

# WOODCHIPS

December 2011

[www.kcwoodturners.org](http://www.kcwoodturners.org)



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Reminders

**Get your raffle tickets when you come into the meeting.**

1/2/12—Board Meeting

1/9/12— Regular Meeting

### Special Event

1/27-29/12  
Woodworking show at the Overland Park



### December 10 2011

The Scouts were at the clubhouse turning pens. Bud Schenke took a few pictures for the newsletter. The turners in the pictures are Chip Siskey, Don Grimes, Mark Waugh and Bob Coyne who is a scoutmaster and a club member. He started this pen turning program for scouts a number of years ago and it has been steadily growing. There were about 35 scouts and they turned about 55 pens.



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# Monthly Meeting

2.5 billion calories



A VERITABLE FEAST FOR KCWT TREASURES



## Then the turning of the bottle stoppers began







It was really interesting to see these turners take a project from start to finish. There were an incredible number of styles, tools, processes, and finished product.





Even one of our visitors had a chance to turn



Treasures every one





## Wood Used In Turning

# BIRCH



Birch's ease of use and reasonable price, have made it a great craftwood, for almost any woodworking project. It's used extensively for firewood and makes wonderful ornamental trees. It has been turned to make all the toy parts you need, tongue depressors, tooth picks, pulped for paper, and turned into high end furniture. There is little it has not been used for.

Birch trees grow abundantly in North America, with nine species in this family that are relatively well known, but over 50 species found around the world, including many ornamental and shrub bushes. "White" birch, as we know it, is not really a species but rather a combination of either paper and/or gray birch. Red Birch is not a species at all, but rather refers to the heart stock of the yellow birch. Almost all members of this family have a smooth resinous white bark, that peels, rolls or curls, in some fashion. Some types of birch bark peel up the tree, rather than the traditional "around the tree". The bark gets very thick and deeply ridged as the tree gets older. Birches are usually the first to establish in cleared land, but start to die once other trees move in and offer shade. The trees will average a height of 70' and a diameter of 2'.

The appearance of the wood will vary between species, but generally, the sap wood is creamy white and the heart stock, golden brown. Paper birch is predominately sap wood, with small brown knotty hearts. The wood is mostly white but as it nears the core will show brown flame patterns, with white sap edges.. quite dramatic. Yellow birch on the other hand, tends to be a larger tree and exhibits a more consistent golden brown color, with little creamy white sap wood. Often yellow birch shows a nice curl pattern. All birch has a fine and uniform texture, closed pored and no significant odor. Birch dries with a fair amount of shrinkage. It loses almost 16% of its volume going from green to dry lumber and does like to warp and twist if enough weight is not applied to the green lumber as it air dries. Once dried it is stable. It is not resistant to decay, fungal and insect attack. Spalting is very common. Of all the quality domestic hardwoods, Birch would probably be the lowest in price. This is its most redeeming feature. A beautiful wood to look at and work with, and sold at a reasonable price.

Birch stains and finishes easily, due to its closed pored structure. In fact, often it is used as a substitute for Maple. Birch is significantly easier to stain, will give you an almost identical stained finish, but with much less grief, especially if you are trying for a relatively dark color.



### Officers

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### Board of Directors:



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913-897-0765

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816-322-3704

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913-831-4149





### ***Here are the officers for the 2012 KCWT year***

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| President:     | Norm Peters      |
| Vice President | Jerry James      |
| Treasurer      | Kevin Neelley    |
| Secretary      | Shaun Q. McMahon |

### ***The following are the Board Members:***

Eli Kamara  
Bill McGoldrick  
Mike Erickson



**In order for these people to be successful and for KCWT to be successful YOU are absolutely necessary., How about making a New Year's Resolution to be a volunteer for KCWT throughout the year. Not only with the organization benefit from your assistance but You will feel good about your participation.—it's a win-win .**

## **REVIEWS**

We have a number of videos by these two turners in our library. I think that these two complete the reviews of all five of them. These videos use the same format of their previous videos. Their style is a "reading style" in that they are looking at the camera and "reading from a script. The sound varies in quality from that produced by being "on camera" to narration produced off camera and this can be a bit distracting. There are many instances where it would have been very beneficial to use close-up techniques but they didn't. The information is great and can benefit the beginner and the seasoned turner.



Turning Pens with Kip and Rex, Video I: The Basics and Beyond, Volume 3065 in our library  
Rex Burningham and Kip Christensen Running time: 1 hour and 8 minutes

In this video they begin by saying what they are going to do then start with blank cutting, drilling the blank, the variety of wood blanks available, tube gluing, trimming blanks, mounting the pen on a mandrel, use of the roughing gouge, deep fluted gouge, skew, small parting tool, sanding, adhesives, finishing with friction polish, and pen assembly.

