



OFFICIAL CHAPTER
AAW
 AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
 OF WOODTURNERS

MEETING LOCATION

*Woodworkers Club
 11910 Parklawn Drive, Unit L
 Rockville, MD 20852*

In Person and Zoom

Meeting Agenda

6:00 -6:30 - Log in or attend
 6:30-6:50 - Business meeting
 6:50-7:15 - Show Tell & Ask
 7:15-8:45 - Program
 8:45-9:00 - Clean up & Exit

Thursday Sept. 10, 2026
17th annual
Panel Critique

Lots Happening!

Check out your expanded Co-pilot on
 page 9 for lots of events and info.

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PANEL CRITIQUE

For those of you who are new to MCW, this is just like our regular December Extended Show Tell & Ask session except it's by reservation only, and you can only bring one piece to show. It's the entire Program, and you will get some real, meaningful feedback on your work. This is meant for all members at all skill levels. We all still have a lot to learn about what works for us and what can perhaps be done better on our next tries. You get to tell the invited Panel members what you're trying to accomplish with your piece and to ask a question about some aspect of it that you would like meaningful feedback on. But it's not overly serious -- it's just for fun and all done with smiles and good humor.

Here is a brief description of the concept of our annual Panel Critique program, which is now held each September. I wrote these words 16 years ago when I introduced the program, and they remain true today.

"Instead of a demonstration, we will have an extended Show Tell & Ask session with a formal critique of each piece conducted by a panel of three selected art and turning experts. Participants will bring one piece that you have made to have it reviewed. The idea is not to submit a perfect piece – rather, the goal is for us all to learn about design and turning and finishing techniques from the things each of us has made. Have you ever made anything you didn't think you could improve on? (I certainly haven't.) I think we're often our own worst critics, but we may not know how a piece can be improved. This is an ideal way to learn how to elevate what we are doing, from our fellow turners experiences and in the eyes of artists from other media, as well as a talented woodturner, in a friendly and instructive environment. Each participant will be asked to say a few words about the concept and techniques involved in their piece before the critics have at it. Comments and questions from the audience will also be welcome. Don't plan to bring your ego, just your work, an open mind, and your sense of humor."

What these early words don't say is something very important that I tell each Panelist each year: "We do this only for fun, education, and entertainment, with the emphasis on fun. It is not meant to be anything near "serious". This is not a "judging". No grades! No ratings. We want to keep it loose and funny and fun, as well as entertaining, while hopefully being meaningful for the maker, for you all, and for the audience at large."

The goal is for everyone to have a good time while the presenters get some good pointers for their future work.

AND NOW FOR THIS YEAR'S PANEL

This year, our woodturner is Allen Alexopoulos, and our other artists are 2D and 3D colored pencil artist Wendy Ng and author/illustrator/sculptor Kevin O'Malley. Here is some further information about them. I think you can see that this is going to be a great Panel and that we're going to have loads of fun along with some serious examinations of our works of wood art, as these artists see them.



Allen Alexopulos - Master Woodturner - has been creating custom woodturning art in his studio in Annapolis, Maryland since 2001. Many of his pieces are turned from tree species indigenous to the central Maryland area. And most of the local timbers that he incorporates into his art are recovered from downed trees that would otherwise be dumped into landfills or burned as firewood.



Allen's artistic goal is to highlight as much of the natural figure, texture and color from the wood as possible. Simple shapes combined with graceful curvatures amplify the beauty of his turnings.

Although Allen has explored many areas of woodturning, his principal repertoire includes natural edged vessels, lidded boxes with ornate finials, hollow forms and formal vessels.

Allen has developed turned pieces that have been included in the State of Maryland and City of Annapolis Archives, the on-line Wye Oak Gallery and commercial sites like Teknatool in New Zealand and Exotic Lumber in Annapolis. His pieces can be seen on his website (www.lathescapes.com). Allen is a member and past president of the Chesapeake Woodturners, the Maryland Federation of Art and the American Association of Woodturners. He has taught basic and advanced woodturning courses at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. His woodturnings have earned Juror's Choice awards by the Maryland Federation of Art and Best in Show awards with the Chesapeake Woodturners.

He has done numerous commissioned turnings and sold many pieces at the HorseSpirit Arts Gallery while they were in operation.

Allen has demonstrated woodturning techniques at the Renwick Art Gallery in Washington, the national American Craft Council Exhibition in Baltimore, Woodworking Shows in Timonium, and at American Association of Woodturners (AAW) chapters in the mid-Atlantic region, including MCW several times. He has also participated in numerous MCW Panel Critique sessions, as well as for Chesapeake Woodturners.

Wendy Ng, a Howard County artist, has had a non-linear career path to her current focus as a colored pencil artist. Her early experiences and education in traditional media in western and Chinese art were put on hold while she attended to higher education in science and research. A slow and gradual return to artistic pursuits accompanied parenthood and her work in graphic design and technical writing, and a subsequent dive into teaching in alternative educational settings for her children and homeschoolers.



