



The CAW Newsletter is the official publication of the Capital Area Woodturners, Inc., a chapter of the AAW, and is published for the information of its members.

CAW Newsletter

<http://www.capwoodturners.org>

MARCH 2008

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2008 Dues
- Wood burning - Variables & Tests
- NOVA Wood-working Show

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Demonstration Updates

The February demo with Dean Swagert and his Rose Engine was a good one. A big thanks to Dean.

The demonstration and activity will be announced at the March meeting.

Remember, the CAW Mini-Symposium will be held during the April meeting. There will be at least six demos in morning and afternoon rotations as well as a Break/Bull room. Lunch will be provided by CAW. There are still a couple of demonstrator spots available. Contact me if you are interested. The rotation schedule will be in the April newsletter.

Nick Cook will be our May demonstrator. There will be a workshop.

The CAW Picnic date in June has been changed. There was a scheduling conflict at the Coast Guard Station for the June 14th date. The date has been moved to June 28th., the week after the AAW Symposium in Richmond.

The July meeting will feature a demonstration from Stuart Batty. This is going to be a good one, mark your calendar!

In August we will have Judy Ditmer as our demonstrator, another one not to miss.

Meeting Information

Meeting Announcement:
Date: Saturday, March 8th, 2008
Time: 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Place: Bryant Adult Education Ctr. 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING:

From Virginia or Maryland, take I-495/I-95 towards the Wilson Bridge over the Potomac River.

Take Exit 177A (Rt. 1 South) on the Virginia side. Approximately 1.9 miles south of the Beltway, you will pass the Beacon Mall complex with Lowes Home Improvement Warehouse on your right. Drive past the main entrance to Beacon Mall, go 4 more stop lights – about 1/2 mile.

The 4th stop light will be Popkins Lane. Turn Left onto Popkins Lane and go 2 blocks. Bryant Learning Center entry will be on your right. Drive to the East side of the building. Plenty of parking on the side or in the rear of the building.

The entrances to the woodwork-ing shop and meeting rooms are off the back corner of the east side of the Bryant Center.

CHECK CLOSINGS DUE TO WEATHER, AT 703-658-1203

Demonstration Updates continued

In September we will have Jamie Donaldson as our demonstrator.

The October meeting will be the CAW annual meeting and will also feature members' favorite jigs and turning aids.

If you have a favorite turning aid, jig, or turning related subject that you would like to share with the club, let Mark know.



Monthly Program Details for March 8th

- 8:30 AM** Help set up for the demonstration. Look over the For Sale items in the equipment room. Help get the coffee bar going or have a cup of coffee and a donut with your fellow turners. Discuss the items in the Show & Tell table. Rent a video. Talk tips and techniques with others.
- 9:00 AM** Show and Tell
- 9:30 AM** A business meeting will be held. A raffle will be offered. Photos of member items will be taken for the next CAW Newsletter. The tape library will be open. A silent auction table will be available for donated wood and items. Bring something to donate!!!
- 10:00 –3:30** Demonstration plan still pending.
- 3:30 PM** Clean-up. Arrange meeting room and shop back to school standards. Everyone's help is needed and requested.

DUES ARE NOW DUE. During the meeting, please see Phil Mannino and pay your 2008 dues. Remember the dues are now \$25 for those who get the newsletter electronically and \$40 for those who get it through the US Mail.

SKILL ENHANCEMENT WORKSHOP

At Bryant School
WED. 03/12/2008
9:00AM - 3:00PM
TUESDAY 03/25/2008
9:00AM - 3:00PM

Special requests contact:
 CA Savoy at
cadjsavoy@cox.net
 Or: Don Johnson at
dripapaw@aol.com
 Or: Al Melanson at
almelanson@msn.com

PLEASE NOTE::: There is a shop charge of \$5.00. If you use any tool, i.e., band saw, lathe, drill press etc. the charge will apply. If you come to visit and just watch, then - no charge.

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS IF YOU WANT TO USE ANY OF THE TOOLS
SCHOOL CLOSING DUE TO BAD WEATHER,
CHECK AT 703-658-1203

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- Show and Tell Photos

Bill Bearden

- Video Library

Aaron Grebeldinger

- Education Outreach

George Salinas

- Bryant Display Window

Jonathan Hess

- Raffles/Auctions

Ed Parelhoff

- CAW Clothes

Annie Simpson

- Mentor Program

Priscilla Glasow

- Group Buy

Tom Boley

- Newsletter Proofreader

If your address, phone, or email changes, notify Philip Mannino. This is essential to insure you receive the newsletter and other items that come to members.

