



Volume 2012, Issue 1

January 2012

Montgomery County Woodturners
<http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>

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Next Meeting and Demonstration (Gary Guenther)

The next meeting will be:

Date: Thursday, January 12, 2012
Time: 7:00-9:00 PM (**S&T submissions due by 6:30PM!**)
Location: Woodworkers Club
4950 Wyaconda Road
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 984-9033

Agenda

- 6:30 Critique participants bring their turned objects
- 6:30-7:00 Critique Objects photographed and reviewed by panelists
- 6:45 -7:00 PM Bring a chair, if you wish... be sure to wear your name tag... meet and greet other members... register your items for Show & Tell with Richard Webster... bid on Silent Auction items... sign out and pay Clif Poodry for videos from the club's Lending Library.
- 7:00 - 7:15 PM Business Meeting and Show & Tell
- 7:15 - 8:50 PM • Program: **Annual Membership Critique**
- 8:50 - 9:00 PM Pay for and retrieve your Silent Auction items, pack up, put the lathe and space back in order.

3rd Annual Membership Critique Program

If you are bringing a piece to be discussed, please be sure to read the important logistical information at the bottom.

This activity has been a big hit our first two years, and we are continuing this MCW January tradition. Instead of a demonstration, we will have an extended Show & Tell period with a critique of each piece by a panel of three selected craft, art, and turning experts. Our goal is to get a fresh perspective, from the outside looking in, at what we're doing, how our forms relate to those of other media, and how we may be able to improve them.

See Page 5 for more details...

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2011 MCW Critique



Special Points of Interest:

- 2012 MCW Officer Elections
- 2012 MCW Dues
- Beginner's Corner

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President's Perspective (Bert Bleckwenn)

MCW 2012 Officer Election

Election of officers for 2012 will occur at our January meeting. Most of the current officers have expressed interest in continuing on in their current roles for 2012, but I will not be continuing on as your president and will also discontinue acting as the Newsletter Editor as I had announced at the December meeting. Mark Verna has offered to be the MCW Newsletter Editor, but the President's position is still open.

Phil Brown is leading an effort to identify candidate officers prior to our next meeting, so encourage any member interested in being the president to contact Phil directly at 301-767-9863 or you can contact me at 301-634-1600 to understand more details about the position.

2012 MCW Officer Positions:

- **President – (open)**
- VP – Clif Poodry
- Program Director – Gary Guenther
- Treasurer – Phil Brown
- Secretary – Tim Aley
- Membership Director – Bill Autry
- Web Master – Carl Powell
- Newsletter Editor – Mark Verna

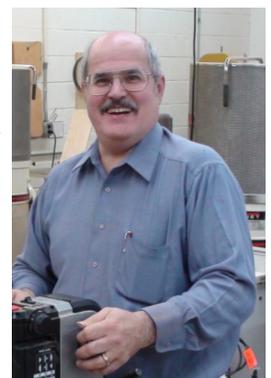
MCW 2012 Dues

It is that time of the year! Please see Bill Autry and pay your 2012 MCW Membership Dues which are still at \$20 per year!

The Beginner's Corner

Steve Drake has started a new column (page 7) to report on the results of his monthly survey efforts which I believe will be of real interest to everyone, especially our newer or less-experienced members. I encourage everyone to respond to his monthly survey requests and contribute your perspective so the Beginner's Corner becomes another great attribute of our chapter.

Good work Steve!



Steve Drake

President's Perspective (Bert Bleckwenn)

(Continued from page 2)

MCW Skills Enhancement Program

The January session will focus on any turning technique you like. The session is scheduled for:

- Friday January 20, 2012 - 10:00am - 1:00pm

A minimum of two participants is required for each session, otherwise a session will be cancelled.

MCW Skills Enhancement Volunteer(s) needed

It is time for other MCW members to step up and help with Skills Enhancement, so I'm looking for volunteers who can work with me and share some of the responsibilities in conducting the monthly Skills Enhancement sessions. It would really be great if a couple members volunteered so we could spread the effort across more members and alternate responsibilities every 2-3 months..

