

# Rocky Mountain Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

## February 2001 Newsletter

Vol. 7 - No. 2

### Officers, Directors & Committees

**President** **Curt Theobald**  
307/245-3310 307/245-3071(fax)  
highplainshollow@juno.com

**Vice President** **Doug Schneider**  
970/-663-7887  
schneider@thompson.k12.co.us

**Secretary** **Nancy Quick - Brewer**  
970/392-9035 h 970/395-0280 (fax)  
Woodturns@aol.com

**Treasurer** **Mike O'Dell**  
970/223-9809 970/282-4320 (fax)

**Program Co-Directors** **Lloyd Jenkins**  
970/226-1166 LloydJenk@aol.com  
& **John Martin**  
970/484-0949 johnmart@qwest.net

**Library Director** **John Reed**  
307/634-3333

**Media Director** **Bruno Melli**  
970/225-0481 bruno@fc.hp.com

**Collaborative Challenge Committee**  
Cindy Drozda 303/449-7170  
Wayne Van Every 970/356-5842

**Fund Raising Committee**  
Nancy Quick-Brewer 970/392-9035  
Wayne Van Every 970/356-5842

**2001 Symposium Committee Chairman**  
Wayne Van Every 970/356-5842

### Events Calendar

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Feb 8</b>       | <b>Mike Paulson:</b> Refined Tool Control   |
| <b>Mar 8</b>       | <b>Jerry Smith and Gordon DeKray:</b> Sharing ideas on Segmented turning, emphasis on beginning the process |
| <b>Apr 5</b>       | <b>Gene Wentworth</b>   |
| <b>May 3</b>       | <b>Guilio Marcolongo:</b> from Australia<br>(There will be a charge at the door)                            |
| <b>May 18 -19</b>  | <b>Southern Colorado Woodcarvers</b><br>Pueblo Fairgrounds, info call 719/584-3619                          |
| <b>Jun 7</b>       | <b>Pete Holtus:</b>   |
| <b>Jul 5</b>       | TBA   |
| <b>Aug 9</b>       | TBA   |
| <b>September 6</b> | <b>David Ellsworth:</b> from Quakertown, PA<br>(There will be a charge at the door)                         |
| <b>Sep 15-16</b>   | <b>Colorado Carvers Club</b><br>Golden info call 303/933-8651   |
| <b>Sep 29</b>      | 2001 RMWT Symposium   |
| <b>Oct 4</b>       | TBA<br>Officer Nominations  |
| <b>Nov 8</b>       | <b>Dr. Lee Carter:</b> Perforated hollow forms.<br>Elections  |
| <b>Nov 23-24</b>   | <b>Northern Colorado Carving Show</b><br>Ft. Collins info call 970/224-9516                                 |
| <b>Dec 6</b>       | Christmas Party   |

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Thursday – 2/8/01, at 7 PM  
Industrial Science Building  
Room 105  
Colorado State University  
Ft. Collins, CO

Officers meeting beginning at 5:30  
at the downtown Perkins

### Agenda:

- Announcements
- Show & Tell
- Wood Raffle
- Monthly Challenge:

### Demo:

- Mike Paulson:
- Refined tool control

## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Nancy Quick-Brewer

To start the meeting off, our president Curt Theobald announced to the members that our own Lee Carter was elected to the board of the AAW! Congratulations Lee! Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual symposium is set for Saturday September 29th at the Chilson Center. Same place and time as last year! Anyone wishing to help, please contact Wayne Van Every @ 970/356-5842. Then, came our show and tell done nicely by David Gillespie. Our monthly challenge was baby rattles. Several very nice ones were brought in and Don Deathridge won the \$15.00 gift certificate at Loren's Emporium in Loveland. Please remember, even if you bring 6 items for the challenge, you still only receive 1 raffle ticket. Thanks for a job well done, David, you helped make it quite informative! Next was the selling of the wood raffle tickets, and a 10 minute break. Coming back from break, our demonstrator for the night, Keith Gotshall from Boulder was introduced, than he began his demo on turning bowls. The one thing he did that was quite interesting was how he does his beaded bowls and platters.

