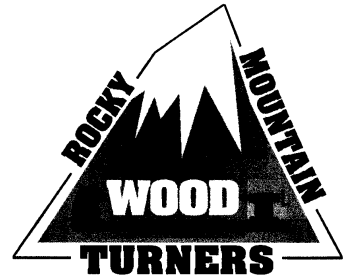




Rocky Mountain Woodturners
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
April 2010 Newsletter



Next RMWT Meeting



The next meeting of the RMWT will be on April 8, 2010, 6:30 PM. Tom Wirsing will demonstrate turning an 18" platter with colored rim and finished with lacquer much like the turquoise one in the photograph. He will discuss each process step required to complete a similar project. He will provide a written description of the steps, so the audience can follow along as he turns the platter.

Raffle for Trent Bosch Class

The raffle for the Trent Bosch class will be held at the next meeting, just prior to the demonstration. There are only a few tickets left, break time will be your last chance to buy a ticket!

Shop Tour

No Shop Tour for April.

Misc News

The date of the September meeting has been changed to September 2nd, 2010 to allow for **Stuart Mortimer** to demonstrate for the club. Mark your calendars!

Member News

- The Western Spirit Art show held on the March 6th in Cheyenne featured over 100 western artists from across the country, **Dale Von Krosigk** was awarded the Peoples Choice Award for one of his hollow forms -- it was his first juried art show.
- **Monty Weymouth**, our club photographer, has been accepted into the 19th National Art Exhibition, with a picture called "Mormon Barn" taken in the Tetons. The show will run from April 3rd until May 7th at the Lincoln Center.



- **Katherine Kowalski** is teaching her signature class on Creating Creative Crochet Hooks, April 18th, 10AM-5PM at WoodCraft. \$100 Workshop fee. Students will learn precise spindlework techniques and how to create the perfect crochet hook: from choosing appropriate wood to fine finishing techniques, segmentation, and design opportunities. Call Woodcraft to sign up: 970-292-5940.
- **Allen Jensen** is teaching Bowl Turning at Woodcraft in Loveland. 1 day workshop Sunday May 16 10AM-4PM. \$100.00 Workshop fee. Students will learn to turn bowls from green wood and the process for finish turning dry bowl blanks. We will also discuss sharpening, proper tool technique, sanding, and drying. Contact Woodcraft for more information or to sign up. 970-292-5940

Wood Bank Work Session

By John Giem

On Saturday April 17, 2010, there is a Wood Bank Work Session being held at the wood lot located at John Giem's, 4031 Capitol Dr., Fort Collins starting at 10:00 AM. The wood lot is located at the rear of John's place. Park in front and walk back along the gravel drive just to the West of the house. If you need directions, call John at 970 223-0844 (home) or 970 227-6618 (mobile).

The objective is to clean up the wood lot separating the good turning wood from the firewood. All RMWT members are encouraged to participate. If you come and help then you are welcome to take home all of the turning wood and fire wood you can carry. John's shop will be open if anyone wants to take a peek. Questions welcome.

Wood Bank Withdrawals and deposits welcome.

The wood bank currently has a fairly good stock of good turning wood (and some firewood that used to be turning wood.) The types on hand include; ash, elm, spruce, pine, hard maple, olive, locust and others too numerous to remember.

This is spring and many of your neighbors will be trimming and cutting trees. Also, there is some construction where trees will be removed. The wood bank would like to build up a reserve to last through next winter. If you have or know about trees available for the Wood Bank, contact Allen Norris, Jerry Sherman or John Giem. We can then determine if the Wood Bank can use them. All RMWT members are encouraged to collect and deposit wood into the Wood Bank.

Guidelines:

To maximize the usefulness of the wood and delay its turning itself into firewood, the following guidelines are encouraged:

1. Diameter of wood should be 8 inches or larger. There is some need for limbs 3" and larger in diameter.
2. The length of the pieces should be as long as possible and still be able to handle them. The longer pieces will check on the ends but the middle will still be in good

shape. Three to four feet long works well. These longer pieces will usually require two people to handle them.

