



The Turning Point

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

April 2016

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May Meeting...

Harrisburg High School, 1:00 p.m. Saturday, May 7 2016. We meet in the Ag room at the rear of the school, far northwest corner. Come along and we will make shavings fly. Steve S will do a presentation on how to set up your band saw for best performance.

A Note on the June Meeting...

We have been discussing a circular sawmill demonstration at the Granite Threshing Bee grounds southeast of Sioux Falls on June 4. There is a conflict for that day as there is a tractor tour leaving Granite that morning and many of the sawmill operators will be participating in that. At the May meeting we will discuss changing the date to Saturday June 11 instead. Watch for additional information in mid-May after discussion of the change at the upcoming meeting.

From the President...

So, April has been and gone, far too quickly. We've had some nice sunny warm days that make you want to be outside and almost feel guilty sitting indoors watching T.V., but when you're just plain wrecked it just isn't worth the risk anymore. I seem to be getting a little more safety conscious lately, not to mention older!

With lots of farm projects on the go turning gets sidelined but after completing Community Ed classes and rainy days, I took advantage of some extra equipment in the shop and got a few sessions in, and still managed to have half-finished projects on 4 lathes. Waiting for glue to dry mainly. Don't think staff were too impressed with me turning and them outside in the rain, but I've don't more than my fair share, and isn't that a perk of being "the boss"!

With this afore mentioned extra equipment in the shop, I got to playing with bracelets, got a little production line going, gluing, center turned out on one chuck, then switch to other chuck and lathe when flipping bracelet. Get a cracked one, then no problem glue it up and grab another lathe and chuck. Talk about Kid in a candy store! Then chores to do – Oh bummer!

So I'm on a roll and think, Hey let's do the Sidewalk Arts Festival, so I look into it.....slight problem, for some reason known to those who set the rules, you can't make or sell wooden jewelry. So that puts paid to that idea! Will have to do a smaller craft show some other time that does not have these limits.

Community Ed classes are all done until the fall, a few things to discuss at next week's meeting.

The club is now registered with Craft Supply and as a result will receive some tools and coupons. Value of the coupons is unknown as yet and they will be sent for club use.

May meeting is last one at the school until September so let's have some fun and learn or teach something. Steve is going to run through the band saw set up and as is at all meetings at the school, the lathes are there to be used.

If you have been spring cleaning and have surplus wood, tools etc. please bring along, it generally manages to find a new home. I will bring my chainsaw and cut some pieces if they are too big to fit in your pocket, we can resize! Donations for class blanks are also most welcome, this will be part of discussion.

Also if anyone who has a router dovetail jig, and does not mind lending it to me, could they please also bring it along.

I have been watching YouTube again, and have seen some interesting things, I will fill you in at Saturday's meeting. What did we do before the internet??

I will leave it there for now as I have to pack for a road trip to the Cities. I am going to see "The Who". I went to see them way back in my youth 36 years ago. I hope they sound as good! I refused to drive home after the concert, so am stretching the day off, and taking the scenic route home. Heading west of the Cities to call in and see friend in their new home.

So hopefully I won't get lost or too deafened and will see you all next Saturday.

Safe turning and bring something along for "show and tell" – warts and all - we all might learn what not to do. Also the really inspirational items that are maybe only 1 or 2 (maybe a few more) practices away from being achievable.

Al

April Meeting Minutes...

Siouxland Woodturners April 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The April meeting was called to order at 1:05 by President Al Hird. There were 24 turners in attendance.

A. Minutes of last meeting: No additions or corrections to the March minutes.

B. Treasurer's report: Club treasury has a balance of \$2387.09.

C. Library report: Jack has received the Glenn Lucas DVDs and they will be available at the May meeting. A few wayward items have been returned to the library from a past member who moved and had them "buried" amongst his possessions.

D. Community Ed report: Five of the Community Education class dates have passed (one cancelled due to low registration), four remain as shown below. As always, members who can attend and assist with mentoring and safety would be appreciated. Classes run from 6:00-8:30PM with clean-up following (until about 9:00). All classes are at the CTE Academy, 4700 W Career Circle, room D106.

Apr 07 (Thu) ... Duck Calls

Apr 12 (Tue) ... Bracelets

Apr 19 (Tue) ... Bowls

Apr 21 (Thu) ... Bowls

The Pen making class was a bit of a challenge for instructors as some pen mandrels, suitable bushings, and the correct size kits for the available blanks were misplaced. Despite the "Oops!!!", students watched some of our esteemed teachers go to "plan B" and learned what turners do when presented with a real challenge. Student creations were unique; a few apologies were offered and accepted; and we were inspired to think about necessary options for future classes. Sue acknowledged that better organization is needed to control our tools and equipment. Thanks were expressed to those making blanks for the classes -- John O, Ron, Al, John W – and all who help with classes and clean-up.