All the participants in skills enhancement have really appreciated the offering and I'm encouraged to continue with the program. It's a great way for newer members to get to know other members while sharing some camaraderie

MCW Picasa Picture Gallery

Pictures from last month's meeting which includes the S&T Gallery, Meeting Highlights and the featured Demonstration can be found on the MCW Picasa website at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/montgomerycountywoodturners>

It has been a real pleasure serving you as your president these past two years!

Happy turning,
Bert

Financial Report (Phil Brown)

Treasury Report, Dec 23, 2011

December income:		December Expenses:	
Silent auction	71	Skill enhancement	141.69
Memberships	<u>140</u>	Meeting support equip	437.95
Total income	\$211	Website	14.95
		Library exhibits for yr	94.73
		Outreach items for yr	<u>348.55</u>
		Total expenses	\$1,037.87
Total funds available	\$875.30		

News about our Members (Phil Brown)

Mark Supik's workshops at 1 N. Haven Street in Baltimore are:

Open Studio, \$30 for 3 hours: Saturdays 9 am to noon or 1 pm to 4 pm: Jan 21st, March 24th, and Wednesday evening 6-9 pm: Feb 29th.

The Right Start, Spindle Turning: \$150/day from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. All materials and lunch provided on Saturday January 28th, March 10th, and Sunday Feb. 12th.

Bowl Turning on Saturday Feb 11th, Sunday January 29th and March 11th.

Small class sizes and all skill levels welcome. Advanced turners, please let us know the specific skills you'd like to work on so that we can have the materials ready for you. More details are at: www.marksupikco.com (click on *Get Schooled Here*), or call 410-732-8414. There is always a 20% discount for woodturning club members. For directions to the shop see: www.marksupikco.com/links/directions%20to%20shop.pdf

Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the MCW Newsletter. Send your information by the 22nd of the month to Phil Brown at: philbrown@comcast.net, or call 301-767-9863.

3rd Annual Membership Critique Program (Gary Guenther)

(Continued from page 1)

Our panel this year will be

1. wood sculptor Lynda Smith-Bugge,
2. potter Ingrid Barnes, and
3. wood-art collector Steve Keeble.

We will send out some further information about them in an email.

About 15 members have signed up to bring one item to be discussed, and that's about the number we have time for, so we're in good shape as far as pieces are concerned.

We encourage all members to attend this meeting and to join us for a great learning opportunity, whether or not you bring a piece to be evaluated. Some comments from the audience will be welcomed, as time permits. We intend to keep it informal and to just have fun with it, as we always do.

As in our normal, monthly S&T sessions, finished pieces are encouraged, but the idea is not necessarily to submit a 'perfect' piece, or even a finished piece – rather, the goal is for us all to learn about design, turning, and finishing techniques from the things each of us is making or has made. This is an ideal way to learn how to improve what we are doing in a friendly but learned and informative environment.

Now, if you are bringing a piece, please pay attention. It is very important that you bring your item and **have it on the table no later than 6:30 p.m.** Please put a dot on it and sign it in on the sheet, as usual. Two things have to happen between 6:30 and 7:00: 1) the panelists need the time to look over all the works and collect their thoughts, and 2) Mike Colella has to photograph all of them before the business meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. We would like to ask for a volunteer to "truck" the pieces to Mike. Please call or email Gary if you are willing to help out. The items will be discussed in the order they are signed in, so it's to your benefit to get them there early. Last year, we ran out of time and had to rush the later works. I'll try to avoid that this year, but...

Time at these events is precious and fleeting. When your piece is presented, as the maker, you will have **60 seconds** to say why you brought it and what you hope to learn about it. The Soup Nazi will have the stop watch.

If you are *not* bringing a piece to be reviewed, the meeting will begin for you, as usual, at or before 7:00 p.m., as you like.

This is guaranteed to be another fun and instructive time. Don't miss it!

December 8, 2011 MCW Business Meeting Minutes (Tim Aley)

At 7:08 MCW President Bert Bleckwenn called the meeting to order and welcomed 24 members and guests to meeting. Guests that introduced themselves were Duane Schmidt and Barbara Nickerson.