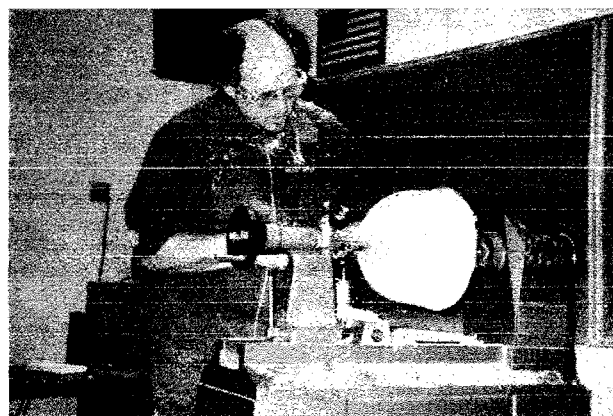
**Treasure's Report:** Mike O'Dell reports that as of 1/5/01 there is currently \$4,850.27 in our clubs bank account.

**Up Coming Shop Tours:** None scheduled.

**February Challenge:** Whistles



Keith working on one of his platters.



Keith preparing a bowl to do the beading.



A finished beaded bowl

## SHOP TOURS

Nancy Quick-Brewer

Volunteers are needed, if you want to hold a tour contact Nancy with the date and a map. Anyone wanting to see and try a Oneway 2436 contact Wayne at 970/392-9035.

## FUND RAISERS

Nancy Quick-Brewer

We are always looking for any good ideas for fund raisers! If you have any thoughts on this, please contact one of the committee members, Wayne Van Every or Nancy Quick-Brewer.

---

## WOOD RAFFLE

Nancy Quick-Brewer

There will be a wood and anything you care to donate raffle at the upcoming meeting.

---

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Nancy Quick-Brewer

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the Rocky Mountain Woodturners newsletter is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

---

## LIBRARY & VIDEO NOTICE

Nancy Quick-Brewer

Please feel free to "borrow" 1 book or 1 video per month from our club's library, but please remember to return it the following month so everyone will have a chance to view or read same material.

---

## BRING A GUEST TO THE MEETING

Nancy Quick-Brewer

If you bring a guest, be sure that they fill out an information form and leave it with Nancy Quick-Brewer so they can receive their complimentary copies of the newsletter. As you know, without their names and addresses, I can't send them a newsletter! At the January meeting, we had 6 visitors and 1 new member joining our club! Way to go!

---

## DUES ARE DUE

Nancy Quick-Brewer

Please make sure you contact myself or Mike O'Dell about promptly paying your yearly dues. The officers voted to keep dues at \$20.00 for the year, \$12.00 for students (students are defined as junior high through high school)

---

## THE INTERNET

Nancy Quick-Brewer

Be sure you check out the Rocky Mountain Woodturners Web site! Bruno has been doing a fantastic job adding new things for us!

<http://www.verinet.com/~drmelli/rmwt.html>

Other sites to check out:

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

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

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

[www.topcities.com/arts/cwrcolo](http://www.topcities.com/arts/cwrcolo)

---

## MEMBER INFO EXCHANGE

Nancy Quick-Brewer

If you have sold your listed item, please let me know so that I can remove it, but please let me know if you have something you'd like to buy, sell or trade, or maybe consider donating to the club.

**Wanted:** Two or three sections of locust branches, about 4 inches in diameter, and one or two sections suitable for bowls. Contact Dave Kahne @307/745-9352 or email at [dskwyo@fiberpipe.net](mailto:dskwyo@fiberpipe.net)

**For Sale:** Delta Rockwell Extra Heavy Duty Lathe Call Rick @ 303/922-8244

**For Sale:** Jet JWL-1236 wood turning lathe. ¾ horsepower motor, 12 " swing over the bed, 16" outboard capacity, 34 ½" between centers, ball bearing live center and 4 prong drive center. Other extras including steel stand. Selling all for \$450. Contact Allen Jensen @ 970/663-1868.

