



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

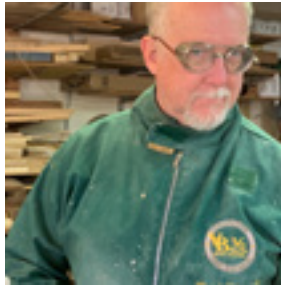
Vol. 24, No. 4 April 2024

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

APRIL DEMONSTRATOR –Keith Gotschall Tuesday, April 2nd–In Person and via Zoom

Jessica Edwards -
edwardsjessica625@gmail.com

Keith grew up in the Midwest, but made Colorado his home in 1981. Living in Boulder, he took advantage of all the outdoor activities available. Rock climbing in particular became a passion of his. That pursuit took him to many of the climbing areas of the US and various international destinations as well. To fund these adventures Keith followed another lifelong passion of his, woodworking. Starting in a factory on the night shift, making “butcher block” furniture, he quickly rose through the ranks. He made his way through various cabinet shops, ending with a designer making very eclectic furniture. In 1989 he struck out on his own, developing his own clientele and designs under the name K2 Woodworks. Keith still takes on the occasional furniture commission.



1998 saw his change in focus from furniture to woodturning. Keith worked the craft show circuit as well as making for wholesale accounts. Moving from Boulder to the small town of Salida precipitated another change in life for Keith, as it was there that he met his wife Catherine. 18 months living in England was followed by a return to Salida. Keith now fills his workdays with production architectural turning, furniture, teaching and demonstrations, as well as any old weird job that comes in. For fun he is still exploring Colorado, often on his dual-sport motorbike.

Keith took classes from notable masters early in his turning career, and remembers that excitement of exploration. In his classes and demonstrations Keith

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>

THIS MONTH'S NEWS:

April Presenter	1-2
Club Information & Officers	2
Ladies of the Lathe	3
Shop Tour	3
Mentors.....	4
Group Buys	4
Wood Sale	5
Perpetual Turnings/Turning Challenge	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	30	Lifetime Members	19
Family Members	20	Roster	25
Individual Members	104		

Total Membership 198 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

brings that same level of enthusiasm for learning and joy of sharing to his students.

With his background in fine art, and a love of the truly utilitarian, Keith's work can be noted for its clean lines, smooth curves and tight detail. Sometimes whimsical, often classical, Keith enjoys working in a broad body of work and is hard to pigeonhole.

At our April meeting, Keith will discuss bowl turning. That sounds basic, but there is a wealth of knowledge behind him on this subject. As a production turner, he has learned the hard way all sorts of lessons that turners of any ability will find useful. This is a fast-moving demo as there is so much to cover. He'll go through wood selection, cutting from the log, rough turning, drying, re-turning, sanding, turning green, how to season, finish, and even sell the bowls. Perhaps he'll turn a dry and green bowl for contrast.



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.

LADIES OF THE LATHE

Debra Higley-Feldman -
debrakhf@gmail.com



Henry Williams' great instruction on Ashley Harwood's off-kilter ornament stands was held on March 5th. He started with shop safety and gave step-by-step instructions in turning techniques, reading the wood blank (selecting orientation), and turning/bandsaw/drilling steps for the stands.



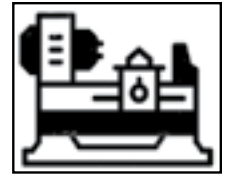
Due to a scheduling conflict, the April LOTL class was rescheduled to Tuesday, May 7th. **Dave Hawley** will teach safely cutting branches on a bandsaw using a sled, turning mushrooms/toadstools, and adding turquoise inlays to pieces.



Larry Hughes will have a segmented turning class in his shop on June 15th.

SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner -
frw.shoptour@gmail.com



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 13 Where Wood Meets Steel
11:00 AM -2:00 PM
4903 Washington St, Denver, CO

Looking ahead, here's the schedule:

May 11 Jessica Edwards
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

June available

July 20 Covenant Living Community
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

August available

September available

October available

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.

