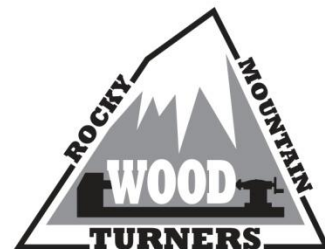




**Rocky Mountain Woodturners
A Chapter of the American
Association of Woodturners**



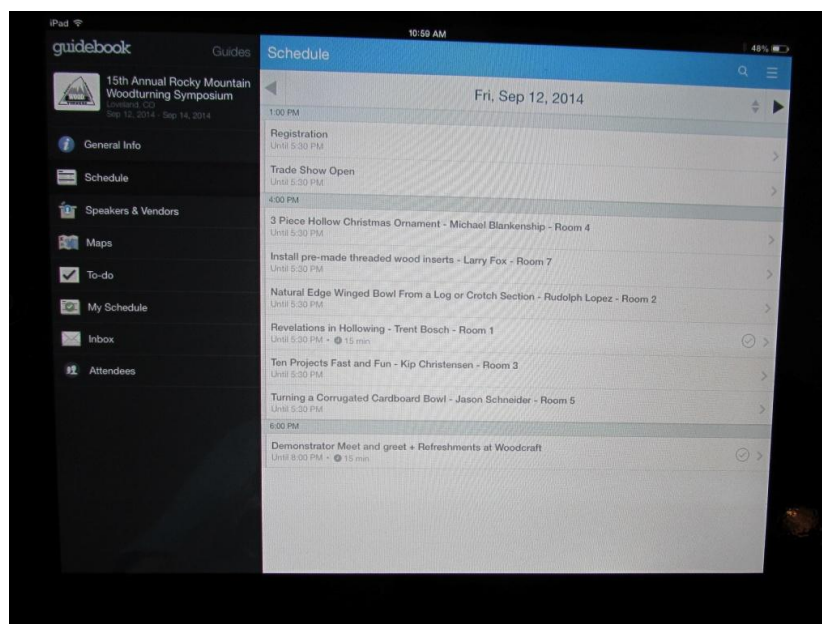
***Symposium Edition Newsletter
October 7, 2014***

Record Attendance at RMWT Symposium!

A record 185 attendees were present for the 15th annual **RMWT Symposium** at The Ranch in Loveland, CO, the weekend of September 12th, 13th and 14th. Attendees traveled from 22 different states, including those from as far away as Alaska, Washington, Illinois and Georgia. Thanks to all club members and everyone from around the country for attending and making this year's symposium such a success.

In addition, six attendees asked to be contacted with an interest in becoming a member of a local AAW Chapter.

New Guidebook "App" for Attendees:



Thanks to Camille Wall, a Guidebook App of the 15th Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium was made available to all attendees for their smart phone or tablet devices. Everything about the symposium was included with the app and made it easy to schedule which demonstration rotations you wanted to attend, create a To Do list, check the map for location and parking, review demonstrators and vendors and link to demonstrator or vendor websites. Camille also produced the Guidebook App for the AAW Symposium in Phoenix.

Thanks again, Camille for a very useful and easy to use app!

Meet and Greet at Woodcraft:



Following the Friday afternoon registration, trade show and the first round of demonstration rotations, most attended the demonstrator "Meet and Greet" held at Woodcraft Loveland from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.



Linda Swing



Wayne Lousteau

Thanks to Linda for preparing and serving the food and drinks and to Wayne for providing most of the food and drinks and of course, the space for the Meet and Greet. Wayne also donated the lathe that was given away at the drawing on Sunday.

Opening Ceremony:



Trent Bosch welcomed the demonstrators and everyone to the symposium at the Opening Ceremony and introduced Dale Larson, President of the AAW.



Dale Larson, current President of the AAW, traveled from Gresham, Oregon to attend and provide opening remarks at the RMWT Symposium. In his speech, Dale noted the "huge Colorado influence on the AAW" by

members of the FRWT and the RMWT Chapters. He noted that David Ellsworth and Tom Wirsing, both demonstrators at this year's symposium, were past presidents and board members of the AAW, with David being the first AAW President and with Tom still serving on the AAW Board of Advisors.

Dale recognized the other AAW former Board members from these Colorado Chapters were Lee Carter and Frank Amigo and also noted that Trent Bosch was a past Chairman of the Professional Outreach Program (POP) Committee and that both Trent and Curt Theobald are current members of the POP Committee.

Elizabeth Amigo was also recognized by Dale for being a proofreader of the American Woodturner Journal of the AAW.

Dale also emphasized the many benefits of AAW membership and informed the audience of the long range planning of the AAW to provide more online educational content and more investments in local chapters.

Dale also donated a beautiful oval bowl to the RMWT live auction.

Dale invited everyone to the 2015 AAW Symposium in Pittsburg, PA from June 25 – 28, 2015 where there will be more than 150 demonstrator rotations.



