



TURN NORTH



Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners, Kansas City MO

July 2006

July 6 Brings First NWT Picnic and Top Turning Fest

It's here! The first NWT picnic. We're gonna "do the 'cue" down at Overland Tool North. Set-up and chow down starts at 6:00 pm. After dinner, we'll have a *short* business meeting, do our Instant Gallery, hear a report on the AAW symposium, and move to creating as many tops as we can manufacture in the time remaining.

Details on this and food assignments are inside. **Call Marci for reservations** to ensure we get enough meat.

The chapter meets on the first Thursday of each month 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>



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Coming Attractions

July 6, '06 Tops, BBQ, and MORE!

Aug 3, '06 Dwight Herrick, "Duck Calls"

Sep 7, '06 Regular Monthly Meeting

Oct 5, '06 Regular Monthly Meeting

Oct 14, '06 NWT Symposium

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

Join the chapter's Yahoo Group:

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

Member of the Month



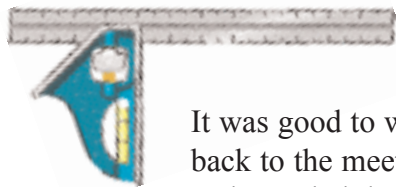
The July Member of the Month is Mike York. Mike's been turning for a long time ago, but really did not get serious until Turnabout Wood was around. When his brother and sister-in-law got a Jet mini-lathe and started turning pens, they got him hooked.

He has been a chapter member for three or four years.

Like so many chapter members, his favorite wood is "free." He likes to cut his own trees and look for "hidden treasures."

Mike likes to turn anything new. He looks forward to our meetings and enjoys getting ideas from other members and visitors. He likes to take what they have shown him and modify to his own needs.

He turns primarily for pleasure. Turning is just one of his hobbies. He also likes other woodworking and working with metal.



The President's Corner

Points from chapter president, Marci Eigenschenk

It was good to welcome Bill Wheeler back to the meetings. We missed him and are glad that he's healthy again.

As we explained last month, we're going to have what we think is our first ever summer picnic on July 6. We're going to do the picnic in conjunction with our regular monthly meeting rather than asking you folks to find yet another day. And we'll have both potato chips and WOOD chips!

Food assignments:

The **chapter** will provide **ice** and pay to have the **meat and buns** brought in.

EVERYONE: bring **non-alcoholic drinks** and your own **table service** (plates, flatware, cups).

If your last name starts with letters **A-G**: bring **salads** and the like.

If your last name starts with letters **H-Q**: bring **sides** (including beans and chips).

If your last name starts with letters **R-Z**: bring your favorite **dessert** or other barbecue-friendly **goodie**.

The time has been extended and we'll meet and meet from 6pm to 9pm at Overland Tool North. Barbecue,

making shavings, and at least part in an air-conditioned environment. An almost perfect combination.

Please call me with reservations for you and yours if you did not sign up at the last meeting. We want to be sure to have enough meat for all.

Cheers! On to the picnic...



Creativity: A Few Thoughts from Down Under

John Mason, South Yunderup, Western Australia

In woodturning and associated crafts, there really is nothing new, all the concepts, designs and ideas have, at some time in the past, been already used.

Yet we hear people say that they have no idea of what to make, how to make it or what design to use. The “how to make it” part is easy, ask somebody! On an online forum, at a woodturning club or the person down the road. There is always someone to assist.

But the “what” and the “design” are the hard bits...at the beginning. I know of a man who makes nothing but egg cups and another, pens and yet another, bottle stoppers. Do these men enjoy what they are doing or are they just unimaginative ?

Creativity, imagination, originality, and even fantasy can and should be applied. We are not all equipped with creative minds so we need to search for it. But where?

Actually, it is all around you, all you need to do is look. In reality, that look should be a bit deeper than a glance; it means really look hard and visualise that “thing” in a woodturning concept.

