

THE CUTTING EDGE

The Official Newsletter of the Rapid City Woodworkers Association (RCWA)

MARCH 2024

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OFFICERS – 2024

President: Bob Buchanan 605 348-2865
Vice President: Rick Weisbeck 605 431-7375
Secretary: Stu Kellogg
Treasurer: Tony Verchio 605 390-1932

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Librarian: Grant Coffin 605 718-7431
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Public Affairs (Newsletter/Webmaster/Press Releases): Bob Buchanan 605 348-2865
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rapidcitywoodworkers@gmail.com

Badges/Membership: Gary Graves 342-2620
Toy Program: Chairman Bob Buchanan
Co-Chairman- Rick Weisbeck
Chief Assistant – Jerry Hood 605 578-2638

Special Interest Groups Contacts

Scrollsaw SIG (SS SIG): Rick Weisbeck 605 431-7375
Woodturning SIG (WT SIG): Maggie and Jim Brown 503-320-7781 / 503 301-4053

President's Message

Bob Buchanan



Greetings to the Woodworkers of the Black Hills!

It looks like we are continuing with a “banana belt” spring. We are getting closer to our 16th Annual Wood Working Show set for April 20th. Our next Toymaking Workshop and General Meeting will be held on March 9, 2024. We will talk in detail about the upcoming Woodworking Show set for April 20, 2024. Then we will share any SHOW AND TELL items. Hope you can be there!

See you on Saturday morning March 9th 2024 at 8:30 am in the Wood Shop. Our General Meeting will start at 11 am upstairs in the annex to 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD.



DUES FOR 2024 - \$25 - Please bring your dues to the January meeting or mail them to Treasurer Tony Verchio at 143 Rainbow Ridge Ct, Hill City, SD, 57745. Dues cover the entire family. Dues for new members joining after July 1st will be pro-rated during the second half of 2024.

Table 1- Schedule of Monthly Events For 2024

See calendar on next page.

Event	Location	Dates*
General Meetings – see Table 2 for presentation details	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church – in the Annex, 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City, SD	2 nd Monday of the Month, 7 pm to 9 pm
Woodturner's Special Interest Group	Brown's Shop 2879 Spotted Fawn Lane Rapid City, SD	Last Wednesday of the Month 1 pm to 3:00 pm
Toy Making Workshop – Parts Milling and Toy Assembly	Wood Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City, SD	2 nd and 4 th Saturdays – dates verified/announced by email.
Scroll Saw Special Interest Group	Rick Weisbeck's Shop 6704 Kimberly Dr, Black Hawk, SD	3 rd Thursday of the Month, 1 pm to 3 pm
Extracurricular Activities	Various Locations - See Table 3.	See Table 3.

Table 2. General Meetings for 2024 (2nd Monday of each Month*)

Date	Presentation Topic	Presenter(s)
20 Jan 2024*	General Meeting	RCWA Board
10 Feb 2024*	General Meeting	RCWA Board
9 Mar 2024*	General Meeting	RCWA Board
8 April 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
13 May 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
10 June 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
8 July 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
-- Aug 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
9 Sept 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
14 Oct 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
11 Nov 2024	General Meeting	RCWA Board
14 Dec 2024	Christmas Family Luncheon	All Members

**Except for Jan Feb Mar 2024*

2024 Calendar- RCWA Events are Circled

(Refer back to Table 1 for Key to Circled Dates.)



