

WOOD CHIPS

August 2001

Next meeting Aug 13 at 7:00 PM at Consolidated Lumber located off I-35 West on 67th Street in Merriam Kansas--www.kcwoodturners.org



Kansas City
Woodturners
Club
Local Chapter of
The American
Association of
Woodturners

Officers:
President
Dick Woodhouse
(913) 851-5917

Vice President:
Alex Garcia
(816) 697-2982

Treasurer:
Don Gruis
(816) 763-3385

Secretary:
Jerry Darter
(816) 363-2658

Advisor:
John Shackelford
(913) 583-3303

Librarians:
Dick Smith
(913) 341-4613
Pete Stiglich
(913) 342-9133

Camera:
Don Grimes
(913) 962-2060

LAST MONTHS PROGRAM

With 46 members and guests present, President Woodhouse presided over our second "basics" workshop this year. All four club lathes were busy, John Shackelford demonstrated making tool handles, Alex Garcia turned bowls, Anthony Harris demonstrated small lidded boxes, Chris Kunzle made bottle stoppers and small bowls, and Russ Blaser showed how to sharpen tools using the Wolverine System. Several club members also took a "turn" at the lathes and practiced the new techniques our club PROS had demonstrated. It was a great meeting our thanks to everyone who helped.

AUGUST PROGRAM

John Shackelford will demonstrate turning Christmas ornaments in Aug. Don't miss this one, John does an outstanding job, and Christmas is closer than you think.

REFRESHMENTS

Merle Schneck

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

Don Gruis

Jerry Darter

Note: If you can't do this, you need to find someone to take your place. Thanks.

AAW SYMPOSIUM

Danny Moreno showed pictures he took from this years instant gallery. Many clubs

from around the country participated in the group competition and Danny showed pictures of their efforts also. The symposium looked like a great success.

New Members

Robert Whitman

Tom Vanderford

DONATIONS

The club has received a wonderful gift from one of our members. The donor wishes to remain anonymous, but gave the club a Nova 3000 lathe and chuck in mint condition. The new lathe was put in service for basics night and performed perfectly. Thanks for a great donation.

JULY SATURDAY WORKSHOP

Our July Saturday workshop will be at Farris Machinery and promises to be something special. Soren Berger an internationally acclaimed turner will demonstrate on Saturday July 28, from 9:00am to 4:pm. The workshop is free. Soren's new lathe constructed from engine blocks will be on display.

AUGUST SAT. WORKSHOP

Our Aug. 25th Sat. workshop will convene as usual at 8:30 am at Consolidated Lumber and last until 12:00pm., then continue at 2:00pm at Paxton Lumber in the afternoon. Tools and wood will be discounted at this special afternoon session. Additional details will

Advertisers
Paxton Woodcrafters Store
 6311 St John St
 Kansas City, Mo.
 64123
 816/483-0659
 Largest selection of turning blocks in the area. 10% discount To all club members

Woodcraft Supply Corp.
 8645 Bluejacket Rd.
 Lenexa, KS 66214
 (913) 599-2800

Craft Supplies
 1287 E. 1120 South
 Provo, UT 84606
 1-800-551-8876

Overland Tool Inc. 7905 Neiman Rd.
 Lenexa, KS 66214
 (913) 599-4044

Farris Machinery
 1106 Valley Ridge Drive
 Grain Valley, MO 64029
 (816) 229-3055
 We feature:
 Tormek Sharpening System
 Robert Sorby tools
 OneWay lathes
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 Join us for our Turn Point Workshops

The Heartwood Company Dan Moreno/Instructor
 Private & group instruction
 816-452-7914
 E-mail: jotbpath@aol.com
 Website: www.turnaboutwood.com

be available about the session at Paxtons at our regular August meeting.

SHOW AND TELL

-Don Gruis won a mystery wood bowl blank in our raffle and brought back a large bowl for us to admire. Don also had a walnut box and small maple bowl-all good work.

-Anthony Harris showed several small boxes with threaded lids, one from Lucite and a large hollow form with a threaded lid. Anthony also had a large walnut bowl and a bowl from Mexican Vera wood finished with tung oil. All well done-

-Alex Garcia turned a nice bowl, with voids, from mulberry burl. It looked great-

-Kenny Gorseline showed a self designed walnut pen and a turned lid for a jar. Very creative work.

-Bill Coomer showed several earring holders from box elder and ebony he had turned. They really looked good-

-Russ Blaser purchased a 35lb block of maple burl and turned several large hollow vessels and bowls with natural edges from it. Outstanding work as usual from Russ.

WEB SITE

Have you checked out our web site? It can be found at: www.kcwoodturners.org. On it you will find copies of our newsletters, a calendar of events, pictures of previous show and tell galleries, and links to other woodturning sites and equipment suppliers. If you have misplaced a copy of the newsletter, there will usually be 12 months of past newsletters available there. Bud Schenke deserves a big bravo zulu (well done) here.

EXTRA INFORMATION?

President Woodhouse contributed the following article. Dick says we can all

learn a lot from this.

-----The Modern Toolbox-----

-Hammer-In ancient times a hammer was used to inflict pain on ones enemies. Modern hammers are used to inflict pain on oneself.

-Screwdriver-The drink ordered at the local bar after you call in a professional repairman to undo the \$500 in damage you did while trying to change out a light socket with your handy screwdriver.

