

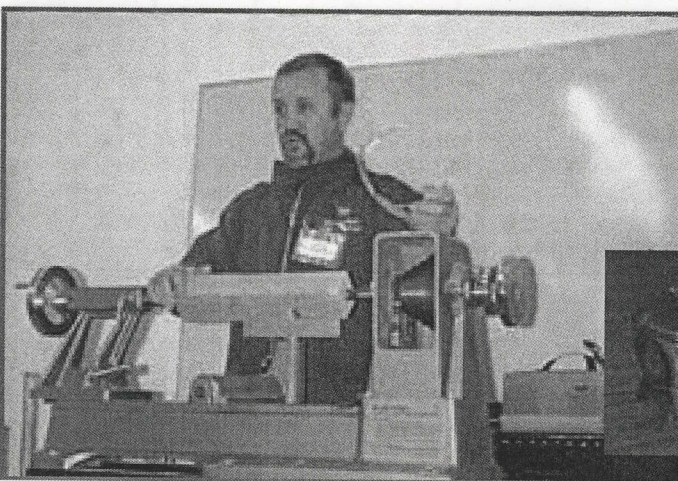
FRONT RANGE WOODTURNERS

VOLUME 1 - NO 5

MAY 2001

*****IMPORTANT REMINDERS:** THE JUNE MEETING WILL BE HELD ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL, THAT IS THE SECOND TUESDAY JUNE 12TH, 2001 (Due to the Provo Symposium conflict) ALSO THE JULY MEETING IS DELAYED TILL THE SECOND TUES. JULY 10 (Due to the 4th conflict)

Many complimentary comments were made about Guilio Marcolongo's demonstration at the May meeting. One of the best unscheduled parts of the demo was addressing the importance of having a good piece of wood. It is one thing to practice your techniques and skills turning beads, coves, end cuts etc. on a scrap of wood, but entirely another to make a worthy item from the same less than desirable piece. With the time, effort and expense involved in turning a superior item, a good piece of wood is the first priority. I'm not sure which professional turner



from "down under" made the comment at one of the symposiums, (maybe Guilio), "begin with a good piece of timber mate...if you start with a piece of s _ _ _ , you'll end up with a piece of s _ _ _ !" We enjoyed this demo as one of the best because it addressed the problem area of the importance of the wood, and when to wise up and start over. His final scalloped legged box was testimony that talents and techniques are best displayed with "worthy wood".

Thanks Guilio for the witty, informative, and superb demo. It is obvious you love turning and why you are able to make a living as a professional turner.

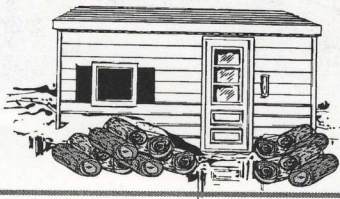
SCHLOSSER EXPANDED TURNING DEPARTMENT:

Rick Peil (pardon my calling him Bob in the last letter) ordered some special requests for a number of our members with economical results. Rick and Phil Link are able to offer a 10% discount on special order items and in stock items purchased on meeting nights only.

Come early, shop and take advantage of these savings. Did you know Schlosser has a used selection of equipment?

8960 E. BERRY 80111 The Greenwood Village "WOOD SHED"

If you have extra wood, know where a hard wood tree is coming down or even know someone who needs help salvaging some worthy wood... call Gordon Martin 303-771-7520. He also needs volunteers, if you can help, call Gordon as he is coordinating this needed project.



FUTURE DEMOS

The June meeting will feature our long time member "Chuck Kubin." Chuck's demo on June 12th will cover a wide range of tools, jigs and techniques for turning odd shapes, enclosed hollow forms and "air," including ideas on design and working around problems. It will incorporate ideas from several experts. *Some personal comments from Chuck are included on the next page.*

July's demonstrator will be "Alan Batty" from England!

Some Comments by Chuck Kubin, our June 12th Demonstrator:

"Back in the mid 1970s I discovered a hidden benefit of the military. I'm not sure of how it is now, after all of the Congressional budget cuts, but most military bases had great hobby shops for woodworking, ceramics, photography, framing, car repair, stereo and often other pursuits.

"I realized that as a young, broke airman who wanted nice furniture, I'd better learn how to build it. The people at Ethan Allen didn't like me, because I would walk in with a basic idea and a tape measure and walk out with sketches and bigger ideas, and none of their furniture.

