

Turn North

The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners



www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com

October 2020

2020 Officers

David Bartlett, President
(816) 331-5664
dabartle23@yahoo.com
Danny Smith, Vice President
(816) 720-3781
ishear4@gmail.com
Andy Brundage, Secretary
(816) 305-32238
andybrun53@gmail.com
Leland Finley, Newsletter Editor
(816) 830-4702
leefin@netscape.net
Chip Siske, Treasurer
(816) 858-3080
woodchipsbychip@yahoo.com



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:

NEEDED: Fund raising Ideas.

Remember—2020 dues are \$10 for the year.
Due beginning January 3, 2020

Next Meeting:
October 3, 2020
Special article on this.

ATTENTION:

The October meeting is moving to SATURDAY OCT. 3.

Danny Smith has wood available and needs to “unload” it. Meet during the morning if you want to get wood. Danny will be home all day, so come one come all.

Barbeque at 1:00 pm Meat furnished U Bring Pot Luck.

At least 1 case of water has been promised already or BYOD if you want something else.

I know, it's a good distance out there but the BBQ promises to be really good. A Cherry tree, Ash trunk and Honey Locust are all available.

Map and directions are in an email sent Friday, Sept 25. Check your inbox and spam if it doesn't show up.

I will resend the map if you need it.

I can provide DVDs of the August meeting with Chip's sharpening.
Let me know BEFORE Oct 3 if you want one.

Wood of The Month



Face grain-plain sawed



Edge grain-quarter sawed



Sycamore end grain view

Platanus occidentalis – Sycamore

The American sycamore is also called: plane tree, buttonwood, buttonball, ghost tree and water beech. It is easy to see why it is called ghost tree especially in the fall and winter after its leaves have fallen with its huge scaly white branches spreading out reaching for anything surrounding it. The bark of the tree sheds off in large poster board like sheets making it a tree that needs constant cleanup effort all year long along with the constant rain of crooked sticks and huge leaves. The fruit is round dry balls about 1 to 1 ½ inches in diameter that persists through the winter and are food for Purple finches in late winter. The branches of the tree are crooked and bent often at 90 degrees to themselves. In the process, they can break off and provide nooks and crannies for birds and mammals seeking shelter.

The tree can reach massive proportions rising to 130 ft. and 6 ft. or greater in diameter. Some have even gotten to 13 ft. in diameter. The heartwood is light to dark brown or even reddish brown and the sapwood is whitish to light yellowish or reddish brown. The wood is generally irregularly interlocked-grained and though firm, tough and strong, it is not very heavy.

Sycamore is very similar to maple in texture. When quarter sawn, the mottled texture with conspicuous rays is quite attractive and even dramatic. It is often used for guitar or other musical instruments. Because of its toughness, sycamore is a favorite wood for butcher blocks and buttons, hence the common name buttonwood. It is used for boxes and crates, trunk slats, brush backs, woodenware, and furniture especially as the secondary wood or quarter sawn for its appearance. The veneers are used for berry boxes, baskets for vegetables and cigar boxes.

Sycamore can be turned with ease and finishes smoothly when sharp tools are used. The turned wood can have a dramatic effect when the quarter sawn portion of the turned object is viewed contrasting with the plain sawn view.

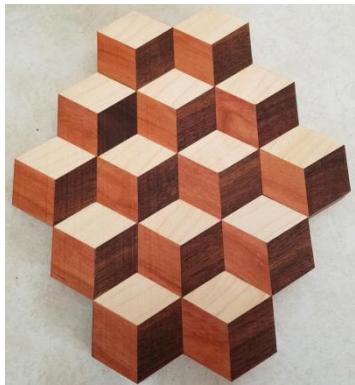
Since the sycamore is fast growing and an excellent shade tree it is planted in urban areas and therefore can be fairly easily obtained when trimming or removal is required. It might be difficult to dry without warping or splitting without observing the proper precautions.

A fun piece of trivia is; "The terms under which the New York Stock Exchange was formed are called the "Buttonwood Agreement", because it was signed under a buttonwood (sycamore) tree at 68 Wall Street, New York City, in 1792." Ref: Wikipedia.org

You can read more about Sycamore at; [The Wood-database](#) and [Wikipedia.org](#).

Written by – Mel Bryan

SHOW AND TELL



Carl Sievering showed via ZOOM a cutting board made from Maple, and Walnut. Nice 3-D effect for a “flat” board made from parts. Set your saw for 60° and **CAREFULLY** catch the cutoffs for gluing.



Carl also showed one of his segment bowls showing the star bottom and alternating parts of **Walnut, Maple, Purpleheart and Cherry**. Great job of inserts in the vertical sides of the bowl also. Diameter is about 8-9" with height of the side at about 3-1/2".

Mikeal Jones showed via ZOOM his Donut cutter and biscuit cutter made from Cherry wood with a walnut oil finish. Note the plunger on the Donut cutter at left.



Mikeal also showed his “Mason Jar” from Cherry with a Maple lid. Note the threads turned on the top of the jar. A real lid will screw on the turning and is fastened inside the turned lid. Great job Mikeal!!



David Bartlett showed, at left, a natural edge bowl turned out of air-dried walnut he had lying around his shop. He estimated it to be over 20 years old.

Harlan Henke showed a cutoff catcher he uses to keep small pieces from becoming airborne in his shop.



Mel Bryan made handles for his nut drivers at left. They are 3 sided to prevent rolling. Copper tubing makes the ferrules stand out and keep the wood from splitting if too much pressure is applied tightening or loosening the nut.
Good job Mel.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The September meeting featured Pres. David Bartlett turning a goblet. The sample he used for a pattern, shown below at left, had 2 rings on the stem. The blank was Maple and was about 3-1/2" square and about 9" long. Shown below at right is the blank mounted in his lathe in preparation for turning. The pictures in this month's Highlights are from the ZOOM video of the meeting. David was at his home location turning the project.



Once turning began, the first step was to rough out the interior of the goblet and turn the two rings to be loose on the turning. Then the shape of the top of the goblet was done and the stem was turned to size. Sanding of the stem was somewhat complicated by the two rings floating around. The rings were rough sanded before release from their location on the stem. Once rough sanding was complete, the base was turned and shaped. At the right is the chuck



that was used to hold the goblet as the final turning of the base of the goblet was finish turned. At far right is the completed rough turned and sanded goblet and the base as turned for the demo.

The schedule is open for additional volunteers to turn a project for the upcoming programs.

Don't forget the BBQ coming Saturday, October 3, at Danny Smith's place. Get your Cherry wood, Ash wood and Honey Locust that Danny also has available while there. Come early, stay late, BBQ is at 1:00 pm. Weather should not be a factor in outdoor activity. Pot luck—bring your favorite dish—the meat is furnished, drinks (water) are available. Bring more or your favorite drinks.

No tickets available this month.

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.

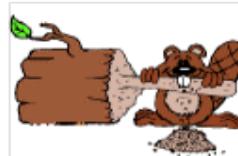
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REMINDER:

The annual dues for 2020 **are still**
only \$10.00. Advanced payments are accepted.
Checks can be made payable to
Northland Woodturners.