



The Turning Point

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

April 2012

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Education Program

Now that we have built up some funds in our "Education Fund" it is time to start putting that money to use. We are planning to provide several young people with youth memberships in the American Association of Woodturners. Start asking around among your family and friends to help us find worthy young people who we can sponsor.

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. This month's column discusses *The Five Rules of Sanding*.

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

Upcoming Meeting Notes

Saturday, May 5, 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.

Turning with Kits

Woodturning Kits

Whether they are pens, game calls, pocket watches, key chains or something else, turning projects from kits is a great way to expand one's woodturning experiences. Kit projects are often fairly quick and easy to complete. Also, kit projects make great gifts. At the May meeting we will be exploring all things related to turning using kits. If you have a favorite type of kit you enjoy using or would like to know more about kits, the May meeting is the place to be.

Turning Kits "Group Buy"

We are continuing to discuss 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 May meeting.

From the President...

It was a busy meeting we just got done with, but very educational and hopefully fun. What makes my job great is if a need is there, you members are at the call to help, and if I have not said it or you have not heard it. "Thank you." There were so many of you that demonstrated that last month, and it says so much about your character, and the reality is this club will only be as good as we do that very thing.

Again this month when call went out for help the response was there. This month meeting will be busy in the shop. At least three demonstrations will be going on, the topic this months is turning with "Kits", thus demos on various types will be talked about and turning on the lathes. Our new chucks should be in for our use. We will have the Anchorseal, Methanol, and sanding pads available for purchase. And bring in your individual wants and needs for a group purchase order for kits, supplies, and tool at a club discount.

I know of some bowl blanks and other wood will be available again, or if you know of or can bring in wood for the clubs use, just bring it of let me know if you need assistance.

The big item of the month is the wrap up of the WOOD BOWL TURN OFF. So finish them up or bring in the shavings, let see what we got done, and if it was a total disaster, we have all been there, so come anyway. The judges will be there.

There has been some date changes for the summer, the two biggest is the trip to FBT sawmill in Steen MN on June 2nd, and the Brooking trip to Dan's has moved up to August 4th. So mark your colander and spread the word.

May 5th is the date for the next meeting, come early and bring containers if you want product, pick up wood, or get and give advice. Help out as things get set up and have your concerns or questions answered. Bring those show and tell items, and learn about making things with kits.

Doug Noteboom



Getting to Know Us...

Alistair Hird...

I am a 49 year old Legal Alien, (well, that's what my official immigration papers call me) but thanks to the friendly members of Siouxland Woodturners I do not feel like one. Thank You. My family and I moved here from England 4 years ago to raise cattle for my brother-in-law. He has a dairy with 700 cows and we currently have 300 replacements.

So after flying 4,500 miles from "home" I wished to continue my hobby of woodturning. I looked on the internet and found Siouxland Woodturners. Just like the club in England I was the youngest member but that has not mattered, everyone has been friendly and willing to help without being judgmental.

Probably like most of us, my first experience with turning was in school and then none till I bought my own lathe. Well my 1st lathe was.....a con and that is the simplest most polite way to describe it, it was a Black and Decker drill attachment kit. I never did get anything turned with it.

Around this time my uncle got a lathe and I got to use this but the 20 mile between us was somewhat inconvenient, so I bought a cheap one at a woodwork demo like the one at Stan Houston's. This lathe needed a wrench for this, a wrench for that, and two wrenches for something else, but I persevered until a club member was selling his "Record". This again was a midi and much better to work with and along with help from club members I improved. Then we decided to move to America so I sold my lathes to a father and son, so got 2 more turners hooked!

Moving to America became a very slow process and boredom set in so I bought a jet lathe. The idea being, as its American made, it should be easy to bring over here and that's what I did. I also own a delta midi which I bought on EBay for \$99. I am slowly rebuilding my other tool collections and my shop is now in the garage attached to the house. I did build a shop in the barn but after the first winter here and finding out how cold it got I converted it to a calf barn instead!

Besides my livestock business and woodturning my other interest is riding my motorbike. We have been to Sturgis twice and will go again when time off allows. I am looking forward to learning and having a go at more projects learned at the Siouxland Woodturners.

Thanks for the inspiration.

WOODTURNING BASICS

The Five Rules of Sanding by Russ Fairfield (Taken from www.woodcentral.com)

Rule 1 - Sandpaper is a cutting tool, keep it sharp and keep it clean.

Throw it away when it gets dull. Don't use worn-out coarse grit as a substitute for finer grit. Worn-out 120-grit is just that, and it cannot be used as a substitute for 280-grit. The spaces between the grit particles are like the gullets of a saw blade. The grit can't remove wood when the spaces are full. Clean both sheet and disc abrasives with a block of crepe rubber. (Yes, it works on sheet when we lay it on a flat surface and rub the rubber block across it).

