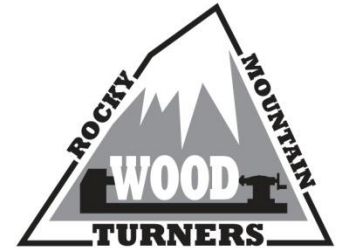




**Rocky Mountain Woodturners**  
*A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*



***November 2012 Newsletter***

**Contents of Newsletter**

- Next RMWT Meetings, Demonstrators
- October 2012 Board Meeting
- RMWT Activities
- RMWT information, Member's web sites, sources of woodturning instruction and discounts.

**Next RMWT Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be on November 15, 2012, at the Loveland Woodcraft store starting at 6:30.

Thursday, November 15 **Mike Mahoney**

Will turn a simple project and show some slides about his work.

Friday, November 16, **Mike Mahoney**, all day demonstration, \$20 for each attendee (a bargain). No prepayment or reservation required, just be there.

He will demonstrate coring with the McNaughton Center Saver, Hollow forms with threaded lids, salad bowls, platters, jam chucks, harvesting wood, finishes, utilitarian items and calabash bowls. The demo will start at 9:00AM with an hour lunch break and will be over around 4:00 or 4:30 PM.

**Note: The two following workshops have been filled. Contact David Nittmann for possible last minute openings/cancelations.**

The two following hands-on workshops by **Mike Mahoney** will be held at the Trent Bosch Studios north of Fort Collins. The cost for each is \$175 with a \$50 non-refundable deposit. The workshops are limited to 7 Turners. To register for either of these workshops contact David Nittmann at [david@davidnittmann.com](mailto:david@davidnittmann.com). These workshops are expected to fill up fast. ASAP will be too slow so if you are interested do it NOW!

Saturday November 17 -- Calabash bowls and Coring

Sunday, November 18 -- Hollow forms with threaded lid

December 6 - Christmas Party TBD

## RMWT Board Meeting

On October 8, 2012, the RMWT Board Meeting was held at the Wild Boar coffee house. Those present were Drew Nichols, Pete Herman, Jerry Sherman, Frank Amigo and John Giem

- Pete will order Wood Sealer for the Wood Bank.
- The new RMWT By-Laws are 90% complete, the missing items are mostly the write-ups on the subcommittees. Elizabeth Amigo will send a current copy of the By-Laws to John Giem to be sent to the Membership via email.
- The plan is to vote on the approval of the By-Laws at the regular November meeting.
- Once the revised By-Laws are approved, the we can proceed on obtaining the Federal approval as a 501 (3) c non-profit organization. This recognition will help RMWT qualify for grants from various organizations.
- The Christmas Party is to be held on December 6, 2012, our regular meeting night. Frank Amigo and David Nittmann will work together to identify a location for the party. The food arrangements have not been determined. The Board will explore the various options.
- The present Board members; Pete Herman – President, Drew Nichols – Vice President and Frank Amigo – Treasurer have expressed a desire to fulfill a third term so that the By-Laws and Non-Profit qualification can be completed. John Giem – Secretary & Newsletter has notified the Board that he does not want to serve on the board next year. This will free up some of his time so that he can work with the Symposium Committee to document the processes involved in holding the Rocky Mountain Woodturners Symposium each September.
- The current By-Laws place a limitation of two consecutive terms for each of the Board positions. This presents a potential problem with the desire of the current Board members to serve a third term. There are two potential solutions to this dilemma, one is to approve the new By-Laws which do allow three consecutive terms, the other is to pass a onetime motion to allow the current Board Members to serve a third consecutive term.

## 2012 Third Quarter RMWT Financials, June through September 2012 – Frank Amigo

Credits		Debits	
360.00	Dues	700.00	Demos
400.00	Deposit Mahoney class	255.00	Storage fees
175.47	Raffles	219.81	Library
		50.00	Vendor space at Mountain fest
		17.27	Audio visual
		9.00	Coffee
<hr/> 935.47 total credits		<hr/> 1251.08 total debit	
2107.42 checking balance 6/30/12			
<hr/> 3042.89			
- 1251.08 debits			
<hr/> 1791.81 checking balance 9/30/12			
4519.34 savings balance 9/30/12			

### Wood Bank

There has been a lot of activity recently in the wood lot of the Wood Bank. Most of the over seasoned wood has been cut up and split into firewood. Lee Carter discovered a large cache of good turning wood. Jerry Sherman organized the moving of the wood from a mountain location down to the wood lot. He was assisted by Lee Carter, John Giem, Monty Weymouth, Harry Farmer and Ron Thompson.

