

THE CUTTING EDGE

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

October 2025

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President's Message

Bob Buchanan



Greetings to the Woodworkers of the Black Hills!

We are midway through our Toymaking Marathon, as we prepare for Christmas giving. We continue to hold a Toymaking Workshop every Saturday thru December as we finish off toys to give away on Toy Packing /Distribution Day on Dec 6, 2025. Hope you can join us!

Our next General Meeting is Monday evening October 13th at 7 pm in the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD. We will be planning the Toy Packing/Distribution Day activities and the Christmas Potluck Dinner. Then we can share any SHOW AND TELL items. Hope to see you there!

OFFICERS – 2025

President: Bob Buchanan 605 348-2865

Vice President: Rick Weisbeck 605 431-7375

Secretary: Stu Kellogg 605 484-2652

Treasurer: Tony Verchio 605 390-1932

COMMITTEES

Program Chairman: Al Oines 605 342-1444

Librarian: Grant Coffin 605 718-7431

Photographer: Lon Gose 605 341-4216

Public Affairs (Newsletter/Webmaster/Press Releases): Bob Buchanan 605 348-2865

Love Bugs: Roy Erickson 605 430-3776

Social Media: Cori Weisbeck 605 431-1908

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 - Leads

Scrollsaw SIG: Rick Weisbeck 605 431-7375

Woodturning SIG (WT SIG): Maggie and Jim Brown 503-320-7781 / 503 301-4053

CNC SIG : Stu Kellogg 605 484-2652

See you on Monday evening Oct 13th, 2025 at 7 pm!



DUES FOR 2025 - \$25 – If you haven't taken care of your dues for 2025, please bring them to the next meeting or mail them to our treasurer Tony Verchio at 143 Rainbow Ridge Ct, Hill City, SD, 57745. Dues cover the entire family. Dues for new members joining during the second half of 2025 will be pro-rated.

Table 1 - Schedule of Monthly Events For 2025

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 2025 (2nd Monday of each Month*)

(*Except for Jan-Feb -Mar 2025)

Date	Presentation Topic	Presenter(s)
11 Jan 2025*	General Meeting	RCWA Board
8 Feb 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
8 Mar 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
14 April 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
12 May 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
9 June 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
14 July 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
-- Aug 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
8 Sept 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
13 Oct 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
10 Nov 2025	General Meeting	RCWA Board
13 Dec 2025	Christmas Family Luncheon	All Members

Table 3. Events for 2025 – Tentative Dates

Date	Event	Location
January thru August	Toy Workshops – bi-weekly	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City, SD
January 11 thru Nov 16 – every available day	Toymaking	Club Members Shops
March 14 and 15	Assist with Pinewood derby build	First Assembly of God
April 26, 2025 9 am to 4 pm	WW SHOW	Knecht Home Center
June 14, 2025 - 7 am to 3 pm	Tool SALE	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City, SD
June 21, 2025 - 10 am to 2 pm	Vendor's Show	Knecht Home Center
July 7-9 , 2025 – 9 am to noon, daily	Assist with Club for Boys Pinewood Derby - Tanner Tucker	Club for Boys SHOP
85th Rally: Aug 1st – 10th, 2025	Sturgis Motorcycle Rally	<i>Minimal Meetings</i>
Aug 10, 2025 – 11 am to 2 pm	Kids Carnival	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
August 16, 2025 – Setup at 8:30 am event starts at 9 am to 3 pm; 57th Annual Black Hills Steam and Gas Threshing Bee	Sturgis Threshing Bee – Toy Wooden Tractor Giveaways / Racing Tractors	13380 Alkali Rd, Sturgis
Sept 13 2025 – 8:30 am to noon	5K Walk Little Black Hills Battles - Community Event with Giraffes	Old Story Book Island Park
Every Saturday from Sept 6 thru Nov 22, 2025 - 9 am to noon	Toymaking <i>Marathon - weekly</i>	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City SD
December 6, 2025 9:00 to 12 noon	Toy Packing/Distribution Day	WOOD Shop 910 Wood Ave, Rapid City SD
December 13, 2025 11:30 am	Christmas Family Potluck - Doty	Doty Volunteer Fire Department
	Shop Tours	Periodically, as announced

