

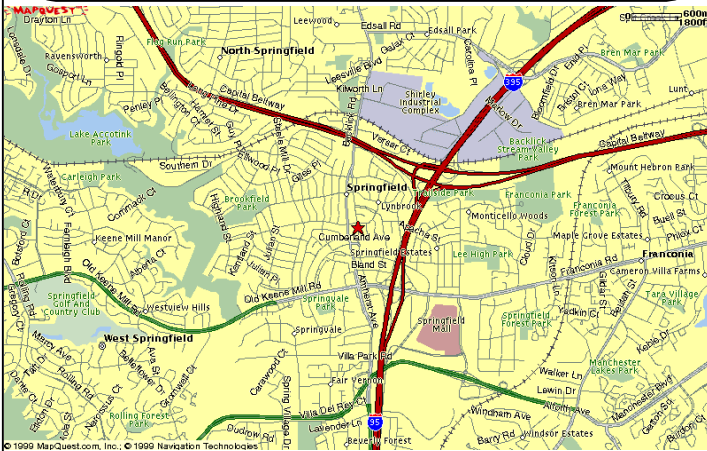
The CAW Newsletter

The CAW Newsletter is the official publication of the Capital Area Woodturners Chapter of the AAW, and is published for the information of its members. Membership in the CAW Chapter is open to anyone interested in the art and craft of woodturning.

Meeting Announcement:

Date: March 11, 2000
Time: 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM
Place: Woodcraft Supply
 6123 Backlick Rd..
 Springfield, VA 22150

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING: Take I-395 or the I-495 Capital Beltway south toward Richmond. Get onto I-95 going south. Get off at the **very first exit**, Route 644, Old Keene Mill Rd. going west. One short block later (just past the Carpet store) turn right onto Backlick Rd.. Go through two stop lights. Turn right into the Concord Shopping Center parking lot. Woodcraft is fifth shop in the row.



Program For The Month

Special Saturday Program

9:30 am Mark Sfirri will give us a full-day demonstration of his world renowned multi-axis artistic turnings. He will share tips and techniques on wood-selection, design, turning execution, and finishing. There will be a break for lunch - members may bring their own lunch or there are a number of fast-food outlets within walking distance of the Woodcraft Store. A \$5.00 exhibition fee will be charged to help offset demonstration and travel expenses. The demo will end around 3:30 to 4:00 pm. Please join us.

Please Take Note !!!

There will **NOT BE** a meeting at the Woodcraft Store on Thursday evening, March 9th. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, April 13th.

Mark Sfirri is a turner, furniture maker and teacher. He has pieces in several major collections throughout the country as well as major museums. He has been in several del Mano Gallery shows, Sansar Gallery, and the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian. He is known for producing tables with oddly turned legs, multi-axis candlesticks, his "Rejects from the Bat Factory" series of turned baseball bats, and multi-axis human sculptural forms.

Mr. Sfirri says:

"My love for turning grew out of a love for carving. It became a motorized carving technique. The turned forms are sometimes split apart, carved, re-turned or sometimes painted. The finished work often looks very little like a turned object. My major area of focus has been with spindle turned objects."

Hello, My name is Jim Marstall and I'm a procrastinataholic

Can you imagine, I sit here every month and insert these reminders into the Newsletter that dues are due; and then I let my own membership expire! I'm mortified. I have to alert myself that this is the last Newsletter I'm going to send to me unless I get my dues payment current for the year 2000. Mike McInerney will send out final notices in March as a last reminder, but then if my name is not made current by the end of March, I going to stop sending Newsletters to me. I need to fix this, RIGHT NOW.

Membership Renewals Are Now **Overdue!!**

Don't wait until the dues police track you down

So far we have 114 paid up members for year 2000, and 56 from last year that have not yet renewed

Renew your CAW membership for the year 2000.

\$20 for individual membership

\$15 per person for multiple persons in a family

Bring your dues to the next meeting or mail them to:

Mike McInerney, CAW Treasurer

14526 Creek Branch Ct

Centreville, VA 20120

Make checks payable to Capital Area Woodturners

If you are unsure if you owe dues for the year 2000, look at the mailing label on the newsletter in the upper right corner. If it says DEC-99, you owe. If it says DEC-00, you are paid up.

