

Woodchips 2020

**Volume 26
Number 8**



3189 Mercier Kansas City, Kansas 64111

September Challenge

A platter

September Demo

Pen Turning with
Shaun McMahon

**Remember
to bid on
the art
auction.
It is on our
website.**

Woodchips Staff

Editor:

Shaun McMahon

Photographer:

Ann Mellina

Contributors:

David Stalling
Jerry Darter



This months demonstration was provided by

MIKE MAHONEY,

a world class professional turner who lives in Northern California. You can learn more about him at bowlmakerinc.com. He showed us around his shop-turning gets done outside, provided information about making heirloom turnings, and showed how to make a quartersawn White Oak platter

This demo, like the others, was recorded and, if not on our website now, will be available shortly.

If you see the video you can see his entire shop, where he does his turning, the surrounding area (that alone is worth looking at the video, a lot of the pieces that he makes, what he means by heirloom, what quarter sawn wood is, why White Oak is better than Red Oak, how to tell the two apart, what medullary rays are, how he sharpens his tools, a bit about his finishes, the difference between Anchor Seal and Tree Saver, and a host of other things.

We had 32 participants for this meeting. Just know that we can handle a lot more than that at a meeting. The Zoom meetings do have a drawback in that we don't get to chitchat with other members like we can at a regular unperson meeting. But we have 30 minutes before the meeting starts on Zoom to enable that kind of interaction.



This months challenges was based on the demo by **David Stalling** last month: his Time Catcher. The Challenge was to do something as multi axis, with slits or something, on a stand and then things got a little fuzzy. There were a number of members who rose to the occasion.

Linda Carlson
Dan Carlson
Anthony Harris
Ann Mellina
Jack Karstens - winner of the Challenge-2
 \$20 certificates for Craft Supply
Mike Thomas



This is where all club members, regardless of ability, regardless of the piece, regardless of degree of completed, have the opportunity to share with everyone else. It is actually pretty exciting to see the progress being made by all members, the ideas that they come up with, and the techniques they use in making their turnings.

Ann Mellina - wine bottle and goblet
Anthony Harris - three sets of a bowl within a bowl
Jeff Julian - square bowl, Purple Heart
David Stalling - 70' Black Walnut tree from which he turned a platter that was a shape-shifter, used a Walnut finish.
Jerry McMaster - two 8.5" Ash discs. He is carving leaves in them, cutting away instead of piercing - leaves falling on leaves.
Jack Karstens - a mortar and pestle turned from Ash. He also make a popcorn cosy.
Kris Coyan - A vase box with a carved flower in the top tenon and an emerging vase from a rootball of a plant he cut out in his yard.
Chuck Levenson - mane a number of small boxes looking like some cartoon characters ie. Mr. Peanut. "I am using up every branch I can find."
Efi Kamara - Made a salt box with a hinge and a magnet. Used Mesquite.

THINGS YA JUST GOTTA KNOW



Efi's **SAFETY FIRST** Minute

Efi reiterated the importance of safety. Make sure that you are always thinking about it.

If something feels wrong it probably is.

Make sure that you keep your hands behind the tool rest.

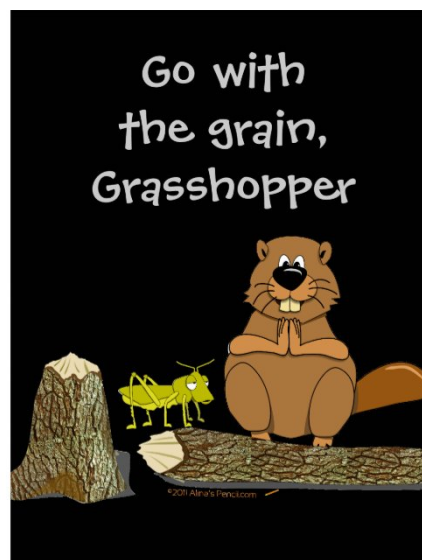
Announcements

The wood art that was on display ago the Discovery Center has been retrieved. It is in the shop on the tables.

Open shop is continuing. Make sure that you use the Sign-up Genius located on the left side of the home page of our website. Everyone needs a mask. There are disinfecting materials available in the shop - please use them.

Freedom Pens - We have set aside August 22, Saturday from 9:00 to noon as aa time when pen kits can be picked up. There will also be some pen blanks; some already made up and others needing to be cut, drilled, and faced. Please help out with this project. If you have any questions, please call a member of the Board. We want the completed pens returned by October 31st. If you don't, you will be turned into a witch.

There are more announcements in the video of the meeting.



Dear members,

Here is your chance to get your work in front of the entire KCWT membership and, perhaps, even more.