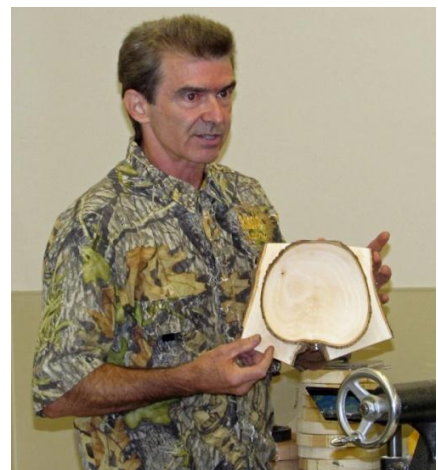
Demonstrators:



David Ellsworth



Trent Bosch



Rudy Lopez



John Giem



Kip Christensen



Allen Jensen



Kirk DeHeer



Jason Schneider



Dale Bonertz



Rick Orr



Tim Wirsing



Michael Blankenship



Cindy Drozda

Fifteen demonstrators, representing some of the world's best woodturners, provided 47 rotations, including hands on demos and vendor demos, on projects ranging from beginner to professional level. The skills of these demonstrators are not just in their woodturning, but in their ability to teach their techniques during the demo so that others can gain the same skills and results. As evidenced by the attendees from 22 other states, the large percentage of local FRWT and RMWT members providing demonstrations speaks very highly of the artistic talent in the local chapters.

Tribute to David Nittmann:



Tom Wirsing gave a heartfelt tribute to our great friend and club co-founder, David Nittmann, after the Saturday evening dinner.



From David's Facebook Page: "David Nittmann, signing off. Bigger and better worlds to explore now. Meet me on the other side!"

Banquet:



Live Auction:



The blurred motion of auctioneer Bill Seaworth's arm (Above left) is a good example of the fast action during this year's fundraising auction. Bill's professional and humorous auctioneering helped raise \$6,250 during the

live auction on Saturday evening following the dinner. In addition, the silent auction raised an additional \$465 for total auction proceeds of \$6,715. The RMWT is an approved 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization and all donations are tax deductible.

Thank you to all who donated pieces for the live and silent auctions and thanks to all bidders and buyers for helping support the Educational Opportunity Grant fund of the RMWT!

Feature Article by Clarence Sitzman:

Rocky Mountain Woodturners Symposium 2014

I've been in the woodturners club for only about 4 years now, and have attended only one other symposium. Why is this you ask? The first year I was a member, the Symposium was on a date that we had already planned a family vacation. The Va-ca was planned about 6 months before I attended my first meeting of the RMWT. The second year I had attended I was in awe of all the really good turners and the instant gallery blew me away. I had in mind that one of these years I might be able to produce a bowl, a vessel, a sculpture, ANYTHING that resembled any of the items I saw in the instant gallery. It blew me away that there was someone there that did a critique of many of the different pieces, and they found even minor faults in some of the works. They were all perfect in my eyes. Well then, we all know what happened last year. We didn't have a symposium, but I had the privilege of sitting across the table from Bihn Pho and got an almost personal demonstration of some of his techniques. (OK- I admit it, there were about 8 other people there). This year was really the first that I've been involved on a "helpers" basis. I was able to help a bit at the front desk with registrations, but the best part is that I got to work the cameras in every time slot. This might not sound like it's that much fun but I got a front row seat to see some of the best turners in the country do their thing! I admit that there were times I would rather not have to pay attention to what the camera was seeing, but nevertheless, I could see things up close and personal.

I would like to thank Wayne at Woodcraft for serving as host and providing most of the food for the first night's Meet and Greet, and to all of the people involved in getting the food ready and serving the food. That was a fun event and I got to talk to some folks I already knew, some folks I knew who they were, but hadn't had a chance to talk to yet, and some folks who I had never seen before.

I found the sessions really interesting. I got to work the camera for Kip Christiansen. We had seen him fairly recently at our own RMWT meeting, but it was good to re-watch some of the things he was doing. Helps to cement it in my mind. (I'm not sure putting more cement in my mind is necessarily a good thing!) I also got to see Michael Blankenship turn wood from a totally blind point of view. I was REALLY jealous in that in his session he was able to turn a complete project in less time than it takes me to turn a bowl, and it was better than anything that I had yet turned out. I guess this is a case of the blind leading the inept. I also got to do the camera work at a David Ellsworth session. The guy is totally amazing. Such control! And his knowledge of turning and techniques is almost beyond belief. There was a reason for everything he did, and he was able to tell people what those reasons were in a language that everyone could understand. I can see why he has the reputation that he has.

The banquet and auction were very good this year. Because of the generosity of the talented people that we have in our club, and associated with the club, we were able to generate about \$6,000.00 for the EOG fund.