The one Skill Enhancement Offering for December scheduled for Friday Dec. 09, 2011 was canceled due to lack of participation.

Bert again stated MCW Demo Day was a success thanked all the demonstrators and volunteers that helped.

A video camera purchased by the club does not have a playback out port. It will be resold and we will continue to find another solution.

Bert identified current officers willing to continue. All officers are willing to continue except for the President and the Newsletter Editor (currently open). If you are interested in finding out more about any of the positions or running for any of the positions, please contact Phil Brown or Bert Bleckwenn. Election will be at the January meeting.

The Woodworkers Club has an opportunity to have Michael Hosulak give a class on April 11-12th. MCW had 14 positive responses and will be looking to get commitments for 7-9 in a class and maybe two classes. There is another chance for doing a class in September or later.

Bill Autry is starting to collect MCW 2012 Membership Dues. He will be collecting at the January Meeting.

Steve Drake sent out his first questionnaire a month to members asking basic knowledge questions "how do you..." and compiling the information somewhere like the newsletter, website, or a blog. It was motioned and agreed upon to try this out. It was also mentioned that the website has a section YMMV that Gary Guenther wrote and should be looked at.

Elliot Schantz has a thickness planer and a dust collector for sale. Contact him for information.

Hal Burdette photographed the show and tell pieces that Richard Webster checked in.

The silent auction had several tables of wood donated by Bill Long, Phil Brown and Bert Bleckwenn.

The MCW Give-Back Challenge was won by Eliot Schantz.

Clif Poodry lead the Show & Tell Member Critique.

The presentation for the night was [Tree to Lathe: Vision, Preparation, Tools, Techniques, and Safety](#) Part 2. The presenters were Phil Brown, Gary Nickerson, Gary Guenther and Stan Wellborn.

The Beginner's Corner (Steve Drake)

This is the first in a series of articles aimed at helping the beginning turner gather some basic knowledge from the accumulated knowledge of the MCW club members. For this first article, I gathered some general information and asked two questions – ***How big is your shop*** and ***what type of lathe is best for a beginner*** - aimed at helping the beginning turner get started.

First some general statistics, 40% of the club responded and they range from 0 to 70 years of turning experience with an average of 12 years. There were 3 professionals, 4 experts and an almost equal mix of intermediates and beginners. While some turners pursue the craft on an almost full time, the median is only 7 hours/month.

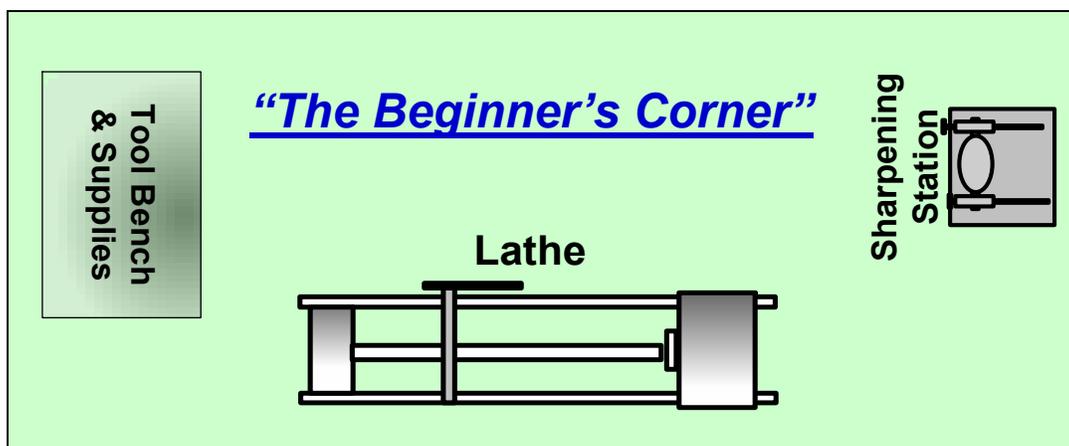
Four of our members have large shops (>800 sq. ft), but the majority of people have shops between 150-350 sq. ft. which is the size of a medium bedroom to a single car garage.

