



TURN NORTH



Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners, Kansas City MO

December 2007

Dec. 5 Meeting is Annual Christmas Party *First Wednesdays Now*

It's that time of year—the annual Northland Woodturners Holiday Bash, starting at 7pm. There will be a Christmas Ornament contest, so bring your best shot. Chapter will provide meat, cheese, and beverages. Bring your favorite side or holiday goodie to round out the menu and our waistlines. Spouses or dates are encouraged. We'll also have the Loyalty Drawing, from all the non-winning raffle tickets from 2007. And there will be a gift exchange. Bring a gift to get a gift. No gag gifts, please. Be there! New officers are to be installed as well.

The chapter meets on the first Wednesday 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>

November Highlights

New officers were elected for 2008. Secretary was conspicuously absent; he has no details from the meeting.

Plans are in process to update the membership roster and revamp the newsletter emailing process.

The Freedom Pen Project has been great fun this month. The three area clubs have met at the KC clubhouse and made 400 pens that will distributed to US troops in the Middle East; they should be there in time for Christmas. Well done! Details inside.

Coming Attractions

Dec 5, '07	Holiday Fest
Jan 2, '08	Sharpening, w/Chip Siskey
Feb 6, '08	??
Mar 5, '08	??
Apr 2, '08	??

Website is temporarily down

2008 Officers

Alex Garcia, President
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Frank Hoog, Librarian
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Chip Siskey, Advisor

Kent Townsend, Advisor

Join the chapter's Yahoo Group:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TurnNorthKC/>

Details for the Chapter Christmas Party

The Christmas Ornament contest is happening again this year. Everyone will have one vote and the best ornament by votes will win a \$100.00 Overland Tool gift certificate. There will only be one prize, like we did last year.

The food part of the partee is essentially a potluck affair. You should bring your favorite side dish or dessert. The club will provide meat, cheese and drinks. Best memory was that we had about 40-50 folks last year, so bring according to your own best memory.

Bring a gift, get a gift. Most people prefer prefer to receive a gift that relates to the craft (a turned item, wood, etc). Put your name on the gift so that the recipient will know who to thank. You will get a ticket for your gift and the gifts will be drawn at random as will the tickets. Please let the person handing out the gifts if they are getting ready to hand you your own gift so they can select something else for you.

The December meeting will also feature our first ever "Loyalty Prize" drawing. Remember all of those raffle tickets on which you dutifully wrote your name? All of those have been collected and we have a dandy item for the big prize.

No show and tell or turning demo this month. The only chips will be potato or corn. Sorry, Kent!

2008 OFFICERS FOR THE NORTHLAND WOODTURNERS

The chapter met in November and voted the following into office for 2008. They officially take office at the December meeting. We're looking forward to a great year.

President:	Alex Garcia
Vice President:	Ron Ford
Secretary/Editor:	Dean Thomas
Treasurer:	Larry McClintock
Advisors:	Chip Siskey Kent Townsend

WHAT WILL 2008 BRING THE NORTHLAND?

Plans are being formulated for the demo schedule for 2008. Do you have a special project that you have really enjoyed and would be willing to demonstrate? Do you have a special skill that you'd like to see demonstrated or discussed? Do you have a favorite from the last couple of years that you'd like to see repeated? Have we got a place for you! Contact Vice President Ron Ford with your thoughts, hopes, or your offer to volunteer to do a demo. Doesn't have to be new, original, trend-setting, or revelational. It's *your* club. What do *you* want to see??

We'll be sending out new membership forms so that we can have an up-to-date file of liability release forms and know better who our members are. Those will come with details in the January newsletter. You'll be asked to bring or mail those forms during the first part of 2008.

IMPORTANT NORTHLAND WOODTURNERS LIBRARY NEWS

Dr. Frank Hoog, chapter 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. Thanks in advance!!

The KC Metro Area expression of the Freedom Pens Project 2007 is almost history!



The Northland, Independence, and KC Woodturners chapters of the AAW purchased and created a BUNCH of SlimLine pens that will be distributed to our US troops serving in the Middle East.

Members from all three clubs met on four Saturdays and prepped or turned nearly 400 SlimLine pens. Unlike many projects, there was only a bit of attrition (two pens damaged beyond salvage), but there were also several donations of finished pens from various people, inside and outside the chapters. One guy where I work heard about it and came by my desk and gave me two of the pens he turns to sell. Nice pieces, too, but just having someone out of the blue turn up with his pen wallet in hand to give to the cause was very special.

We have a lot of generous folks in the three clubs. Wood was donated by lots and lots of folks. Some donated a couple of blanks, or a nice slab of wood that was cut into nice blanks, some donated a bag-o-blanks, and some a *load*-o-blanks! One man from the Independence club has a stash of walnut that he purchased a whole lot of years ago from the company in Springfield, Missouri, that used to make the walnut gunstocks for the military. I think he said that he purchased a small truck load of the offcuts from their production. Most of those offcuts were 5"x2"x14" slabs of kiln-dried lumber. He's a patriotic gent and made more than 250 sets of pen blanks available for us, and has promised more if we do this again. Another man from the Independence club recently retired from his life of woodworking and sold his shop. He heard of the Freedom Pen Project and the KC involvement in it and said that he had some small pieces of great wood that he'd like to donate. Most turners have their little chunks of special woods that we just can't part with because they really are perfect for the small projects that many of us do. Those have been donated in anticipation of more Freedom Pens being turned by the three clubs.

The first time I wrote this, I shared that "**The hope is** that KC area turners will adopt this program, make it their own, and come with lathe tools in hand, as well as their own preferences for sanding and finishing, ready to treat the troops special." As we gathered at the KCWT clubhouse, a couple of the turners asked if we had to limit this to the time around the Veterans Day holiday, and wondered out loud if maybe we could do this several times a year and make even *more* pens. I replied that it all depends on the turners in the area. If they are willing to do what it takes to manufacture "even more pens", then yes indeed we could do that. One suggestion from the leadership of the KC club was that maybe we should purchase 1,000 kits this time. He wasn't kidding! Independence is already talking about what part they want to play in such an adventure. The NWT board has not yet discussed this possibility. More on this when the board knows more.

Feel free to contact Dean Thomas with any questions. Email is best at DeanZF@yahoo.com, or at home generally between 4pm and 9pm 816-421-5781.

*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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