



The Turning Point

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

August 2020

2005 – 2020

Celebrating Fifteen Years as a Chapter of the AAW

In This Issue...

- September Meeting..... Page 1
- President’s Message..... Page 2
- August Meeting Minutes..... Page 3
- Kentucky Coffee Tree Project.....Page 5

September Meeting...

The next meeting will be held at the home of Ron Christensen, 47435 294th St, Beresford on Saturday September 5. Use I-29 exit #50 for Centerville/Hudson. Ron’s place is exactly four miles east of the exit. Meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. but come early. Bring your own chair. Starting at 12:00 noon until 12:45 Ron and Lin will be serving pulled pork sandwiches, chips and coffee. 12:45 to 1:00 will be cleanup time and getting ready for the meeting in the shop. If anyone wants to do a demo on anything bring your specialized tools and you can use Ron’s lathe. Please give Ron a call at 605-957-4400 if you are planning to attend so they have an estimate of the group size. Hope it will be a large group. This will be the first in-person meeting since March. Be sure to bring your show-and-tell items. Should be a good time.

President's Message...

Dog days of August are upon us already. Seems like the older you get the faster time flies and the shorter my memory gets. Thanks to the bidders for their generosity at last month's meeting for the home-grown goods package. Especially thank you to Doug Noteboom for his winning bid.

The club has 55 gallons of Anchorseal at \$11/gal. Contact Doug Noteboom to acquire some. I believe that a little over half of the anchorseal has been sold. The anchorseal is supposed to help prevent cracking on wet turned wood. Many of our members have had success using this product.

This month's President's Challenge is to turn something out of something besides wood. We have seen some turnings out of stone as well as resin so I am curious to see what some of the members will come up with. Bring your items to the September meeting for a chance to win.

I understand that several of our members were able to take advantage of the Kentucky Coffee Tree that was taken down in Sioux Falls a few weeks ago. I was out of town but did receive a bowl blank from Doug so once I get caught up with my projects, I need to give it a spin. I am trying to get the finishing touches on my drunken bowl projects done but seems as though there is something else to work on. Today I finished a vase out of a beautiful piece of walnut. Watch the website for a photo. I will also post some photos of the drunken bowl.

In closing keep turning. Be safe (I dodged a bullet that came out of my table saw and left its imprint in the ceiling of my shop. I felt the breeze of the block as it whizzed by my face. Those pen blanks as small as they are have the potential.) As harmless as turning may seem there is always the one that can get you.

Jeff Albrecht

Siouxland Woodturners

August 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The August meeting was called to order at 1:06 by President Jeff Albrecht. There were 13 turners in attendance on a Zoom meeting that was hosted by Gene.

Minutes of last meeting: July minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's report: In Jack's absence, Doug reported a balance of approximately \$1200 in the treasury.

Education Committee report: Jeff reported that there are no plans for Community Education classes to be held until Spring of 2021, at the earliest.

Membership Committee report: No report.

Equipment/Purchasing Committee report: No report.

Library: No report.

Technology Committee report: No report.

Old Business:

1. There was again a brief discussion concerning future meeting sites. Royce said it is likely that Harrisburg High School would not allow any outside groups to use their facilities until perhaps January of 2021.
2. A reminder to anyone wishing to have photos of their turnings displayed online: if you would like your work put on Facebook, you can contact John S or Ranah; if you wish your photos placed on our Club's website, contact Gene.

New Business:

1. Doug has Anchorseal available for purchase by Club members; price is \$11/gallon, please provide your own container. He purchased a 55-gallon barrel for \$390. Doug said 5-gallon pails from the same company sold for \$93, therefore the barrel purchase constitutes a major savings. The use of Anchorseal was discussed. Most turners use it to seal lumber/log ends or any wood you do not want to crack. If you have a green piece that you pause/stop turning for some time (even a partly turned one still on the lathe), you can coat the wood with this product. It will even save drying wood from cracking. Simply rub on--it will not stain the wood (although you must turn it off before applying your finish). It seems to last forever and can take the cold. Larry suggested just

coating the outside of a bowl and then the inside surface can dry normally (the greater stress/potential cracking is on the outer surface).

