

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

July 2009



## Hromek Demonstration Attended By 13

In June, Woodturners of St. Louis was fortunate to host the internationally acclaimed artist, Peter Hromek, for his first demonstration in the US. Thirteen club members spent about six hours in Dave Endres' shop learning from Peter. He explained how he turns on multiple axes to create his flowing, organic hollow forms.

The image to the left shows Peter preparing a blank for hollowing. Surprisingly, he uses a bowl gauge for deep hollowing. Below left, he is using a variable speed grinder with a cutting attachment to shape the void. Then, right below, he uses sand paper on the grinder to shape the opening of the vessel.

Peter discussed how he forms a piece without a foot but weighted so that the piece always balances with the opening on top. He explained his use of end grain to achieve an interesting pattern on the surface of his pieces.

We thank Peter for sharing his unique approach to standard turning concepts. And thanks to Dave for making space to accommodate observers in

## Next Meeting

July 26, 2009

1pm

Color Enhancement

by

Ray Koeneman

at

Woodcraft

2077 Congressional Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63146

**No Pre-meeting**

11am Board Meeting

at Hooters



The completed but unfinished hollow form on the left was the demonstrated piece. Below is the piece Hromek took to the AAW instant gallery. It was turned on four different axes.

## Upcoming Meetings

**August 23** -To be announced

**September 27** - Picnic

**October 25** - Kim Winkle

**November 22** - Annual

Wine and Cheese Party

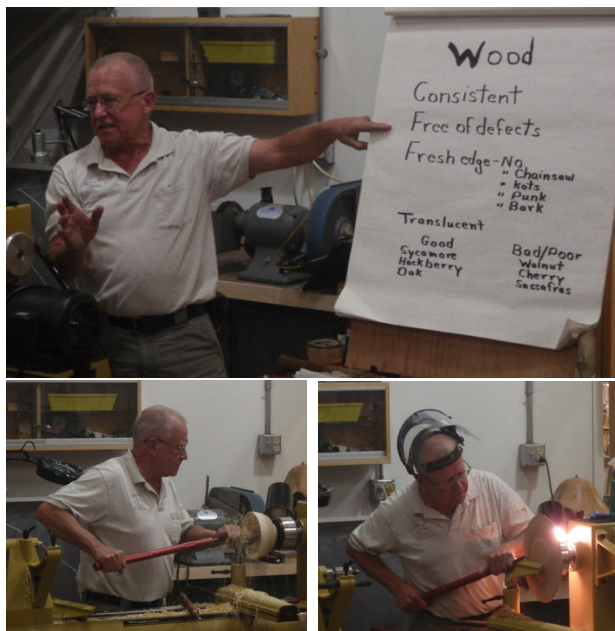
**No December Meeting**

*These plans are subject to change.*

## Ray Koeneman On Color Enhancement

Ray will demonstrate: mixing and blending dyes and paints to create any color you desire; how different substances act on various woods; ways of using CA glue and fillers; use of an airbrush. COME SEE.





## Keys to Turning Thin

Gary Hinegardner shared his understanding of turning very thin pieces at the last club meeting, the wood, the equipment and the process. Wood choice is very important, that is, consistent and free of defects. The edge is critical, as well. It must be smooth and free of chainsaw cuts.

When turning, start from the outside edge and work inward in steps, finishing each step and not coming back. Thickness must be left in the middle for support and only eliminated in the final steps. The edge needs to be slightly thicker than the rest and can be protected from splitting with a coat of super glue. To keep a good edge during the drying stage, especially for manipulated pieces, taping it helps to prevent cracking.

Hinegardner also demonstrated how to light the piece from behind (as seen to the left) in a dimly lit room to gauge the thickness of your work. Some woods are too dense to use this technique. Far left, he shows turning a thin bowl.

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## Show 'N Tell

Cecil Robertson, right, shows the handle he made for the hook tool forged at the May meeting. Dixi Smith, left, shares a thin, natural edged piece he had turned.



## Library Notes

By Rich Hinkebein

Two new books have been added to the library since the last meeting. First, *Turning Custom Duck and Game Calls* by Ed Glenn and Greg Keats. This will add a bit of variety to our selections and the book has an interesting chapter on how to drill small items safely and accurately and a chapter on laminating, both of which can apply to many small items, such as pens or pepper mills. Secondly, *The Pen Turner's Workbook* by Barry Gross. He covers many styles as well as numerous options of each style. There are also some interesting ways to laminate. The book is

### From the editors:

There are so many wonderful opportunities to learn more about the art of woodturning. Come to the meeting on Sunday, check-out a book or video. Attend a workshop, symposium or seminar. They are occurring all the time. Don't have the money? Ask if there are scholarships available. But if this is your chosen artistic expression...Go for it!

