



# GOING 'ROUND

Front Range Woodturners Newsletter

Vol. 26, No. 3 March 2026

Editor: Brenda Blaesing

## **MARCH DEMONSTRATOR –KALIA KLIBAN** **Tuesday, March 3rd–In Person and via Zoom**

Greg Broughton - [frw.vicepres@gmail.com](mailto:frw.vicepres@gmail.com)

Our demonstrator for March is Kalia Kliban, coming to us from Sebastopol, California. She was raised in a house full of creativity and art supplies. In college, she decided on a career in graphic design, but after a short and unhappy stint in the advertising industry realized that she preferred making actual, physical things. She retrained as a woodworker and has been much more happily, though less lucratively, working with wood ever since.

Kalia spent the first part of her woodworking career making furniture and cabinets, with a little side trip into guitar repair and making guitar parts. But she loved turning from the first time a friend plonked her down in front of his lathe and chucked in a piece of madrone. Fun fact, she still uses the carving mallet she made that day, her first turned object, and has been extending and improving her skills ever since. Kalia's woodturning specialty is functional bowls and plates. They feel good. They're useful and beautiful, and they can last a lifetime. A well-made bowl can be a wonderful way to honor the tree the wood came from, and a wonderful way to grace a table.



### **Porringers: Getting a Grip**

For the March demo, Kalia will demonstrate the process of transforming a cross-grain turning blank into a bowl with integral handles. She will cover the

## **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	27	Lifetime Members	21
Family Members	17	Roster	12
Individual Members	101	Student, Online	2,1
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>paid for 2026</b>	

## CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- President: Raleigh Lockhart
- Vice President/Program Director: Greg Broughton
- Secretary: Patrick Crumpton
- Treasurer: Larry Abrams
- President Emeritus: Don Prorak
- 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: Ken Rollins
- Photographer: Jim Record
- Publicity Chair: Robyn Herman & Raleigh Lockhart
- Shop Tour Chair: Al Murphy
- Videographer: Larry Abrams
- Wood Exchange: Ron Ainge
- Youth Chair: Don Prorak

techniques she uses to safely mount and turn the vessel's shape, remove the interior material, and then cut/carve the handles. She will highlight different strategies for turning - single axis vs multi-axis.



## PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARD

Raleigh Lockhart

In February, we were honored to recognize **Brenda Blaesing** for her exceptional dedication to the position of FRW Newsletter Editor. Brenda's journey with us began in 2019 when she first took up woodturning; she joined our club shortly thereafter and quickly became an integral part of the FRW community.



In 2021, Brenda stepped into the vital role of Newsletter Editor. Since then, she has approached the position with unwavering commitment and a keen eye for detail. We are incredibly fortunate to have her at the helm of our newsletter—her hard work ensures we stay connected, informed, and inspired. Thank you, Brenda, for everything you do!

## TURNING CHALLENGE / PERPETUAL TURNING

The February turning challenge was to turn a sphere. Winners were:

- Novice: Joe Kramer
- Intermediate: Gary Starritt
- Advanced: Scott DeWeese & Rick Orr (tie)

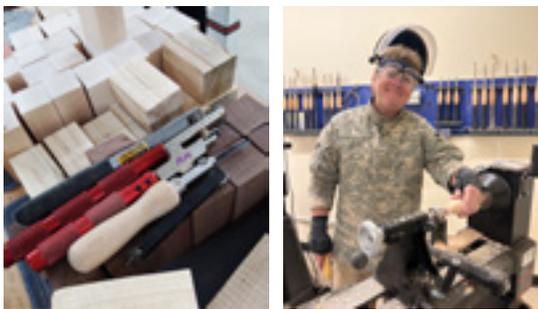
**Perpetual Turning:** Greg's Broughton's sphere sculpture was won by Robyn Herman, who will contribute a piece for the March meeting. Remember that the Perpetual Turning is not a competition; it is an opportunity to share our work.

## LADIES OF THE LATHE

Marcee Morris -  
marcee.morris@gmail.com



In February, **Henry Williams** showed how to make well-proportioned eggs along with jam chucks for finishing the pointy ends, Then he demonstrated various techniques for embellishment using a knurling tool, a Henry Taylor decorating elf and a Sorby texturing tool. He also showed how to add pizzazz to the textured areas with chameleon flakes.



On March 3rd, **Pat Scott** will demonstrate how to use spindle turning skills to make a pepper mill.

