



# TURN NORTH



Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners, Kansas City MO

August 2006

## August 3 Meeting to Feature Duck Calls RoadKill Challenge Projects Due

Dwight Herrick will talk about and demo the intricacies of the duck call. He says it's not really for the faint of heart, and reports that "tuning it in" is a lot like working on a musical instrument. "Turning them pretty is the easy part. Getting them to actually call birds is another issue." We also have a book on duck calls that will be available soon, along with a review coming in a future edition of *Turn North*.

Don't forget to bring your RoadKill Challenge Project in. Details on Page 4!

**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>

### July Highlights

Barbecue was followed by the chapter business meeting, which was short and sweet. We talked about up and coming meetings, plans for the NWT Symposium in October, the RoadKill Challenge, and our hopes to put lots of tops in the Big Top on the counter of our host, Overland Tool North. After the meeting and the raffle, we adjourned to the 5 Jet minis that were set up for folks to make tops. A few tops and many chips were made, and lots of smiles were seen.

### Coming Attractions

Aug 3, '06 ..... Dwight Herrick, "Duck Calls"  
Sep 7, '06 ..... Demonstrator needed  
Oct 5, '06 ..... ???  
Oct 14, '06 ..... NWT Symposium  
Nov 2, '06 ..... Ornament Challenge Due

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

### 2006 Officers

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Chip Siskey, Advisor

Kent Townsend, Advisor

**Join the chapter's Yahoo Group:**

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

## Member of the Month



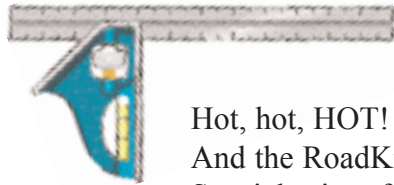
The August Member of the Month is Jerry McMaster. Jerry's been turning for about 5 years or so; it seems that Jerry and Linda were wandering around an art show and ran into Russ Blaser. They admired his work in such a way that Russ invited them to attend a woodturners' meeting. Russ' seeds and watering took hold. Jerry was hooked!

Jerry says that his favorite wood to turn is ash—they evidently have LOTS of ash on their property. He enjoys turning that ash into thin walled vessels of all sizes. His classes with Bin Pho, Andi Wolfe, and his several visits to Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts have taken him on many creative twists and turns on his woodturning journey. Piercing, coloration, foils, and pyrography have all captured his attention and have shown up in the pieces that he regularly shares at both the Northland Woodturners and Kansas City Woodturners Association meetings.

Congratulations, Jerry!

## The President's Corner

Points from chapter president, Marci Eigenschenk



Hot, hot, HOT! August in KC is HOT!  
And the RoadKill Challenge is HOT!  
Special prizes for the winners and

those who place. We trust that over the last two months you have had plenty of time to find your "road kill" and make it into a work of art!

We're looking for a demonstrator for the September meeting. VP Den Avondet has informed me that the plans we had for September have fallen through, so we're looking for a volunteer who has a one-hour project/demo to share. Contact Den very soon so that we can be ready for you!

Summer generally brings a lull in the action. Some turners say that it's just too darned hot to be thinking wood shop, and too many other things on the to-do list. Vacations, family gatherings, lawns to mow, snowblowers to tune up (and it's not even October??) and the hundreds of other things that take up our summers.

What we hope is that you'll find a couple of hours in August to come and spend in fellowship with your woodturning friends. We also want you to be thinking of the sorts of things that you'd like to see come to pass in our chapter. Do you have opinions on what

would encourage our members to attend meetings? Do you have things that you'd like to see as demos at YOUR club meetings? We have most of the rest of the year full, but the demo list doesn't end just because December is nearly in sight! What will make *your club better??* We'd love to hear from you.

Anyone who was there will tell you that the July picnic was a good time. We did not get as many tops as we had anticipated, but as promised, it was a time when folks who don't have a lot of experience were able to have some hands-on time with some of the more experienced members close by, demonstrating and guiding their cuts. More than a few folks said that they hope we'll do it again!

Last item for August, we're looking for someone to take over the Treasurer's slot by year's end. Because our chapter income is growing, there is an awareness that at some point in time, more responsibilities will come our way. If you have some experience with bookkeeping or similar financial matters, and are so inclined, please come talk to one of the officers and start the process.

Stay as cool as you can, make lots of chips, and be safe. See you at the meetings!

## Northland Woodturners Library News

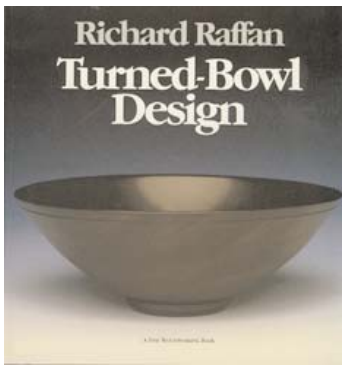
**Dr. Frank Hoog, our illustrious librarian, asks that if you have NWT Library books or videos that have been checked out for more than a month, to please bring them back to the meeting, or to call him and let him know what you have, please. Your cooperation is very much needed in his effort to inventory our collection. We don't want to have to replace or duplicate things. Thanks in advance!!**

We have two new books for the library this month!

The first book is one that Jerry McMaster shared from in his demo on Curvature a few months ago. It was hard to find for quite a while, but several copies came up on the used market and we picked one up.