Thomas Simon

Katy Hinegardner

## AAW Symposium Experience

*By Steve White*

Bill Rubenstein and I spent a very busy 8 days driving to and from Albuquerque and attending the AAW Symposium. I did two speaking rotations, MC'ed a Special Interest night and manned my own booth selling Rose Engines.

On Friday night I ran into Bonnie Klein and she asked me if I was going to the comedy Roast. I wasn't sure what that was all about but I was told it was not to be missed. So, I followed her and called Bill. The room was standing room only but well worth it. Bill and I split our sides as Jacques Vesery and Terry Martin entertained us all with a look at famous turners as they might not want to be seen in the form of unflattering photos. This comedy routine was not for the meek or shy. It was raw and in your face. Taking the brunt of the jokes were Jean-Francois Escoulen, Bonnie Klein, David Ellsworth and Gorst duPlessis. It went on for about 45 minutes and Bill and I had a great time. I believe this was the second time they had done this routine and it was well received. I'm sure we will see it again.

I was told the attendance for the show was about 1,300. It seemed to run smoothly and I found some bargains on some wood. (Like I need more wood.) I ran into three members of the local AAW chapter. All were having a great time and some of the ladies went on sightseeing tours during the day.

The big treat for me was the new and improved AAW guide for the show. They spent a lot of time and effort putting together this book. Everything one wanted to know about each speaker was in the book. A big job well done.

The food at the dinner was very good. The highlight of the evening was the auction. I left early but was told the prices were down due to the economy.

By Sunday at 8pm Bill and I were back on the road and heading out of town. It had been a long, hard six days and we had two more to go. The drive is nothing to write home about. If it hadn't been for Bills entertaining stories, it would have been a long two-day drive.

The show next year will be at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford CT. Sign me up! As soon as I take a nap.

## 11th Annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium

Loveland, Colorado's Larimer County Fairgrounds at 5280 Arena Circle is the site for the annual 2-day event from September 12-13. Only 20 miles from Estes Park and the Rocky Mountain National Park, attendees will be near Old Town Fort Collins, Benson Sculpture Park and Chapungu Sculpture Garden at Centerra. Demonstrators include: Trent Bosch, Curt Theobald, Cindy Drozda, Allen Jensen, Joe Fleming, Craig Timmerman, Thomas Farrell, Pete Holtus, Marty Chritensen, John Giem and Ed Davidson. Mid-September is a great time to visit the Rockies.

This is a medium sized event with 140-180 attendees expected. Events include an Instant Gallery where you may display up to three of your best turnings. There will also be a hands-on learning center with scheduled projects every rotation where instructors will guide you from start to finish on a project to take home. Mini-lathes, tools and safety gear will be provided. There will be a large trade show area with vendors selling tools, wood, dry bowl blanks and lathes.

Individuals registering before September 1st will choose from 35 rotations over 2 days. The banquet dinner and auction are included for \$125 per individual or \$195 per couple. Teachers may attend for \$85 and students under 21 years of age are just \$25.

To register, write John Giem at 4031 Capitol Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80526 or call him at 970-223-0844. You may email him at [jgiem@comcast.net](mailto:jgiem@comcast.net). Or contact Allen Jensen at [Rajconst@aol.com](mailto:Rajconst@aol.com) or call 970-663-1868.

For more detailed information about this symposium go to [www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com). For more information about the Exhibition Hall and Larimer County Fairgrounds go to [www.Larimer.org/theranch](http://www.Larimer.org/theranch).

### End Sealer

Still available in  
1- and 2-gallon containers for  
\$10 & \$15, respectively.  
Just email or call Dave Endres  
([endrestoh@att.net](mailto:endrestoh@att.net), 314-568-1244)  
to make arrangements to pick it up at his office.



# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

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## **Next Meeting**

**July 26, 2009**

**at**

**Woodcraft**

**Board Meeting at 11am**



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Bring this application to the next meeting  
along with your check . Or mail to:

Woodturners of St. Louis  
c/o Walt Ahlgrim  
10 Ramblewood Ln  
St. Louis, MO 63141

Make check payable to: ***Woodturners of St. Louis***

*Check applicable boxes below:*

- ☐ Please consider receiving newsletter by email only. It saves a little paper, costs less, you'll receive it sooner and it's in color.
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- ☐ Renewing member
- ☐ Individual Membership (\$30)
- ☐ Family Membership (\$45)
- ☐ I would like to receive the newsletter by email

I would like to receive the newsletter by snail mail.

Applications for membership in the American Association of Woodturners are available at each chapter meeting.