



# GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 23, No. 5 May 2023

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

## **MAY DEMONSTRATOR –VINNY LUCIANI** **Tuesday, May 2nd -- In Person & via Zoom**

Ed Sonny Jones - [edsonnyjones333@gmail.com](mailto:edsonnyjones333@gmail.com)

Vinny Luciani is the current president of the local Pikes Peak Woodturning Club. He is a lifelong woodworker and is retired from his own furniture restoration and finishing business in Colorado Springs, which he ran for 18 years. Vinny has acquired vast experience at every level of woodworking and woodturning.

After closing his business, Vinny is now focused as a full time woodturner, and guitarist/musician. His artistic woodturnings have been featured in *Woodturning* magazine and local galleries. He enjoys doing regular demonstrations of his techniques at local woodturning clubs and national retreats.



Vinny has an easy and approachable style that his students enjoy. His general demeanor and attitude toward others reflect his philosophy of respect and dignity for all individuals. A comfortable and affable environment is his goal when sharing his experience and techniques

## **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>

## **THIS MONTH'S NEWS:**

May Presenter .....	1-2
Club Information & Officers .....	2
Ladies of the Lathe .....	3
Shop Tours .....	3
H.O.W. Class.....	4
Youth Mentoring .....	4
Mentors.....	5
Group Buys .....	5
Photo Gallery .....	6-7



## 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	24	Lifetime Members	14
Family Members	36	Roster	47
Individual Members	132	Student Members	1
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>254</b>		

## CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Robyn Herman

Vice President/Program Director: Don Prorak

Secretary: Patrick Crumpton

Treasurer: Larry Abrams

President Emeritus: Ed Sonny Jones

Club Historian: Ed Sonny Jones

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: Pat Scott

Photographer: Jim Record

Publicity Chair: Robyn Herman

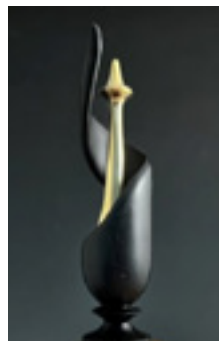
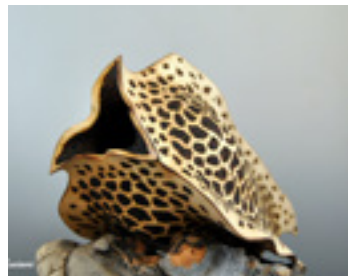
Shop Tour Chair: Keith Motzner

Videographer: Marty Christensen & Larry Abrams

Wood Raffle: Lavonne Kaiser

Youth Chair: Don Prorak

The topic for his demonstration will be Ornamentation. It's all the rage! A crash intro into various techniques warranting further investigation.





## LADIES OF THE LATHE Saturday, May 20th

Debra Higley-Feldman -  
debrakhf@gmail.com



On Sunday, April 2nd Al Murphy taught a class in his shop on how to make and temper a steel tool, then use the finished tool to fit a metal inlay into turned wood. What can be better than using blow torches/rock wool, a drill press, lathe, and other tools? (Maybe dark chocolate, but it is close). More info and photos are on the LOTL FB site ( <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057331244918> ).



The Saturday, May 20th LOTL “class” will be a FRW shop tour. Debra Higley has a 120 sq ft custom Tuff Shed in Lakewood. She’ll have a few things out to play with (carver, Bosch hollowform setup), but the focus will be on what works and what doesn’t in the shop setup. I’ll also have gluten-free, dairy-free, nut-free, vegetarian, but otherwise edible food and drink.

Tuesday, June 6th (10-4) instructor at Rockler will be Robert Brewer from the Pikes Peak Woodturners teaching various “Tips and Tricks” to make our woodturning lives easier.

