



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

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Editor: Brenda Blaesing

AUGUST DEMONSTRATOR – Michael Roper Tuesday, August 3rd - IN PERSON!

Joe Levy - jelevy.1977@gmail.com

This month's demonstrator is our very own Michael Roper. As he's been an FRW club member for numerous years, many of you already know him. I hope something in this introduction will be news to you.

Roper's woodworking life began as a child-sweating away in his grandfather's shop sanding boards and developing basic carpentry skills. When he was 29 or 30 years old, he applied for a job as a framer... and, why not? He had carpentry experience. Arriving for the interview, Roper realized he had not applied for a carpentry job but that of a picture framer! Rolling with it, picture framing was Roper's first exposure to fine woodworking. In this position, Roper saw numerous turnings brought into the shop by a co-worker and thought those pieces were "the coolest things ever!" He later learned of, and enrolled in, the woodworking program at Red Rocks CC with the desire to make fine furniture. Through that program Roper had two pivotal experiences. One was his first real experience at a lathe which was turning table legs for his project. The other was watching-with awe-as Pete Holtus demonstrated box turning. Between those two events, Roper's sights had been set on a professional woodturning career.

Within the month, at Pete's invitation, Roper attended his first FRW meeting. He remembers standing to the side taking it all in and being approached by two large guy-Bruce Perry and Bear Limvere. They asked, "Are you sure you're in the right room boy?" For many years that followed, Roper was mentored by Bruce, whom Roper credits with finishing his "Jedi training." It didn't take long

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

Once we're back to live meetings again, 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	10	Lifetime Members	13
Family Members	34	Roster	46
Individual Members	102	Student Members	1
Total Membership			206

CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President: Ed Sonny Jones

Vice President/Program Director: Don Prorak

Secretary: Patrick Crumpton

Treasurer: Larry Abrams

President Emeritus: Pat Scott

Club Historian: Joe Levy

Coffee Chair: Gary Starritt

Communications Chair: Jim Proud

Group Buy Coordinator: Jay Miller

Internet Chair: Open

Ladies of the Lathe Chair: Robyn Herman

Librarian: Bob Britt

Membership Chair: Mike Mullen

Mentoring Program Chair: Marty Christensen

Newsletter Editor: Brenda Blaesing

PHEOG Grant Chair: Bob Franklin

Photographer: Jim Record

Publicity Chair: Jay Miller

Shop Tour Chair: Al Murphy

Videographer: Richard Kuivila

Wood Raffle: Lavonne Kaiser

Youth Chair: Don Prorak

for Roper to dive into the club's activities, one of which was contributing regularly to the monthly show-and-tell. One month in particular, when David Ellsworth was our demonstrator, David spent a few minutes critiquing the show-and-tell pieces. He came to Roper's set of three mini hollow forms and asked who made them. Roper was sitting behind David and had no intention of speaking up. After a few seconds of silence, Bruce spoke up and, as any good mentor would do, ratted Roper out. Ellsworth looked at Roper and said, "You turned these? How long have you been turning? Stop, we'll talk about this later." After the demo, Ellsworth gave Roper his private critique saying not to be nervous about criticism, that people will always want to know how you made something, and to get comfortable explaining the process to others.

Eventually, Roper began turning professionally which involved teaching, selling, and demonstrating. He, along with seven or eight others, was invited to compete in a Harvey-sponsored bowl turning race at the 2019 AAW symposium in which each demonstrator, one by one, would step up to the Harvey T60 (it had just come out) and turn their fastest bowl. The first few were turning in times around 7 or 8 minutes. Eventually, Roper stepped up to the lathe and went to town. Rounded the outside, formed the tenon-48 seconds...flipped the bowl around, mounted, hollowed out the middle-90 seconds, final time. A short but audible silence fell over the crowd; after a few seconds, two demonstrators simply walked away.

Roper is currently learning to chase threads and reports his current success rate to be about 20%. As much as he enjoys learning new skills, it's the challenges of working through a small opening and achieving an even wall thickness that make the hollow form his favorite project. In fact, the turning he is most proud of is a hollow form that became the first woodturned piece to be on display in Denver's Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to visit the Kirkland Museum and find it (though a burst water pipe has temporarily closed the museum).

In spite of his pursuits of new skills or his penchant for hollow forms, he still has a pragmatic side. Roper will kick start our holiday season preparations by

demonstrating for us processes and techniques to turn pieces that sell well every holiday.



SCHACT WOOD GIVEAWAY SUNDAY, AUGUST 1ST

10:00 to 11:00 am - ONE HOUR ONLY!

To avoid bringing more wood to Rockler for the August meeting, Dave Hawley is holding a one-hour (10am to 11am) Schacht wood giveaway in his driveway in Boulder THIS SUNDAY. Bring boxes so he can recycle his boxes for more wood during August.

