.com/OVVO.html>
- An article that asks: "Why on earth would you want to use plastic nails?".
http://www.woodezine.com/Composite_Fasteners.html
- A quick preview of a woodturning symposium that's coming up next month in Colorado.
<http://www.woodezine.com/Colorado.html>
- Our daily news, where you can check out several months of news and new products.
http://www.woodezine.com/news_2017_08.html
- Updates to the woodworking calendar. • Updates to the industry database, the clubs and the schools/classes pages. • Oh, and we left the Industry 4.0 piece up because so many people said they found it helpful.

Regards, John

John English Editor (605) 591-2947 editors@WoodEzine.com <http://www.WoodEzine.com>

A FREE resource for woodworkers since 2003

Member Discounts

Woodworkers Club Rockville, Maryland
(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) 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) 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
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Hartville Tool (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) 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



“Just waiting”