ONEWAY ORDER

CA places orders throughout the month. Check your catalog or call up the ONEWAY website at www.oneway.on.ca to see what's available and email your order to CA at cadjsavoy@cox.net.

If you need something any time during the month, send him an email and he will order and have it to you within a week. Also check the ONEWAY website for the new turning tools .

Items can be picked up at Bryant School on the 2nd Wednesday or last Tuesday during the Skill Enhancement workshops, at the

monthly meetings, by special arrangements, or orders can be shipped to you. You pay when you receive your order.

CAW--ONEWAY SALE OF THE MONTH—MARCH

20% OFF!!! MOST PRODUCTS EXCEPT LATHES!!!!!!!!!!

PLUS SHIPPING!!!

Will provide quote upon request.
Happy and Safe Turning!!!
CA SAVOY

CAW Symposium - Will You Participate ?

During the April 12th 2008 meeting, we will conduct our fifth annual CAW Mini-symposium. We have turners with various experience and skill in the club. Everyone can benefit from your experiences and insight if you share them.

If it is going to be interesting and a success as it has been in prior years, demonstrators are still needed for the symposium . This year's symposium is an ideal opportunity for you to share your skills, to gain additional experience by being the demonstrator and to show your fellow turners what you have done before and what you have overcome.

As discussed at the February meeting, demonstration slots will be 90 minutes in duration. If you are interested, or if someone can talk you into making the plunge, please contact Mark Wollschlager to express your interest and your demonstration topic. Mark can be reached at markwoll@his.com or at 703-329-6305.

2008 Schedule

April	CAW Symposium	May	Nick Cook
June	CAW Picnic	July	Stewart Batty
August	Judy Ditmer	Sept	Jamie Donaldson
Oct	Jigs and Tips	Nov	TBA

The President's Message - Frank Stepanski

Greetings fellow Woodturners...

I want to thank Dean Swagert for his demonstration of Ornamental Turning. From my perspective mastering the Rose Engine requires forward thinking, a strong heart, and a bucket or two of patience. From the samples Dean shared during our instant gallery discussions, it was obvious that he has mastered these elements. So Dean, have you thought about supporting a workshop?

June is the AAW Symposium in Richmond VA. page 8 of the newsletter contains a list of committees. If you'll be attending the symposium, I highly encourage volunteering to support the AAW. If you cannot carve out time to attend the full 3 day event, I highly encourage, at a minimum, you stroll through the Instant Gallery, the Turned for Use II exhibition and trade show as all are free.

As Mark mentioned we have scheduled the CAW Picnic for Saturday 28 June so please make a note on your calendars.

By the way, please note on page 3 my new email address. If you have my email in your address book, you will want to change it to reflect the new one - wood_turner@comcast.net.

See everyone in March where we will be dazzled by the talents of another of our CAW members.

Happy turnin'.

Secretary's Notes by Al Melanson

The February CAW meeting was held on February 9. The following are the meeting highlights:

Phil Mannino announced that we still had over 50 members who have not paid their 2008 membership dues.

Mark Wollschlager indicated that he had 5 demonstrators signed up for the April CAW Symposium and that he would like to explore the possibility of having 3 rotations instead of 2. If we had 3 rotations we would have to eliminate show & tell and keep the business meeting to a minimum. A show of hands indicated that the majority of members present agreed to the 3 rotation format. This means that we still need 4 additional demonstrators. Interested members should contact Mark Wollschlager.

CA Savoy announced that the Chantilly Woodworking Show would be held from March 14 through March 16. He started sign-ups for the 50 positions to staff the CAW booth. Anyone who did not attend the meeting and would like to man the CAW booth should contact CA for available slots.

Richard stated he still welcomes more member articles for the CAW Newsletter and encourages members to check the newsletter for the number to call during bad weather closings.

Wood burning, Variables, Tests and Final Issues

This is the last of the three-part series on wood burning. In last month's edition we covered the use of the burners and some techniques of using a burner. In this final part we will discuss some of the variables of burners and some of the testing conducted by the author. This article is not intended to endorse any product or company. It is reprinted with the permission of and thanks to Steve Colaguori and the Colwood company <http://www.woodburning.com/>

Variables:

One major difference that can be found from one woodburner to the next is the method of connection between components – the control unit, the cord, and the pen. Connections can make a great difference to the efficiency and effectiveness of a woodburning pen. The two most common connections are both audio plug and jacks. They are the standard headphone plug and jack, or the phone (RCA type) socket and jack. Of the two, I prefer the RCA connector over the large headphone jack because the RCA connector has more actual surface contact for size than does the headphone connector. Some manufacturers permanently affix (by mechanical or soldered connection) the cord to the power unit and connect the other end to the pen by means of an RCA/phone connector.

