

May Program (Steve Haddix)

May 9, 2019 – Rudy Lopez – Winged Bowl Chips will fly!

Rudolph “Rudy” Lopez is just about the best woodturning demonstrator you’re going to find anytime, anyplace, so you are not going to want to miss this one. We are honored to have him join us from his home studio in Tampa, Florida, thanks to Capital Area Woodturners’ Tom Huber being willing to share him. Put this on your calendar for sure. Chips are going to fly!

One Rudy demo a few years ago for CAW pumped up Gary enough to have him report some of Rudy’s tips in an MCW Newsletter YMMV article. You can read it here: <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org/misc/tips-techniques/> Scroll down and click on “Rudy Lopez tips” near the bottom of the left-hand column.

Rudy has over 35 years of experience as a furniture and cabinet maker, but found his true passion in the vortex when, after 13 years as a professional photographer, he discovered woodturning. His easy-going personality and his ability to explain woodturning techniques in a simple, understandable manner have allowed him to share his skills and enthusiasm for woodturning, along with his love of wood, through teaching and demonstrating. His turned pieces have been featured in a number of exhibits.



Rudy started out doing demos at local clubs and worked his way up to the national AAW symposiums. He was featured as an *Emerging Artist* at the 2012 AAW San Jose Symposium. At the “Florida Woodturning Symposium”, Rudy shared the room with Dale Nish, and this was a real breakthrough for him. Dale had a reputation of looking out for new talent and helping them. Dale purchased one of Rudy’s pieces to display at Craft Supplies USA’s gallery in Utah and invited Rudy to come out to demonstrate at the Utah Woodturning Symposium.

Rudy was a feature demonstrator at the AAW Symposium in Kansas City in 2017. Given his background as a professional photographer, he will be participating in a Panel at the 2019 AAW Raleigh Symposium on photographing your woodturnings. See Rudy’s ad in the current issue of *American Woodturner* on page 62.

When asked what kind of wood he most likes to turn, Rudy’s response was, “Imperfect wood, wood with knots, voids, worm holes, decay or any other flaw or defect. To me this is the beauty that God and nature has provided me with as a starting point, and then it becomes a challenge for me to continue this and create something of beauty for others to enjoy”.

Here is Rudy doing a demo for the Dallas Woodturners last July.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b2jG4FADjg&t=4282s>

As is the case with many of our esteemed demonstrators, Rudy provides a wealth of free tutorial instruction on his website:
<http://rudolphlopez.com> Most particularly, check out his Gallery and Handouts sections.

If it can be turned, Rudy will turn it. His works are very wide-ranging in style. His demo for us will be a natural-edge winged bowl, with a focus on effective use of the bowl gouge. As with other top demonstrators, Rudy teaches technique while making. The learning is in the doing; it's not just the destination that's important. Rudy talks clearly about the tools he uses and the cuts he's making, and why, while dishing out lots of great tips and humor. Don't miss it. There will be no demo fee – you can thank Tim.

