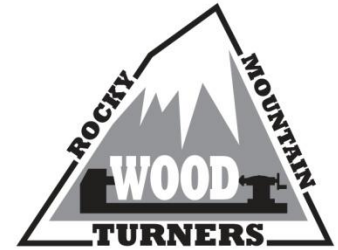




Rocky Mountain Woodturners
A Chapter of the American Association of
Woodturners



March 2013 Newsletter

Contents of Newsletter:

- Next RMWT Meeting, February Meeting Notes and March Demonstration
- Other Upcoming Demonstrations
- RMWT Activities – Wood Bank Safety Update, Demonstration Videos, RMWT Sweatshirt Orders
- RMWT information, Member's web sites, sources of woodturning Instruction and discounts.

Next RMWT Meeting:

The next regular meeting will be on March 7, 2013, at the Loveland Woodcraft store starting at 6:30pm.

February 7, 2013 Meeting Notes:

- No wood raffle on February 7th.
- Forms were circulated for sign up to help with "wood gatherers" for the Wood Bank.
- Frank Amigo, Treasurer, reported \$2785 in checking and \$2520 in savings account.
- RWMT now has a \$2 million liability insurance policy through the AAW that covers every member of the club at all RMWT sponsored events, including the Symposium and Wood Bank. An adequate face shield and chain saw chaps will be made available for use at the Wood Bank. (See Wood Bank below)
- Elizabeth Amigo requested EOG applications by 2/15/13 with notice of awards expected by 4/1/13. The EOG can provide assistance with programs that occur later in the year.
- Empty Bowls donations are still being accepted.
- There is a planned **Shop Swap** for the March RMWT meeting instead of the usual Wood Raffle. Members are encouraged to bring odd or unused items (wood, tools, etc.) anything goes as long as you can carry it. Jerry Sherman is in charge of Shop Swap organization and can be contacted at 970-631-2984.
- Tom reminded members of the AAW Symposium in Tampa, FL on June 28 – 30, 2013. There will be lots of demos, vendors and suppliers.
- Jerry Smith, a former RMWT member recently passed away.
- Tom announced that Collector's Specialty Woods or CS Woods has recently opened a showroom and 16,000sf warehouse at 4355 Monaco, Unit A in Denver with a large variety of large slabs and timbers, burls and thick stock of up to 14" thick. See www.cswoods.com
- The RMWT big screen TV is free to anyone who wants it (Cart is not included)
- Lee Carter gave away used butcher coats for use as shop smocks.

Please note that the Newsletter Editor and Secretary positions have been split between two people. For clarification, the Secretary is responsible for all board meeting notes. The Newsletter Editor will email any special announcements, after review by the Board members, to the members. The Newsletter Editor will provide the reporting on the meeting demonstration and demonstrator, the general meeting notes and all other Newsletter reporting, advertisements, etc.

RMWT March 7, 2013 Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland:

“An Arborist View for Woodturners – Looking Past the Bark” by Jonathan Medina

My demo will be covering the subject of material before it is placed on the lathe. I believe that our urban forest is largely underutilized as a serious resource for woodturners. I will be offering my insights from 14 years of arboriculture, layered over my own personal passion as a woodworker. The demo will cover identifying wood structure, selection processes, sources of material, and when to reject material based on individual skill sets. If time permits, I will also offer some anecdotes of my own personal urban wood harvesting adventures. I would encourage members to bring any pieces, turned or blanks for discussion on the "story" of the wood.

FRWT March 5, 2013 2-fer Tuesday Demonstration at Rockler, Denver: 1:00 – 4:00 PM David Nittmann PHEOG "Complete Color Control" and airbrush basics and at the General Meeting at Rockler: Dale Bonertz---
“Coring Wooden Bowls”

FRWT April 2, 2013 Demonstration: Rockler, Denver, Stuart Batty: **“Sharpening and State of the Art Tool Steel.”**

RMWT April 4, 2013 2-fer Thursday Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland: “Negative Rake Scrapers” by Tom Wirsing. Tom will begin his demo at 3:00 PM and get a head start on a platter. He will finish cutting the platter in the evening demo starting at 6:30 PM, discussing the theory and practice of NR Scraping.

FRWT May 7, 2013 2-fer Tuesday Demonstration at Rockler, Denver: “Bowls and Blank Preparation” by Dale Larsen, 1:00 – 4:00 PM and continuing during the evening meeting.