They also provide a number of helpful hints for the pen maker, the use of a press blank for transmission insertion, variations using the slimline pen kit-elimination of the center band, wire burning, using different materials for the center band, using complementary or contrasting woods, and eliminating the kit tip.

This is a very good video for the novice turner who is interested in starting with pens.

Turning Pens with Rex and Kip, Video II: More Pens Plus Tips and Tricks, 1 hour 28 minutes  
Our library Number 3066

Making a European Style Pen – similar to the slim line. The only thing different is the sizes of the blanks and the use of a different bushing for the center. Most of the turning is accomplished with a shallow spindle gouge. Make final cuts use a ½ inch skew. Then sand starting with 220 grit and go to 600 grit. Complete sanding with 0000 steel wool then finish with friction polish. Complete with pen assembly using a stop block for the transmission. A variation is demonstrated by using a contrasting wood for the center band of the pen.

The next pen is the American Roller Ball Pen made from acrylic. Again they make the cuts with the ½" spindle gouge. Finishing cuts are made using the skew as a scraper. Use wet/dry sandpaper for sanding. Finish using plastic polish. A variation on this pen is changing from a roller ball to a fountain pen.

Their tips are: drying pen blanks; sliding table for cross cutting; cleaning brass tubes; drill bits and favoring the bullet bit; drilling jigs and preventing blow-out on blanks; the potato trick; using polyurethane glue; reaming before trimming; all about barrel trimmers; repairing defects in blanks; wire burning; using a buffing wheel; assembly jigs and tips and disassembly; turning plastic; turning antler.

Both videos are directed at the beginning turner but also contain enough variations that the intermediate to advanced turner can find them interesting.





**John Burrite**

## President's Message

Here's hoping that everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We've made it through another year, with all that it has thrown at us, and are headed into the coming year in very good shape. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving on the Board for the last three years, and this past year as your President. The challenges that we have faced and the changes we have made, I feel, have made us a better group. I look forward to the New Year. I am excited for the events that are in the planning stages for next year. We have lines on two professional turners to come to Kansas City and share their expertise and teach us. There are several Saturday Turning classes in the works. These classes are to help the beginning and novice turners hone their skills. Along with these, we have our regular events of the year: the Kansas City Wood Working Show, the joint auction, and maybe an open house.

The Board that was elected this month will serve us well; they are a good group of guys. To Norm, Jerry, Kevin, Shaun, Efi, Mike, and Bill, a big thank you for stepping forward and volunteering to serve. These people will be giving of their time monthly to serve and strengthen this club, so when you are asked to help with a project, club activity, or to demonstrate at a club meeting, your participation will help the club too.

Have Happy Holidays and I hope that Santa brings you a new tool or a big chunk of wood. And, I hope I see you at the shop on Saturdays. Keep your bevel on the wood.

John B. Burrite, Out-going President



By **Shaun Q. McMahon**

This is an incredible season for giving and most of us are looking for that perfect "something" for those we care about. I remember how disappointed I was when my children discovered Hallmark cards. They started buying rather than making and, to tell the truth, and not to take anything away from Hallmark—after all they are a home-town company, but my children made cards that they couldn't. Their cards are incredibly beautiful. I still have them all. They were made with soul.

There is a difference between a present and a gift. When we lack imagination, when we are afraid to put something of ourselves into what we are presenting to another person, when we make the package pretty because we are not really happy with what's inside, we have a present. A present is safe; capable of being returned in case it isn't pleasing, doesn't fit or is a duplicate.

A gift is presented with vulnerability. It is chosen or made for another based on our knowledge of that person and a recognition of the significance of our relationship. It is given with a part of our soul inside. When we give a gift, we place a part of ourselves into a special hidden compartment inside it. We are, in fact, a little short of soul, but it's worth the risk.

When we receive a gift, we breathe in the soul that resides inside. We need to rejoice in the gift itself because there does need to be an exchange or the giver remains short of soul. But the exchange is not a gift object but gratitude, if it be real and loving, is a gift as are hugs and kisses, and thank you notes. The exchange then is also full of soul.

Be a gift to those you love this season.

Written with thanks to Ed Hayes and his story "The Beggar -Poet's Curse"



### AAW News

Bob Davis has done it again. His work is pictured in this month's issue of the American Woodturner. His wife, Mary, did the decoration. What a dynamic duo!!

