

Greater Kansas City Pipe Club

News from the January 2012 Meeting

The date for the February meeting has been moved from the 3rd Thursday to the 4th Thursday. So we will next meet on February 23, 2012!!!

Our last meeting had 27 members in attendance. We are now at 65 paid members. Our newest members are Sally Gottlieb, Kevin Brackett, Grant Johnson, Ross Rood, Gene Deffenbaugh, James Coles and Luke Meyer.

Navigating the Newsletter

Sometimes I forget that not everybody is a computer maven. When you click on the link to get to the newsletter from the email I send out it bring the newsletter up in Adobe Acrobat Reader. This software lets you view the newsletter without having to have the software it was created in.

Toward the upper left corner of the screen you should see two icons. One looks like a piece of paper with the corner folded down. The second looks must the same except it has what

looks like a blue ribbon lying over the left side of the paper.

If you click on the first icon it will bring up a "thumbnail" display of each page of the newsletter. If you click on one of these thumbnails the viewer will jump to that page.

The second icon will display all the "bookmarks" (it looks like a table of contents). If you click on one of these entries it takes you right to that page.

Take advantage of these navigational aids when I refer to something later in the newsletter. They help the readability of the newsletter. In this issue we have the President's Annual Report which is five pages long. I can discuss the report in the first pages of the newsletter, but load the whole thing in a later place.

You can find the Annual Report later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read them.

The President's Annual Report

John Cermak, Club President, gave the club the annual report as required by the by-laws. The report outlined the major activities of the club in 2011 and went to great length to mention the members who contributed to our success last year.

John hopes that he mentioned everyone deserving mention, but apologizes if he missed anyone. Nobody's contribution went unnoticed.

He did specifically omit mentioning all the people who either directly or indirectly made donations to the club in either cash or products. All these contributions were greatly appreciated (we couldn't put on the show without them!) but John felt it best if we not publicize who these people are. The last thing they need is for other people to be approaching them for assistance.

You can find the Annual Report later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read them.

Dues Renewal

January is our month for dues renewal and like all clubs of our ilk we take a membership hit since not everyone will renew for some reason. If you haven't

paid your dues yet, please do so when you can.

Dues are a very important part of our annual revenues. Through the dues we are able to fund the club website, keep this newsletter operating, acquire name tags for all members, and have a balance on hand of operating cash.

It is very simple to pay your dues. If you can't do it in person you can login to the website (www.gkcpipeclub.com) and go into your member profile. You should see a button about renewing your dues. You can then use Paypal or a credit card to pay your dues.

If you prefer to write a check just make it out to the GKPC and mail it to:

GKPC
14928 S. Sturgeon Drive
Olathe, KS 66062

Heck, you can even leave it with the boys at Cigar & Tabac and I will get it.

Destination DoubleTree GKPC Pipe Show 2012

The pipe show is less than five months away. We have already gotten a significant number of reservations for tables and we are expecting to sell out.

If you are coming to the show you really should reserve your table/tables as soon as possible as well as a seat at the Friday night BBQ Buffet and the Saturday night Banquet. You can do this online at www.gkcpipeclub.com and clicking on "2012 Show Information" and then "Register Now".

Those of you coming in from out of town really want to make your reservations at DoubleTree Hotel at your earliest opportunity. There are a limited number of rooms available for \$89 a night (single or double occupancy), but you have to ask for the GKPC rate. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for all the details on how to reserve your tables, meals and rooms at the show.

You can find the flyer later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read them.



The Vintages Project

Over on Neil Archer Roan's wonderful pipe blog, *Passion for*

Pipes, he has a new section that will be of great interest to the serious members of the Hobby. He calls this the "Vintages Project" which will be under the direction of noted Pipes and Tobaccos historian Jon Guss. The goal is to create an accurate written history of various aspects of the hobby through detailed written articles.

Jon's first effort is a very lengthy article detailing how to date tobacco tins from the House of Sobranie, in particularly Balkan Sobranie, Sullivan & Powell, and Sullivan tobaccos. All of these are legendary but no longer available blends. This article will remind many people of John Loring's legendary Guide to Dating Dunhill Tins.

To see this article you must first to link to the article "What is the Vintages Project" on Neil's website. Just click on the Balkan Sobranie tin below to get there.



When you get to this page you will see a link to the full article

in green print. Be very patient when you try to link to this. It is a very large article (37 pages) and will take several minutes to load. It is well worth the wait.

2012 Pipe of the Year

We have sold out the 2012 Pipe of the Year from Thomas James. This was hardly unexpected as this is a sensational looking pipe from one of the truly up and coming carvers in the business. I expect the pipes to arrive in the next two to three months. We have asked Thomas to deliver all the pipes at once rather than as they are made.



Programs

We justifiably pride ourselves on the quality of programs that we offer to the membership. What we need are new ideas for shows. If you have an idea for a program contact Dan Coomer or Steve Butler. We particularly would like some program

suggestions from/for the younger members.

February Program – Quinton Wells & Mike McNeil

For our February program we will have Quinton Wells and Mike McNeil showing us tobacco restoration techniques. Those of us who store tobacco at home periodically run in to the problem of the tobacco getting too dry and something needs to be done to make it smokeable again. In the words of the immortal Molly, "Tain't easy, McGee".

March Program – Mike & Mary McNeil

Mike & Mary McNeil will be our guest speakers for the March meeting. They will be introducing McClelland's new line of tobaccos at the meeting.

You might want to recall the last time they did this. I believe it was three years ago when they came to a meeting with samples of their soon-to-be-released Grand Orientals line of tobaccos. They were simply to die for. To check these tobaccos out go to:

McClelland's Grand Orientals

One can only wonder what they have come up with this time.