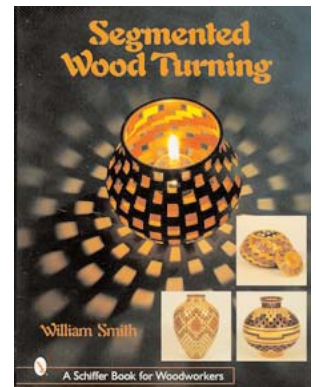
*Turned Bowl Design*, by Richard Raffan is one of the several highly rated books by this Australian turner/author, and as with his videos, there is lots of information presented in interesting, straight forward ways. Included are many profiles to help even a professional turner gain new insights into the

art and craft of bowl making, both artistic and functional bowls. One of the things that he suggests for newer turners, or turners unused to working on this sort of project is an encouragement to use templates until one's style is established.



several highly rated books by this Australian turner/author, and as with his videos, there is lots of information presented in interesting, straight forward ways. Included are many profiles to help even a professional turner gain new insights into the

The other book is also one of the “standards” in the woodturner’s collection. William Smith’s *Segmented Wood Turning* is filled with projects, jigs, techniques, and tips. Another of the Schiffer publications for woodturners, it’s one that will not disappoint. The book is dedicated to what is known as “open” segmentation, the sort that leaves gaps between the segments in each ring or layer. The projects won’t hold water, but the openness of those vessels plays wonderfully with light, well-demonstrated by the cover photo. The vessel on the front cover is only about four inches tall! This book is not a quick read. Just working through the practical issues of jig building, set up, planning, glue-up, and understanding the various plans and spans that Smith outlines in this book will keep your gray matter working and sorting out the info offered.



One of the plans for the rest of 2006 is to spend some money each month to build our library, both with books and videos. The current plan is to secure some of what are deemed “standards” to the wood turning library, plus those that look like they will become standards. They are all just to provide information and the enjoyment of looking at fine work for you, the readers.

We’re also planning to grow our library of videos with information on all levels, wherever possible. Our aim is to provide videos that will help the beginner with sound basics, those fundamentals required by every turner. Some of the choices may prove controversial, others may achieve wide approval. The goal is to provide a good, wide range of information for our good wide range of readers! We’ve already

looked a few really good candidates and had a few grins about how this one or that one will cause someone’s teeth to grate because of the voice quality or some particular vocal habit. Most of the videos have been well-produced with quality cameras, multiple angles, and a lot of care to make sure that the information is presented clearly.

Videos have come a long way since the earliest wood turning educational videos with stilted presentations, dull or even dumb scripts, and bad production through inadequate angles or bad quality cameras. Most of the newer videos are available only on DVD which means our investment should last and be of higher quality for a longer time.

Contact Frank or Dean if you have ideas or items to donate!



## Northland Woodturners 2006 RoadKill Challenge

“Roadkill??” you ask? “How do you turn *roadkill*??”

The RoadKill Challenge here at Northland Woodturners was instituted by a previous slate of officers, but was enjoyed so much, that...it's baaaaack!

The challenge was announced at both the June and July meetings, so this note is just to remind everyone of the basics and the judging process.

The rules are simple.

- \* The project must be turned.
- \* The material for the project must be found. No bought wood, nothing from your “stash”.
- \* The projects will be turned in at the August meeting and be displayed in the chapter case at Overland Tool North.

- \* Voting will be by patrons of OTN. Yes, if you go to OTN, you can vote, too!
- \* Votes will be counted at the September meeting. The winners will be announced and prizes awarded after the break.
- \* Stories of the procurement of your roadkill are highly encouraged. The stories from last time brought peals of laughter as we imagined vehicles doing u-turns to go back and see “what that lump of woody looking stuff by the side of the road was”.

We're looking forward to the 2006 challenge, wondering what wonders were found by the side of the road, and what treasures will be created by the finders.

## The July Gallery People & Projects



Wood and barbecue have more in common than smoking! The NWT clan gathered to celebrate the country's birthday, to have a little family fun, and to make chips so that we could put some tops in our “Big Top” out on Steve's front counter.



# The July Gallery

## People & Projects



Kent Townsend shared his cedar hollowform vase. Nice work, Kent!



Chip Siskey's mesquite vessel. The cracks and voids were filled with epoxy and coffee grounds



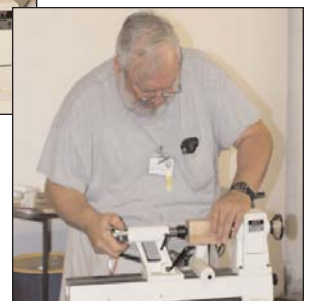
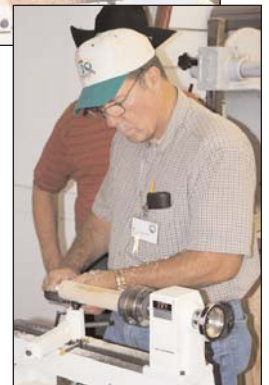
Last month's demo project, Chip Siskey's juniper satellite bowl, finished in lacquer. Actual color is a lot closer to a grapey-purple. Good stuff.



Kent Townsend also brought this red oak bowl.



The unlabeled pix are of the top-turning time after the meeting.



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



*Read a good woodturning-related book lately? Watched a good wood video?*

*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.*

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