



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 23, No. 12 December 2023

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 8th

Our holiday party will be held on Friday, December 8th at First Plymouth Church UCC, 3501 S Colorado Blvd, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113. The social hour will start at 5:30, dinner at 6:30 and the program will run from 7:30 to 9:00. The club will provide turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and drinks. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. The main event of the evening will be an auction to raise funds for the Pete Holtus Educational Opportunity Grant program. Bring your generous spirits and your wallets. The RSVP deadline is today, 12/1. Use this web signup form:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E054BA5A72CA5FF2-45883193-frwholiday>

If you have any problems, contact Bear:
bear@bearlimvere.com

ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

One of the traditions of the party is the Ornament Exchange. Bring your turned ornament and exchange it with a fellow ornament enthusiast. When you arrive at the party, you will get a raffle ticket and a tag for each ornament you bring. On the tag, you will put your name and material(s) of construction. The ornaments will be on display until the ornament exchange begins. Then they'll be placed in brown paper bags for a random drawing. As each number from the raffle tickets is called, the called ticket holder will pick a random bag. This will continue until all ornaments have been exchanged.

CENTERPIECES

For those who signed up to create centerpieces, the club will provide tealight candles to incorporate into your piece. Tealight dimensions are:

Diameter: 1-7/16"

Height: 23/32" base only, 1-3/8" with light

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. 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	137	Student Members	1
Total Membership	259		

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

OAK TREE HARVEST

Scott Schlapkohl - scottschlapkohl@icloud.com

While selling his bowls in June at the 2023 Artsweek Golden Festival, a customer asked Scott Schlapkohl if he would be interested in an oak tree that was being cut down. Scott said he was. During the discussion, Scott said that fall and winter are the best times to cut a tree down for bowl turning.

In September, the guy called Scott and said he was ready to cut down the tree. When Scott saw the tree, he realized he could only use about 10% of it. He let the club know about the tree and it was decided that we would take it all. We made an announcement at the October club meeting and through email. On November 7th, fourteen people showed up to help salvage the tree. Robin Luther brought his chain saw mill to make some slabs. His expertise helped make the harvest of the beautiful red oak tree a success. And a great time was had by all.



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.

LADIES OF THE LATHE

Debra Higley-Feldman -
debrakhf@gmail.com



LOTL has three classes planned so far for 2024, all will be held at Rockler. On Tuesday, January 9th, **Jessica Edwards** will give a class in turning gnomes, including methods of embellishment. The class will run from 10:00 to 4:00. The photo shows gnomes created in her 2022 LOTL class.



On Wednesday, February 2nd, **Raleigh Lockhart** will show us how to make a leaf-shaped small bowl. The project will include use of the scroll saw and turning. That class will run from 10:00 to 4:00.

Starting at 9:30 on Tuesday, March 5th, **Henry Williams** will be showing us how to turn/trim/finish Ashley Harwood's off-kilter ornament stand.

LOTL classes are free and open to FRW members; women get first dibs and men can sign up if there are openings.

WOOD SALE

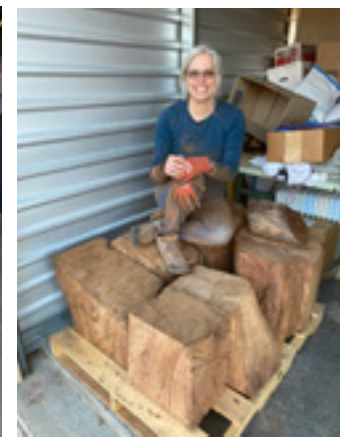
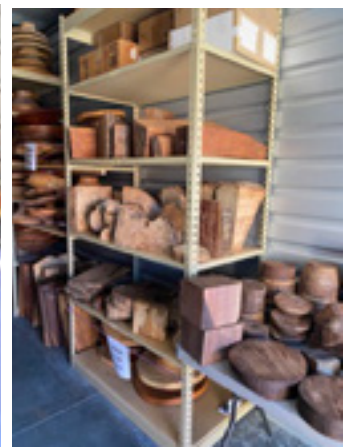
Alex Bradley - fineturnedwood@gmail.com

Even with short notice, Alex Bradley's wood sale on Saturday, November 18th was well attended by both clubs. For those of you that missed the notice, Alex moved 9,000 lbs of her dad's wood stash from Maryland to Colorado in October (Phil F. Brown, <https://fineturnedwood.com/about-phil/>). Phil grew up in Denver (54th and Osceola) before moving to Maryland and becoming a professional woodturner. The wood had been stored indoors by Phil for 20+ years before getting loaded on a truck and driven to CSWoods vacuum kiln for a heat treat. Alex is selling the wood to help fund moving and storing his rough-turned pieces that she is planning on turning into her old age.

