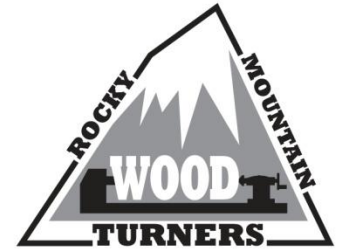




## Rocky Mountain Woodturners *A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*



### *September 2014 Newsletter*

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#### **In Memoriam: David Nittmann, 1944 – 2014**



David Nittmann died on August 13, 2014 after a valiant and protracted battle with cancer. He was 69.

Born in Schenectady, New York, David was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in wildlife biology and a Master of Science degree in watershed management from Colorado State University. From his earliest memory, David enjoyed playing with wood in his grandfather's workshop. Later, he worked in industrial, commercial, and residential construction before starting his own cabinet and furniture shop in 1980. That venture led him to the lathe, which became his passion.

In 1994, he co-founded the Rocky Mountain Woodturners in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he served as president for the club's first three years. He remained active with that club and with the Front Range Woodturners in Denver, most recently serving as program director for both AAW chapters.

David was a well-known woodturning demonstrator and panelist. He demonstrated at national symposia as well as at regional events and woodturning clubs. He also taught at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts and at the John C. Campbell Folk School. David's artwork was juried into the best national arts/crafts shows, including the Smithsonian, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the American Craft Exposition, the Washington Craft Show, and the Sculptural Objects and Functional Art (SOFA) shows in New York and Chicago.

In David's signature style, the "basket illusion," he turned, beaded, burned, and dyed his pieces to create the visual and tactile impression of a woven form. He was an authority on the use of color and used the airbrush to create beautifully colored images on his woodturnings. He often collaborated with Cindy Drozda, his long-time partner and love of his life, to create strikingly beautiful basket illusions with Cindy's elegant forms and graceful finials. He and Cindy also collaborated on presentations, their "Left Brain—Right Brain" demonstration being widely acclaimed.

David was beloved in the woodturning community and will be remembered for his broad smile, wonderful demeanor and keen sense of humor, dynamic intellect, and tremendous generosity in sharing his knowledge and talents with everyone. He will be profoundly missed by his family and many friends. David is survived by his son Eric Nittmann of Newport, Rhode Island; daughter Kerry Nittmann Manning of Fort Collins, Colorado; Kerry's four children: Riley, Ellie, Clara, and Garrett; his loyal feline companion, Carter; and Cindy Drozda of Boulder, Colorado. - *Tom Wirsing*



Loveland Sculpture in the Park - 2013

### **Next RMWT Meeting:**

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, September 4, 2014, at the Woodcraft store, 3718 Draft Horse Drive, Loveland, CO and will feature a demonstration by Cindy Drozda.

### **RMWT September 4, 2014 Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland: Cindy Drozda**

### **Artist Profile: Cindy Drozda**



Cindy Drozda, has worked with wood since age 7, when she built a playhouse out of orange crates and re-used nails (with a little of her father's help). At 19, she learned professional woodworking on the job at a player piano factory. She is currently a full-time wood artist and has been turning since 1985.

Cindy's elegant lidded vessels with delicate finials choreograph pure classic form with the natural grain patterns in the wood, creating a sculpture with elegant presence and lively personality. Her work can be seen at the finest juried shows, galleries, and exhibitions in the USA, as well as published in several books.

Cindy shares her woodturning knowledge and passion as an international demonstrator, teacher, writer, and producer of instructional DVDs. She has been invited to teach at symposia and clubs around the world and across the US. She is a member of the American Association of Woodturners, the American Craft Council, and four AAW chapters.

Before choosing woodturning as a career Cindy, worked as a cabinet maker, rebuilt airplanes, and made hang gliding equipment. In 1988, she participated in a 6 month long crossing of the entire US by non-powered hang glider. Woodturning is her latest exciting adventure!

"I hope you will enjoy my wood art as much as I have enjoyed the creative process."