Our wood inventory includes a large amount of Maple, with smaller amounts of locust, elm and walnut. There is a limited amount of sweetgum still available.

Our supply of wood sealer has been depleted. Another barrel of wood sealer is on order. A notice will be sent out when we have more wood sealer.



### More Wood

I'm Mike Meyer and I hosted Northwest figured woods vendor for the symposium. They left tons of wood mainly figured maple in blanks, rounds and spindles; lots of burl, curly, splated maple, but some ambrosia maple rounds and walnut and holly. They will extend 15% off to all the club members, so if anyone is interested in coming and looking at the wood (I have over 200 pieces) they can call me at 970-420-5409

### David Nittmann on split turnings

October 4, 2012

Just before the scheduled demonstration, David Nittmann shared with us the techniques he used to make some split turnings for one of his customers. The blanks used were built up by gluing together blocks of popular. The each piece to be delivered is to be one half of the turned piece. This would be similar to putting the turned piece on a bandsaw and cutting it in half along the axis of rotation.

David used a more elegant solution. The glued up blanks were designed to have a glue joint positioned exactly down the center line of the turning. For this joint, David included a piece of brown craft paper, like a paper grocery bag. The paper must be thoroughly coated on both sides with Tite Bond glue as well as the wood faces. The block was clamped and allowed to dry. The block must be mounted on the



lathe so that the paper glue joint is precisely aligned to the axis of rotation. To accomplish this David mounted the turning blank on a faceplate keeping the glue joint centered. When the faceplate was mounted on the lathe, the glue joint toward the tailstock, was slightly off center. He corrected this misalignment by loosening the screws in the faceplate and inserting shims between the faceplate and the wood to center the glue joint.

After the piece was shaped, it was removed from the faceplate, placed on a solid surface and split along the paper glue joint using a hammer and chisel.

### **RMWT Demonstration**

October 4, 2012

Reported by John Giem

Stuart Batty demonstrated techniques he uses to turn pommels and then how to turn a bowl off center on a square base. He was up to his usual high standards for presentations giving us much useful information throughout the evening. This writer found it challenging to capture the wealth of information and techniques.

- Stuart does not use jig or fixture to position his gouges during sharpening. They do not provide the consistent angles for the cutting edges he desires. He sharpens his tools freehand on the grinder using just a tool rest.
- He uses a 40-40 grind on his bowl gouge. 40 degrees on the nose and 40 degrees on the flute. The flutes are sharpened with a straight edge, not curved.
- When cutting the shoulder of the pommel, he showed us several of his techniques to make clean cuts.
  - o His hand is not touching the tool rest.
  - o If you start the cut while touching the solid, there is a high risk of skating. He lines up his tool and starts moving the tool in the correct trajectory before it touches the wood.
  - o Keep the gouge perpendicular to the wood.
  - o The nose of the gouge slices the wood and the wings peel it away.
  - o When cutting areas where the wood is intermittent (the corners of a pommel, voids, roughing) he floats the tool instead of rubbing the bevel. If one tries to rub the bevel in the presence of voids or rough wood, it will tend to drop into those voids and bounce all over the place making for an unpleasant experience.





- He uses one of three different stances depending upon the cuts being made, left forward, right forward and feet parallel to the lathe.
- He uses his body to help with the control of his tool. When making flat or straight cuts, the handle is held against his body. For curved cuts the needed movement of the handle does not allow it to be held against the body.
- Roughing gouges are always sharpened with the edge straight across perpendicular to the long axis of the tool. The corners are kept square. This allows more flexibility in its usage, cutting up to a detail, cutting tenons using a peeling cut, etc.



- When his demo piece was passed around, the cuts Stuart made were crisp and smooth. Depending upon the application, the turned item could be utilized without the need for any sanding.

The second item turned during the demo was a square bowl, a square piece of wood was turned such that a small bowl was created in an off center position. There were two challenges in this project, the intermittent wood due to the square corners and the potential for high vibration due to the offset of the blank.

- Before mounting the square blank, he drew a circle off near one corner to mark the position where

the bowl would be.