Smokers Law

A couple years ago the Ozark Pipe Smokers of Rogers, Arkansas, and some friends at Pipe Chat (www.pipechat.info) worked out a series of "laws" as regards pipes and pipe smoking. A lot of good humor here but as the Bard said, "Many a truth is spoke in jest." You can find these "laws" later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read them.

GKCPC CLUB HISTORY

BY Walt McKenzie

[Ed. Note] I have asked Walt McKenzie, club historian, if he would write a series of articles detailing the history of the GKCPC and he has graciously agreed. The following is the first chapter of the club history.

All businesses, family, association or a club starts with one person with an idea. That's how "The greater Kansas City Pipe Club" came into being. One person with an idea. That person was Mark Wilson.

He had approached several pipe shops with that idea and was rebuffed. He then connected with Lyn and Bobbe Beyer of Cigar and Tabac. They immediately responded in the affirmative and plans were instituted to advertise and to organize a club as soon as

possible. This was in October of 1997. Lynn and Bobbe graciously offered the use of their facility for the organizational meeting. Lyn and Bobbe agreed to be the sponsors of the club and have been so since.

The first meeting was held on March, 19th, 1998. The first officers were as follows; President = Mark Wilson, Vice president = Dale Atkins, Secretary = Mike Sull, Treasurer = CoreyLundgren. At that meeting was discussed how often to meet, how to procure members and the possibility of hosting a pipe show in the fall of 1998. As word of the new club surfaced in the community, many people became interested and joined.

Lyn and the officers began searching for a venue for the first show and selected the "American Inn" in North Kansas City. The show would be held on November 7th & 8th, 1998. Tables were sold & there was room for no more exhibitors. A side room was utilized for the smoking pipe contest. A long time pipe shop owner, Fred Diebel, was the first judge of the contest. The show proved to be a success and a show has been held every year since, with one year exception.

The initial dues for becoming a member were \$20 & stayed at

that rate until raised to \$25 in 2010.

More history to follow in next months issue.

Fred Hanna's New Pipe Bio

Fred is working on a new project that has required him to update his pipe biography. He has asked if we wouldn't mind running it in our newsletter and getting the reaction of our readers.

You can find the full bio later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read it.



Fred Hanna with His Doctor of Pipes Award

Mike Sull – Redux

Last September's program featuring Mike Sull on American Cursive Handwriting was so popular that we asked Mike if he would come back for an encore performance so that people who

missed the first program could catch it this time.



He graciously agreed and we were gifted with another wonderful program. The biggest piece of news he had was that he has designed the monument that will be placed in Geneva, Ohio, to honor Platt Rogers Spencer, the Father of American Cursive Handwriting.

The monument will be a nine-foot tall obelisk upon which five different bronze plaques will be placed. Mike designed all of the plaques. The last page of the newsletter will be a full-page photo of the plaque. The artwork at the top of the plaque was done by a lady by the name of Pat Daley. The monument will be dedicated on August 24, 2012. The Governor of Ohio will be in attendance.

A number of us just loved the sweatshirt that Mike was wearing that featured a design of his own. There is a close up photo of the sweatshirt in the photo section. He actually has some of these in stock. He has them in sizes 2X, Large, Medium and Small. They are \$25 for the SML sizes and \$30 for the 2X. If you are interested in one of these sweatshirts let Mike or I know.

FACEBOOK

Thanks to Ross Rood and Cletus Lichte we should be able to establish a FaceBook presence in the next couple of weeks. This is part of the club's overall so pipesmokers around the country will be able to keep up with the doing of the GKPC.

International Pipe Smoking Day

February 20th is International Pipe Smoking Day. The GKPC and Cigar & Tabac are going to sponsor a pipe smoking contest.

Now this is not going to be one of those overbearing and intensely boring smoking contests. We are not going to get all bent out of shape over the formal rules used in the major pipe smoking contests. We are not attempting to identify world class slow

smokers. We are going to have fun.

About the only rule we are going to be adamant about is that everyone will get the same amount of tobacco.

Right now we are looking at having three prizes for the event. First will be a restored estate pipe. Second place will be a pound of bulk tobacco. Third place will be a half-pound of bulk tobacco.

I will need a few people to help me run this. I need two or three people to help with the contest. I need one person to do a couple little seminars on how to load and light your people. This is to be geared to the beginning smoker not the experienced guy. In the same vein I need someone to host a little seminar on how to take care of your. Once again this is for the newbie. And third I need someone to show people how to select an estate pipe.

GKPC Pipe Tool

While perusing Briar Blues (www.briarblues.com) the other day I stumbled on to the item pictured below.



You may find it convenient to increase the magnification to 150% to be able to read the engraving on the pipe tool.

Now, surprisingly, no one seems to really know anything about this tool. I would have bet that this was something we created years ago as a fundraiser or gift to exhibitors at the show.

Mike Sull called me and said he thought that this was something a member created on his own and nothing became of it.

I emailed Briar Blues and asked if they could recall whom they got the pipe tool from. Mike Glukler replied that they got it from Bill Unger who is Secretary and Treasurer of the NASPC. I emailed Bill and he said he bought it at our show about ten years ago at our show but remembers nothing else about the sale.

If you were the one behind this or know who was would you contact me?

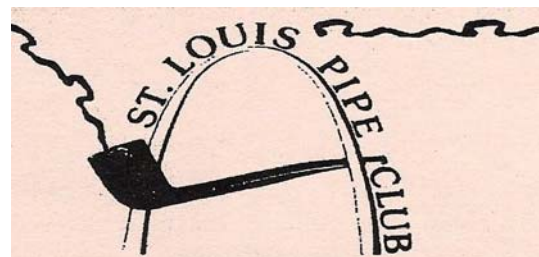
St. Louis Pipe Show

The 24th Annual Gateway Area Pipe Show & Swap will be held on February 18, 2012, from 9AM to 5PM. The St. Louis Pipe Club sponsors the show. The Show will be held at the Heart of St. Charles Convention Center.