2. Doug delivered the Military pens and found out another unit will be returning from deployment in 2021. We'll need 250 for that unit plus the 100 pens we agreed to make for the vets at the VA hospital (last meeting). Doug suggested that Club members could be working on some of the pens at home during the next months. Rex has some brass and Woody can obtain more; Jeff has some pen kits (75?) and Jack is ordering more kits (500). The Club will replace any components you use of your own.
3. Doug has three loads of red cedar (16"-18" diameter)—if you are interested in some, let him know. John O said it is soft and will crack (not a lot, though). It's a pretty wood that varies in color from red to very light tones. Gene turned a bowl from cedar and had water flying off—but it did not crack. Ron cautioned to mount it on a faceplate; walnut oil as a finish is nice.
4. A homeowner at 709 W 1st St in Sioux Falls has a Kentucky coffee tree that will be taken down on August 5th—he offered it to anyone wishing some wood. The seeds resemble coffee beans and were used by pioneers as a substitute for the beverage. FYI -- Male trees do not have the messy pods. Related to locust trees, it is a hardy tree that is relatively pest and disease free, doing well in urban environments. The wood is described as light brown, coarse-grained, heavy and strong. In earlier times, the wood was used in the construction of railway sleeper cars.
5. Several members discussed the AAW Virtual Symposium and related interesting demonstrations by Lopez, Lucas and others.

Virtual Auction: Jeff contributed a collection of tasty treats for an auction basket: two cans of salmon and a bag of Cashew Crunch (imported from Door County Wisconsin), his homemade sand cherry jelly, bush cherry jelly, pickles and pepper butter. The highest bidder for the basket of joy was Doug at \$45. Thanks to Jeff for his generosity!

President's Challenge: "Turn Something Other Than Wood"

- John O met the challenge by turning a lidded box made of pinecones in poured epoxy (Alumilite casting resin with blue ink dye added). He suggested using a Michaels' 40% off coupon which makes the epoxy reasonably priced. This epoxy hardens in 18-24 hours.
- Royce showed off three pens made using Penn State kits: one made from antler with brushed aluminum accents; one made from aluminum with gold accents; the third turned from brass with brushed aluminum accents.

- Larry displayed a small vase turned from alabaster. It was very thin (see-through) and had many voids. Its “rotten” (holey) appearance was unusual and many were surprised it had held together during turning. Larry said the voids “just kept appearing” as he turned. Another piece was turned from blue-tinted epoxy with pinecones.
- Woody turned two pieces, that were poured resin with aluminum shavings: a bottle opener and a bottle stopper. Both used kits from Ruth Niles. Apparently, Ruth Niles also offers kits for whiskey bottle stoppers (although no one knew why you would need a stopper for a whiskey bottle ‘cause they seem to go empty so fast).

Show and Tell: In addition to the items shown in the *President’s Challenge*, Larry showed a reverse wing bowl inspired by a Craig Timmerman demonstration he had viewed. He turned at 2500 rpm using a ½” bowl gouge. The feet were routed after turning and sanding was done using a drill. Using the same reverse technique, he also turned a dog bowl that was quite “fancy” for kibbles and bits. Jeff contributed to Show & Tell by displaying a bowl made from Door County beech. He also showed his “work in progress”—the *drunken lidded box* that he had started at the July Zoom demonstration.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:23. Next meeting: September 5th at 1:00PM at Ron Christensen’s shop north of Beresford. Address is 47435 294th St, Beresford SD 57004. Stay well and be safe, everyone.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Lynch
Secretary

Kentucky Coffee Tree...

President Jeff Albrecht was contacted by a homeowner who was having a large Kentucky coffee tree removed from his back yard. The tree and all the foliage and small limbs were removed by professionals and then the amateurs moved in to salvage the trunk and some small limbs. As member Al Hird would say it was “chainsaw mayhem” on a very hot Saturday morning. A few days later Doug used his sawmill to

produce some lumber that was returned to the home owner and the rest was turned into turning blanks and various other items.



It was a big tree



John S and Doug working in opposite directions?



Homeowner Scott and John O the He-Man after cutting the trunk into three pieces



Two pieces of hardware found by the sawmill deep in the trunk. They have probably been in there fifty or sixty years just waiting for a sawblade to find them.