



# GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

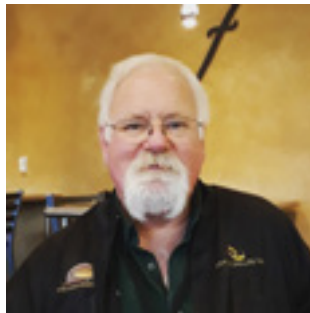
Vol. 25, No. 5 May 2025

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

## **MAY DEMONSTRATOR –Doug Schneider** **Tuesday, May 6th–In Person and via Zoom**

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

Doug Schneider has been passionate about woodturning for over five decades, ever since first stepping up to a lathe in high school woodshop. With a name that literally translates to “a woodsman who cuts,” it’s no surprise that Doug has always felt a deep connection to the forest and working with wood. That passion led him to pursue degrees in Industrial Arts and Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa and Colorado State University, eventually launching a nearly 30-year career in education before retiring in 2014.



Doug’s woodturning journey was reignited in the early 1990s after attending an AAW symposium in Fort Collins, Colorado. Inspired by the evolution of the craft and the vibrant turning community, he helped form a local woodturning club and found mentorship that shaped his growth as both a maker and instructor. Since then, Doug has become a sought-after demonstrator, teaching at Woodcraft and traveling across the western U.S. to share his knowledge at club demos, hands-on workshops, and national symposiums—having demonstrated in eight western states and at four major symposiums to date.

His work—deeply influenced by the ancient and contemporary Pueblo cultures of New Mexico—has been featured in both *American Woodturner* and the U.K.’s *Woodturning* magazine,



## **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	46	Lifetime Members	18
Family Members	23	Roster	26
Individual Members	129		

**Total Membership 243 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

where he was the subject of a six-page article. Doug is currently represented by Cowboys and Indians Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and continues to inspire others through both his art and his dedication to teaching.



## TURNING CHALLENGE / PERPETUAL TURNING

Our Turning Challenge for May is a bowl with an ogee curve. 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](https://www.frontrangewoodturners.org/?page_id=6431)

Our April Turning challenge was a hollow form. Winners were:

Novice: Marcee Morris

Intermediate: Debra Higley

Advanced: Scott DeWeese

Perpetual Turning: Don Prorak's smoker was awarded to Ed Cypher, who will contribute a piece for the May 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.

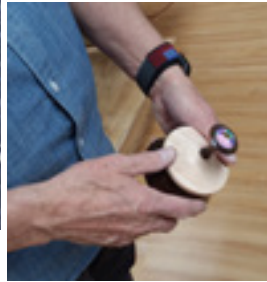


## LADIES OF THE LATHE

Marcee Morris -  
[marcee.morris@gmail.com](mailto:marcee.morris@gmail.com)



In April, the LOTL had a well-attended class taught by **Raleigh Lockhart**. He demonstrated his special design for lidded boxes with uniquely embellished lids. We appreciate his wonderful approach to teaching and also that he provided beautiful blanks for each participant.



In May, **Dennis Fanning** will be showing how to make a live-edge bowl. That class is already full and has a wait list.

## BROWN BAG DEMO

Robyn Herman - [rrherm@gmail.com](mailto:rrherm@gmail.com)

For the April Brown Bag Demo, **Pat Scott** gave a preview of his April H.O.W. class on making plates. He went through how he creates large wooden jumbo jaws, an essential tool for making plates.

The May Brown Bag Demo will be held on Tuesday, May 13th from 11:00 to 2:00. If you've ever thought,

"I'd love to learn the art of hand thread chasing," then this Brown Bag Demonstration is tailor-made for you! We will be diving into the process, tools, and supplies needed ... aiming to unravel its mysteries.

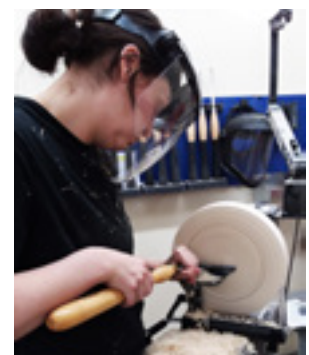
Come ready to soak up some hand thread chasing learnings, and even better, bring your own insights to share with the group. **Raleigh Lockhart** will lead this discussion.



## H.O.W. CLASS

Jay Miller - [jaymiller9637@comcast.net](mailto:jaymiller9637@comcast.net)

**Pat Scott** gave a great class in April on turning plates. It included sizes and types of plates and bases, choosing the best wood (quarter sawn, grain orientation, figuring), turning an inlaid tenon on the top of the plate, then flipping it onto a 4" 4-jaw chuck and turning and sanding the underside, followed by turning a wooden 4-jaw jig for the chuck to turn and finish the top of the plate.



The May class will be held on Tuesday, May 20th from 9:30 to 4:00. **Don Prorak** will be showing how to make tool handles with removable inserts.

