



# GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 24, No. 3 March 2024

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

## **MARCH DEMONSTRATOR –Chris Hoehle** **Tuesday, March 5th–In Person and via Zoom**

Jessica Edwards - [edwardsjessica625@gmail.com](mailto:edwardsjessica625@gmail.com)

Chris Hoehle’s love for woodturning dates back nearly 18 years to his first woodturning class in fall 2006 in the fine woodworking program at Red Rocks Community College.



At the time, he was primarily interested in furniture design, but somewhere in the middle of that first semester, the lathe captivated his attention like it did for so many of us and he hasn’t looked back since!

After making his way through all the course offerings at Red Rocks, he sought out more advanced instruction at the top arts and crafts schools across the country such as Anderson Ranch Arts Center and Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. He studied with many of the top woodturners in the field and eventually met the person he credits as his main mentor, Jacques Vesery. He served as Mr. Vesery’s workshop assistant for several weeklong workshops at the aforementioned schools and was invited to join the ranks of Arrowmont instructors himself in 2021 (postponed from 2020). He has taught three week-long workshops at Arrowmont and he created a popular series of beginner classes at the community workshop at the Denver Tool Library, where he also works part-time as a shop monitor. He loves to teach and is known as an excellent instructor who can break down complex woodturning skills into their most essential pieces and convey them to beginners in a concise, easy-to-understand manner. He sells his work at local galleries and art festivals, and like his mentor Jacques, he considers good form to be the most fundamental aspect of any successful woodturning project. Chris’s current gallery show “Grain and Fiber” will be on display at Valkarie Gallery in Lakewood from March 6th to 31st.

## **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	22	Lifetime Members	17
Family Members	17	Roster	16
Individual Members	77		

**Total Membership 149 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

In his March demo, Picture Frame Boxes, he'll demonstrate his procedure for creating an end grain box with a contrasting wood inlay on the lid that is visible from both the top and the underside of the lid. In addition to the special steps needed to create that effect, he'll also cover all of the typical topics for creating an end grain box such as hollowing and getting the fit of the lid just right.



## SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner

ShopTour@

[frontrangewoodturners.org](mailto:shoptour@frontrangewoodturners.org)

Our shop tours for 2024 will begin in April with a tour of Where Wood Meets Steel / Denver Wood Slabs. Attendees will learn about their process from milling to drying to creating custom furniture. Marina and Ryan will serve BBQ and refreshments.

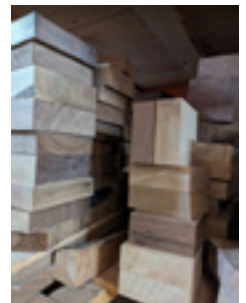
This tour is open to members of Front Range Woodturners and Colorado Woodworkers Guild, who will receive a 15% discount on materials that day.

April 13th 11am - 2pm

4903 Washington St, Denver

<http://www.wwms.net>

<http://denverwoodslabs.com>



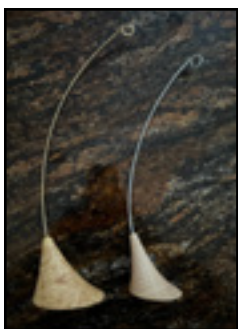
Shop tours are a great way for both old and new members to get better acquainted and to see how the other half turns, as well as seeing other members tools and equipment. You may even pick up some new ideas or techniques for your own shop.

## LADIES OF THE LATHE

Debra Higley-Feldman -  
debrakhf@gmail.com



In response to popular demand, LOTL hosted two classes in February on turning star- and leaf-shaped bowls. **Raleigh Lockhart** gave instruction in using a scroll saw to cut the shapes, attaching the wood to the faceplates, turning techniques, sanding, finishing and buffing.



On March 5th, **Henry Williams** will teach how to turn the Ashley Harwood off-kilter ornament stand.

On the April 2nd LOTL Dave Hawley will teach safely cutting branches on a bandsaw using a sled, turning mushrooms/toadstools, and adding turquoise inlays to the fungi.