Table 4. WT SIG Schedule March 2025 – March 2026

Date	Topic	Location
March 26, 2025	Planning Meeting	Brown's Shop
April 30, 2025	Bottle Openers	Brown's Shop
May 28, 2025	Chucking Techniques	West Hills Shop
June 25, 2025	Pens - AI Demo	Brown's Shop
July 30, 2025	Finishing / Sharpening	Brown's Shop
Sept 24, 2025	Ornaments	Brown's Shop
Oct 29, 2025	Demo TBD	Brown's Shop
Nov 19, 2025	TBD	Thanksgiving
December 2025	No meeting	Merry Christmas
Jan 28, 2026	Bowls	Brown's Shop
Feb 25, 2026	Platters	Brown's Shop
Mar 25, 2026	Planning Meeting	Brown's Dining Room

2025 Calendar - RCWA Events are Circled

(Refer to Tables 1 thru 4 for the Key to Circled Dates.)



Giraffes presented to kids at the Black Hills Little Battles 5K Fundraiser last month.

This Month's Meeting Agenda

Program Chair

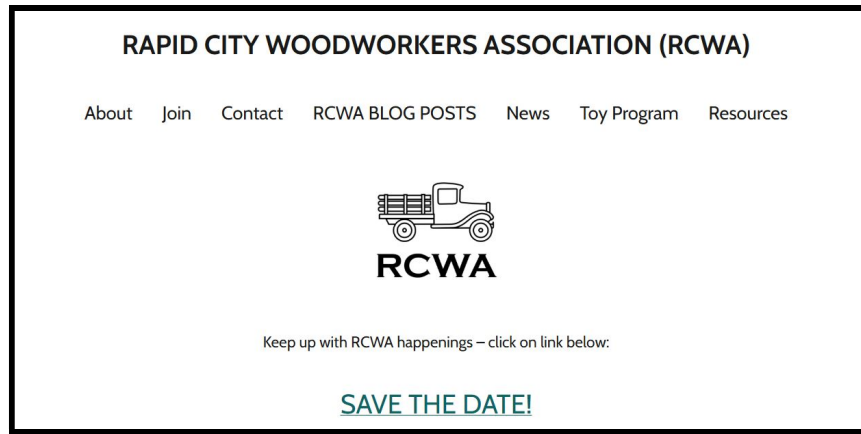
Our next General Meeting is Monday evening October 13th at 7 pm in the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD. We will be planning the Toy Packing/ Distribution Day activities and looking ahead to the Christmas Potluck Dinner. Then we can share any SHOW AND TELL items. The General Meeting will start at 7 pm upstairs from the Wood Shop in the annex to 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD. Items to be discussed:

1. Guests/new members
2. Treasurer's Report- Reminder about Dues - \$25/year
3. Sign-in / Email / Newsletter Check / Blog
4. Next General Meeting – Monday Nov 10, 2025 at 910 Wood Ave – 7 pm
 - a. Refreshments:_____
5. SIG Dates
 - a. SS SIG –at Rick's Shop – OCT 16th at 1 pm
 - b. WT SIG – at Brown's Shop - Oct 29, 2025 at 1 pm.
 - c. CNC SIG – Stu Kellogg – NOV 1 at STU's Shop at 12:15 pm
6. Future Community Events:
None this month.
7. TOY PROGRAM
 - a. Toy Workshops – every Saturday morning – 9 am to noon
 - b. Toy Recipients Response/Update
 - c. Toy Packing/Distribution Day – Dec 6, 2025 at 9 am.
 - d. Christmas Family Potluck Dinner – Dec 13, 2025 at Doty Fire Station at 11:30 am.
8. Projects for the WOOD SHOP
9. Wood Recovery Projects
10. Future Discussions
11. SHOW and TELL

Last General Meeting Summary

Our last General Meeting was held on Sept 8, 2025 at the annex to 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City, SD. For details on the meeting and minutes, go to the RCWA Blog Post for the Sept 8th, 2025 General Meeting at www.rcwasd.org.