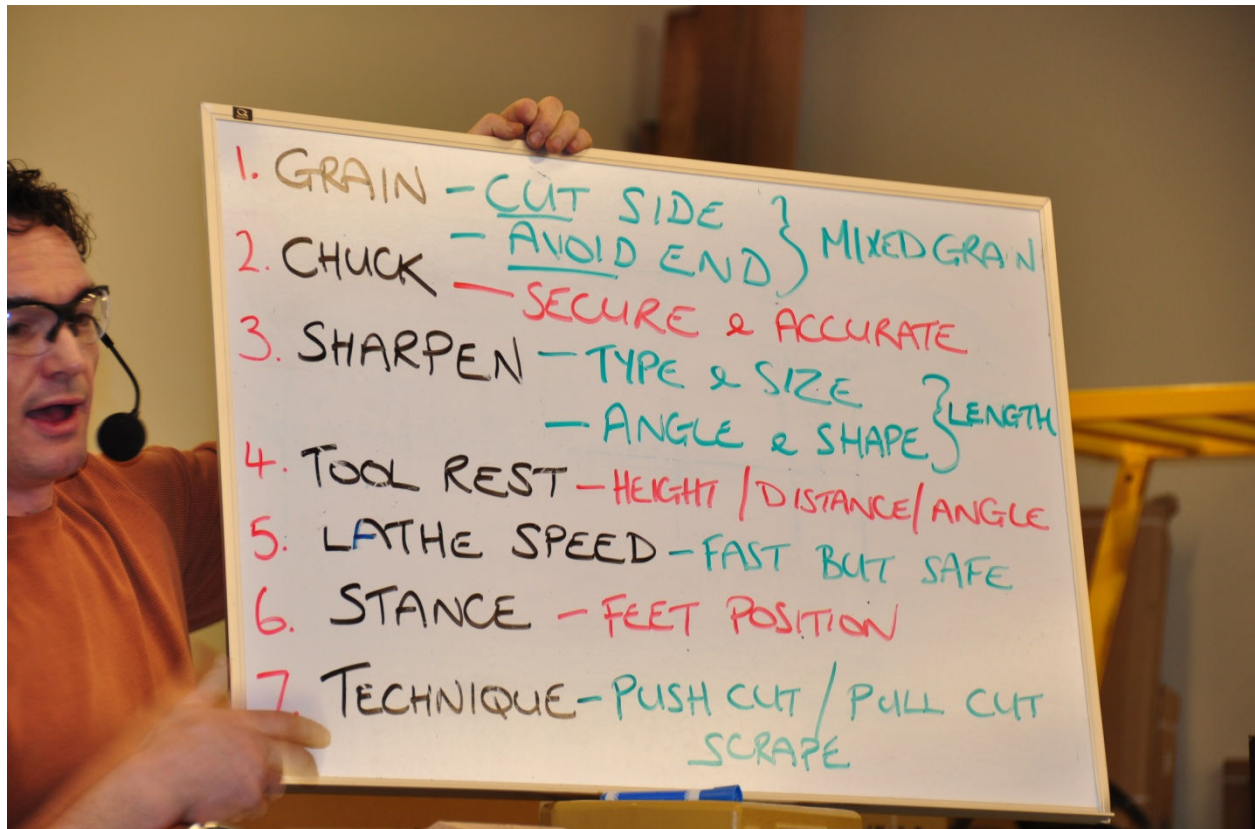
3. Crotches can yield some very interesting grain patterns. When cutting around crotches, be sure to leave 6" or more from the crotch to the cut. Thus, any checking can be cut off and will not be as likely to spread into the 'good' wood.

Remember the Wood Bank is free to all RMWT members and is supported through the work of those members.

