



The Turning Point

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

November 2015

In This Issue...

December Meeting.....	Page 1
From the President.....	Page 1
November Meeting Minutes.....	Page 4
Community Ed Classes.....	Page 6
Sticks and Steel Demo and Sale.....	Page 6
November Show and Tell.....	Page 7
Big Bowl Project.....	Page 8

December Meeting...

Harrisburg High School, 1:00 p.m. Saturday December 5. No formal business meeting. It will instead be an “open shop” day. Lathes will be available. Bring your questions. There is always someone willing to help. Bring your show and tell, new equipment and whatever you want to show off.

From the President...

Hello Turners,

Where to start.... Big thank you to Royce and Sue for heading up the meeting. It was a case of me being there in body but not in mind! All Officers were re-elected to continue their positions. (I guess I haven't

done as bad a job as I thought!) So thank you to Officers and thank you for voting!! And as my school reports used to say "Alistair must try harder" I will! Might be a bit easier if the New Hire at the farm sticks around, and Oh Boy! Have I hired a character!! 1st use of my "power", was to add an extra class to next spring's Comm. Ed. Classes. Sue didn't answer her phone, so it's her fault!! Class will be "Ladies night – bracelet making". After the huge success of this fall's classes I thought this might be a good one, already have one signed up!



I also seem to have struck lucky with the purchase of "Big Bertha", my nickname for an old American band saw, (that's what the Advert called it). I found it on the internet sandwiched between the \$16k

and \$22k saws, and believe me, right now it had less zero's on the price tag. It was a difficult decision.....Is this the right price? Dare I press the button? Does it work? How much is shipping? Will my wife kill me?..... Not a lot you can do on a Saturday evening when no one will answer the phone!! Will it still be there on Monday? Time zone... What time is it in California? I emailed them but got no reply, as they couldn't understand why someone from the UK would be interested, (my email is .co.uk). I got an online quote for shipping \$261 - \$2300, who in their right mind would pay \$2300 for shipping when you can get it done for \$261. (This price range was on the same truck too!!) After a lot of phone calls, emails and frustration and added \$\$s for insurance, and address queries, extra weight, and not being crated, it's now being dropped off at a terminal in Sioux Falls which saves me \$150....Yes please and thank you very much!! All I can do now is wait and see if it actually does work, and whether I still have a wife!! An extra twist to the tale, my new hire at the farm has worked in a sawmill ... guess what he's going to be doing on cold winter days!?

Which leads nicely on to... yes the shop heating is on, but it is the middle of November, so no real complaints about that. So if you have no heating in your shop, I'm sorry, as you will be missing out on all that turning time! If all your Christmas gifts are done, then that puts you one up on me, because mine aren't, but after I finish writing this, then I'm off into the shop. 1st weekend off since the beginning of September, and it's going to be productive. Lots to do: - stoppers and pens for Jack's gunstock contact, all volunteers please do your usual good work and keep the "customer" happy. Also stuff for Stick's N Steel... lets rock this one! Backorders to fill and Christmas presents to do..... what a weekend off, should be fun!!!

After some very disappointing "dine-outs" recently, I have to thank my Sister-In-Law for a wonderful Fish and Chip supper last night, she served 11 adults and 2 kiddies, we even got the mushy peas, only thing missing for the full Great British Tradition effect, was the newspaper! Translation – Chips are fries and mushy peas are exactly that, and not mashed as one of our American friends thought, and the newspaper is what "fish n chips" used to be wrapped up in many years ago. We even had British beer and we Brits outnumbered the Americans around the table too!!!

A newbie or two turned up at the last meeting and were highly impressed with the friendliness of everyone, and all the free wood and advice. The quality of the show and tell pieces was as usual, quite awe inspiring. Thank you and keep it up!

See you at the Stick's N Steel demo and if not, have a Happy Thanksgiving and see you at the informal meeting in December. Bring along your struggles and hacks to share and between us we should be able to un-struggle it or be educated.

Cheers Everyone.

Al Hird

November Meeting Minutes...

Siouxland Woodturners

November 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The November meeting was called to order at 1:15 by Vice-President Royce Meritt. The 28 turners briefly introduced themselves.

A. Minutes of last meeting: No changes to minutes. Newsletter reported that Sue and John W would be doing demo on wood stabilizing today—actually will be Sue and Jack.

B. Treasurer's report: Frank presented a balance of \$1412.36. Dues for 2016 will again be \$25.00.

C. Library report: No report. Library materials were set out for member check-out.

D. Community Ed report: Sue reported that the Fall Community Ed classes had a great turn-out (most were full) and that many of the students were quite gifted. The materials fees collected from the students helped to pay for class materials and to fund the purchase of additional Club tools/materials, among them being the following: pen mill, pen mandrel bushings, calipers, live centers, bottle stopper mandrels. Amount spent was \$375, with \$65 remaining. Students in the two Bowl-turning classes paid \$10 per person for materials, the two Bottle Stopper classes contributed \$15 per person, and those in the one Penmaking class paid \$10 each (no material fees were collected from the two Woodturning 101 students or from those attending the Sharpening class). Motion made and passed to have Sue use the remaining \$65 for club material/tool needs rather than deposit it in the Treasury. Special thanks to Al for providing wood for the Woodturning 101 and Penmaking classes, and to John W for the wood used in the Bottle Stopper classes. Classes for the Spring term are being planned for late March/early April.