2024

Rev. 2

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Table 3. Events for 2024 – Tentative Dates

Date	Event	Location
January thru August	Toy Workshops – bi-weekly 2 nd and 4 th Saturdays	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City, SD
January 13 thru Nov 16 – every available day	Toymaking	Club Members Shops
March – ask Rick for dates and times	Assist with Pinewood Derby – Rangers	First Assembly of God Church
April 20, 2024	Woodworking Show at Knecht Home Center	
June 15, 2024 – 7 am	Tool Sale at Wes Murphy's	Murphys Driveway Rapid City, SD
July 8-10, 2024	Assist with Club for Boys Pinewood Derby	Club for Boys SHOP
84 th Rally: Aug 2 – 11, 2024	Sturgis Motorcycle Rally	<i>Minimal Meetings</i>
August 17, 2024 – 9 am to 3 pm; 56th Annual Black Hills Steam and Gas Threshing Bee	Sturgis Threshing Bee – Toy Wooden Tractor Giveaways and Racing Tractors	13380 Alkali Rd, Sturgis
Sept 14, 2024	5K Walk Little Black Hills Battles - Community Event	Old Story Book Island Park
Every Saturday from Sept 9 thru Nov 16, 2024 9 am to noon	Toymaking <i>Marathon - weekly</i>	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City SD
December 7, 2024 8:00 to 12 noon	Toy Packing/Distribution Day	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City SD
December 14, 2024 11:30 am	Christmas Family Potluck - Nemo	Nemo Community Hall Nemo, SD

1. Guests/new members
2. Treasurer's Report- Reminder about Dues - \$25/year
3. Sign-in / Email / Newsletter Check / Blog
4. Next Events:
 - a. 2024 Officers – new slate of officers is in place
 - b. Events/Extracurricular Activities – Al Oines
 - c. Pinewood Derby Assistance at First Assembly of God Church – dates? March - Rick
 - d. Special Interest Groups
 - i. SS SIG - date is: 3-15-2024 at 1 pm at Rick's
 - ii. WT SIG - date is: 3-27-2024 at 1 pm at Brown's
5. Next General Meeting – Sat April 8th, 2024 at 910 Wood Ave at 7 pm
 - a. Refreshments: _____
6. Other Topics for Discussion
 - a. Tool Sale Date: 15 June at Wes Murphy's
 - b. Community Event Date: Sept 14, 2024 Black Hills Battles - at Old Story Book Island
7. WOOD SHOW at Knecht Home Center
 - a. Date: April 20, 2024
 - b. Theme for 2024: "Christmas in April"
 - c. See separate WW Show agenda -- Christmas in April WW Show
 - i. Racers
 - ii. Blank ornaments - the kids can color as giveaway
 - iii. Ornaments to give as door prizes – hang at entry
 - iv. Jerry will bring a Tree, we can hang ornaments as club displays
8. TOY PROGRAM
 - a. Toy Workshops – every 2nd and 4th weekend – March 9th and 23rd, 2024;
 - b. Tracing List for 2024
 - c. Toy List – some new toys will be added
 - d. Process of Requesting Toys - Application for Toys
9. Projects for the WOOD SHOP
10. Wood Recovery Projects
11. Future Discussions
12. SHOW and TELL

Last General Meeting Summary – Feb 10, 2024

Our last General Meeting was held on Feb 10, 2024 at the annex to 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD from 11 am to 12:30 pm. For details on the meeting, go to the Blog.

Photos from Previous Meeting

Lon Gose/Cori Weisbeck

Photos taken at previous meetings are posted on our social media pages and/or on the BLOG on the website: www.rapidcitywoodworkers.com

If you have a completed project, bring it or photos of it, if it's too big to carry, to the next meeting for SHOW and TELL. Or send photos of it to Cori (rapidcitywoodworkers@gmail.com) and she will post them on our social media pages (Facebook (facebook.com/rcwasd) or Instagram (instagram.com/rcwasd)).