## BROWN BAG DEMO

Robyn Herman - rrherm@gmail.com

In February, **Ed Cypher** demonstrated how he makes wood rings with metal cores and also discussed inlaying rings with a variety of substances. He showed the tools/jigs that make the process easier, many of which were 3-D printed. He gave all attendees a ring core and **Bob Franklin** contributed ring blanks for everyone.



On March 10th, **Raleigh Lockhart** will discuss the picture perfect photo. They say a picture is worth a thousand words. Join us for a hands-on session where Raleigh will share how he uses a mini photo booth, props, and photo aids in his photo taking. And please bring your tips and tricks to share in our collaborative session.



## H.O.W. CLASS

Keith Motzner -keithmotzner@gmail.com

**Jay Miller** gave a second class on turning mini cowboy hats with wet wood blanks. The two students did very well and progressed in their skills, completing a very nice project.



The next H.O.W class will be held on March 17th. **Pat Scott** will teach participants how to make a set of spice bowls.

## PHEOG PROGRAM

Ken Rollins - [colkdr@yahoo.com](mailto:colkdr@yahoo.com)

If you have been waiting for the last minute to apply for a PHEOG grant... Good news! The time has come. The Pete Holtus Educational Opportunity Grant program provides grant money to FRW members to further their woodturning education through an application process. Examples of grant requests include attending a symposium, workshop, or training class. Those FRW members awarded grants do not repay the club with money, but must complete a return benefit to the club no later than one year from the grant award. Examples of payback include giving a demo at club meetings, brown-bag demos, or mentoring sessions. Some past recipients have written an article for the newsletter or taught a Hands-On-Woodturning or Ladies of the Lathe class. Be sure to be very specific about your payback plan; this is the primary basis for evaluating the overall value to the club. FRW wants to make sure that you receive useful training and plan to share that learning at whatever skill level you possess. There are many creative ways to pay the learning forward to the club, and the committee will consider any useful idea. In addition to individual training, grants to schools teaching woodturning are also available.

You must be a FRW member who joined before March 15, 2025. To be a member in good standing, make sure your 2026 dues are paid before submitting an application. FRW members can apply for grants more than once, but only once every three years.

Read and make sure you understand the rules found on the FRW web page (<https://www.frontrangewoodturners.org/>) located in the "Education" tab under "PHEOG" subheading.

Fill out the application on-line at the same page (<https://www.frontrangewoodturners.org/>) located in the "Education" tab under "PHEOG" subheading. When you have submitted your application you should receive an email acknowledgement within a day or so. If you don't, then use the PHEOG chair email link to check the status of your application. The application deadline is **March 15, 2026**. Applying ahead of time will enable the committee to review the application and make sure it is clearly understood before the deadline. The committee will

forward their report to the Executive Committee after the March 15 deadline, and the results will be announced at the FRW general meeting in April.

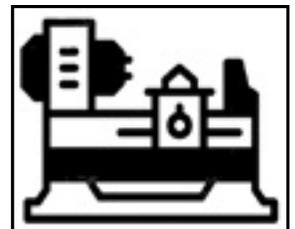
This year the PHEOG grant committee is composed of Ken Rollins, Todd Bowen, and Erika Meeske. These members are not eligible for a grant this year.

In the past the maximum individual grant limit has been set at \$1250, and only registration, tuition, or workshop fees have been reimbursed. If you receive a grant of \$600 or more you will receive a IRS 1099 form showing the amount for the 2026 tax year. Grants of \$599 or less do not generate a IRS 1099 form.

## SHOP TOURS

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

Shop tour attendees ventured into the semi-mythical cave of wood at Where Wood Meets Steel on February 14th.



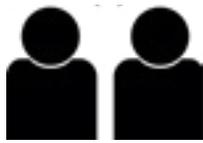
There are no shop tours on the schedule for March. Contact Al Murphy if you'd like to host a gathering.

## 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. Note: This offer is good only at the Denver store and is not valid at other Rockler stores or for online purchases.

## 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

## MENTORING CLASS

Marty Christensen - mecturning@gmail.com  
The next mentoring class will be held on **Monday, March 9th** from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Rockler. The subject will be Texturing 101.

## 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

There is no longer a minimum order amount, we now get 25% off retail prices on ALL products. There is a flat \$4.99 shipping fee and no tax. The order forms have been updated, go to the website for the current price and enter the quantity, size, description, and price on the order form. The eForm will do all of the calculations for you.

**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	Ted Mellin
9637 W. Vandeventor Dr	9043 W Coco Dr
Littleton, CO 80128	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. You must be on their list of FRW members to get the discount. To get 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.