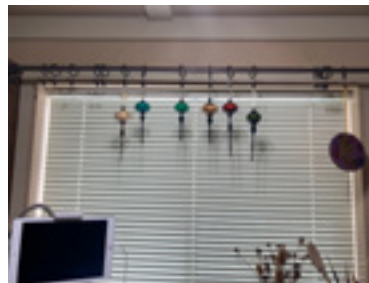
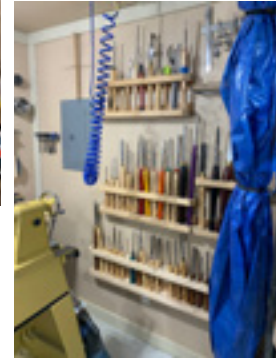
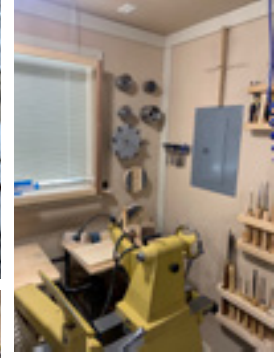
The July class will be on Saturday, June 17th, starting at 10 am at Larry Hughes’ shop. Topic is segmented turning and use of jigs.

## SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner -  
ShopTour@frontrangewoodturners.org



On April 22nd, **Robyn Herman** hosted a shop tour at her home in Lakewood. There was a great turnout and everyone enjoyed the day.



### Upcoming Tours:

- May 20 Debra Higley 10:00 - 2:00
- June 10 Covenant Living Community, Travis McGinnis 10:00 - 1:00
- July 15 Craig Choun 10:00 - 1:00
- Aug 26 Les Stern 10:00 - 2:00
- Sept 9 Keith Motzner 10:00 - 2:00
- October AVAILABLE

We are not limited to just one shop tour per month, so if there is more interest, members are welcome to contact me to schedule a date. Contact ShopTour@frontrangewoodturners.org.

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.

## HANDS-ON WOODTURNING

Ed Sonny Jones -  
[edsonnyjones333@gmail.com](mailto:edsonnyjones333@gmail.com)

The Front Range Woodturner's H.O.W. (Hands on Woodturning) class was held in Rockler's Classroom on Tuesday April 18th with a second class on April 25th. **Pat Scott** generously offered the second date because many people wanted to learn how to turn an 8" pepper mill.



Pepper mill samples

Pat began the class by explaining that a pepper mill only takes four steps to complete. Step 1 is to turn a 3" x 3" x 9" stock round between centers. A tenon or spigot is cut into each end and then the rounded spindle is cut into 5" and 3" pieces. Each cut piece requires a tenon or spigot on both ends.



Pat demonstrating step 1

The second step is to drill a series of holes using sized forstner bits and drill bits into each half. Pat could not overemphasize the importance of accuracy during this step. If not drilled straight, the mill will fail and all the work will have been for nothing. The drilled halves are then fitted together and measured for a precise length.

The class spent so much time measuring and drilling precisely, we did not complete step three which is to shape the outside of the mill. We also did not get to step four which is sanding and applying a finish. Instead, Pat spent the remaining class time explaining methods he uses in completing steps 3 and 4. Pat spent considerable time to ensure that each attendee would be able to finish their mill at home with confidence.



Well, at least we started. Now finish the mills at home.  
Class dismissed!

The basic premise of the H.O.W. class is for attendees to watch a woodturning demonstration and replicate, in real time, each step of the process to create the item being created. Unlike watching a demonstration and trying to remember HOW to make it when home, the H.O.W participants follow the leader.

It was a great class and we look forward to more H.O.W classes later this fall. If interested in teaching a class or if you have a suggestion for a class subject you would like to attend, contact Sonny Jones at [www.edsonnyjones333@gmail.com](mailto:www.edsonnyjones333@gmail.com).