Between the 28 responding members, there were 42 different lathes. By far, the most common lathe is a Jet Mini which 10 people own although there were only 3 larger Jet lathes. Delta and Powermatic lathes were second most popular at 5 each although several people swore that the Powermatic 3520 was the best lathe available. The rest were a variety of Nova (3) Robust American Beauty (2), Shopsmith (2) and others.

Almost universally, the recommended lathe for a beginner was a new or used Jet, Delta, or Powermatic Mini/Midi. The advantages of these lathes are that they are relatively inexpensive, they are a more manageable size, and they are easily resalable if you decide to upgrade and only have room for one lathe. Several people with multiple lathes prefer using their mini lathe instead of their larger lathe for smaller projects. From a safety standpoint, a mini lathe with a smaller motor turning smaller objects delivers less power and rotational momentum than a full sized lathe can produce so is less likely to seriously injure a beginner.

The other schools of thought were that you should get the biggest lathe you can afford so you only have to get one or, alternatively, work on a Woodworker's Club lathe until you become proficient enough to decide to get a large lathe of your own. The caution was raised to avoid most Craftsman, Rigid, or single beam Harbor Freight lathes as they tend to be difficult to adjust and can have inherent vibration issues that make turning difficult. This seems to be borne out by the membership as there was only one older Craftsman lathe among the members and that individual also had a Jet mini.

Thank you everyone for your help and look for the next survey coming out the day of the next meeting.



Future Meetings (Gary Guenther)

Suggestions are welcome. Please call Gary at 301-384-7594 with your ideas.

• January 12, 2012 -- 3rd Annual Show & Tell with Formal Critiques

This has been a big hit our first two years, and we intend to continue this January MCW tradition. Instead of a demonstration, we will have an extended Show & Tell session with a formal critique of each piece by a panel of three selected craft, art, and turning experts. (We will have three new panelists.) Participants (you) will bring one piece that you have made, to have it reviewed. The idea is not necessarily to submit a 'perfect' piece, or even a finished piece – rather, the goal is for us all to learn about design, turning, and finishing techniques from the things each of us has made. This is an ideal way to learn how to improve what we are doing, from our fellow turners' experiences, in a friendly and instructive environment. Needless to say, we want as many people as possible to come and join us for this great learning opportunity, whether or not you bring a piece to be evaluated. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the December meeting to get an idea of the number of potential participants. This is guaranteed to be another fun and instructive time. Don't miss it!

• February 9, 2012 -- TBD

We normally use a "local" demonstrator in Feb. because of potential weather problems.

• March 15, 2012 -- David Ellsworth – topic TBD (what would you like to see?)

[Please note that this is *one week later* than our normal meeting day.]

Do I really have to say anything about David Ellsworth – probably the most famous woodturner in the world? Well, I could say that he was a founder of AAW in 1986, whose 25th anniversary we celebrated in St. Paul this summer. I could say he "invented" the modern hollow form. You will find his works wherever you find fine turned wood objects. Very appropriately, he got the cover of the June 2011 issue of *American Woodturner*, and there is a very nice article inside. Check it out. He's also a great guy. Perhaps he'll critique our S&T for us again. I'm sure you remember his first outstanding demo for us. Well, heeere's baaaaack.

• April 12, 2012 – Mike Hosaluk – topic TBD

Award-winning Mike Hosaluk, from Saskatchewan, Canada, is internationally recognized as one of the world's most creative woodturners and wood artists. It is said that: "his work is humorous and elegant, possesses character and gesture and is full of reference to architecture, nature and culture." His many and instantly-recognizable signature pieces are in all the best museums, collections, and galleries. Mike is featured in the book "New Masters of Woodturning". He is an outstanding teacher – I saw him in two rotations in St. Paul. His "how'd he do that?" works are mind bending, and he happily demonstrates his techniques. He is also an author, sells a line of tools, and has a DVD. His web site is <http://michaelhoseluk.com>. He will also be teaching a highly recommended two-day, hands-on Workshop at the Woodworkers Club on the Wednesday and Thursday associated with our meeting. Talk to Matt about signing up, and be sure to mark this demo on your calendars.