Last Month's Demonstration

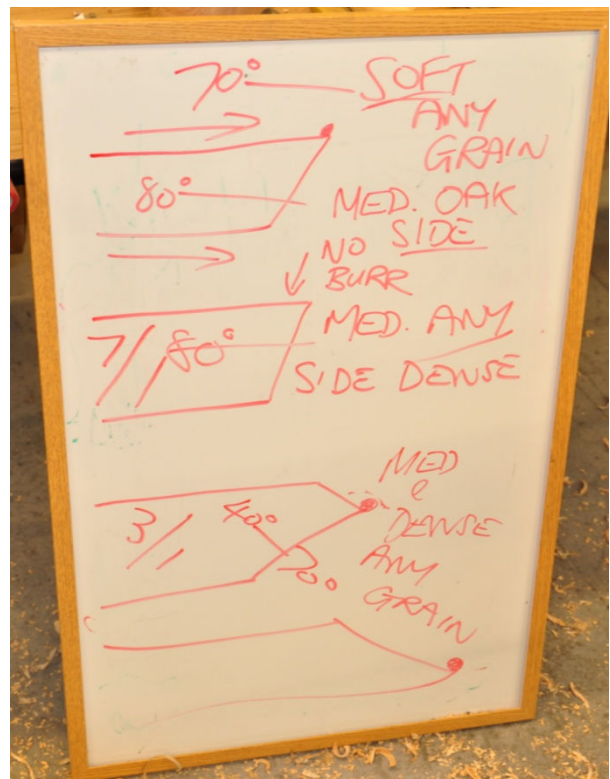
By John I. Giem

Stuart Batty was the demonstrator for the March 4, 2010, meeting of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners. Stuart is a third generation Woodturner and started turning when he was a child. Since his early experiences were as a production woodturner, most of his techniques have been optimized for accuracy, speed and efficiency. Stuart's Rules for Wood Turning will be posted on Woodturner.org free of charge. (This is the web site for the Association of American Woodturners.)



- For the demo, he used green or wet honey locust because it turns well and will produce less dust.
- We are always hearing 'rub the bevel' when using gouges. Stuart prefers to say 'float the bevel' as it a more accurate description of what is happening. If you have an uneven surface or voids, rubbing the bevel will cause bouncing or jarring the gouge. By floating the bevel across those areas, you will get a much smoother cut with less stress.
- There are two types of cuts; straight and curved.
- For straight cuts, you lock the tool and arms into your side for good support and you move your whole body.
- For curved cuts, the handle is not fixed to your body. The hands and arms must be free to make large sweeping motions.
- There are two types of catches; end grain and leverage.
- End grain – catch is caused by cutting into the end grain and your tool digs in.
- Leverage – the tool is extended too far over the tool rest to cut the wood and the forces exerted by cutting the wood exceeds your ability to hold the tool.
- When turning, there are different stances you should use depending upon the type of cut you are making. The stance for a straight cut is different than that used for a curved cut.
- Stuart sharpens his tools freehand on the grinder. The platform on the grinder is set to give a 40 degree bevel. This platform is marked with lines on each side that are at 40 degrees relative to the grinding wheel. He uses the lines to help position the gouge when sharpening the sides of the flute. First sharpen the left and right sides, then the nose. Finish the sharpening by sweeping the tool side to side to blend the side grinds with the nose grind.
- The tool rest on the lathe is part of the Chucking System, any flexing of it will cause problems.
- Chucking System - When using that gouge to peel wood off of the blank, a lot of large forces are generated. The term 'Chucking System' refers to all of the things that help keep the cutting tool in a steady position relative to the turning blank. This would include; tenon on the blank, chuck, spindle, bearings, headstock, bed ways, banjo, tool rest and cutting tool.
- When your turning is thin enough that it deflects when pushed with your thumb then further work using a gouge will result in a catch.
- When shaping a thin wall, use a negative rake scraper.
- If the work starts to vibrate when using a scraper, stabilize it by holding a towel against it.
- When using a gouge inside a bowl or vessel, grinding the heel off of the bevel will help make smoother cuts.
- If you are losing leverage, take shallower cuts.