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 frw.shoptour@gmail.com.

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 kmotzner@me.com	Wood Gathering & Prep/ Sharpening/Tool Skills
Centennial	Les Stern sternsclass@hotmail.com	General
Denver SW	Henry Williams williamshenrya@gmail.com	Spindles/ Bowls
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

APRIL MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com

The April mentoring class will be held on Monday, April 8th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The topic will be Segmenting, Part Two.

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).

WOOD SALE

Ken Rollins and Pat Scott

On March 2nd, FRW had a very successful wood sale that included bundles of Schacht scrap wood, the pieces from Gene Wentworth's shop, and other items donated by Jessica Edwards and other club members. This sale raised \$798.00 for the club! Thank you to all the members who purchased wood, and especially to the volunteers who helped get the sale organized.

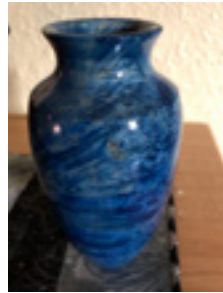
On February 29th a volunteer crew went to Schacht Spindle Company in Boulder to cut up and bundle wood. Debra Higley-Feldman volunteered for this project for the second time and this time even made her husband help. Both Mickey Jackson and Viki Lawrence were also helping for a second time. This project was made simple by Dave and Melissa Hunter who provided a covered trailer to store the wood and deliver it to the alley behind Rockler for our sale. Ken Rollins, Kay Shofner, Dave Hawley and Scott DeWeese rounded out the crew. The club continues to benefit from the generosity of the Schacht Spindle Company and we anticipate more events like this one in the future.

Another shout out goes to those members who helped sort and collect wood from Gene Wentworth's shop: Jim Olson, Tom Tedesco, Bob Carver, Jessica Edwards, Ken Rollins, and Jill Rice (apologies if I forgot anyone). Several trips were involved--first looking at what and how much wood there was, then boxing up smaller pieces, cleaning off the patio with box after box of wood, and finally loading up the long boards. The family really appreciates our help! They hope to have a tool sale around early April so stay tuned for more details on that.

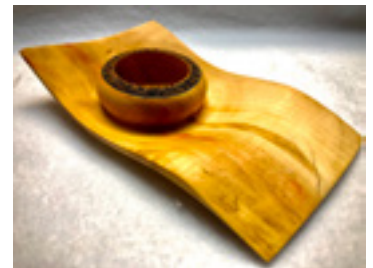


PERPETUAL TURNINGS

Starting this month, the newsletter will feature photos of the perpetual turnings made each month. Perpetual turnings are offered as part of the monthly wood raffle. Whoever takes that month's piece makes one to include in the next month's raffle. Remember that the perpetual turning is not a competition; it is an opportunity to share our work. If you win the piece, the only expectation is that you replace it with something you are proud of and enjoyed making. Everyone is invited to participate.



The January perpetual turning was made by **Michael Roper** and taken in the raffle by **Don Prorak**.



Don Prorak then made a turning for February which was chosen by **Rick Orr**.



The March turning was made by **Rick Orr** and taken by **Ed Cypher**. Come to the April meeting to see what Ed makes for the raffle!

TURNING CHALLENGE

The turning challenge for March was a 2- or 3-part table or table-like structure of any size.

Here are the winners:

Intermediate: **Craig Choun**



Advanced: tie between

Bob Franklin & **Raleigh Lockhart**



PHOTO GALLERY

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



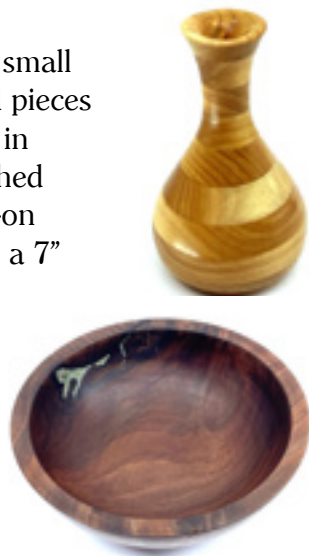
Larry Hughes was playing around with an old idea and placed these in a gallery. The small balloon is walnut and maple; the larger balloon is sapele and maple. But somehow, he couldn't get either one to launch!