I would like to thank Tom Wirsing for his tribute to David Nittmann. I personally have known David for much longer than I've been a member of RMWT. David used to come into my clinic with his animals many years ago, and he even made some furniture for both my clinic, and for my family. (He made my sons a custom baseball/football card cabinet with adjustable shelves etc.) I also found out how competitive David was on the racquetball court. In all the years I played at the club, I was never able to beat David. NOT EVEN ONCE! It's not that I was a poor player; it's that David was that good. Anyway, I thank you again Tom for that tribute, I know it was hard to lose a friend like that. David was a friend to everyone he met. I will also miss him.

This year's schedule was done a little bit different than the last Symposium, and from the comments I heard from both the exhibitors and the club members, this format is a really good thing. The cleanup crew was able to get out of there by about 6:00 instead of 9:30-10:00 as has been in the past.

All in all- a Great Symposium! Personal thanks to Allen, Trent, John, and MANY others who made this a success. We've already had a meeting to discuss what could be done for next year's Symposium. Always wanting to improve! If anyone has any suggestions, please bring them to anyone you think might have something to do with the Symposium. We're always looking for ways to make it better.

One last thought, not about the Symposium directly, but about woodturning in general. Please keep in mind that many of the activities we have available to use are made easier and better through the AAW. We are having a push this year to have every member of the club also be a member of the AAW. There are many advantages to joining the AAW. One of the best benefits is the American Woodturner Journal. If you were to buy it on the newsstand, the cost would be over \$50.00 for that alone. If you haven't seen the journal, come to the next meeting, there will be some issues that you can look at, and actually hold in your hand! There is also an on-line library of all of the past issues with a searchable online index. There is also available on line "Woodturning FUNDamentals", which is valued at close to \$27.00. The AAW also has a direct effect on the club in that there is a \$1 MILLION general liability insurance policy that covers officially sanctioned AAW business and reasonably priced general liability insurance for EVERY PRIVATE CHAPTER. They have their annual AAW Symposium at reduced rates for AAW members. They also have available to our club EOG grants for some of our education projects.

I guess I could go on with other programs they have as a benefit for our club, but I think you get the gist of the conversation. I think the AAW is a great organization to belong to, and would implore you to join the AAW the next time you pay your dues for our club. (Would it help if I cried a bit??)

OK, that's it for now. See you Thursday.

Clarence Sitzman

Editor's note: Thank you Clarence for your continual support and work for the RMWT club and for your frequent contributions to the RMWT Newsletter!

President's Comments on Symposium:

"This was another great symposium. We rebounded in fine form after missing one year because of the floods. Big thanks must go to the hard-working symposium committee and to everyone who pitched in to help with the work. Everyone had a good time visiting with new and old friends, took in some tremendous demonstrations, learned some new techniques, maybe even bought some new tools, and had a lot of fun. The banquet was good, the Friday evening meet-and-greet dinner was outstanding, and the auctions raised a bunch of money for the Educational Opportunity Grants. The AAW visitors were duly impressed. The next big item on the RMWT calendar is our show at the Community Creative Center at the Carnegie Building in Fort Collins the first two weeks in December. We're on a roll now!" – Frank Amigo

Trade Show:



More than 20 vendors had booths at this year's symposium and sales were reported as brisk. Several vendors offered a surprising amount and variety of burls and wood for future Instant Gallery pieces. Thanks to all the vendors for supporting the symposium by making their products readily available.

Thanks to the RMWT Symposium Committee Members & Volunteers:

The work behind the scenes to make the RMWT Symposium such a great success goes on year round. Thanks to Allen Jensen, Director, Dale Bonertz, Coordinator, Cindy Drozda, Vendor Coordinator, John Giem, Registration Coordinator and Trent Bosch, Demonstration Coordinator. Thanks to the RMWT Board members for their support for the Symposium throughout the year – Frank Amigo, President, Jim Felton, Vice President, Tom Wirsing, Program Director, Ron Thompson, Treasurer and Clarence Sitzman, Secretary. Thanks again to Camille Wall for the Guidebook App.

Also, thanks to all the **volunteers** who helped set up the demonstration rooms, vendor areas, hands on demo areas and other areas before the Symposium and then clean it all up after the Symposium closes. Thanks to all the video operators to record each demo for the RMWT DVD Library. Thanks to Pete Herman, Pam Felton, Jim Felton and Clarence Sitzman for volunteering at the registration and tee shirt sales tables. Thanks to Monty Weymouth for the Instant Gallery photos on the website and thanks to Monty and Clarence Sitzman for providing some of the photos in this Symposium Edition of the Newsletter. Thanks to Elizabeth Amigo as EOG Chairwoman and Hoyle Curtis, Web Master for the Club and Symposium websites.

I know for sure that I have missed naming others who helped make the 2014 RMWT Symposium a great success, for which I apologize, but **THANK YOU** to all volunteers!

Symposium Instant Gallery:





Due to size restrictions to enable this Newsletter to be e-mailed, only a small portion of the Instant Gallery pieces can be shown. Be sure to check the RMWT website at www.rmwt.org for other 2014 RMWT Symposium Instant Gallery photos.