Over 26 club members came to check out what was on offer. With 140 bowl blanks/pieces of wood sold, Alex's goal to move out of the smaller storage unit was achieved. There are currently 234 bowl blanks/pieces of wood still available with many of them

being burls, walnut and cherry. Alex is still working on pricing the larger burls and boards and will make those available as soon as they are ready (the Koa has been unearthed and confirmed but how do you price Koa?). Once we have warmer temperatures in the forecast, another "open house" sale date will be announced. In the meantime, please contact Alex directly to set up a private shopping time (best between 9-2:30pm during the week or before 4pm on the weekend). Alex's contact information: fineturnedwood@gmail.com, 303-709-9694

Photos of the pieces available, as well as a pricing list can be found here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1j7Ko885yMgU_VHTuZMjwcHt4ujyxu62?usp=drive_link. Photos of the adventure of getting the wood from Maryland are detailed in Alex's Instagram feed - @fineturnedwood (www.instagram.com/fineturnedwood/)



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	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
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
Highlands Ranch	Rick Orr rickorr.1848@yahoo.com	Boxes/Inlay/ Thread Cutting
Hudson	Marty Christensen mecturning@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

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 January. 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

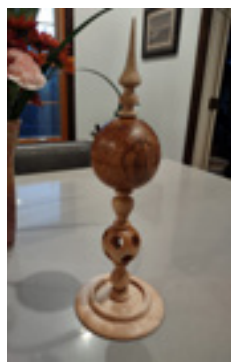
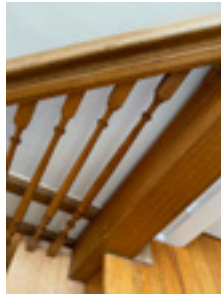
Two additional companies, Klingspor and Penn State Industries, offer discounts to members who wish to place individual catalog orders. To take advantage of these discounts, you must be on their list of FRW members. To be placed on the list, please sign up at a meeting or send an e-mail to Jay Miller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

PHOTO GALLERY

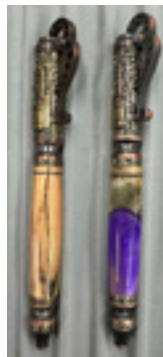
Here are some projects that members have been working on this month.



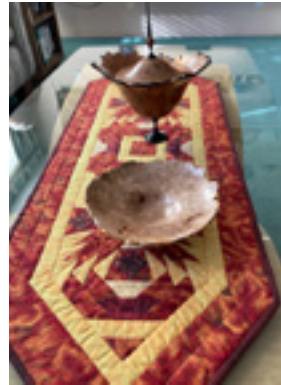
A month ago a lady contacted the club to find someone to turn a replacement baluster for her home near Washington Park. **Bill Jackson** thought he could do that! Keith Motzner gave him some guidance on using a 3-wheel spindle rest to dampen vibration and flexing of the wood. Finishing the baluster to match 125 years of age was another challenge. Golden Oak Watco Oil was a close match to the base color, but how to get some "dirt" in the crevices and grain so the new would match the old? He used some dark brown paste wax to add some "used" look to the grain. And Bill is happy to report that the homeowner was very pleased with the result.



Al Murphy made this orb on a stand of spalted maple, bird's eye maple and hard maple.



It was a light month for **Joe Clark**, but he got a few things done for Christmas presents. He made a couple of Steampump pens (Yep, you read that right. Steampump for the pump handle to expose and retract the pen tip.) One in flame spalted box elder (L) the other in a wood/acrylic mix Fiji blank. He also made a crochet set—the handle in Fiji again with six interchangeable hooks.



This is **Gordon Dalby's** attempt to make a very thinly (approx 1/8" thick) turned maple burl to match one he received from Robin Costelle. It measures 1-1/2" high by 7" diameter.

Debra Higley-Feldman turned a 4x6" aspen box with a Schacht maple/cherry lid. The finish is shellac/Danish wood oil/carnauba. She didn't realize until she was finished that the finial top looks a bit like a poop emoji. That fits considering all the fungus and worm poop in the woods.



Melissa Hunter has been working on some snow loaded bent trees; these two are Haun wood from Australia. The first is 8" tall and the second is 6-1/2". She also made a segmented bowl of purple heart and ash that measures 6" wide and 3" deep.



Last year, **Pat Scott** made 55 Christmas trees for a craft fair and sold them all. So this year he made over 130 trees!



Brenda Blaesing took a scroll saw class and learned how to make inside cuts as well as outside cuts with this butterfly as the class project. She thought it would make a nice ornament so finger painted with alcohol ink on translucent paper (a technique she learned from Cathie McLean) for the monarch background.



Blaine Blaesing made this 11" bowl from a beautiful piece of box elder (we think) he bought at Alex Bradley's wood sale a few weeks ago. The hemp oil finish darkened the colors and increased the richness. He also made a pedestal box with a finial lid out of aspen and Schacht maple, dyed black. The piece is 15" tall.



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.