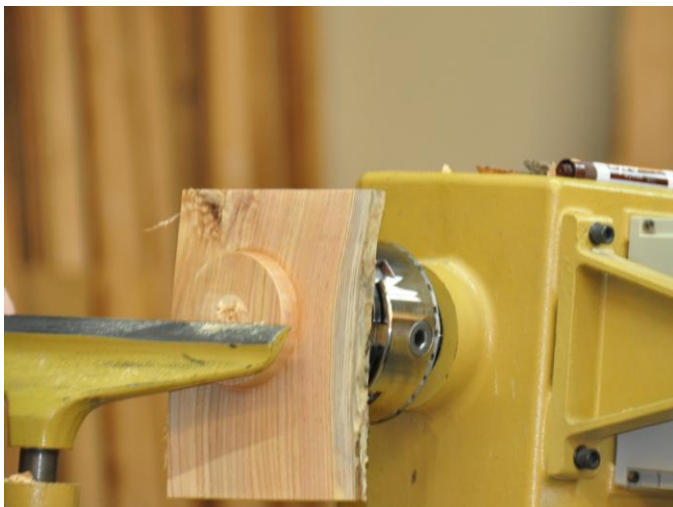
- He uses a two prong spur center; it imbeds itself giving a better bite.
- The square blank was mounted between centers roughly at the center of the blank to minimize the unbalance vibration.
- The initial turning is intended to get rid of unneeded mass to minimize the effects of unbalance later.
- While mounted at the center of the blank, the thickness of the blank was reduced by cutting straight in from the sides. Since the wood grain is perpendicular to the axis of





the shape of the end of a football.

- The blank will be mounted on a scroll chuck using long nose jaws. This allows Stuart to cut the tenon for gripping with the chuck an inch or so up from the bottom of the bowl. Since he is using long nose jaws, the long protrusion past the tenon will not bottom out when mounted. He likes to use this type of tenon because it is inherently stronger and is much less likely to tear out of the jaws.
- He made frequent usage of a scraper to get the final shape and finish on the square wings around the bowl.
- The scraper he used had a relatively straight edge that was slanted like a skew chisel. A 20 degree grind was used on both sides. This is a negative



rotation, the cutting avoids end grain cuts. The thinning cuts stay outside of the marked area of the bowl.

- After one side was thinned, the blank was reversed using the same mounting locations and that side was also thinned down. Again, he avoided cutting into the area where the bowl will be.
- Next, he shifts the mounting point 1" toward the center of the intended bowl and thins it down again staying outside of the bowl. This step and repeat process was continued until the square was thinned down to the edge of the bowl.
- The part of the blank that will be the bottom of the bowl was cut into a rounded taper similar to



rake scraper. In usage, the scraper was held horizontal while cutting. This skew/scraper allows access into area that the bowl gouge can not reach.

- Without a good burr on the edge, it will not give a good cut. It is necessary to return to the grinder often to renew the burr.
- A negative edge scraper does not feed into the wood like a regular grind would.
- Unlike a gouge, the negative edge scraper can be moved left to right or right to left.

- A gouge with a 40 degree bevel was used to hollow out the bowl. A 50 degree gouge was used for the inside bottom of the bowl.



- He carefully made a jam chuck to hold the bowl while the bottom was shaped using a gouge and was finished up with a scraper.
- Starting with the square block of wood, he completed turning the square bowl in approximately 30 minutes.
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## RMWT Contact Information

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Treasurer: Frank Amigo  
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Secretary & Newsletter: John Giem  
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Wood Bank  
John Giem, Chairman and Wood Lot Manager  
(see above)

Vince Wilson, Scout & Liaison with Tree  
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Jerry Sherman, Collection  
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RMWT Webmaster: Hoyle Curtis

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## RMWT Symposium

General Coordinator: Allen Jensen  
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970 776-6452 mobile

Coordinator: Dale Bonertz  
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[dbonertz@comcast.net](mailto:dbonertz@comcast.net)

Vendor Coordinator: Cindy Drozda  
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Program Coordinator: Trent Bosch  
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Registration Coordinator: John Giem  
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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

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  
Phone: (970) 292-5940  
Fax: (970) 292-5939



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 John Giem, Editor.

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#### Learn From the Best...

Our Club, RMWT, is well 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](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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**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](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 is [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 phone

(970)227-6618, cell phone

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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 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](mailto:katherine@daystarhandworks.com)

Cell Phone: 307 220-0130

Web site: [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)