Whether texturing, clarifying details in hair, fur, feathers, fish scales, or just highlighting carving cuts, find a woodburning tool that feels comfortable and operates in a manner that produces the exact and/or desired result that you want. Explain your requirements to woodcarving suppliers, salesmen, or vendors and ask for assistance to achieve what you desire as a result of your type and style of carving(s).

Talk with people who use woodburning tools to a greater extent than just casual or sporadic use – to include pyrographers (people who create decorative pictures and design with woodburning pens) as well as woodcarvers. Wherever possible, try a burning tip or pen before purchase – what may come highly recommended by one may not be comfortable in grip or function for another.

Tests:

Each of the units featured was connected to a digitized wattmeter to ascertain the amount of power the machine would generate with a burning tip turned to full power. The wattmeter drew a constant 121 volts on the same circuit, so every unit was given exactly the same input.

I was not completely convinced that the manufacturer who claimed their unit produced more than 130 watts was entirely accurate when the machine seemed to function no better and no hotter than other machines I detailed or textured with. I hate to go out on a limb, but I think wattage rating is nonsense! All the units featured were within 3 watts from highest to lowest. I would rather be told about features and function than be misled about power. I don't care what the rating, as long as the unit performs to the standard that my style of carving and texturing demand of it. As a user/consumer, I am not concerned with claims of high power when I find that the measurement came from within the circuit, across components, or across the transformer leads. As a user, I am interested in the capability of the unit to deliver to the tip of the burning pen the power necessary to accomplish what I am doing or want to do. Unless the industry agrees to a standardized method of measuring all units – such as a wattmeter measurement using a standardized pen/tip, what good are comparative ratings?

Yes, if the same company manufactures several models, I would like to know the duty rating assigned to each by that company. Such terminology as heavy duty, medium duty, or light duty would satisfy me completely, and I'm willing to bet it would satisfy the majority of woodcarvers and pyrographers as well.

For the most part, (as can be seen by each of the wattmeter readings for those units tested) the units tested produced readings within one or two watts of each other. So how does one select the best unit? Consider the following when selecting a woodburning unit: Response of heat to the tip – the unit should bring the tip quickly to the level of heat that you desire.

Continuity of heat to the tip – every time you stroke with the pen, heat is drawn from its tip to the surface of the carving. The unit you choose should produce a consistent and continual source of heat without high and low prolonged peaks of indiscriminate power which make the texturing process uneven and untidy. Units like this make it virtually impossible to regulate and/or produce the detail in the extreme that today's carvings demand.

Recovery of heat to the tip – should be as instantaneous as possible. It makes texture burning a chore when the user must either continually pause or re-stroke because the unit doesn't recover quickly enough to facilitate his stroke cadence. (In fairness to any of today's woodburners, the unit can usually be fitted to your stroke cadence by adjusting the heat setting – or as a last resort, you can adjust your cadence with faster or slower stroke movements.)

Power – sufficient to accomplish the extremes of

cutting, detailing, or texturing that the user's style of carving and burning dictates.

Comfort – with prolonged use, the burning pen should remain cool in the grip area, and afford comfort with respect to holding ability and size to the hand of the user.

Features – the three features that any unit must have are: a separate ON/OFF power switch, a well defined and divided temperature adjustment knob, and just as important, an indicator light that tells me if the unit is on or off. If and when the telephone, grandchildren, visitors, or my dog interrupts me, I want to see at a glance that the unit is OFF. The last thing I do after I have turned off the lights in the studio at the end of the day is to scan the work surfaces for a red or green pilot light that will tell me I have left a unit on. All other features (depending on the manufacturer) are appreciated, and in most cases, gladly received conveniences.

Links to woodburning websites

<http://www.woodburning.com/>

<http://www.razertip.com/>

<http://www.nibsburner.com/>

[http://www.woodburner.com/viewtopic.php?](http://www.woodburner.com/viewtopic.php?forum=5&topic=2381&start=0)

[forum=5&topic=2381&start=0](http://www.woodburner.com/viewtopic.php?forum=5&topic=2381&start=0)

<http://www.woodcarvers.com/PRODUCTS.htm>

<http://www.woodburnedart.com/oproducts.html>

Odds and Ends

The CAW Board is in the early stages of updating our web site. There are several changes anticipated, though nothing has been solidified. What we do know at this time is that in order to insure we can accomplish all that we are aiming for, everyone must have current information in the membership database, which will not be available to the public. However, **please contact Phil Mannino to provide current contact information.** Phil is the only person who can take the information and complete the update. Phil can be contacted at: phileman@cox.net.

