



Upcoming meetings

May 4-Karen Strawn-hammered copper & other metals
Jun 8-Dale Kechter-alabaster
July 7th!!!-Chris Stott
Aug Max Krimmel something new???

Newsletter January 2006 Rocky Mountain Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Next Meeting

Steve DeJong Thursday, Apr 6, 2006
Industrial Sciences Building Rm 105
CSU, Mason and Laurel St. Fort Collins, CO.

Steve DeJong – April Demo

The April 6, 2006, meeting will feature Steve DeJong turning small stuff. He will show that you don't need any special tools that you probably don't already have to turn the miniature stuff.

Mahoney Demo

March brought Mike Mahoney from Utah to the Rocky Mountain Woodturners. It was a fun, informative evening. While Mike bills himself as a *Bowlmaker*, he is one of the best professional turners, demonstrators and teachers in this part of the world.

First task: "Core Out" a large bowl blank. I.e. Make two or more bowls out of one hunk of wood, each one a bit larger than the first "core." Mahoney uses the McNaughton system. (Other systems like Oneway and Woodcut work well, also. Each system is described in most woodturning catalogs.) The great value is using as much of a piece of tree that you can – and not having to carry out the rest in the form of chips and shavings. In this part of the country where hardwood trees are at a premium, conservation of bowl blanks is a good thing.

Accumulated advice from the demo: Respect your tools – the lathe and the coring tool. Get to know your tool and how it works. Since not all instructions were written *especially* for you, it is helpful to watch someone else if you can. When putting the cutter on-center, close is not quite close enough. Learn from your mistakes and try not to repeat them. A very sharp cutter tip may be more aggressive than you want.

Second task: Turn a *calabash*. (Calabash- from the French word for a gourd.) Used here it means a round bottom vessel often used by the First Americans in food preparation and serving that will "find its own center" when placed on an uneven surface. A club member who buys a ticket at the April meeting on the 6th will win the calabash Mike turned. The piece is approximately 14" in diameter and about 8" deep.

Process: Rough out the form between centers. Turn a spigot to mount on the chuck for coring/hollowing. If you are accomplished like Mike Mahoney, the forming and hollowing are routine and fairly simple. (He does this many, many times a day in his production shop.) For the rest of us it is a work of adventure, with equal weight given to both *work and adventure*. Now sharp tools are welcome and very sharp tools are recommended.

The bowl gouge seems to be an extension of Mike's hands and arms. Practice, practice, practice. He uses a long-ground (like a fingernail grind) gouge to begin hollowing the vessel/bowl. He goes in a couple of inches at a time, especially in green wood, so that distortion does not hinder progress.

Here's a picture of the grind on Mike's gouge.



The deep work is done with a gouge with a “conventional” grind...a fairly straight 55-degree angle. The fingernail grind is about 70 degrees and cannot go deep well without rubbing the shaft of the tool on the side of the bowl. Mike used the long grind gouge on its side as a shear scraper. He also defined a **cut** as when the bevel touches and a **scrape** and shear scrape/cut when only the sharp edge skims over the surface removing very fine, feather-like shavings.

Mahoney’s intention was to use a platter blank as a “jamb-chuck” to finish the outside and remove the spigot. However, the top edge of the calabash got a little thin and was in danger of cracking. Simple (for him) to quickly turn a knob that is placed in the chuck, cushioned with folded paper towels and the calabash is held in place by bringing up the tailstock.

Here are pictures of the platter Mike turned.



Third task: (time is running out, so this is an exciting blur) Turn a platter out of what was going to be the jamb-chuck. Extraordinary! You really had to see it to believe it. This platter will be auctioned at

the April club meeting. It is a signed demo by Mike Mahoney. This platter will be a nice addition to a club member’s collection.

Membership Cards Are Ready

The 2006 RMWT Membership Cards are Ready. See Lee Whiteside to pick up yours.

If you need to pay your 2006 dues \$35, see Richard Bailey, Treasurer. You may send your check to Richard Bailey, 12519 Locust Place, Thornton, CO 80602.

