



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 24, No. 6 June 2024

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

JUNE DEMONSTRATOR –Bill David **Tuesday, June 4th–In Person and via Zoom**

Jessica Edwards - edwardsjessica625@gmail.com

Hailing from Corpus Christi TX, and now Colorado Springs, Bill David has been turning for 11 years or so. Most of his work has been in common turning projects--pens, ornaments, bottle stoppers, and a few water pipes. But about three years ago he started exploring the unusual with Rebeca Degroot's legged projects. He was then challenged to enter a regional art exhibit and took "Best In Show" in that gallery, despite no background in the arts. That served to spark a slew of new ideas to explore. Bill is a member of Pikes Peaks Woodturning in Colorado Springs.

The topic for the June presentation will be Walking Legs Inspired by Rebeca Degroot. Bill will be taking us through the process of creating one of Rebecca Degroot's walking legs fitted for a bowl. Bill has never taken a class from Rebecca but has learned through studying her work and will be taking us through the process she uses to create these legs. During the demo he will discuss the basics and the things he has learned including: various techniques, avoiding easy pitfalls, dimensions, layout and design, types and styles, and project application.



WHERE TO FIND US:

Website: www.frontrangewoodturners.org

Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/yacakdwa>

Ladies of the Lathe: <https://tinyurl.com/yap8m6x4>

YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/yxem4vw9>

THIS MONTH'S NEWS:

June Presenter	1-2
Club Information & Officers	2
Ladies of the Lathe	3
Shop Tours	3
Mentors.....	4
Group Buys	4
Brown Bag Demo	5
Turning Challenge / Perpetual Turning	5
HOW Class.....	5
Distraction.....	6
Photo Gallery	7-8



CLUB INFORMATION

Front Range Woodturners is the Denver-area chapter of the AAW (American Association of Woodturners), serving woodturners throughout Colorado's Front Range. We help woodturners gain experience by providing monthly demonstrations with professional turners, mentoring, a ladies group (Ladies of the Lathe) and youth mentoring.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Everyone is welcome to check out one of our monthly meetings. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Rockler Woodworking, 2553 S Colorado Blvd. #108 in Denver. Meetings start at 6:15pm.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual - \$45, Couple - \$50, Student - \$22.50.

FRW members consist of the following:

Co-Club Members	41	Lifetime Members	19
Family Members	30	Roster	28
Individual Members	126		

Total Membership 244 paid for 2024

CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Don Prorak

Vice President/Program Director: Jessica Edwards

Secretary: Patrick Crumpton

Treasurer: Larry Abrams

President Emeritus: Robyn Herman

Club Historian: Rick Orr

Coffee Chair: Gary Starritt

Communications Chair: Pat Scott

Group Buy Coordinator: Jay Miller

Internet Chair: Pat Scott

Ladies of the Lathe Chair: Debra Higley-Feldman

Librarian: Brian Tooker

Membership Chair: Scott Schlapkohl

Mentoring Program Chair: Marty Christensen

Newsletter Editor: Brenda Blaesing

PHEOG Grant Chair: Marty Christensen

Photographer: Jim Record

Publicity Chair: Robyn Herman

Shop Tour Chair: Keith Motzner

Videographer: Larry Abrams

Wood Raffle: Lavonne Kaiser

Youth Chair: Don Prorak



If you would like a preview of the demonstration you can watch one of Rebecca's demonstrations here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Alq6De6K2RI&t=1929s&ab_channel=DentonTurners

And check your email for a handout on the tools and technique for making turned legs. It was emailed to all club members on June 1st.

ROCKLER

Patronizing the Rockler store is the best thank you we can give Rockler for their generosity in letting us use their facilities for our meetings. They keep the register open late on meeting nights just for us. but be sure to complete any purchases no later than the mid-meeting break. All FRW members get 10% off all items, except electrical or sale items, all the time. Just present your FRW membership card at time of purchase. Note: This offer is good only at the Denver store and is not valid at other Rockler stores or for online purchases.

LADIES OF THE LATHE

Debra Higley-Feldman -
debrakhf@gmail.com



Dave Hawley gave a class on May 7th in which he showed us how to safely cut branch wood on a bandsaw, and gifted us the sled he built. He demonstrated how to turn mushrooms and also how to fill cracks with turquoise and CA. We used his sled to cut wet and dry branches that magically morphed from wood into fungus.



On June 15th, **Larry Hughes** will be teaching segmented turning at his shop in Parker. We will work on candy dishes and hot air balloons. The class is currently full with seven attendees.