If you get the newsletter via email, call or email Mike McInerney, CAW Treasurer, at 703-378-8117 or mikemc1421@aol.com to verify your membership

A Message From the President

Hello everyone, another month has slipped by. We are already into the last third of the first quarter of the year 2000. Amazing how fast the days are passing by. How much time have you spent on the lathe this year? I have to admit that I have spent less time on the lathe than I want to. I suppose I am more aware of just how fast the days are going by because it seems like no sooner then I send Jim my input for the newsletter, I am writing another message for another month. Well, this month is going to prove a bit hectic I think, next weekend is our club participation in the Woodworkers show at the Capital Expo Center. The following weekend is our special demonstration by Mark Sphirri. Don't forget that we are not having a meeting Thursday meeting for March but instead having the Saturday demonstration. The weather is starting to warm up a bit and I am hoping that Spring gets here soon. The warmer weather could open up weekends for going out and cutting wood (into bowl blanks or whatever). Phil Brown has been doing a lot of work on trying to get some wood turning exhibits scheduled. You have seen his article, he will be meeting with the officers in an upcoming meeting to discuss some of the potential shows that we can get involved with. Phil will keep us posted on what is happening. That reminds me, club officers we need to set a date for our next officers meeting. The sanding disks are in and those that have not picked up your order yet, I will be bringing it to the demonstration on the 11th. If you want to arrange to get it sooner please call me. Keep the wood shavings flying and do a good turn. See you at the Woodworkers Show.

Ray Inaba

On the Internet with the AAW

The AAW is sponsoring a new email list for general discussion of woodturning issues by the general membership and other interested woodturning enthusiasts. This list is in addition to the AAW-L list which is a closed list restricted to local chapter leaders. This list came about due to a number of requests for this type of service by interested members of the AAW.

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You can read more about the list from a link on the AAW website at <http://www.woodturner.org/>

Thanks and enjoy the woodturning discussion.

Roger Austin, AAW Webmaster,

Walnut Turning Stock for Sale

WALNUT: American, air dried 25+ years. More than 1000 bf, mostly 4/4 and 16/4 and 20/4, various widths and grades. \$1.75 bf in place, Burtonsville, MD (near Montgomery Auto Sales Park). For more information, Call Rick at 301-493-8715. Rick is an old friend of Phil Brown, talk to Phil about this wood.

Renew Your AAW membership on-Line

The AAW now has a secure on-line membership application form on their AAW web site at <http://www.woodturner.org/>

This form can also be used for membership renewals, but please make sure to include a statement in the "Where did you learn about AAW?" field that you are renewing your membership for 2000. This will help the home office know that it is a renewal until they can add a field for "renewal" vs. "new" membership on the form. Thanks.



CAW Officer Roster

<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
<i>Ray Inaba</i> <i>President</i>	2720 Burning Oak Drive Waldorf, MD 20601 301-870-5431 inaba@erols.com
<i>Pat Berry</i> <i>Vice-President</i>	2019 Virginia Ave. McLean, VA 22101 703-534-8746 patberry@erols.com
<i>Mike McInerney</i> <i>Treasurer</i>	14526 Creek Branch Court Centerville, VA 22020 703-378-8117 mikemc1421@aol.com
<i>Jim Marstall</i> <i>Secretary</i>	6213 Capella Ave. Burke, VA 22015 703-644-6797 james.marstall@west.boeing.com
<i>Tim & Sheryl Kochman</i> <i>Program Directors</i>	10411 Todman Landing Court Burke, VA 22015 703-250-4891
<i>C. A. Savoy</i> <i>Show Director</i>	1309 Gatewood Drive Alexandria, VA 22307 703-765-7268

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS. By Phil Brown

David Fry had a booth at the Audubon craft fair in Chevy Chase over the Dec 2-3 weekend, and received the *Judge's Award* from Shelly Brunner.

We don't see much of **John Russell** since he is so busy turning wood for a living. He just finished two wholesale shows in February - Buyers Market in Philadelphia and the ACC Craft Market Baltimore 2000.

A mesquite burl bowl by **C.A. Savoy** was featured on the CAW web site in January. **C.A.** secured 36 CAW volunteers to staff our booth at the Northern Virginia Woodworking Show, March 3-4-5 in Chantilly.

Promote yourself in the CAW Newsletter by sending information to Phil Brown, 12200 Wynmore Lane, Bowie, MD 20715-1282. Phone and fax: 301-262-8597. E-mail: philfbrown@greenbelt.com

LOCAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

On Tuesday March 28th a **CAW skill enhancement session** will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Woodcraft Supply store, 6123 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA. If you have a particular type of turning, finishing, or texturing problem, etc. that you would like to learn more about, call C.A. Savoy (703-765-7268) in advance so he can make arrangements to honor your request, if possible.

