



# Finger Lakes Woodturners

a Special Interest Group of the  
Rochester Woodworkers Society



www.rochesterwoodworkers.org.

January 2007

Meetings 3rd Thursday of each month at  
WOODCRAFT in Henrietta, NY at 6:30 PM

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## Upcoming Events

**February:** Erv Tschanz - End grain hollowing techniques  
**March:** Lou Stahlman - Cutting Wood  
**March:** Curt Theobald - See Page 3  
**April:** Jim Echter- Spindle Turning - Also a few minutes with Cindy Drozda - See Page 4  
**May:** Ed DeMay - Chucking Methods

**AAW 2007 SYMPOSIUM**  
Portland, Oregon - June 29 – July 1, 2007

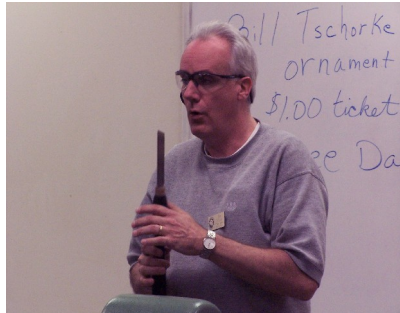
## From the Chairs Eye by Mike Hachey

I think the X-MAS party was a great success. Pizza was everywhere, we had 13 EXTRA LARGE Pizzas and there was none left by the end of the night. Soda, water and candy also went over very nicely .....but, the part that I think we enjoyed the most where the demonstration put on by Ed DeMay and Jim Echter. Our next meeting will be back at our normal start time of 6:30 and I'm sure that with all the new tools that our members received for Christmas (instead of the normal socks and ties), we should have a wealth of show and tell this year. Our first demo of 2007 is on Jigs and Fixtures for the lathe. I'm sure most of you have at least one or two that you can share with the group. I hope this will be an interactive meeting so please bring things for this demo/discussion. The Jig or Fixture does not have to be something you made; it can be commercially purchased but still helps you improve your turning, sharpening, productivity and/or safety skills. At our last meeting we mentioned the good news/bad news of our club size outgrowing the Woodcraft classroom. The Board currently is working on this problem and you will be hearing more on it in the next two months. We have heard from two members that have another place for us to meet ..... but .... we would still need a lathe and TV for our meetings. Please come forward if anyone feels they have an idea or alternative to splitting the group. The club handbook was updated and distributed at the November meeting. Please see Debbie if you have not received yours yet. Finally, the club is looking for members to step forward and volunteer to do a demo. Please contact me and we will schedule you. The next available date we are looking for is September so you have plenty of time to fine tune your show.



## Last Months Demo by Ed DeMay

Last months program was a demo and question and answer program covering the Skew with Jim Ether and the Ellsworth Gouge with Ed DeMay. Jim does a lot of spindle work for fun and profit and has become a proficient master of the skew. Jim has demonstrated many times for the Turning SIG as well as RWS Workshops. His easy going manner and well honed speaking style make for a very interesting and informative



evening. As you can see in the picture to the left Jim has made some teaching aides and the presentations leave no stone unturned or answer covered. The only thing that is left after Jims demo is to go home and practice for many hours in an attempt to become as proficient as he is. Jim will provide one on one instruction and has been a great asset to the Finger Lakes Wood Turners. Thanks for a great demo.

Ed started off the evening speaking of the advantages of the Ellsworth grind for bowl gouges. There are 3 variations or ways to use this tool. One is as a some what conventional bowl gouge for inside and outside work. It can be used in a shearing cut for fine finishing work. And lastly when freshly sharpened in a scraper fashion. With this versatile tool all that might be left on a bowl might be a few light cuts with a scraper in a



shear cut fashion to smooth out some ridges left behind by the gouge. The tool has a learning curve as does any tool. For those who might get frustrated at first Ed suggests that you can always revert back to a scraper to get you out of a tight spot. Practice, practice and then practice some more and things eventually fall into place. Also when hollowing out the inside of the bowl remember there is a lot of good practice wood in the center of the bowl and don't just waste it by seeing how big of a chip you can make use it for practice. Smooth cuts, shearing cuts and good tool control and it will be well worth all of your effort.



## Up Coming Events by Ed DeMay

### **Rochester Wood Workers Society will be hosting Curt Theobald – Segmented Turning, March 29 & 30 2007.**

Curt will be presenting the Friday even lecture and doing a demo on Saturday. Curt's Bio reads as follows: I turned my first piece on my father's Shopsmith in 1980, but did not do any more turning until 1992. Then I bought my first "lathe" (just like Dad's), a 1957 Shopsmith. After scraping out a few walnut bowls, I discovered segmented turning. Clunky form, inconsistent wall thickness and plenty of sanding marks were common in my early turnings. It was at that point I became enthralled with trying to better my segmenting techniques and woodturning skills.