### Keith Motzner

turned two bowls this month. Remember that great shop tour we had last summer at Environmental Tree Care? Roper raffled off a large slab of spalted maple and Keith was the lucky winner. The two bowls were made from some of that wood. The slab was a bit punky in places, but they turned out really nice. Beautiful wood to create beautiful bowls. Thanks, Roper!



**Debra Higley's** inside-out balloons are very popular. After posting photos of some that she made, several people asked if they could have one. So she made more. The finish is watercolor pen and lacquer. She also made a lidded box of mesquite (thanks, Marcee!) with a turquoise inlay. That's finished with Odie's oil. All the turnings are about 2"x4".



**Russell Dewey** worked on several projects. The maple tri-corner bowl was our club challenge inspired by Don's past demonstrations. It is 6" wide x 4" high. The mushroom salt and pepper shakers are 3" wide x 6"



high. The stems are spalted pecan and the tops are walnut. The crabapple hollow form is 4" wide x 10" high. Everything is finished with wipe-on poly.

**Ken Rollins** made this 'ugly duckling' bowl out of wood that no one wanted. At the end of the January FRW meeting, after the tables were all put away, this cedar wood that Steve had hauled in was left, feeling unwanted and sad. So Ken took it home and made this bowl. It's about 3" x 5", finished with penetrating oil and poly.



**Carl Fulbright** recently finished this large segmented vase (or maybe a pot) measuring 13" tall by 11" diameter. Made with maple, walnut and some unidentified wood. It's finished inside with Mohawk wipe-on and carnauba wax on the outside.



**Henry Williams** made this pillar candle stand from mahogany and accented with Emma Cook's Kraken chameleon flakes. It's 3" diameter, 4" tall, finished with EEE and Shellawax.

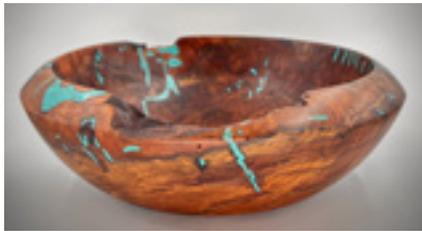
**Roger Boss** made this change valet. It started as a large, 9 x 2-1/2" spalted maple blank. Things were going well. But near the end of turning, the bowl blew apart. Rather than throwing it in with the scrap, he decided to keep turning, and ended up making this valet. Happy little accidents do happen! It now measures 5x4x1" and was finished with Danish oil.



For his latest segmented piece, **Gordon Dalby** decided to try a Greek design. Measuring 9"x4-1/2", the vase is composed of wenge, maple and canary woods. A student of his at Covenant Living (Tom Thorpe) turned this, his second bowl. It's 10"x4-1/2", of walnut, zebra, red heart and honey locust woods.



**Todd Bowen** turned this large claro walnut bowl with turquoise inlay. It measures 7" tall by 14" across. The finish is Waterlox Original. The claro walnut was provided by Roper, what would we do without him?



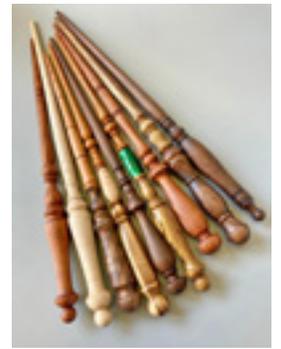
**Pat Hannon** made these two briar pieces which measure about 1.5 x 1.5". The insert in the one is a chrysocolla stone cut and polished years ago on a stone cutter. The insert on the other is a cabachon made on the lathe from African blackwood, copper and brass. The finish is Tru-oil.



**Mickey Jackson** turned these three segmented bowls for prizes for a seniors Valentines party at his church. They are from various species, mostly maple, cedar and mahogany. There are eight segments per row. He finished them with Scratch Free, Myland's Friction Polish, and Dr. Kirk's GOAT Wax.



**Curt Vogt** got a good amount of shop time in this month and created a new batch of magic wands, three Sirocco pen kits made with acrylic and bacote and finished with CA, and then finally completed some ornaments of maple and post oak with finials of maple, cherry, and ipe. He has been experimenting with Solarez UV cured finish on the magic wands and ornaments. He brushed it on and then wiped off all the excess with paper towels before starting the cure with a UV flashlight. It took a bit of direct sunlight to really set the finish as his flashlight is not that strong. It gave a natural wood satin look. He will try a deep gloss experiment at some point.



**Blaine Blaesing** made this 12.5 x 4" ash vase, which seemed to be calling for something extra after turning. So he selected some of the grain lines and woodburned a series of dots to outline them. He finished it with three coats of lacquer.