C.A. Savoy is teaching bowl turning in the Woodcraft store classroom in Springfield on March 30 and April 18, 2000, from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuition is \$80/student/class. CAW members get a 10 percent discount. Wood, tools, and a lath will be provided. Subjects covered are wood selection, preparation, mounting technology, finishing options, and proper use of the side ground gouge. Each student will turn a bowl.

David Fry provides private lessons at his shop in Cabin John, MD. Call him at 301-320-2696, or write to him at P.O. Box 330, Cabin John, MD 20818.

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS

Works in Wood, An International Exhibit runs October 1-31, 2000 at the Chesterton Art Gallery in Indiana. Entry deadline is July 7, 2000. For details call 219-926-4711 or e-mail LJENSEN@netnitco.net

Entries for *Challenge VI-Roots: Insight & Inspirations in Contemporary Turned Objects*, are due July 1, 2000. This challenge exhibit calls for turners to create distinctive artworks and share their sources of inspiration. A few copies of the prospectus will be available at the CAW meeting. Or you can request a prospectus from the Wood Turning Center by calling 215-844-2188, or by e-mail <turnon@woodturningcenter.org>

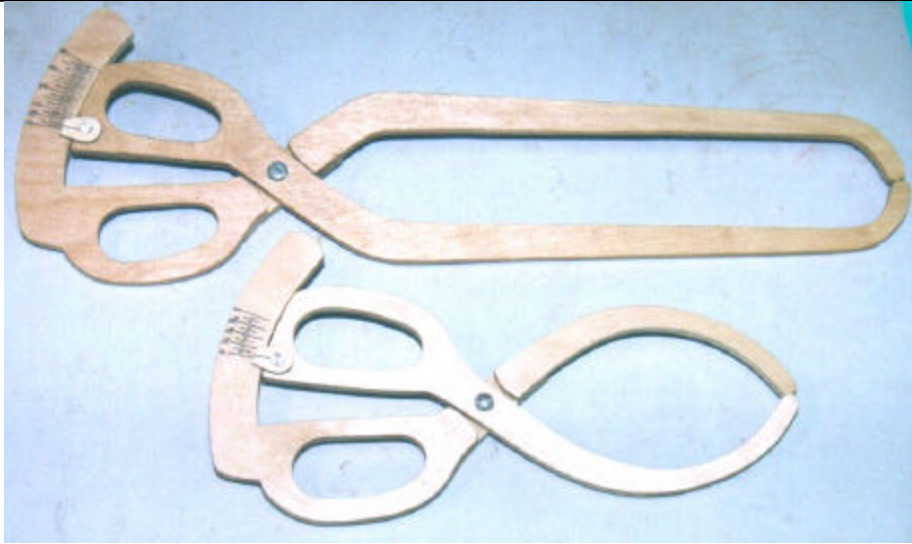
Applications are due April 5th for the Delaware Art Museum's 28th annual Craft Fair, a one-day outdoor event on June 3, 2000 from 9 am to 4 pm. Request their CALL FOR ENTRIES by calling 302-571-9590, or write them at 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Part time and full time sales people and a full time sales manager is needed at SANSAR in Bethesda, MD. If a second store is opened in northern Virginia later this year, additional staff will also be needed. For the person who enjoys being around well designed and well made wood tables, chairs, bowls, boxes and other wood objects, and fine crafts in other media, this may be an attractive opportunity. Contact Ms. Veena Singh at 301-652-8676. SANSAR is at 4805 Bethesda Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814

ARTICLE

TURN, TURN TURNING Wood by Loretta Radeschi appears on page 68-71 of the winter 1999-2000 issue of *AmericanStyle*. This generous article covers historical development, selected turners, and the organizations currently promoting educational activities and collecting of turned wood. Many color pictures of turned and sculpted wood are included.