**RMWT October 8, 2014 Demonstration: Dale Bonertz – “McNaughton Coring Tool”**



This coring demonstration will help both beginners and more experienced users understand and become more proficient with coring. This demonstration is a tool/equipment heavy demonstration with a fresh look at techniques and ways to practice them through roughing out bowls and other vessels.

**August 7, 2014 General Meeting Notes:**



Frank Amigo called the meeting to order.

Several guests this week introduced themselves. Welcome to these guests.

Frank talked about the group “woodworkers for the blind”. They are looking for volunteers that would be willing to help with demonstrations for that group.

Treasurers Report: \$1,275 checking account; \$2,564 savings account.

The next pen meeting will be in 2 weeks. They are having a demonstration on stabilizing wood.

Mark Gisi will be giving a demonstration on segmented turning on larger pieces, not pens. This will be on Friday morning, September 12, 2014, the first morning of the symposium.

The Symposium will be in 4 weeks from this weekend. Allen Jensen would like to see everyone in both our club and the Denver club to come to the Symposium. The Symposium would have over 300 people if just the local people would come. JUST COME!! Trent has a great line-up of demonstrators.

Graeme Priddle was the demonstrator for the night. Graeme wanted to know where all of the instant gallery pieces were?!! There were about 70 people in attendance and only about 20 pieces. Graeme picked several pieces that he commented on. One tip he gave- don't make the base more than about 1/3 of the width of the maximum width of the piece.

Vince gave a big thank you to RMWT for their grant money for the community college. The following are some of the items purchased: Vacuum pump with associated fixtures and hardware, several chucks, Face Shields, metal spinning tool rests and fulcrum posts. The money was put to good use!!

### **RMWT August 7, 2014 Demonstration: Graeme Priddle – “Turn and Burn”**



Graeme starts by mounting the wood by jamming the wood between the chuck and the tail-stock. Turn the speed control way down before turning on the lathe. He likes to have a almost rusted lathe bed, so it doesn't drift while turning. Instead of having a live center with a point, he uses one with a “cup” and a point in the cup. You can use the cup only, take out the point.

Positioning of the body and very sharp tools are VERY important for a smooth cut. Control the tools. When turning the inside of the bowl, start the cut 90 degrees to the wood.

Graeme uses deep fluted bowl gouges, just 3 different sizes. He uses fewer tools. The more tools you have, the more tools you have to learn how to use.

Graeme now only spends about 10% of his time to actually turn wood. He likes to enhance the wood with a variety of techniques. Wood burning is one of his favorite things to do. He makes his own brands, usually utilizing 18 ga NICHrom wire. Craft supply has this available. When burning, he uses a brass brush to take the carbon off of the wire. For painting accents he uses Golden brand paints. They are water based paints, easy to clean up. DON'T get cheap paint; it takes 2-3 X as much paint to cover. When using other sources metals, such as a flame bur (rotary bur from a Dremel tool etc), wrap 16 ga wire around the bur. You can also make a knife-like blade with the wire, super heat it, and flatten it against the lathe, and sharpen the fused metal to make a blade

sharp tool. He demonstrated the use of different techniques such as burning and painting on the same portion of the piece.

Graeme then demonstrated masking off techniques in conjunction with burning. When doing this, get really fine grained woods, coarse grains are harder to be consistent. Also, when burning, end grains will burn deeper than side grains.

Graeme will be teaching a 1-week class at Arrowmont next year.

