

Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com

December 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., in the old Mid-Continent Library building on the top floor. Parking is on top of the hill off Tower Drive.

[Check map on page 2 of THIS issue.](#)

Coming Attractions

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

Event Information:

NEEDED: Fund raising Ideas.

COMING SOON

The Woodworking Shows Kansas City 2020

The Woodworking Shows 2020
Venue: See Graphic at right

Remember—2020 dues are \$45 for the year—due January 3, 2020

Season's Greetings



Northland Woodturners Is almost ready for a full new year at the new location. Come join in the fun Thursday December 5 as we celebrate with a turning challenge. Sharpen those tools, get your most delectable treats ready and prepare for the drawings that determine the **Loyalty Winner** for 2019.

Bring your hand-turned Christmas Ornaments for Show and Tell, too!



Dale Anderson, **2018 Loyalty Winner**, unwraps the prize last December. Don't forget to get your non-winning tickets deposited each month.

The Woodworking Shows Kansas City 2020

The Woodworking Shows

Date: 1/17/2020 - 1/19/2020

Venue: KCI Expo Center, Kansas City MO, United States



NEW LOCATION MAP



Here is the new site.

NW Prairieview Rd on left side of map; Tower Dr. near bottom; **red line** points to bldg. entrance for Northland Woodturners. P.S. *This map will disappear next month!*

SHOW and TELL



Danny Smith brought some nice turnings last month. On the left are two cups made from **Maple**. About 2-1/2" in diameter they had no finish.

At the right is a **Walnut** plate about 10" in diameter. It also is unfinished. Danny has donated the Plate for a fund-raiser to the club. Thanks, Danny.



Harlan Henke brought a natural edge bowl made from Bradford **Pear**.

A Distinguishing feature of Harlan's turnings is the embedded penny in the underside of a turning. The **H³** is Harlan's initials. Finish is a gloss product.





Program personality **David Bartlett** brought two turning sets for Show and Tell. The first one is an Empanada cutter made from **Cherry** wood. About 5” in diameter, it is shallow compared to the next turning. Mineral oil finish makes it food-safe.

David’s second turning is a biscuit cutter. Diameter of the **biscuits** is approximately 2” in diameter. Wood used is **Mulberry**, giving the distinct color and grain.

Stay tuned for details on how to make your own biscuit cutter later in **THIS** newsletter.



Wood of The Month



Poplar – *Liriodendron tulipifera*

As a woodturner, you are undoubtedly familiar with Poplar. Also known as Yellow Poplar, Tulip Poplar, Tulip tree, and White-poplar among others. Poplar, as we know it, is not a “true” poplar which is of the *populus* genus and includes the cottonwoods, aspens and balsam poplars, but is of the *Liriodendron* genus which means “lily tree” and the flowers look similar to tulips, hence the common name: Tulip Poplar. Yellow Poplar is actually in the Magnolia family.

The Tulip Poplar tree is a very tall stately tree which grows 100 to 150 feet in height with trunk diameters of 8 to 10 feet. The straight trunk is free of limbs for about 40 to 50 feet and occasionally up to 80 to 90 feet. Therefore, that is why the lumber is fairly knot free and can be purchased in large sizes. Poplar is the state tree of Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The nectar from the flowers produces a dark reddish honey. The sapwood is off-white to grayish white, while the heartwood is variable in color, ranging from clear yellow to tan, greenish brown or olive-brown, and is frequently marked with shades of purple, dark green, blue and black. The multiple colored version is

sometimes referred to as Rainbow Poplar. The wood is usually straight-grained, is moderately light, not strong, but easy to machine and work. It glues well, does not nail well, but takes and holds paint exceptionally well and can be stained or dyed to attractive colors.

The wood has been used for almost every conceivable purpose, limited only by sufficient strength for some items. It is used for furniture (mostly as the secondary wood or structural wood for upholstered furniture), interior trim and moulding, boxes and crates, pallets, caskets, musical instruments, toys, woodenware, paper and veneer for berry boxes and plywood. It is outstanding as an all-purpose wood for the home workshop and a turner's friend for making fixtures and devices for woodturning. Therefore, it is a utility wood in nearly every sense. It is even a good wood to practice on. It is advisable to use dust collection when sanding as it does create fine sanding dust.

Tulip tree has been cultivated since 1663. It is an important ornamental tree for lawns, parks, and cemeteries and one of the most attractive and tallest of eastern hardwoods. Fast growing, trees may reach 300 years of age. Early lumberman called it "poplar" for its lightweight wood similar to poplars and birches. Daniel Boone utilized a tulip tree to build a 60-foot long canoe to carry his family and gear down the Ohio River from Kentucky into Spanish territory. The Native Americans used bark tea for indigestion, dysentery, rheumatism, pin-worms, fevers, and in cough syrups; used externally, as a wash on fractured limbs, wounds, boils, and snakebites. In medicine, an alkaloid extract from the bark was once used as a heart stimulant.

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

Written by – Mel Bryan

Program Highlights

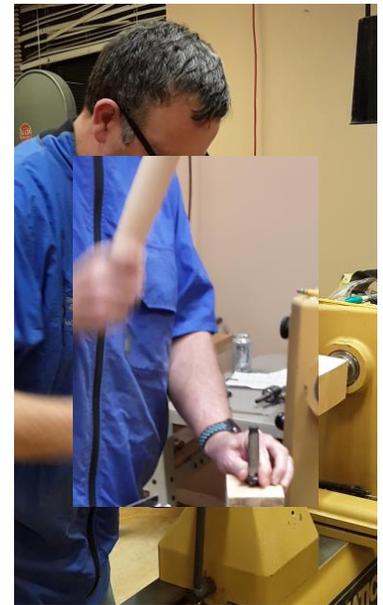
Club President David Bartlett prepares to show the club members how to make a biscuit turner. First step was to obtain a square block of wood approximately 3" square by 5" long.



Next, a center finder was used to locate where to put the centers on the lathe.

Then the drive center was seated on one end.

Turning the square blank round is required to allow layout of the "pusher" that removes the biscuit from the cutter.



The end that goes into the chuck is turned before making the "pusher"



Then the "pusher is laid out for a push stick made from a 5/16" dowel rod. The pusher is reduced in diameter to at least 1/2" smaller than the inside of the cutter,





Progression from removal of the “pusher to layout of the cutter to interior shaping progresses. Since the biscuit size will be 2” the inside must be turned to approximately that size. Depth must allow for the pusher as well as the maximum thickness of biscuit dough—about $\frac{3}{4}$ ”.



Once the interior is shaped, sanded smooth and drilled for the pusher handle, the final shaping of the exterior is done. Last step after sanding the exterior is part-off the finished cutter.



Light sanding at the part-off spot gives a biscuit cutter ready for a food-safe finish and –Voila! Ready for biscuit dough with the pusher in place.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with our plug orders in the past. We will be asking for help getting other projects to raise funds. All ideas are welcome along with samples.

The CLUB NEWSLETTER tab of the club website is at

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

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M-F, 7 am-6pm, MST
Check out the Club Specials every month.
Enter "NorthlandWoodturners" when asked for club name.

REMINDER:

The annual dues for 2019 **have**
increased to \$40. Advanced payments are
accepted.

Checks can be made payable to
Northland Woodturners.