RMWT May 9, 2013 2-fer Thursday Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland: “Bowls and Blank Preparation” by Dale Larsen, 1:00 – 4:00 PM and continuing during the evening meeting from 6:30 – 9:00 PM.

May 8, 2013: Intimate discussion group with Dale, Location & time TBD, Fee TBD, interested persons should contact David Nittmann. NOTE: Dale will be donating all of his fees to the AAW.

RMWT Board Meeting:

Wood Bank:

In light of our new AAW liability insurance policy, the Wood Bank Staff has been reviewing its operating guidelines. Safety is of utmost importance. Effective immediately, anyone using a chainsaw at the Wood Bank or doing wood retrieval for the Wood Bank must be utilizing the appropriate safety equipment. This includes:

- Helmet with face shield
- Hearing protection and
- Chainsaw chaps

Frank Amigo is in the process of obtaining two sets of this safety equipment for the Wood Bank. This means that anyone who wishes to bring their own chainsaw and cut blanks their way is welcome to do so, but they must utilize all of the above listed safety equipment, your own or loaned to you by the RMWT Wood Bank.

In addition, chainsaw users will be requested to use proper precautions to prevent injury. If in doubt ask Jerry Sherman or John Giem for assistance. As a reminder, John will do any chainsaw cutting for you if politely requested.

We have a fairly full barrel of wood sealer available to our membership at \$12.00 per gallon. John has a few gallon jugs but recommends that you bring your own container.

The Wood Bank currently has a good selection of elm, locust, walnut, maple and a few pieces of mystery wood. To obtain wood from the bank, at no charge to membership, contact John Giem (970 227-6618 – mobile, 970 223-0844 – home) to schedule a time for you to go to his place (SW Fort Collins) and make your selections.

Demonstration Videos:

We have all noticed Dave Amos and others running a video camera and projecting the video on a screen helping us to see what the Demonstrator is doing. Did you also know that the camera is recording the video which is then given to Hoyle Curtis, our webmaster? Hoyle puts the recorded video onto DVDs and they are placed in the library for our membership to check out and review.

In addition, Hoyle has placed several of the demonstration videos on YouTube. Eventually, the website will contain links to those videos. At least two demonstrations are now available on YouTube: Dale Bonertz, Bowl Saver usage, search words: Bonertz McNaughton; and John Giem, Vacuum Chucking, search words: Giem Vacuum Chucking.

Dave Amos, Hoyle Curtis and others deserve a big thank you from the membership for their work in capturing the videos of the demonstrations and preserving them for future reference. **Thank You!**

Rocky Mountain Woodturners Sweatshirts:

Be sure to order the great-looking, new Rocky Mountain Woodturners sweatshirts.

You may choose from four colors--red, navy, maroon, or gray.

Adult sizes range from small to 5X. Youth sizes small to XL are also available. The price is a reasonable \$18. If you would like a sweat shirt, please e-mail us at efamigo@msn.com or call (970-568-3899) before the next meeting on March 7, and tell us your size and what color you would like. We **will collect your payment** at the meeting and then place the order. You may mail us a check if you will not be attending the meeting--the address is 1432 W. County Road 68, Fort Collins 80524. The shirts will be ready 2 to 3 weeks after that and can either be picked up at our house or we will bring them to the April meeting. We will send out an e-mail when they are ready.

Elizabeth and Frank Amigo

February 7, 2013 Demonstration: Vacuum Chucking by John Giem



- John presented the technical basics of vacuum systems, a more detailed write up of which is included in the attached .pdf copies of John's article in the February 2011 American Woodturner Journal. Another article by John is also available in the June 2012 AW Journal.
- There are four types of vacuum pumps: Venturi, Diaphragm, Piston and Rotary Valve. Rotary Valve pumps can be dry or wet, with dry the recommendation of John.
- John demonstrated that a vacuum of 20" of HG (Equal to approximately 10 psi) applied to 13 square inches of surface lifted a 50lb weight with no problem. (10psi X 13 square inches = 130 lbs of vacuum)
- A vacuum chucking system solves the tool control and mounting problems of mounting pieces on a lathe. There is no need for a jam chuck or scroll chuck if you have a vacuum chuck.
- John utilizes extra gauges on his vacuum system only to better understand what is happening at various points throughout the vacuum system from pump to the mounting chuck.
- Vacuum pumps, adapters and hardware kits for various models of lathes are available from JT Tools (<http://www.jtturningtools.com/>) and Oneway Manufacturing (<http://www.oneway.ca/>)
- Optimum performance of a vacuum chucking system is when the only leakage is at the chucking point – not in any of the hoses, filters, valves, etc.
- Use "craft foam" (Available from Hobby Lobby) in 1 ½" strips glued around edge of the PVC chuck to provide the seal at the chuck to the piece being turned. (See photo below)



Trex base with PVC chuck with foam on the left. John's vacuum system & connection to lathe shown in center and on the right. (Note: the Vacuum reservoir is in the compartment below the pump.)

