



# TURN NORTH



Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners, Kansas City MO

February 2006

## Jerry McMaster Presents at February 2 Meeting

Jerry McMaster continues the 2006 focus on woodturning & creativity with a demonstration on “Curvature”. Jerry and his wife Linda are regular attenders at NWT meetings. He’s been actively pursuing turning for about four years, after retiring from education five years ago. He will provide information about form and design gleaned from his own experience and from the classes he’s attended with Binh Pho, Andi Wolfe and Don Duden. He has taken weekend seminars locally through the KC Chapter and TurnAbout Wood, as well as classes at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. Jerry will be bringing some of the turned items he’s completed as well as some that are in process. He plans to provide “handouts concerning shape and detention” and if time permits, he’ll do a little turning to demonstrate curvature on a vase.

We’re looking forward to another great demo, and being able to take home something new to try with our own tools!

**The chapter meets from 7-9 pm at Overland Tool North, 1404 Gentry, North Kansas City MO 64116.**

Their phone number is (816) 268-4304. Off Missouri Hwy 9, turn east & go 4 blocks on 14th St.--Off I-35, take the 16th St. exit, go west to Gentry & south to the intersection of 14th St.

For a map, visit: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=1404+Gentry,+North+Kansas+City,+MO&iwloc=A&hl=en>

### January Highlights

Thanks was offered to our 2005 officers. The Wood Show was announced. We talked about returning to Children’s Mercy to do tops again. Alex Garcia broke in the chapter’s new Powermatic lathe with a great demo on “Zen and the Art of Woodturning.” He shared one of many aspects of the threes to be found in woodturning: catalyst, design, and execution. His “bowl-with-shelf” out of green wood drew many nods, smiles, and knowing “mmmmm” noises from the 40+ folks at the meeting.

### Coming Attractions

March 2, '06 ..... Jerry Darter, “Green & Lean”  
March 11, '06, 9am–4pm ... Dale Nish Workshop, KC Chapter  
April 6, '06 ..... Dean Thomas, “Shapes from Chunks”  
May 4, '06 ..... Collaborative Demo, “Finishes”  
June 2, '06 ..... Chip Siskey, Satellite Bowl

Website: <http://www.NorthlandWoodturners-KC.org>

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**Join the chapter’s Yahoo Group:**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TurnNorthKC/>

## Member of the Month



February's Member of the Month is Larry McClintock of Pleasant Hill, MO. Larry has been turning since 1999, after he saw a demonstration at Paxton's. Danny Moreno went to his house and gave Larry lessons. Larry likes to turn because it is a creative outlet and because he can produce a finished product fairly quickly. Larry is a member of all 3 local clubs. His current item of choice to turn is bowls, however he likes to turn most anything. Larry enjoys the challenges that the local clubs offer because they really get his mind going on different projects. Larry served as a demonstrator at the October 2005 NWT Symposium.

## LOOKie in the NWT Library!

With a few short reviews by Dean Thomas

A couple of MORE new books as a result of the recent auction of goods from Turnabout Wood.

The new titles include:

- ***500 Wood Bowls: Bold & Original Designs Blending Tradition & Innovation***, edited by Aimone, Leier, Peters, and Wallace. Lark Books, 2004, 420 pages (!!). [This is a beautifully designed and well-crafted book, a part of Lark Books "500" series. You'll find lots of names familiar in woodworking circles, and many which will become familiar. There are hundreds of gorgeous pictures, but only a minimum of information about each project. One reviewer on the Amazon site said it well, "Some [bowls] right off the lathe, and some where the lathe was the tool that created the canvas, and then the artist started to create." This is an engine starter. This book made me shake my head in awe at both the creativity and skill shown.]

- ***Masterful Woodturning: Projects & Inspiration for the Skilled Turner***, S. Gary Roberts. Sterling Publishing, 2000, 160 pages. [Another great coffee table book. Thirty-three projects with great diagrams, narratives, and pictures. Carved and ornamental stuff with inclusion of lots of different skills for some very interesting projects. Some of the projects are fun, some are a bit silly, some are lovely, all are well-thought out and well presented.]

These should be available at the February meeting. If not, for sure at the March meeting.

We're still working on getting a complete list together with all of books and videos in the chapter library. Now that everything has been moved to Overland Tool North where we can reorganize and sort out, we hope to get it done and put it up on both the web site and the Yahoo group page.