Tip of the Month: For the Beginning Scrollsawyer

Reprinted from Chuck Collins, OCSSA

How to get started in scroll sawing

Chuck Collins suggests the nine things new scrollers should do to increase their knowledge and enjoyment of cutting on a scroll saw are:

1. Take a lesson and learn the basics of scrolling and learn how to do it right instead of learning bad habits.
2. Join a scroll saw club where you will interact with other scrollers and increase your knowledge of scrolling while having a great time.
3. Be sure to install the blade with the teeth facing down and to the front of the saw.
4. Use any of the available angle finders to ensure that the blade is 90 degrees to the table so all of your cuts will be perpendicular and can be removed easily from the top or the bottom.
5. Set the blade tension properly. Pluck the blade until you hear a high "C" sound. If you pluck the blade and get a thud sound, there is not enough tension.
6. Use the correct size blade for the wood you are cutting. Use a larger size blade for cutting thick or dense wood and a smaller blade to cut thinner wood with intricate cuts.
7. Set the saw speed to a setting where you can control the cut. Use a high speed to cut a thick piece of wood in half and a slow speed for doing marquetry. Experiment and find a speed where you can control the cut.
8. Let the blade do the cutting. Don't force the wood into the blade.
9. If you are not able to cut on the line, stop, take a deep breath, and ask yourself what you need to do differently by reviewing the steps above. When you are experiencing problems cutting on the line, the answer is usually one of the above blade-related items, NOT you.

The following article was written by Mason, an eighth grader from CA to describe the SARC. He is a long time member of the RCWA West Coast Test Team.

A racing competition entitled S.A.R.C. (South Dakota Annual Racing Competition) has been widely expanding through South Dakota, and hype has been building up for the next competition. Let's explore how this all happened.

A 10-year old boy named David once found a bunch of wooden cars with wheels lying around his yearly vacation destination in South Dakota. He decided that it would be fun to race them, but without a proper racetrack, the races were never legitimately a show of speed. So he and his grandpa worked on a racetrack. The final design ended up being 3 long planks of wood with 2 long pieces of wood separating the original 3 planks into thirds. Under it was a big board with three axles sticking up to keep the cars from going down the track. When a key was pulled, the axles went down and gravity would force the cars down the track. The car that came off the track first, won. This made racing cars much fun, and David (along with his cousins Mason and Tyler) started playing with these cars. Racing made these cars fun for them to play with. "After all," David says, "what use [are] all of these cars if we can't race them?". In 2023, these three boys met again and started racing these cars again. All of a sudden Mason had an idea that would change racing these cars forever. Mason decided to make a racing league for all of these cars and came up with the acronym S.A.R.C. It was originally gonna be titled S.D.A.R.C. but he decided to change this name, for marketing purposes. When asked how this league changed the excitement of racing cars, David says, "It started as [an] unnamed race with a bunch of random cars lying around, until we named the cars, organized the league, and named the league itself." Soon it became a great competition and spread throughout all of South Dakota.

However, it isn't easy for your car to qualify for S.A.R.C. Your car must first beat the UPS Truck, a S.A.R.C. VIP, in a race. To signify this victory, the word "S.A.R.C." is written on the car in big, black letters. Cars that are allowed to compete must be 2 inches shorter than the car named Big Boy and no taller than it too. Big Boy is the only exception to this rule, as it existed before the size requirements were made. Size requirements were added because back in 2021, huge cars were dominating the competition. Next, the car must not have any wax or WD-40 added to it to improve its performance. Before every competition starts, the opening ceremony is performed. During the opening ceremony, "The Star Spangled Banner" plays and the S.A.R.C. Train rolls down the middle track, soon followed by cars "Herbie" and "Knothole". After that, the races can begin! In each race, which has 3 cars each, the 1st and 2nd place cars move on, and the 3rd place car goes to a loser's bracket. After there are no more cars to race, we race the loser's bracket, and take the 1st and 2nd place cars to move on, and the 3rd place car stays in the loser's bracket. We keep doing this until there are either 2 or 3 cars left in the loser's bracket. We then race those, and the loser of that race is eliminated in the competition. Each round, a car is eliminated, until we only have 3 cars left, then from that race, the 1st place car wins it all, and the 2nd place car wins second and the 3rd place gets third place.

