Turn North

The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com June 2025

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Chapter Meetings:

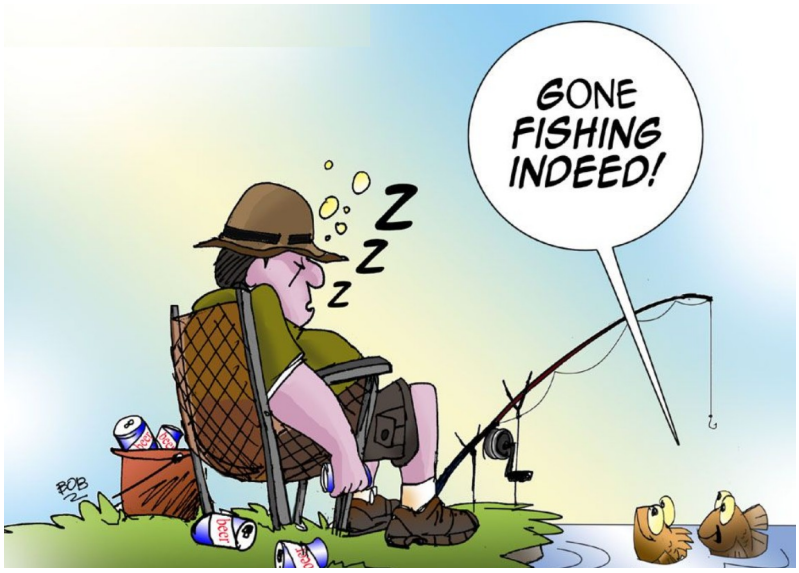
First Thursday of every month, 7-9 pm. **Our ADDRESS**: **7305 NW Prairie View Road** in Platte Woods. We are across the street from the Platte Woods Methodist Church who has allowed us to park there when our regular parking is taken up (only about 7 cars/trucks can park in back.

Coming Attractions

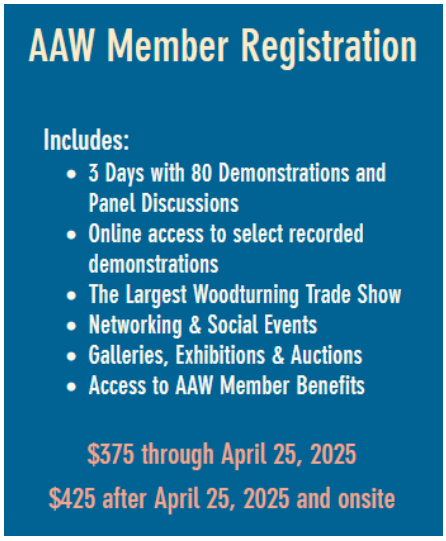
Newsletters on the Chapter Website:
http://northlandwoodturners-kc.com
Event Information:
NEEDED: Fund raising Ideas.

Remember—2025 dues are $10 for the year.
Due beginning
January 2 2025

Next Meeting:
June 5, 2025







NON-Member Registration $495.00

Still time IF you can get a Hotel Room. Great program, personalities and demos will be there.

IF you go, please be ready to give a report in July on what you saw experienced, etc.

Remember, Northland Woodturners is an AAW-affiliated club and may give you privileges while there.

Excerpted from an article by Brent English—President of Robust Tools

Practice Safe Turning: This is not meant to be a safety guide, but having a nicely maintained lathe is a great start to a safe day's turning. Remember to wear rugged face protection, stay out of the line of fire, and don't turn crappy wood.

Vibration: All lathes will vibrate if you have out of balance work and run the speed to fast. In fact, you should use vibration as an indication to slow down, or to balance your work. Please remember, the wood will break long before the lathe will. Broken wood flying off a lathe is not to be trifled with and should be avoided at all costs.

For systemic vibration problems, start with the legs:

All four feet should be carrying about the same weight. This is more important than having your lathe level. Think of it like a chair with one leg too short. It will always wobble when you shift your weight, which is what happens when you have out of balance work spinning. The weight is shifting from leg to leg. To get all four legs carrying the same weight you may:

1) adjust leveling pads if present,

2) shim one leg or

3) do other leg adjustments.

