

# Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

[www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com](http://www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com)

January 2020

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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.

## Coming Attractions

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

**COMING SOON**

**The Woodworking Shows  
Kansas City 2020**

The Woodworking Shows 2020  
Venue: See INFO on next page

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

## December Highlights

The annual “*Pig-Out*” Party saw some fantastic goodies brought by the members to the December meeting.

Another highlight is the Christmas Ornament contest. Some interesting designs were brought this year by several members.



First Place went to Mikeal Jones for his segmented Christmas Ornament.  
Second place went to Dwight Herrick.



## Show Hours

**Friday**  
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
**Saturday**  
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
**Sunday**  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

## Why You Should Attend

The Woodworking Shows has lined up a bunch of the best woodworking presenters in the country, and along with a great line-up of tool vendors the season has, and will continue to be a blockbuster event!

I know there are lots of folks who wonder why they should attend a woodworking tool show when there is plentiful information about tools and woodworking methods readily available on the web. **The reason is simple:** at the shows you can see the tools demonstrated; you can check out the tools up close, often trying them out for yourself, and ask questions of folks who really know the facts and who will be happy to show you the answers. The Woodworking Shows give you the chance to spend a day, or three, at the biggest woodworking store in the country! **Plus there is always that item that you run across at the show that you didn't know existed, but is just the answer to a woodworking riddle that's been pestering you.**

## General Admission Information

- Purchase tickets at the door of any of our events for \$14 (Cash Only)
- **Buy your tickets online and receive \$2 OFF!**
- Admission is included with the purchase of paid education
- **Tickets are good for all three days of the show**
- **Children under 15 years old are admitted free with a paid adult**
- **Active duty Military/Fire/Police with valid ID are admitted free**

## Attention Northland Woodturners:

**Sign-ups for work detail to set up on Friday morning, man the booth During the show and knock down on Sunday afternoon will be taken at the JANUARY MEETING!!!**

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## SHOW AND TELL



**Leland Finley** brought an Oak Biscuit Cutter made similar to the one demonstrated at the November meeting by David Bartlett, Club President. Interesting feature was the handle which won't let the pusher fall out.





Dwight Herrick brought another of his famous Duck Calls. This one goes to one of his relatives as a present. Note the hand carving on the sides. Finished with a gloss finish it is a very nice job.

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Danny Smith brought a Maple Bowl. About 3" deep and 10" in diameter, it was turned from a maple blank that Danny had at home from a large log.



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Plan to bring several of your best turnings for display at The Woodworking Shows this month. A display rack will be available to put them on display at the show.

## 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

# PROGAM HIGHLIGHTS

The annual turning challenge was the highlight of the program time at the December meeting. Five contestants took part in trying to produce a small conifer tree that could be hung on the tree as an ornament.



President Emeritus David Halter, Mel Bryan, Chip Siskey, David Dinkel, and Leland Finley all took turns attempting to turn an ornament in under 3 minutes.

First place went to Chip Siskey, working under a handicap having to turn left-handed. His turning had some “wind-swept branched but most closely matched the model shown at left.

Second place went to Leland Finley and Third place went to David Dinkel.



Chip's winning turning.



David Dinkel turns his 3<sup>rd</sup> place entry.

Sorry, no photo of 2<sup>nd</sup> place turner, Leland Finley.

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Great year past, even with a move, increased dues and new members on board. The club is looking forward to new fund raisers, symposiums that may be available in the region around Kansas City and other opportunities open to wood turners.

**Don't forget the Woodworking Show at KCI Expo Center January 17-18-19, 2020.**



Thanks to everyone who 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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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.**