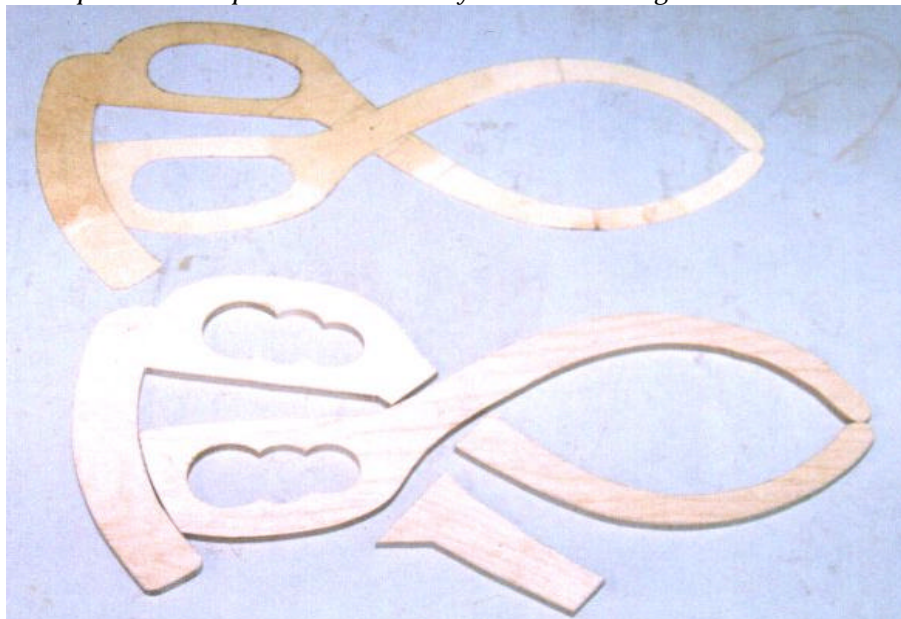
Bowl Wall Thickness Calipers By Kevin Neelley (Pinted with Permission)

I have made a number of special-use wall thickness calipers. Some are for deep or unusual-shaped bowls. I originally tried to buy thickness calipers but none of them were exactly what I wanted. Either the calipers in the catalogs weren't shaped right, didn't have a measurement scale, or maybe couldn't be used one-handed.

The calipers from these plans are made from 1/4" baltic birch plywood. I used an old pair of tin snips for my handle design shape. The caliper jaw shapes came from my imagination and from the calipers intended use. The scale doesn't need to be too big for general bowl thickness use. The scale reads 1" to 0" by 1/16ths of an inch.

Each caliper starts out as an outline drawn on construction paper. Next I trace the five caliper component sections. Next I glue the 3-piece scale section together and install a pivot screw. I sand the parts smooth with a sanding drum chucked into my drill press. The scale pointer, made from a handy wood scrap is then installed with a small screw so scale zero can be adjusted if necessary. I calibrate my caliper scale by closing the caliper jaws on known thicknesses, then marking the caliper scale. Caliper calibration needs to be done this way because, since the distance from the caliper's pivot screw to jaws is usually larger than the distance from the caliper's pivot screw to scale, the 0" to 1" mark width of the caliper's scale will usually be less than 1 inch. I calibrate my calipers using the jaws of a dial caliper, but it could also be done by careful use of a ruler.

These caliper plans and other jigs are featured on Kevin's Internet web site at: <http://www.turnedwood.com/> It is one of the best organized and beautiful sites on the world wide web. Kevin specializes in segmented vessel turnings and describes software that he wrote that simplifies the computation of how many and what size segments needed. VISIT, You'll be glad !!!



BURLS AND OTHER UNUSUAL WOODS

Wood worked by the hands of skilled craftsmen puts a wealth of quiet beauty into our daily lives. The warm glow of natural wood in different shades and forms invites the touch and a home without it seems drab and artificial.

Most carpenters and amateur handy men are happy to work with straight boards with straight grain sawed from perfect logs. In contrast, the finest paneling, cabinetwork and art objects in wood are made from parts of the tree which are ordinarily discarded. The crooked grain in stumps, and logs with knots or crotches, yields fanciful patterns when turned on a lathe or cut into veneer. So does the twisted grain in trees crippled by old injuries and in the tumorous or abnormal growths called burls.

The appreciation of woods with irregular grain is not new. Very fine pieces of furniture decorated with veneer cut from rare and precious burls have been found in ancient Egyptian tombs. One of the prize exhibits in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York is a bed taken from the tomb of the great-grandparents of King Tut's wife which is paneled with veneer of laburnum and acacia. It is not known how they sawed these thin layers or how they prepared glue that still holds after 3500 years.

Sometimes a burl is defined as an enlarged bump growing on a tree trunk and sometimes as almost any unusual woody growth. They are found occasionally on a wide variety of trees. Certain large galls or burls on oaks follow a chronic fungous infection. On other trees they seem to result from injuries, burns or continued irritation. In most cases the causes are not understood.

A smoker becomes attached to his brier pipe. He fondles it, guards it, and rubs it on his nose to bring out the grain in the wood. Ordinarily the bowls of these pipes are made from brierwood -- the gnarled roots of the tree heath, a dwarf tree that grows in France, Italy and Algeria. During the World War II, when imports of brierwood were cut off, American pipe manufacturers turned to root burls from such native members of the heath family as the mountain laurel and rhododendron of the southern Appalachians and the manzanita of California. Since then burl blocks by the millions, each large enough for one pipe bowl, have been cut from these woods.