On July 2nd, **Don Prorak** will show us how to turn three-cornered bowls, which could also be tea light holders. The more adventurous could try the double tri-corner.

August will have either a pen turning class by **Keith Motzner** or an LOTL volunteer appreciation picnic in Debra's backyard.

SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner -
frw.shoptour@gmail.com
May's shop tour was hosted by
Jessica Edwards.



Looking ahead, here are the upcoming shop tours:

June 8	Brian LeFevre 10:00 - 2:00
July 20	Covenant Living Community 10:00 - 2:00
August 17	Alex Bradley 10:00 - 2:00
September	available
October	available

Shop tours are a great way for both old and new members to get better acquainted and to see how the other half turns, as well as seeing other members tools and equipment. You may even pick up some new ideas or techniques for your own shop. Contact frw.shoptour@gmail.com if you'd like to schedule a tour of your shop.

MENTORS

Marty Christensen -
meturning@gmail.com



Some FRW members have volunteered to be one-on-one mentors to help other members. No matter what skill level you are, a few hours of personalized instruction may be all you need to master a new tool or technique. Check out who is available in your area. If you're interested in being a mentor, contact Marty.

LOCATION OF MENTOR	NAME/ CONTACT INFO	AREA OF EXPERTISE
Arvada	Dennis Fanning dcfanning@aol.com	General
Boulder	Dave Hawley Dbh001@gmail.com	Beginner/ General
Brighton	Don Prorak donprorak@comcast.net	Beginner/ Youth
Centennial	Keith Motzner kmotzner@me.com	Wood Gathering & Prep/ Sharpening/Tool Skills
Centennial	Les Stern sternsclass@hotmail.com	General
Denver SW	Henry Williams williamshenrya@gmail.com	Spindles/ Bowls
Denver- Rockler store	Larry Abrams laabrams.51@me.com	General
Highlands Ranch	Rick Orr rickorr.1848@yahoo.com	Boxes/Inlay/ Thread Cutting
Hudson	Marty Christensen meturning@gmail.com	General
Lakewood	Debra Higley debrakhf@gmail.com	General
Littleton	Jay Miller jaymiller9637@comcast.net	General
Louisville	Roger Holmes roger_holmes@comcast.net	Beginner
Thornton	Bob Franklin Btheb66@gmail.com	General/ Stabilizing

JUNE MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - meturning@gmail.com

The June mentoring class will be held on Monday, June 10th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The topic will be making a bowl from a bowl saver/coring system.

QUARTERLY GROUP BUYS



FRW places group buys once a quarter-in January, April, July and October-to get discounted pricing from the below manufacturers. The next group buy will be in July. Jay Miller is the group buy coordinator and Ted Mellin is his assistant. See the FRW website for more info, price lists and order forms.

Industrial Abrasives - send orders to Jay Miller

Industrial Abrasives is our principal vendor for sanding supplies. Prices for hook & loop mandrels and discs remain the lowest in the marketplace and their backing is a heavier weight than the competition.

Starbond - send orders to Jay Miller

Starbond is our CA glue supplier. Our minimum order is \$100, but we receive an additional discount at \$200, making shipping free. Sign up for Starbond's newsletter to be notified of sales that beat our wholesale prices.

Craft Supplies - send orders to Ted Mellin

Craft Supplies sells a very wide range of products. Our minimum group purchase is \$1000. Members may not place individual orders to get a discount.

Spence Industrial Supply - send orders to Ted Mellin

We will be purchasing band saw blades from Spence once a year, in April, unless a member can meet the minimum order in another quarter. All blades are carbon steel flexback in 1/4" (4 tpi), 3/8"(3 tpi), or 1/2" (4 tpi) width, hook tooth, and .025"thick. Our minimum buy is 20 blades for each width in any length.

Send orders and checks to:

Jay Miller
9637 W. Vandeventor Dr
Littleton, CO 80128
303-945-4306

Ted Mellin
9043 W Coco Dr
Littleton, CO 80128

Individual Catalog Orders

Two additional companies, Klingspor and Penn State Industries, offer discounts to members who wish to place individual catalog orders. To take advantage of these discounts, you must be on their list of FRW members. To be placed on the list, please sign up at a meeting or send an e-mail to Jay Miller (jaymiller9637@comcast.net).

