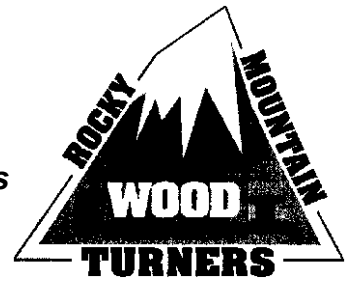




Rocky Mountain Woodturners
A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
May 2011 Newsletter



Contents of Newsletter

- Next RMWT Meeting, Demonstrator
- RMWT Board Meeting
- RMWT Membership Survey
- Wood Bank work session and Shop Tour
- April Demo,
- RMWT information, Member's web sites, sources of woodturning Instruction and discounts.

Next RMWT Meeting

The next meeting of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners will be on May 5, 2011, at the Loveland Woodcraft store. The demonstrator will be Keith Gotschall.



This table is called Desert Fruit.

I plan to do a program on off center turning. Project wise, maybe a lamp or candle stick, maybe just a sample of off-center turning, but will show how to make one of my tables. The table itself is too big to actually finish in a demo, but all the aspects will be there. There is a number of points to cover and I will try to hit all the aspects from wood choice to finishing. I will be bringing a lot of half finished samples to show, and there will even be some painting involved.

Keith

RMWT Activities

Rocky Mountain Woodturners Board Meeting

Reported by John Giem, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM, on Monday April 11, 2011 at the Wild Boar Coffee House in Fort Collins, CO. Present were Pete Herman, Drew Nichols, Frank Amigo and John Giem.

- The main order of business was to complete the 2011 budget for the RMWT. A note from David Nittmann indicated that \$2300 was needed for the next seven demonstrations. Our records indicate that \$600 has been spent on demonstrations so far this year.

RMWT Budget for 2011

Demonstrations	\$3200
Education Opportunity Grants	\$5600
Library	\$ 600
Wood Bank	\$ 600
AAW Membership fees (officers)	\$ 200
AAW Symposium Registration	
(President)	\$ 250
Trailer registration	\$ 50
Office Supplies	\$ 50
Audio Visual equipment upgrade	\$2500

Total	\$13050

It is expected that there will be a separate contribution to the AV upgrade project from the Symposium Committee, amount unknown at this time.

- The draft of the revised By-Laws was reviewed. Several suggestions were made for clarification. The draft and suggestions were referred back to the Committee.
- There was a short discussion about the AV camera boom the AV Committee tried out at the last meeting. The Board requests an update from the Committee regarding their evaluation of the camera boom, progress and plans.
- **Carving Class**, Frank Amigo announced that Dixie Biggs will teach a carving class at Frank and Elizabeth Amigo's north of Fort Collins the week after the Symposium, September 12 through 16. The class will be for all levels of experience and will cost \$450 per student for the five days and will include a light

lunch each day. The recommendations for tools, equipment and supplies will be posted on the RMWT web site, www.rmwt.org.

- The Board is investigating a suggestion that the logo for the RMWT may be due a revision or update. Any comments, suggestions or sketches from the RMWT Membership is welcome and may be given to any of the Board members.
- A vendor of wood burls from Northern Minnesota is planning on attending the Wood Bank Work Session and Open Shop on April 23. See the report on the work session for more details.
- There was a discussion about the apparent lack of awareness of the surrounding community regarding the woodturning artists and their art that is available and is being created in our area. There is a perceived need for the RMWT and the Symposium to have a person(s) to work with the local art galleries, clubs, media, etc. to promote woodturning. This would include the Symposium and RMWT activities. Anyone interested in helping with this should contact Pete Herman or any Board member.
- John Giem will be contacting the Midtown Art Center in Fort Collins to explore the possibility of our having a rotating display of Wood Turning Art in their facility.

RMWT Membership Survey

A great thank you to those who turned in the Membership Surveys at the last meeting. The surveys contained a lot of good information. I am including another copy of the survey this month so that the rest of you can give us your feedback also. Your thoughts and ideas are important to the Board and are greatly appreciated.

Wood Bank Work Session and Open Shop

Reported by John Giem
Photos: Monty Weymouth and
John Giem

On Saturday, April 23, 2011, a Wood Bank work session and Open Shop were held at the wood lot located at John Giem's. Despite the light snow early in the day, there was a good turnout of over 20 people. We separated out the 'gone bad' wood and put into the firewood pile, cleaned up and reorganized the wood lot. Most attendees took home a lot of wood for turning and others stocked up on firewood.

We had a vendor come in from Northern Minnesota with a truck load of wood burls, mostly black ash along with several others. Those present found some really good bargains. RMWT Board made the decision to purchase what was left.

So, there is a fairly large pile of burl at the Wood Bank for those RMWT members that wish to make a purchase. Contact John Giem for details. The burls are medium to large

in size, in good condition and are priced at about \$1.50 per pound. If they are not purchased as is, we may decide to cut them up into smaller pieces to sell to the membership.

At noon, we took a break and enjoyed sodas, chips and eats off of the grill. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in and around John's shop discussing wood, woodturning, equipment and methods.

Inventory – The Wood Bank now has a good supply of burls as described above, large pieces of Russian olive, large poplar, cotton wood, elm and several others. Remember the wood (other than the burl) is free to RMWT members. Come and choose the wood to fit your project. Also, the club has end grain sealer at \$9.00 per gallon.

For more information contact John Giem, jgiem@comcast.net, 970 223-0844 – home, 970 227-6618 mobile.



Before



After



Demoing crotch cutting



Interesting conversations



Working hard!



Hardly working, lunch time



Burls anyone?

Sharpening Demonstration

Presentation by Katherine Kowalski
Reported by John Giem

On April 7, 2011, Katherine Kowalski presented a demonstration on the sharpening and usage of lathe turning tools to the Rocky Mountain Woodturners.



