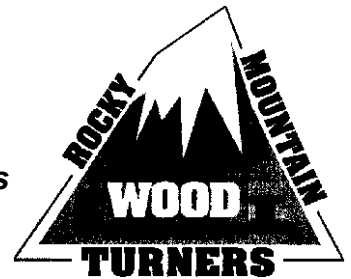




Rocky Mountain Woodturners
A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
June 2011 Newsletter



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Next RMWT Meeting

The next meeting of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners will be on June 9, 2011, at the Loveland Woodcraft store. The demonstrator will be Doug Schneider.

My name is Doug Schneider, and I will be the demonstrator at the June meeting of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners. I joined the club shortly after its inception, and have been very glad that I did. The amount of skills and knowledge that I have gained from attending meetings and symposia, watching presentations, and just sharing ideas with other woodturners has been astounding. The propensity for woodturners to open up and share ideas and tips and techniques, is what makes woodturning one of the greatest genres in the art field. Just chatting with other turners before, during, and after meetings, is a wonderful source of information. I've done it, so I won't be upset if you do it as well, even during my demo if I'm not keeping your interest. I will be focusing my demonstration on turning "difficult or challenging" woods, and talking and showing various techniques to make it happen. I will show you the tools and the tricks that I use to take a piece of wood with varieties of natural defects, and turn it in to a beautiful turning. Keep in mind that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. I will doing some turning, but will also be spending some time discussing the different tools and techniques that might make the turning job easier and safer. I will also show you different kinds of natural defects in timber, and how they affect the final look of the piece. I will also cover how to manipulate the piece of wood to get the result that you want out of it. There will also be plenty of opportunity for questions and answers that I hope will help you all out, regardless of your turning skills or styles.

I originally started woodturning when I was in high school, making at the time, what I thought were some pretty nice bowls. When I was in college, I took it even further and turned a captain's chair. I actually thought that I was pretty good at this. During my first 5 years of teaching, I kept turning, mostly as classroom demos, to show my students what to do, and how to do it correctly. Due to career changes, I was away from woodturning for about 13 years, when I moved to Loveland and got hooked up with RMWT. I soon discovered that I had been brought up through the Dark Ages of woodturning, and was now just seeing the light. So much had changed in the interim. People were now using chucks, and turning unseasoned logs! I had to learn turning all over again, and through the help of the RMWT and the AAW, and all of the close friends that I have made, I am once again able to say that I am proud of what I am taking off the lathe at the end of the day.

RMWT Activities

RMWT Newsletter – Help Wanted

The Instant Gallery is a great feature of our meetings. Monty Weymouth is taking some really good photos and posting them on the web. But...

We are not capturing information about the turnings in the Instant Gallery. I am asking for a volunteer to work with Monty and myself to capture that missing information and match it up with the photos. I would like to have for each piece; the Artist, the wood used, the name of the piece (if there is one), some information behind the piece and the Artist, and anything else of interest.

I will work with this volunteer to put their information into a form that is suitable for usage in the Newsletter.

If you will be willing to help with this collection of information, contact John Giem.

Contact information is at the end of this Newsletter.

Wood Bank

Inventory – The Wood Bank still has four large Black Ash burls. You do not have to take a whole piece, John can cut them into manageable sizes for you. large pieces of Russian olive, large poplar, cotton wood, elm and several others. Remember the wood (other than the burl) is free to RMWT members. Come and choose the wood to fit your project. Also, the club has end grain sealer at \$9.00 per gallon.