BROWN BAG DEMO

Robyn Herman

FRW recently initiated a new learning experience called the Brown Bag Demo. In these mini demos, you can get close, ask questions and make comments. The demos are held in our meeting space in Rockler's basement. There is no cost, participants just need to sign up and bring their lunch.

Dennis Fanning gave an excellent demo in May on coring using the Oneway System. He discussed how to setup the Oneway, prepare the blank, what knives to use, how to dry the cored bowls, and how to remount the bowls when they were dry.



Our next Brown Bag Demo will be June 11th from 11:00-2:00. **Rick Orr** will be doing a demo on turning elk antlers. In Rick's demo, he will cover the following items: where to obtain elk antler, current elk antler prices, how to choose prime elk antler pieces for turning, various elk antler projects, and elk antler turning techniques. Rick will bring several finished turned antler projects to show. He will also have many elk antler pieces ready for turning as well as a very large raw elk antler beam to show the prime antler location(s) for turning. And center to all this will be Rick demonstrating the actual turning of elk antler. A brief summary will be made of cutting threads in elk antler but this was covered in more depth at Raleigh Lockhart's demonstration on thread cutting with jigs. Rick will discuss the use of both wood and Corian as tops and bottoms of boxes as well as for accent pieces. Much of what Rick will cover can also be applied to turning other types of antler (deer and moose) plus bone.

Sign up for Rick's demo at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AA9AF28A1FE3-49780798-brown>

TURNING CHALLENGE / PERPETUAL TURNING

Don Prorak

The turning challenge for May was bowls. The winners were:

Novice: Don Sheffield

Intermediate: Ken Rollins

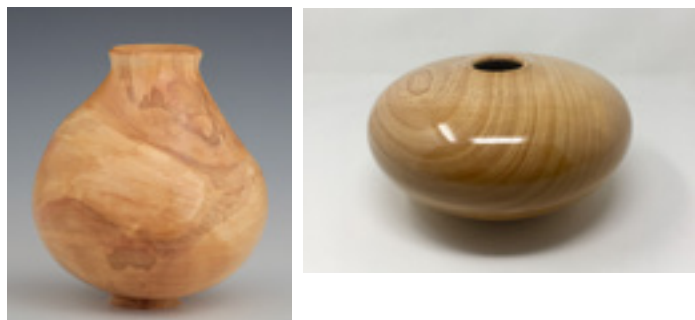
Advanced: Bob Franklin

Each will receive a \$15 Rockler gift card at the next meeting.

For the perpetual turning, **Dale Sherman** contributed a beautiful bowl which was received by **Bob Franklin**. Looking forward to Bob's contribution in June! Remember that the perpetual turning is not a competition; it is an opportunity to share our work. If you win the piece, the only expectation is that you replace it with something you are proud of and enjoyed making.

HOW CLASS

Jay Miller will teach a HOW class at Rockler on June 18th from 10:00 to 4:00. The subject will be Closed Form Turning and Hollowing. He'll go over shaping the exterior of the form and the proper sequence for hollowing the interior.



Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C44AFAB-2CA1FF2-49800652-frwhow>

DISTRACTION - A SAFETY LESSON FOR ALL

Patrick Crumpton

Distraction comes in many forms, someone entering your shop unannounced, an animal wandering through, music, a video playing in the background... but how often has a piece of safety equipment become a distraction? After all, the face shield we wear to protect us from flying debris, the dust mask to protect our lungs, the smock to keep us relatively clean, closed-toed shoes because, well, stubbing your toe hurts, are all common things we do in our shops to stay safe and most never give any thought to these safety devices becoming a distraction. How many of us wear a full-face respirator when we turn?

The most recent Monday mentoring session topic was plates. Marty had provided a nice piece of pine about 9" square and 2" thick to demonstrate on. Pat Scott gave a riveting demo on turning plates for the Rocky Mountain Woodturners the previous Thursday. So, inspired and admittedly a bit nervous, I stepped in for Marty as he had a prior commitment. Pat's demo provided many valuable techniques and suggestions which I incorporated into my demo, but I wanted to do something a bit different - a square plate. Nothing like adding the additional stress of turning a lot of air during a demo on a topic which you had only ever turned one of...yes, I've only ever turned one plate.

