



# The Turning Point

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

March 2012

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## **Education Program**

At the Stan Houston demonstrations last month we sold a number of pens and other items to start building our education fund. Our present plan is to use these funds to purchase youth memberships in AAW. At upcoming meetings we will start the process of selecting worthy young people to sponsor. Now would be a good time to ask around among your friends and family young people who might be interested in these memberships.

## **Check Out These Items...**

The **GETTING TO KNOW OUR US** section gives you an opportunity to learn a bit more about your fellow members.

The **WOODTURNING BASICS** column focuses on topics of interest for members wanting more information on basic skills and techniques.

These features can be found on page 3 of the newsletter.

## **Upcoming Meeting Notes**

**Saturday, April 14, 2012**

**1:00 PM**

**Ag Education Shop  
Harrisburg High School**

*Harrisburg High School is located approximately ¾ of a mile west of Harrisburg. The Ag Ed shop is located around back in the northeast corner of the building. If you have trouble finding the place call Royce at (605) 351-9435.*

## **Embellishments**

Chatter, texture, burning, inlay, etc.

## **Woodturning Embellishments**

Many of us are always looking for ways to make our turnings unique or more interesting. If you are one of those people, the April meeting is right up your alley. Several members will be demonstrating the ways they use texturing, chatter work, pyrography, inlay and other techniques to embellish to their work.

If you have ever used any of these techniques we would love to have you share your "secrets" with the group.

## **Turning Kits "Group Buy"**

At the April meeting we will be discussing the possibility of putting together a "group buy" of tuning kits. By purchasing in larger quantities we can often save some money. Please bring your thoughts and ideas to the April meeting.

## **From the President...**

Having been an industrial arts teacher for several years and a strong believer in that we never stop learning or expanding in to new experiences, I thoroughly enjoy our monthly meetings and sharing ideas and the "how to" of projects. Hopefully it is with that same enthusiasm you are looking forward to this month's delayed meeting.

Again for those so inclined I encourage you to come early to look over some of the wood and alabaster that will be available there for your future enjoyment. Come with your questions on our bowl turning contest, or show results. Watch as Al, Sue and others set up for demonstration on "embellishments" we can do with our turning.

As far as old business goes, there will be bowl blanks there for those who missed last month's hand out for our turning contest, reports and question on the progress and hopefully some of you have some bowls completed and can challenge the rest of us to get going on ours. The Anchorseal is in and available for sale, so bring a container and utilize the availability of a produce that can take away some of the frustration of cracked wood. The foamed back sanding pads are also available for purchase. For those who indicated an interest in acquiring some Colorado alabaster, I will

hopefully have good quantity brought back after Easter.

There is interest in bulk ordering of kits to take advantage of discount pricing. If you are interested, bring your order list and catalog and we will decide on a plan of action. WoodCraft has been mentioned with an additional 13% off for a club order. We can look at other suppliers also.

Each month's project samples have been great. Whether it is something you have turned, made, developed a jig, or discovered product, bring them in for our enjoyment and education. I will have some burl/crotch samples from a visit to the FBT saw mill in Steen MN and we can look at the possibility of a visit there in a future month.

We will have a chain saw at the meeting for the cutting up of some wood that is available to take home. If you have a piece you need cut bring it in, and we can see if it is feasible to do.

In closing, keep tuning, I know some of you have yet to get a lathe, others want a better one, or the next new attachment/ tool you cannot live without. No matter what get out there and try things, have fun, and be safe.

Doug Noteboom, President

## **Getting to Know Us...**

*Corky Miles...*

I have been a member of the Siouxland Woodturners for the last four years or so. I had bought a Delta lathe on eBay and it sat for a couple of years without use. Ron Seim had heard about Siouxland Woodturners and asked me to go to a meeting with him, so I did. Royce did a great job of getting us started and hooked. I started out turning game calls and have since tried many other forms of turning. I too have a lot to learn!

I have a core floor in my garage which allows me to have another garage directly below, and that's where I have my shop. I upgraded my lathe last year to a Powermatic 3520b. So far I've been very pleased with it. I enjoy other types of woodworking as well, so I too have an assortment of woodworking tools and machinery.

My other interests include hunting, fishing, family, and making wine. I enjoy hunting pheasants and big game... last year I shot my first turkey which was a hoot. For the most part, I fish walleye... we also have spent eight out of the last nine years on Lake Michigan fishing Salmon... This year I'm looking to put a reel on my bow to shoot carp when fishing is slow.