A chance to work with a friend on Ukrainian pysanky art blossomed simply because she thought "I can do better than that" after her first egg piece. She honed her skills with traditional pysanka designs and soon started to blend in her interests in geometric designs, optical illustrations, and tessellations, à la M.C. Escher.

An introduction to colored pencil from a fabulous colored pencil artist and fellow art gallery exhibitor led to her current art focus. She is now experimenting and earning awards with colored pencil pieces completed on two-dimensional and three-dimensional surfaces. She is now a signature member of the Colored Pencil Society of America. Lest one thinks that her arrival at her current interests is haphazard, Wendy sees many linkages and connections along the way; she followed her interests and curiosity. May the experimentation and exploration continue!

Kevin O'Malley is a prolific children's book author, illustrator, and physical sculptor. He grew up outside Philly but moved to this area to attend the prestigious Maryland Institute College of Art. He has lived in the Baltimore area ever since and currently works out of his home studio on Towson. <https://www.baltimoremagazine.com/section/artsentertainment/kevin-o-malley-prolific-childrens-book-illustrator-towson/>



—Photography by Tyrone Spranno Wilkens

He has written and illustrated over 85 children’s books over a career spanning more than 35 years. Some of his most famous titles include “Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude”, ‘Cinder Edna’, the “Captain Raptor” series, and the long-running “Miss Malarkey” titles. He’s been on the New York Times bestseller list, and people have given him awards -- which surprises nobody more than his parents. He is known for a sharp, kid-friendly sense of humor, dynamic storytelling, and mixed-media illustrations using watercolor, ink, chalk, and colored pencils.

While he is famous for 2D illustrations, he heavily incorporates 3D art into his life. To relax, find creative “flow”, and step away from the book page, O’Malley creates whimsical, mixed-media 3D sculptures. His physical sculptures are frequently featured in regional galleries such as the Fleckenstein Gallery in Baltimore, often appearing in eco-conscious exhibitions like their “Reclaimed & Renamed” showcase.

Kevin is also a member artist in the Artists’ Gallery in Ellicott City, the collaborative, artist-owned co-op gallery located on Main Street. He showcases and sells his whimsical sculptures in “Found Objects” and “Mixed-Media” categories. These pieces are constructed from repurposed materials, upcycled items, and found objects, often paired with watercolor and ink elements.

Future Programs 2026 - Bill Bell

October	Joe Barnard and Stan Wellborn - ornament	In person
November	TBD	In person
December	Annual Holiday Potluck Dinner with Extended Show Tell & Ask and Tools Tips & Tricks	In person

Direct Links To Gallery and Candid Photos

Please enjoy visiting or reviewing our recent activities, and look back at earlier ones.

Note: Many photos have captions that you can turn on in the upper right ("i" or hamburger).

- MCW Aug. '26 Gallery: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/hjpQgqTrhr3WSh8S9>
- MCW Aug. '26 Meeting: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/kGHe25tYwqLbqc2y8>
- MCW Aug. '26 Program: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/PJ4YN2WAAwdhAfY47>
- MCW Aug. '26 MoCo Ag Fair: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/VVFHyBJeujB84ZGw9>
- MCW March '26 Program: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/WeSdChuUX1KeozkL6>
- MCW May '26 Program: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/htBTH9riSukkk5R99>



President's Perspective - *Joe Barnard*

Welcome to September and meteorological Fall. It seems like we are coming to a crescendo as the year gets shorter.

If anyone is interested in borrowing the club's Jet 1221 lathe, or even willing to store it, please email me. Understand that there will be rare occasions that the club will need to use said Jet lathe -- for the Ag Fair, as an example. At this moment, Paul Paukstelis has it, and that needs to not be a long-term solution for us and inconvenience for Paul.



Now that the Fair is over, no surprise, comes our yearly Critique, September 10, coordinated by Gary Guenther. Our panelists will include woodturner Allen Alexopoulos, colored-pencil artist Wendy Ng, and author/illustrator/sculptor Kevin O'Malley.

As soon as the Critique is over, we will be having our fun Demonstration Day at the Woodcraft Oktoberfest, on the 3rd of October. A good time for all. Our October demo will be put on by Stan Wellborn and myself. Stan is going to show us how he makes custom ornament stands, at which point I will be showing how I make hollow ornaments with finials, complete with my own shortcuts and ways that I make the process a lot easier and less fraught with danger.