If you have leveling pads, loosen one on the tailstock end so that you know that leg is not carrying weight. Put something slightly off balance on the lathe and start at your lowest RPM. Turn up the RPM until the lathe starts to vibrate just a little bit. Then apply pressure to the loose leveling pad until it the lathe smooths out as good as you can make it.

If you don't have leveling pads, reach down and feel which leg is bouncing by placing your finger on the foot of the lathe and on the floor at the same time. Cut a shim from hardwood into a narrow wedge shape (like the kind you use when installing windows or doors) and tap it under the foot until the lathe stops vibrating. If you go too far, you will make another leg bounce and end up chasing the problem.

Robust brand lathes are leveled by a "settling" procedure wherein the bolts attaching the leg assemblies are loosened from the bed, allowing the legs to settle evenly to the floor. If you have a Robust lathe, please consult your manual for more instructions.

Hard rubber pads are good for minimizing minor vibration. You want them about 1/8" to 1/4" thick. Thick soft rubber pads won't do much good as your lathe will just bounce. At Robust we use "baler belting". It is available at most farm stores by the foot. Industrial conveyor belting can also be good.

Checking for movement Other sources of vibration include worn out or dirty drive belts and loose components. For instance, are your headstock bolts tight? Is your tailstock clamped down securely?

Do you have the quill locked?

If your work is not tight on the spindle, you will most certainly get vibration. Here's some common ailments: The work is loose in the chuck. Morse tapers are dirty or buggered and not seating (more on that below). Perhaps the face-plate screws are not tight. Also check that chucks and face-plates are seated on the spindle shoulder. If not, you'll most certainly have vibration. Some folks use a thin nylon washer between the spindle shoulder and the chuck or face-plate to help the components seat. The washer also has some benefit for keeping the chuck of face-plate from jamming on the spindle. If your chucks or face-plate won't seat, see the next section on spindle maintenance.

Bolting a lathe down and/or adding weight: Adding weight or bolting a lathe to the floor will certainly make the lathe more stable, and may improve the experience at the lathe for the turner. It's important not to impart a twist on the lathe bed as that will negatively affect alignment. But if you're adding weight and/or bolting the lathe to the floor to mitigate a weak or light weight lathe you may be setting yourself up for a false sense of security. If the lathe is shaking, that's nature's way of telling you to slow down and/or get things more balanced. The wood will fail before the lathe will, and failed wood flying off the lathe is not to be trifled with.

Good Work from the May Meeting

Andy Brundage brought a wooden URN made from Walnut on top and bottom and ASH on the body. The top is threaded on the inside of the URN and on the outside of the top. Andy cut the threads by hand on the lathe.

This is from wood which he had at home from a damaged tree earlier in the year. Grain pattern in the wood is interesting and doesn't show up well in this picture.

Finish is Tung Oil

Shown below at left is a picture of the external threads Andy turned on the lid. It fits snugly and would seal nicely when installed.







Carl Severing brought an interesting design for a French Rolling Pin. Made from **Plywood, Coffee Bean, Ash, Cherry** and **Walnut** the glue-up process was very detailed.





Kent Townsend brought two projects that showed creative work. The first was a Walnut bowl that had been rough turned green and after shrinking and setting for quite a while, developed some cracks. Having seen an article about using bow-ties to hold wood from continuing to widen where split, he inserted some. The Result is shown above.

Kent also brought a Walnut spoon he carved. Shown below are a top and back view of the spoon with some carving marks available to see. The finish on the spoon is Flax Seed oil, which is food safe and still protects the wood from washing after use.









The last turning for "**Good Work from the May Meeting**" was a hand fishing "tool" which was also the feature of the May program by Pres. David Bartlett. He showed two examples with this one being the most complex and complete. Not only does it hold the line but the hollow head holds the sinker and the cork has the hook attached to the under side of it. The Cork Stopper also becomes the fishing float when put in use. Overall length was about 7" and 1-1/2" in diameter. Fishing line was Dental Floss which will pull in some fair-sized catches.

Really a pretty simple project which didn't take a lot of time to make but also it is compact and not unwieldy to carry along. David had seen this done as a demo elsewhere and decided to use it for the May turning piece. It's a little challenging to become a turning challenge at a future meeting since it might take up to 10 minutes to rough out.