Rule 2 - Refine the shape, remove all tool damage and torn grain, and repair the surface with as coarse an abrasive as necessary to do the job - BEFORE moving through the finer grits...

The only purpose for all subsequent sanding with finer abrasives should be to refine and remove the scratch pattern made by the coarsest paper. If there is torn grain or other tool damage on the surface, go straight to a 60-grit, and don't fool around with anything finer. It makes no sense to brag about never using anything coarser than 180-grit, and then spend two hours to do the same job that could have done in ten minutes with 60-grit. The finer grit can be used, and for a shorter time, when we have improved our tool handling skills during the turning phase of our work.

Rule 3 - Sand through all of the progressively finer grits without skipping any of them, and don't quit before 320.

I usually start with 60 or 80, and proceed through 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 250, 280, 320, and stop at 400, using whatever combination of power and/or hand-sanding that is appropriate to the task. It is much faster to use all of the abrasive grits in the smallest increments possible, than to make large jumps in grit size. This is particularly true at the coarse end of the scale. Of course, we could go directly from 60 to 320 grit if we had a lot of time and sandpaper to waste.

Rule 4 - Remove all of the scratches and the sanding dust from the previous grit before going to the next finer grit.

This step is faster when Rule 3 is also observed.

Rule 5 - Slow is good, and slower is even better.

There is a universal tendency to sand too fast. Heat is the enemy. Keep the sanding medium cool by sanding slowly. And, the slower moving abrasive will remove more material than one that quickly "skates" across the wood surface.

Don't spin the piece in the lathe so fast that the paper gets hot. If it burns your fingers, it is also burning the wood surface, and case-hardening rather than cutting it. We have all experienced the situation where the sandpaper quit cutting, and it took a coarser grade to break through the surface glaze, only to have the same problem when we used the finer sandpaper. When this happens, slow down. I typically sand with a maximum lathe speed of 250 RPM for most work.

It is very easy to generate too much heat when power sanding because we have no direct touch with the abrasive. Heat will clog the disc, and destroy either the cloth backing or the sponge rubber on the arbor. The slower speed will remove more wood faster, the disc is easier to control, there is very little airborne dust, and the sanding discs will last longer.

At the April Meeting...

Siouxland Woodturners
4/14/2012 Minutes

- * Meeting called to order by President Doug Noteboom.
- * Drawing for door prize of 2 bottles of wine donated by Corky Miles - won by Frank Denton and Richard Rose's daughter.
- * Approve last month's minutes - Motion by Sue, seconded by Corky - carried

Committee Reports:

- A. Finance – Frank Denton reported that there is \$1714.02 in our account.
- B. Membership – Thank you to Jay Cudzilo for volunteering to keep and update our membership list. If you need a name tag let him know.
- C. Newsletter report – Royce Meritt indicated that if anyone wants to put anything in the newsletter to contact him. He also advised he is starting a bio of the month column to get to know members better. When called please cooperate.
- D. Library Report – Double check at home to see if you have any DVD's not returned.
- E. Scholarship Committee – Thanks to Sue Smith who agreed to co-chair committee with Doug Noteboom. Anyone else that would like to serve on the committee please see Doug or Sue.
- F. Website – Corky Miles advised he got our website extended for 3 more years for \$193.20.

Old Business:

- A. President Doug Noteboom brought anchor seal - \$10/gal., sanding pads – 7 for \$5 and alabaster - .60/lb., was made available to members. Dan Humburg will follow-up regarding ethanol. Needs the old 55 gal. drum.
- B. Walnut turning challenge ends at the May meeting. Bring your turned piece with you. Any questions call Doug.
- C. We are trying to put a group kit purchase together to get a group discount. Looks like we can get around 13% discount and free shipping if we have a large order. Make a list of what you need and bring it to the next meeting.
- D. We have a demonstration booth at the sidewalk arts festival, September 8th from 9-5. Need volunteers to do some turning.
- E. Needed lathe equipment came up again. Motion by Sue Smith that the executive committee check and order the equipment needed. Seconded by Jay Cudzilo – carried.

New Business:

- A. June meeting will consist of going to FBT Sawmill. More info at May meeting.
- B. August meeting still to be decided.
- C. Doug Noteboom offered to donate a digital camera for club use and to be kept with library DVD's.
- D. Speaker Doug Meyer gave a presentation on the making of acrylic blanks using poly-resin and alumilite. He goes to rummage sales looking for items with bakelite handles, chops them into small pieces and puts them in the poly-resin molds for different effects. Uses pressure pots to force poly-resin into different items. Also uses Minwax Wood Hardener (Menards carries). Various examples were passed around.
- E. Show & Tell – items explained and passed around.

Respectfully submitted
Ron Seim, Secretary

The members are captivated during the business meeting...



Guest speaker Doug Meyer gave an informative presentation on blank casting using a variety of techniques and materials