This is great show for people new to the hobby. It's close (less than four hours by car) and has a lot of exhibitors who offer goods in a lower price range. For the last several years the club has been very well represented at this show. It really helps to get people to come to your show when you show a willingness to go to theirs.

It is also about one of just a very few shows that permit smoking (pipes only) at the venue and at the hotel (should you decide to stay overnight).

You can find the flyer promoting the show later in the newsletter or you can use your bookmarks to jump ahead and read it. Flyer reprinted by permission of the NASPC.



G.L Hunt and the Falcon

I received an email from Kathy A. Worth that read as follows:

"I wanted to let you know that my award-winning book, ***Back From The Ashes: Uncovering the Lost History of G. L. Hunt and the Falcon Pipe*** is now available as a Kindle eBook at Amazon.com. Updated and expanded for 2012, my book now includes 88 total pictures with 58 in color and 30 in B&W.

The book can be quickly and easily accessed and read with the Kindle or Kindle Cloud - also using a Free Kindle App for the iPad, iPod Touch, iPhone, Blackberry, Android Devices, Windows Phones and even direct to a PC or MAC.

AND *Back From The Ashes* is very affordable at only \$2.99!

Here is the link to Amazon.com - and there is a free sample that can be viewed and even downloaded, too...

amazon.com

I would sure appreciate it if you could please share this information with your members.

Thank you kindly -

K. A. Worth
Grayslake, IL"

How to Smoke Flake Tobacco By Mike & Mary McNeil

[Ed. Note] Some of our favorite tobaccos come to us as flakes or slices. This type of preparation is some times intimidating to the new comer to the hobby. On their website Mike & Mary McNeil of McClelland have written up a wonderful guide on how to approach this type of tobacco. We are reprinting it here with their permission.

English and Scottish-style Matured Virginia flake tobaccos are among the most interesting and rewarding for the smoker to taste; yet, they are avoided by many smokers who simply do not know how to approach them. This guide is intended to help the pipe smoker learn how to fully appreciate the zesty character and subtle sweetness of these premium, aged products. (It should also help smokers of the flavored American sliced plug and European flake Cavendish tobaccos.)

One reason flake tobaccos are left in slices after cake maturing is that they retain their freshness better than in ribbon form. Flakes also enable the smoker to have some control over the burning rate and, to a small degree, the flavor.

It is important to prepare the tobacco before packing so that

it has an even texture and to fill the bowl evenly, no matter what degree of brokenness is preferred. (The more fully-rubbed – meaning gently separated – a tobacco, the faster it will burn. Similarly, it is true that the thinner the cut, the faster it will burn.)

The more moist tobaccos should be packed more loosely than normal so they won't pack down densely enough to prevent a good draft. The ideal is to have the tobacco draw firmly, with a little resistance, throughout the smoke. The smoker may be able barely to hear a little hissing through the pipe as it is smoked. Too firm and the tobacco won't burn at all or one small spot will burn hot and maybe wet as the smoker puffs hard to keep it going; too loose and the tobacco will burn inconsistently and unevenly, perhaps causing the bowl to overheat in spots and moisture to condense.

Five Steps to Success

1. Put in the palm of your hand the amount of tobacco that will fill the bowl. Then pinch at the slices or rub them between the palms until the tobacco separates to the degree preferred, keeping the texture even, avoiding clumps. The

denser the tobacco is left, the slower it will burn.

2. Gently but firmly and evenly work the tobacco into the bowl of the pipe until it is filled slightly over the top and feels firm but still springy under enough pressure to flatten the surface of the tobacco even with the top of the pipe. (We assume the pipe is clean at the outset, free of obstruction to a good draft, well rested.)
3. Now, while drawing through the stem, light the pipe evenly across the entire surface of the tobacco. After a few puffs to develop an ash, and while continuing to draw, tamp the tobacco down evenly all around the bowl with a tamper. The goal is to have the tobacco packed so that it will burn evenly and firmly as a good cigar.
4. Re-light the pipe after tamping to get the entire surface of the tobacco burning again. Even burning is very important. Otherwise, hot spots may develop.
5. With only occasional tamping as the tobacco burns, since it tends to expand and loosen as it

burns, the pipe should now smoke evenly to the bottom of the bowl. The aim is to maintain a firm, even draft throughout the smoke. The process is not too difficult to master and with practice will soon be effortless.

Flavor Expectations

For those who are used to the "aromatic" or sweetened tobaccos that dominate our market in the United States, it may take some time for the flavorings remaining in the pipe to dissipate. Many smokers prefer to maintain one set of pipes exclusively for the natural, matured tobaccos and another for the sweetened varieties. It may be necessary to smoke up to four ounces of a natural product before the mouth adjusts to the clean taste and subtler range of flavors typical of these Matured Virginia tobaccos. The smoker is rewarded for the effort by becoming able to distinguish the delicate variations in taste and deepening richness these tobaccos develop as they are smoked.

[Ed. Note] *one of things about pipe smoking is that everyone has an opinion and nobody is in 100% agreement with someone else. Mary & Mike's write up on how to smoke sliced tobacco is*

one method of how to do it. And it is a good one and certainly a great place for the newcomer to sliced tobacco to start. Other smokers will have different methods but they are variations on this process. As always you have to learn what works best for you.

Our Greatest Gift

By Bill Miller

On any given Saturday, one will find several pipe club members of the GKPC gathered at our local haunt, to enjoy our pipes and cigars. The agenda of these meetings, in not any particular order; to solve the problems of the world, to be sure everyone receives their share of insults and abuse, to discuss all things pipe and tobacco, to tell "Did you hear the one about?" stories, and finally, to escape "honey do's" from home.

Those who know me best are aware that I am a great admirer of Mark Twain. I have a large collection of his works and books written about him. At one pipe club meeting last year, I gave a presentation on some of his writing related to pipes and cigar smoking.