And then, looming over us is Fall, like the Reichenbach Falls loomed over Sherlock Holmes. November is our exhibition at Artists and Makers Studios on Parklawn, just down the road from Woodcraft. This huge event, for all members of the club, runs from November 4th to the 24th. We will have a reception on Friday, November 6, 5 - 8 pm. To pull this off, we have several things to get in order; as a consequence, as we get closer, there will be more and more details to take care of. I'm going to ask for volunteer help at every step. Having visited the space last week, I can say that we will have room for roughly 25-27 pieces. At the exhibition, we should be able to have a small number of

items that are not for sale, but as many as possible should be for sale. The Artists and Makers Studios will be taking a 25% fee from each sale.

To sell items, you will need a sales and use tax ID. Those are available from the Maryland Comptroller's office, as described in the link here. Some members have these IDs because we run our own businesses, so those, like me, will put any sales at the event into their own account and go on as usual. If you don't have one, and don't intend to regularly sell items within Maryland, you can acquire a 30-day temporary sales and use tax ID as described here: <https://www.marylandcomptroller.gov/content/dam/mdcomp/tax/legal-publications/tips/business/bustip14.pdf> I suggest you do that soon. You may be able to do it in person at the Comptroller's new Rockville office, by appointment, but it may be easier to acquire online.

We will be doing a turning demonstration on the second Saturday, November 14, in front of the Studios, so volunteers will be needed to turn and chat with the public. More to come.

Coming up at the end of the year is the biennial Creative Crafts Council Exhibition at the Strathmore Mansion. The jurors for that event are Joan Dryer, MCW member Dr. Barbara Wolanin, and local ceramics artist Natalia Kormeluk. Natalia was one of the Panel artists on our Critique last September, and also in 2023. This suggests that two of the jurors at the Strathmore CCC exhibit next Spring will have some knowledge of woodturning -- a rare event indeed.

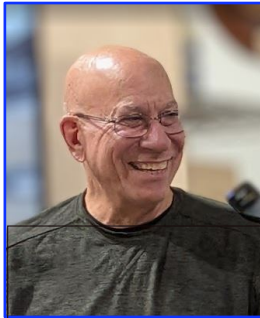
As ever, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on Thursday.

Joe

Joe Barnard, President MCW



Editors' Corner - Mike Colella & Co-Editor Gary Guenther



In our new collaboration, Gary and I will bring you new and different perspectives on our hobby/profession and the world we live in. If you have any requests or suggestions, please let us know.

It's Renaissance Festival time again! This year we are celebrating 50 years in the Maryland area. *Sleeping Beauties*, aka Mike & Sue Colella, will be there for our 11th year as permanent artisans. If you're feeling in the old-world mode, come August 29th thru October 25, every weekend and Labor Day Monday, and join in with the festivities. I'm sorry to say there is NO longer a free Seniors' Day, and you WILL need a ticket on Labor Day Monday. Hope to see you there.

September 10, 2026 LIVE

Our Live/Hybrid meeting with our annual Panel Critique program will be conducted *in person* at WWC and also over Zoom for those who cannot join live.

Please *thank* the members of our dedicated a/v team for making audio and video and distance viewing possible. You will find them at the a/v table and cameras at each meeting. Greet them. *They are working!* *There will be no charge for this meeting.*

You will receive the Zoom meeting information at least 24 hours before the meeting via email from Leadership. The Zoom meeting will be active at 6:00 p.m. for system testing, chat with friends, and fellowship! Sign in! *Please MUTE your microphone unless speaking.*

Test your Zoom settings before the meeting at
<https://zoom.us/test?zcid=1231>

Zoom Support Center: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>



This is your Co-pilot - Gary Guenther *...what's in this issue and tips of current interest...*

Please read all about our coming Panel Critique in the leading pages of this issue and plan to join us for an enjoyable evening, if you're bringing a piece to show, or if you're just viewing what your colleagues have made.

Be sure to view our online Gallery and candid photos in the web pages links from the August meeting. They will remind you what you saw if you were there and let you see what you missed if you weren't able to make it. It took me longer than it should have to create the March and May demo albums, so I'm adding those links here too, belatedly, in case you looked earlier and found them "under construction". You can find them all on the bottom of page 5 above.



In this issue:

- * See Joe Stout win a turtle box from John Laffan.
- * Jeff Struewing put on an excellent demo last month on his mini lanterns.
- * Enjoy [images](#) of our participation in the MoCo Ag Fair, shot by Activities Arranger Tim Aley. Congrats to the many Award winners.
- * Check out our next Skills Enhancement Workshop on Friday, Sept. 11.
- * Kent Weakley gives us a way to use a unique part of a log to create a striking quarter-sawn-grain bowl in a 24-minute video in *Back to Basics II*.
- * Our Show Tell & Ask Gallery has some great work. Check it out.
- * We have members showing their work in outside arenas.
- * MCW members have access to many Resources. Take a look and utilize.

AND NOW FOR SOME WORTHY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES...

Congrats to Paul Paukstelis for his acceptance into the AAW *Turning 40* exhibit, as seen in *American Woodturner* 41.4 p 40.



Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium

The 9th-annual Mid Atlantic Woodturners Symposium will be held in Lancaster, PA on September 25-27, 2026. Join them for a weekend of woodturning demonstrations by internationally-recognized turners such as Derek Weidman, Colwin Way, Heather Marusiak, Michael Kehs, Pat Carroll, Mike Sorge, and Danielle Barbour. Also included are a vendor show, hands on, and an Instant Gallery displaying the work of attendees and demonstrators. It's in a new location at the Wyndham Resort and Convention Center. For more information visit mawts.com. Our MCW Contact Person is Dori Reissman; she is hoping to get a club discount for us, so if you're considering going, please contact her.

Strathmore Mansion Galleries

Two highly-varied art exhibits are being shown concurrently at the Strathmore Mansion, opening September 12 and running into the first week of November. Admission to these gallery spaces is entirely **free**. <https://www.strathmore.org/events-tickets/exhibitions/>

1) **4th annual Black and White Photography Exhibition** – spotlighting striking monochrome works. This is a stunning focus on tonal values, texture, and light without the distraction of color. The show highlights how photographers utilize raw contrast, shape, shadows, and crisp composition. By filtering out color, artists draw the eye directly toward geographic structures and raw natural forms. Prominent pieces displayed include landscape photographs such as “Moonrise on Zabriskie” by Mark Houlday.

2) **Intersections** – The “Intersections” series is a repeating dynamic format at Strathmore designed to challenge how viewers process disparate artistic methods. Rather than forcing a cohesive style on common subject, the series intentionally pairs two artists with highly contrasting viewpoints and techniques. The goal is to generate a visual and thematic counterbalance under one roof, letting the audience navigate the dialogue between different mediums. This show features pastel artist Lusmerlin and textile artist Kelvin He Hao Low. Visitors can look forward to seeing how Low's striking abstract compositions – such as his featured piece “Untitled Lavender” – juxtapose against Lusmerlin's exuberant artistic vision.

A joint, formal **Opening Reception** celebrating these three shows will take place on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Strathmore Mansion Visitor Information

Strathmore Mansion is at 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852. Hours are Tuesday – Friday from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (closed Sundays and Mondays). Parking can be a problem. Free parking in the small, dedicated Mansion lot is available on a first-come, first-served basis. It is best to check ahead to ensure that there is not some “event” happening at the time you wish to attend. There is some metered parking on Tuckerman Lane. Overflow parking can be accessed at the upper level (only) of the adjacent Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro garage for free (during the Metro closure).

Mark Supik Workshops

Mark Supik's professional woodturning shop in Baltimore becomes a woodturning school on Fridays and Saturdays. Register now for September and October 2026 Woodturning Workshops at <https://www.marksupikco.com/workshops>. Mark provides each student with an individual lathe, safety equipment, and a set of tools to use during the workshop. All project materials are included in the cost of the class. MCW members receive a 10% discount. See our Members Discounts page at the end of this newsletter for more info.

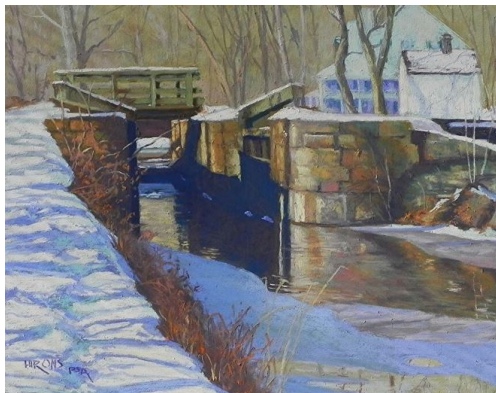
Virginia Woodturning Symposium

Please note that the 2026 Virginia Woodturning Symposium, originally scheduled for the end of October, has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Currents of History: The C&O Canal and America's 250th Anniversary

Pastel artist Jean Hiron, a previous Critique Panel member, has a show coming up at the Bender Jewish Community Center (6125 Montrose Rd., Rockville) starting September 13 and running through October 18. It includes 17 of her paintings, along with informational boards, prepared by Dr. Joel Cohen, that outline the history and environment of the C&O Canal. The Opening Reception will be on Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 5-7. She and Joel will speak.

<https://www.benderjccgw.org/calendar/gallery-reception-the-co-canal-americas-bicentennial/> Additionally, she will have a show at Strathmore opening in late Nov.



MCW June Meeting Minutes - Steve Drake

President Joe Barnard opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed the 25 members attending the meeting. There was one guest, John Hillenbant, who is becoming a new member.

Roman Steichen talked about the Turn for Troops program. He is now also the Turn for Troops chair of the Mount Airy Woodturners (a new AAW chapter in the area), and he is combining the efforts of the two clubs for the November event at Woodworker's Club. More info will be coming next month.

