



The Turning Point

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

June 2011

From the President...

Thank you to all the members who contributed to the Chapter Collaborative Challenge. If you have photos of the nest or individual pieces I would like copies. I am putting together a scrapbook for the club. The symposium as usual has left my head overflowing with new information and ideas. Some of the demos were interesting but not projects I would ever consider making. However there were a lot of good ideas and techniques than I hope to find time to try. I attended both a meeting for Chapter presidents and one for members. The board members were introduced and answered questions at both. Alan Lacer was at the member meeting and asked several very pointed questions. He was answered courteously but nothing very specific was said. It was wonderful to see so many members there.

I am negotiating at work and hope to get the day off to go to Franks.

Stay cool and turn safely this summer.

See you soon!

Sue Smith, President

Isuzannesmith@hotmail.com

Upcoming Meeting Notes

Saturday, July 16, 2011

Frank Denton's Shop

**405 S. 11th St
Beresford, SD**

*Starting at approx. 10:00 AM.
Pot luck lunch around noon
followed by more turning*

Special Symposium Issue



**Dedicated to the 25th Anniversary
of the AAW National Symposium**

This issue of *The Turning Point* will focus on the symposium that was held June 25-27 in St. Paul, MN.

The following pages contain pictures from the symposium along with comments from members of the *Siouxland Woodturners* who attended this event.

FROM THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY AAW SYMPOSIUM

The Siouxland Woodturners Entry for the Chapter Collaborative Challenge...
(Very nicely done, Sue!)



SIOUXLAND WOODTURNERS PROUDLY PRESENT

THE NEST OF THE SPECTACLED POTBELLED WOOD-HOARDER

The Hoarder is a rare bird indeed! So rare in fact, that it is usually not found on birding lists. The nest is found only in old growth box elder trees, and sometimes is mistaken for the nest of the common squirrel. The primary nest-building is done by the female. Male hoarders contribute secondary, highly decorative elements. The extent of the species range is limited to areas where box elder trees are common or where a lady birder happens to spot one that managed to come down in a crashing heap during a good old SD wind storm.

Seven years ago, South Dakota was the only state without a chapter of AAW. Four of the six individual members of The National AAW lived within 100 miles of Sioux Falls. Alan Lacer came to Sioux Falls, gave a free demo on behalf of AAW and the Siouxland Woodturners was born. Since then we have grown to about forty members. The Harrisburg High School Ag Shop has given us a home for meeting. Since the school did not have a lathe, members brought lathes to each meeting. We have been privileged that AAW has given us two grants. Jet and Stan Houston, our local dealer, have also helped out. We now have three lathes, a grinder and a basic assortment of tools.

We decided to enter the Chapter Collaborative Challenge to show what beginning turners can do and to give back to AAW. To show the variety of items our members turn, we present "The Nest of the Spectacled Potbellied Wood-Hoarder." Sue, the club president, had in her possession a black walnut stump for about 15 years. The stump knew it was destined for more than firewood, so it came out of a snow bank and into the shop...

The following members contributed pieces in meeting this challenge.

Tim Boyajian - Sioux Falls, SD	Frank Denton - Beresford, SD	Ron Erickson - Remson, IA
James Hayward - Sioux Falls, SD	Alistair Hird - Egan, SD via GB	Daniel Humberg - Brookings, SD
Steven Klein - Luverne, MN	Kermit Limesand - Luverne, MN	Royce Merritt - Harrisburg, SD
Corky Miles - Tea, SD	John Olson - Sioux Falls, SD	Rox Pommer - Harrisburg, SD
Jim Sample - Vermillion, SD	Ron Seim - Tea, SD	L. Suzanne Smith - Sioux Falls, SD
Paul Sova - Sioux Falls SD	Gene Wubben - Sioux Falls SD	

Some Collaborative Challenge entries from other chapters...



"Turning 25" entries...

Gene Wubben's entry on behalf of the Siouxland Woodturners. Thanks Gene!



Siouxland Woodturners
Harrisburg, South Dakota
Windowed Vessel
Gene Wubben
Ash, walnut

Other "Turning 25" entries...



The Instant Gallery...

Frank Denton's entries in the Gallery



Other gallery entries...



The Siouxland Woodturners at the Symposium...



Members reflect on their experiences at the symposium...

