

Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com

August 2019

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Chapter Meetings:

First Thursday of every month, 7-9 pm.
Our ADDRESS:
We have MOVED again; Now at end of Tower Drive on TOP. Enter at NW Corner of bldg.. Nice parking available. **Map elsewhere in THIS Newsletter.**

Coming Attractions

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

Event Information:

Turning Challenge July 2019



Danny Smith brought the turning challenge idea and is turning his entry with borrowed tools, compliments of fellow turner Leland Finley.



First, second and third place turnings in the turning challenge: First: Danny Smith; Second: David Bartlett; Third: Chip Siskey.

Additional contestants in the Turning Challenge:



Leland Finley



Pete Stacy



Mel Bryan

Look What I Did!



On the left is a Button shape turned from Cherry; no holes yet. Natural finish, no stain or top coat yet.
On the right is a Walnut bowl with a satin finish.



Made by Dave Dinkel (?)



Quack, Quack! Dwight Herrick, infamous call maker, brought his latest creation. Finished with a gloss finish, it is made from one of the more exotic woods. Note the hand carving on the side of the call. In high relief is a duck (?) either starting flight or landing. (Owner's choice!)

Nice job Dwight.



Pete Stacy brought, among his other things, a wine stopper. Made with a custom resin casting by Pete, it is turned and polished.



Some Really nice Pens by Pete Stacy.

Pete “claims” to not be a pen turner but..., let the evidence speak for itself. The actual statement went something like, “...I’ve never turned pens before...”

Each one was made from a casting by Pete using Resin, a colorant and some type of insert material.

The top example appears to be transparent as the pen is turned around.





This paperweight is another example of Pete's Resin turnings. What appears to be wood actually is on the base with the irregular appearance of the burl from which it came, cleaned up to remove the bark, and leave the details showing in the transparent top.

Thanks Pete Stacy for a great assortment of work from your lathe!!



Mikeal Jones brought a cup made from Sycamore. Multiple operations were used to make this cup. Turning, drilling, hand shaping and sanding made a useful project. Mikeal "claims" to have sampled a cup of "**Joe**" in the cup. Only problem was a bit of grain raising inside.

Overall, a nice variety of projects, skills and materials were displayed. Thanks, guys. Let's do it again next time.

Wood of The Month



Sycamore Flat sawn



Sycamore Quarter sawn



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. Older furniture drawer sides were often made of sycamore because of its wearing ability and machinability, especially for dovetail joints.

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



Here's our NEW LOCATION

See you Thursday, August 1, 2019.

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.