Joe Stout said that the next Warriors in Transition meeting will be Friday, August 7th at 11:30 a.m., and he and Jeff Gilbert will be assisting the turners. The September meeting is on the 11th.

The Beads of Courage program is currently having difficulty finding a hospital that will take the bowls. Other clubs in the area are having similar problems. Jeff Gilbert is collecting bowls while this gets worked out.

Skills Enhancement is on Sunday, August 9th at 1:30pm. Joe Barnard and Eliot Feldman will be helping people. Gary Guenther and Jeff Gilbert volunteered to also help people, as needed, in Coordinator Duane Schmidt's absence.

Tim Aley talked about turning demonstrations at the MoCo Ag Fair starting next week. He has the entrance and parking tickets and needs some more people to sign up to demonstrate..

Paul Paukstelis has purchased a new Stubby lathe that he is loaning to MCW for our demonstrations at the Woodworkers Club. This means that we need to find a new home for the Jet 1221 lathe because of our space limitation. It is currently at Paul's house but is available to any member that wants to borrow it on a long-term basis. MCW will need to use it for five or six events each year (Octoberfest, MoCo Ag Fair, outside demonstrations, etc.). Contact Joe Barnard if you are interested.

The Artists and Makers Studio exhibition in which we are participating, that was postponed from February 2024, is now being held in their Parklawn Drive (just down the street from WWC) facility November 6-24. There is

no fee to enter items, and they charge a 30% fee for any sales. Volunteers will be needed to help organize MCW's section of it.

The September meeting will be our 17th-annual Panel Critique meeting where one woodturner and two other artists give their opinions of our work. The panelists this year are woodturner Allen Alexopoulos, 2D and 3D colored pencil artist Wendy Ng, and author/illustrator/sculptor Kevin O'Malley. Gary Guenther has enough pieces for the Critique, and both Gary and Mike Colella reminded everyone of the rules. You will have one minute to introduce the piece, and the Panel members will have five minutes to give their opinions, so everyone has to be concise. Having a notecard with your comments/questions may help, and you can leave a notecard with your piece with any questions you want the panel to consider.

Octoberfest at the Woodworkers Club is the first weekend of October, and volunteers will be needed to demonstration on the lathe at our MCW booth. Bob Anderson is coordinating everything, and previous years have been fun for all. Some MCW members will have their own individual booths, selling things they have made. Anyone interested in a booth should contact Renee at info@woodworkersclub.com.

John Laffan won the Bring-back Challenge last month, so he made a carved turtle box with a magnetic lid to donate at tonight's meeting. Joe Stout won the drawing and will bring something to next month's meeting.

Mike Collela coordinated the Show Tell & Ask session, with twelve members showing their work, and then Jeff Struewing demonstrated how to make his tea light lanterns.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Drake
Acting Secretary



Bring-back Challenge - Gary Guenther

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

Each month, we raffle off a piece by a Member, and the winner turns a piece of their own and brings it back to the next Meeting to have it raffled off, "in turn". It's a fun, if random, way for us to trade our work

At our August Meeting, our Bring-back Challenge free raffle drawing was made by Margaret Follas (without looking) from a bowl held by President Joe Barnard. The tickets were collected by VP Joe Stout. Amazingly, Joe Stout's ticket was drawn! Go figure. Congrats to Joe, seen here accepting a small turtle box turned and carved by June's winner, John Laffan. Joe is very pleased to add this precious new work of wood art to his collection.

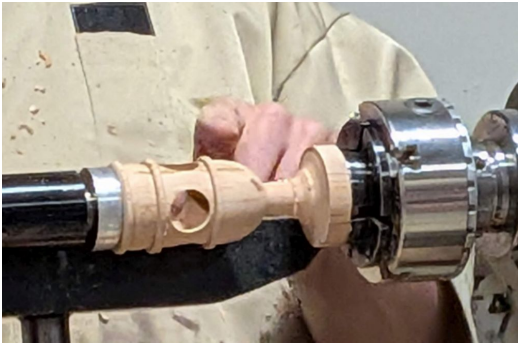
With his win, Joe has once again accepted the Challenge to make a contribution of his own to share and will bring it back for the next lucky winner at our September meeting, where you, too, can win it if you play. Get a free ticket to join in the fun, and you may go home with an interesting piece made by Joe and have the privilege of bringing something of your own back to share in October. Thanks to John and Joe for sharing their turned work.