Ken Rollins made a 5" jar from recycled mahogany furniture and Schacht scrap. It has a convex mirror in the bottom that came from the wood raffle years ago. It will be a birthday present for his granddaughter.

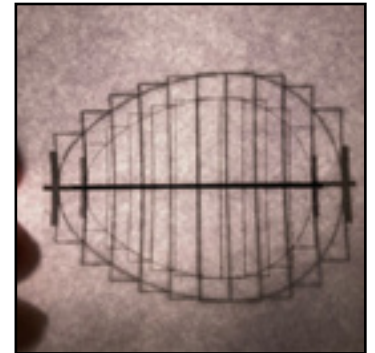
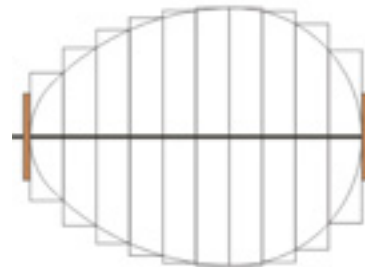


Blaine Blaesing made this small 4-1/2" vase from segmented pieces of scrap, orienting the grain in different directions. He finished it with several coats of wipe-on polyurethane. He also made a 7" walnut bowl and filled the cracks with a turquoise inlay. That was finished with walnut oil.



Curt Vogt found this egg template on the Interwebbygooglwiki and as a simple file (or converted to a.jpg) it can be easily scaled up or down by percentage to make different size egg templates. This template has a center line and also vertical lines to use if marking out diameters for use with a caliper at the lathe before connecting the dots. (Thank you "Propart" for posting the template found on Instructables.)

Curt put it at 25% as approximately a jumbo chicken egg and then printed it. He then did one at 20% to use as the inside template for hollowing for an egg-shaped box. He held the two printed pages up to a light to see how it might turn out. Your results may vary... :-). If you want to make an egg-shaped box, remember to "stretch" the egg at the seam for the box tenon material.



He made the thin-walled box out of torrefied (roasted) curly soft maple.

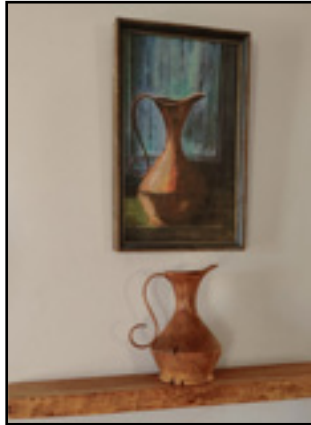
He also made a chisel handle that he could use by pushing from the palm of his hand instead of the fingertips. Of claro walnut finished with wipe-on poly, he made it wide at the heel to spread the pressure across his hand.



Rick Cantwell picked out a piece of spalted butternut at last month's wood raffle. It made a handsome 8.5" x 3" bowl. He sealed it with shellac and finished it with three-part oil.



Rick Elich made a pitcher inspired by an oil painting his father painted in college circa 1950.



Debra Higley-Feldman made several hollow forms from aspen, the tallest of which is 12". The lids are maple and cherry, and the bowl base is myrtle. Thin CA stabilized the red growth. The finishes are mostly walnut oil/carnauba wax, and a Tombow watercolor bowl rim. The aspen tree had years of a very hard, diseased life; it healed, followed by years of healthy growth. Then someone chopped it down. The 5.5"x2" silver maple cocobolo lidded box looks a bit like an artsy rollerball-type deodorant stick. The finish was CA followed by Minwax floor wax.



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.

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.

Brenda Blaesing made this 7" plate from wood obtained at the wood raffle. She painted the rim, then used a rotary carver to add some texture. The piece was finished with hemp oil and carnauba wax.

