

Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com

May 2019

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Chapter Meetings:

First Thursday of every month, 7-9 pm.

Our ADDRESS: We're south of Zona Rosa just off NW Prairie View Rd., just east of the N-S drive beside the barber shop; **(Northeast Corner)** in the strip mall across from the BP station on Prairie View RD.

VP Danny Smith opened the April meeting to a good crowd of members. The program for the evening was introduced after **Show and Tell**.

Jerry McMaster, from Kansas City Woodturners was the feature with an interesting turning demo. Jerry has been seriously involved in turning wood for over 18 years. He also does wood piercing, carving and coloring of wood. Several samples of Jerry's work were on display for Northland Woodturners to see both before and after the program. Much curiosity was developed by a sample of the finished product before beginning his program on the big lathe.

Show and Tell

Kent Townsend brought a carving made from a cedar beam found in an old building. Complete with rusty nails removed during the carving process, the duck was assembled from multiple parts—body, head and bill—then assembled and glued in place.



Coming Attractions

Newsletters on the Chapter Website:
<http://northlandwoodturners-kc.com>

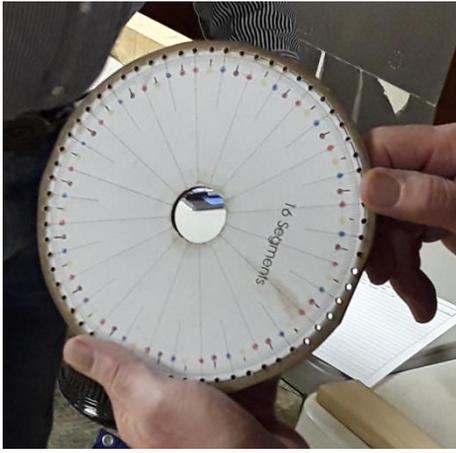
Event Information:



Raleigh 2019

AAW AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

Raleigh, North Carolina
July 11-14, 2019



Part of Mikeal Jones' success with segmented turnings is the wheel shown at left. This is used to determine placement and count for the segments.



Shown at right is part of the glue-up jig Mikeal uses to space and glue in place the segments used in a bowl blank.



Here's what a finished product looks like using the jigs above.

This particular bowl was done last December.



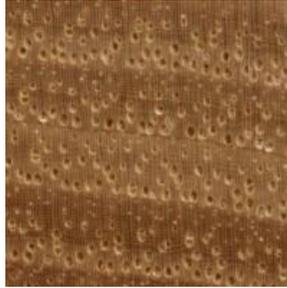
Dale Pollard showed a "sander" made from a 45 degree PVC fitting mounted between the sanding unit and the handle, which was made of Blackjack Oak. The handle is about 5" long and very figured.



The end where the sander attaches has a plug for the sander to attach with a screw.



Wood of The Month



Hickory – *Carya* spp.

Chances are, in this, the bar-b-que season, you have enjoyed the flavor, and aroma and even the cooking fire of this month's "Wood of the Month", Hickory. That use, and being used as firewood are the less glorious uses of this wood because of its high thermal energy while being burnt when the wood is not suitable for its other primary uses. Hickory is one of the primary woods used for the handles of many tools, sporting equipment or anywhere a tough wood is needed. Hickory is denser, stiffer, and harder than either White Oak or Hard Maple. Additionally, it has excellent shock and impact resistance, and is used in applications where overall toughness is paramount. Of all hardwoods, shagbark hickory is the best wood for handles for axes, hammers, hatchets, and picks and nearly 80% is used for this purpose. Today increasing quantities are used for athletic goods, such as skis, lacrosse stick handles or golf clubs. Other minor uses include ladder rungs, drum sticks, inexpensive archery bows and agricultural parts. Hickory is probably the toughest wood in the US, thus the nickname "Old Hickory" of one of our ancestors, civil war general and president, Andrew Jackson.

Hickory is the genus *Carya* of which there are about 17 to 19 species worldwide. As many as 12 are found in the United States with about eight in Missouri. The *Carya* genus, or Hickory, is divided into two main groupings; True-Hickory, and Pecan-Hickory. Species in the True-Hickory group tend to be slightly denser, and therefore a bit harder and stronger than the species in the Pecan-Hickory group. Although the two groups of hickory can be reliably separated, identifying particular species within each grouping is usually not possible. The species in the Pecan-Hickory group, here in Missouri, include; Pecan, Bitternut hickory, and Water hickory. The species in the True-Hickory group includes; Shagbark hickory, Shellbark hickory, Mockernut hickory, Pignut hickory, and Black hickory. Shagbark hickory is probably the most common and the most likely to be found commercially however, all hickories are lumped together and no attempt is made to identify the species. Shagbark hickory requires careful seasoning to prevent splitting, checking, warping and other defects due to its high degree of shrinkage while drying.

The working properties are excellent, provided tools are sharp. A common problem during planing is tearout if cutting edges are not kept sharp. And it tends to blunt cutting edges. It is hard to nail without splitting, pre-drilling is required for screwing and it finishes well. No finish is used in many applications, such as tool handles, but it will finish satisfactorily with varnish or oil stains. Bending properties are excellent and that is why it is used in Windsor chair building or other furniture making where bent wood is required. When turning hickory, the term "turn downhill" will become readily evident because of hickory's tendency to chip out and split. Therefore, keeping your tools sharp is vital.

The heartwood is brown to reddish-brown. The very wide and nearly white sapwood is considered more valuable than the heartwood. The texture is rather coarse, and the grain is usually straight but sometimes wavy or irregular.

You can read more about Hickory at: [Hickory on Wikipedia](#) and on [The Wood Database](#).