Last Month's Program - Gary Guenther

In August, our own Webmaster, Jeff Struewing, stepped up to show us how he makes his lantern ornaments, or mini lanterns. He got to inaugurate our new Stubby loaner from Paul Paukstelis -- a bit of a learning curve, but sure beats the Laguna with that crappy banjo. Jeff did a great job of showing real examples of each step before chips flew from a blank as he made a complete new one while we watched. He made the basic model, but he also showed examples of ones decorated on his Paul Paukstelis LatheEngraver. Jeff's website is <https://woodlandturns.com/> A step-by-step guide to making these lanterns is available here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PNShGh3uHCxdJddRNx_ewZmJ2mtpM3l-kNCrPBzKIdY/edit?tab=t.0





Montgomery County Ag Fair - *Tim Aley*

MCW has a long history of participating in the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair at the (go figure) Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, every day, rain or shine. We share a booth with Montgomery Carvers Club, with whom we have several members in common. We are invited into the Old Timers section where we turn on two lathes from 10-8, in 2 shifts. We bring our pole lathe (yes, we have one) and some tools and wood blanks. A good time is had by all. MCW members won many awards in the associated judging, including First Place awards to Tim Aley (two), Bob Browning (two), Jeff Gilbert, and Joe Barnard. This is an outreach program to let the community know we're here and active, and we often pick up some new members this way. Many youngsters go home with spin tops they have watched being made and helped decorate. Here are some of our participants. These images and more can be viewed on our website at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/VVFHyBJeujB84ZGw9>





Skills Enhancement Workshop - Duane Schmidt

Skills dates for 2026

Friday, January 9
February 15, Sunday
March 13, Friday
April 3, Friday (cancelled)
May 8, Friday
June 14, Sunday

July 10, Friday
August 9, Sunday
September 11, Friday
October 11, Sunday
November 13, Friday
December 13, Sunday

These dates will avoid the AAW Symposium, July picnic, and August MoCo Ag Fair. If you see any other major conflicts, please tell me.

Quick Summary of Skills Enhancement Workshop sessions:

Hands-on time using the Woodworkers' Club lathes to work on any turning project you would like, with experienced turners present to help out when folks want help. Sharpening systems are available. There is a cost, of \$15, for the 3-hour time. Bring your own tools or you can use Woodworkers' Club tools. Bring your own wood or let us know and we can provide wood.

The August session will be **Friday, September 11, 1:30-4:30 p.m.** at the Woodworkers Club, aka Woodcraft of Rockville. If any experienced club members are interested and available to serve as mentors for this session, please let me know. And let me know if you might be interested but have questions. The sessions are relatively casual, not too structured, providing advice, demonstration, instruction as much as the attendees need. There is plenty of space available at this time. If you would like to attend, please let me know. And please ask if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Duane Schmidt
Skills Enhancement Coordinator



Treasurer Report - Tim Aley

Beginning Balance	\$5,072.89		
July Income 2026		July Expenses 2026	
Membership 2026	\$15.00	Membership Paypal fee	\$0.92
Future Membership		CCC fee	\$0.00
	\$0.00	Picnic	\$0.00
Dontation	\$20.00	Demonstrator fee	\$0.00
Skills Enh. fee	\$30.00	Demonstrator dinner	\$0.00
	\$0.00	WWC Room Fee Skills	\$150.00
Silent Auction	\$29.00	WWC Room Fee	\$0.00
Name Badge	\$0.00	Name Badge	\$0.00
Demo Fee	<u>\$0.00</u>	Paypal fee Donation	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total	\$94.00	Total	\$150.92
Ending Balance	\$5,015.97		

Members in the Spotlight

Joe Barnard	Arts Barn Shop Gaithersburg, MD (Kentlands) Sept. 2026 to June 2027
Tim Aley	As always Artists on Market Gallery, 305 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD
Mike Colella	Maryland Renaissance Festival Sleeping Beauties permanent artisans booth Crownsville, MD Aug. 29 – Oct. 25 (every weekend and Labor Day Monday)
William Flint	My Etsy shop name is UFOKing The direct link is https://www.etsy.com/shop/UFOKing



Back to Basics II - Gary Guenther

One of MCW's prime directives is education. We have inexperienced turners who can use some guidance, and even experienced turners can benefit from an occasional refresher.

“Turn a Wood Bowl” series by Kent Weakley

Kent Weakley has created a large collection of video tutorials on his YouTube channel “Turn a Wood Bowl”. His videos, courses, and website provide extensive instruction for turning a wood bowl. An effective way to learn is by combining Kent’s free You Tube videos with his website content. His channel is organized into playlists that cover specific topics, which can help guide you through the process. You can do it on your own, but here I’ll give you a focus on one or more to you each month.



Kent’s website: <https://turnawoodbowl.com/about/>
(Sadly, the typeface is very difficult to read on my monitor.)

Kent’s YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/TurnAWoodBowl>

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Last month we talked about cutting into supported grain to avoid tearout. This month, let’s continue the topic of grain structure in a log and how to make use of it in turning a uniquely-oriented bowl with striking appearance. And even better, it uses wood you might otherwise waste. You can spare 24 minutes. Let’s dive right in!

