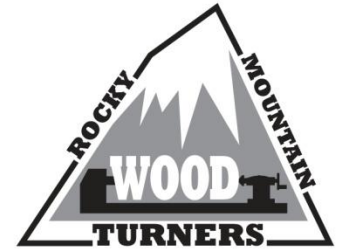




**Rocky Mountain Woodturners**  
***A Chapter of the American Association of***  
***Woodturners***



***April 2013 Newsletter***

**Contents of Newsletter:**

- Next RMWT Meeting, March Meeting Notes, April Demonstration, Member Spotlight
- Other Upcoming Demonstrations, RMWT Board Meeting Notes, March Demo
- RMWT Activities – Wood Bank Safety Update
- RMWT information, Member's web sites, sources of woodturning Instruction and discounts.

**Next RMWT Meeting:**

The next regular meeting will be on April 4, 2013, at the Loveland Woodcraft store and will be a "2-fer Thursday", with the Demo starting at 3:00 pm and then continuing at the regular meeting starting at 6:30pm.

**March 7, 2013 Meeting Notes:**

- Frank reported \$3212 in checking and \$2520 in savings.
- RMWT sweatshirts were ordered from Elizabeth Amigo and will be available for pick up or delivery at the April meeting.
- Library is up to date.
- Inventory is progressing well for the 501(c)3 designation
- Wood bank is in good shape for now; a cleanup will be announced in the future when needed.
- Safety equipment for use at the wood bank has been received
- The Educational Opportunity Grants have been awarded as detailed below.

**EOG Awards:**

The Educational Opportunity Grant Committee is happy to announce grant awards to the following Rocky Mountain Woodturners:

Doug Schneiter, teacher at Loveland High School, for a lathe for his classroom.

Dave Hawley for a class with J. Paul Fennell at Anderson Ranch.

Ian Meyer, age 12, for classes with David Nittmann and Trent Bosch and for tools and supplies.

Start thinking about classes to take for next year's grants.

Elizabeth Amigo

**RMWT April 4, 2013 "2-fer Thursday" Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland:**

**"Cutting-Edge Results with Negative Rake Scrapers"** by Tom Wirsing, discussing the theory and practice of negative rake scrapers.

Tom will start turning a platter at 3:00 pm at Woodcraft, Loveland and then finish the platter during the regular meeting starting at 6:30 pm.

### **Member Spotlight: Tom Wirsing**



"I love wood. I love its beautiful colors, its various textures, and I particularly love wood with dramatic variations in grain patterns. I grew up in a home full of antiques, most of which were built in the American colonies, and I loved their graceful lines and curves, the beauty of their wood, the patina of their well-rubbed finishes, and the softly reflected light from their surfaces."

"Turning bowls and platters on my wood lathes brings life to my love of wood. Imagine the pleasure I receive from mounting a piece of timber on the lathe and turning it into a form with flowing curves, beautiful color and figure, a satin finish, and an alluring feel. I particularly love turning large platters and bowls, which, like the antiques I grew up with, will become heirlooms enjoyed by many generations to come."

Tom was born in Roanoke, Virginia, in the Shenandoah Valley, an historic center of American woodturning. Tom's dad was an expert on American period furniture and had a well-equipped woodworking shop which included a lathe. Tom began turning wood as a young boy. After graduating from Roanoke College with a degree in Physics, Tom began traveling extensively. He lived in Europe, Asia, and 9 US States. The lathe in his dad's workshop became a distant memory.

About 20 years ago Tom found himself working for the Hewlett-Packard Company in Chicago, and living in a house with a spacious basement. He bought a lathe, and began turning wood again. At first he made mostly furniture, but almost by chance, he attended a demonstration by Richard Raffan, a very well-known Australian woodturner, who specializes in turning beautiful wooden bowls. Richard took a rough piece of American black cherry timber and turned it into a wonderful bowl. Tom was hooked.

Thus began Tom's interest in creating art pieces on the lathe. He now turns primarily bowls and platters from a variety of woods. His favorite is figured maple.