**For Sale:** Power Matic Lathe 45 asking \$800.00. Contact George Adams @ 303/452-5650

**For Sale:** Delta 10" table saw, newer model 34-760, Used very little, has a dust collector chute underneath \$240.00 call Wayne Van Every 970/378-8815.

**For Sale:** Bowl Lathe: Large H.D. no tailstock. Call Dick @ 303/841-1198

**For Sale:** Klingspor Velcro-backed 2" disks. These will be available at the FRWT and RMWT meetings (until they are gone) for \$1.00 per pack of 10. Grits are: 80, 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 320, & 400. also, Eagle brand Velcro backed 2" disks for \$1.50 per pack of 10 disks. These come in 320 grit only.

Pen Supplies 2- acrylic pen display stands, CSUSA part # 034-0700, 2- pen storage cases, CSUA #050-8300 & # 050-8480 (or similar), Several pen boxes like CSUA #s 050-3203, 3401, 3201, 3601, etc. Velvet pen sleeves from Woodcraft, some pen blanks, etc. Will trade for wood (burls, Russian olive, fruit woods, interesting pieces, exotics,) or make an offer! These are items she no longer uses. These items will be brought to the FRWT & RMWT club meetings See Cindy Drozda at the meetings or contact her @ 303/449-7170, or email her at [cdrozda@nyx.net](mailto:cdrozda@nyx.net)

**For Sale:** Nice Lathe Stand. Was used for a Jet lathe. Selling for \$20.00. Call Bill Hall @ 970- 663-4967 or email at [blhall@juno.com](mailto:blhall@juno.com).

## MEMBER INFO EXCHANGE

**For Sale:** Deep hollowing tools. Hagner duplicator attachment model LKH 950. This is a rear mount which allows you to copy a pattern and do regular turning without removing the duplicator \$1500.00, original cost approx \$3000.00. 10 inch Craftsman radial arm saw on stand \$125.00. Also some stainless steel carts with casters approx 24 x 36 and 36 high, \$30.00 each. Dick Breckon @719-597-9718 evenings or weekends are best

**For Sale:** Bowl Lathe: Large H.D. no tailstock. Call Dick @ 303/841-1198

## Experiences Of Pool Cue Turning

The author of this article is no longer available: Article downloaded from Woodturning On The Web.com

I'll give you my experience turning a pool cue in two parts (due to time) starting with the shaft. My source of supply is Atlas Billiard Supplies (800-283-7845). They will have everything you'll need although on some items there is a minimum order. One last thing about Atlas is that they are featuring high quality hard maple blanks for \$16.50 per blank.

The first thing I did was to rough out some hard maple blanks to 1" in diameter then set them aside to dry. I mounted the dried blank on the lathe -- I use a Stronghold chuck with a spur attachment. I think turning the shaft is the most difficult part of the project. At one point I used to turn a lot of pens and smaller objects that required fine tool control and that experience helped in this project. The next step is to true the shaft -- at this point the lathe is running around 1500 rpm's and I jump it up to 2000 during the finishing process.

You must use a steady rest when turning the shaft. I position the steady about 1 foot from the tail stock -- with the shaft running in my left hand (wear a glove) I true a 1" section. Stop the lathe and position the steady on the section just turned. Go back to the tailstock and work towards the steady rest turning the shaft. I have found that the skew is the best tool to use -- use the short point in a "peeling" cut. Remember the more tool surface that contacts the wood results in more vibration.

Next step is to square both ends of the shaft. I remove the spur attachment and reverse the blank and remount it in the chuck and bring the tailstock into position. The reason for reversing it is that you can true the shoulder on the tailstock end easier than the headstock -- remember the shoulder should be angled 1-3 degrees in, so the outside of the blank rests in the back of the chuck. The shaft should be running true at this point.