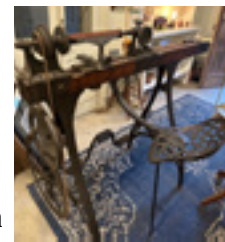
## CRAFTSMANSHIP IN NEW ORLEANS

Jessica Edwards - edwardsjessica625@gmail.com

In the French Quarter of New Orleans is Royal St. Royal St runs parallel with Bourbon, but this street is lined with art galleries and antiques stores. The art is plentiful and covers all mediums. On my journey of inspiration and 'window shopping' I found some things of history that might be of interest to the members of the club. For the pen turners, I came upon an antique/jewelry store with a display of 4 pens. One of the pens was The Jotter, the preferred pen of President Kennedy. I am unclear if Kennedy used this exact pen, but the value of the pen is \$5,450. There were 3 other pens, writing instruments rather, all by David Oscarson using a process called Guilloché and adding hard enamel. These rollerball and fountain writing instruments were between \$6,200-\$6,400. They are not done in a technique we regularly practice with resin inlays, wood, and turning on the lathe, but they were beautiful pieces to look at and to be inspired by someone else's craftsmanship and the box was just as beautiful as the pens.



Down the street was an American Handmade Woodcraft store, Idea Factory. Inside there were lots of fun things for sale, but what caught my eye was an 1876 W.F. & John Barnes lathe. This works by using the foot pedals in reverse, but functions similarly to belt driven lathes. There were 3 foot pedals on this lathe so you could move down the bed depending on the length of the material. Made in Rockford, IL all the metal parts were original with the patent stamp visible on the legs and pedals. The floral designs on the bed of the lathe are not quite as visible anymore. You can also purchase this vintage lathe for \$3,000.



I think my husband was happy that I did not buy another lathe.

Jessica Edwards



## 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

## MARCH MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com

The March mentoring class will be held on Monday, March 11th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The topic will be Segmenting, Part One.

## 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 April. 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.



### Debra Higley-Feldman

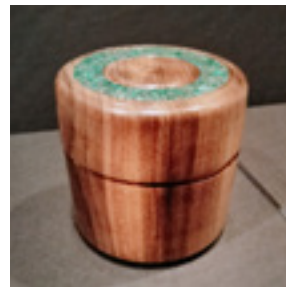
was out of pens, so turned some. They're a mix of woods and hemp/resin, some with acrylic or watercolor paint or turquoise inlay. The finishes are wood oil/carnauba.

The spalted maple 8" bowl has a shellac/walnut oil finish. The 6.5" walnut bowl has a Schacht laminated maple/walnut base. The walnut bowl was a brittle mess so she had to stabilize it with CA glue. After sanding, she finished it with walnut oil.



**Gordon Dalby** made this 9" x 9-1/2" tall segmented bowl called Illusions. It's composed of walnut, teak, sapele, maple, cherry, wenge, canary, and a large mixture in the floating bottom.

**Blaine Blaesing** made this three-piece box using aspen which was dyed black and a piece of sassafras given to him by Graeme Priddle on a visit to Asheville, North Carolina. He also made a vase for a friend using wood from their ash tree which was taken down.



**Jill Rice** made a myrtle box with a malachite inlay that measures about 4" x 3-1/2". The elm bowl measures 6-1/2" x 2-1/2". It was made with well-oriented sap wood courtesy of Robin Luther.



The bloodwood hollow form measures 4" diameter x 2" high. The 5-1/4" x 4" vessel is made of spalted myrtle with lots of Minwax wood hardener. All have General Finishes Arm-R-Seal semi gloss finish except the bloodwood piece which has a gel topcoat.



## 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.

**Brenda Blaesing** made two new mixed-media pieces. The ceramic jars were thrown on the potter's wheel and hand painted using the centuries-old majolica technique. The wood lids were turned from aspen and cherry, then painted black to coordinate with the jars.



### FROM THE WEB:

Al Murphy - [ajmurphy1@comcast.net](mailto:ajmurphy1@comcast.net)

In 14th century Japan, there was a shortage of straight lumber for building and flat land on which to grow it. Arborists there developed a technique that looks like growing trees on top of trees, called daisugi. Check out this article to see some wild-looking trees.

<https://hackaday.com/2024/02/20/daisugi-growing-straight-lumber-without-killing-the-tree/>

## 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.

## 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.

**Curt Vogt** didn't get much shop time in this month as he finally caught the dreaded COVID. It took the wind out of his sails for a while but now he's fine. He did turn a box bottom out of maple that he intends to decorate with pyrography or other methods. He sanded it real good inside and out so it is ready for his design when he gets it planned out.



As many of you know, the usual sanding mandrels in 2" or 3", commonly used for inside bowls, do not have a long reach into a confined space like a box bottom. The bottom of his maple box was 3-3/4" from the rim and the 2" sanding mandrel would not work. So, he got out these 1" sanding mandrels he got from Woodturner's Wonders at the SWAT Symposium a few years back. The 1" size and the long (but manageable) reach made it sooooooer easy to get a real nice finish sanding job in the bottom of the cup/box bottom. He was able to get right into the square corner at the bottom with no problem and they were easy to control.