Superfans are cars that sit in the stands. They didn't make it in the S.A.R.C., but they are still passionate about the cars that are racing. Who are their favorite cars? Well, let's dive into some of the more notable racers in the S.A.R.C. The first one worth mentioning is Speedfast. Speedfast is inspiring

generations of cars hoping to make it to the S.A.R.C. and is David's personal favorite racer. Speedfast is lopsided, meaning he can't stand up straight and his wheels are different lengths, yet he can compete with vans twice his size. Experts are still pondering how a small, short lopsided car can compete with strong, huge, and perfectly built vans. "We may never know [how Speedfast competes so well]," Mason says. The next car we should talk about is The Rigged Car. The Rigged Car got its nickname because it was so insanely fast and could beat all of the huge Bat Mobile-sized cars back when there were no size requirements. He destroyed all of the competition, and won countless awards. He only got second place once in a 2021 competition to a car that is no longer in the league. However, they found out that The Rigged Car had Crayon Wax on his wheels. Soon, he was disliked by many fans, and was later de-rigged and tape was put on his wheels. He may later be removed from the entire tournament. Another notable car that is controversial is Big Boy. Big Boy destroyed all of the competition when he made his rookie debut. He got second place to the RIGged Car in the annual competition and has beaten the Rigged Car a few times, the only car to do it more than once. However, it has huge mass and is past the size requirements because it raced in a time before size requirements were a thought. However, it is still a fan favorite because it was made from a random shape of wood that was going to be thrown away, but it was recovered and wheels were put on it. Another notable car is Free Cars. Free Cars was originally made as an advertisement for free cars that were being given away, but soon Mason, Tyler and David agreed to put wheels on it. Though it is not the fastest car, it definitely is a fan favorite. The last notable car we will talk about is Space Race, arguably the car with the best design in the league. It was already a fan favorite, but then tragically one of its axles snapped in half, and could not be put back together, despite massive effort by Mason and David. However, their grandpa performed massive surgery on it by drilling a hole in the half of the axle that was still in there, and replaced it by putting a new axle in the hole. Soon, it re-entered the competition and was the fastest van that didn't take WD-40 or wax. It ended up being 6th place.

As we just explored the history of S.A.R.C., we hope that this sparks some interest in you for the next competition. So make sure you don't miss it.

RCWA Events since the Last Newsletter Release

Events attended by members since the last General Meeting in February 2024 included one Toy Workshop (2.24.2024), and a Woodturning SIG (2.28.2024)

Toy Program/Toy Workshops

Toy Makers

THE TOY PROGRAM. The Toy Program effort consists of 5 major phases:

Phase 1: Tracing

Phase 2: Cutting toys to shape

Phase 3: Milling - routing, drilling, machine sanding

Phase 4: Finish - sealer coat - sanding - spray - sanding

Phase 5: Wheel installations

"I have been making toys all my life. It's what I love to do. And this one is a very special toy and I made it just for you."

Quote from "The Toymaker" play - Dec 2023

Next Toy Workshops

We will hold our next workshop at the WOOD SHOP in the basement of the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church on 910 Wood Ave on Saturday morning March 9, 2024 from 8:30 am to 11 am followed by Mar 23, 2024 from 9 am to Noon. We are nearly finished with phase 1. Refer to our BLOG for all the details about these workshops:

www.rapidcitywoodworkers.com

Photos from Toy Workshops

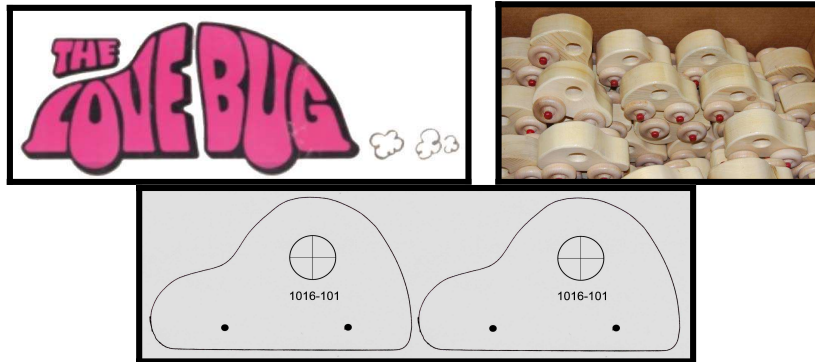
N/A

WT SIG 2.28.2024

The Wood Turning Special Interest Group (WT SIG) was held on Feb 28, 2024. Discussion were entertained about what to demonstrate at the Woodworking show and what items to give away.