E. Equipment report: Jim H. related the disappearance of a few tools – knock-out bars, faceplates, etc. As progress is being made to label and account for Club equipment, perhaps everyone could check their tool boxes to see if they inadvertently threw something in them after a project/demo day. A rather extensive discussion on the subject ensued. Motion made and

passed to have Executive Board meet after today's business meeting to decide on what tools/equipment are needed for classes and how to better organize/control their use/return. Purchase of needed items authorized.

F. Membership report: Corky was available to accept dues from anyone who had yet to pay for 2016.

G. Old Business:

1. John S has made progress on his treadle lathe ("a good start", in his words). We shall keep monitoring this situation monthly (no pressure, Buddy).
2. John S confirmed that June 4th will work for the Club visit to Granite. We can see what his organization has done with their sawmill and grounds, as well as where we can plan to set up for our turning demo during their Threshing Show which is scheduled for July 16-17. The Club will be using two electric lathes for the event.
4. Doug has received the transmissions needed to complete the *Pens for the Military* project.

H. New Business:

1. Although we had no beautiful donation box into which could be placed money for pens that were on display with the Big Bowl, Al announced he had received \$50 in donations for the *Pens for the Military*.
2. Tentative schedule for future meetings:
 - May – Harrisburg HS, demo by Steve S on proper set-up of band saw
 - June – Granite IA (Threshing Show location); time to be determined
 - July – picnic at Al's (2nd Saturday)
 - August – Dan Humburg's shop in Brookings – possibly (Sue will call Dan)
 - September – Harrisburg HS, possible demo by Ronald Day on hollow forms (still being researched)
3. George brought 72" band saw blades to share, John O had lots of wood, Jim H provided foam for anyone wanting some.
4. Jack has a drill press for sale; Jim H has a microwave, blades, drill press for sale.
5. Stan Houston has 2 lathe stands for sale (\$100 each). Club will consider purchase of these.
6. John S mentioned the Loess Hills Woodturners (Crescent IA) have a mini symposium scheduled for April 16th. If you contact John he will provide further info.
7. Jim S mentioned that the Rocky Mountain Symposium is September 16-18 in Loveland CO. Our buddy, Keith Gotschall, is one of the featured demonstrators.
8. John W talked with Craft Supply to see what they could do for the Club concerning a grant for tools to be used for educational classes. He has yet to receive a reply from the proper contact person. He also was told about their company's discount for woodturning clubs which we may consider (clubs provide member names/etc. to receive quarterly gift certificates and emails with special pricing; if a club spends \$1000, they get a 10% discount, free shipping and can use 2 gift certificates). A member's name would not be provided unless each person is okay with it. A club mailing address is usually needed as part of the registration process; Al offered his. More info to follow.
9. A question about how to properly use a microwave to dry wood was posed. The following were generally agreed upon as GOOD advice: do not use your wife's kitchen microwave; do not use one that is in your house/attached garage; do not heat for too long (popcorn setting was suggested !?!) and let cool sufficiently between heating sessions; experiment cautiously---heat, let cool, heat, let cool, etc.; if it is too hot to touch/handle, you have heated it too long (wood may be burning on the inside); overheated wood REALLY stinks.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10. Members shared a variety of projects for Show and Tell. Royce showed off an “unturned creation” — a beautiful “donation box”. This will be displayed with the Big Bowl (or anywhere else) to seek donations from the public for Club pens intended to fund the *Pens for the Military* project. Other members had turned unique bowls, small items, colored items, and squeaky items (namely, Jeff’s pet urns that were made using repurposed casket parts from a friend’s funeral home). Your beloved black lab will not fit in an urn made for a Chihuahua (for every pound of live, happy pet you can plan on 1 tablespoon of your dearly departed’s remains destined for the memorial urn).

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Lynch, Secretary

Community Education Classes...

All of the classes have been completed for the spring term of community education. Watch for notes on the fall term. Thanks to all who participated as instructors or assistants. This program is possible only because of the unselfish time donated by many members. If you have not participated as either an instructor or an assistant please consider helping out during the fall term. Suggestions for class topics are always welcome.

You know you are a woodturner if...

...you look at every tree and stick of firewood and see nothing but boards and bowls.

...you carry all your chain saw gear in your truck and are on a constant look-out for road kill.

...you know which neighbors' trees to check on after a bad storm.

...you drink your coffee with wood chips in it.

...the word "piercing" no longer makes you think of women's navels but of the oddly shaped holes in your "latest piece".

...you tear out the bottom seam in your shop shirt pockets so they don't fill up with shavings.

...you find wood shavings in your bed because you were too tired to shower after finishing your piece at 2 am.

April Show-n-Tell and the Last Comm Ed Class