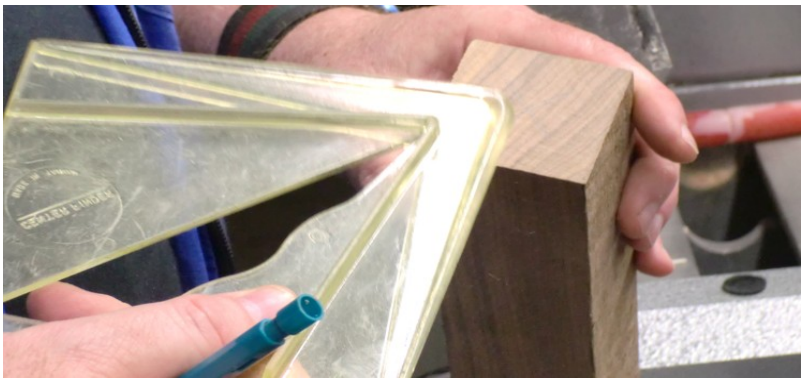
Maybe someone has pictures of theirs with a fish attached to the hook (?).

All in all, the May meeting had Good Work on display and showed lots of creativity by the member turners.

Let's see what can be done in the future, and, if anyone goes to Minnesota for the AAW Symposium, a report for July.

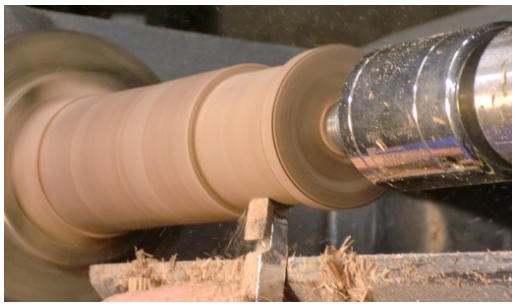
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

NWT President David Bartlett began his demonstration of the hand fishing reel by using one of the Baton cutoffs. Marking the center on both ends facilitated mounting it between centers. Since one end will be in the **One-Way™** chuck the second center mark will not be used yet. Once mounted, David turned the body to round using a roughing gouge.





Using a skew chisel to smooth any turning irregularities, David then laid out and began forming the spool end which would hold the rest of the fishing kit.



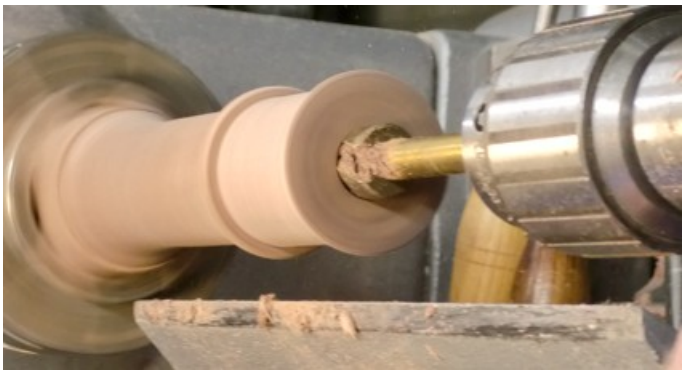
After some light sanding on the spool part while still between centers, David proceeded to face off the end where the hole and cork would go.





Using a fingernail-grind spindle gouge to roll a bead on the back side of the spool part, David then rough turned the part that would become the handle to approximate size and shape.











After using a Forstner bit to make a hole in the end of the spool, checking the cork fit and trimming the edge of the hole to a slight taper, a large tailstock adapter was mounted and the handle was finish-turned using a carbide tool.

Finishing with a C**utting Board Wax**, the next step shown below was to wind some dental floss (Unwaxed) onto the spool running the lathe at very slow speed. Not more than 50-75 feet is needed since casting will be limited in distance. The final step would be to tie the line to the tackle pieces and mount the cork in the hole.



Once parted off the original blank details were checked and the "nub" where parted off from the headstock chuck would need to be sanded down smooth.



Thanks to everyone who has 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
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REMINDER:
The annual dues for 2023 **are still only $10.00**. Advanced payments are accepted.
Checks can be made payable to *Northland Woodturners*.