Instant Gallery

The Instant Gallery is uniquely a woodturner’s thing. We know of no other place where the term is used. Instant Gallery means: Woodturners bring a piece of their work, put it on a table and let the rest of us have a look. Every club member is encouraged to participate. All skill levels are just what we are looking for. A designated club member will hold it up and you can identify it and say a word about it. You pick it up and take it home.

Here are some pictures from the instant gallery table in Feb:





Special Auction/Drawing

Mike Mahoney's March demo pieces will be available at the April meeting.

The **Calabash** will be the prize in a drawing. Club members can purchase a \$1 ticket for a chance at the Calabash. Proceeds will help the operating budget. The **Platter** will be auctioned to the highest bidder. (This is a signed piece.)

Coming Attractions

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium
September 16 –17, 2006

The Ranch, Larimer County Fairgrounds
American Association of Woodturners Symposium

June 22- 24, 2006

Louisville, Kentucky

More information is available at

www.woodturner.org

Christmas Ornaments Wanted

An annual feature of the AAW Symposium is to make a turning donation to a community project. This year turners are asked to make Christmas ornaments to donate to Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville. Each year the hospital receives ornaments and decorated trees and auctions them or sells them outright to raise money. Last year they raised almost \$400,000 for the kids in need.

Bring your ornaments to the symposium or mail them to Greg Streif, 7308 Abbott Glen Dr., Crestwood, KY 40014.

Newsletter Items

Send pictures and electronics to:

Kent Krueger kent.krueger@ieee.org

Send news to: Lee Whiteside,
2740 Lochbuie Cir.
Loveland, CO 80538
leebevwhiteside@comcast.net

The Shop Mouse Says:



Often when you don't know something, you are not aware that you really do not know.

CASH ACTIVITY REPORT

RICHARD BAILEY, TREASURER	March, 2006
BEGINNING BALANCE Feb 06	\$ 5,271.18
ADDITIONS:	
DEPOSITS: MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 350.00
DEPOSIT AUCTION PROCEEDS	\$ 171.00
DEPOSIT OTHER	\$ -0-
TOTAL	\$ 521.00
SUBTRACTIONS:	
DEMO FEE TOM WIRSING	\$ (100.00)
NEW BALANCE MARCH 06	\$ 5,692.18

Learn from the best...

Our Club is becoming known around the nation because we have some of the best turners, nationally known demonstrators and best teachers of **Basic Turning, Intermediate, and Advanced and Specialty Turning** right here in our own back yard.

Lee Carter operates the **Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning** in La Porte. He offers classes in Basics, Intermediate and Advanced.

Apr 11-13 Turning a Variety of Boxes Involving Inlayed and Threaded Lids	\$270
Apr 25-27 Basic Woodturnings	\$270
May 2-4 Multi-Axis & Spiral Turnings Involving Vases, Bowls, Goblets	\$270
May 16-18 Inter. Woodturning	\$270
May 31-Jun 1 Adv Woodturning	\$270
Jun 6-8 Basic Woodturning	\$270
Jun 15-17 Utah Woodturning Symposium	

Call Lee Carter at 970.221.4382 to sign up or have him answer any questions.

e-mail LLJTC4X4149@CS.COM

Trent Bosch Woodturning in Ft. Collins offers three-day sessions of non-stop turning and carving classes.

Call Trent Bosch at 970.568.3299

E-mail trentbosch@yahoo.com

Curt Theobald offers three-day workshops in **Segmented Woodturning** in his studio in Pine Bluffs, Wyoming.
Call Curt Theobald at 307.245.3310
E-mail cwtheobald@wyoming.com

Wood Suppliers

10% Guild discount at the following:

The Wood Emporium
618 N Garfield Ave Loveland, Co 80537

Sears Trostel
1500 Riverside Ave Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Rockler's in Denver – You have to show your membership card.

Kevin Kyhl also sells hardwood and turning stock in Ft. Collins once a month. You can email him at: kyhlwood@direcway.com to get on the notification list of when he will be in town. He will give us a 15% discount on turning stock. Just mention that you are with the RMWT and he'll take care of you.

Dan Bailey has bowl blanks for sale all roughed out, dried and ready to turn. He also has access to CA glue that is less expensive than other sources. Call Dan 970.482.1604

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