How to Turn a Bowl with Quarter-sawn Grain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWaTRYo6SUc>



Sorry about the commercials on YouTube; nothing I can do about them. They’re pretty short, and you can generally hit “skip” on the second one.



Show Tell & Ask Gallery August 2026



Tim Aley
bowls



Tim Aley
family of gnomes



Mike Colella
mini lanterns



Pat Carroll
footed vessel
7" h x 4" dia.
painted mystery wood
June demo piece
finished by Joe Barnard



John Laffan
tiny turned turtle box
1" h x 3-1/2" w x 2" d
maple





Woody Johnson
Christmas trees
(spray lacquer)
and
snowmen
(unfinished)

Rick Ellsbury
lidded hollow form
3" h x 4" dia.
spalted holly, walnut





Gary Guenther
cup
2-1/4" h x 2-1/2" dia.
cherry with branch inclusion



Gary Guenther
platter
1-3/8" h x 10-3/4" dia.
spalted, blister-figure
myrtle burl
lacquers, wax





William Flint
bowl with undercut rim
2-1/2" h x 8-1/4" dia.
cherry





Jeff Struewing
plate with hickory napkin rings
3/4" h x 9" dia.
mahogany

Jeff Struewing
square plate
3/4" h x 9" sq.
cherry





Margaret Follas
bowl
4" h x 9" dia.
ambrosia maple





Peter Kellman
live-edge bowl
1-1/2" h x 12" w x 7" d
hickory





Peter Kellman
live-edge bowl
2" h x 7" w x 5" d
cherry





Roman Steichen
bowl
3" h x 7" dia.
dalbergia sissoo
(North Indian Rosewood)



AAW Member Benefits

MCW is one of 365 world-wide chapters of the American Association of Woodturning. MCW would not exist if it were not for the AAW. If you are not already a member, we strongly encourage you to look at the personal benefits, which are many and varied, and consider joining. It's not inexpensive, but it's worthy.



THE BENEFITS OF
MEMBERSHIP
IN THE AAW

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THE ... AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

IN 2026, WE CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF TURNING

WE SUPPORT YOUR CRAFT & COMMUNITY.

The American Association of Woodturners is a 501(c)(3) that supports and empowers the global woodturning community. That support happens in your neighborhood, online and around the world.

PUBLICATIONS & LEARNING CONTENT

As a member of the AAW, you enjoy news and information delivered in print, online, in email, and at in-person events around the nation.

- *American Woodturner* journal is published 6x year with projects, tips, artist profiles, member and chapter news, events and more.
- *Woodturning Fundamentals* is an always-expanding online library of tips, projects and instruction for new and improving turners.
- Discover Woodturning helps new turners start safely and easily.
- Learning Portals include skills, techniques and projects.

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Professional Outreach Program includes grants, awards and exhibition opportunities.
- Learn to become a Woodturning Demonstrator.
- Teacher's Resource & Project Guide includes lesson plans for pros.
- Events calendar to promote regional events, demonstrations and more.

CHAPTERS & COMMUNITIES & EVENTS

- Event Discounts for the AAW International Woodturning Symposium.
- Women in Turning is a community dedicated to assisting women who want to advance their skills, creativity and connections.
- Turners Without Borders delivers information and service to the global woodturning community.
- The AAW Member-moderated Forum has thousands of active users sharing their work, plus advice and best practices in woodturning.
- The Chapter Leadership Community helps local and regional chapters serve their members and guide safe and productive woodturning.

TO JOIN TODAY, Contact the American Association of Woodturners

THE NUMBERS

- 12,000+ Members
- In 37 Countries
- 360+ Chapters
- 40 Years of support and promotion of woodturning

MEMBERS SAY ...

"This is my time to focus on being creative, working with my hands, and building community." Andy Z.

"The AAW and my chapter are essential to my social life and creativity!" Judith H.

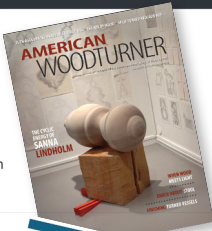
"Learning new skills; making wood items; meeting new folks and sharing with friends." Dale B.



@AAWOODTURNERS



@AMERICANASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



woodturner.org
memberservices@woodturner.org



651-484-9094 direct or
877-595-9094 toll free



75 W5th St, 220 Landmark
Center, St. Paul, MN 55102

Member Discounts

Exotic Lumber <https://www.exoticlumber.com/>

EXOTIC LUMBER

With over 130 species in stock, Exotic Lumber has one of the widest selections available on the East Coast. They offer a 10% discount to MCW Members with a membership badge. They are located in Annapolis where you are welcome to select from their extensive selection of turning blocks.