Tom is a past president of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). The AAW has over 15,000 members, and among our members are the finest artist woodturners in the world. "They produce an astounding

variety of beautiful and creative artwork, and being around their work, reviewing it in our galleries and in The American Woodturner, the journal of the AAW, provides constant creative stimulation."

Tom resides with his wife Melinda on a small ranch in north Boulder County, Colorado where he grazes Angus cattle and turns wood in his studio overlooking the Colorado Front Range.



Above are two of Tom's platters. Be sure to attend the April 4<sup>th</sup> RMWT "2-fer Thursday" meeting starting at 3:00 pm to see Tom create one of these heirloom pieces!

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

**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, featuring his Madrone bowl turning techniques.

**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. This will be a different demonstration than at the FRWT.

**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 August 8, 2013 "2-fer Thursday" Demonstration at Woodcraft, Loveland: "Jewelry Box Lid Enhancement and Design"** by Sally Ault, a San Diego based woodturner.

**RMWT Board Meeting:**

**BOD Present:** Frank, Drew, Pete, and Clarence, Guests: David Nittman, John Giem and Dale Bonertz. Allen Jensen is a member at large was not present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Savings: \$2,520 Checking: \$6,405 Dues may be ahead of last year.

Raffle on Thursday \$169.00. At the Thursday meeting, EOG grants were given to Ian Meyer, Doug Schneider and Dave Hawley.

## **Old Business**

**1. Symposium funds:** Pete made a motion that we hold \$900.00 from the general fund for symposium advertising if needed. Drew Second. Moved, Seconded and Passed (MSP).

Pete asked that the symposium committee come up with a plan for advertising that allows us to track the advertising numbers and what this advertising actually brings in. Frank would like us to contact all the clubs in the states around us. It was mentioned that an accurate list of most clubs is not available. We are now on the AAW calendar.

2. Our 501C3 designation makes it incumbent on us getting an inventory of our current assets. Here is the progress: All of the stuff is now at CS shop/garage. CS has moved the trailer to his garage and Drew has moved the rest of the storage stuff to CS place. CS contacted Bill Filson to get inventory for the library, and has both the video and book inventory in hand. At this time CS has about 90% of the inventory done, sorted and re-boxed.

3. Progress on survey of member preferences for demos and speakers for regular meeting. David needs to get hold of Gary or Hoyle. Do the same as Denver. Put the survey on the website. Fill it out and send it to David. David will get in touch with Hoyle.

4. John Giem Report on AAW Insurance Findings: There is a fact sheet on the AAW website, and John's studying of that shows that the insurance doesn't cover everything. It is ONLY liability insurance. There is both club and individual responsibility. This is payment for someone else. AAW recommends that all demonstrators be an AAW member. He suggests that we have a written binding contract with EVERY demonstrator. This would give the demonstrator that is an AAW demonstrator coverage if he signs the contract. If there is no contract, there is no coverage. Jerry and John will develop guidelines based on at least OSHA standards. There is safety equipment available when someone goes to the wood bank that will be required to use when they are at the bank. Dale thinks that when members join the club, they sign a waiver against injury if they use the wood bank. Discussion lasted for more than one hour.

**Path forward:** We need additional input from insurance pros, as to how much more is a rider for volunteers and non-AAW demonstrators who are paid. Demonstrators need to be AAW members or have their own personal responsibility. David thinks that a directive such as this would probably not affect the next demonstrators that are now on board. Any motions will be tabled until next meeting. Dale thinks that we should have coverage for equipment. The rate is \$50.00 per \$20,000.00. We will look at how much we have after completion of the inventory.

5. We re-addressed the issue of a 2-club membership. CS suggested that if someone wants to have a dual membership, to designate a "primary" club where you have full dues and a secondary membership

at half price, realizing that you may not be going to more than half the meetings. This would then include newsletters etc. John Giem suggested that we just be able to show our membership cards to prove membership. Frank moves that we follow this as long as the other club is amenable. You pay half dues directly to that club. Drew seconded the motion. MSP

6. We should have the Front Range Club's demonstrator on our newsletter, and vice versa. This is already being done for the most part. Some months have been missed, but for the most part this is done. This is now up to date. NP.

