



# The Turning Point

The newsletter of the Siouxland Woodturners Chapter  
of the American Association of Woodturners

October 2008

## News from your President...

It appears that autumn is definitely here. In a lot of ways this is my favorite time of year. Various hunting seasons occupy as much of my time as my wife will let me get away with and the neighbors' first fire in their wood-burning fireplaces sends a pleasant aroma throughout the neighborhood.

Our September meeting at Dan Humburg's shop near Brookings was well attended and an enjoyable time. We have held several meetings at Dan's over the years and it is always fun to go up and play with his toys. Thanks again, Dan!

Prior to our last meeting, Dan obtained a 55-gallon barrel of alcohol for use in drying green turnings. There are several gallons of this remaining for sale to club members for \$5.00 per gallon. If you would like some of this contact Dan.

Our November meeting will be held on Saturday, November 1st at 1:00 PM in the Ag Ed. Shop at the Harrisburg High School. Our main topic of discussion at the meeting will be various types of finishes and finishing techniques. John Olson will be leading this discussion but please come with your thoughts on finishing that have worked well for you.

At our November meeting we will also be electing officers and setting up various committees for the upcoming year. Each member of our club has much to offer so if you are interested in serving as an officer or on a committee please let us know. We will also be setting our meeting dates and topics for the coming year as well as discussing any other club activities we might have coming up during 2009. If you have any ideas for topics and activities please bring them to the meeting.

I hope to see all of you at our upcoming meetings and **don't forget to invite a friend!**

Royce Meritt  
President, Siouxland Woodturners

## November Meeting... **Finishing Techniques**

The November meeting will center around finishing techniques with John Olson leading. Bring your success stories and failures and plan to compare notes. As always, bring a piece or two to share with others. We always have fun and learn something new.

## **Bring Your Buckets!**

We have another 5 gallons of Anchorseal and about 35 gallons of Methanol. If you would like some of either bring a jug or bucket. To the meeting on Saturday. Methanol is priced at \$5/gal and Anchorseal will be closer to \$16 per gallon or \$4 per quart.

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## October 27, 2008 Minutes of the September 2008 Siouxland Woodturners Meeting

The September 2008 meeting of the Siouxland Woodturners was held at the Humburg shop near Brookings on September 6.

Minutes of the July meeting had been previously distributed with the newsletter. They were approved upon a motion by John Olson, seconded by Jim Sample. Frank Denton provided a treasurer's report and indicated that the club account currently holds \$774. Previous accrued expenses for postage and Methanol were submitted to Frank by D. Humburg.

Old Business: Dan Humburg had obtained a 55 gallon drum of Methyl Alcohol (racing fuel) from Donovan Peterson. On a motion by John Olson, seconded by Jim Sample, the club set a member price on this drying medium of \$5 per gallon.

The topic of microwave drying was discussed with several members offering experience regard how to do it, (and how not to do it).

The concept of donated tools was discussed again and members with redundant or unused tools are encouraged to consider donating them so that the Harrisburg School can have a working set of tools to complement the lathe now kept there.

Royce provided information about the Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium.

The topic of venues to showcase woodturning was discussed. Possible opportunities included:

- The Sioux Falls Art Show
- Artist Playhouse gallery (monthly display fee of \$10 + 30% commission)
- Sioux Empire Arts Council - Barn at the Fairgrounds - we could take a month?
- Seniors and Masters of Art shows in Sioux Falls (\$15 entry fee)

New Business: Royce had recently visited AAW headquarters recently. A new display entitled "Turned for Use" was on display there. If you are in St. Paul for any reason the display is highly recommended.

Royce also visited the Nina Blease Gallery in St. Paul and viewed the "New Masters of Woodturning". He purchased a copy of the gallery book for the exhibition for those who would like to see some very accomplished turnings.

Royce also has a new tree identification book that can help you know what you are looking at when scrounging turning wood.

Dan Humburg agreed to pursue another 5 gallons of Anchorseal for members to use in preserving turning blanks.

The November meeting was scheduled for Harrisburg and set for November 1st.

Sue Moved adjournment of the business meeting, John Olson 2<sup>nd</sup> and the formal meeting ended.

A number of individuals had brought pieces for an instant gallery. An informal discussion of inside out ornaments was given by Royce. Frank had brought several deep vessels and they were studied and questions about hollowing addressed.

Dan Humburg did a short demonstration in turning hollow globe Christmas ornaments by turning a globe from a block of Maple and a finial from Cocobolo.

Following the demonstration and some visiting the meeting ended about 4:30, (in time for some members to get to the Jacks gam prior to the kickoff). They won!

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## Some Images of the September Meeting



An instant gallery of member's work.



A deep vessel in elm turned by Frank Denton.  
Note the inlay used to fill the crack. Cool.



Left and above: faceplate work in a variety of woods  
turned by members.



Turning the “doorknob” of a hollow ornament.



Turning the finial for an ornament. Best place to learn how to use a skew chisel.



A finished ornament of spalted birch and a cocobolo finial.



Some beautiful ornaments from members including a sea urchin one by Jim Sample.