During this Covid period you may have been spending more time in your shop. You may have been trying new things. You may have been expanding your skills in a particular area. We, the KCWT Board, are inviting you to take a picture of one of the items you have produced since April 2020. Then tell the story of your piece in less than 100 words

How you came to turn this particular piece:

The wood; where you got it

What you turned it on-lathe

The finish and why this finish

What you learned

How you feel about the piece

Then send the picture (a JPG) and the story (Rich Text Format is best-RTF) to Shaun McMahon at sec@kcwoodturners.org.

These pictures and stories will then be put into Woodchips so that the members will be able to see what has been going on during the time we have not been able to meet. ALL members and ALL skill levels are encouraged to participate.

You have till the end of September in which to get your picture and accompanying story to Shaun. We hope to fill Woodchips with your work. Thank you in advance.

KCWT Board

September Silent Art Auction

Each month we have an auction with a piece donated by a KCWT member. This sale supports the club and gets member turnings into the hands of other members and the community.

This month is really special as the items donated are by six club members, known collectively as **The Top Guys**. They are **Jerry Darter, Dave Burks, Mike Erickson, Phil Royer, Shaun McMahon, and Larry Dice**.

The item is a complete top turning kit. Everything you can use to start turning tops including one-on-one instruction.

Auction bids are made on-line by emailing treas@kcwoodturners.org. The highest bid will be posted on the web site in the sidebar area. Bids will be shown with the \$ amount followed by the last four digits of the bidders phone number. Check back frequently and bid often.



Jerry Darter



Dave Burks



Mike Erickson



Phil Royer



Items for the auction

- 15 made tops
- 13 completed top blanks
- 5 cut discs
- 8 cut spindles
- 1 3/8" Sorby spindle gouge-\$22 handle turned by Jerry Darter
- 1 turned dowel chuck
- 1 dowel chuck (\$58) from Craft Supplies
- 1 chatter tool
- 6 puff paint colors
- 10 TomBow pens
- 8 colored Sharpies
- 1 puff paint spatter containment Tool-made by Mike Erickson
- 1 Certificate for two hours of top making instruction



Shaun McMahon



Larry Dice

The **Top Guys** have turned thousands of tops over the years. Most of them are given away to organizations as varied as The Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead and the Ronald McDonald Houses of KC. They are used to provide income for KCWT at events like the Maker Faire and The Irish fest. It is a very creative activity and the turner is continually challenged to be inventive.



Jerry Darter likes to think about and make tops.

Most people do not see that the lamp itself is a top also. It is turned from curly maple that came from Metro Hardwoods. I used my 3520 Powermatic but a smaller lathe would work well since it is turned in 4 smaller pieces, drilled and then glued up. I used Doctors pen finish because that's what I had, about 3coats. It seemed to work ok and did not involve a trip to the store. It seems like once you learn top turning it's difficult to go back to the easier turnings like boxes, spheres, hollow forms, etc.

I did spray Krylon fixative over tomboy colored small spinning tops. It worked well as long as the first few coats were light, and it dries fast five minutes or less. Final coat was rattle can lacquer for a good shine.

As you know, Moose is my constant companion n the shop and an endless source of good turning ideas. He actually does some turning himself: his favorite wood is dogwood.

It is a good thing to know that Moose tends to be a little protective of Jerry.



Yes, it's a top lamp. Ya wanna make something of it?

CHEMICAL BURNS FROM TURNING END GRAIN WHILE MAKING A DISTORTED END GRAIN PLATTER FROM GREEN BLACK WALNUT WOOD.

David Stalling, Ph.D. (dlstalling1@gmail.com) Member KC Woodturners



Walnut is my favorite wood to turn and I'm always on the lookout for new wood to turn. My son's neighbor took down a 70' tall Walnut tree (Picture 1) and the arborist doing the job (Arbor Barber) said I could have as much of the walnut trunk as I wanted, provided that I took it away as it came down. I was limited by the space I have available to store it/ Storage was facilitated by purchasing a 12' wood storage rack from Wood Craft. The rack was beefed up by adding X-braces to each pair of 4' supports. The rack provided a means to save some wood for future projects (Picture 2).



The arborist cut a 2-1/2" slice of the tree at ground level that was ~30" dia. This piece of green wood had ~30% moisture and it was a nearly black/purple in color. However, my 1640 Oneway lathe has 24" outboard capacity. The disk was cut down to a diameter to 23-1/2" and it was mounted on centers using a blade spur that was chucked in a 5" chuck jaws (Pictures 3&4).



The burns: I cut a 1/4" deep x 5" recess and mounted the platter on my chuck. To turn the platter to 5/16" thickness, I used a combination of bowl gouges, scrapers and carbide cutters.