## Experiences Of Pool Cue Turning (cont)

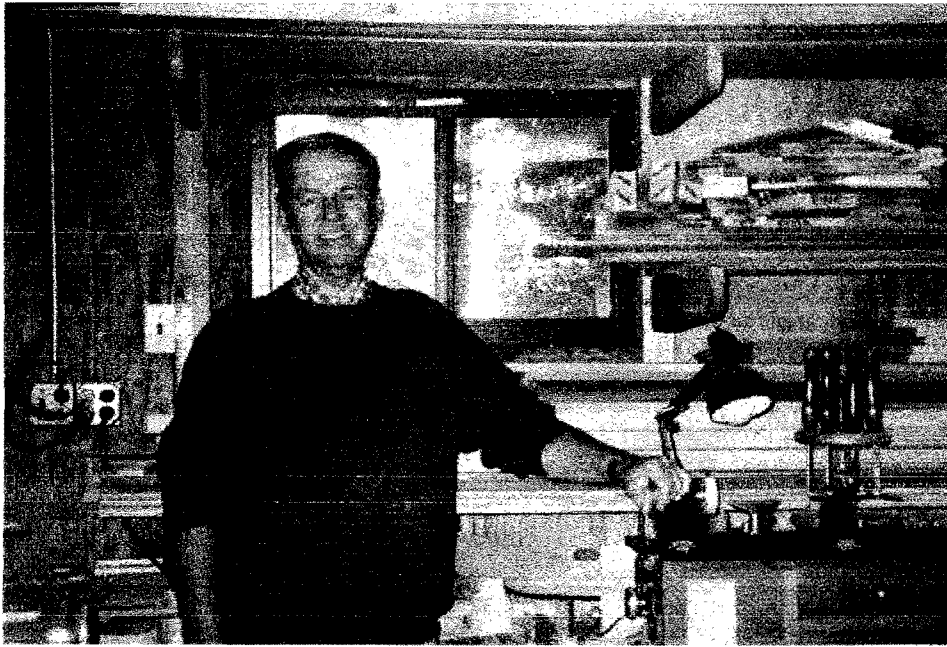
Position the steady rest at the tailstock end to hold the shaft firmly in place. Remove the live center and place the drill chuck in the tailstock with a .360 bit. Great care must be taken to ensure the hole is drilled on center -- the drill depth is about 1 1/4". Next mount a 7/16-14 tap in the drill chuck and tap the hole to receive the brass insert. Thread a 5/16-18 x 1/2 bolt in the insert -- now apply some glue to the threaded hole and use the bolt to thread the insert in place then back the bolt out. Thread 5/16-18 pin into the insert and reverse the shaft placing the pin in your chuck --- hopefully the shaft will be close to running true at this point. I start at the tailstock end turning the first 9" of the shaft the same diameter and working to the headstock which has a final diameter of 7/8" (remember to use the steady rest). At the headstock end I placed (2) 7/8-5/8 i.d. black plastic rings with a silver ring in the middle. Only apply finish to the first 4" of the shaft and use a piece of leather to polish the shaft. Now place the ferrule on the tip of the shaft. The ferrule I used was oversized so I could turn the ferrule to the same diameter as the end of the shaft. Finally I glued the tip in place with hot stuff and positioned the steady rest so it holding the ferrule. Reduce the lathe speed to 500 - 600 rpm's and true the tip and ferrule. You should be able to run your hand over the end of the shaft and not feel any edges. The final length of the shaft should be 29". Bingo the shaft is complete!

In turning the handle there is a degree of creativity involved. I laminated lacewood and walnut, which turned out nice. The only restrictions at this point is that the length should be 29 inches, and the combined weight of the shaft and handle should range between 18 - 22 oz. I started with 2" stock and roughed it out to around 1 1/4" in diameter. Make sure the shoulder at the tailstock end is square -- then reverse the handle mounting it into a 3-jaw or equivalent chuck. Drill a slightly smaller hole than 5/16 into the handle to about 2" in depth using a drill chuck mounted in the tailstock. Apply "hot stuff" glue in the hole -- with the 5/16 pin in the drill chuck press the pin into position.