## 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
Aurora	Robin Luther robin.luther@ymail.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> kmotzner@me.com	Wood Gathering & Prep/ Sharpening/Tool Skills
Centennial	<b>Les Stern</b> sternsclass@hotmail.com	General
Denver SW	<b>Henry Williams</b> williamshenrya@gmail.com	Spindles/ Bowls
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

## MAY MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com

On **Monday, May 12th** from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler, we'll talk about making different types of shop mallets.

## 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 July. 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).

## SCHACHT APPRECIATION

by Ken Rollins

For many years, the Schacht Spindle Company in Boulder has given our club first choice on their production scraps. Several times our members have reciprocated and expressed our appreciation by giving the Schacht employees some of the objects made from their wood. In the front office they still display a masterpiece vase made by Gene Wentworth. More recently Rick Orr gave them a threaded nut and bolt set with exquisite texturing details. Other members have also contributed bowls and boxes.

Unfortunately, after COVID, their shop experienced a lot of turnover and the current floor manager, Stu Andrews, has never received any turned presents. Since he makes a lot of the decisions about what pieces of wood should go into our wood exchange, we want him to think about our club in a generous way. So we are calling for turned items made at least partly from Schacht scrap. Plan to bring any donated item to the June meeting and they will get delivered to the Schacht employees on June 5th.

## PHEOG RECIPIENTS

by Greg Broughton

The 2025 PHEOG grants (Pete Holtus Educational Opportunity Grants) were awarded in April. The following recipients have received grants to advance their woodturning skills.

**Dennis Fanning** received a school grant to purchase lathes for Rocky Mountain Folk School.

**Marcee Morris** received an individual grant to attend a basket illusion class at Craft Supplies in Provo, UT.

**Brenda Blaesing** received an individual grant to attend the AAW Symposium in St. Paul, MN.

**Don Sheffield** received an individual grant to attend Stuart Batty's 5-day bowl and spindle turning class in Boulder.

## SHOP TOURS

Keith Motzner -

[frw.shoptour@gmail.com](mailto:frw.shoptour@gmail.com)



Our shop tours for 2025 began in April with a tour of **Robin Luther's** shop. Attendees had a great time seeing all the massive amounts of Robin's wood collection and even had a chance to take some choice pieces home for their own shop projects. Robin also gave a demo on how he takes rustic pieces of Colorado hardwood and creates multi colored wood and resin platter blanks.

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. While the shop tours have been a great way to see how members set up their spaces and get inspired, I've noticed that the focus on having a "tour-ready" shop might make some members hesitant to host. I'd like to gently move the emphasis away from showcasing perfect workshops and encourage members to focus more on what really matters—connecting with one another, sharing ideas, and building community. See you at the next event!

### Shop Tour Schedule:

May	Environmental Slabs and Timber May 31, 10:00 - 2:00
June	Coventry Living of Colorado June 14, 10:00 - 2:00
July	Available
Aug	Available
Sept	Available
Oct	Available

Please contact Keith Motzner at [frw.shoptour@gmail.com](mailto:frw.shoptour@gmail.com) if you'd like to host a tour of your shop.



## PHOTO GALLERY

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

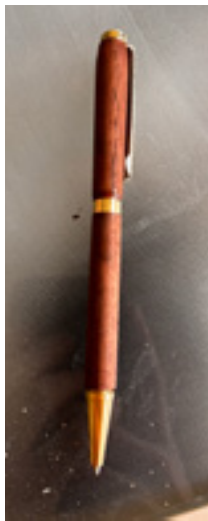


**Debra Higley** turned a 5x13" hollow form of canary wood and walnut. The body was finished with tung oil and carnauba, and the finial in lacquer.



**Al Murphy** made this threaded purpleheart and maple burl urn for his dear departed kitty of 23 years.

**Coy Thorburn** recently turned this pen. It uses walnut as the wood for the barrel and it's a standard 7mm pen. It's finished with shine juice.



This bowl was turned by **Don August** at the wood shop at Covenant Living. His first attempt at segmenting, the piece is 8" tall by 7" diameter of Argentine Orange, teak, canary, walnut and purple heart. **Gordon Dalby** served as Don's mentor for the project.



**Curt Vogt** completed a curly maple bowl with a wide rim this month. It is approximately 7" by 1 3/4" and has a soft satin finish of rubbed-in wipe-on poly. The photos are looking into the bowl and at the decorated bottom.

**Brenda Blaesing** attended the April LOTL box-making class but had to leave early and didn't finish her piece. She completed it the next day, her first turning at home in quite a while. The box is cherry and the lid is walnut and cherry with a vintage button for a bit of bling. It's finished with Odie's Oil. Thanks to **Raleigh Lockhart** for providing the wood and the button!



She also made a few magic wands, inspired by **Dave Hawley's** LOTL class in March.



Now that spring has sprung, garden flowers won't be far behind. In preparation, **Blaine Blaesing** made several vases, varying in height from 9" to 13". They're made from Eastern red cedar, mesquite and ash. All pieces were finished with lacquer.



This month, **Ken Rollins** made three bowls from Wisconsin Birch that he got from a firewood pile. From left to right, they have segmented rims from walnut, redwood, and mahogany. The donors of this wood are visiting in May so he needed to have something for them to choose from.



## 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.

## 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 25th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.