To check on current happenings - click on “SAVE THE DATES” from the main menu.

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.rcwasd.org

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).)

RCWA Events since the Last Newsletter Release

Events attended by members since the last General Meeting in SEPTEMBER 2025 included three Toy Workshops, a SS SIG, a Community event at Old Story Book Island, a WT SIG, and a CNC SIG.

1. CNC SIG 10-4-2025
2. TWS (TWS2025-17) 10-4-2025
3. PREP FOR NEXT TWS
4. TWS (TWS2025-16) 9-27-2025
5. WT SIG 9.24.2025
6. PREP FOR NEXT TWS
7. TWS (TWS2025-15) 9-20-2025
8. SS SIG 9-18-2025
9. COMMUNITY EVENT 9.13.2025 BLACK HILLS LITTLE BATTLES 5K
10. SEPTEMBER 2025 GENERAL MEETING 9.8.2025

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

For more information, contact Bob Buchanan at (605) 348-2865 or Rick Weisbeck at (605) 431-4708. Or go to our website at <http://www.rcwasd.org>.

Toy Workshops

We held our 15th, 16th and 17th Toy Workshops (TWS) for 2025 during September and October 2025, from 9 to 12 noon. These was held at the Wood Shop at 910 Wood Ave in Rapid City. The shop is in the basement of the annex to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

The next Toy Workshops will be held each Saturday during October and November from 9 to noon. We are midway through our Toymaking Marathon, as we prepare for Christmas giving.

Refer to our BLOG for all the details about these workshops on our website: <https://rcwasd.org/>



Status of Toy Program



We are done tracing toys on our current list for 2025 and are now cutting toys to shape, drilling axle and window holes, and routing and sanding. So, we are in phases 2, 3, 4 and 5. Our goal for 2025 is to build about 3,500 toys to donate to organizations who work with kids in South Dakota. As of today, there are 1,861 toys in inventory on our way to 3,500.



Scroll Saw Special Interest Group (SS SIG): Sept 18, 2025

The Scrollsaw Special Interest Group (SS SIG) met at Rick's shop in Black Hawk today from 1 pm to 3pm.

Attending today: Rick, Al, Marty, Jerry and Ken

Today's discussions included general scroll sawing discussions and overall Christmas Ornaments. Rick presented a trunk show of ornaments, shared some patterns, and detailed explanations related to the ornaments.

Photos from the event:



Woodturning Special Interest Group (WT SIG)

9-24-2025

The Wood Turning Special Interest Group (WT SIG) was held today from 1 pm to 3 pm. All RCWA members and guests are welcome to attend. It is on the calendar for the last Wednesday of each month at 1 pm. It is held in Jim and Maggie's Shop at 2879 Spotted Fawn Lane, Rapid City, SD 57702. Thank you Jim and Maggie for hosting , preparing demos, and making your shop ready for today's Woodturning SIG.

Attending (12): Jim, Maggie, Al, Rick, Ken M, Steve, Bob, Kathie, Lon, Darrell, Stu, and Marty

Today, Jim Brown demonstrated some of the basic steps and jigs used in preparing to make a Segmented Bowl. Maggie showed us how to mount a platter using the Longworth Jig. Maggie later showed us how to sharpen some of the tools people were asking about. Maggie then discussed her thread cutting tool. Finally, Bob and Jim showed us how to use an L-Fence Jig on the table saw.

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Maggie discussed the non-profit organization called BEADS OF COURAGE Program. Jim discussed the size of the bowls used by the Program. Maggie is checking into the details of this program and how to send bowls to the Program, which is based in Arizona. Official medallions can be purchased and embedded into the bowls. Several people are interested in making bowls or boxes for the Program. More discussions will follow.



Photos from the event:



CNC Special Interest Group (CNC SIG)

For more photos, go to the article/blog entry on our website: rcwasd.org

COMMUNITY EVENT: BLACK HILLS LITTLE BATTLES 5K FUNDRAISER

9-13-2025

We gave toys to kids on Saturday Sept 13, 2025 at Old Story Book Island Park. We were part of the Black Hills Little Battles 5K Fundraiser.