## YOUTH MENTORING

We have resumed Youth Mentoring with a six-week pilot program at Colorado STEM Academy, meeting on Monday afternoons. This program is a joint effort with the Colorado Woodworkers Guild, so we are teaching both woodworking and woodturning skills to middle-school students. We began with cutting boards, and will next turn handles for butter knives to compliment the boards, all with an emphasis on safety and solid basics. Dennis Edmonds was instrumental in cultivating the relationship with CSA, and teaching duties are being handled by Don Prorak, Devon Lindsley, and Gary White. CSA has a well-equipped shop, augmented with our lathes and turning tools, and we're having a lot of fun with a great group of students!

## MENTORS

Marty Christensen -  
mecturning@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> knotzner@me.com	Firewood into Art/ Wood Prep
Centennial	<b>Les Stern</b> sternsclass@hotmail.com	General
Central Park	<b>Ed Sonny Jones</b> edsonnyjones333@gmail.com	General/ Segmenting
Denver SW	<b>Henry Williams</b> williamshenrya@gmail.com	Spindles/ Bowls
Denver SW	<b>Phil Houck</b> houckpc@comcast.net	General/ Spindles
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> mecturning@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

## MAY MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com

The May mentoring class will be held on Monday, May 8th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The topic will be Creating and Using Finishes.

## 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 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).



## PHOTO GALLERY

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



A beginning turner, **Lee Lindsay** made this 10" maple bowl after only three months of turning.

**Jill Rice** made this 10" claro walnut bowl, finished with General Finishes wood finish. She also made an 11" square-edge bowl of spalted birch. The wood is bare in the photo, but then she used GF Arm-R-Seal to finish it. That darkened it considerably but also brought out the medullary rays and other grain.



**Debra Higley-Feldman** made some spinning tops and a bird (?) house ornament from Schacht maple and satinwood. The finishes are shellac, water-color, and walnut oil.



**Dennis Fanning** made this large 15" maple bowl. The wide textured rim was colored with black ink and gold gilding wax.

**Joe Levy** made a salt cellar for his wife. It's 3.5" in diameter and made from walnut with a tulipwood finial. The scoop is made from holly. All were finished with Drs Woodshop wax bowl finish.



## FRW SUMMER BARBEQUE

We are bringing the BBQ back to the club this summer. It's been several years. It will be held in central Denver at Washington Park.



Date: Saturday, June 24th  
Time: 10am to 4pm - Lunch around noon  
Location: Washington Park Area 3B  
Address: 701 S Franklin St, Denver CO 80209

Food: The club will be supplying burgers, brats, dogs, chips, and drinks! Feel free to bring a side or dessert.

We'll need your help to make it a great day.  
More details to come.

## 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.

**Steve Claycomb** made this rectangular oak bowl with an acrylic finish.



Following the rolling pins she made last month, **Donna Kitchens** made an oak rolling pin holder this month, along with a new longer cherry rolling pin and four biscuit/cookie cutters--two of maple, one of cherry and one of walnut. She also



made pin cushions of walnut and Russian olive (she thinks). They are filled with crushed walnut shells which clean and sharpen the pins as well as keep them at hand.

After making her first bowl last month at the LOTL class, **Cathie McLean** was inspired by the pretty pinstriped blanks used that day. So she decided to make her own blank, combining cedar and poplar. She finished the bowl with butcher block conditioner.



## 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 26th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.



**Curt Vogt** has continued to make hollowed-out ornaments from the branches and trees that came down in the February ice storm. Not having much experience turning wet wood, he learned new things. Shown are a vessel with 3/8" opening, a 2 1/4" diameter box with a domed lid, and three hollow ornaments with cherry top caps. As a birthday gift, Curt decided his friend needed a nicer depth gauge than the stick/bamboo skewer he had been using. So he made one of bocote and curly maple. It has a brass insert and knob to secure the 1/4" diameter stainless steel rod in place. Everything was



finished with a true lacquer because of the natural oils in the bocote.

**Henry Williams** practiced his box turning skills with Cindy Drozda's Opal Tower Box design. Around 3"



tall, they were made from cherry and manufactured opal.

## 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.