- Her grinder is setup with a 120 grit diamond impregnated wheel on the left side and a Norton 3X 46 grit wheel on the right.
- The coarse wheel is used to quickly grind the tool into the correct shape.
- The fine wheel is used to sharpen the tool to achieve a sharp useable cutting edge after it has been properly shaped, also for touching up the cutting edge during the turning process.
- She uses the Wolverine Vari-Grind system for sharpening bowl gouges with swept back wings. The system is adjusted for a 40 degree bevel angle. Holding the gouge horizontally, the bevel angle is measured from the bottom of the flute rotating downward to the bevel.
- The shape of the bowl gouge wing should be slightly convex, never concave.
- It is important to frequently lightly dress the grinding wheel, not the diamond wheel, with a diamond dressing tool to remove imbedded metal and expose new sharp grit. Otherwise, the wheel will generate excessive heating of your tool.
- The diamond wheel is cleaned using a block of rubber sanding belt cleaner.
- The heel of the bevel on the bowl gouge is ground off free hand. This reduces risk of the cutting edge being lifted up and causing ridges when turning the inside of a bowl.
- For tools other than the bowl gouges, she sharpens them free hand using tool rests set at the correct angle to the grinding wheel.
- Several flat tool rests are used each set to a specific angle. The tool rests are swapped out depending on the angle need for the current tool.
- Masking tape is placed on the tool rest and the sharpening angles are marked on the tape for guidance.

- For some shorter tools, it was necessary to grind off the corner of the tool rest to provide clearance for the handle as the tool is swept around.
- A notch was ground into the tool rest so that some support at the side of the wheel is available for some applications.
- She uses a set of shop built wooden gauges to set the angle of the tool rest. The gauges have a mark on them to indicate where the tool edge will contact the wheel. The tool rest is adjusted so that gauge is tangent to the wheel at the position of the mark.



- As part of the demo, she mounted a blank and cut a dovetail recess in it for mounting on a chuck. The outside bottom was then cut down leaving a rim around the recess. This raised rim forms a base for the bowl. By leaving the rim height at 1/2 the depth of the recess, the recess retains enough strength that the risk of the expanding chuck breaking the bowl is greatly reduced.
- The demonstrated draw cut will rapidly remove the wood but does not leave a smooth finish cut.
- A conventional grind bowl gouge was sharpened free hand on the diamond wheel. Both the center bevel and the wings were ground at 40 degrees. It was used to make a fine finish cut on the outside of the bowl.
- When hollowing out the inside of the bowl, a parting tool was used cut a groove at the rim to aid the entry cut of the bowl gouge helping to avoid skating and damaging the rim.
- The bottom of the bowl was cut using a bowl gouge shaped straight across with a 60 degree bevel in the center and both sides.
- A negative rake scrapper uses a 10 to 15 degree bevel ground free hand on the top surface. The bottom surface is then ground at 60 degrees using a tool rest. The included angle between the top and bottom bevels should be between 40 and 60 degrees.
- The negative rake depends upon the burr created during grinding to do the cutting. The burr typically lasts for a short time in usage, 30 seconds or so.
- Negative rake scrapers work well on hardwoods but tends to tear out fibers in softer woods.

- Use a scrapper with a straight edge for smoothing a convex surface (outside of a bowl).
- Use a curved edge scrapper to smooth the concave inner surface of a bowl. The radius of curvature of the scrapper should be less than (tighter) than the surface being worked.
- When using a skew, a convex bevel grind will catch less than one ground with a concave bevel.
- Set the tool rest higher and make the cuts leading with the short point of the skew.
- To sharpen a parting tool, use a black marker to blacken the bevel. This enhances your ability to better see where the grinding takes place while sharpening freehand.

RMWT Meetings and information

The Rocky Mountain Woodturners meet at Woodcraft of Loveland, located at 3718 Draft Horse Drive, Loveland , Colorado. We meet on the first Thursday after the first Tuesday each month.

President: Pete Herman
(970) 663-1951 home
(585) 259-9486 mobile
Peter_Herman@comcast.net

Vice President: Drew Nichols
Shop Tours
(970) 566-4662 home
(970) 224-4850 mobile
dcnichols2004@msn.com

Treasurer: Frank Amigo
efamigo@msn.com

Secretary & Newsletter: John Giem
970 223-0844 home
970 227-6618 mobile
jgiem@comcast.net

Wood Bank
Chairman: John Giem
(see above)

Jerry Sherman
(970) 631-2984 mobile
(970) 484-2619 home

RMWT Program Director
David Nittmann
303 579-6744
david@davidnittmann.com

RMWT Webmaster: Hoyle Curtis
Hoyle.curtis@gmail.com

RMWT Symposium
General Coordinator: Allen Jensen
970 663-1868 work
970 776-6452 mobile

Vendor Coordinator: Mide Davis
Mikeldaviasllc@msn.com,

Program Coordinator: Trent Bosch
trent@trentbosch.com

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

10% Guild discount
Wood Emporium
618 N Garfield Ave Loveland,

Sears Trostel
1500 Riverside Ave
Ft. Collins, CO 80524

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

Woodcraft
3718 Draft Horse Drive
Loveland, CO 80538
970-292-5940
Discounts on day of Club Meeting.

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
John Giem, Editor.

Learn From the Best...

Our Club, RMWT, is known around the nation because we have some of the best turners, nationally 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

Lee Carter operates the **Rocky Mountain School of Woodturning** 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. e-mail 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 is www.curttheobald.com

John Giem, Woodturner

Individual or small group woodworking instruction customized 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 phone

(970)227-6618, cell phone

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

Email:

katherine@daystarhandworks.com

Cell Phone: 307 220-0130

Web site: 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