Little Black Hills Battles is a recognition of Monument Health's Pediatric patients who bravely fight childhood illness and disease every day right here in our community. During this walk, participants got to know many of these brave children and their heroic stories. Walkers joined in for a celebration following the walk with music, food trucks, bubbles, free wooden toys, and more! Donations through Children's Miracle Network (CMN) are devoted to helping these children. Opportunities for donations were available at the event.

With temperatures in the mid 60's, several members of the RCWA gathered at Old Story Book Island Park today to support the Little Black Hills Battles at Monument Pediatrics. This is a fundraiser to assist young people (and their parents) battling diseases at Monument Pediatrics.

Attendees (14) included Al, Stu, Ed, Keith, Ron, Rick, Lon, Cleon, John, Bobbi, Patsy, Jerry, Bob and Kathie

This year, we gave away new Giraffes developed for the Toy Program, as well as giraffes that were made for last year's event. The new Giraffes were cut to shape at one of our Scroll Saw Special Interest Group (SS SIG) meetings at Rick's Shop. Thanks Rick and the SS SIG members! We also offered kids a choice of Love Bugs or Vans.

Rick, Patsy, Kathie, Bob, Lauree, Keith and Ron all took turns assisting the kids with the coloring of the wooden toys (giraffes or love bugs or vans). Jerry, Al, John and Cleon glued and installed wheels. Stu and Bobbi spelled the installers. Rick, Stu, Ed, and Ron helped the little guys test out and race their special toys. Over 40 giraffes were colored by kids of all ages ranging from a few months to teens. Twenty love bugs/vans were colored, wheeled and raced. Parents and kids were very pleased with the gifts of wooden toys today!

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Photos from the event:



Toy Workshops 9-20, 9-27, and 10-4-2025



THE CUTTING EDGE – OCTOBER 2025



BEHIND THE SCENES - BETWEEN WORKSHOPS

This section highlights some activities which take place between workshops that greatly contributes to smoother and more efficient workshops.

1. Preparation for each TWS workshop
 - 1.1. Equipment maintenance – during and after each TWS
 - 1.2. Supplies/consumables
 - 1.3. Refreshments
 - 1.4. Wood preparation / recovery
 - 1.5. Wheels/pegs sprayed / painted
 - 1.6. Toys sealed
 - 1.7. Toys sprayed
2. Parts fabrication
3. Toys cut/sanded/routed at home
4. Ball/strings (240) for toys
5. Wood turners - toy parts
6. Research and development department
7. Digital tools (CNC, laser cutters)
8. Cloth Bags/Cradle Quilts Sewn (165)

The summary above illustrates what happens behind the scenes each week before and after each workshop. Many thanks to each and everyone of you who contributes both at the workshop and at home before and after each workshop! Many hands make light work. Thank you for your contributions!

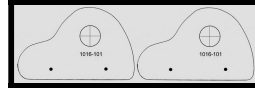


Toys into INVENTORY			
	4.6	MCQUEEN'S	20
	5.19	RUNABOUT CAR	26
	5.20	GOLF CART THIN	27
	6.8	CRAYON HAULER	9
	7.8	COUPE	23
	9.4	LOCOMOTIVES	37
	14.2	CUP AND BALL GAME	50
	14.4	PADDLE GAMES	12
	15.21	GIRAFFE PUSH CAR	22
	16.7	TATER CAR	18
	17.3	HELICOPTER COMIC	25
	17.4	HELICOPTERS	24
	18.4	FIRE TRUCK	1
	19.1	ARPLANE	43
			337

As of today, there are 1,861 toys in inventory on our way to 3,500.

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 or Roy E. We keep hearing good stories/feedback from this project. “Love Bugs” are ending up all around the world. If you have more questions, talk to Rick W or Roy Erickson as he is tracking the status of this project.



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

Type this into your browser to get to our new website: www.rcwasd.org

To check on current happenings - click on “SAVE THE DATES” from the main menu.