-Phillips screwdriver-The bar drink you order when the damage estimate is over \$1000, it contains twice the vodka.

-Multi-pliers-Contain a handy assortment of sharp and dangerous tools. Best left in its leather sheath and worn on a homeowners belt to increase testosterone levels.

-Electronic stud finder-an annoying device that never goes off when you point it at yourself.

-Cordless drill-A device that lessens your chance of electrocution 90% over a standard plug in tool.

-Cordless phone-The handymans 911

-Air compressor-A mechanical device similar in principal to harnessing the power of your mother-in-laws nagging complaints and using the resulting airflow to blast old paint off the side of the house.

---- YOU BE THE JUDGE??-----

The attached article about our club recently appeared in the KC Star, due entirely to President Woodhouse's hard work on our behalf.

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A wood hobbyist yearns for rounds of good turns

By *CAIT PURINTON* The Kansas City Star

Date: 07/03/01 22:15

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It's an addiction, and some people -- young, old, male and female -- travel all over the metropolitan area to fulfill it -- the art of woodturning.

The Kansas City Woodturners Club, a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners, provides a place for people to come together to share common interests and ideas in woodturning. They strive to promote woodturning not only as a craft, but as an art form.

"Once you get started in this, it's very contagious," said Dick Woodhouse, club president and Overland Park resident.

He joined the club three years ago as a rookie. He started taking beginner woodturning classes where he learned to make an ink pen, a typical starting point for many woodturners, he said.

"I guess I always wanted to do woodworking. After I retired, I started looking at wood stores, and they said I could sweep the floors for \$5 an hour," Woodhouse said. "Well, that didn't work out."

He said he spends about one to two hours a day, and about six days a week turning wood. Some projects, depending on complexity, can take up to 100 hours to complete.

One of the most enjoyable parts of woodturning, Woodhouse said, is that there is no schedule.

"When I feel I want to go downstairs and turn, I can do it. If I want to spend an hour, I can spend an hour. If want to spend the day, I can spend the day," said Woodhouse, who retired in 1997 as a manufacturer's representative for men's and women's clothing.

Like Woodhouse, many of the club's members have wood lathes and woodworking areas at home. The process begins by selecting a piece of wood that is mounted on a lathe. The lathe spins the wood as the woodturner uses special cutting tools to

carve and shape a creation.

"I think a lot of people may tell you that wood is telling them what to do," Woodhouse said.

On a lathe, woodturners can make almost anything in a circular shape, such as ink pens, bowls, candlesticks, sundials and bedposts.

Club members say they enjoy being able to start and finish a project in one day, and, like any other hobby, it's relaxing. For some it's a full-time job.

"I love the challenge. I can't wait to see what it does," said Dan Moreno, a Gladstone resident who also works as a woodturning instructor and is a semiprofessional woodturner.

He is a domestic and exotic wood dealer with Paxton Woodcrafters' Store in Kansas City. He said the most expensive piece of exotic wood is the Honduras Rosewood Burl, which sells for \$3.60 an ounce.

To make an ink pen from that species of wood could cost as much as \$10 and would sell for much more. Woodhouse said pens of turned wood sell between \$30-\$50 each.

Club members collect wood from various sources, and a few can be seen driving around town after a storm offering to adopt fallen trees.

"Sometimes the tree services call us, and they have more wood than we can haul," Moreno said.

Since the Kansas City club started in June 1995, it has branched out to two supplemental groups -- one in Independence and another in the Northland. Many members attend meetings for all three groups. The youngest member is a 14-year-old girl; the oldest is an 83-year-old man.

Until last week the Kansas City club had three lathes at their clubhouse, located in a back room at Builders Resource/Consolidated Lumber, Inc., 9701 W. 67th St. in Lenexa. Last Saturday, a new member donated a fourth lathe, valued at \$1,200 "fresh out of the box," Woodhouse said.

In their rent-free clubhouse, the organization keeps an extensive video library available to all members. It's useful, they say, but its not their best asset.

Club members agree their woodturning skills have improved since they joined the club, feeding off each other's knowledge and techniques. It's not the same to learn from watching a video, or reading it in a book, they say.

"We feel the members of the club are the best tool we have," Woodhouse said.

Before they came together as an organized group, many of them were working on their own until Russ Blaser of Lenexa went looking for other woodturners.

He was able to track down three others woodturners in the Kansas City area by referring to a directory from the national association.

The Kansas City club -- with the members ranging in experience from amateurs to semiprofessionals -- is up to more than 70 members, excluding those in the Independence and Northland groups.

Each month they do demonstrations in the clubhouse, equipped with two televisions, a camera and a sound system to provide a bird's-eye view for everyone in the room, usually about 50 to 60 individuals.

The Kansas City club meets from 7 to 9 p.m. the second Monday each month. There is an open workshop from 8:30 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday at the clubhouse in Lenexa.

The Northland woodturners get together 7-9 p.m., the first Thursday each month at Platte Woods United Methodist Church, and the Independence group meets 7-9 p.m., the third Monday each month. Locations for the Independence group fluctuates during the summer.

To learn more about the Kansas City Woodturners, visit their Web site at www.kcwoodturners.org.

To reach Cait Purinton, Leawood and Overland Park government reporter, call (816) 234-7722 or send e-mail to cpurinton@kcstar.com

HOBBY: Woodturners share

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