**Special thanks to Clarence Sitzman for all the notes and photos for this month's Newsletter while your editor was out of town.**

### **Woodworking for the Blind – Request for Volunteers:**

My name is Larry Martin and I run a small group called "Woodworking for the Blind" that currently has 125 blind members. Our website provides basic information about us:

<http://ww4b.org>

<http://ww4b.org/sws2013.htm>

<http://ww4b.org/history.htm>

Primarily I provide a recording service that records woodworking magazines for blind woodworkers. In addition, we have a YahooGroup forum in which members raise questions and discuss woodworking topics. This September we are hosting our Third Annual Summer Workshop for members. The first two workshops were held at my home outside of Chicago and this year's version will be in a member's workshop in Englewood, Sept. 10, 11 and 12. For the past two years the Chicago Woodturners Club provided a number of volunteers and portable lathes to teach our blind members spindle turning, pen-making and bowl turning. A copy of their report from last year is below:

<http://www.chicagowoodturners.com/Newsletters/0713.pdf>

By any chance, would Rocky Mountain Woodturners be interested in volunteering for a similar service on one of those days to the half dozen members who will participate in our 2014 Summer Workshop? It would be a great public service and be very much appreciated by all of us.

Larry Martin

[martinchicago@comcast.net](mailto:martinchicago@comcast.net)

Frank Amigo will be discussing the above opportunity for RMWT members to volunteer for the September Summer Workshop at the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Pen Turners Club Meeting 8/21/14:**

Pre-meeting notes: Mark Gisi will be coming to Woodcraft on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup>, the Friday of the Woodturners Symposium.

Demonstration: Jerry Mead

First factor- Coconut wood- was his ONLY failure to this date for stabilization. It is very soft and light-weight, and there is nothing to it for turning. There are small pieces in the wood that flip out while you are turning.

### Components

1. Jars- Wal-Mart and Ace Hardware
2. Seals- The Cupboard- Downtown Fort Collins.
3. Plastic Lid- 3/8 -1/2 10" square Plexiglas- Fort Collins Plastics 1101 Academy Court- East Prospect
4. Pump- Harbour Freight- (Use a 20-25% off Coupon)
5. Hardware and Tubes- Ace Hardware
6. Toaster Oven- Bed Bath and Beyond or Thrift store (Do not use for food!!)
7. Vacuum Gauge- Grainger (4531 Innovation Drive. Fort Collins.  
Website- Turntex woodworks- Turntex.com

You Tube - Woodcraft. Spokane

Glass container is what he uses. There is a stainless steel system available from woodcraft. (It is \$224.00 at Woodcraft) DON'T use plastic. These are available from Ace hardware, and Fort Collins Plastics. Also Granger's has gauges. The vacuum should be set to about 25PSI.

Woodcraft has stabilizing Resin available. It is a two part resin system. A gallon is about \$100.00. Another resin out of Texas is called Cactus Juice. Turntex.com. Woodcraft has the resins available for \$33.00. You can start out using a quart jar and a vacuum pump. Once you add the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the system it is good for about 90 days. Make sure that the wood is covered by the liquid. You can re-use the liquid that is not incorporated into the wood. When the pump is first turned on, the solution will bubble quite a bit. Keep the pump going on for about 30 minutes. When you turn the pump off, the solution will be forced into the wood when the air is re-introduced into the system. If the pieces are floating – leave in the jar for a bit more time to be able to soak up the solution.

After taking out of the jar, wrap in tin foil wrapping. MAKE SURE THE PIECES OF WOOD DON'T TOUCH. They will bond together and be very hard to take apart.

Bake about ½ hour at 200 degrees. Don't make it any hotter because the polimer will not polymerize. The fluid left over can go back into the jar of the solution, and the vacuum jar can be cleaned up with soap and water. Easy clean up.

Total time from start to finish is about 2 hours from start to clean-up.

As a warning- not all toaster ovens are accurate- use a thermometer to get the actual temperature, the toaster ovens are not accurate, and can be as much as 50 degrees off. NOT GOOD!!

This process is good for pen blanks. He doesn't know how far the penetration of the solution will go into the wood.

Smaller jars within the large jar works well, especially when dyeing the wood. That way you don't have to use so much of the solution. Colors ¼ tsp per quart if you are using the dry dye.

### **Other Items and Events:**

#### **The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium at The Ranch in Loveland will be September 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014:**

The Rocky Mountain Woodturners annual woodturning symposium will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at The Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds, Loveland, Colorado.