Social Media Notes

Cori Weisbeck

Cori Weisbeck is our Social Media Manager. 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:

Facebook page link: facebook.com/rcwasd

Facebook page name: @rcwasd

Instagram Link: instagram.com/rcwasd

Instagram username: rcwasd

Cori is also 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. Make sure you 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.

Until Sept 1, 2025, Project Workshops are held at the “WOOD” SHOP at 910 WOOD Ave on the second and fourth Saturday mornings from 9 am to noon. In September, we begin meeting every Saturday morning in preparation for Toy Distribution Day on Dec 6, 2025. 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.

HATS and Beanies are Available

RCWA Hats are back in stock – Get them from Tony or Bob: \$ 15 gets you a new hat bearing our new website address (and a free secondary hat with the old website, while supplies last).



We also have Beanies: Beanies (\$20). (Winter's on its way!)

THE CUTTING EDGE

Monthly Newsletter of the
Rapid City Woodworkers
Association

Visit us on the Web at:
www.rcwasd.org



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.

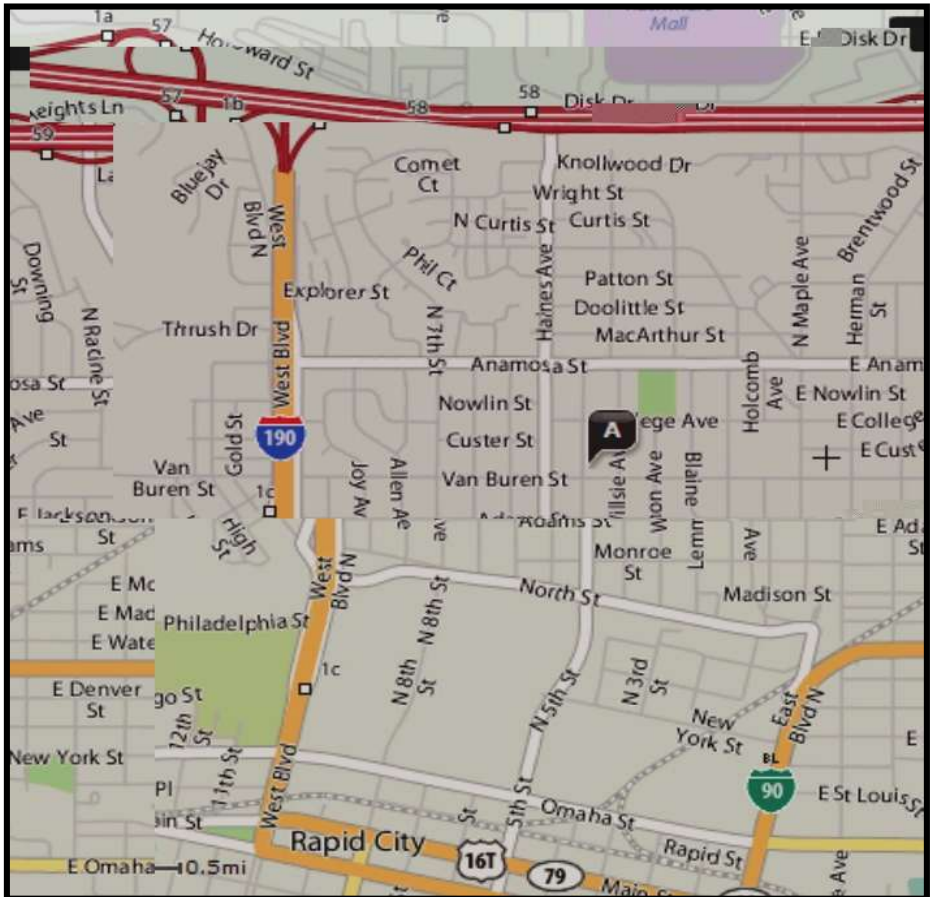
Editor – Bob Buchanan

WHERE?

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

WHEN?

GENERAL MEETING
Monday October 13, 2025
7 pm to 9 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	Verl and Kathy Scheibe
Nuts and Bolts Fabric	Solutions Chiropractic