The EOG applications for this year's grants are now open online. The deadline is January 15. You must [apply online](#). New this year with the EOG grants 10, AAW symposium registrations

Don't forget to check for the latest information on our membership drive program. There are great incentives for bringing in new members or encouraging past members to rejoin.

In a continuing effort to reach all of our membership with skills-related information, we have begun a "woodturning fundamentals" program. This educational effort will provide a wide variety of wood and turning fundamental information. Based via e-mail and our website, it is intended to supplement the journal and will be published in months when the journal is not published.

While the AAW has a long-standing commitment to safety, we are always striving to improve. We have created a committee whose whole purpose is to bring safety information and best practices to the forefront. This group, headed by [Don Derry](#), will create, seek out, and publicize information on safety through our best practices area. Individuals and chapters are encouraged to submit materials and ideas.

AAW members will be able to subscribe at no cost to a bi-monthly e-newsletter that will feature how-to projects, instructional videos, and tips to get you started! There will also be a Q&A section that will feature questions submitted by e-newsletter subscribers.



## Definitions:

Faceplate—what the front of your head looks like when the wood hits because you weren't wearing a face shield.

Floating the bevel—a specialized cutting technique where the bevel of the tool barely touches the surface of the wood just prior to creating a major design enhancement.

### Read this for info on how to get your membership for FREE!

You can do this simply by encouraging others to join KC Woodturners. You already know all the benefits and you are already interested in and excited about woodturning. Why not pass that enthusiasm to others by talking up the organization. If you get one person to join, then you will get \$15.00 off your next year's dues. Get a second person to join and you get an additional \$20.00 off your dues. When you get a third person to join, **your next year's membership cost you nothing.** Go for it! This starts January 1, 2012 so start planning.



### For sale

Delta Shop Master midi lathe  
With one way chucik and all other  
attachments and work table  
\$400.00

## Club Events Calendar

Club events are held at 3189 Mercier, Kansas City, MO

### December—

24—8:30 AM Open turning



### January 2012

2—Board Meeting at 7:00 PM

9—Regular Club Meeting at 7:00PM

14—Open Shop at 8:30 AM

26—Open Shop at 6:30PM

28—Open Shop at 8:30 AM

## Special Event

1/27-29- Woodworking show at the Overland Park Convention Center. We will have a booth and will also assist Craft Supply with pen turning in their booth.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS**



**WE ABSOLUTELY  
NEED AND WANT  
YOUR HELP FOR  
THIS!**



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

#### Store Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9 am—7 pm  
Thurs 9 am—9 pm  
Saturday 9 am—6 pm  
Sunday 9 am—5 pm

As a member of KC Woodturner, you receive a 10% discount except for on sale items and power tools. Make sure you present your KC Woodturner Card.

### Craft Supplies

1287 E 1120 South  
Provo, Utah 84606  
1-800-551-8876



Jeff Edemann offers KCWT members 10% off all items except sale items and power tools. Ask Jeff about any discount on power tools.



816-892-3398  
800-456-2148  
Fax 816-753-0250  
3001 Southwest Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64103-3616

10% discount on lumber and supplies to all KC Woodturners Chapter members when you present your membership card!

## Penguin Mystery

Recently I received the following from one of our members

Shaun,

This email came the other day from this guy on the Isle of Wight in England. He apparently saw the penguins on our website. Might be something to put in the newsletter.

Bud (Schenke)

**Subject:** Penguins

**Date:** Mon, 28 Nov 2011 21:13:47 -0000

**From:** <[peterecarver@talktalk.net](mailto:peterecarver@talktalk.net)>

**To:** <[info@kcwoodturners.org](mailto:info@kcwoodturners.org)>

Hello to you all,

Just a line to thank you for the design of your penguins, I recently wanted to turn some penguins for my grandson and granddaughters school fair, and while looking on the internet I was immediately taken with your humorous design. So I made 12 off but I added two mortar boards and bow ties to all to add a little colour. I have inserted three not very good pictures for you all to see, so they have migrated to the Isle of Wight England!

Thank you ,

Yours Sincerely, P.Carver

The above email was accompanied by the following pictures.



Beautiful turning—for sure.

But, there's a mystery—

I believe it was in a past newsletter. Not sure which one, as there are probably 60-70 available from our website. Bud

I have been all over the web site and looked at all of the old newsletters and can't seem to find any information about penguins. Shaun

I'm puzzled also. I remember making them as a project, and have attached a picture of an unfinished one I had sitting in the shop. As I recall Bob Davis had the idea for the project, and I'm sure he brought it for show and tell. Just when this happened I can't remember. Bud



Anyone know for sure?