I was at a loss as to how to shape a finial for a lidded bowl. On the TV was a show about Moscow and it showed the Kremlin with its onion shaped towers. That was the shape I wanted and used...and it looked good. On another occasion, an item on the shelf in Frazier’s (the TV show) apartment gave me a germ of an idea of a vase to make, as did a thumbnail picture of a clock in a woodturning magazine utilising Perspex [ed. note: Plexiglas or Lucite], I made a similar one with natural edged burl and won six different awards with it (but I was pipped at the

post by a professional turner in the President’s Trophy...darn!).

There are many sources of ideas that can be applied to your craft.

Assume a candlestick is on your agenda and you want a distinctive design.

If you have a computer (and who does not these days) look for candlesticks on eBay® and on your search engine in antiques or just candlesticks. Have a look in past woodturning magazines or books. If you do not have access to them, your local library probably has. Take a walk downtown and look in shops, especially antique and/or second-hand shops.

And while you are doing all of this, look at the bowls, vases, and all the other things that have been made. Take notes, a quick sketch, or if you are permitted, take a photo.

Another source of inspiration is museums. If it was good enough for the ancients, it should be good enough for you. “I am making a Grecian Urn,” said Turner Tim. “What’s a Grecian Urn?” asked Jam-Chuck Jim. “About 80 drachmas a week” (a bit of levity).

The shapes and designs of these ancient articles are very good and certainly they are quite acceptable today.

Don’t forget to look at nature, trees, leaves, flowers and the like. Mother nature is the best designer...ever. Look at her, look after her.

John Mason
South Yunderup, Western Australia.

July’s Collaborative Project

After the picnic and a short business meeting, we’re going to work on getting the Big Top that sits on the counter at Overland Tool North filled up with tops. We’ll have at least three lathes present and hope that a couple of others will call Dennis Avondet to coordinate having a few more (extension cords would be a good idea, too). This is an opportunity for members to turn, pure and simple. Yes, we want to turn out some tops, but this gives an opportunity for newer turners to have a hand at turning with some experienced folks there to guide you through some simple tool technique if you’re so inclined. Bring your tools and bring blocks of hard woods to convert into tops and shavings. Recommended sizes are between 2 & 3 inches square and at least 3" in length. We’ll chuck ’em or face plate ’em with CA glue.

John Jordan featured at KC Woodturners Second Saturday Learn to Turn and Limited Availability Sunday and Monday Hands-On Classes from our sister chapter, KC Woodturners

John Jordan is a Woodturner from Antioch (Nashville), TN.



Known primarily for his textured and carved hollow vessels, John has been featured in nearly every major turning exhibition the past fifteen years. His work has received numerous awards, and is in the permanent collections of many museums and corporations.

John is in great demand as a demonstrator/teacher, traveling extensively teaching at universities, craft schools, turning groups and trade shows throughout the US, Canada, the UK, New Zealand and Australia, including an annual week or two at world famous Arrowmont school of Arts and Crafts. His work is frequently seen in publications in several countries as well as articles written by him. He has also produced two woodturning videos, which have received very favorable reviews.

John's pieces are initially turned on the lathe, from fresh, green logs, using a number of techniques and tools that have evolved over the years. Each piece is then hand carved and textured, using a variety of different hand and small powered tools. This texturing process is very labor intensive, and can take as much as several days to weeks to complete. There is little room for error during this carving- one small slip can ruin the piece. A light lacquer finish is applied to most pieces, including the dyed work.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"The pieces I make are simple but finely detailed vessels. Manipulating the color and patterns in the wood to complement the form, and the texturing and carving to create visual and tactile contrasts are important parts of the process and the result. What I feel is most important is the intangible quality that the piece is 'right' that comes with putting emotion and feeling into



the work. A simple object can be very powerful and emotional just for what it is. These pieces are simply decorative vessels that reflect my interest in surface textures/contrasts and form and the personal responses that I have to them, which I suspect are similar to the feelings that makers of decorative objects have felt for thousands of years.

