

# WOODCHIPS

May 2026

Volume 32 Number 5



OFFICIAL CHAPTER  
**AAW**  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS

KCWT Website: [kcwoodturners.org](http://kcwoodturners.org)

KCWT Address: 1717 Washington St., KCMO 64108

## May Demonstration

### Delving Into The World of Pens

*presented by KCWT*

Member: Shane Storm



KC Woodturner  
Shane Storm  
demonstrated turning  
pens. This was a  
good demo for new  
members as many  
new woodturners  
start out making  
pens.



# Delving Into The World of Pens

For anyone new to woodturning, pens are often the perfect place to start. Pen turning offers beginners a chance to learn core skills on a smaller scale while creating a finished project that is both useful and gift-worthy.

Unlike larger bowls or spindle projects, pen blanks are inexpensive, require only small amounts of wood, and can often be completed in a single session. New turners quickly gain experience with tool control, sanding, finishing, and assembly without feeling overwhelmed by a large project.

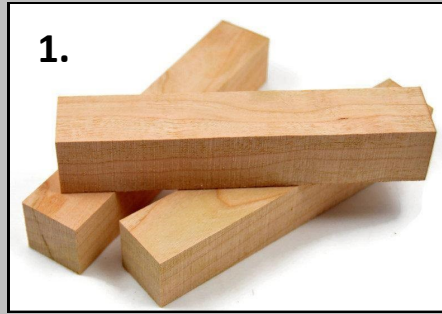
Many club members recommend starting with slimline pen kits because they are affordable, forgiving, and widely available. Even simple acrylic or hardwood blanks can produce impressive results that look professional right from the start.

Pen turning also provides an excellent opportunity to experiment with different materials and finishes. From exotic woods to colorful resins, each pen becomes a unique creation. Best of all, handmade pens are always appreciated as gifts and are popular items at craft fairs and club sales.

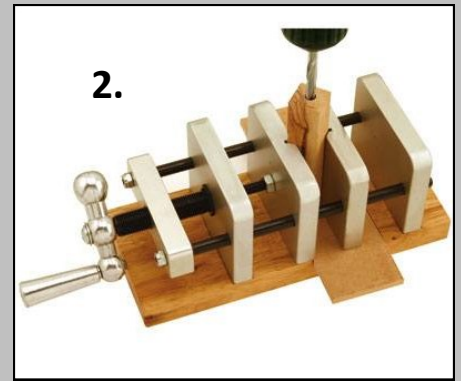
Experienced turners often say that pen turning teaches patience and precision—two skills that carry over into every area of woodturning. For beginners looking to build confidence at the lathe, a pen may be small in size, but it is a big step into the world of woodturning.

## Basic Steps:

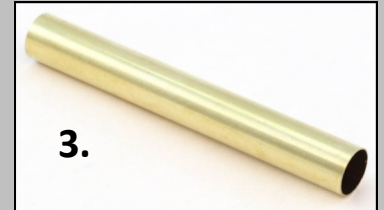
1. Cut blanks to size



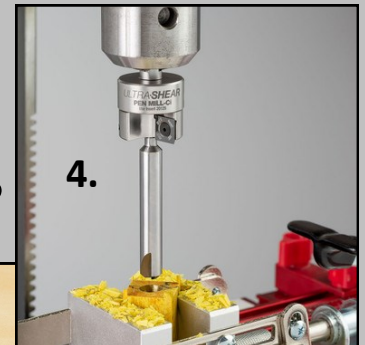
2. Drill blanks according to directions



3. Sand and glue tubes in pen blanks



4. Square ends



5. Put blanks on mandrel with bushings per instructions



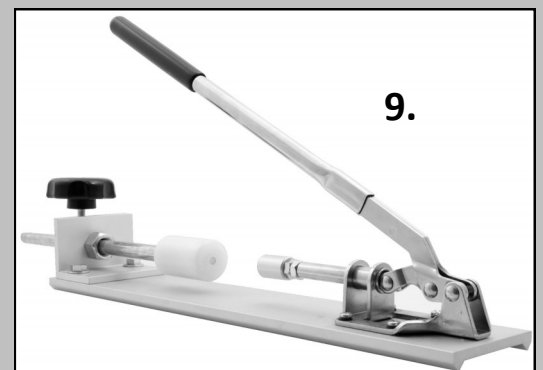
6. Turn pen to size with ends the slightly larger than the bushing



7. Sand pen blank

8. Apply finish

9. Assemble pen according to directions. A pen press helps with this process.



# KC Woodturners Association Board Of Directors

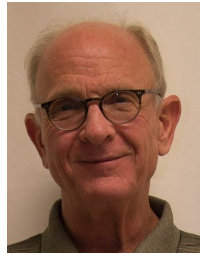


**President**

Kris Coyan

pres@kcwoodturners.org

913-579-9152



**Vice President**

Mike Thomas

vp@kcwoodturners.org

816-835-0900



**Treasurer**

Kevin Neelley

treas@kcwoodturners.org

913-424-5691



**Secretary**

Elizabeth Wright

eliza6290@gmail.com

785-213-4397

## At Large Board Members



Sue Bergstrand



Anthony Harris



Ed Jaszczak



Bill Paolo

## Refreshments



Dan Carlson &  
Linda Carlson

## Safety



Phill Sikes

## AudioVideo



Rob Platt

## Newsletter



Brian Bartelli

## Local Sponsors

One of your KC Woodturners member benefits is a 10% discount with these local sponsors. You will need to show your KCWT Membership Card. No discount on electrical (plug-in) items.



