



The Turning Point

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

December 2008

News from your President...

As I write this column on the 21st of December, the temperature outside is 4 degrees below zero, heading toward a low of near 20 below. At this moment I have a hard time believing that this global-warming thing is really an issue. Another thing I find hard to believe is that 2008 is over. It seems the older I get the faster the years fly by.

At our November meeting we decided that we have more topics we want to cover and want to have more time to spend at the lathe at our meetings. Therefore, we have more meetings scheduled for 2009. I really look forward to our meetings and being able to get together more often is great news. At our January meeting Jim Sample will be leading a demonstration of turned boxes.

I want to say, once again, that as a club our strength is in our membership. Each one of us has something to offer the other members. Please do not hesitate to “jump in” at a meeting and help with a demonstration or try out a new technique at the lathe. I, for one, am looking forward to learning something from every member this coming year.

I would also like to remind you that with the start of a new year comes a need to, once again, pay your club dues. This also gives me the opportunity to encourage you to join or renew your membership in the *American Association of Woodturners*. AAW is a great organization and membership has many benefits. You can get more information at <http://www.woodturner.org>.

I hope to see all of you at our upcoming meetings and **don't forget to invite a friend!**

Royce Meritt
President, Siouxland Woodturners

January Meeting... Turned Boxes

Jim Sample will do a demonstration of turned boxes. Jim recently watched “Big Mike” Stafford demonstrate turning of Face Grain Ring Boxes, End Grain Boxes, Ort Boxes at another chapter meeting. This should be fun as Jim will convey what he learned. Don't miss it!

Alcohol

Royce is currently the “Keeper of the Krock.” (Of methyl alcohol that is...) If you need some for drying green turnings you might bring a container. We had about 10-15 gallons left after the November meeting.

Minutes of the November 2008 Meeting

The November Meeting of the Siouxland Woodturners was held November 1, 2008 at the Harrisburg School at 1:25 PM.

Minutes of the September meeting had been distributed in the E-Mail newsletter. They were approved following a motion by Ron Seim, seconded by Jim Sample.

Frank Denton provided a treasurer's report. We have a balance of \$328.33. John Olsen moved approval of this report. Ron Seim seconded that motion and the report was approved.

Old business:

Alcohol: Dan Humburg brought Methanol in a drum to the meeting. Most was distributed, and Royce took the barrel with the remainder for local storage.

Anchorseal: Dan Humburg had a new 5 gallon pail of Anchorseal for those needing some.

Surplus tools: We are beginning to accrue some at the School. If you have some duplicates consider donating them to the school.

Possible move to new High School in Harrisburg: The current Harrisburg shop will become a Middle School. Royce is our contact and key to space in either of these.

Contacts to get our work displayed: Royce had one to offer (I missed it as I was daydreaming). A second was the Artist's Gallery, which requires a \$10/month contribution + a commission on work sold. Royce had also contacted schools regarding demos. Both Harrisburg and Tea are interested in this.

New Business:

Dues for 2009: John Olsen moved we continue at \$25/year local membership. This is also to be prorated for any new members joining during the year. Those under 18 may attend free of membership fees. This motion passed and dues remain as stated.

Election of officers:

Nominations were opened. Jim Sample moved that the

existing officers continue for another term. Following discussion this motion was passed and the 2008 officers will continue through 2009.

Royce Merrit as President
Sue Smith as Vice President
Dan Humburg as Secretary
Frank Denton Treasurer

Jim, Sue, and Royce will continue in outreach activities, and Ron Seim will continue as membership committee chair.

Royce had done a bit more research on website development and hosting. John suggested contacting a club with a good website and get their suggestions, pointers on how to do it, and what to avoid. Jim has a good contact at LaCrosse who does their site. Royce suggested a committee to tackle this, and indicated that Corky Miles has done some investigation of the topic and should be involved.

John moved adjournment, and the business meeting was ended. We subsequently realized we needed to plan 2009 meetings and topics and reopened the meeting.

The discussion lead to agreement on additional Fall and Winter meetings. The topics and months as currently planned are:

January - Turned Boxes - Jim Sample

February - Hands-on turning

March - Sharpening

April - Game Calls - Don, Ed, and Royce

May - Logs and wood preparation

July - Picnic and turning at Jim's

September - turning at Dan Humburgs in Brookings

October - Christmas Ornaments

November - Annual business + Show and Tell

The activity portion of the meeting continued with a video provided by John Olsen. Members were able to share current work and techniques for finishing turned work.

Some Images of Members Work



A dramatic natural edge bowl turned from a burl by Frank Denton



A variety of bowls and small boxes from many different woods, and different finishes



A display of the breadth of Frank Denton's work. Wow!



A wide variety of Frank's work and an excellent example of how to present it.



Bottle stoppers that contrast large dramatic pieces. Also a great way to utilize small pieces of exotics.



Two turned game calls. This looks like Royce's work. The turning of game calls will be a topic for demos and discussion at the April 2009 meeting. Don't miss it as this is a great way to learn turning technique as well as to generate superior custom calls.