## Things We Want To Do

We've had a bunch of suggestions for the newsletter and for the website. So far, we have time, energy, and manhours enough to accomplish them! Future editions of this newsletter may contain a ***Tip Of The Month***. We hope to document it in the newsletter and then do a five minute demo at the monthly meeting. If you have something, please contact VP Dennis Avondet to schedule it and Sec'y Dean Thomas with a write up. We are also willing and able to create a place to list items for sale, trade, or give-away (limited please to tool & woodworking supplies). Does anyone have a tricky name

for that corner of our newsletter? We've started conversations with Children's Mercy to try and arrange regular visits to the mid-town hospital to turn tops for the kids. We're working on a possible "Youth Day" event where we can invite area teachers and their students to a workshop in the fall, probably before our own Symposium. Oh, did I say "Symposium"? We're looking for committee folks to work on the 2006 edition of the Symposium, too! See your officers ASAP to volunteer. And we're always looking for other good features that you might suggest.

## The Woodworking Show—2006 KC Edition

Once again, we have been invited to take booth space and do the things we do best! We're going to make stuff and make chips and make friends! We're looking for demonstrators, greeters, stuff to show off, and folks to help with set-up, tear-down, and clean-up through the day. Contact Pres. Marci Eigenschenk ASAP to schedule a slot. Remember that if you're wanting to demonstrate turning, you need to be an AAW member (liability insurance requirements).

Details on the Feb. 3-5 Woodworking Shows in Kansas City (and others elsewhere) can be found at their website, <http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com>. The show is at

the Overland Park International Trade Center, 6800 W. 115th St., Overland Park, Kansas. I-435 to Metcalf, south to 115th St. and turn east. Round the bend and it's on the left. Several of my favs'll be there, Lee Valley Tools, Peachtree, and more. A complete listing of vendors can be seen on the WWSHOWS' site: <http://www.thewoodworking-shows.com/kansascity/exhibitors>

At the meeting, We'll have a limited number of coupons for \$1 off regular admission, or you can go to their website to get the free discount coupon. Also available is a free spouse ticket! Again, see their site and print it out: <http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com/couponrequest>

### Dale Nish Scheduled at KC Woodturners' Turn & Learn



Dale Nish, is one of the foremost woodturners/writers in the world. His broad knowledge of woodturning, as well as nearly forty years teaching experience at BYU, enables him to work with most of the

techniques and tools commonly used in woodturning. His books, *Creative Woodturning*, *Artistic Woodturning*, *Master Woodturners*, and *Woodturning with Ray Allen* have been well-accepted worldwide.

Dale founded and was responsible for the Utah Woodturning Symposium at Provo from the late 1970s until 1998. He continues to demonstrate there, at The AAW Symposium, at John C. Campbell Folkart School and other renowned venues worldwide.

The Second Saturday Learn to Turn session will be held on March 11, 2006 from 9AM to 4PM. Cost is \$10 for members or \$20.00 for nonmembers [NWT members will be registered at the member price]. Saturday's demo will consist of:

- ◆ The Turning of Eggs
- ◆ Basic Bowl Turning
- ◆ Natural Edge Bowl Turning
- ◆ Reverse Turned Vases
- ◆ Dale's Signature-Bird House Ornament

Mail check to Bud Schenke, 8225 Rosehill Rd., Lenexa, Kansas 66215. Those registering by March 9th will receive a box lunch on Saturday.

### Northland Woodturners Library

Did you know that we have a BUNCH of great videos and books in our library, and that they are available for your learning pleasure?

Want to learn more about the taming of the skew? Want to watch world-class turners craft bowls and boxes? Want to expand your vocabulary of shapes and lines? Have we got books for *YOU?!?!?*

And do you have books, videos, or magazines that you'd like to share with others in the chapter? We would *love* to have them grace the shelves of our library so that our many members could avail themselves of the hidden treasures waiting to be found.

If you'd like to donate books, magazines, or videos (either VHS or DVD), contact Librarian Ken Rogers or Secretary Dean Thomas and we'll be happy to make note of your donation.

### Help Wanted...

Are you willing and/or able to offer a couple of hours each month to physically help with the newsletter?

We currently have about 35 members who receive this newsletter via Uncle Sam's snailmail. The editor could use an hour or two of help to collate, fold, stuff, and label so that those 35 or so members can get their newsletter in good condition and in timely fashion.

If you're able to help, contact Secretary Dean Thomas who'll be eternally grateful!

## The Great Northland Woodturners Egg Challenge 2006

### How do *you* like *your* eggs?

Pres. Marci announced at the January meeting that we would once again hold an Egg Challenge! The chapter has made arrangements with Steve from Overland Tool North (he's one of our biggest fans!!) to display all entries.