Using this method I was able to obtain perfect alignment, but when tapping the hole I was always off. After the glue is dry reverse the handle and place the pin in the driving chuck. As soon as you turn on the lathe you'll know if the previous step was done correctly! Take a cut along the entire handle to bring it into round. The next step is to add the stainless steel joint collar. Prior to this step I drilled out the threads on the collar to 5/8 id. I also placed a 7/8 od x 5/8 id x 1/2 black butt material between the collar and the wood. After the end of the handle is turned to 5/8 od place the collar in your chuck, apply glue and press the collar and ring into position.  
(continued on page 7)

## FEBRUARY'S MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Dick Branecki



I have lived in Colorado for over 50 years. I have been interested in some form of woodworking most of my life. I find the most enjoyment from carving and turning.

I have a degree in criminology and spent 25 years in Law Enforcement. I worked my way up through the ranks at the Denver Sheriffs Department until I became Chief. About 12 years ago they proposed an early retirement program and I eagerly took advantage of the offer. I also served as a municipal judge for 11 years, which allowed me to see another aspect of the criminal justice system.

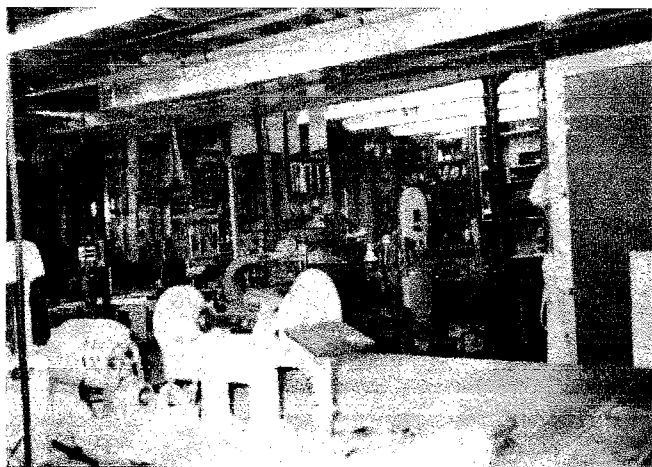
Since my retirement, my wife, who is my best friend, and I have traveled extensively. We have a motor home and visited all 50 states, and 6 Canadian provinces. We especially enjoy taking cruises' which we plan to do again in the spring. For over 20 years we have gone to Canada every summer, to spend time at our cabin. We canoe, fish and backpack throughout the Canadian wilderness. One of our favorite trips was up the inside passage to Alaska. It took us 27 days to travel through the Yukon and the Alaskan interior.

When we are home we spend quite a bit of time at our mountain house at Red Feather Lakes, Colorado. My wife and I just finished building it last summer. We also built the house we live in, which is a log home, and we built a log cabin in Northern Saskatchewan. For the last 8 years I have worked as a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and have worked on 26 houses for them.

