



# GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 24, No. 9 September 2024

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

## SEPTEMBER DEMONSTRATOR –Larry Fox Tuesday, September 3rd–In Person and via Zoom

Jessica Edwards - edwardsjessica625@gmail.com



Larry Fox is a Colorado woodturning artist who began his turning career with an adult education class from his son's high school shop

teacher, Dennis Korth. Dennis convinced him to enroll at Colorado State University to take the last two classes taught by Dr. Lee Carter. These classes jumpstarted Larry into a career in woodturning and the taking of further classes and lessons from some of the top woodturners in the world.

For the next 25 years, Larry turned full time doing craft and art shows throughout Colorado, placing his works in galleries and selling online. His unique specialty was inlaying Cripple Creek and Kingman Mine Turquoise. One of the highlights of Larry's turning career was the eight winters he spent in Florida doing craft shows and woodturning from the back bedroom in his 37' pull trailer that he converted into a full-sized shop. Now, semi retired, Larry makes a lot of urns but claims he gives away more bowls than he sells.

### The Demo:

When asked by a funeral director to make small (3"-5") keepsake urns for family members, Larry struggled to get tight-fitting tops. His compression top would fit tight in the shop but by the time he

## WHERE TO FIND US:

Website: [www.frontrangewoodturners.org](http://www.frontrangewoodturners.org)

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

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

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

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## 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	44	Lifetime Members	18
Family Members	33	Roster	30
Individual Members	132		

**Total Membership 258 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

delivered it to the mortuary the wood may have moved or the humidity changed and the lid was no longer tight fitting, a necessity for the ashes it was to contain. After many attempts, Larry's ultimate solution was to use cork under the wood lid. His demo will show how to attach cork and turn it for a snap-on and pop-off top for an urn or box. An added bonus to this demo will be the turning of high density cork for bowls, boxes and urns.



## TURNING CHALLENGE / PERPETUAL TURNING

**Don Prorak**

The Turning Challenge for August was captive rings.

The winners were:

Novice: No Entries

Intermediate: Don Sheffield

Advanced: Greg Broughton (We're going to have to create a new category for this guy!)

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

Perpetual Turning: Rick Orr's elk antler box was awarded to new members Michael Busch and daughter Lauren - congratulations! We look forward to their contribution next month. 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.



## LADIES OF THE LATHE

Debra Higley-Feldman -  
debrakhf@gmail.com



There wasn't a LOTL class in August and won't be one in September either due to schedule conflicts. There will be a picnic on October 13th at **Merryll Saylan's** shop in Louisville for LOTL and Twirling Sisters (from Rocky Mountain Woodturners). Merryll will also give a demonstration--more on this later.

**Raleigh Lockhart** will give a class on Shaker Boxes at Rockler on the afternoons of Nov. 5th and 6th.

Call for instructors:

Classes are not scheduled for 2025 yet, but turning tool handles and wooden eggs are in the mix. Requested are inside-out ornaments, jewelry, natural-edge bowls, use of a skew, hollow forms, and rotary tool carving/embellishing. If any of you would like to volunteer to teach on any of these subjects, please contact me.

## HOW CLASS

**Keith Motzner** taught the August HOW class which focused on fundamentals. **Debra Higley Feldman** provided assistance and there were seven attendees. They had a full day of foundational skills, including safety, woods, tools, techniques, sharpening, mounting methods, spindle and bowl turning basics.



## SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner -  
frw.shoptour@gmail.com



Alex Bradley hosted the August tour at her shop in Louisville. There was a good turnout and everyone had fun.



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

## SEPTEMBER MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - meturning@gmail.com

The September mentoring class will be held on Monday, September 9th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The topic will be Turning Boxes, part two of two.

## 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 October. 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).



## PHOTO GALLERY

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



**Joe Clark** is back in the gavel business. This is the fourth gavel in a row, made for a Denver City Council President. Made of hard maple, the laser engraving was done by FRW member **Jeff Burke**.



**Steve Claycomb** made a bunch of natural-edge tealight holders for a lodge in Cripple Creek. Most are from locust, some are also made from mulberry and he's now working on some out of juniper.



**Debra Higley-Feldman** made these 2x4" patriotic spinning tops of Schacht maple. They're what happens when your club finds out you do woodturning and they need speaker gifts. The finishes are watercolor pen, shellac, and lacquer. The 4.5 x 2.5" captive ring spinning top and accelerator are of Schacht maple and maple/walnut laminate. String wraps around the top as does the accelerator, the rings levitate when spinning,

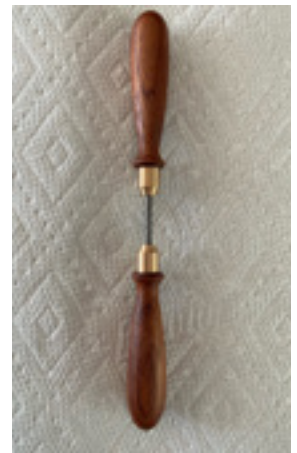


and then the top destabilizes and goes berzerkers. It's great fun!

**Lavonne Kaiser** made these jewelry trays which range from 4" to 5-1/2" in diameter. The various woods are oak, maple, cherry, maple and monkeypod. To finish them, she used Tried and True oil or Artisan lemon oil wax. She recently had a reunion with some college friends and they each got to pick their own tray.



In her August demo, Elizabeth Weber mentioned this burnisher for cabinet and profile scrapers from Heartwood Tools. It's an innovative design with three machined areas yielding fine, medium, or coarse burrs on both edges of a scraper at once. **Henry Williams** turned the handles from bubinga and finished them with Odie's oil and Renaissance wax. The overall length is 9".



After taking Elizabeth Weber's class, **Scott DeWeese** completed two carved pieces. Both have milk paint with India ink markings and spray lacquer on the exterior and walnut oil finish on the inside. The platter is a 14" maple diameter with pyrography and India ink and coated with spray lacquer.



The wide rimmed bowl is in the style of Andrew P. Dunn and is a 14" x 2" mahogany bowl with black dye, South African porcupine quills and finished with wipe-on poly and buffed with the Beall system.

Scott's work will be on display at the upcoming Art on the Green show in Greenwood Village on September 14th and 15th. Several other members will also be exhibiting there, along with painters, photographers, potters and other artists. For more information, visit [www.artonthegreencolorado.com](http://www.artonthegreencolorado.com).

### 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](http://www.woodturner.org) for more information.

**Larry Fox** made a few bowls this month: a 10" bowl of birdseye maple burl, 13" bowl of bristlecone pine and an 11" bowl of walnut.



### 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.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Brenda Blaesing - [b.frezeman@yahoo.com](mailto:b.frezeman@yahoo.com)

Articles and photos for the monthly newsletter are always welcome. Please email your submissions by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.