



# *The Turning Point*

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

September 2015

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## ***October Meeting...***

Harrisburg High School, 1:00 p.m. Saturday October 3. Program to be announced. President Al says lathes will be spinning. Also work on the big bowl project.

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

We muddled through the September meeting in the absence of our fearless leader, Al, who was occupied by family obligations. As you will note if you read Bonnie's usual OUTSTANDING minutes, we did cover a few important items.

We have begun another round of community education classes in Sioux Falls. The dates and class topics are listed in the minutes. If you would like to help out with these classes please contact Sue Smith.

One of the more important items was a discussion on how to increase our club's visibility in the community. One of the most effective ways of doing this will be to get our BIG BOWL finished so we can get that placed in strategic locations from time to time. Doug will likely be setting up times to work on this so if you are able to help out with that please consider doing so. Members will also be exploring the possibility of lining up another demo session at "Sticks and Steel" in downtown Sioux Falls. We hope to get that lined up before the holiday season.

There were a large number of GREAT show and tell items at the September meeting. It is always interesting and inspiring to see the things our members are working on. Keep 'em coming.

Lastly, it is always a challenge to come up with interesting and informative demonstrations for our meetings. If you have been working on a new technique or project, or have a new tool or gizmo you'd like to show off, please consider volunteering to do a brief demo at an upcoming meeting. We all have talents we can share and we would love the opportunity to learn from you!

Keep that wood spinning!!!

Royce Meritt

Vice President

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

Hello All,

It's been a manic month. The Family have been here for three weeks, Mum, sister, brother-in-law, nephew and his girlfriend. Mum did well to get here for her 6<sup>th</sup> visit, not bad for an 84 year old! It's two plane rides and around 20 hours to get from the UK to Sioux Falls, (plus a couple of hours delay). They arrived at 6pm local time, 12 am UK time. On the Saturday we went to the State Fair in Huron, lots of

fair rides later, and everyone was shattered. It was Wild Water West on the Sunday and it was really hot, so lots of tanning time, and again lots of rides, also the Go-Karts. (I hasten to add that Mum did not do the rides or the Go-Karts, as she was happy to settle with a good book and an extremely large ice cream and watch us all! Monday was canoeing on the Big Sioux, and in the evening Huset's Speedway, rest of first week was chilling, chores and getting ready to go camping the following weekend. Friday to Monday was spent at Pelican Lake near Watertown and thankfully the weather behaved itself! Although there were a lot of wasps around. A lot of grilling out, canoeing and a bit of fishing too! Back to the calves, repair tractors, and begin the barn extension. Gun club was attended by myself and my nephew, and considering he does not have a gun in the UK, he beat me! He then took his girlfriend off to the Black Hills for a couple of days to see the sights. We have done lots of dining out, sitting around the fire pit catching up, (2 years since their last visit!) lots of beers and shopping. The three weeks have flown by and it is always sad to take them to the airport, but then it's the start of the countdown till their next visit!

After dropping them off at the airport I went along to Doug's and did about an hour and half on the Big Bowl, and along with Doug got it looking pretty good. Hopefully we can get it finished (or very close) after Saturday's meeting.

There are more Community Ed classes coming up. The ones so far have been full with very keen and interested people, all had a lot of fun and most are doing another class or two.

Will get a program together for Saturday meet, lathes will be spinning!

Bring things for show and tell.

Sorry it's short, the days just haven't got enough hours or the weeks enough days to get everything done, but we will keep trying!

See you Saturday

*Al Hird*

## **Meeting Minutes...**

The September meeting was called to order at 1:10 by Vice-President Royce Meritt. There were 20 turners in attendance. Introductions were made and everyone was asked to share the most fun or interesting thing they did this summer.

**A. Minutes of last meeting:** No business meeting held in August.

**B. Treasurer's report:** Frank presented a balance of \$1178.36.

**C. Library report:** No report. Materials again available for check-out.

**D. Community Ed report:** Classes for the fall term as shown in the Community Ed booklet are shown below. Help is needed and would be appreciated for any of these classes you can assist with. Sue mentioned that watching students for safety issues and providing general guidance on turning methods is always needed. We have better tools for them to learn with, and they are always enthused to turn. Please show up about 5:45pm. Classes run from 6:00-8:30 pm with clean-up following (until about 9:00). All classes are at the CTE Academy, 4700 W Career Circle, room D106.

Sept 15 ... Woodturning 101

Sept 17... Woodturning 101

Sept 24 ... Selecting and Sharpening Woodturning Tools

Oct 6 ... Create a Writer's Pen

Oct 13 ... Bottle Stoppers (added due to heavy interest)

Oct 15 ... Bottle Stoppers

Oct 20 ... Natural Green Wood Bowl

**E. Equipment report:** Jim related that a new belt has been put on one of the lathes. Also, tool handles have been made by several members for the new turning tools that were previously purchased. A marking system is being worked on so members can check out these tools in the future.

**F. Membership report:** Corky reported 40+ paid members currently.

**G. Old Business:**

1. Royce asked that anyone who made pens for the military to get them to Doug ASAP.

2. Doug would like to get the Big Bowl off the lathe, so we need turners who would like to participate and help finish it. Royce will contact Doug to have him choose 2-3 dates/evenings and disseminate that info to the members. It will be at Doug's place.

3. The topic of how to increase Club visibility was brought up. Last year, several members did turning demos at *Sticks and Steel* (downtown at RR and 8th) and sold some of their creations. The store sells high-end crafts and gifts. John W will check with the store owner to see if we can do another demo this year. There is also a "South Dakota-made" store downtown that might be an option for members to sell their products. If anyone has further thoughts and ideas on this, please let Al know.

**H. New Business:**

1. Royce asked for ideas for demonstrations for the upcoming meetings. Jack volunteered to check on an airbrushing demo for the October meeting. The November meeting will have

elections for 2016 officers. Demos for that month could be coring, stabilizing or another topic of interest. The December meeting could be a work session as it has been in past years--a possible group project of making gavels is being researched.

2. Harrisburg HS requested a turning demo for some of their students. This would be good exposure for the Club. Royce will check on this.

3. Stan Houston has provided us with 120 and 220 grit sandpaper if anyone needs some.

4. Jim S will have Big Leaf Maple for sale at the October meeting. Some is curly, some quilted, some spalted.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45. Members shared a variety of projects for Show and Tell. Numbers were drawn for choices of free wood and to purchase other pieces that Jack and Doug had obtained for the Club. A drawing was also held for several homegrown muskmelons from Jim S. Club members socialized and shared sharpening and turning tips after the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bonnie Lynch, Secretary

## **Community Education Classes...**

The fall Community Education Classes have been scheduled. These are the remaining classes for the fall term

**October 6;** Pen making

**October 15;** Creating Bottle Stoppers

**October 20;** Turning Green Bowls

All classes are at the Career and Technical Education Academy, 4700 W Career Circle, room D106. Hours are 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. The Academy is just west of I-29 and just north of Madison Street.

All members are welcome to come and assist the instructors. We can use all who can attend.

## ***You know you are a woodturner if...***

you have a hole in your elbow from forgetting to move the tailstock.

if the surface of your table saw has become a very expensive tool rack!

when you get a splinter and upon removing it think to yourself..."I could make something outa that."

you send \$400 - \$500 for a chainsaw with extra chains, oil, fuel, put them in a \$20,000 truck, drive many miles to a storm downed tree, cut off a few pieces of the log, drive back home, seal it, wait 5 or 6 months for it to dry, pull it down off the shelf and call it "free wood".

## ***Show and Tell Table at the September Meeting...***