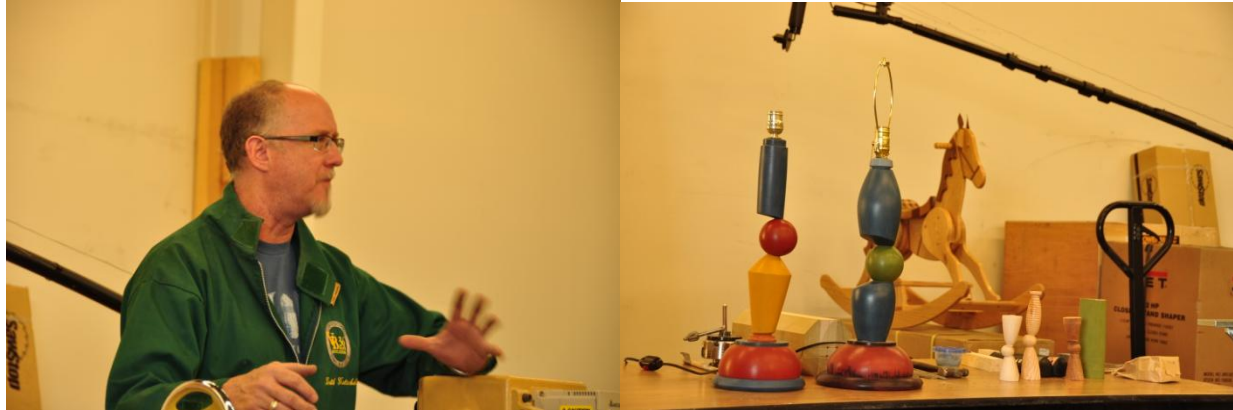
For more information contact John Giem, jgiem@comcast.net, 970 223-0844 – home, 970 227-6618 mobile.

Carving Class in September

Wonderful wood carver Dixie Biggs will do a five day class in the Amigos' studio during the week after the Rocky Mountain Woodturners' symposium in September. See Dixie's work at www.dixiebiggs.com. Cost of the five day class is \$450, and that includes lunch. She is willing to 10 students and is a power carver. Call Frank or Elizabeth at 970-568-3899."

May Demonstration

At the May, 2011, meeting of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners, Keith Gotschall shared with us many of his woodturning techniques for shaping and finishing his projects.



Finishes – Keith started out describing how he textures and finishes some of his pieces.

- He uses milk paint for a lot of his projects. Comes in powder form and is mixed with water in a 1:1 ratio. The transparency and thickness can be adjusted as needed.
- It sands well. After sanding, smooth it out using a Scotch Brite pad.
- For a textured surface, carve or distress it (dent it using keys, screwdriver, hammer, etc.) first and then apply two contrasting coats of paint. When dry, sand off the outer layer of paint. The first color of paint will be exposed on the higher areas leaving the second color in the low areas. Clean up using a Scotch Brite pad.
- For the final coat use a transparent penetrating finish such as Tung oil.



Next Keith showed us a three sided beer tap handle.

- Starting with a turning blank, use a template to mark the true center and each of the three offset centers 1/4" out from true center and 120 degrees apart.
- Mount using the true center and turn into a cylinder. Turn a 1/2 bead on each end. Mark the top of the bead with a pencil.
- Remount the blank at the first of the offset centers at each end. When turning, one can see a solid center image and a ghost above it. Turn it down to the solid center leaving a 'foot' at each end



Queen Anne leg, square top pommel with tapered leg ending with an offset foot.

- Mark the centers of each end. Mark the center of the desired offsets. On the top, the offset was 1/8" and on the foot, the offset was 1/4". The offsets at each end are moved toward the opposite sides. The offsets are usually toward the corner of the pommel but can be toward the flat side depending upon the intended usage.
- Mark the edge of the pommel.
- Mount the blank on the lathe

using the true center. Turn it on and cut the end of the pommel. For larger pieces, he prefers to use a gouge instead of a skew. A gouge creates less splintering of the wood.

- Turn the rest of the leg into a cylinder. Leave a 1/2 bead at the foot.
- Remount the leg offsetting each end. Remember each end is offset in opposite directions.
- Upon turning on the lathe, the ghost image will be a taper. Turn down the leg from the base of the leg toward the foot. A large roughing gouge works well. Leave the foot at the end.