Project Love Bug

Lots of Love Bugs have been made at Toy Workshops and in-home shops; and are available to members. This special toy is allocated for distribution to members for everyday giving to a child deserving or needing a little love. If you need a few "Love Bugs", ask Rick. We keep hearing good stories/feedback from this project. "Love Bugs" are ending up all around the world.



Library

Grant Coffin

Grant Coffin, our librarian, has lists of available DVDs, and books that you can review. Additionally, you may send an email to Grant to request info on any subject and he will research it for you and send you a response. So, send your requests to Grant Coffin: redtopg@hotmail.com.

Website Notes

Webmaster

Facebook page link: facebook.com/rcwasd

Facebook page name: @rcwasd

We now have one convenient way to get to our website: www.rapidcitywoodworkers.com

Cori Weisbeck is our Social Media Manager. Cori says that most organizations these days use social media to disseminate information about events around the community. She has set up accounts for the RCWA on Facebook and Instagram. Facebook is for information and pictures, and Instagram is mostly for pictures. You do not need an account to read our Facebook and Instagram information. To see current events and photos, type in the links below. The accounts can be viewed by using these details:

Instagram Link: [instagram.com/rcwasd](https://www.instagram.com/rcwasd)

Instagram username: rcwasd

Cori is our central point for posting information and photos on these two sites. You can email your project photos to her at the address below (rapidcitywoodworkers@gmail.com) and she will post them.

Note: Everyone can send project photos to rapidcitywoodworkers@gmail.com – this is Cori’s address – and she will post them on the club’s social media platforms. Please include a few words about each project.

Meeting Location/Project Shop Location

With the exception of the Winter Months (Jan thru March), we hold general meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month on the main level of the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City from 7 pm to 9 pm. In the winter months, we meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month after the Toymaking Workshop, starting at 11 am.

Project Workshops are now being held at the “WOOD” SHOP at 910 WOOD Ave on the second and fourth Saturday mornings from 9 am to noon. The WOOD SHOP on WOOD Ave is located in the basement of the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City. You can enter the WOOD SHOP thru the brown door on the east side of the building. Parking is available on the east and south sides of the building. Wood and supplies are stored at an off-site location.

Purpose of the RCWA

The RCWA exists for two main reasons: (1) To exchange information that will enhance the enjoyment and skills of woodworking; and (2) To promote woodworking as a hobby, as a profession, or anywhere in between. The focus of the RCWA is woodworking in general. We discuss everything from the phenomenon of seasonal wood movement, to finishing techniques, to table-saw tuning, to shop safety. Members include a mixture of hand-tool (Galoot) and power tool (Normite) enthusiasts.

Except for Jan-Mar, the RCWA meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on the main floor of the annex to OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH at 910 WOOD Avenue in Rapid City. Each general meeting has a theme with one main topic, which is presented and discussed. It’s a great opportunity to meet fellow woodworkers, share ideas, seek advice, and get out of the sawdust for a while. We cordially invite men and women of all ages who have any interest in woodworking, both hobby and professional, to attend our meetings.