Frederick Lumber Company Frederick, Maryland

<https://www.fredericklumber.com/>

Frederick Lumber Company offers over 130 species of domestic and exotic hardwoods, with a showroom full of small boards and turning stock. They offer a 10% discount to MCW Members with a membership badge. They are located in downtown Frederick, where you are welcome to browse and select your own boards.

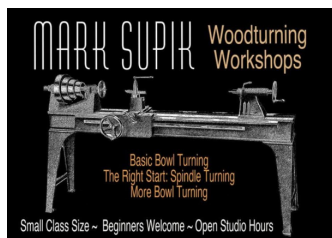


Mark Supik Woodturning Workshops

1200 N. Macon St.
Baltimore, MD 21205

<https://www.marksupikco.com/workshops>

Mark Supik's professional woodturning shop in Baltimore becomes a woodturning school on Fridays and Saturdays. Students include hobbyists, artists, and tradespeople. Some are enthusiastic beginners, others experienced turners ready to improve their skills. Mark provides each student with an individual lathe, safety equipment, and a set of tools to use during the workshop. All project materials are included in the cost of the class. Class size is limited to seven students. The cost for the all-day workshop (8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.) is \$200 including project materials, lunch, and snacks. Half-day classes are \$100. Parking provided.



Membership in MCW qualifies you for a 10% discount when you take one of their workshops.



Chapter Officers

President	Joe Barnard
Vice President	Joe Stout
Treasurer	Tim Aley
Newsletter Editor	Mike Colella
Membership Chair	Steve Drake
Program Chair	Bill Bell
Secretary	Mary Aronson
Webmaster	Jeff Struewing
President Emeritus	Bob Anderson

Volunteers

Skills Enhancement Coordinator	Duane Schmidt
Warriors in Transition Leader	Joe Stout
Beads of Courage Director	Jeff Gilbert
MoCo Ag Fair Coordinator	Tim Aley
Turn For Troops Coordinator	Roman Steichen
Women in Turning Liason	Dori Reissman
Computer and Videography	Paul Paukstelis, Rick Ellsbury, Joe Stout
Computer and Videography (cont.)	Scott Bleakney, John Laffan, Mike Colella
Gallery Photography	Mike Colella, David Loeffler, Tim Aley
Candid Photography and Web Albums	Gary Guenther, Tim Aley
Show Tell & Ask Leader	Mike Colella
Show Tell & Ask Recording	Richard Webster
Activities Arranger	Tim Aley
Backup Secretary	Steve Drake
Newsletter Co-Editor	Gary Guenther



MCW Resources

1. Our Hosts: Our most important resource is our meeting and activity space. We are deeply indebted to our hosts, The Woodworkers Club, for their continuing support in sharing their facility with us. Please give Tosin and the team 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. Please help support them.



2. Web Site: <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org> Thanks to Webmaster Jeff Struewing, we have an outstanding website. Please use it. Our Meetings & Events info is all there, as is the membership list (it's private; ask Jeff if you need access). There is a large number of helpful resource documents on tips and safety under the "Misc" column on the far right.

3. Newsletters: The MCW Turning Journal is our primary connection to you, our members. We do it for you! Please read it when you receive it! It's important and meaningful. Our Newsletter Archive, on the website, is a tremendous resource, containing the complete, monthly history of all MCW programs and activities from Volume 1, Issue 1 in 2007. They are available at <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/newsletters/>

4. Silent Auction: Not everyone has access to a chainsaw or a band saw, so it's nice to have access to properly-sized turning blanks for a pittance. Please bring your 'road kill' and shop excess to share with other Members.

5. MCW Facebook Group: MCW has a private Facebook Group. Use it to post pictures of your work, ask questions, and check out upcoming events. It provides another venue for our members to get to know each other better. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194941367515051/> to request to be added to the group.

6. Discounts: Steve Drake has maintained our connection with two retailers who provide MCW Members with monetary discounts. Mark Supik also provides a discount on his Workshops. Please see the list of participating merchants on the website and on a previous page above.



World Connections - Links and other noteworthy places.

This page is dedicated to useful and noteworthy links.

Feel free to email me with suggestions: michael.j.colella@gmail.com

AAW: <https://www.woodturner.org/>

Arrowmont: <https://www.arrowmont.org/>

Women In Turning: <https://www.woodturner.org/?page=WIT>

The Woodworkers Club: <https://woodworkersclub.com/>

MCW Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194941367515051>

AAW Photo Gallery: <http://www.aawforum.org/community/index.php?media/>

Worth checking out to see some amazing work.

Mark Supik: <https://www.marksupikco.com/>

Talking Turning: <https://www.awgb.co.uk/talking-turning-zoom-sessions/>

Wood Symphony Artists: <https://www.woodsymphony.com/wood-artists>

Worldwide Woodturners: <https://www.worldwidewoodturners.org>



Tailstock



Our August Show Tell & Ask table had many varied and delightful pieces, so everybody gets credit for a job well done..