



GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 25, No. 4 April 2025

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

APRIL DEMONSTRATOR –Chris Hoehle **Tuesday, April 1st–In Person and via Zoom**

Jessica Edwards - frw.vicepres@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 and other flatwork, 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, where he studied with many of the top woodturners in the field today, and where he would eventually meet 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 week-long workshops at Arrowmont a total of three times now, 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 during open shop hours. He loves to teach and is known as an excellent instructor who has a talent for remembering what it was like to be a beginner and being able to break down complex woodturning skills into their most essential pieces and convey them to beginners in a concise, easy-to-understand manner.

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:

Meeting Demonstrator	1-2
Club Information & Officers	2
Turning Challenge / Perpetual Turning	2
Ladies of the Lathe	3
Brown Bag Demo	3
H.O.W. Class.....	3
Mentors.....	4
Group Buys	4
Schacht Wood Collection	5
PHEOG.....	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	42	Lifetime Members	18
Family Members	21	Roster	21
Individual Members	112		

Total Membership 214 paid for 2025

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: Marcee Morris

Librarian: Brian Tooker

Membership Chair: Scott Schlapkohl

Mentoring Program Chair: Marty Christensen

Newsletter Editor: Brenda Blaesing

PHEOG Grant Chair: Greg Broughton

Photographer: Jim Record

Publicity Chair: Open

Shop Tour Chair: Keith Motzner

Videographer: Larry Abrams

Wood Raffle: Lavonne Kaiser

Youth Chair: Don Prorak

Chris 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.

In this demonstration, Chris will turn a shallow bowl of kiln-dried wood with an elegant ogee profile and a wide rim. The ogee, a term we borrow from architecture, is a graceful S curve, or a seamless transition from a convex surface to a concave one. Chris will cover both the aesthetic considerations of nailing this form (Where does the transition start? Why do so many first attempts at an ogee look dumpy or bottom heavy?) as well as the physical and technical aspects that help him make it happen such as moving from the hips in a coiling/uncoiling fashion not unlike Tai Chi, and "pushing the pull cut." Learning this form opens a lot of doors since it allows you to make interesting use of shallow blanks and explore various techniques to embellish the rim. If time allows, he may also be able to briefly cover the use of dyes to embellish the rim.



FROM THE WEB:

Al Murphy -
ajmurfyl@comcast.net



The Craft of Carpentry is a wonderful exhibit that celebrates the tools and craftsmanship behind Japan's temples and shrines. The centerpiece of the show is a life-size reconstruction of a teahouse. If you can't get to Japan House London to see it, you can check it out here:

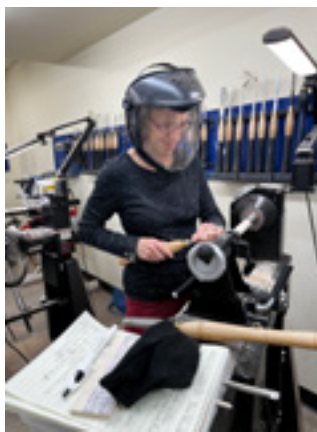
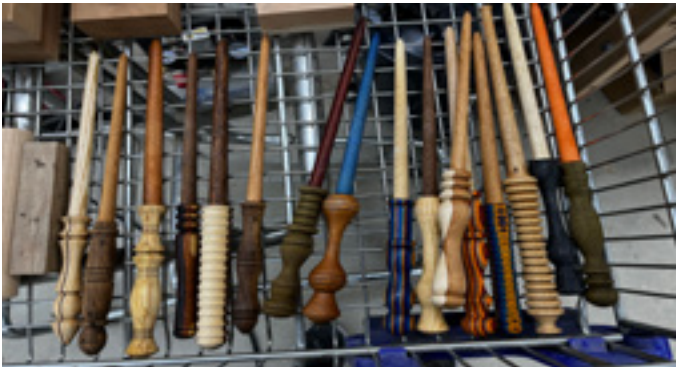
<https://www.japanhouselondon.uk/whats-on/the-craft-of-carpentry-drawing-life-from-japans-forests/>

LADIES OF THE LATHE

Marcee Morris -
marcee.morris@gmail.com



In March, the LOTL met with **Dave Hawley** for a lesson in making magic wands, and yes, in the right hand, they really do work! We had the added treat of learning his method of making small bowls using a glue-on waste block. He also showed us how to use a clever and simple jig to assist in resawing on the bandsaw.



In April, **Raleigh Lockhart** will be showing us his special method to making beautiful lidded boxes.

BROWN BAG DEMO

Robyn Herman - rrherm@gmail.com

The March Brown Bag Demo, by **Greg Broughton**, focused on casting pewter and using it to add accents to your woodturning projects.

For the April Brown Bag Demo, **Pat Scott** will give a preview of his April H.O.W. class on making plates. He'll go through how he creates large wooden jumbo jaws, an essential tool for making plates. He'll cover the right type of wood, grain direction, layout, jaw sizes and recesses. Then he'll demo how to use the jaws to make a plate. The BBD will be held on Tuesday, April 8th from 11:00 to 2:00.

H.O.W. CLASS

Jay Miller - jaymiller9637@comcast.net

There were so many people interested in **Keith Motzner's** Woodturning 101 in March that a second class was added to accommodate everyone. Sixteen members reviewed basic spindle turning skills, creating bead and cove sticks. Keith also discussed safety, tool types and lathe maintenance. A future class, Woodturning 201, will cover bowl turning.