At home after today's get together, I reflected about a recent book that I was reading, entitled *The Jester and the*

Sages. The book compares Twain's late life philosophy with those of Nietzsche, Freud, and Marx. I don't intend to discuss those here, except for an observation made concerning a view both Nietzsche and Twain held on one of man's greatest defenses against the difficulties of daily life.

I realized what I enjoy most about our gatherings is seldom a minute passes that we don't laugh. We laugh at things said, we laugh at each other, and most importantly, we laugh at ourselves. I realized I never leave the shop that I don't feel better than when I got there. And it was upon this that both Twain and Nietzsche agreed. That one of our greatest gifts is laughter.

"Your race in its poverty, has unquestionably one really effective weapon—laughter Against the assault of Laughter nothing can stand."

Mark Twain

From: The Quotable Mark Twain – Contemporary Books

Savinelli Autographs

In the latest issue of "The Pipe Collector" published by the NASPC there is an article by member Steve Stein on collecting Savinelli Autographs.

It is most informative and I highly recommend it to you.

I also recommend becoming a member of the NASPC and receiving this publication through the mail or on-line.

Links & Photos

Also attached are our "Hot Links" and meeting photos.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Dan', written in black ink.

Sherlock Holmes Trying to Figure Out Whom Wouldn't Want to Join the GKPC

Greater Kansas City Pipe Club
PO Box 12840
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
www.gkcpipeclub.com

John Cermak, President
Ken Davis, Vice President
Steve Stein, Secretary
Dan Coomer, Treasurer



January 19, 2012

TO: Members of the Greater Kansas City Pipe Club

SUBJECT: 2011 Annual Report of the Steering Committee

PREFACE:

An election of officers of the Greater Kansas City Pipe Club (GKCPC) was held October 20, 2010. By majority vote the members elected John Cermak to be President, Ken Davis vice president, Steve Stein secretary, and Dan Coomer the treasurer to each fulfill a two year term of office commencing January 1, 2011.

Formal Club By-Laws were adopted by majority vote of the members present at the club meeting on January 1, 2011. In accordance with these laws, the membership acknowledged the club president, John Cermak, and the club treasure, Dan Coomer to be permanent members of the GKCPC Board of Directors. Lyn Byer, Bob Oswald and Jerry Crisswell were then voted to fill the elected three additional directors of the newly installed Board (to fulfill three year terms of office). At its first meeting on March 25, 2011, the Board appointed the Club steering committee to manage the business and affairs of the GKCPC.

Jerry Crisswell resigned from the Board in October 2011. Carl Staudenmyer was voted by the Board to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor at the board meting of October 20, 1011.

The Greater Kansas City Pipe Club was officially designated a not for profit corporation under the State of Kansas on March 7, 2011.

This document comprises the 2011 annual report of the state of the club by the steering committee to the membership.

GENERAL:

The Steering Committee met consistently throughout the year to plan, organize, coordinate, and control club activities. The 2011 focus was to widen the scope of member involvement, to reinvigorate club activities, and to promote a successful annual pipe and tobacco show.

Accordingly, 2011 was a year of transformation and growth for the GKCPC. The discussion below highlights the club activities, factors, and individuals that contributed to the overall progress of the club in 2011.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT:

Membership totals grew from 50 (EOY 2010) to 80 (EOY 2011) for a 60% increase

Individual member contributions to club programs and projects were vigorous as indicated below (acknowledged in alphabetical order).

STEVE BUTLER: Steve served on the steering committee, directed the smoking contest at the Pipe Show, and presented the program on barley wine ale brewing (and tasting) at the November club meeting.

LYN AND BOBBE BYER: Owners of Cigar & Tobac Ltd., Lyn and Bobbe are charter members of and steadfast Club supporters. Lyn is a director on the Club Board, The Byers exhibited once again at the 2011 pipe show. They donated financial support through advertising, donations, and by giving store discounts for club members.

JOHN CERMAK: John served the club as Chairman of the Board, Club President, Steering Committee Chairman, and as the pipe show project manager.

DAN COOMER: Dan is a Board director, is the Club treasurer, serves on the steering committee, is the programs committee chairman, functions as the editor and publisher of the monthly Club Newsletter, and administrates and coordinates the club web site.

JERRY CRISSWELL: Jerry is long time member and goodwill ambassador of the Club. He serves on the steering committee and he headed the judging of the "Best Of" awards at the Pipe Show (along with JOE KETCHERSIDE and MIKE SULL).

KEN DAVIS: Ken is the Club vice president, serves on the steering committee, and presented a pipe refurbishing clinic at the pipe show and at the February club meeting.

ANTHONY HARRIS: Owner of ACME Woodturning. Anthony is a world class wood turner and artisan (pipe carving included). He created and crafted the fantastic case for the winning carving contest seven day pipe set (see the *Pipes & Tobaccos* Fall 2011 magazine).

ROBIN MARTINEZ: Of The Martinez Law Firm provided legal counsel in drafting our Club by-laws and the filing of the not for profit registration with the State of Kansas.

WALT McKENZIE: Walt is our club historian and also serves on the steering committee. He is the mellow, resounding "Voice of the GKPC" at our pipe shows. He organized and managed our raffles and silent auction at the pipe show --ably and well assisted by LARRY HUMPREY (raffle sales) and JOE STAKOWICZ. . Walt presented our club history at the February club meeting.

MARY AND MIKE McNEIL: The owners of McClelland Tobacco Co. have been valued long time members, goodwill ambassadors and supporters of the Club. Mike and Mary have given us financial support by donating royalties from the sales of their GKPC pipe tobacco line and with tobacco prize donations. McClelland Tobacco Co. regularly exhibits at our pipe shows. Mary and Mike presented a program on tobacco blending at our August club meeting.