When developing a new design, make sketches in

a notebook and keep them. Work through several iterations to develop the shapes and proportions desired.

- Keith walked us through the process of developing the design of a lamp stem containing an offset sphere in the center supported by two tapered offset cones on each end. (Similar to those in the photo at the beginning of this article.)
- In his development, he turned several scale turnings of the design and worked out several details.
- Using a glued up piece of poplar, he marked each end with the centers to be used during the turning.
- With this much mass being turned off center, there will be a lot of vibration. By bolting down the lathe to the floor, the speed can then be increased to enable better shaping of the turning.
- He started by turning an offset cylinder in the center which eventually became the center sphere. By shifting between the previously marked centers, each section was turned down toward the final design shape. There was one area at the transitions from the cones to the sphere that could not be removed by turning on the lathe. These saucer shaped areas can be removed by whatever method the turner wishes to use. Keith used a Nickeson # 49 wood rasp.

It is important to keep the details sharp.





- After shaping, return back to the true centers end and turn tenons for mounting at each end.
- When using a parting tool, avoid fibers splitting off by starting with a scraping action and then progressing to bevel rubbing and cutting.
- The hole through the lamp stem for the electrical cord was drilled free hand from each end using an oversized (1/2") drill. With care, the holes will intersect within the center sphere allowing the passage of the cord.
- His lamp bases area built up from two turnings allowing a crisper transition between pain colors.
- The lamp cord is brought out through a channel between the two pieces of the base thereby preventing the lamp from setting on the cord.

RMWT Meetings and information

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 each month.

President: Pete Herman
(970) 663-1951 home
(585) 259-9486 mobile
Peter_Herman@comcast.net

Vice President: Drew Nichols
Shop Tours

(970) 566-4662 home
(970) 224-4850 mobile
dcnichols2004@msn.com

Treasurer: Frank Amigo
efamigo@msn.com

Secretary & Newsletter: John Giem
970 223-0844 home
970 227-6618 mobile
jgiem@cocmcast.net

Wood Bank
Chairman: John Giem
(see above)
Jerry Sherman
(970) 631-2984 mobile

(970) 484-2619 home

RMWT Program Director
David Nittmann
303 579-6744
david@davidnittmann.com

RMWT Webmaster: Hoyle Curtis
Hoyle.curtis@gmail.com

RMWT Symposium
General Coordinator: Allen Jensen
970 663-1868 work
970 776-6452 mobile

Vendor Coordinator: Mide Davis
Mikeldaviasllc@msn.com,

Program Coordinator: Trent Bosch
trent@trentbosch.com

Registration Coordinator: John Giem
970 223-0844 -- home
970 227-6618 -- mobile
jgiem@comcast.net

10% Guild discount

Wood Emporium
618 N Garfield Ave Loveland,

Sears Trostel
1500 Riverside Ave
Ft. Collins, CO 80524

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

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

Clubs and Member's Websites

Rocky Mountain Wood Turners
www.rmwt.org

AAW – American Assoc of Woodturners
www.woodturner.org

Trent Bosch
www.trentbosch.com

David Nittmann
www.davidnittmann.com

Cindy Drozda
www.cindydrozda.com

John Lynch
www.johnlynchwoodworking.com

Curt Theobald
www.curttheobald.com

Katherine Kowalski
www.KatherineKowalski.com

Want your Website Listed? Contact
John Giem, Editor.

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, Intermediate, Advanced and Specialty turning right here in our own back yard.

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

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

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, Woodturner
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 studio 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 is a Woodturner & Contemporary Artist, offering private/small group instruction in woodturning technique, as well as specialized classes in hollow forms, bowl, fine spindlework, and color theory/technique. (All levels of instruction are available). Classes are held at Katherine's studio in Cheyenne, WY.

Email:
katherine@daystarhandworks.com
Cell Phone: 307 220-0130
Web site: www.katherinekowalski.com

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 check out the classes being offered at web page www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=56