



Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com

April-May 2020

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April Showers Bring May flowers



Welcome to the first bi-monthly edition of TurnNorth, the official Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners. This bi-monthly newsletter has been necessitated by the world-wide virus conditions.

Hopefully by June the Club will be able to resume regular monthly meetings.

April 2 saw 22 people joining President David Bartlett online for an interesting turning demonstration. **Show and Tell** saw some great projects by members during the month of March. Pictures of them are included in the **APRIL Show and Tell** along with turnings displayed at the March NWT meeting March 5.

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.

Coming Attractions

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

Event Information:

Wanted: Fund raising Ideas.

Remember—2020 dues are \$10 for the year.

**Due beginning
January 3, 2020**

Next Meeting:

Online May 7, 2020 at 7:00

via www.zoom.us

Host TBA

Watch your email for details!

MARCH SHOW and TELL



Carl Sievering shared several nice turnings along with his development of the star inserts used in some of his turnings. On the left above is a bowl out of "unknown" wood that appears to be an exotic wood of some variety. On the right are two sizes of star cylinders. A slice off each can be inserted into a recess on a turning. Carl showed examples of these at the February 2020 meeting.

On the next page are two more pictures of Carl's work including handles for a scribe and a wood chisel. Note the collection of small strips glued together to form the handle blank before turning. Also note the ferrules on the scribe handle.



Club VP **Danny Smith** brought two mallets to the March meeting. The wood was some **Coffee Bean tree** wood that had been milled where Danny works. They have a grain similar to hickory or ash but don't have the same "*flavor*" while being turned.



Club Treasurer **Chip Sisky** brought a fixture he uses to produce the crook at the top of the staff he produces for Bishops worldwide. The fixture is adjustable for several reasons: **a.** to allow insertion of the softened staff crook and **b.** to provide for any variations in design of the crook based on diameter of the stock. On VERY close examination of the crook Chip brought, a small crack can be seen on top of the crook.

APRIL SHOW and TELL



Mikeal Jones displayed a really nice reproduction of a football made from segmented rings of cherry wood. At the upper left is the beginning, showing the segmented rings after roughing to shape, Below that is the turned shape before final sanding and finishing. Note the color variations in the segments. At the right above is the finished product.



Mel Bryan displayed a nice variety of turnings done this past month. Too bad we couldn't see the fruit at the right IN the bowl at left.



The bowl at left above is a sycamore crotch dyed with Briwax dye and finished with a friction polish. The fruit are all sycamore except the apple which is apple wood and is Dyed with Artisan dyes and finished with lacquer.

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The sphere below is sycamore dyed with Artisan dye and finished with lacquer. The ring stand is also sycamore and the black stand is ash, dyed with shoe dye.

The tippie tops were practice for and giveaways for the Railroad Days that will not now happen. Varieties of woods and sizes and a few regular tops also. Note details in the enlarged lower left picture.



Leland Finley shared a picture of two pens he made for gifts. The top one is acrylic on a 7mm blank twist pen.

The lower one is an Antique Bronze Lever Action pen with a turned **Oak** barrel.

The two views show two views of the clips. The top pen has a comfort grip and the lower one has a simulated .30 cal. Hollow-point bullet nose. Nice job Leland.



Wood of The Month

Cypress – *Taxodium distichum*



Cypress, *Taxodium distichum*, is a deciduous conifer, meaning it is an evergreen (conifer) however, it loses its leaves in the winter. That is why it is commonly called ***bald cypress***. The common name 'cypress' is applied to two genera. One genus is of the family *Taxidoaceae* to which the bald cypress belongs and is more than likely the most familiar to us here in Missouri. The other applies to the true cypress species of the genus *Capressus* and includes Monterey cypress which is native to California and has been widely planted in Australia, New Zealand and East Africa and, on a small scale, in Europe. The bald cypress is a magnificent tree and is often planted around pond margins and even in yards, parking lots, parks and campuses.

Bald cypress grows in swamps, sloughs, and wet bottomland forests in the lowlands of southeastern Missouri and mostly on down in the southeastern United States. One characteristic feature of the cypress is the 'knees' which are aerial roots that protrude above the ground or swamp water where it grows. The knees are sometimes harvested and used for artistic carvings and woodworking projects.

Cypress lumber is strong and durable and the heartwood is a pleasant yellowish-brown to pinkish-brown color and when cut it has a cedar-like scent. With its legendary beauty, natural durability, and high rot resistance, cypress has long been a staple on beach homes along the Atlantic seaboard and throughout the Southern United States. Because cypress generates its own preservative oil, called cypressene, it's an ideal wood for coastal locations with constant heat, humidity, and torrential rains. More recently, the use of cypress has spread from Maine to Southern California as the wood is increasingly being used in place of other wood species, such as cedar, redwood, and pressure-treated wood.

For the woodturner cypress is a surprisingly nice wood to turn. It turns well for being a 'softwood', finishes nicely and is light yet strong. It is fairly easy to dent however, and predrilling for nails and screws will help avoid splitting. I like to use it for Christmas ornaments where lightness is important. Sharp tools and light cuts are recommended to avoid tearout. It normally has straight grain, which may be even or uneven, and a coarse texture. The oil content gives it a greasy feel. It sands well, glues well and holds paint very well. An artistic form of the wood is caused by the fungus *Stereum taxodii*, which causes a brown pocket rot known as "pecky cypress". It attacks the heartwood of living trees, usually from the crown down to the roots. Cypress wood has been used for barrels, caskets, boats, shingles, railroad ties, fence posts, docks, and bridge beams. It is also used for siding, sash, doors, paneling, trim and general millwork. Tanks, vats, greenhouse framing and products subjected to moisture are ideal uses.

You can read more about Cypress at; [Cypress on the Wood-database](#) or at [Cypress on Wikipedia](#).

Written by – Mel Bryan

Program Highlights

The in-person meeting needed to be cancelled due to the stay-at-home order. President David Bartlett presented a turning demo on-line using ZOOM™. No pictures are available but it was recorded by David. If you would like to see the demo, contact David at dabartle23@yahoo.com. Attendance on-line was good considering the circumstances.

The May meeting will also be held on ZOOM™ since the stay-at-home order will not have been lifted for groups of more than 10.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with our plug orders in the past. If you need wood, contact David Bartle to pick up more supplies.

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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REMINDER:
The annual dues for 2020 **have gone back to \$10.00.** Dues are still being collected.
Advanced payments are accepted.
Checks can be made payable to
Northland Woodturners.