



# TURN NORTH



Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners, Kansas City MO

October 2006

## Learn to Sharpen with Chip Siskey Oct. 5 Meeting *Symposium on October 14!*

Chip brings his wealth of sharpening experience to us on 10/5. Got a tool that you can't get "just right"? Bring 'er in and let the Edge Doctor have at it! He's good at explaining and showing how to get repeatable tool edges. Vital to consistent sharpening and consistent turning.

Symposium will be on Saturday, Oct. 14, at Platte Woods United Methodist Church. Registration starts at 8:30. Sessions start at 9:00. Church is at 7310 NW Prairie View Rd, Kansas City, 72nd St NE exit off I-29.

**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>

### September Highlights

Frank Novich provided a solid demo on turning smaller, natural edged bowls from green wood, and letting them dry to provide what he calls "bird's mouth bowls". Nice job, Frank.

Pres. Marci has many things she intends to put on the Yahoo! forum for the NWT. Check there to see what's on her mind. She also awarded gift certificates to each of the RoadKill Challenge entrants.

### Coming Attractions

Oct 5, '06 .....	Chip Siskey, "Sharpening"
Oct 14, '06 .....	NWT Symposium
Nov 2, '06 .....	Ornament Challenge Due
Dec 7, '06 .....	Holiday Fest
Jan 4, '07 .....	???

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

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

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

## 2006 NWT Symposium

We have a special treat for all the NWT Symposium faithful. This year, we've been able to get two teachers from outside the area to come and share with us. These two men will provide all of the sessions so that all in attendance will hear information from "fresh faces" provided from far away.

Again this year, the NWT Symposium will be held at Platte Woods United Methodist Church in the Northland. The address is 7310 N.W. Prairie View Road, Platte Woods (Kansas City), MO 64151. North on I-29 to the N.W. 72nd Street exit off I-29. Go one block west to Prairie View Road. Turn right (north) and go about a block. Platte Woods Church is on the left. You can't miss it!

Registration opens at 8:30 am and sessions start at 9:00 am. The exact schedule wasn't available at print time, but plan on two meals with us and going until about 8:00 pm for the auction. We have the church until 9:00 pm!

Dr. Rob Wallace is coming to us from Ames, Iowa. He is a biology/botany professor at Iowa State University, so a love of wood and other things tree-related is a "natural" extension. Rob will be sharing on "*Geometry in Woodturning*" and more.

Originally from New Jersey, he completed his M.S. and Ph.D. graduate degrees at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He moved to Iowa after his postdoctoral research at the University of Connecticut. His botanical research has included extensive field studies and botanical exploration in South Africa, Chile, Peru, and Mexico, as well as traveling throughout England and Europe visiting museums, universities, and research institutions. For the past few years he also has been working on a soon-to-be-published book entitled, *The Botany of Beer*, a review of the plants and plant products that are used in the brewing industry.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Rob is an avid woodworker and woodturner. He is a 16-year member of the Ames (Iowa) Woodworkers club, serving as its Secretary/Treasurer since 1996, and is the editor of the club's monthly newsletter. He is an amateur (ham) radio operator, and is a registered National Weather Service Storm Spotter for Story County, Iowa. Other hobbies involve homebrewing (beer), fishing, gardening, and coaching youth soccer.

He is married and has two children: a 14-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son who is a beginning woodturner. Wallace has been a woodworker since his teens (over thirty years), and an active woodturner for about 12 years, the last 6 of which have been spent primarily on producing increasingly more "artistic" bowls, and teaching others how to turn. In both 2005 and 2006, he was awarded the first place prize (Blue Ribbon) for bowls in the Woodworking - Turned Items Class of Creative Arts, a judged competition at the Iowa State Fair. He recently has been pursuing more advanced constructions of segmented bowls, developing further turning skills with hollow vessels, as well as learning other specialized turning and surface embellishment methods.

Rob has applied to demo at the 2007 Symposium in Portland. We will be "the warm-up act" to his west coast debut! Come ready to learn.

### ***IMPORTANT NORTHLAND WOODTURNERS LIBRARY NEWS***

**Dr. Frank Hoog, our illustrious librarian, asks that if you have any NWT Library books or videos, 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. Check your shelves, please, for any strays. Thanks in advance!!**

## 2006 NWT Symposium *(continued)*

Andy Hilton's family comes from a heritage of working with wood. His grandfather and great-grandfathers were loggers in Oregon and Idaho during the last of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century before moving to the Ozarks region of Missouri and Arkansas. Making furniture, houses, farms and other woodworking activities have all been a part of his family for generations. He grew up in the woods, with woodworking. He attended the University of Missouri-Columbia, and returned to the Ozarks to start a technology company. But the lure of wood and creating with it led him back to the family traditions, only this time, it was on a 1992 dare from his wife that he try woodturning. That opened a completely new side of working with wood that truly hooked him.

Finding no area club or even someone having a lathe from whom to learn this new craft and art, he set out on his own to learn. He'd never seen a book or watched a video of a lathe in action. Many trials and learning experiences later, he developed his own style. Since then, he has served as vice-president, secretary, webmaster, newsletter editor/writer/contributing editor, chapter founder, videographer, workshop leader/teacher, symposium organizer and promoter of woodturning clubs in the region as well as across the country. He's a big advocate of woodturning clubs, especially for beginning woodturners.