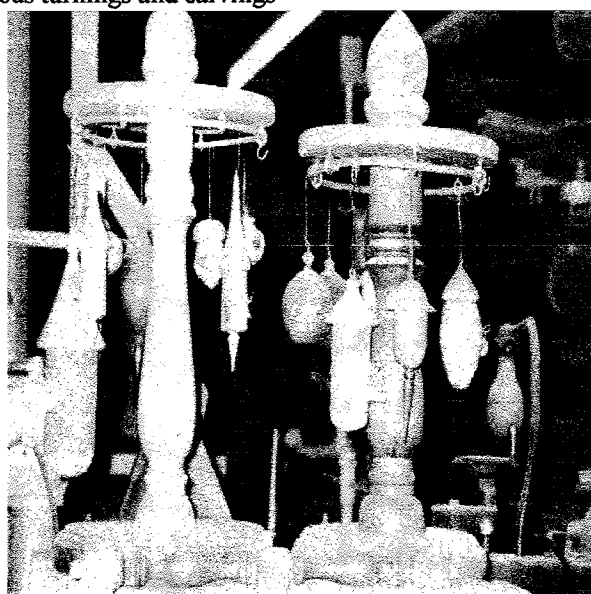
When I retired I wanted to do things that I never had time to do. One of which was to take some classes on carving and turning. I met Nora Hall, who is one of best classical woodcarvers in the United States and became one of her students. I studied with Nora, once a week for almost 2 years. Then I wanted to learn more about the lathe. I took a class at C.S.U. when Lee Carter was still teaching there. I enjoyed turning every bit as much as carving, and found a lot of similarities with regard to how you approach the wood with the tools. Sharpening is just as important in both cases. Some of the other students in my class were Trent Bosch, Dick Anderson, Jim Ferry and Bruce St. Peter. Doc Thode and Dave Nittman would visit our class often and help us with our projects. Lee's enthusiasm for turning was contagious and with Doc and Dave's help we were soon turning some really mediocre stuff. Some of us were members of the Front Range Woodturners Club and thought it would be a good idea to have a turning club in northern Colorado. Lee, Trent and David did most of the work and got our turning club going. The class we took was in the summer of 1993 and our club was started in 1994. In the summer of 1994, with the help of our friends from the Front Range Woodturners we hosted the AAW annual symposium at C.S.U. After paying all the expenses we were able to donate \$26,000 to C.S.U. for an Industrial Arts scholarship.

We have been fortunate to have some of the best turners in the world visit our club and give demonstrations. David Ellsworth, Bonnie Klein, Max Krimmel, Ron Kent, Kip Christensen, Melvyn Firmager, Johannes Michelson, Dick Sing, Dale Nish, Chris Stott and many, many others. I have been inspired by the demonstrations given by our own club members. David Nittman, Trent Bosch, Doug Schneider, Lee Carter, Doc Thode, Pete Holtus, Dave Kahne, Jerry Smith and so many others who have come forward over the years to share their ideas and techniques.

A couple views of Dick's fantastic workshop



A peek at some of Dick's fabulous turnings and carvings



## Experiences Of Pool Cue Turning (cont)

Now you should be home free. Finish turning the handle to the desired taper. Many of the good cues have ivory butt material at the base of the cue. I have used contrasting wood because the ivory material runs around \$40.00 per foot. I used gun stock finish on the handle, which looks good -- you need to build-up coats. Finally add a rubber stop on the end and now your cue is complete.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Nancy Quick-Brewer

The officers of the club voted at the last meeting to keep our yearly club membership dues at the current amount of \$20.00. Student yearly dues will remain at \$12.00.

For those of you who wish, you may fill out the following form and mail it to me at the following address:

**Rocky Mountain Woodturners**

**P. O. Box 39**

**Lucerne, CO 80646-0039**

**Please make your check or money order out to: Rocky Mountain Woodturners.**

### Rocky Mountain Woodturners Membership Information Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

AAW Member: Yes ☐ No ☐ Willing to do club demonstrations? Yes ☐ No ☐

Age (optional): 12-20 ☐ 21-30 ☐ 31-40 ☐ 41-50 ☐ 51-60 ☐ Over 60 ☐

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary's Use Below Line

Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check: ☐ ☐ Cash: ☐ Member No: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: ☐ Regular: ☐ Honorary: ☐ Complimentary: ☐ ☐ Mail List: ☐

---

**Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning**

---

January 22 & 23	Turning Talc & Alabaster	\$130.00
February 6, 7, & 8	Intermediate Woodturning	\$185.00
February 13, 14, & 15	Ring, Stave and Segmented Bowls	\$185.00
February 20, 21, & 22	Basic Woodturning	\$185.00
March 13, 14, & 15	Pens, Pencils, Clocks & Pepper Mills	\$185.00
March 20, 21, & 22	Advanced Woodturning	\$185.00
March 27, 28, & 29	Spiral Turnings-Candleholders Goblets, Vases & Bowls	\$185.00

- \* Detailed course outlines and handouts are provided for each class.
- \* Special tutored woodturning classes can be arranged on an individual bases
- \* Contact Lee Carter for further information regarding woodturning classes, commissioned turnings, or scheduling club/workshop and or seminar demonstrations.
- \* Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning reserves the right to cancel any class if registration does not exceed two students.

