



Officers and Committees

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Treasurer

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Newsletter

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Club Library

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Program

Trent Bosch 493-6476

Wood Aquisition

Dale Mikkelsen 356-4514

If you are interested in helping with one of the above committees, please contact the name listed

**Deadline for next newsletter
June 1, 1997**

Rocky Mountain Woodturners

APRIL 1997 NEWSLETTER

Coming Attractions

Planned Demonstrations

April 17	Cloisonne Lidded Box	Jim Ferry
May 15	Segmented Turning	Jerry Smith
June 19	?	Soren Berger
July 17	Chain Saw Techniques	Dave Nittmann
August 21	Metal Working	Steve Shaffer
September 18	?	Dale Nish
October 16	Carving Surface Treatment	Dick Branecki
November 20	Small Scale Turnings	Jim Alexander
December 18	Egg Cup Race	Christmas party

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Your information is needed – articles, sketches, notes, tips, humorous anecdotes! Bold ideas to trivial irritations, dreams (and nightmares), personal experiences, bizarre stories, unforgettable characters, favorite woods, fond remembrances, most gratifying success, most monumental disaster, puzzling questions, close calls, lathes you have used - what you like and why, safety hazards, BFI's (Blinding Flashes of Inspiration),....whatever.

This is our newsletter. Each of us has something unique and valuable to contribute. If you don't like to write, call me. I will type as you talk. If you don't have time to do exact drawings, send a pencil sketch (I can find someone to make it pretty.)

MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, April 17, 7pm
Room 105
Industrial Sciences Bldg.
Colorado State University

The Challenge for April is a flower vase. Each

person who turns a challenge item will receive a ticket in a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate at the Wood Emporium. For April only - if you want to be extra creative, you can earn a second ticket for turning a wooden flower to go in your vase.

Bring something for the raffle, and get a free raffle ticket.

Nuts & Bolts



Notes from Previous Meetings

Lee Carter demonstrated various chucking techniques in February and March. In February Trent presented an inexpensive vacuum chuck. Dave also brought a number of tools.

Committee information

Treasurer's Report - As of the February meeting, the checkbook balance was \$927.39.

Club Library - \$200 was allocated to the library at the February meeting. Five new books have been added and two more have been ordered.

A complete list of resources will be published in the next newsletter.

Program - Demonstrations have been scheduled through December 1997. Please keep in mind that some of these presenters are still tentative, and may change.

Wood Exchange - No new report.

Design Group - The first meeting of the design group was a success. The next meeting was tentatively set for April. Call David Nittmann or Trent Bosch for details.

Turning on the Web
by Ray Kowrach



What would a woodturner want with the Information Super Highway. It's for the same reason we subscribe to woodworking magazines. We are searching for information including, how to do things, to view the work and trends of other turners, find sources of tools, supplies and materials. Internet has become a valuable source of general woodworking and woodturning information. The AAW has its own home page

(<http://www.men.org/MenComNet/Business/Retail/Lib/AAW.html>)

where you will find announcements, AAW officers, AAW Local Chapter List, The American Woodturner Index

online, and general AAW membership information. The local list of AAW chapters is useful if you travel. Other AAW local chapters can be identified and contacted so meetings could be attended as a guest. By using the links to other web pages found on the AAW home page, you can look at what other woodturning clubs are all about. A quick count came up with 25 local AAW woodturning clubs. Two of the best are the Cascade Woodturners from Oregon and the Triangle Woodturners of North Carolina. A link is a method of going to another internet address (URL)

simply by clicking your mouse on a line of text or a icon. Then your computer goes directly to the appropriate address. There many are pictures featuring the turnings by local members and information on what the clubs are doing and what is coming in the future. Some

Taking the next Step: How I Used My AAW Grant

By Trent Bosch

When I Applied for the youth outreach AAW educational opportunity grant I had no idea how it would impact my woodturning skills, both technically and aesthetically. Fort this experience I had chosen to attend one of David Ellsworth's three day intensive workshops.

When I arrived at David's house on Thursday night I knew I had come to the right place. Everywhere I looked there were woodturnings and works of art in other media. It was wonderful. Over the three days, David would teach us everything from turning hollow forms to how to keep the dust down in our shops.