- Stuart puts a burr on his scrapers using a grinder. He does not believe in rolling a burr using a burnisher.
- The coarser grinding wheels raise a larger burr and last longer.
- The burr on the scraper only lasts about 20 seconds in usage.
- He likes to use a curved tool rest inside of bowls. It provides better support for the turning tools.
- He grinds almost all of his tools at 40 degrees.
- A negative rake scraper can be tilted slightly upward without catches whereas a regular scraper will cause a catch.
- When reversing a bowl or vessel for finishing the bottom, a jam chuck provides better support than other methods.
- When fitting to a jam chuck, turn a taper and find where the vessel hits. Use a scraper to cut down to the final size. Using a scraper is more accurate.
- Use the tailstock to help align and mount the vessel onto the jam chuck. Use tape to help hold the vessel on the jam chuck as a backup.
- He does not use shear scraping.
- Extending a scraper past the tool rest may cause leverage challenges.
- A conventional scraper is limited to a 5:1 ratio of handle to overhang length.
- A negative rake scraper improves to a limit of 3:1 ratio of handle to overhang length.
- The top edge of a negative rake scraper is ground at 20 degrees, the bottom edge at 40 degrees.
- On a negative rake scraper, keep the included angle between the upper and lower bevels to less than 70 degrees.



Guide for Using Scrapers

Clubs and Member's Websites

Rocky Mountain Wood Turners
www.rmwt.org

AAW – American Assoc of Woodturners
www.woodturner.org

Cindy Drozda
www.cindydrozda.com

Curt Theobald
www.curttheobald.com

David Nittmann
www.davidnittmann.com

John Lynch
www.johnlynchwoodworking.com

Katherine Kowalski
www.katherinekowalski.com

Trent Bosch
www.trentbosch.com

Want your Website Listed? Contact the Newsletter Team!!!

Learn From the Best...

Our Club, RMWT, is 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.

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

Website is www.curttheobald.com

John Giem, Woodworker

Individual or small group woodworking instruction customized to the needs of the student. Offering both woodworking on the lathe and combined with regular power tools. Classes are held in John's workshop in Fort Collins, CO, which is equipped with a complete set of woodworking tools. Contact John to discuss your interests and needs.

jgiem@comcast.net

(970)223-0844, home phone

(970)227-6618, cell phone

Katherine Kowalski, Woodturner & Contemporary Artist

Offering private/small group instruction in basic and intermediate woodturning, as well as specialized advanced classes in fine spindlework, and color theory/technique.

Classes held at Katherine's shop in Cheyenne, WY.

E-mail: katherine@daystarhandworks.com

Phone: 307-220-0130

Web Site: www.katherinekowalski.com

Lee Carter operates the **Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning** in LaPorte, Colorado. He offers classes in Basics, Intermediate and Advanced. Lee also offers private tutoring. Seven different brands of lathes are available.

Call Lee Carter at 970-221-4382 to sign up or have him answer any questions.

e-mail LLJTC4X4149@CS.COM

Trent Bosch Woodturning Workshops

Workshops are held in Trent's studio in Fort Collins, Colorado. There is a maximum of four people in each class, which allows for lots of individualized instruction. The cost is \$500 for the 3-day intensive workshop and \$650 for the 4-day. Meals are also provided at no extra charge. His studio is also equipped with the highest quality equipment available for your use. For detailed information on workshops visit www.trentbosch.com or contact Trent via email or phone.

Trent Bosch
Trent Bosch Studios Inc.
trent@trentbosch.com
970 568 3299

Woodcraft has classes for beginners in woodworking, shop safety, intro the machines, bowl turning, pen and pencil turning, hollow forms, Christmas tree ornaments, tool sharpening, etc. Please see the current schedule here:

<http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=566>

10% Guild Discount

Sears Trostel
1500 Riverside Ave
Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Rockler in Denver
You must show your membership card.

Woodcraft

3718 Draft Horse Drive
Loveland, CO 80538
970-292-5940
Discounts on day of Club Meeting.

Wood Emporium

618 N Garfield Ave Loveland, CO

RMWT Meetings

Each month the Rocky Mountain Woodturners meet at Woodcraft of Loveland, located at 3718 Draft Horse Drive, Loveland, Colorado. We meet on the first Thursday after the first Tuesday of each month.

Meeting Format

6:30 -- Meeting begins, with a 10-15 minute break in between the business meeting and the demonstrator start.

9:00 – Clean up and out by 9 pm sharp!

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