



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 22, No. 2 February 2022

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

FEBRUARY DEMONSTRATOR – MATT MONACO

Tuesday, February 1st – Live /Zoom Hybrid

Ed Sonny Jones - edsonnyjones333@gmail.com

We are fortunate to have Matt Monaco as our demonstrator for our February meeting. Matt admits he was fortunate when chosen to train as a personally selected assistant to Richard Raffan, his mentor, at Craft Supplies Utah. Matt became interested in woodturning through a high school cabinet making class. He became obsessed with spindle turning and forming basic shapes. He assisted Richard Raffan in teaching classes at Craft Supplies. While there he developed proficiency. Through rigorous training, he mastered both design and production by learning and practicing the most efficient use of the tools. During this time, Richard Raffan had a profound influence on the development of his technique.

Matt has earned a living as a full-time woodturner since he was 24 years old. He began by fulfilling production orders from the wholesale craft circuit and the retail fair world. Then he completed a furniture apprenticeship and did trade turning in the Northeast for three companies. He made hundreds of rolling pins, a few thousand bowls of varying design, balustrades, legs, components and lidded containers. Today, Matt's time is split between teaching at the major craft schools throughout the United States and filling orders for the interior design industry as well as a company that regularly sells his bowls and other turned products. If not busy enough, Matt was recently selected as one of Fine Woodworking magazine's Educator Ambassadors. He is currently working with Robust on a professional line of tools. And he's working with Arrowmont on their diversity initiatives to attract future generations and a wider demographic into the sphere of making.

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>

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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-wearing a mask. 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	15	Lifetime Members	14
Family Members	36	Roster	48
Individual Members	116	Student Members	2
Total Membership			231

CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Robyn Herman
 Vice President/Program Director: Jay Miller
 Secretary: Patrick Crumpton
 Treasurer: Larry Abrams
 President Emeritus: Ed Sonny Jones

Club Historian: Joe Levy
 Coffee Chair: Gary Starritt
 Communications Chair: Jim Proud
 Group Buy Coordinator: Don Prorak
 Internet Chair: Open
 Ladies of the Lathe Chair: Debra Higley-Feldman
 Librarian: Bob Britt
 Membership Chair: Mike Mullen
 Mentoring Program Chair: Marty Christensen
 Newsletter Editor: Brenda Blaesing
 PHEOG Grant Chair: Ken Rollins
 Photographer: Jim Record
 Publicity Chair: Jay Miller
 Shop Tour Chair: Al Murphy
 Videographer: Richard Kuivila
 Wood Raffle: Lavonne Kaiser
 Youth Chair: Don Prorak

Matt is first and foremost an educator. He recognizes that woodturning will always need new blood to remain an activity that survives. His aim is to be a positive light for the next generation of artisans. He stresses use of the tools; developing technique, skillset, and correct practice are simultaneously the most important, difficult and rewarding things. One can then gauge his or her own degree of progress while continually mastering new challenges as they arise. Helping his students discover and develop a new passion has enriched Matt's life. It's rewarding to see students develop confidence in their technique and take their training to the next level. Best of all, Matt appreciates the connection and camaraderie as a friend and supporter.



After years of turning professionally, Matt still enjoys turning. Among his favorite projects are

lidded containers because of the variety of methods that may be employed and the range of items which may be stored. He prefers the Robust American Beauty lathe for all-around performance. He favors a 3/4" skew chisel for its ability to shear burnish across the grain. When asked about his largest, hardest, or scariest turning, he remembered a time when he turned a 27"-29" paper-thin 1/16" wall vessel made in the workshop of a high-end furniture outlet. It successfully ended up on the showroom floor as a featured item. What would Matt say to someone to encourage an interest in woodturning? "Aim for excitement in order to see what you desire to achieve the most."

From FRWT President Robyn Herman:

I would like to thank Larry Abrams, Richard Kuivila and everyone on their team who have been working hard on our AV system. Because of their hard work, we will have a hybrid meeting on February 1st, both live and via zoom.

I would love to see you if you are comfortable coming in person, but I totally understand if you would rather stay home and watch it on zoom. Jim Proud will send the zoom link to all members.

LADIES OF THE LATHE Tuesday, February 8th

Debra Higley-Feldman -
debrakhf@gmail.com



The next LOTL class will be Tuesday, Feb. 8th from 10:00 to 3:00 in the Rockler basement. Debra will be showing how to turn holders for rings or hair scrunchies, along with the use of acrylic paint and colored mica to stain and/or paint your creations. Wood, paint, mica, brushes, and various other tools will be provided. Class is still limited to five turners who must wear masks. The March and April LOTL classes are planned for evenings (more on that later).

At the January class, Jessica Edwards taught us how to make gnomes. It was a beginning-to-end class that covered concept(ion), selection of wood, tools, turning techniques, finishes, facial hair and glues.