"Occasionally I would buy some of the shop's expensive Arkansas walnut or white oak (\$.96 and \$.69/bf) for special stuff, but my earliest wood was local red pine salvaged from the 110-year-old Schertz home in Schertz, where I lived. The guy who tore it down wanted new wood prices for stuff with a century's worth of paint and wallpaper stuck to it. I won't say what I paid, but I will tell you that one night I pulled up to the hobby shop with my '64 Corvair dragging its oil pan and the tires scraping the fender wells.

"I learned 1) you can't put finished wood through a planer at least not someone else's planer; 2) you can put a lot of paint and wallpaper on a wall in 110 years; 3) you can waste a ton of belts sanding it off; 4) if you don't have a lot of wood or time to waste, salvage wood can cost more than new, and 5) get the good wood when you see it. The next guy probably is going to see the light, and you'll be short. I

also learned a lot about stretching wood until the bark cries "Uncle".

"The coffee tables I built used some round parts, which I cut from cedar porch posts. It made sense at the time, and with the louvered doors, gave the coffee and side tables quite an advanced look considering my budding skills. Later I learned the lathe more as a curiosity. I got good with a skew, starting rough and going to the finish and I would turn maple for an hour before going back to the grinder. Today, I can't use a skew to save my soul. I did bury the tool in the ceiling, but only once or twice.

"Overseas assignments and being single largely supplanted woodworking until '93 in Cheyenne, when my darling wife Clarissa helped me get a Total Shop (a close Shoptsmith knock off). She knows the value of good tools, and that those tools will keep me out of all sorts of other trouble. Very artistic herself, she is also my best critic and biggest fan; most of my best pieces became hers. If Clarissa says something is good, it is good.

"Joining FRW made the lathe feature the most often used part of the TS, as turning became the top aspect of my work. When I retired to Denver, a Delta 46-700 went in before the table saw, followed closely by a Jet 14" bandsaw with the riser block and, after exposure to Bonnie Klein, a Carbatech mini. I turned pens and learned boxes on the TS, but the more versatile lathe and big-throat bandsaw greatly expanded my capacities as my knowledge grew.

"So did my wood collection. I learned a little about harvesting wood when the big storm in Denver clobbered a lot of trees, then I cut up and hauled three others. I find that a lot of the collecting is luck. I was lucky to spot a dead Russian elm, mostly burl, while at a yard sale. I happened down the right alley right after the owner put a walnut tree out, planning to burn it at his mountain cabin. Just the right FRW meeting gave me the source for pink ivory, and recently I spotted Rockler's truckload sale while driving by on Colorado Blvd.

"With more wood than I can work in this lifetime, I still can't pass up promising wood, mainly burls and crotches. I know I blew it when spectacular wood yields a mediocre piece. It still happens which means I have a lot left to learn.

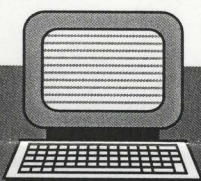
"I still build flat things, but turning is my most satisfying outlet for creativity and imagination. There's a point where what is in the wood and what I think should be there may come together, and when it does, that is my best work.

"I owe most of what I know about turning to the FRW. I get my annual dues back in every meeting, since I learn from a little to a lot in every session, for less than it costs for Clarissa and I to see two movies. Of everything I hope to give back in my demo, I hope to instill the newer guys with the push to try something beyond what they think they can do.

JUNE REMINDERS:

- ✓ Library will be open please return all items checked out.
- ✓ If you bring a guest, please make sure they fill out an info form so we may send them a news letter.
- ✓ "For Sale" Items need to be reviewed, deleted if sold (removed after 3 mo)
- ✓ Want to Help do something!...call one of the Chairmans and volunteer.
- ✓ Suggestions for improving our organization... call Jerry Smith.
- ✓ Mistakes or misinformation call some one else... (just kidding) call John Montague for correction.
- ✓ Need a loan or financial advice... call George Adams, the Treasurer.

New Items for sale: Alltrade scroll saw, perfect, \$100, with quick blade & access \$125 Call Chuck Kubin 303-733-0254



THE INTERNET

Dane Harris, our website guru has the web site for Front Range Woodturners up and running. He has done an outstanding job and if you haven't checked out the creative and informative web site, do so today... the site address is:

www.harrispress.com/frw

Other sites of interest:

(Rky Mtn Woodturners, Ft Collins)
www.verinet.com/~drmeli/rmwt.html
www.lathes.co.uk
www.woodworkingbasics.com
www.treelineusa.com
www.woodturnerscatalog.com
[www.Kestrel Creek Gallery](http://www.KestrelCreekGallery.com)
[www.Choice Woods.com](http://www.ChoiceWoods.com)

FRW CLUB NOTES



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