Dave's address is listed in the club roster. Google Maps and other sites find it easily.

LIBRARIAN'S CORNER



Bob Britt - bob.britt@q.com

Curbside pick-up for FRW Library resources has ended. Whether you came once or every month, a big Thank You to all who participated in this activity over the first six months of the year. Now once again we can finally meet again in person. All library media checked out prior to July 1st, 2021 will be due and should be returned. Many items have been in members' possession since March 2020. The "RED" return box (FRW Library area lower level at Rockler is available for those who will not be attending the meeting. Please do not leave them with a Rockler employee. Some of us will undoubtedly have to hunt around for the items that we haven't looked at, read or viewed in many, many months. If you have any question as to what items you should be looking for, feel free to e-mail your FRW Librarian and he should be able to verify what items you might have. In the meantime look over the Library Master on the FRW website and select items you want to sign out at the August 3rd meeting. Better yet, use the waitlist feature and have your available requested items pre-pulled and ready for pick-up when you arrive. It is going to be a busy meeting on August 3rd. Plan to be there.

Not a library item but a friendly reminder that Rockler has a number of new employees. When you make a purchase you should probably remind them to mark the Woodturning Club sales log. Thank you.

MENTORS

Marty Christensen -
meturning@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 meturning@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

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.

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

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.

UPCOMING DEMOS

Don Prorak - donprorak@comcast.net

FRW August 2021 Meeting & Demo

Tuesday, August 3, 6:15 PM

Rockler Basement Meeting Room

We're back, live and in person! Our first live demonstrator (since March of last year) is FRW member and professional woodturner Michael (as he is rarely called!) Roper. Since many people are gearing up for craft fairs, Roper will demonstrate his version of spindle-turned Christmas trees including pyrography and acrylic paint. It will be fun, informative, and a great way to bounce back to the new reality!

As we resume in person meetings and club activities, please remember that the safety of all our members is paramount. If you are unvaccinated, experiencing COVID-like symptoms, or feel at risk in a crowd, please do not attend. The demo will be recorded for later viewing, and we are hard at work to upgrade our audio/video system for remote capability in the near future. Stay safe & healthy!



BEADS OF COURAGE

The mission of Beads of Courage is to provide Arts-in-Medicine Programs for children coping with serious illness, their families and the clinicians who care for them.

Rick Fleming and **Ed Cypher** collect bowls for the organization. Bring your bowls to the next meeting or contact Rick or Ed about taking a contribution to them.

Rick: turningadg@yaho.com

Ed: cypher4691@msn.com

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 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 cyanoacrylate (CA) glue supplier. Our minimum order is \$100, but we receive an additional discount at \$200, making shipping and handling essentially free.

Wood Carvers Supply - send orders to Jay Miller

All types of woodworking tools are available from this company. We receive a discount on everything in their catalog.

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 in April and October only, 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 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 7" wenge bowl with inlaid turquoise and a 6" ash bowl with wood from FRW's wood sale.



Mickey Jackson's recent turning has focused on building skills and techniques. While has been turning for nearly 30 years, he really had no clue what he was doing until he joined FRW about six years ago. Shown are two in-progress Beads of Courage bowls, 3 cedar bowls from wood sale wood, a selection of bottle stoppers and boxes that came about after watching Cindy Drozda's remote demos on umeke (left) and capsule boxes with inlay (right). He also made some seam rippers for his wife to take to a quilting retreat. That's as close as he gets to production turning or for-profit turning.



Joe Levy made this unique item out of Patagonian rosewood. At first glance it looks like a honey dipper but turns out to be a pen!

Steve Claycomb made these decorim cups as taught by Rudy Lopez. These are dry locust so the sapwood is almost the same color as heartwood. The last picture shows the difference in the sapwood of a green branch and dead branch of locust.



Gordon Dalby made this 3-1/4" x 6-1/2" ebony and holly multi-axis vase inspired by Barbara Dill's youtube demo. The flower was designed and built by Hobby Lobby.

Al Murphy finished four mahogany spiral legs--two lefties and two righties.





Stepehn Pegler made this cherry/walnut layered bowl. The walnut was cut about 1975.



Dale Quakenbush turned a twisted box out of a pallet his neighbor got. It sort of looked like oak but isn't. It turned nice but is a hard wood.



Steve Cipolla has been very busy, working on bowls in a variety of woods. Shown are (1) camphor wood with copper shavings (2) redheart, (3) honey locust (yes, there is a theme in those), (4) eucalyptus from the front yard, (5) walnut scrap and (6) camphor wood from the gardener. And then he made a butcher block platter as a thank you for lending him a bandsaw.



Don Prorak turned a variety of woods as well.: a purpleheart peppermill and several bottle stoppers. Then some osage orange



(a.k.a. bois d'arc, bodark, hedge apple and monkey brain) turned his shop to gold! The finished bois d'arc bowl turned out great!