LIBRARIAN'S CORNER



Bob Britt - AsWoodTurns80@
yahoo.com

As the new year progresses we continue to face uncertainties. One thing, however, is fairly certain and that is your club library will be open for the February hybrid meeting. Our plan is to be open for any meeting when members are present at Rockler whether it be a hybrid meeting or a regular meeting like we used to know and love. We hope to see many more of our library patrons soon. As it has been almost two years since we have seen many of our members, what with failing eyesight and name recall slipping, it would help a great deal if you could state your name when we begin our conversation. Two years has changed many of us and the mask makes it even more difficult to put a name on a face. Thank you all.

We encourage members to utilize the library "waitlist" feature on the club website to reserve titles of your choice. Available requests will be selected, signed out to you and will be ready for pick-up. Kindly have your requests in not later than midnight Monday January 31st.

Please note a change to my personal email as the current one will be phased out over the next few months. Effective immediately, the new e-mail for Bob Britt is AsWoodTurns80@yahoo.com.

2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES

It's time to renew your Front Range Woodturners membership for 2022. Of our 238 members, 81 have renewed for this year. Dues are \$45 for individuals and \$50 for families. If you have paid your 2022 dues and have not received your new membership badge, please contact mikemullen.denver@gmail.com. Renewal can be made online by sending a PayPal payment to frwttreasurer@gmail.com. You could also pay Mike in person at the next meeting or mail a check to:

Front Range Woodturners
c/o Mike Mullen
P.O. Box 620605
Littleton, CO 80162



MENTORS

Marty Christensen -
mecturning@gmail.com



Quite a few 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'd like to volunteer as 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 knotzner@me.com	Firewood into Art/ Wood Prep
Centennial	Les Stern sternsclass@hotmail.com	General
Centennial	Scott Thomsen thomsen-s@comcast.net	Hand-Threading/ Segmenting
Central Park	Ed Sonny Jones edsonnyjones333@gmail.com	General/ Segmenting
Denver SW	Henry Williams williamshenrya@gmail.com	Spindles/ Bowls
Denver SW	Phil Houck houckpc@comcast.net	General/ Spindles
Denver- Rockler store	Larry Abrams laabrams.51@me.com	General
Hudson	Marty Christensen mecturning@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
Westminster	Mike Skiba mrpsmj@gmail.com	General

FEBRUARY MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com

At the February mentoring class on Monday, February 7th, Marty will show how to make an ultra-thin parting tool. The class will be held at Marty's house, starting at 5:00.



FROM THE WEB:

A new, sustainable disinfectant made from sawdust and water can knock out more than 99% of some disease-causing microbes, including anthrax, several strains of flu and E. coli.

Widespread use of some disinfectants can cause environmental damage. Ones with chlorine, such as bleach, can form dangerous byproducts when they react with other molecules. Potentially greener disinfectants rely on a compound called phenol but can be costly and energy-intensive to make. Phenolic structures abound in wood, however, as part of the large, branching molecules that make up plant cell walls. And it turns out they make a sustainable and environmentally friendly disinfectant. Maybe you want to start saving your sawdust!

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/disinfectant-saw-dust-kill-deadly-microbes-sustainable>

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.

VISIONARY DAVID ELLSWORTH

CU alumnus David Ellsworth is well known in the world of woodturning. He started the woodworking program at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Village, and then the woodturning program a few years later. In 1985, he became a founding member of the American Association of Woodturners. He runs the Ellsworth School of Woodturning in North Carolina and returns to Anderson Ranch every summer to teach.

In 2021 he received the Smithsonian Institution's Visionary Award, awarded to American artists who have achieved the pinnacle of sculptural arts and design in their medium. Read more about him in the Coloradan Alumni Magazine's Fall 2021 issue: <https://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2021/11/05/woodturner-david-ellsworth-received-smithsonian-institutes-2021-visionary-award>

PHEOG GRANTS

Kenneth Rollins - colkdr@yahoo.com

The PHEOG grant is a chance for the club to gain new woodturning skills. We do this by offering members a grant to attend any relevant training and share that learning with the club. To be eligible for a grant you must be a member for at least a year (member number less than 947), pay your 2022 dues, and submit an online application using the FRW website. The application deadline is February 15th, grants will be announced at the March meeting.

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.

QUARTERLY GROUP BUYS

FRW places group buys once a quarter-in January, April, July and October-to obtain discounted pricing from the below manufacturers. Our next group buy will be in April. Don Prorak 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 Don Prorak
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 Don Prorak
Starbond is our cyanoacrylate (CA) glue supplier. Our minimum order is \$100, but we receive an additional discount at \$200, making shipping and handling essentially free.