Woodcraft Supply  
8645 Bluejacket Rd, Lenexa



Metro Hardwoods  
4243 S Noland Rd, Independence



Schutte Lumber  
3001 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City



Rockler Woodworking Store  
15340 W 119th St, Olathe

## Catalog Sponsors

You also get a 10% discount from these catalog sponsors. Please refer to the website for instructions on how to order from these sponsors.



Klingspor's Woodworking Shop  
Fine Selection of Abrasives

**Penn State Industries**

Penn State Industries  
Pen Kits and Supplies

## KCWT May 2026 – Monthly Meeting Announcements:

### Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome to all Members and Guests! (In-Person and via Zoom!)
- Tonight's Agenda:
  - Club Announcements
  - Demonstration: "*Delving Into The World of Pens*", presented by Shane Storm
  - Short refreshment break / fellowship and Dollar Sweepstakes drawing
  - Challenge – *Turn a kitchen utensil or garden tool* based on presentation by Kris Coyan.
  - Show-n-Tell project presentations from our members.

### Club Announcements:

- Thank you to all the members that participated and attended the *Bowl-a-Palooza II* event a few Saturdays ago. We had fun coring and rough turning some beautiful bowl blanks that will be used for future club sales events!
- Membership has grown to 92 paid members at beginning of this month. Don't forget to tell your family, friends and coworkers about your club.
- This month's Challenge drawing winner will win (3) \$10 Craft Supply Gift Certificates
- Don't miss your chance at this month's Dollar Sweepstakes! Winners will choose from great prize options, including some nice tools and a quality tool rest. Winning ticket will be announced during the refreshment break, following the demonstration.
- The May First Friday's event was well attended as the weather was favorable this month. We had total sales of \$521 for our tent that night and we met with several potential new members!
- We received sad news that longtime member and Legend, David Burkes. David's wife Elaine Burks, recently passed away. Please keep David and his family in your thoughts!
- Mike Thomas wants to make sure that our members are aware of the 'AAW Virtual Symposium' opportunity. You can stream demonstrations from the AAW Symposium instead of traveling to Raleigh, NC!

### Open Shop:

- Available every Saturday morning from 8:30AM-12PM or later, Wed and Thursday evenings 6PM – 9PM (except for 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed each month, due to Guild meeting).
  - Please help keep it clean, wear your badge, sign in when you are there.
  - If you use the shop, please make sure you sign a waiver form.
  - Use the doorbell at the back door if the front door is locked.
  - Please report any equipment problems to a Board member.
  - Try out the new Air3 respirator that was donated by MicroClimate!

#### KCWT Help Wanted (contact a Board Member if you can help):

- The club will host a tent again for the June First Friday's event (6/5).
  - We are looking for members that would be interested in helping with these events. Set-up, Sales and Break Down all in one evening.
  - Participating members can sell their personal treasures. (20% of the personal sales will go to the club.)
  - Visit with the community about woodturning to increase awareness and attract new members.
  - Let Ed Jaszczak or Kris Coyan know if you would like to help with any of the FF events. They will run through October.
- We are looking for a member to learn the Audio/Video production for our monthly meetings. After several years of volunteering in this position, Rob Platt is looking for a KCWT member to train to take it over. Please consider this request and let Rob know if you may be interested. Also, take some time to let Rob know how much we appreciate what he does for the club!
- Phill Sikes is looking for a member to assist or take over the KCWT Instagram and/or Facebook social media pages, please let Phill Sikes ([phillsikes@gmail.com](mailto:phillsikes@gmail.com)) know if you would be interested in knowing more. If you have any questions, reach out to Phill.
- Do you have a project demonstration idea? Mike Thomas is looking for ideas to fill out the 2026 monthly demonstration calendar. See Mike if you can help?

#### Upcoming KCWT Activities/Events:

- The annual KCWT Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 13th from 10AM-whenever.
  - The club will provide burgers and dogs, members to bring a side, salad or dessert.
- Bowl-a-Palooza II – Second Turning, shaping and finishing of bowls that will be used for club sales events, will happen at the club shop on Saturday, June 27th, 12:30 – around 4PM.
  - Stop by and watch the process of final shaping and finishing of bowls. Members are encouraged to stop by and watch the process, ask questions and pick up some tips!
- Anthony Harris is going to teach a Basic Bowl Turning class. The class will be three sessions: Sat. & Sun. July 11 and 12 and Sat. July 18 from 12:30-4:30PM. Let Anthony or Kevin know if you are interested in the class. An email will be sent out later this month regarding this class.

RC

Woodturners



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- Refreshment Break / Fellowship / Dollar Sweepstakes winner
- May Challenge - "Turn a Kitchen Utensil or Garden tool" based upon the April demo from Kris Coyan
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- An email will be sent out later this month regarding this class.



## KCWT May Safety Minute:

- Try out the new AIR3 respirator that has been donated to our club from MicroClimate.
- Charge the helmet (if needed), try it on and use it when you are in the shop!
- Provide comments about your experience to share back to MicroClimate.
- Lung safety should be a major concern for any woodturner!



# May Demonstration: *"Delving Into The World of Pens"*

Presentation by KCWT Member, Shane Storm