- John uses "Trex" deck material threaded to fit the lathe drive spindle and glues various sizes of PVC to the Trex to make a variety of sizes of vacuum chucks.
- A racquet ball and/or a small light gauge metal plate can be utilized to test the vacuum at the chuck and to make sure there are no system leaks before mounting your wood.
- Most leaks occur at the threads of the lathe head and can be sealed with 2 to 3 wraps of Teflon tape. John has found that 3/8" diameter hose works best.
- Some woods are quite porous and will not stay in place unless Saran Wrap is used to close off the porosity. Hold cling wrap in place and tape the edges.
- Use the tool rest to help center the piece by noting the variance between the piece and the tool rest and tapping the piece half the difference to center it.
- Vacuum chucking is also a great tool for off center turning as demonstrated by Douglas Fisher in May 2012.
- A vacuum reservoir made from schedule 80 PVC pipes and caps helps with mounting difficult to mount pieces. The reservoir should be on the pump side of the isolation valve.
- Don't restart the vacuum pump with a vacuum still on the system – release the vacuum and then start the pump back up.
- John uses rice in a loose cloth bag for mounting pieces with rough back surfaces, such as natural bark or burl surfaces. Use pallet wrapping plastic to seal off end of open chuck (See photos)



In the above photos, the rice bag is inside the PVC chuck with plastic wrap used to seal the chuck on the left and the natural burl in the center was vacuum chucked in this manner to produce the finished bowl on the right, leaving the natural burl intact for the bottom of the bowl.

- John likes to maintain at least 10" of HG when turning without the tailstock.



Various vacuum chucks and pieces turned with vacuum chucks

If anyone has additional questions on vacuum chucking, feel free to contact John at his numbers listed below.

Other Items and Events:

The 15th Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturners Symposium is September 13 – 15, 2013 at The Ranch, Loveland, CO <http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com/>

The 34th Annual Utah Symposium in Provo, UT is May 16-18, 2013: www.utahwoodturning.com/

The 27th Annual AAW Symposium in Tampa, FL is June 28 – 30, 2013:
<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2013/index.htm>

The 21st Annual Southwest Association of Turners Symposium is August 23 – 25, 2013 in Waco, TX.
http://www.swaturners.org/?page_id=79

For Sale: None this month. Editor's note: Sale ads will run for three months unless notified to stop sooner or to continue longer. Please call or e-mail your ad to the Newsletter Editor at the address below.

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Vendor Coordinator: Cindy Drozda
cindy@cindydrozda.com

Program Coordinator: Trent Bosch
trent@trentbosch.com

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

10% RMWT Member discount (with some exceptions):

Wood Emporium
618 N Garfield Ave
Loveland, CO
970-667-5621 Phone
970-667-5621 Fax

Sears-Trostel Lumber & Millwork
1500 Riverside Ave
Ft. Collins, CO 80524
970-482-1928
970-482-9895 Fax

Woodcraft – Loveland
3718 Draft Horse Drive
Loveland, CO 80538
970-292-5940 Phone
970-292-5939 Fax
loveland@woodcraft.com

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

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 Gary Hevelone,
Newsletter Editor - 970-667-3299 or
hevelone@yahoo.com

Learn From the Best...

The Rocky Mountain Woodturners Club, RMWT, is well known around the nation because we have some of the best national and internationally 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

Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning operated by **Lee Carter** 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.
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: www.curttheobald.com

John Giem, Woodturner

Custom woodworking and Individual or small group woodworking instruction tailored 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

(970)227-6618, cell

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 spindle work, and color theory/technique. (All levels of instruction are available). Classes are held at Katherine's studio in Cheyenne, WY.

katherine@daystarhandworks.com

307-220-0130 cell

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

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David Nittman

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www.davidnittman.com

www.airbrushonwood.php