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 using the club's ID 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:

Don Prorak
24000 E 155th Way
Brighton, CO 80603
303-638-6631

Ted Mellin
9043 W Coco Dr
Littleton, CO 80128

Individual Catalog Orders

Two additional companies, Klingspor and Hartville Tool, offer discounts to members who wish to place individual catalog orders. See the website for more information.

PHOTO GALLERY

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



Debra Higley-Feldman made this 6" marblewood/walnut/maple-acrylic-mica pedestal bowl (it was supposed to look like reverse marblewood but is instead giraffe). The maple came from Schacht. She also made this 6" lidded box of myrtle and walnut. Both have Danish wood oil/carnauba finishes



Alexander Hill (Jeff Hill's son) made these small bowls over winter break for his friends at CSU. The

wood is from the FRW raffles-thank you FRW and Schacht Spindle Company! He learned to turn in the Stargate Lathe Club from Don Prorak and Dr. Pegler.

Ron Kaemingk made this toothpick piston box after watching the remote demo by Tod Raines. He also made a simpler toothpick holder.



Al Murphy made this table of kingwood, wenge and walnut. The drawer pulls are turned canarywood. The finish is Danish oil and wax.

Mike Mullen made this bowl from willow harvested in Lakewood. He filled the checks with black CA, which makes a nice contrast to the light-colored willow. Most people might have thrown the checked blank into the fireplace, but Mike wanted to see if he could make something useful out of it. He wouldn't use it for liquids but it works well for popcorn, nuts and chips.



Ed Sonny Jones created this unusual shark cuterie board of maple. It measures 23" x 11".

Kenneth Rollins made a goblet with a modern design. It's all one piece, made from apple wood, hollowed in the stem as well. This is all he's been able to do lately in an unheated shop space.



Rick Cantwell tried the 3-part goblet challenge. His is 7.5" tall and 3.25" wide, of spalted maple with a stained cherry stem.

Dennis Fanning made this three-piece bowl set from cottonwood. The goblet is boxelder burl and rosewood. The ornament was made by a good friend but Dennis did the stand in the shape of a maple leaf. He also turned a bowl while green which became oval as it dried, 10-3/4" in one direction and 9-7/8" in the other. The last bowl is an aspen burl.



Steve Claycomb has been making globes. The first photo shows a small finished globe on a stand so it rotates. The others are in progress, with outlines of the continents. All are 4" to 6" in diameter, cut in half and hollowed, then glued back together.



Kim Komitor made this live-edge lidded box of box elder burl and rosewood. Anyone interested in trying your hand at this as a challenge? He's currently working on a walnut and box elder box.



Lavonne Kaiser made this 18" x 4" walnut bowl along with a 7.5" elm bowl and cherry and maple cooking stirrers.



Ted Mellin has been coring out some Ponderosa Pine beetle-killed bowls. He's done three and has five more to go. The big bowl is 16" in diameter and the smaller cored-out one is about 12". The tree came from a church parking lot that had to be removed because of a construction project. Ted will get at least 30 bowls from that one tree!



Joe Levy made this collection of bottle stoppers with great patterns and shapes.

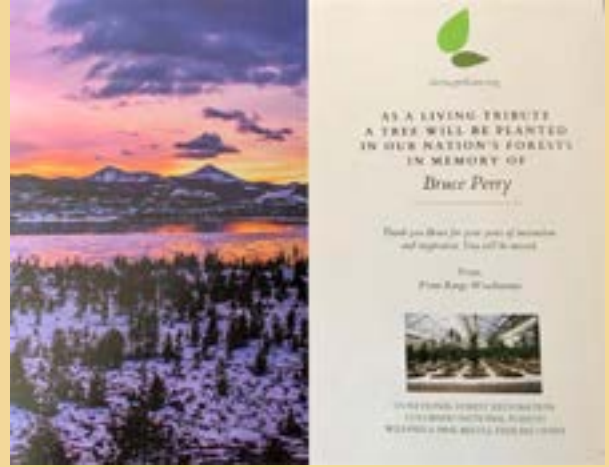
A neighbor asked **Don Prorak** for a bowl with a hole for her spoon (not sure why!), so he made this box elder cereal bowl and cherry spoon. He also made some natural-edge bowls in beetle-kill pine & Russian olive.



This 'sliver' caught **Tom Fremgen** in the face mask when roughing this poplar. Just a reminder.... Safety! Safety! Safety!

A LIVING TRIBUTE

Front Range Woodturners has planted a tree in memory of Bruce Perry. His wife Sandy will receive this keepsake card in his honor.



The Board of Directors voted to memorialize all passing members this way going forward.

From **Don Prorak's** collection, this piece was made by **Bruce Perry**. It's Don's all-time favorite piece by Bruce, in ponderosa pine. The interrupted circles, delicate hollow form, and gently curved natural edge background are to Don the essence of Bruce's work. He's so happy to have this piece in his collection.