The Board is considering the giving of a **\$500 education grant**, probably one this year, to someone interested in applying. Applicants will need to justify the use of the grant and be willing to share their experiences with the Club. **Application deadline is April 30th.** You can contact a Board member for the form and additional information.

If you need to replace your buffing wheels from your **Beall buffing system** or other similar type buffing systems, you may wish to check out Caswell Plating at <http://caswellplating.com/buffs/index.html> or call them at 315-946-1213. Their prices seem quite reasonable and the service on the one order that was placed with them was good.

About Our Members by Phil Brown

Joyce Beene was pleased with a class she took with John Jordan at the John C. Campbell Folk School near Brasstown, NC. See her article in next month's newsletter. For woodturning classes at the Folk School for the remainder of the year see: <http://folkschool.org>.

Al Melanson made another trip to Haiti in January to teach the school staff how to turn boxes and hollow forms. CA Savoy helped with the hollow forms by donating two of his hollowing tools with replaceable tips. Al was disappointed that since his last visit turning has not been occurring since the staff has been busy with construction on a dormitory .

Eliot Feldman demonstrated wood turning on February 17th in the Strathmore Mansion, North Bethesda, MD. The occasion was Discover Strathmore, a day of free events featuring artists and artisans demonstrating their craft at the Mansion, plus classes and stage performances at the Music Center.

During the month of January 2008, **John Noffsinger's** Brickhouse #343 was on exhibit in the All Media Membership Show of the Art League in The Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA.

Lynda Smith_Bugge will have a reception from 4:30 to 6:30 PM on April 6th for her sculptures on display at 1650 and 1750 Tyson's Blvd at Tysons Corner, VA, which is up now but closes April 14th.

When participants register in advance, **Bob Stern** and **Aaron Grebeldinger** teach an introductory lathe class for turning pens on the third Saturday of every month at the Wood Shop on Gunston road at Fort Belvoir.

Due to construction delays instead of in March, **Patrick O'Brien** must wait until July to move to new studio space in the Lorton Arts Foundation's Workhouse Arts Center.

Clif Poody will teach Introduction to Bowl Turning on March 29th at The Woodworkers Club in Rockville, MD. See www.woodworkersclub.com/practice%20class1.htm

Aaron Grebeldinger will teach Bowl Turning on March 6th, April 10th, and May 8th from 6:00 PM - 9:30PM, at WOODCRAFT in Springfield, VA. Introduction To Hollow Turning with **John Noffsinger** is on Wednesdays March 5th and 12th from 6:30pm - 9:30pm. Call the store at 703-912-6727 to register, or see www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=327&nav=classes

Tom Boley will be teaching Bowl Turning, Saturdays April 26th and May 24th . His class is from 10pm - 5pm at the Leesburg WOODCRAFT store. To register, call 703-737-7880 or email them at: Leesburg@Woodcraft.com. See the class schedule at: <http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=575&nav=classes>.

Gerry Headley will demonstrate woodturning on a mini-lathe at the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University Hospital on April 21st. This event will be from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm to show cancer patients the art of woodturning and it's ability to provide therapeutic expression. Small crafts will also be available for donations to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. To volunteer as a turner for this demonstration or to donate some of your crafts to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, contact Gerry at (410) 286-5958, or at gerryh3333@aol.com, or just bring your crafts to the

About Our Members (continued)

March or April meeting. To learn more about Gerry's efforts with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, visit his web site at: <http://www.active.com/donate/tntmd/tntmdGHeadle>

Don't be shy! Promote yourself. Tell us about your woodturning activities in the CAW Newsletter. Best to send your information by the second weekend of the previous month (since newsletter deadline may be early in the month) to Phil Brown, phillfbrown@comcast.net, or call 301-767-9863.

OTHER ITEMS

The Smithsonian Craft Show will be open April 10 to 13, 2008 at the Building Museum, 401 F Street, NW in Washington, DC. You can take the Red Line to the Judiciary Square Metro Station, find limited street parking, or in nearby parking lots/garages at the Verizon Center's 6th Street entrance and at the corner of 7th and H Streets. More details are at: www.smithsoniancraftshow.org/indexmain.asp

ARROWMONT CLASSES The Arrowmont catalog is out with 8 woodturning classes of one and two week duration scheduled in June, July, and August. See their schedule at: www.arrowmont.org/

Richmond Symposium AAW is expecting 2000 members to register for the June 20-22 Symposium. Of course, many volunteers will be needed. Some are needed in the months prior to registration, and many more during the Symposium, even for just an hour or two. Consider helping former CAW editor, Jim Marstall, with the instant gallery. Here is a list of committee team leaders. If you see a topic of interest to you, please contact the team leader.