In doing so, I created a very fine slurry of wet walnut fibers that sprayed onto my arms Overnight, I left the piece chucked on the lathe and it warped nicely. I turned a support base from walnut shaped to fit into the chuck recess; that was glued into the to support the disk. (Picture 5)

The disk was sanded from 80 grit to 400 grit and finished with wet sanding using 600 grit with walnut oil (Picture 5). The opposite edges of the piece warped upward and the area near the mounting base warped inward creating a gravity well. The piece is pictured with a small orange in the gravity well(Picture 6).



After about 15 – 20 minutes of turning the cross-grain fibers, my forearms felt very hot from the slurry that had coated them. I was wearing a battery powered HEPA power ventilation hood/face shield from 3M. However due to the heat of the day I did not take caution to wear a long sleeve shirt. I hurriedly washed off the slurry on my arms,



Off to the internet for a Google search. I learned Black walnut sap can cause chemical burns and that is what happened to me. Green walnut sap, crushed leaves or walnut hulls have been reported to cause chemical burns that are treated with a steroid salve and the skin improves in 3-4 weeks. (Cleveland Clinic report on burns from walnut used a steroid salve, Clobetasol, to help healing: <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/drugs/19019-clobetasol-propionate-topical-ointment>.) The walnut sap was the causative agent and contact with green black walnut dust/sap should be respected.)

I self-medicated using a steroid cream that I have for dermal inflammation. Two days later, I finally got in to see my regular physician and he prescribed a salve used for psoriasis that has helped reduce pain and swelling! This burn condition is quite different than allergic reactions to walnut dust.

Words of caution: Wet walnut cross grain turnings on bare skin may cause skin burns! Wear long sleeve shirt or protective arm cover and a respiratory mask/face shield! Wet sap/sawdust on unprotected skin can cause chemical type turns from even short skin contact. Walnut dust should not inhaled as other respiratory allergic reactions may also occur. Use a highly efficient particulate mask or powered ventilation hood to protect your breathing.

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Received this from former KCWT member. Printed with permission.

8/9/2020

From Harold Haines,

Hope you are doing well thru the Pandemic. We are hunkered.

Doing a lot on turning lately. The old Jet lathe I bought from the club is still running nicely. I changed the motor to a DC treadmill variable speed. It still works great for me.

Here are a couple pics of stuff I've done lately.

I watch KC club videos regularly. It's a great group.



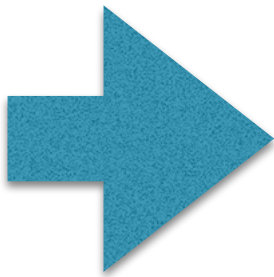
"Woodturning has been a stress-reliever for us."

Website Gallery - KCWT is going to update the photos in the Gallery on our website. We want more current pictures. And, we want yours. If you would like to have one or two of your best pieces shown in the gallery, please bring them to a meeting and we will photograph them for you. We also need some information about the piece(s) - wood, any story associated with it, your name, anything that you think pertinent. If you can't bring item(s) to a meeting you can bring them to Open Turning but let Kevin or Shaun know in advance that you are coming.

We are all busy during the year and it helps to know what's around the corner. Here is an expanded version of the events that KCWT is participating in during 2020. This is not ALL inclusive as there will probably be more events added during the year. The Board will try to keep you informed about what is in the works. We hope that you will do some of your planning to include these events and activities. KCWT is a completely volunteer organization and we really do need your help.

Volunteering has some tangible benefits: it helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety; combats depression; makes a person happy; increases self confidence; provides a sense of purpose.

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To set up your computer to donate to KCWT:

You can support your club when you shop on Amazon. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of each sale to us and it doesn't cost you ANYTHING. All you have to do is use this link the next time you shop on Amazon: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0568355> Then choose Kansas City Woodturners Association as your charity of choice the first time you shop there. It's automatic the next times. Save this link and use it every time you shop Amazon. I do all my shopping at AmazonSmile and I have made Kansas City Woodturners my charity of choice. KC Woodturners is a 501(C)(3) charity. So far, the AmazonSmile donations to your club have been tiny, but every bit helps. **Kevin Neelley**

Here is the link again: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0568355>

Please check our website (www.kcwoodturners.org) often and consider it your source for the most current information about club activities and events. It is also a comprehensive resource for all things woodturning. Bookmark it on your computer and create an App on your smart phone for quick, easy access anytime.

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From the AAW toolbox...

Natural-edge bowls are eye-catching. The bark adds detail and interest, while the irregular shape of the rim balances the round bottom creating a unique visual rhythm unlike other turned work. That said, turning a natural-edge bowl can be tricky. There are secrets that can make the process easier, more efficient, and safer.

This week's picks are intended to offer you resources to help you be more successful when turning a natural-edge bowl.

If you're looking for even more ideas for projects, don't forget about [AAW Explore and Video Source](#) where you can locate articles and videos online using just a category and keyword! (Members-only access.)

**WOODTURNING: A journey where
the learning and fun never end.**

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Store Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9 am—7 pm

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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

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



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