E. Membership report: No report.

F. Old Business:

1. The "Big Bowl" was at the meeting for everyone to see. It was mounted on a handsome stand that will go with it wherever it will be displayed. Thanks to Al for his vision of the project, to Doug for all his fabrication efforts, and to everyone who contributed their time and skills to make the project a true Club success story! Doug had everyone write down what they thought the finished bowl weighed. Guesses ranged from 87 to 350 pounds. The winner was John W with 110 pounds; Steve S was second with 96 pounds. Actual weight is 104 pounds. CA glue was awarded to both. When asked what the starting weight might have been, Doug said his tractor had had a tough time lifting the pallet of wood from which the bowl layers were constructed (so, he thought the wood may have been 1500-2000 pounds).

2. As mentioned at the October meeting, we will have an opportunity to demonstrate turning at *Sticks and Steel* (8th and Railroad) on Friday, November 27 (1-5pm) and Saturday, November 28 (11am-5pm ?). Two or three small lathes will be set-up (John W could use help with this). A sign-up sheet for turning time and set-up/clean-up was passed around. Sunday, November 29 will also be a time for turners to sell their items. No commission will be taken these three days. You may talk with the store managers about selling to them at wholesale prices for other items you may wish to market there. It was suggested that you bring your high-end creations—the store has a market for such things and their current inventory is down on wood products. Gene plans to provide pictures to *Sticks and Steel* of Club members' turned items for their store brochure (which is disseminated by email to their

customers). If you have pictures of items you wish to sell, get them to Gene ASAP!! The Big Bowl will be on display at the store during the demo weekend. Rex had previously volunteered to work on a sign that denotes the Siouxland Woodturners Club (to be placed near the Big Bowl/demo area). Doug will assist Rex with this. Also, it was suggested we display signage at this event concerning the Club's *Pens for the Military* project, seeking public donations for materials costs. Gene and Sue will take care of the signage.

G. New Business:

1. November is the month for officer elections for the upcoming year. Current officers were canvassed and were willing to serve another year. Royce sought further nominations from the floor and received none. Motion made and passed to re-elect the current four members to serve as officers for 2016.

President – Alistair Hird

Vice-President – Royce Meritt

Secretary – Bonnie Lynch

Treasurer – Frank Denton

2. Gene is planning to update the Club brochure (adding picture of Big Bowl, etc.) and will have copies made.

3. Royce will take care of getting Club business cards from VistaPrint.

4. Doug announced that Boyd's Gunstock Company asked if we could turn 50 pens and 50 bottle stoppers within the next two weeks for them to distribute to their clients/customers for Christmas. They intend to etch their company logo on the top of the stoppers (need to be turned with flat tops) and onto the pens as well. We have had a great relationship with Boyd's and have obtained some great turning wood (colored plywood, walnut) from them. Contact Doug/Jack/John W to assist with this project.

5. President's challenge for November was to make a gavel. Corky and Royce showed off their creations. Royce mentioned that it was a good exercise in symmetry (making your gavel ends match), as well as being a challenge to turn the gavel head and handle to complement each other.

6. Sue had challenged members to turn snowmen (seeking prototypes for Community Ed class). Several snowmen and snow-women made an appearance.

7. Concerning a previous President's challenge, Doug produced a photo showing a 9 foot (108 inch) long curl/shaving. That would make him the winner of knotted wood, would it not?

8. For Sharing.....John O has free wood in his pickup. Al has white oak (kinda wet) to share. Gene has a variety of black locust, pussy willow and corkscrew willow in his trailer. Steve S has foam pieces and also faceplate screws for anyone needing them. Doug has a steady rest for turning baseball bats—if you have a kid interested in trying to turn a bat, you are welcome to come use his tools to do so (also has bat blanks available).

9. For Sale.....John W has a Dremel tool for \$75. Jim S has various curly maple pieces, various prices. Doug has aluminum pieces for tool handles.

10. Doug mentioned he has a source for three hundred .308 cartridges that will be drilled out and polished so they'll be ready for our *Pens for the Military* project. A question was brought up as to whether the deployed SD Air National Guard members were given pens. It was not certain if they have all returned, as yet. Doug had previously been working with the local VFW and American Legion posts to find deployed military members/units. If anyone knows of deployed personnel that we should provide pens for, let the Club know so we can plan accordingly to get them pens.

11. Royce explained about *Project Healing Waters*, which is a program that provides rehabilitation activities to veterans/disabled vets in need of physical and emotional healing via the venue of fly fishing/fly tying/rod building experiences. He is president of the local *Trout Unlimited* chapter which has lined up the necessary funds and volunteers to make the program happen. He now needs to find the veterans who could benefit from this program. If you have a connection to veterans in need of such a program, or know someone connected to the VA or Veterans organizations that could help him find these veterans, it would be appreciated. Contact Royce or visit www.projecthealingwaters.org or www.dakotatu.org for further information.

12. Future Meeting Demos.....Jack has volunteered to do a demonstration on finishing projects using a buffing wheel. Jeff will show the Club how he uses aniline dye to bring out some interesting accents/effects on his works (you can use an airbrush or wipe it on).

13. Jim S challenged members to turn a hollow globe ornament or a birdhouse for December.

Members shared a variety of items for show and tell. Meeting ended at 2:20. Sue and Jack provided demonstrations on wood stabilizing techniques. Others helped newer turners with bowl turning practices. Great brownies by Ranah quickly disappeared.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Lynch, Secretary

Community Education Classes...

Fall term is complete. Spring term classes in the works.

Sticks and Steel Demo and Sale...

Friday November 27 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday November 28 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. No demos on Sunday November 9 but still open for sales that afternoon. **More details in item “2” of the meeting minutes above.**

Project Healing Waters...

A worthwhile program. **More details in item “11” of the meeting minutes above.**

Show and Tell Table at the November Meeting...



Big Bowl Project...

The finished bowl was on display at the November meeting and will be on display at the Sticks and Steel Demo Thanksgiving weekend.