Team & leader Phone Email

REGISTRATION

PACKET STUFFING

AAW PRODUCT SALES

MACHINERY

WOOD & MATERIALS

DEMONSTRATOR ASSISTANTS

INSTANT GALLERY

PR AND PUBLICITY

YOUTH COMMITTEE

EXHIBITION

CHAPTER CHALLENGE

AUCTION COMMITTEE

DOOR PRIZES /SILENT AUCTION

RETURN TO COMMUNITY

SPOUSES TOURS

SYMPOSIUM SIGN

LEARN TO TURN

SPOUSE CRAFT ROOM

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NOVA WOODWORKING SHOW by CA Savoy

The nationally popular Woodworking Show will be in our area at the Dulles Expo. Center in Chantilly, Va. on **March 14, 15, and 16, 2008.**

Show hours are:

Friday	3/14	from 12:00AM till 7:00PM
Saturday	3/15	from 10:00AM till 6:00PM
Sunday	3/16	from 10:00AM till 4:00PM

The Capital Area Woodturners Club has again been invited to participate in the show. We will be allocated enough space to conduct woodturning demonstrations and to display some of our finished work. You can contact me at cadjsavoy@cox.net to request times to participate in the show. I will coordinate all show activities for the CAW. Annually, this is a favorite activity for our members.

This is a great opportunity for us to promote, and provide information about, our club, display our work, demonstrate the beauty and diversity of wood-turned pieces, and generate interest in our chosen craft. Attendance at these shows is generally 5,000 to 10,000 people over the three days.

We plan to have three mini-lathes set up to be used by CAW members for the entire show. Those who feel comfortable turning in front of an audience are encouraged to sign up to demonstrate. All others are requested to sign up to staff the booth, answer questions, show off our displayed turnings, and promote our club and woodturning.

Please bring a few of your finished turnings to be displayed while you are at the show, regardless if you will be turning or staffing the display area.

Demonstrators should do projects that take no more than about 30 minutes, if you take too much longer you tend to lose your audience, no power sanding and keep hand sanding to a minimum.

A schedule for volunteers will be provided at the March meeting. We plan to have enough participation to schedule three people demonstrating and two manning the booth each day for two or three hour shifts. Volunteers get free admission to the show. You should go to the Show Office at the entrance to the show and get your pass for the day you are assigned. Come in early and visit the show or stay after your tour and see the show.

And remember, we are guests of the WW Show and are given this booth free of charge for our activities. Therefore, we are not permitted to sell items or display price tags on them at this show. If someone is interested in your work, give them one of your business cards and have them contact you later. You can tell the person why this is necessary, which may help in facilitating the contact at a later time.

Also, for security purposes, until the show opens each morning, you must not be out of our booth and wandering around the floor. If this occurs, you may be asked by the security or show staff to leave the show.

We will need a setup crew for Friday at 1000 to get the booth set up. Please let me know if you are available to help.

Show and Tell for January by Don Kelley

This is a reminder that in order for your piece to appear in this section of the newsletter, at some point during the monthly meeting, you will need to bring your piece to Don so it can be photographed.

Tom Boley, Apple carpenter ant bowl, 11" x 5 1/2"



Don Hart, 2 1/2" Taqua Nut w/flowers



Gene Kopf, 6" x 6" Spalted Maple bowl

Patrick O'Brien

19" cherry crotch platter



Richard Sherwood, 2" x 7" bloodwood bowl



Richard Sherwood, 4" Corian box with Corian finial



Show & Tell (continued)

Frank Stepanski, segmented pens of Blood wood, Yellow-heart, Trex



Dean Swagert, 8" bowl with rose engine enhancement



Dean Swagert, Walnut platter with rose engine enhancement



Dean Swagert, box with rose engine enhancement



Peter Ward, Carved eagle heads of Cherry, Black walnut butternut, basswood



Scott Ware, Olive-wood candle stick holder



Yimin Zhuang, 3" x 3" burl box



Richard Sherwood, Newsletter Editor
 Capital Area Woodturners (CAW)
 11908 Bracken Court
 Bowie, MD 20820-4480

New CAW Members for February

Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to contribute your talents to our club. We look forward to the contributions you will make and the pieces you will bring in to Show-&-Tell. Your participation will add to our mutual love of woodturning and to our collective knowledge and skill. Membership in the CAW Chapter is open to anyone interested in the art and craft of woodturning.



First Name	Last Name	City	State
Scott	Ware	Fort Washington	MD
Nancy	Kaufman	Springfield	VA
Doug	Stratton	Purcellville	VA
Marc	Sviland	Falls Church	VA