Written by – Mel Bryan

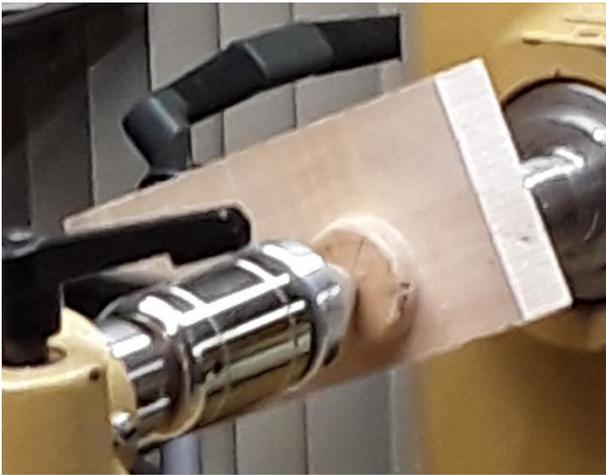
Program Highlights

Jerry McMasters brought his “A *Game*” as he demonstrated how to make a board with a movable ball in it using the lathe and some special turning skills. An example of this process in a finished product was Jerry’s special box lid with a colored ball and wood burned pattern. The lid is removable and was made by the process Jerry demonstrated for the club.



The first step was to locate the “ball” position on the wood blank. This is necessary to help keep the board turning true by placing both centers equidistant on the blank.

Jerry uses a special center in the headstock to ensure proper grip on the blank. It is also a little safer than a “claw” center.



Using a blank that was already started, Jerry mounted the blank and began turning to thin the board. Shown here is the location and approximate size of the finished “ball” that will be able to rotate in the finished product.



As turning commenced, the obvious “air” turning began. From a thick board came one that was much thinner with a “knob” on both sides where the “ball” would develop.

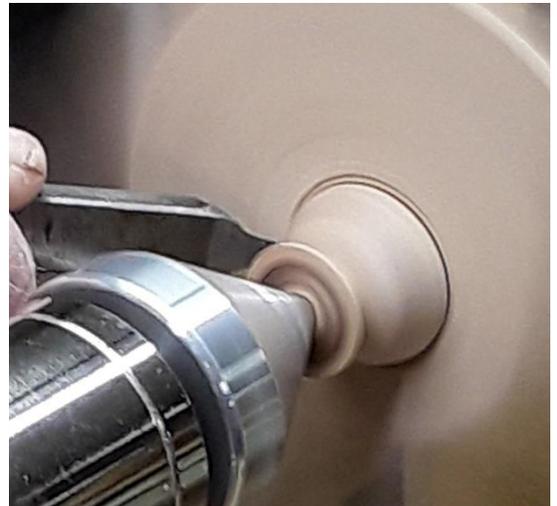
Safety becomes paramount with a board spinning that can inflict serious injury on contact. Note in the left picture

the position of the tool rest. At the right, the tool rest is parallel to the turning centers.



This is the result before separating the “ball” shape from the board. The ball doesn’t actually separate in the sense that it is removable; only that it can turn inside the board location.

Dennis uses a custom parting tool to cut the ball loose from the board. Inserted at a 45 degree angle on both sides of the turning separates the ball from the board so it can turn but not be removed.



The semi-finished turning is now ready for hand work to complete the ball shape on each side of the board.

Shown at the right are two of Dennis’s finished turnings similar to the demo piece.

Visible on the standing piece are both sides of the ball that was turned within the board. Note the wood grain showing on the ball part.





Dennis also displayed some samples of his coloring and wood piercing as shown below. He also demonstrated how he makes his coloring appear “real”.

As his example, he used a board with a couple of grape clusters burned on it.

Hi first step showed a solid color that wasn’t too life-like—the dark purple grapes. To show how to add some “life” to the coloring process, he first determined where the sun would be and colored that very light.



Then Dennis began to darken the color, leaving some lighter where the light would strike. (see right)

Beginning to color with ever darker colors, the full effect begins to show here in the center of the page.



Once the desired color effect was achieved, he then used an engraving tool to darken the lines. This set the grape shapes off from the wood background. To finish the coloring, rubbing alcohol (91% strength) was dabbed on with a cotton ball to blend the colors together. Dennis cautioned against getting the wood too damp with the alcohol or the colors would all run together.

He favors markers from an art store or Hobby Lobby™ for the best color effect.

Other samples of his coloring process were on display too.

Note on the inset below of the vase at the left the indentations in the wood for a 3-D effect to further enhance the colored pattern.

Note also the lighting effect on the grapes.





Other samples of Dennis' work in coloring.

The final Display that Dennis brought was wood piercing. The wine glass and bottle are turned out of wood, colored then pierced and the bottle is assembled.

Being very fragile, he cautioned to just look, not touch either since, "***They break like glass when they hit the floor!***" Speaking from experience, I guess.



Notice the stipple effect on the bottle within the patterns of the leaves. Also note the lighting effect on the grapes on wine glass below.

There is also stippling on the wineglass stem at the right.

An excellent demo and presentation by Dennis McMaster at the April

Meeting. The bar is set High for those who follow!!



Damage Control Plugs

Thanks to everyone who's helped with our plug orders. Our inventory is getting low so we will be asking for help getting restocked. There will be boxes of blanks at the next meeting. Please consider taking a box home and turning them by the following meeting. Here's a table with the plug dimensions for reference.

It's also on the CLUB NEWS tab of the club website at

<http://www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com/>

Plug	Lg Dia	Length	Sm Dia
#1	1 1/2	7	5/8
#2	2 1/4	4	1 1/4
#3	3 1/4	3 1/2	2 1/8
#4	4 1/4	5 3/4	2 3/4
#5	6 1/2	6	4 3/4



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REMINDER:

The annual dues for **2019** are **\$10.**

Checks can be made payable to
Northland Woodturners.