Pat Scott will teach the April H.O.W. class on making plates, as discussed above in the BBD description.

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
Aurora	Robin Luther robin.luther@ymail.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

On **Monday, April 7th** from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler, we'll discuss helpful additions to the shop: must-haves and great jigs.

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. Vandeventer 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).

KEVIN JESEQUEL CLASS

by Don Prorak

If you attended our March meeting, you got to see Kevin Jesequel's presentation of a hollow form with finger-tip opening. The following day, several of us were able to take a hands-on class with Kevin to learn his techniques and artistic principles first-hand. As in the demo, our hollow forms were cross grain oriented, starting from a 4-5" cube. We began by making a piece with a slightly larger opening for easier access. On our second we progressed to an opening as small as we dared. There were successes and failures, but all part of the learning process.

Kevin is a thorough and patient instructor who worked with each student at their own skill level. He demonstrated each step of the process clearly and concisely, then let us work at our own pace. He provided each of us with a set of his hollowing tools for the class. (He does not sell them, but they are very similar to David Ellsworth's tools with 3/8" shafts, as well as tools made from Allen wrenches.) Everyone agreed that it was a very positive learning experience and left with a better understanding of how to approach these challenging forms.



I was also able to attend Kevin's RMWT demo: a hollow form with a natural void. The process was similar, but with some special considerations for the missing wood. All in all, it was time well spent with this inspiring artist!

TURNING CHALLENGE / PERPETUAL TURNING

Our Turning Challenge for April is a hollow form, no restrictions. A hollow form just means that the opening is smaller than the diameter of the piece, so it does not need to have the fingertip entrance hole like Kevin's piece. In voting, try to look first for good form. Please place your entries in the appropriate areas (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced/Experienced) to make it easier for everyone to vote. We will have a separate area for Gallery Only entries. Please print your entry forms from the website so that we can read them!

https://www.frontrangewoodturners.org/?page_id=6431

Our March Turning challenge was a carved bowl. Winners were:

Novice: Marcee Morris

Advanced: Greg Broughton

Perpetual Turning: Marty Christensen's quaiche was awarded to Don Prorak, who will contribute a piece for the April meeting. 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.

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.

PHOTO GALLERY

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



Al Murphy made a Cassata (box) with Lapis Lazuli and Malachite inlays. The top is madrone burl and the veneer is sapele. The turned feet are rosewood.



Bill Jackson has been busy turning this winter. He first turned a cherry bowl from a 10 x 4" blank. This was his first attempt at an ogee-shaped exterior. The wood was sanded and then he applied a thin coat of diluted shellac (sanding sealer) before he went over the exterior lightly with a bull-nose scraper. He followed this with some more light sanding and Yorkshire grit. He's going to finish this with Armor Seal Wipe-On Poly.



Then he turned a fruit plate on a pedestal foot from European Beech 10 x 4" blank. He used the Tru-Arc tool from Robust to cut a perfect arc in the bowl's interior. He finished the piece by sanding and then using an abrasive paste to polish the surface before applying Tried & True oil finish.

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.



Pat Scott made a batch of small salt and pepper mills, all about 4" tall. Most of them are silver maple for salt and walnut for pepper, although

there is a mesquite pepper and a couple of box elder salt mills thrown in because why not!

After attending Kevin Jesequel's class on March 5th, **Russell Dewey** finished the rough-turned maple hollow form he started. It is 4-1/2" wide, 3-1/2" high and weighs 2.38 oz. It was sanded to 400, colored with Chestnut dyes and finished with EnduraGreen by Mohawk, a water-based clear acrylic.



Ken Rollins' sister-in-law in Wisconsin scrounged a 12x18" cherry burl for him. After he cleaned it up, he made these four items from the burl. The largest bowl is about 5x5". This wood was great to work with and smelled great too.



Debra Higley-Feldman

made this 8" x 3" turned and carved bowl of ash, finished on the inside with wood oil and outside with acrylic gel, bronze mica, watercolor pens, and lacquer. The turning and initial carving were done during FRW's Roberto Ferrer class in February.



Gordon Dalby took a break from the lathe and made a Snodgrass band saw box. Of walnut and maple with three drawers, it measures 7" x 3 1/2".

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Brenda Blaesing - b.frezeman@yahoo.com

Articles and photos for the monthly newsletter are always welcome. Please email your submissions by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.



Cathie McLean turned a small but pretty piece of figured maple into a shallow decorative dish. She experimented with color using Artisan dyes,

added leather cording in some accent channels and finished the piece with spray lacquer.

Curt Vogt worked on brushing up his box-making skills in February and shared a gaggle of them in last month's newsletter. What he couldn't share yet was that the AAW Turning Challenge for February was "Choice of Three Boxes." As a result, Curt made all three of the challenge boxes too. Each one was a new process or design he probably would not have chosen to do otherwise, so it was a push on his box style/design skills, too. Curt chose his favorite one (Richard Raffan Style Side Grain Box) and submitted it to the challenge... and won! Here are photos of the Raffan style box in curly maple and all three boxes (sugar maple, curly maple, and cottonwood).



In March, Curt jumped back into some spindle turning with a batch of magic wands. They are Peruvian walnut, recycled bed frame (probably from Southeast Asia), African mahogany, and Texas pecan. He broke out the Razertip pyrography burner to do some embellishments, too.