This year early sign in is on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 PM until 5:30 PM. The first rotation begins on Friday at 3:30 PM. Meet and greet the demonstrators on Friday from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Loveland Woodcraft store. There will be 42 excellent demonstrations during Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Featured demonstrators include David Ellsworth, Kip Christensen, Kirk Deheer, Jason Schneider, Michael Blankenship, Rick Orr, John Giem, Dale Bonertz, Allen Jensen and Rudolph Lopez.

Also included are a large trade show, instant gallery, banquet and live auction Saturday evening conducted by a professional auctioneer. A lunch package is also available.

For more information, visit [www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com)

### **Wood Bank Guidelines:**

<http://www.rmwt.org/articles/2013-rnwt-wood-bank-guidelines.pdf>

### **Items For Sale:**

#### **Woodworking Machinery For Sale:**

Woodcraft (Doerr) 1/2 hp. Grinder (for sharpening gouges): \$250.00

Milwaukee heavy duty router: \$200.00

Delta Duplicator for spindle turning for 12" swing lathe: \$150.00

Craftsman 5 peak hp. wall vac: \$50

Shopvac 4.5 peak hp. wall vac: \$50

Total shop TS110 dust collector and lots of collector pipes: \$200

Husquavarna 20" 55 Rancher chain saw + several chains: \$300



Stihl 20" 038AV Magnum II chain saw + several chains: \$280

Tormek sharpening system with honing compound and wheels and gouge jig near new: \$450.00

181 Swiss made carving chisels with cabinet and 2 mallets \$5,900.00

Many chisels never used. Total value \$7,899.61 - better than 25% discount.

**Contact:** Frank Amigo - 970-568-3899 or [efamigo@msn.com](mailto:efamigo@msn.com)

### **Nova 1624 – 44 Lathe For Sale**

Nova 1624 – 44 lathe with legs, in excellent condition, used for about 6 months before upgrading to different lathe. Price \$500. Located in Laramie, WY.

Contact: Scott Holman – 307-343-3206 or [sgholman@gmail.com](mailto:sgholman@gmail.com)

**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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[jgiem@comcast.net](mailto:jgiem@comcast.net)

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**10% RMWT Member Discounts (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](mailto:loveland@woodcraft.com)

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

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**Clubs and Member's Websites:**

**Rocky Mountain Wood Turners**  
[www.rmwt.org](http://www.rmwt.org)

**AAW – American Assoc. of Woodturners**  
[www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

**Trent Bosch**  
[www.trentbosch.com](http://www.trentbosch.com)

**Cindy Drozda**  
[www.cindydrozda.com](http://www.cindydrozda.com)

**John Lynch**  
[www.johnlynchwoodworking.com](http://www.johnlynchwoodworking.com)

**Curt Theobald**  
[www.curttheobald.com](http://www.curttheobald.com)

**Katherine Kowalski**  
[www.KatherineKowalski.com](http://www.KatherineKowalski.com)

**Don Maul**  
[www.bighornstudiogallery.com](http://www.bighornstudiogallery.com)

**Dale Bonertz**  
[www.roughoutbowls.com](http://www.roughoutbowls.com)

Want your Website Listed? Contact Gary Hevelone,  
Newsletter Editor - 970-818-6079 or  
[hevelone@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://www.trentbosch.com) or contact Trent via email or phone.

**Trent Bosch**  
Trent Bosch Studios Inc.  
[trent@trentbosch.com](mailto:trent@trentbosch.com)  
970-568-3299

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**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](#).  
[leecartermsw@yahoo.com](mailto:leecartermsw@yahoo.com)

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**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](mailto:cwtheobald@wyoming.com)

Website: [www.curttheobald.com](http://www.curttheobald.com)

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**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](mailto:jgiem@comcast.net)

(970)223-0844, home

(970)227-6618, cell

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**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](mailto:katherine@daystarhandworks.com)

307-220-0130 cell

[www.katherinekowalski.com](http://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](http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=56)