BILL MILLER: Bill serves on the steering committee. He managed the well planned and efficiently organized exhibit hall facilities, the registration process, and catering

for our pipe show. Bill's dedicated and hard working team consisted of AUGIE AUGSBERG (registration manager), VLAD JIRINEC (show registration), and JAY ROBERTS (catering coordinator).

BOB OSWALD: Owner of Whitewood Leather Co. is a Board director. A long time member, supporter, and goodwill ambassador, Bob has generously donated prizes for our raffles.

CAM SCHUTTE: President of Internet Solutions Group, Ltd. Cam has generously donated countless hours to the development and administration of our simply fantastic club web site.

CARL STAUDENMYER: Carl serves as a Board director and steering committee member. He is a goodwill ambassador and our director of marketing overseeing pipe show promotion involving advertising and one on one promotion. He has spent countless hours in making regional and national contacts to generate show attendance and contributions of items for our highly successful silent auction and grand raffle.

STEVE STEIN: Steve is a long time member and goodwill ambassador of the GKPC. He is our club secretary and serves on the steering committee. Steve conducted a smoking techniques clinic at the pipe show gave a similar program at our May club meeting.

MIKE SULL: Owner of the Lettering Design Group. Mike is a calligrapher of international reputation and renown. He contributes invaluable to our club by creating distinctive club awards and citations. Mike is a founding member of our club and longtime goodwill ambassador and friend. Mike gave an educational and inspiring talk on American cursive writing at our September Club meeting.

QUINTON WELLS: Quinton is a founding member of the club and a goodwill ambassador who is well recognized and highly regarded in the national pipe carving and tobacco business community. He serves on the steering committee; and, as the originator and prime mover of our greatly successful initiative to honor and promote American pipe carvers, Quinton orchestrated our second (2011) contest (see the *Pipes & Tobaccos* Fall 2011 magazine).

ROSCOE YODER: Roscoe is recognized for outstanding membership development. He works in sales at Cigar & Tobac, Ltd. and is true club ambassador by informing his customers about our club and introducing them around to club members who happened to be on hand in the store at the time.

CLUB MEETINGS:

Attendance at our monthly meetings increased to an average of 35 members. Enthusiastic response was received to a variety of programs that were presented during club meetings throughout the year. These programs added greatly to the camaraderie and the total experience of the monthly gatherings. The schedule, presenters, and topics are as follows:

January	John Cermak	By-Law Approval
February	Walt McKensie	Club History
March	Bill Miller	Mark Twain
April	Dan Coomer	Baseball Stories
May	Steve Stein	Pipe Filling Techniques
June	Ken Davis	Pipe Maintenance Techniques
July	Jay Roberts	Paolo Becker Pipes & Italia Tours
August	Mike & Mary McNeil	Tobacco Blending
September	Mike Sull	American Cursive Handwriting
November	Steve Butler	Brewing Barley wine Ale (and Tasting)
December		Christmas Potluck Supper

THE 12TH GKCPC PIPE AND TOBACCO SHOW:

The Pipe Show was held June 25 & 26, 2011 at the KCI Expo Center. Three salient things can be said about the event. One, it was well planned, feature full, and properly executed. Two, It was well received by exhibitors and attendees. And, three, it was affordable, that is, expenses were covered and a little was left over to provide seed money for 2012.

The show was promoted by web site advertising, media advertising (KC Star, Pipes & Tobaccos Magazine, The Pitch, Sports & Fitness Magazine, pipesmagazine.com, and the NASPC Magazine), e-mail blasts from club data base, web site prominence and, most importantly, individual contacts at pipe shows, by phone, and by e-mail.

The featured show activities included:

A Friday evening BBQ buffet followed by pipe making demonstration given by Jeff Gracik.

A Saturday night banquet featuring a presentation by Steve Monjour of Monjure International along with a talk given by Kevin Godbee of pipesmagazine.com

A pipe smoking contest (Under CIPC Rules)

Clinics on pipe care and refurbishing and enhancing your smoking techniques

A grand raffle, silent auction, and hourly door price drawings

Our second carving contest and the winning seven day set raffle

A smoking tent for informal social gathers

It is gratefully recognized that the show's success and ultimate affordability can be attributed in large part to the participation and support from the following individuals and organizations:

The 49 exhibitors who attended

The 42 carvers who entered the pipe carving contest

JEFF GRACIK for putting on the Friday evening pipe carving demonstration

KEVIN GODBEE of pipesmagazine.com for his generous and complementary advertising of our club on his web site

STEVE MONJOUR our banquet speaker

JON RINALDO who photographed the carving contest pipes

CHUCK STANION for his support in featuring article on the pipe-carving contest in *Pipes & Tobacco Magazine*.

Our hearty thanks for the many exhibitors and members who donated pipes, tobacco, and smoking accessories to the silent auction and grand raffle.

Our appreciation goes to GEORGE DIBOS, BILL SCHAFERT, and TAD GAGE for judging The American Carvers Pipe Carving Contest.

NEWSLETTER: Our monthly newsletter, edited and published by Dan Coomer, is a "home run hit" for our club. It is beautifully crafted, feature full, informational and just plain fun to read. Our newsletter is disseminated by e-mail to our members and to a select group of supporters in the national pipe and tobacco community. Many compliments have been received about the newsletter and in fact four non-club member and non-local readers were so impressed that they joined our club to show their support. Currently the e-mail is sent to 225 individuals. Plans are underway to boost the list to 375 addresses.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. Cermak
President, GKPC
Chairman, Steering Committee

FRED HANNA PIPE BIO

Fred Hanna began smoking a pipe in 1967 and soon after had managed to scorch, sear and blister his thoroughly abused and permanently damaged tongue. By 1974, he finally discovered what might be called gourmet pipe smoking and was so enamored that he became dedicated to the quest for the perfect smoke. In that same year, he was smoking and collecting high-grade briar pipes, and, by 1975, he was collecting Charatan straight-grain pipes exclusively, although he had one or two Dunhill pipes laying around that he will neither discuss nor acknowledge. Soon after, he worked in an Ohio pipe and tobacco retail shop for several years where his quest for the perfect smoke took on absurd proportions. In a very short while, he was spending far more than he could afford on beautiful and expensive pipes that held tobacco mostly beyond his ability to fully appreciate. But none of that stopped him from wasting more of his money on a senseless quest that would be forever doomed to fall short of fulfillment.