You are invited to the FREE

**16th Annual
Rapid City Woodworkers Association (RCWA)**



WOODWORKING SHOW

Saturday, April 20, 2024

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Knecht Home Center

320 West Blvd, Rapid City



Theme: "Christmas in April"

**See Displays of Woodworking Projects, Old Tools
plus, Games for Kids**

**Watch Demonstrations of Woodturning, CNC,
Scroll Sawing, and Toy Making**



Door Prizes and Raffle plus Silent Auction of Handcrafted Wooden Items

Will benefit Toy Making Program for kids

THE CUTTING EDGE

Monthly Newsletter of the
Rapid City Woodworkers
Association

Visit us on the Web at:

www.rapidcitywoodworkers.com



The newsletter is posted on the website
shortly before the RCWA General Meeting.

Any articles you wish to submit must be in
my hands no later than the Tuesday before
that date.

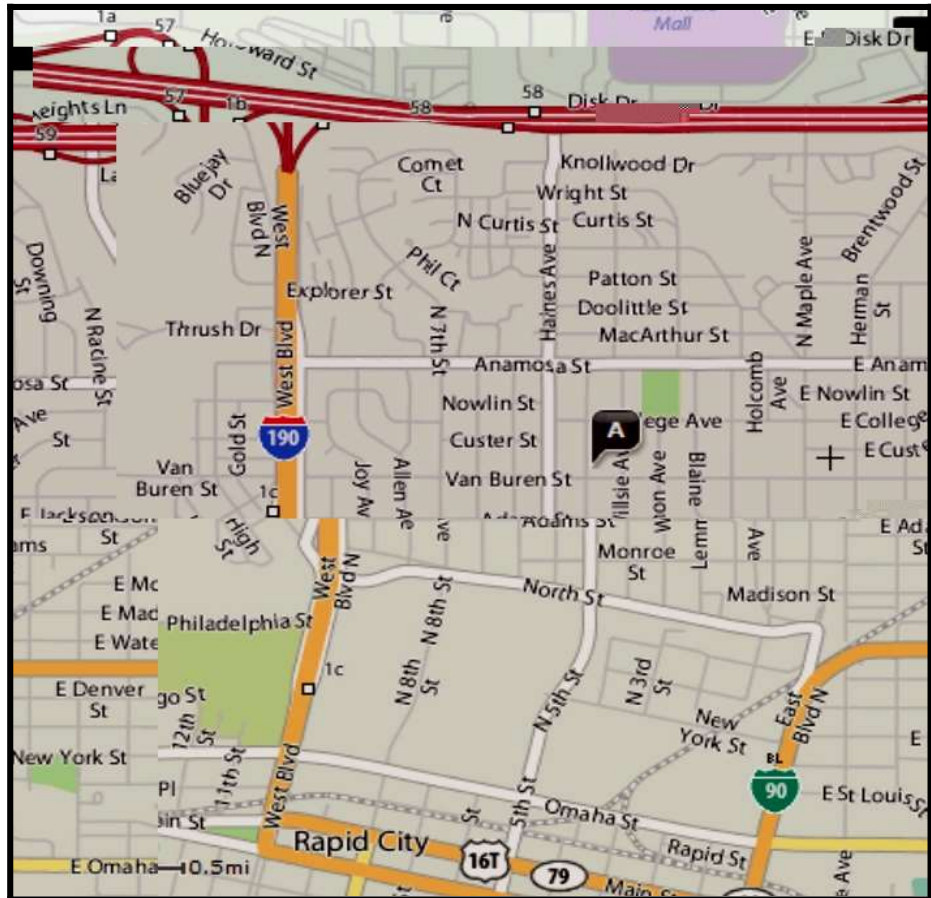
Editor – Bob Buchanan
rdub_buchanan@yahoo.com

WHERE?

In the Annex to:
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
910 Wood Avenue
Rapid City, SD 57701

WHEN?

GENERAL MEETING
Saturday March 9th, 2024
8:30 am – 12:30 pm



Friends of the RCWA

J&D Woodworking	Knecht Home Center
Magnum Enterprises, LLC	Club for Boys
Ray Tree Farm on Nemo Rd	Jim and Marilyn Reaser
Forest Products	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Katherine Hastings	Chris Dancy
Nuts and Bolts Fabric	Solutions Chiropractic