"I am inspired by many natural things—trees, rock formations, coral reefs—since all of these things exhibit pattern, texture etc. Ethnic objects such as pots, weavings and baskets are interesting to me as well, along with much contemporary craft and art. Any sort of art inspires, and I enjoy museum visits."



LEARN TO TURN DEMO Saturday, July 8, 2006
9AM to 4PM
\$10 members \$20.00 nonmembers

Saturday's Demo will consist of: Turning a hollow vessel with carving and texturing of that vessel

HANDS ON CLASS – Sunday, July 9th or Monday July 10, 2006
9AM to 4PM
Members \$65 - Non Members \$90

Sunday's Hands on Class Will Do the Following: Hollow turning, and/or carving. Your choice. You can just hollow or just carve, or both. John's requirements are that you have good sharpening skills and can easily turn a simple bowl with no problems.

TOOLS NEEDED: Turning and hollowing tools of your choice. Anything that can alter the surface of a piece of wood such as; carving gouges, wood burning tools, electrical/air rotary tools w/grinding wheels or rotary burrs.

Contact Bud Schenke vp@kcwoodturners.org or by phone at (913) 438-2020 for registration or availability.

The June Gallery People & Projects

Chapter Advisor Chip Siskey provided the June demo (shown at left with his 2x4 project). He took a great piece of juniper wood with its distinctive color (see the pics) and made a natural edged satellite bowl. He also shared several other satellite bowls that he deemed successful projects, and how pre-shaping on the bandsaw for certain projects expanded the range of this project.

Good show, Chip!



Can you bring some wood for the tops we're going to turn on July 6 to supply the Big Top on the counter at Overland Tools North? We'd appreciate it!!

Don't Forget!! Northland Woodturner's 6th Annual Symposium, October 14, 2006

The June Gallery

People & Projects



VP Dennis Avondet's anniversary bowl, walnut finished in lacquer. For his parents' 35th anniversary, with 35 rings around the rim. Turned, carved, burned.



New member Tom Hynek brought this nifty natural edged cherry bowl to share. The bowl is finished in shellac.



Judy Chestnut produced these miniatures after a session with AAW Prez Angelo Iafrate in June. They're made from a raffia nut & a betel palm nut with wax finish.



President Marci Eigenschen showed the finished bass wood plate with a Labrador Retriever added in pyrography.



Larry McClintock's lidded vessel is made entirely from elm. He used colored stains and wax to finish it.



Larry Cory showed this oil-finish bowl. He says it was a burl, but can't remember what species.

The June Gallery

People & Projects



Kent Townsend created the hollowed vase on the left. Chip Siskey created the vase above by turning, bandsawing, and regluing. He had lots of folks wondering how he turned that interesting shape. Both of these pieces were entries in a "Two-by-Four" contest sponsored by the KC Woodturners Chapter. Rules were a typical construction grade 2"x4"x8' SPF only (no cocobolo allowed), cut and turned any way imaginable, and no paint allowed. Chip won second place.



Wayne Clevenger's neighbors got him hooked on croquet, but ever the craftsman, he decided he needed to make his own mallets! We asked about the spheres, but he just smiled. The mallets are made of oak and walnut with a polyurethane finish. We wonder how he placed in the tournament...

We're still working on our system for getting all the information on the projects down so we can provide better info in these gallery shots and to give credit where credit is due. My apologies for the profusion of blue tape in these pix.

We'll do better in July.

Dean



Kenny Heermann found a great piece of makore and wanted to show off some spectacular figure. He said that this little plate seemed like just the ticket. It's sanded to a nice sheen and finished in wax. The spoon is out of maple and is unfinished.

Read a good woodturning-related book lately? Willing to write a short review? Got an idea for an article or a need for some information that you think would interest everyone in the chapter? Contact Dean Thomas and let's see what we can do!

Remember, we want to publicize your favorite tips. Talk to your friendly newsletter editor for details, or to our illustrious VPrez to demo it at one of the monthly meetings.

Got any great little bits of wood or turning inspired clip art? Contact Dean!

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