Fred is perhaps best known for his provocative and thoughtful essays published in *Pipes and Tobaccos* magazine and *The Pipe Collector*, the newsletter of the North American Society of Pipe Collectors (NASPC). These essays, along with others that have not previously appeared in print, have now been gathered together in this volume. If Fred has demonstrated anything at all with his writings, it is that he has a remarkable ability to annoy people through the use of peculiar and strange ideas. He also seems to have developed a talent for sharing deep and insightful observations that are of little or no interest to anyone. Because of his rather odd perspectives, Fred is sometimes asked to be a guest speaker for various pipe shows and pipe clubs around the country. He seems to have a wonderful effect on audiences, who, after exposure to Fred's incoherent babble, walk away counting their blessings.

For reasons that no one seems to fully understand, Fred was named member number 50 of the Pipe Smokers Hall of Fame and was honored with the prestigious title of Doctor of Pipes by the Chicagoland Pipe Collectors Club in 2010. Most observers of this phenomenon believe that these were examples of otherwise intelligent people falling prey to poor decision making and flat out bad judgment. His award-winning collection of straight-grain pipes (pictures of which appear in this book) is fairly well known among collectors and is a sad testimony to his lack of mental health. Fred is also known for having blended two tobacco blends, Legends and Wilderness, both of which are commercially available from the McClelland Tobacco Company. Fred's association with McClelland has greatly benefited Fred but has done little or nothing for McClelland.

Fred realized early on that a life devoted to collecting high-grade straight grains made by some of the most renowned carvers in the world, along with amassing the choicest of current and vintage tobaccos, would deter him from actually accomplishing anything significant in his life. Inspired by that thought, he pursued the hobby with an intensity and focus that would have brought financial success in almost any other endeavor. Meanwhile, he finds himself traveling to pipe shows around the country, enjoying the

company of fine, high-quality people who would normally never associate with someone of his character. But Fred does not seem to get the message and continues to enjoy the hobby even though the kind, considerate people in it find his presence distasteful and his conversation tiresome.

So that he could maintain his misguided and foolish lifestyle, Fred decided to pursue a career that would be among the least strenuous but at least would be somewhat lucrative—a career that would not interfere with his pipe hobby and his quest for the perfect smoke. So he decided to get a Ph.D. and become a professor. Thus he is currently engaged in graduate teaching and research in counseling and psychotherapy at the University of Northern Colorado. He is also a Faculty Associate at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. His most fervent hope is that someday he will achieve at least a semblance of true understanding and escape the ominous confines of mediocrity.

Hot Links:

Below are some links to various web sites that I think you might be interested in. Some are informational, some are vendors/carvers, and some are friends of the GKPC. By no means is this list inclusive.



Bob Oswald's Leather Site

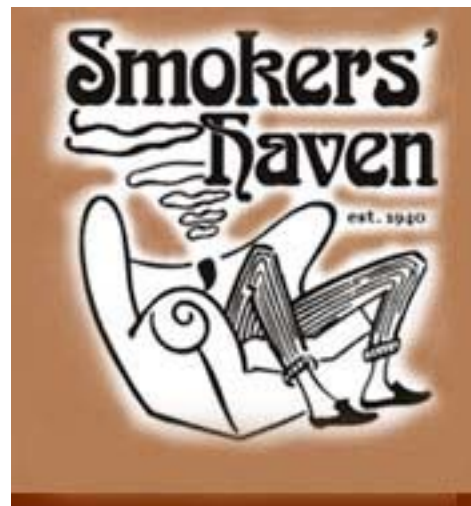
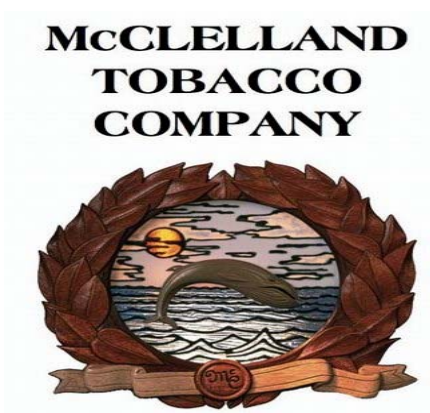


Anthony Harris' Pipe Site





Mike Sull's Website





The Pipe Tart

Importer of fine
handmade pipes



John Cermak Delivering Annual Report



Jerad Rooks, Cletus Lichte, Steve Stein



John Cermak Delivering Annual Report



Anthony Harris & Mary McNeil



**Ross Rood, Joe Stackowics, Vlad Jirinec
George Dibos, Dan Coomer, Bill Larmer**



Gene Deffenbaugh, Bret Kuhns in Front



Mike Sull Delivering his Program



Close-up of Sweat Shirt Design



Bill Miller Showing His Mark Twain Stamp Set with Envelop and Quote written by Mike Sull



Mike Doing a Dedication



The Finished Product

PLATT ROGERS SPENCER



P. R. Spencer

Platt Rogers Spencer, (1800 – 1864), known as the Father of American Handwriting, was born in East Fishkill, New York on November 7, 1800. Several years after the death of his father, Revolutionary War veteran Caleb Spencer, in 1806, his mother, Jerusha Covell Spencer, moved the family west to the new state of Ohio. The journey lasted 51 days by wagon until they reached the town of Jefferson in Ashtabula County on December 5, 1810. Soon the family dispersed, settling in the towns of Conneaut, Kingsville, Ashtabula and Geneva. The youngest of 11 children, Platt became fascinated with the art of handwriting at an early age, and as a boy, practiced making letters using a stick in the beach sand on Lake Erie. He began teaching penmanship to his classmates at age 12, and continued to develop his ideas of an improved handwriting method as he grew to manhood. In the early 1830's he perfected a writing style based on principles found in nature: curvature, movement, contrast, and variability. He chose the water-worn beach pebbles as his models for the most perfect shape of ovals.