I got my first real lathe in 1999. My desire for creative woodwork landed me in a production cabinet shop in the fall of 1991. I eventually became shop foreman. I stayed there until 1996 when I went out on my own and started a custom cabinet business. I have since given up cabinetry to pursue my passion for segmented woodturning. It is my driving passion to see a prehistoric Native American pot come to life in wood as I carefully sculpt it on the lathe.

In my segmented work, the grain runs around the circumference of the turning as much as possible, thus creating a dimensionally stable work of art that will move equally throughout different humidity changes during the year. It is my desire to go below the surface of the wood to uncover what is hiding within the wood. I am continuously learning more about the many species I come in contact with. The material I work with is a wonderful medium with which to create. Each piece of wood I use is unique unto itself. Variations that occur naturally within the wood such as burling, curling grain, spalting, staining, dark veining, and insect damage create character which then makes each particular woodturning unique. No further care is necessary on the surface of my turnings; simply wipe off occasionally with a dry cloth and keep the turning out of direct sunlight.

Curt will be speaking on layout of the bowls, design techniques and how he shapes hundreds and sometime thousands of pieces so accurately that the glue lines and almost non existent. A minute error in setting up these parts grows and magnifies it self with each piece added. This is sure to be a great demo and one you will not want to miss. Further information is at [www.rochesterwoodworkers.org](http://www.rochesterwoodworkers.org).



## Up Coming Events by Ed DeMay

### **ROCHESTER WOODWORKERS SOCIETY is presenting** *CINDY DROZDA*

Cindy is a Nationally and Internationally know turning living in Boulder Colorado. Cindy's woodworking started at the age of seven with her dad. Her first job as a waitress changed into working for a company that made and assembled player pianos. The owner had a variety of wood and metal working tools and encouraged her to use them and her interest continued to increase. From there she moved to a cabinet shop. Along the way to a career of turning she became a pilot, repaired and manufactured hang gliding equipment and restored and sold aircraft. Cindy eventually was introduced to turning and her creative side took over and she became a full time turner. She joined a local turning club and the American Association of Woodturners. As her turning skills improve the items became more complicated and she began to display items in a variety of Galleries. She regularly provides instruction and provides seminars at the AAW annual Symposium.



Cindy will be presenting at **TWO HANDS ON CLASSES** at the Henrietta, New York at the Woodcraft store on April 20 and 22, 2007. Each class will contain only 10 students running from 9:30 until 4:00. The cost of the class is \$120.00 for RWS members and \$150.00 non-members and includes materials and lunch.

On Saturday April Cindy will be presenting a **DEMO AND DISCUSSION** again at Woodcraft but this is not hands on but will be with limited to about 35 participants for a cost of \$40.00 for members and \$50.00 for non members and includes lunch

This is sure to be an exciting weekend and a chance to learn form a World Class Turner. Checkout [www.rochesterwoodworkers.org](http://www.rochesterwoodworkers.org) for sign up for this classes and RWS now uses Pay Pal Services.



## Product Review by Ed DeMay



I recently purchased this product from Creative Woodturner ([www.creative-woodturner.com](http://www.creative-woodturner.com).) a company located in England. With this I have been able to enter a specific size of wood and then play with some designs to try to make the best out of an expensive piece of wood. There are many options that the program can provide. You can bowls, vases, boxes and Rosand Style Christmas Ornaments. You can stretch and shape them any way to determine the best proportions. There are 140 wood images that you can apply to your turning in a number of ways. This gives you an idea of how your turning will look. Not an exact science as Mother Nature continues to vary her designs in wood grain but it does give you an idea. They also provide many shapes that you can modify and add your own touch. If you have a CAD program already you might be ahead of the game but take a look at the web site and make up your own mind. Price is approx 80 British pounds (\$150.00 US) but it might be just what the Doctor ordered.

**From the Editor** - Well seem just a few weeks ago that we were getting going for the 2006/07 year and now it is half over with. This last half of the year is filled with lots of exciting events and demos. Cindy Drozda will be having 2 hands on demos and will be well worth the price of admission. Curt Theobald will have loads of great information for turners and furniture people to with making of precise joints and turning a variety of grain configurations.

When you consider the cost of attending a class at a name turners studio, travel expenses, lodging, meals, placed on a waiting on a list to attend, weather issues and availability, these demos are a bargain (please do the math sometime).

Our in club presenters will still be at it with lots of helpful tips and demo's. I hate to sound like a broken record but we are still waiting for volunteers for demonstrators for next year and the suggestions for dealing with over crowding due to our success of the FLWT. Additionally we can use some new members for the Board of Directors any time that you care to volunteer.

Remember we are back to our 6:30 Start time again .....

Keep turning, enjoy the experience and this will be a great year!

Thanks, Ed

The Finger Lakes Woodturners appreciates the support that the Woodcraft Store, Henrietta Plaza, 1100 Jefferson Road, Henrietta, New York 14623 has given us by allowing us to use their facilities. Thanks Sean.

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