What I enjoy most about being a member of the Siouxland Woodturners are the members. Each month I'm inspired by the talents of others and look forward to trying different technics and ideas. I do appreciate the willingness of everyone to help each other advance skills.

## **WOODTURNING BASICS**

**Want to Improve Your Spindle-Turning Skills? Don't Throw Away that old Chair or Table Leg. Use it for Practice!!!**

I recently came across a unique way to improve one's spindle turning skills. I wish I could remember where I read this but I can't. However, I thought it was interesting enough to share.

We've all seen examples of spindle turning with interesting and intricate details and wished we had the ability to do the same things. This example might have been a chair rung, a table leg, a candle stick, a stair banister or just about anywhere. Here's a unique and easy way to learn to do those types of spindle turnings.

Next time you come across an old chair, table leg, etc. that is beyond repair, disassemble it and use the spindles for practice. Mount the chair spindle, table leg or whatever between centers on your lathe and try to re-turn each of the elements on that turning. By forcing yourself to use the tools and techniques needed to produce each of these turned elements you will start to better understand the tools and techniques needed to produce that particular element. You will find that with careful attention to each portion of the original turning, you can re-turn each element a couple of times before the original becomes unusable.

There are many places to find these "discarded" turnings. You may already have an old wooden chair or table stashed away somewhere. You know the one I'm talking about. It really is beyond repair but you just can't bring yourself to throw it away. Old wooden chairs can be bought at yard sales, flea markets and the like for a couple of bucks. Thrift stores have candle sticks and other items for sale for a dollar or two. Use your imagination!

# At the March Meeting...

## Siouxland Woodturners March 2012 Minutes

- Call meeting to order
- Introductions
- Approve previous minutes – Motion by Sue, second by Rex – carried

### Committee Reports

- Approve treasurer's report \$1858.88
- Newsletter Report: Nothing to report
- Library Report: Gene reported that he has updated the library list and is trying to track down a couple titles that have been checked out but not returned. Gene asks that you provide your name and address when checking out items from the library. Additional DVD's have been added to the library.

### Old Business

- a. Stan Houston, Pen donations were over \$200.00... big thank you to all.
- b. Scholarship fund will use the pen donation money.
- c. New brochures... Thank you to Gene and Frank.
- d. Other old business.

### New Business

1. Sidewalk arts festival September 8<sup>th</sup>. \$50 registration \$40 electrical +tent (Rex has tent). Pens + Turnings for Donation? Pay for booth and build fund. Motion by Rex 2<sup>nd</sup> by Corky – carried.
2. Ordering of bulk items
  - a. Executive committee ordered from Stan Houston foam sanding pads – 2 grades (fine/med) \$330, should be here next month.
  - b. Anchor seal – 55 gal. \$464 \$9.gal with shipping included. 5 gal \$85 - \$18/gal. Lots of interest in getting a supply. Motion by Sue and second by Gene to purchase - carried
  - c. 55 gal drum of methanol. Royce still has approximately 10 gal. Many members were interested in getting some as well. Motion to refill by John and second by Alistair – carried.
  - d. Alabaster from Colorado. \$.50 a lb. with no shipping. Doug will be going to Colorado and will bring back a supply for those interested.
  - e. Other items of interest
3. Matt Zimbelman – 15 minute presentation on classes and available wood
  - a. Moving lathes as needed to Matt's for instruction classes
  - b. Set up times for instruction, classes in home shops or Matt's location. One on One by topic or personal interest.
  - c. Display and sell items/Pens for donation at Matt's store. Motion by John, second by Alistair – carried.
  - d. Matt is located at 3207 S. Prairie Ave. (The 3<sup>rd</sup> Place School). <http://www.t3place.com> Normal hours are 9-5, m-f.
4. Proposed wood bowl turn off 8X8X6 walnut blanks available. Two month time allowance (rough out dry down and turn). Several categories for all level of turners. Outside judges cone in for judging. Motion by Corky, second by Frank – carried.
5. Other new business – Corky has wood available in his pickup from Mark Thomas.

NOTE: Motion by Sue, second by Rex to move the April meeting to the 2dd Saturday (April 14<sup>th</sup>) carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Royce Meritt, Secretary



**Sue and Alistair spent some time loading a trailer with logs!  
I wonder what they plan to do with all the Cedar.  
Sure will make someone's shop smell good!**