• May 10, 2012 – Alan Carter – either 'Suspended' Vessels or 'Split-bowl' vessels

Alan is a new 'big' name with lots of magazine coverage recently for his "suspended" vessels. Check out his work at www.alancarterstudio.com and the June 2011 issue of Woodturning Design magazine in which he has the cover, and artist's profile, and a good article. His work has also been widely presented in recent issues of *American Woodturner*. He creates vibrant and unusual sculptures that have a strong dy-

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Future Meetings (Gary Guenther)

(Continued from page 8)

namic presence. He is honored to have been selected to give two woodturning demonstrations at SOFA Chicago this November. SOFA is *the* premiere international 3D art exposition. Alan will be flying in from Illinois.

- **August 9, 2012 – Mark Gardner – topic TBD**

Mark was a student of the famed Stoney Lamar and is widely known for his own signature sculpture and vessels involving unique shapes, multiple axes, coloring, carving, and texturing. <http://markgardnerstudio.com>

- **September 6, 2012 – Patrick O'Brien – topic TBD**

Patrick, a widely-respected CAW member and professional turner, did an excellent demo for us of his signature natural-edge pot in April 2010, and he will be making a return visit to show us what he's currently working on. www.ohbewood.com

- **November 8, 2012 – Marilyn Campbell – topic TBD**

Marilyn's unique forms are easily among the most recognizable examples of wood art. She uses techniques of cutting and gluing, coloring, piercing, and texturing to great effect. www.marilyncampbell.ca

2012 Meeting Schedule		
January 12 <i>MCW Show & Tell</i>	February 9 <i>"local" demonstrator</i>	March 15 <i>David Ellsworth</i>
April 12 <i>Mike Hosaluk</i>	May 10 <i>Alan Carter</i>	June 7
July 12	August 9 <i>Mark Gardner</i>	September 6 <i>Patrick O'Brien</i>
October 11	November 8 <i>Marilyn Campbell</i>	December 6

2012 Meeting and Skills Enhancement Capabilities & Schedule (Bert Bleckwenn)

Our MCW Skills Enhancement Program has been very well received this year with numerous members participating. It has been very well attended by newer members which was one of our objectives in establishing the program. Evening sessions have been sparse so for 2012, only one session per month has been schedule with dates and times varying between Friday AM and Sunday AM sessions.

Besides the 4-5 lathes that the Woodworkers Club continues to maintain in their shop, MCW's acquisition of several mini-lathes and midi-lathes (Jet, General, Delta and Rikon) and the large Woodfast lathe has brought the total lathe capacity up to ten for both the Woodworkers Club use and our use.

Besides the MCW lathes located in the Woodworkers Club shop, MCW has provided a Oneway mobility base and several chuck adapters in varies sizes so members are able to bring and use their own chucks on most any of the lathes. The adapters are kept in the small hanging metal cabinet in the lathe area. MCW has also made available three Workmates for use as stands for three of the midi-lathes and also available as tool stands for the large lathes, when not being used as lathe stands.

MCW also maintains numerous turning tools, sharpening tools, finishing supplies and other accessories stored in a large, black Stanley Tool Chest which is stowed under one of the open workbenches. A key has been provided to the Woodworkers Club and is available to MCW members when participating in a Skills Enhancement session or other MCW sponsored events.

Mark your calendars now so you can take advantage of our meetings and Skill Enhancement programs in 2012!

