

# Pens for Soldiers Event Saturday, June 15, 2019



On Saturday June 15th from 9 am to 12 pm Palmetto Wood Turners will be having a “learn to turn” session at Mann Tool and Supply. If you know anyone who is currently deployed or who has served, come out and learn how to turn a pen out of Purple Heart wood. For a \$5.00 donation (the cost cover supplies and shipping), a club member will teach you how to turn a pen from Purple Heart wood. Pens will be sent to deployed soldiers along with a thank you note.

This project began with Cindy McLafferty, a military wife herself for over thirty years, who has been building and shipping care packages to the military for more than two decades. She began adding the homemade pens to the packages after taking a wood working class in 2007.

“My husband was on his last deployment before retiring, and I wanted to learn something we could do together when he got home,” McLafferty said. He likes making a lot of things from wood so now we have this in common.”

McLafferty says she makes the Purple Heart slim line pens from Purple Heart wood due to its symbolic connection to the military.

“It’s not the same as a Purple Heart Award,” she explained. “Those are given to service members injured in combat. But anyone who serves has more than earned one of these Purple Heart Pens.”



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