Often asked what kind of woodturning he does, his most truthful and direct answer is "whatever I can think of". He doesn't do any segmented or polychromatic turning but everything else is fair game! He is most known for his technical turnings and knowledge of wood, and as far more of a woodturner than a woodcarver. "I am far more a lover of wood in all of its forms, colors, and conditions, than a painter or decorator of wood." He prefers to use woods that can show off the beauty and texture with shape and style.

He has been teaching woodcrafts and woodturning for several years and tries to stress a few of the fundamentals on his students, be they beginners or advanced turners. The first is the technique of turning: tool control, usage, and working *with* the wood instead of against it. The second is an appreciation of the wood as an artistic medium—not as a canvas or a palette, but as a medium in itself. The third is woodturning as an art and craft in itself—respecting the history of it and placing its creations, traditions, and creative potential in their own light.

Andy is a professional woodturner, not just an artistic woodturner, He regularly produces items for: the wholesale boutique shops; commercial businesses such as specialty handles, exercise equipment and forms; kitchenware items for several retail businesses in the midwest and upper-midwest; unique collectibles; and architectural turnings for the construction field. He also spalts wood on a commercial basis for large wholesale customers. He mainly spalts sycamore ("spalted lacewood" is what the retailers call it), but occasionally will throw in some maples, hackberry, sweetgum and others, running about 300 logs a year (12' to 16' tall) through the spalting process; his customers then cut them into veneers for various retailers.

Andy's latest passion is for the greenwood-working traditions of the 18th and 19th centuries here in the Americas. The old English term for such a person is a Bodger. He has constructed several bow and pole lathes, along with other Bodger-required equipment and tools such as the shave-horse, travisher, drawknife, froe, tapered reamer. He uses these tools and skills to produce chairs, stools and tables entirely out of hand-split green wood without screws, glues, nails, or bolts. He has been demonstrating and teaching this traditional craft around the USA since 2004 and is in the process of founding a society here in the USA for the preservation and furtherance of the green-woodworking traditions of our forefathers.

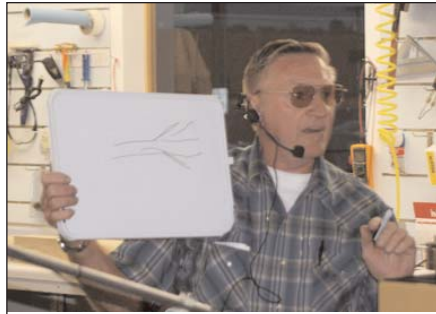
Andy will be sharing on "*Drinking Vessels of the World*" and more.

## The September Gallery

### Frank Novich's Bird-Mouth Bowls



The "aim" of Frank's September demo



Frank shared some good safety "common sense" stuff, and good info on dust collection, here cautioning us to be sure to use tapered adapters, not shouldered adapters, to maintain good suction.



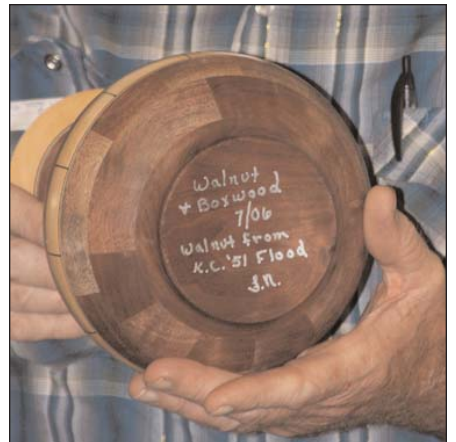
Frank ran us through turning a mulberry "bird's mouth bowl". The goal is to quickly turn a reasonably thin vessel from green wood, natural edge, that starts round, but dries so that the bowl ovals, creating the "bird's mouth" effect.  
Nice demo, Frank!

## Frank's "Show 'n' Tell Project



Frank shared a very special piece of work with us. This segmented vase is created from boxwood and native Missouri walnut. The walnut was harvested as a result of the 1951 flood here in Kansas City.

This was a great follow-up piece for the cherry piece that Al Szalay shared last month, made from wood harvested after Hurricane Katrina. Frank, you were a little late for our "RoadKill Challenge", but it's a great piece and still a winner.

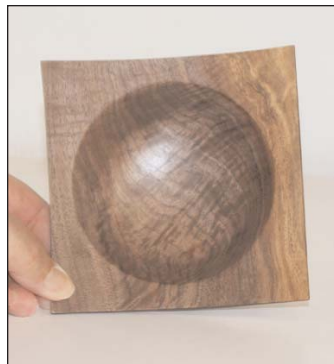




# The September Gallery Projects



Kent Townsend brought us two native Missouri, red cedar bowls. They were finished with lacquer.



Wayne Clevenger shared this magazine inspired walnut candlestick, finished with Deft.



David Bartlett shows some of his recent production: small plate and miniatures from SPF; a black walnut square bowl, and a "pop-fit" lidded box with finial, and smaller square bowl both in hedge (Osage orange).



**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.*

*Please return any NWT Library materials that you have at home. Thanks!!!!*

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