Please complete the following registration form for one or more classes you wish to attend and return to:

Attn: Lee Carter  
Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning  
4635 Kiva Drive  
LaPorte, Co 80535

**Winter 2001 Woodturning Class Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Woodturning Class or Classes \_\_\_\_\_  
Method of payment \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_ Cash

NOTE: Please make all checks out to Lee Carter - Thanks!

If you have any questions please give me a call anytime 970/221-4382 or send and Email to  
LLJTC4X4149#xs.com



## TOP WARS

Wayne Van Every

I was out at the Cracker Barrel located in the outlet mall on I-25 and SR-34 recently and sitting on the counter were a pile of maple tops. I couldn't resist in buying one simply for the directions on how to play with one of these simple wooden toys. Being a post WWII baby, most all the toys I remember as a kid were plastic, so never learned how to throw a top. My uncle talked about when he was a kid playing tops with his buddies. They played tops like marbles, in which a circle was drawn with chalk on a patch of concrete. The object of the game was to try and knock someone else's top out of the circle, if successful you got to keep the top you blasted out of the ring. Hopefully, at the next Christmas party we'll get to see some string powered tops, if you have forgotten how or never learned maybe these directions will help.

<p><b>The Official BC SPIN TOP Instruction Manual</b></p>  <p>The BC Spin Top consists of the top with it's nylon no-mar tip, string, &amp; button. For optimum performance, string length should be from the top of your shoulder to the floor. Measure and cut your string to the correct length before assembling to the button. Assemble the string and button by feeding the string through the hole in the button and finish by knotting both ends.</p>  <p><b>Ages 8 &amp; up</b></p> <p>Please retain these instructions for future reference.</p>		
<p><b>Winding the Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pinching one end of the string against the top as shown, loop the free end of the string around the neck of the top, pulling the string over and above the knot forming a "V".</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keeping the string pulled tight against the knot, pull the string down and around the tip of the top.</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to wind the string tightly around the base of the top, winding away from yourself.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Holding the Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold the button and string by placing it on the back of your throwing hand with the string between your third and fourth fingers.</li> <li>Hold the top such that it is vertical and the tip is pointing up.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Spinning the Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holding the top straight up and down with the tip up, throw the top across your body while aiming at a spot about four feet in front of you.</li> <li>Upon releasing the top, pull back slightly on the string. The top will turn over and land on the tip.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>The Scoop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the top spinning, place your hand palm up on the floor and slide it toward the top allowing the top to enter between your first and second finger.</li> <li>Close your fingers around the top tip, causing the top to spin up onto your hand.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>The Skyrocket</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holding one end of the string in each hand, place the string on the floor between you and the spinning top.</li> <li>Circle the string once around the top.</li> <li>With a quick jerk, propel the top into the air, catching the spinning top in the palm of your hand.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>The Boomerang</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throw the top and pull back sharply on the string just before the top is released, causing the top to return to you in the air.</li> <li>Catch the spinning top in the palm of your hand.</li> </ul> 	<p>You now have the basic knowledge you need to progress into a great spin top player. There is a whole world of amazing tricks that you can learn with your new BC spin top. Ask your BC spin top dealer for other fine products available from BC.</p>  <p><b>Real Wood. Real Good.</b></p> <p><b>WHAT'S NEXT</b>™ MFG., INC. P.O. Box 276 Arcade, NY 14001 © 1999 What's Next mfg., inc.</p>