7. David brought up the idea of "2-fers" - a pre-meeting demonstration by a selected demonstrator that would continue on into the evening. Dale Larson is coming in and donating the money to AAW. Sally Ault is also charging us a bit less than some charge. Sally will do a demo on jewelry and enhanced design of box lids. Dale's demos will be on bowls. Tuesday and Thursdays will NOT be a repeat. Drew thinks we need to take on an individual basis, not necessarily a set program. If it's a high dollar demonstrator, we ask for money for the afternoon demonstration. Wayne will need to be contacted about the April meeting.

8. Budget- Passed last meeting. Same numbers as 2012.

9. It should be mentioned at the next regular meeting, that anyone is welcome to come to the BOD meetings. This is an open meeting.

10. Frank- Report on Sweat Shirts: There were two prices: \$18.00 unless you are under a certain number. Frank wants to order a sweat shirt for Wayne and present it to him at the next meeting. There were between 40 and 50 orders for sweatshirts. Frank was asked to order 10 extras for sales at the symposium. For shirts for the symposium, increase the number of large, X-large and 2X size. Decrease the small and medium sizes.

#### **New Business:**

1. Request from John McCluskey from Boulder K-8 Schools about the possibility of using lathes for classes. Frank suggested that anyone who asks should contact AAW. They are real good at giving money for kids. Forget this for this time. He would need to join the AAW to be able to do this. CS will contact John to talk about next year.

2. Note: The first Thursday after the first Tuesday in July is July 4<sup>th</sup>. John Giem suggested that we just go a week later to July 11<sup>th</sup>. MSP to go to July 11<sup>th</sup>. MSP Adjourn the 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

The above safety equipment has been received and is available for use at the wood bank. 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.

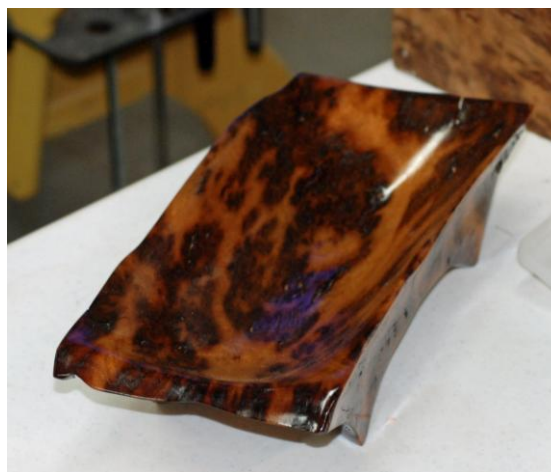
### **March 7, 2013 Demonstration: “Wood Identification – Beyond the Bark” by Jonathan Medina**



- Jonathan is a professional arborist from Arvada who has worked in food service to landscape maintenance. He carves his wood projects and has not done woodturning yet.
- He was fascinated by what he saw when cutting trees and has had no formal training, but has 14 years of hands on experience.
- Jonathan considers the Denver area to be a “unique urban forest” because it is entirely imported and planted, except the cottonwoods and willows. There are no “native forests” in Denver.
- There are approximately 200 different tree species in the Denver area, all in pretty bad condition.
- Trees actually “archive” their stress from weather (Smaller ring growth in dry weather) insects, injury and available resources such as available water, chemicals, pollutants, etc)
- Jonathan’s artwork is a “picture frame to display the beauty of wood.”
- Follow all safety rules when working with urban wood as many things such as nails, wire, insulators, screws, sand and even rocks can be imbedded in the wood.
- Also, watch for fungal diseases in urban wood.
- Resources for wood identification:

- Foresters will provide you a list of trees growing in your town.
- Leaves, twigs and buds are all clues to ID a tree.
- Pick a wood species you want to work with and study it.
- Colorado State University has an arboretum at the W.D. Holley Plant Environmental Research Center with over 1,100 different species represented.
- Regis University in Denver also has an arboretum with each tree identified by tags.
- Bark is the key to tell what is inside the tree
- Look for wrinkles in the bark to find interesting grain patterns in the wood.
- Jonathan demonstrated various bark patterns and what the wood inside looked like at wyes and different bark formations.
- Jonathan noted that trees that have a burl generally have a lot more of various size burls.
- Feel free to contact Jonathan if you want to go out with him on a tree hunting expedition
- If you see arborists cutting down an interesting tree feel free to ask if you can have some of the wood.  
“Tree guys” also like beer and cash if you need help cutting pieces of wood.
- Other Colorado Arboretums and Botanical Gardens:
- [Chester M. Alter Arboretum](#) - [University of Denver](#), [Denver](#) (Over 2,000 trees)
- [Andrews Arboretum](#) - [Boulder](#) (Free admission)
- [Denver Botanic Gardens](#) - [Denver](#)
- [Betty Ford Alpine Gardens](#) - [Vail](#) (Highest Botanical Gardens in the world)
- The [Hudson Gardens](#) and Event Center - [Littleton](#)
- [Montrose Botanic Gardens](#) - [Montrose](#)
- [Shambhala Botanic Gardens](#) - [Red Feather Lakes](#)
- [Western Colorado Botanical Gardens](#) - [Grand Junction](#)
- [Yampa River Botanic Park](#) - [Steamboat Springs](#)

Photos of Jonathan’s artwork:







#### Other Items and Events:

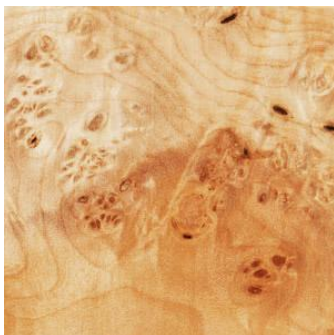
The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturners Symposium is September 13 – 15, 2013 at The Ranch, Loveland, CO <http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com/>

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Symposium in Provo, UT is May 16-18, 2013: [www.utahwoodturning.com/](http://www.utahwoodturning.com/)

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

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Southwest Association of Turners Symposium is August 23 – 25, 2013 in Waco, TX.  
[http://www.swaturners.org/?page\\_id=79](http://www.swaturners.org/?page_id=79)

#### For Sale: North Woods Wood Blanks



**Burly Maple**



**Quilted Maple**



**Spalted Maple**



**Large Selection**

Our figured wood is of the highest quality, milled from prime lumber harvested from our private sustainable forest of trees in northwestern Oregon. Our figured wood blocks are perfect for turning wood bowls, pens, and other objects on a lathe. Because our lumber is green (rather than kiln-dried), it is ideal for woodturning



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Call Mike at 970-420-5409 or 970-203-0202 for more information for that perfect piece or to view all the available blanks.

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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(970) 663-1951 home

(585) 259-9486 mobile

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Shop Tours, membership

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(970) 224-4850 mobile

[dcnichols2004@msn.com](mailto:dcnichols2004@msn.com)

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**Secretary:** Clarence Sitzman

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Chairman and Wood Lot Manager

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Jerry Sherman, Wood Lot Collection

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970-484-2619 home

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970 776-6452 mobile

**Coordinator:** Dale Bonertz

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**Program Coordinator:** Trent Bosch

[trent@trentbosch.com](mailto:trent@trentbosch.com)

**Symposium Registration Coordinator:** John Giem

970-223-0844 home

970- 227-6618 mobile

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

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**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](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)

**David Nittmann**

[www.davidnittmann.com](http://www.davidnittmann.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)

Want your Website Listed? Contact Gary Hevelone,  
Newsletter Editor - 970-667-3299 or  
[hevelone@yahoo.com](mailto:hevelone@yahoo.com)

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**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.

[LLJTC4X4149@CS.COM](mailto: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](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)

### **Airbrush-On-Wood**

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For all your airbrush needs, on-line ordering and expert information for problem solving situations contact David at: 303-579-6744

[www.davidnittman.com](http://www.davidnittman.com)

[www.airbrushonwood.php](http://www.airbrushonwood.php)

### **Woodturners' humor:**

Q: What type of wood do movie stars turn?

A: Hollywood

### **Cartoon corner:**