Dan Humburg: I gained the most from watching several demonstrations. Michael Hosaluk is an extremely creative turner and I learned techniques for turning some really unusual “boxes” from him, as well as learning about techniques for bending wood. The other demo that I would like to replay was given by David Ellsworth. He turned a bowl from wet wood in about an hour and 15 minutes while explaining each step and the methods he was using very thoroughly. After that he asked how much time he had left, and when told about 15 minutes he said, “Let’s turn another bowl”. He proceeded to start and complete the turning on another blank, from mounting to finish turning in about 16 or 17 minutes. I purchased several tools, including my first “hook tool”. I may be able to demonstrate making such a tool at the September meeting if all works out. It does not look like it would be hard to copy. We’ll see.

Corky Miles: The AAW Symposium in St. Paul was the first one that I have attended and very informative... The rotations provided opportunities to learn new techniques and creative ideas. The displays were exceptional and provided inspiration to all that attended. I was able to take pictures of all of the display items and will put a DVD in our club library for others to view. Sue did a great job on our Chapter Collaborative Challenge display as well. I didn’t come home with any new toys, but I did pick up a few pieces of wood.

Paul Sova: The Symposium was a great experience...hard to pick a most favorite session. I enjoyed Al Stirt, David Nittman and Jerome Blanc the most, probably because their work is very different than mine. They all use color (painting) in the creative process, something I am interested in exploring.

I was most impressed with the work of Bin Pho over all the others who displayed and I now have an appreciation of why his work commands such a high price. I thought his work was breath taking.

I was especially interested in viewing the displays of segmented work up close so I could make a comparison to my own. Malcolm Tibbets had some pieces on display and I attended several of his sessions and picked up a few tips. We do some things fundamentally different, but many techniques were similar. A lot of my takeaway from his training was a validation of the things I already do.

I bought several pieces of equipment including a fairly large bowl steady that will suspend a piece while I turn the inside. I am awaiting delivery to try it out. My newest piece (under construction now) will involve carving as well as turning and I plan to use the bowl steady as an aid.

Ron Seim: The AAW Symposium was everything I expected and more. I was impressed with the number of classes you could set in on. Picked up some good tips. Was amazed at the displays. There are so many real craftsmen out there. Enjoyed seeing David Ellsworth, Cindy Dosa, Alan Lacer, etc. demonstrate their talents. I know I will never produce their caliber of work but it gave me incentive to do what I do better and try to improve. Well worth the trip.

John Olson: Going to the Symposium in St Paul was on the top of my wish list for this year. I read the books and watch the videos but to see things in person is just so much better. I was able to see Alan Lacer use his skew and watch Al Stirt and Ray Keys make boxes. I watched Stephen Hatcher do his fantastic inlays of and watched Alan Caster turn a goblet stem 3/16 inches thick by 14 inches long, unbelievable to see how easy he did it. I also saw or talked to David Ellsworth ,Binh Pho and Malcolm Tibbets. I usually don't buy any wood but just could not resist this year, I got pieces of ambrosia maple, big leaf maple and china berry, by the end of the show they were cutting prices 50% and with no shipping cost it just seemed too good to pass up. Sue did a fantastic job in setting up our exhibit and I was glad to have two of my turnings included. I will go again; it was well worth the time and money.

Vern Monson: It is hard to say what was the most impressive at the AAW Symposium as everything was great. The instant gallery and the demonstrator rotations were very outstanding and impressive. The youth turning event and all of the volunteers there to help the youth turn is an important part of the symposium that many young people will remember for years. It would be nice if our club was able to do something like this to get more young people involved.

Sue Smith: Thank you to all the members who contributed to the Chapter Collaborative Challenge. The symposium as usual has left my head overflowing with new information and ideas. Some of the demos were interesting but not projects I would ever consider making. However there were a lot of good ideas and techniques that I hope to find time to try. I attended both a meeting for Chapter presidents and one for members. The board members were introduced and answered questions at both. Alan Lacer was at the member meeting and asked several very pointed questions. He was answered courteously but nothing very specific was said. It was wonderful to see so many members there.

Royce Meritt: I almost talked myself out of going to the symposium. Wow, am I glad I changed my mind. The entire event left me with "sensory overload". There were so many great things to see, demonstrations to watch and new toys to drool over. It was an outstanding show. I highly recommend everyone attend a symposium in the future. The pieces on display by our members showed that we in South Dakota have reason to be proud. Sue did an OUTSTANDING job of putting together our Chapter Collaborative Challenge display!