Many kinds of trees produce the lumpy swellings called burls but those of the redwood may be six or eight feet thick and weigh thousands of pounds. Their heavy hard dark wood is figured with a fantastic grain. Like the potato with its eyes, a burl contains buds. A small one from the redwood placed in a dish of water will send up a ferny sprout.

Hundreds of tons of burls from redwood, myrtlewood, madrone, and western maple are exported annually from

Oregon to France and Italy. Strangely enough, much of the fine furniture veneer made from these burls is returned to the United States.

Black walnut and black cherry burls are highly prized both because of the rich colors of their woods and because of their weirdly distorted grain. This is produced by innumerable buds that failed to develop, giving a bird's-eye effect. Rare sugar maple logs -- perhaps only one in a hundred or a thousand -- shows the exceptional curly or bird's-eye pattern in the grain. It is not strictly a burl but good examples are extremely valuable and at one time was preferred above all other woods for fancy gun stocks.

Tastes in woods change like fashions in hats. Pine boards full of knots and cypress boards full of holes, once worthless, now bring high prices for paneling in dens and rumpus rooms. And thus it has been for burls of all types.

Forest Preserve District of Cook County Illinois
Nature Bulletin #629-A

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You can read more about the list from a link on the AAW website at <http://www.woodturner.org/>

Please note that you can also discuss woodturning issues on the Usenet newsgroup rec.crafts.woodturning. Please contact your Internet Service Provider if you are unsure about newsgroups and your capability to access them. You can also get to the newsgroup through <http://www.deja.com/> and other meta sites.

Thanks and enjoy the woodturning discussion.
Roger Austin, AAW Webmaster,



Richard Allen - Black Redwood Bowl



Paul Burke - Bocote Bowl and lidded pots



Art Jenson - Red Oak Bowl



C.A. Savoy - Natural-Edged
Persimmon bowl



Dick Wexelblat - Hickory bowl
with inlaid rim



Art Jenson - Spalted Pine bowl



Art Jenson - a Spalted Maple bowl



and a couple of needle holders



Don Johnson - a Curly Maple bowl



Randy Bjorklund - Buckeye Burl
and Maple goblet



Don Riggs - Long-stemmed
Oak and Maple goblets



Jayne Hart - two Holly hollow forms



Bob Lancaster - Spalted Apple bowl



MJA - Spheres and Scribing tools



George Skorupski - Pecan, Oak, & Maple natural edge bowls



Art Jenson - Osage Orange natural Edge bowl



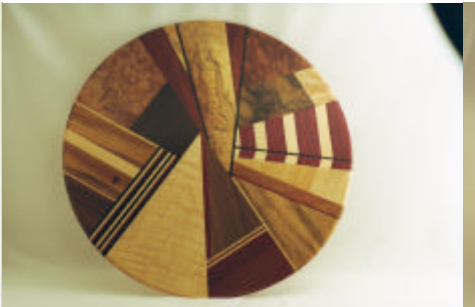
Ed Moore - Red Heart and Kingwood lidded boxes



C.A. Savoy - 2 Asian Elm hollow forms, carved and dyed black



Don Johnson - Maple plate



Randy Bjorklund - Multi-wood segmented platter



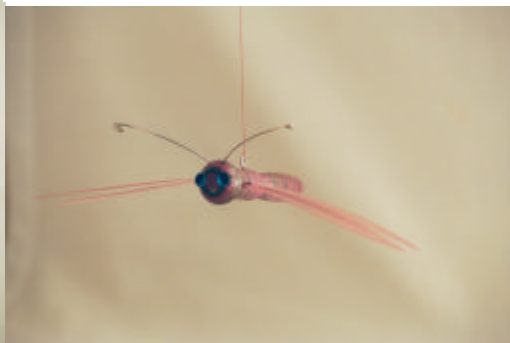
Ray Inaba - Ambrosia Maple hollow form



Left, An unidentified experienced turner's laminated-wood hollow form;

Below, center - Don Johnson - Butterfly fantasy

Below, right - Mike McInerney - a sampling of the pens that Mike produces using the techniques he demonstrated at the February meeting



Jim Marstall, Secretary
Capital Area Woodturners (CAW)
6213 Capella Ave.
Burke, VA 22015

Quick, open this newsletter and see what's on the schedule for this month

CAW Newsletter — March 2000