The first day we went through how David takes a log straight from the tree and puts it directly on the lathe to make a couple of bowls out of it. David walked us step by step through using several different tools. I was particularly interested in a type of bowl called the Hawaiian calabash. I had previously been having trouble getting a smooth finish with the gouge on the inside of the bowl. With the swept back gouge and David's help, we were able to come up with a technique to get a nice finish. The day was filled with lots of technical information, but David also got me thinking about why I make the shapes that I do.

The next day started out turning hollow forms. I learned lots of useful techniques from how to use David's tools, to finding the wall thickness, to how to determine where the bottom of the vessel is. We discussed how to work with the grain in a piece of wood. He viewed some slides that I brought and gave me critical input on them.

The last day I refined all of the skills that David had gone over in the pervious days. I concentrated on my body position. This was emphasized throughout the course. Since woodturning is the way I am currently making my living, it is very important to me to use my body in a way that uses my energy most effectively. This grant has made it possible for me to attend a hands on workshop which I would not have been able to attend otherwise. This has been the best experience that I have ever had iwoodturning. I would highly recommend David Ellsworth's workshop for anyone looking to take the next step in their woodturning. I would like to thank the AAW for this opportunity.



Turning on the Web.... continued

magazines have established a web page. Recently I did not receive my issue of Woodsmith. I sent a message through their home page and in a few days the replacement issue arrived with a nice note. Woodsmith is at <http://www.woodsmith.com> and the new woodturning newspaper MORE WOODTURNING can be found at <http://services.skagit.com/woodturning..> Some of the suppliers we use are establishing a presence and ordering supplies will be a breeze. For example Liberon who have a huge variety of finishing supplies have the entire catalog on their home page (<http://www.liberon.com>). The Internet is not confined to the United States and I am sure everyone has heard of the world wide web. For example, there is a new site from the New Zealand Woodturners Association. It can be found at

<http://www.whanganui.ac.nz/~kcolewood/woodturn.html>

Another fun place to look is the commercial site
WOODWORKING.com
(<http://www.woodworking.com>.)

It's like a magazine on computer with lots of advertising and links. If you are looking for just chatter check the recreation section in Newsgroups. There is one on woodworking (<http://rec:woodworking>) and a new one devoted to woodturning (<http://rec:crafts.woodturning>). It is like reading letters to the editor with lots of questions, answers and opinions. You can even put in your own questions and answer questions that are posted. One feature of the Internet I use often and is one of the most valuable is the ability to send email, no waiting for the mail man. For those who like to talk there are chat rooms. That is when a number of people on the Internet link together and can communicate in real time. They chat using the key board and everyone connected to the chat session will see everything sent. I understand it is great fun but it's not for me. The number of RMWT members that are on the web is growing and even some woodworkers have personal home pages. Perhaps it's nearing the time when we should consider making our presence known by creating our own home page. Perhaps a joint effort with other clubs creating a Colorado Woodturners Home Page. Give this new technology a chance. Find someone with a computer who is on the Internet or get a few hours access and look around. Computers are not for everyone but the Internet is going to impact us all. Everyone needs to be familiar with it. Have a good time browsing.

Design Group

by David Nittman

The first meeting of the Design Group was snowed on but several people wearing "No Fear" T-shirts embarked upon the pathway to art enlightenment. That evening, we found the pathway immediately offered several choices of direction, all worthy of our investigation. Soooo... we began with an article by Steve Loar "We're not in Kansas anymore", December 1995, American Woodturner. Loar suggests we need more individuals in the woodturning field trained in art. The design group members, while not accredited, attempt to address this training issue through personal observation, reading and discussion.

If woodturning is to become a recognized member of the fine art establishment, Lear further suggests, woodturning will need critique from the art world rather than the biased approach we woodturners have used from the inside. The design group is striving to critique objectively work in progress that each member brings to each meeting.

The group reiterated Loar's demand for involvement: involvement among artists and involvement that a work of art demands from the observer.

We decided to meet again in April on a Saturday afternoon (date to be decided) in hopes of drawing more participants. Next meeting's assignment is a personal definition of art.



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date paid 1996