A gifted educator, he published his first books on Spencerian writing in the 1840's. He traveled extensively in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio as an itinerant penman, promoting his method of penmanship as a natural means of human expression and personal communication. In the 1850's Spencerian Penmanship was adopted as the standardized form of handwriting taught throughout the United States, and continued until the first decade of the 20th century.

In addition to his work in handwriting, Platt Rogers Spencer served as Ashtabula County's Treasurer from 1838-1850, and also founded The Ashtabula County Historical and Philosophical Society, and Geneva's first free public library. He married Persis Warren Duty in 1828 and lived in the northern area of Geneva that became known as Geneva-On-The-Lake. The couple had 11 children.

In the realm of business education, Mr. Spencer was an innovator in the field. He established the first Spencerian Commercial College in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1852, and with the assistance of several of his former pupils, was instrumental in creating a network of 40 such institutions throughout the United States and Canada. His vision of the public's readiness to embrace commercial education was unprecedented at the time, yet, with the efforts of his children, Spencerian penmanship became known far and wide. By the year of his death, a million copies of his books had been sold, and the chain of business colleges he pioneered had become a model for business education in the United States, and remained so for many years.

In his personal beliefs, Spencer was a patriot for an individual's rights of self-expression, liberty and freedom. He became an early advocate of slavery's abolition, often referring to the practice of forced servitude as "America's greatest sin."

During the last 20 years of his life he taught his system of penmanship to countless students at his log cabin seminary, located on Jericho Road (now Myers Road), near his home. In 1862, his wife Persis, passed away; Platt followed her in death on May 16, 1864. They are buried in Geneva's Evergreen Cemetery. His legacy remains to this day, as a beloved teacher who transformed the method of American handwriting from the rigid English system of the 18th century to the graceful method known as Spencerian. Through the work of Platt Rogers Spencer, the rate of literacy training increased dramatically during the 19th century, and paved the way for America's stature as an educated society.

— — — — —

"It is honorable to undertake any worthy work, and accomplish it successfully; it is great to become the first in any such work; and it is unquestionably true that Mr. Spencer made himself the foremost penman of the world ... To the thousands of young men and women who enjoyed the benefit of his brilliant instruction, to the still larger circle of his friends and acquaintances, and to all who love a gifted, noble, and true-hearted man, the memory of his life will be a noble legacy, and a source of joy and pride." — — — — —
Washington, D.C.

01/19/2012 21:41

Mike Sull Designed Memorial to Platt Rogers Spencer

The Kansas City Pipe and Tobacco Show 2012

June 23 (9am-5pm) & 24 (9am-3pm)

COME ONE, COME ALL – FREE ADMISSION

ENJOY THE SHOW IN OUR NEW LOCATION

The Greater Kansas City Pipe Club invites you to Kansas City's Pipe & Tobacco expo! We have moved to the elegant Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park, KS, along the College Boulevard Business Corridor close to shopping, dining and entertainment. And an easier destination for our KC area pipe smoking audience.

OUR PIPE SHOW FEATURES:

A smoking tent located in a tree enclosed courtyard just outside the show area

Friday Night Dining and Social Get-Together

A Saturday Night Banquet With a Featured Speaker Fred Hanna

Pipe Smoking Contest (Under CIPC Rules)

Pipe Care and Refurbishing and Enhancing Your Smoking Techniques clinics

Silent Auction

Hourly Door Prize Drawings

Grand Raffle of Quality Items

CARVING CONTEST – In our continuing effort to support American Carvers, the Greater Kansas City Pipe Club will hold its third annual pipe carving contest.

Carving Contest Seven Day Pipe Set Raffle

**DESTINATION
DOUBLETREE!**



Doubletree Hotel
10100 College Blvd.
Overland Park, KS 66210
Room Reservations: \$89 per night
Phone 1-913-451-6100
Identify the Greater KC Pipe Club Block

SHOW RESERVATIONS

Vendors & Attendees
Make on-line reservations
at www.gkcpipeclub.com

or

CONTACT

John Cermak, Club President
jpcermak@kc.rr.com
913-661-2613

Quinton Wells
Quinton@gkcpipeclub.com
913-383-2650

SEE YOU THERE!!

Smoker Law

This is the first official edition of Smoker Law. It is a collection of rules to help guide smokers in their interactions with fellow smokers and those who do not partake in the leaf. It is our sincere hope that these rules will lead to a fuller enjoyment of all forms of tobacco. This list is not final, and further editions will be released as more laws are accumulated. Suggested additions may be submitted in the comments below.