The twist on this year's challenge is that the judging will be done by customers of Overland Tool North. Entries are to be received no later than the March 2 meeting. You may want to think about providing your own means of eggs-hibiting your eggs-elent projects. The entries will be

numbered and placed in a glass display case. There will be an eggsplanation posted and a ballot box placed nearby. We have no idea of eggsactly how many people will look or how many will vote (no stuffing the box, members...), but the votes will be cacklulated at the April meeting, the winner(s) announced and the prize(s) awarded.

We're sure that y'all will put forth lots of egg-stra effort to present egg-ceptionally special entries. And that's no yolk. Eggs-asperated? Please don't punish the punster.

**Don't Forget!! Note the Corrected Dates:  
Plan Now: 20th Annual AAW Symposium  
Louisville KY, June 22-24, 2006**

**Can you bring some give-away tops to  
supply the Big Top on the counter at  
Overland Tools North? We'd appreciate it!!**

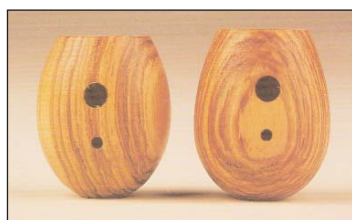
## Creativity 101

Thoughts from Dean Thomas

Creativity: to make, produce, or manufacture one thing from another. Alex Garcia in the January demo dealt with "listening to the wood" as part of the creative process. We learned that a 5"x5"x3" block will never yearn to be a 10"x10"x30" footed urn. We talked about three pieces of the creative process: catalyst (the idea), design (planning how to bring it to pass), and execution (the process that brings the idea to physical form).

This month I want to talk about some of the tools of the creative trade. Some folks plan on paper, others just turn. I am a planner. Somewhere between concept and the beginning of manufacture, between catalyst and execution, I like to put on paper what I think the wood is saying to me, or what the project is dictating. For me, the drawing out is a way to ensure that I get the best use out of the piece that's on the lathe. I've looked at its shape, grain, and color. I've made note of places of interest like knots or inclusions, and I've made note of places to avoid like bad checks or cracks. I want to make a physical inventory of all that I think the wood is "speaking" to me. Senior moments shouldn't be allowed to mess up a good chunk of wood!

In *Miniature Birdhouses*, Dick Sing points to grain details as a part of refining the process. For example, on a bird house ornament, grain patterns can dictate where



the perch and entry hole are drilled (see inset). *Planning!*

In a sense, this step is similar to the planning necessary when planning a segmented piece, kind of like reverse engineering. Is this a limitation or a creative challenge to you? Or worse, does it induce an unwillingness to turn for fear of ruining the material? Analysis paralysis?

For those of you who've never drawn, I'd challenge you to try it. And for those who won't turn without a pattern, I'd likewise challenge you to try some turning "by the seat of your pants." There's lots to learn from both methods.

Tools for creativity? Graph paper is your friend! I like to use 1/4" grid. It can be used for scaled down drawings or drawings to size. Handy stuff. I like to use a .5mm pencil with the lead in a metal sleeve. Works really well with metal rulers. I use an inexpensive draftsman's compass and several plastic circle templates to draw ovals, circles, or arcs. I have a set of inexpensive french curves to help me draw smoother curves that are not convenient parts of circles or ovals. The perfection of my drawing is *not* the goal: I want to accomplish something close to what I am seeing in my mind or "hearing" from the wood. Is the relationship between height and width pleasing? Is the foot a pleasing size?

One does not have to be an artist to make a drawing to "think out loud", any more than one has to be an orator to engage in conversation or discussion. This turner enjoys the listening process and the thinking out loud that comes with putting thoughts on paper. Try it. You might like it!

# The January Gallery

## People & Projects



President Marci reading the letter that came with the plate from AAW, thanking the chapter for our leadership and participation in the 2005 Symposium Youth Workshop Project



President Marci leading the applause as two of our previous chapter presidents are honored. Many thanks to Kent and Chip!



Thanks to the 2005 chapter officers. Sorry for the size. Very low-res picture.



Dave Bartlett sharing a natural edged bowl.



Dave Bartlett showing a turned toy. Will he *ever* get that ball in the cup?



Chip sharing about teaching his twins to turn. First project was wooden crayons! Good stuff. Starting them early...



Alex Garcia listening and talking to the wood



Discussing the Shape



The Final Shape



The wood just atalkin', the new NWT lathe just asittin', next month's demonstrator just alist'nin'

*We're looking to add more and more pictures to our Gallery pages. Turn 'em and bring'em! Everyone enjoys seeing others' work. That's part of why we're here, to observe, to learn, to share.*

**Chapter Sponsors and Supporters**



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 Enter "NorthlandWoodturners" when asked for club name.




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