2012 MCW Meeting and Skills Enhancement Schedule			
Month	Meeting Date (7:00-9:00PM)	Skills Enhancement Day	Skills Enhancement Date (10:00AM-1:00PM)
January	Thursday, January 12, 2012	Friday	Friday, January 20, 2012
February	Thursday, February 9, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, February 12, 2012
March	Thursday, March 15, 2012*	Friday	Friday, March 16, 2012
April	Thursday, April 12, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, April 15, 2012
May	Thursday, May 10, 2012	Friday	Friday, May 11, 2012
June	Thursday, June 7, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, June 10, 2012
July	Thursday, July 12, 2012	Friday	Friday, July 13, 2012
August	Thursday, August 9, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, August 12, 2012
September	Thursday, September 6, 2012	Friday	Friday, September 7, 2012
October	Thursday, October 11, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, October 14, 2012
November	Thursday, November 8, 2012	Friday	Friday, November 9, 2012
December	Thursday, December 6, 2012	Sunday	Sunday, December 9, 2012

* One week later than our normal schedule

Membership Application Form and Interest Profile

MCW Membership Application forms available at: <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/Membership.aspx>

To become a member or renew, please print out, complete and either mail it or personally deliver it to Bill Autry along with a check for \$20.00 payable to Montgomery County Woodturners. New membership in the 2nd quarter is \$15, 3rd quarter \$10, and 4th quarter \$5. A Family membership is \$30.00/yr. Please ensure you include your email address, as all communications are electronic via our website and periodic email notifications.

Member Discount Program

EXOTIC LUMBER, INC. GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND – 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. We have warehouse locations in Gaithersburg and Annapolis, where you are welcome to select from our extensive selection of turning blocks.



HARDWOODS, INC. FREDERICK, MARYLAND – hardwoodsincorporated.com

10% off all turning stock, lumber, moldings, finishes and hardware. 10% off on all Amana router bits and blades that list for \$75.00 and under and 20% off those that list for over \$75.00. 5% off all plywood and veneer products.



2SAND.COM – 2sand.com or call 800/516-7621

2Sand.com is a coated abrasive specialist focused on fast service and fair prices providing superior sanding discs, sandpaper sheets, and woodturning tools to woodshops. MCW Member Discount is 10% (discount code available in the restricted area of the MCW Website).



ROCKVILLE WOODWORKERS CLUB – woodworkersclub.com

MCW and other club members, remember to support the Woodworkers Club by purchasing turning supplies during our meetings and save 10% on the retail price.



CRAFT SUPPLIES USA – woodturnerscatalog.com

Club members can save 10% on all finishes & disc abrasives from Craft Supplies USA.

Just mention your club name and save, all year long. You can always see current club specials by clicking on the members login button on their homepage. New 15% specials are updated on the 1st of the month, which can be accessed by using on the link above and going to the club member login located on the lower right portion of the page.



HARTVILLE TOOL CLUB – hartvilletool.com

Members get a 15% discount, with MCW receiving a 3% rebate. If you have not signed up for this program, let Stan Wellborn know you want to do so. He will let Hartville know you are an MCW member and sign you up. Catalogs and ordering instructions are available or at meetings





Montgomery County Woodturners - A local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW)

MCW Contact Information

OFFICERS

President	(open)		
President Emeritus/ Treasurer	Phil Brown	philfbrown@comcast.net	301/767-9863
Vice President	Clif Poodry	cpoodry@aol.com	301/530-4501
Program Chair	Gary Guenther	gary.c.guenther@gmail.com	301/384-7594
Membership	Bill Autry	bill_autry2004@yahoo.com	301/524-7198
Secretary	Tim Aley	taley16922@aol.com	301/869-6983
Webmaster	Carl Powell	cmpowell@gmail.com	301/924-6623
Newsletter Editor	Mark Verna	mark.verna2@verizon.net	301/228-6772

VOLUNTEERS

Web Albums	Tim Aley, Michael Colella
Show & Tell Recording	Richard Webster
Mentor Program	Donald Couchman
Gallery Photography	Hal Burdette, Michael Colella
Photography Assistant	Donald Van Ryk
Lending Library	Clif Poodry
Challenge Coordinator	Elliot Schantz
Wood Identification	Ed Karch
Candid Photography	Tim Aley, Stuart Glickman
Exhibit Committee	Phil Brown, Hal Burdette, Clif Poodry
Skills Enhancement Coordinator	Bert Bleckwenn & open position
Warrior Support Program	Don Van Ryk