1. If the purpose of your gathering is, in part or in whole, the use and consumption of tobacco, any tobacco product or accessory on the table may be used by anyone in attendance. A smoker who uses another's tobacco need not ask permission but must offer some commentary on the blend. Pipes are excluded from general use but may be fondled and ogled at any time, again with commentary.
2. Anyone given a standing offer to help himself or herself to a friend's tobacco need never ask for permission. However, it is still necessary to acknowledge the taking of said tobacco. A simple "I stole a cigar" shall suffice.
3. Matches and lighters should be shared without hesitation, but a smoker should only hold the lighter while lighting for a member of the opposite sex.
4. It is permissible to share pipes but not encouraged. Those sharing should be family or closer.
5. Corncob pipes are still pipes, unless they are from China.
6. When showing off a new pipe, it is permissible to comment on its uniqueness, its craftsmanship, or the ridiculously low price paid for it. It is not acceptable to show off a new pipe to brag about how much you spent or how impressive a pipe you can afford. The exception occurs if said pipe purchase cause your divorce. Then anything goes.
7. Although it is not acceptable to brag about how much you spent on a pipe, if you feel you must, you may only tell others the price you told your wife/significant other you paid for it.
8. It is only acceptable to encourage Pipe Acquisition Disorder (PAD) and Tobacco Acquisition Disorder (TAD). Such compulsive purchases may never be discouraged. The exception comes if the purchase includes a pipe or rare tobacco you plan to purchase yourself. Should you decide not to purchase the item(s) for yourself, you are obligated to make the purchase for the person you discouraged from buying.
9. Pipes, cigars and cigarettes may be used as pointers to enhance a discussion or monologue, or in physical expression of general pontification. They may never be used as swords. Pretending they are light sabers may result in expulsion from the social group or place of business.
10. Smokers should make a good faith effort to use tobacco away from non-smokers, but as soon as someone pretends to cough, the smoker is allowed to pretend to ignore the cougher. This is doubly true if the tobacco is unlit, in which case, the smoker may blow pretend smoke in the cougher's face.
11. Any pipe or cigar smoker living within 50 miles of a locally owned tobacconist specializing in his or her tobacco of choice must patronize the business at least four times per year. Within 10 miles, it shall be monthly at a minimum.
12. Any smoker insisting others use any high-end product, be it pipe or cigar or tobacco or accessory, should supply it. Anyone not willing to buy his friends a Dunhill needs to keep quiet about them.
13. When it comes to tobacco-fueled social gatherings, if it is not a lie, it's not worth telling.

14. You can make fun of someone who is sending you free tobacco, but you shouldn't if you want that to continue.

15. Among the group, the person who smokes a pipe, wears glasses and has a beard is, by default, the smartest and most reliable person in the room. If more than one person fits this description, seniority will be determined by the highest percentage of naturally bald scalp.

16. While amongst fellow smokers, should an ember jump out of your bowl and onto your favorite shirt, proper etiquette is to brush it away quickly, not jump up and do the hokey pokey dance while bumping in to the tin, the pipe racks and everyone else.

17. You can smoke a pipe, yet not be a pipe smoker. You must to elicit the accompanying and misleading sense of wisdom to be accepted as such.

18. A smoker should not be overly concerned when the smoking of a stout, nicotine-heavy blend causes the room to spin. For many smokers, that is the total extent of their exercise.

19. If inhale the aroma of another's tobacco so deeply that some becomes lodged in the nose, discretely remove the burley cube from your nostril hair before returning to the general conversation.

20. While discussing a pipe you wish to buy other smokers involved in the conversation must wait 3 minutes before purchasing said item for themselves. Showing more than one picture of the pipe removes the waiting period and absolves any smoker who cannot help himself.

21. Proper etiquette dictates that, when at a friend's house, you should either refrain from smoking or ask permission before lighting up. However, when in your own home, proper etiquette can stay outside with the non-smokers.

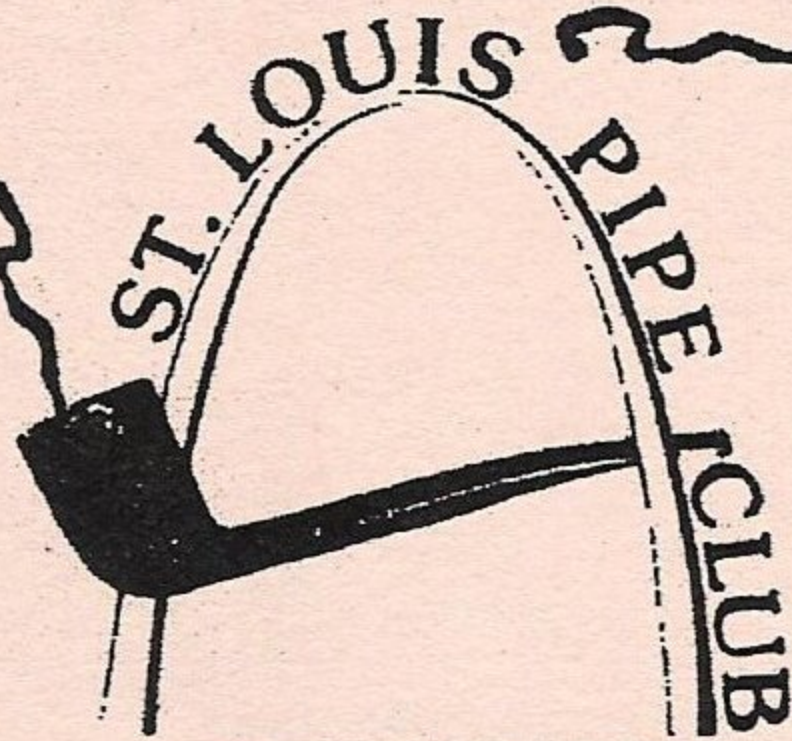
22. To smoke dottle, or not to smoke dottle, that is your option.

23. Size and technique don't matter. Attitude does.

24. Politics and religion may only be discussed so long as you can still share tobacco.

25. Smoking a cigar around pipe smokers and vice versa is encouraged, but anyone who lights a cigarette when higher quality tobaccos are readily available invites the mocking of his or her peers.

This list was created by the combined efforts of *The Ozark Pipe Smokers of Rogers, Ark.*, and the members of **Pipe Chat**. It may be reproduced with proper attribution and cited as needed.



PRESENTS

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SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2012 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

HEART OF ST. CHARLES BANQUET CENTER

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LODGING AT: QUALITY INN & SUITES

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**PIPE SMOKERS, COLLECTORS, DEALERS, PIPE MAKERS, AND
ANYONE INTERESTED IN PIPES, PIPE SMOKING, AND TOBACCO
IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**