All was going well. I had successfully mounted the piece between centers, turned a tenon, reverse chucked on the tenon to shape the bottom and turn the foot/bead for mounting - so the top of the plate could be finished. I was doing quite well; even though the piece was pine, I was getting an excellent surface finish using a combination of an "Irish ground" bowl gouge and a conventional scraper which I had just acquired from the Gene Wentworth tool sale. I was nearing completion--all that was left was to finish turning to thickness--I was going for an approximate 1/4" square edge and overall thickness. I was within a sixteenth, maybe an eighth, when it all went south. I had just turned the lathe back on after inspecting the plate for thickness when my respirator started beeping, indicating that the battery was about to run out. My respirator is a 3-M industrial design with a hard hat. It has a battery pack which is attached to a belt that goes around my waist. It has been wonderful, the battery on

average lasts between 10 and 12 hours (apparently, I'd been turning more than I thought). I turned to check / turn off the respirator but unfortunately, I left the gouge sitting on the tool rest... BAM! The plate exploded after a catastrophic catch from the gouge. In turning my head to check the beeping, I failed to remove the tool from the tool rest, and it drifted into the spinning plate. Fortunately, nothing more than my pride was injured. Being more than a bit embarrassed, I decided that at the very least, I could turn the batch of lemons into lemonade by discussing distraction with the group.

Even though there were nearly 40 minutes left of the mentoring session, I decided that I was "out of my element" enough because of the catch that it wouldn't be safe to resume turning. It was a bit hard to throw up my hands and "quit" for the day, especially with the mentees there hoping to see a finished plate. But safety is paramount, and I was no longer in the correct mindset to turn. Plus my respirator was dead and I've decided that turning without it is something I no longer want to do.

The point of this is simply to say that anything and everything can become a distraction while you are turning. It is up to you to recognize these distractions and slow down so they do not become dangerous. A secondary lesson: it's better to quit for the day after something like this happens than to try and push through. There are always more days to turn.

Thanks to Pat Scott for the picture.



PHOTO GALLERY

Here are some projects that members have been working on this month.



Debra Higley-Feldman was too busy with wood from the April storm to turn much. So these turnings don't have finishes. The slightly warped vase is 8x5" of wet silver maple. The 3" wet-turned crabapple mushroom is from a tree that took the brunt of the fallen maple limb, sacrificing itself to save our roof and be reincarnated as a fungus.



Using a couple pieces of an apple tree his neighbor had cut down along with some epoxy resin, **Ed Lippert** created this little bowl.



Jill Rice has been busy thinning 60 pine trees since March. The beetle kill pine hollow form has been in a bucket of its own shavings since November. The tree grew in her yard and was blocked and under plastic for a year... soggy turning! It is now 9"x 9-1/2" x 5" high finished with spray Krylon. The two smaller pieces are honey locust and blood wood finished with General Finish Arm R Seal.



Henry Williams tried milk paint for the first time on this 9" tall piece of redheart and cherry. There are four layers of each color, and then the top color was lightly sanded off the high points of the textured area.



Cathie McLean had such fun with the LOTL mushroom turning class that she made two more mushrooms with the leftover wood. She woodburned “MOM” onto the bottoms of the trio as a belated Mother’s Day gift. Much appreciation to Jessica Edwards for sharing such beautiful branch wood.



Curt Vogt was able to do a bunch of turning this past month between outdoor projects and rain/mud that prevented some outdoor work. It seems everything he did was spindle turning all month long. He had a batch of hollowed ornament globes of pine and cedar around that needed finials. The diameter of the globes was 1-1/4” to 1-1/2” and 2” for the one curly maple globe. Curt made the finials a bit shorter and stockier so they could better handle incidents with pets or small elves near the Christmas tree.



Both last month and this month Curt made magic wands. They are a fantastic way to practice for those more detailed and delicate projects. As a result, his spindle turning practice levels gave him a corresponding boost in confidence on finer spindles



and a huge batch of icicle ornaments followed. Hickory was attempted and found to be great with the smaller pores not negatively affecting detail or strength like red oak and other open pore woods do.

AAW MEMBERSHIP

Front Range Woodturners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Club members may become individual members of AAW, if desired. Benefits include resources, weekly emails on various woodturning topics, and the quarterly American Woodturning magazine. See AAW’s website at www.woodturner.org for more information.

The crazy bug bit and other icicles, including the thinnest icicle in the photo, were turned from S4S pine from Home Depot.

Blaine Blaesing

made this live-edge, two-tone bowl that measures 7-1/2” x 3-1/2”. It was made from some elm that was obtained from Robin Luther a few months ago.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Brenda Blaesing - b.frezeman@yahoo.com

Articles and photos for the monthly newsletter are always welcome. Please email your submissions by the 26th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.