



The Turning Point

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

January 2015

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February Meeting...

The next meeting is February 7 at the Harrisburg High School. The program is Pens for the Military. We hope to do at least 150 pens. Pen turning will begin at 10:00 a.m. Bring a sack lunch or have a meal in Harrisburg. The business meeting will be held as normal at 1:00 p.m. and after the meeting we will finish up whatever is left on the pen project.

From the President...

Thank you all who turned out for the January meeting and participating, that's what we want. I must have done something right, as no one fell asleep, (that I could see anyway)!! A quick reminder of things we discussed:

Number one, is no doubt the big bowl project, this was well received and is up for discussion at the next meeting and via email or phone calls. This is a club project, and everyone is encouraged to join in. There is a lot to do, I only suggested the idea, and don't have all the answers, that's what the club is for, the

more people's input we get the "righter" we should get it. We might not attempt the world record this time, but who knows what might happen.

Number 2, the two challenges I set, again these are open to every member, even if they were not present at the meeting. 1st challenge was to make something out of pallet wood, with an extra prize for a nail hole still in the finished piece, judging will be done by a group of members, if that's acceptable! Originality may win over quality. Don't be shy in bringing items along. Judging will be done light heartedly in the aim to encourage rather than criticize.

My second challenge was the ongoing contest to see who could get the longest ribbon whilst turning, (wood only). The winner will be chosen later on in the year.

February's meeting is going to start at 10 am and will be dedicated to turning pens for the military. Last year we made 150 and I think we can achieve this again, and more. A few of the new members are pen turners. To make this work, we need a big favor, if there is any member who has pen making equipment, mini lathe, etc. please come and join in, or if you are unable to make it, is it possible for someone to bring in the equipment for you, whatever you feel comfortable with. If you have a family member, or friend who would like to be a part of this good cause, then bring them along, even if it is only to help make coffee, or help with assembling the pens!

Other things to think about and ideas to bring to next meeting are:

1. Do you think/would like it, if the club had a bowl turning lathe, whether it be a used one or a members built one.
2. Other equipment club could own on behalf of its members
3. Have ideas/ways to do things, with and for the benefit of the club and its members.
4. Ways in which to encourage more members to participate and be involved in the club's activities.

I often surf the net, mainly YouTube, or get links to videos or sites, and see some amazing things people have made, and learn simple ways to do things. I am going to bring some pictures that hopefully we can display on the white screen, (Royce this is your department!) or if that is not possible, I will bring a lap top. This will not be a sequence of YouTube videos, but just the idea and title.

We will see how this goes, and in some form we might what to continue and expand, to get more ideas.

So if you are still reading, THANK YOU! And I will hope to see you all in February. Let's have a good turnout and make lots of pens for a worthy cause.

Thanks.

Al Hird.

Stan Houston Woodworking Show...

This year's show will be held Friday and Saturday, February 20 and 21. Friday hours are 8:00 to 5:30 and Saturday hours are 8:00 to 3:30. President Al has a few words on the show;

Drool at will gentlemen, I spoke to Fred at Stan Houston and WE ARE demonstrating at their woodworking show, and we will have (unless sold before then) the big POWERMATIC and (and I am not joking) the BIG BLACK SERIOUS BEAST. We will also take a mini along. So my thought for the night is we are not turning pens on "BLACK BETTY". Let's max it out and turn something as a group. Can we make something LARGE, 1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon each day? Bring your thoughts to the February meeting.

The SERIOUS lathe demos the last 2 years (not done by the Siouland Woodturners) have not been very strong so let's make it a good strong demo this year.

The thing is in the neighborhood of 8K just in case anyone is wondering. Let's see if we can help them out and give it a good spin!

Al Hird

We will need volunteers to help at the show. Please sign up for a designated time at the February meeting or contact President Al at 605-864-8911.

January 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes...

The first meeting of 2015 was called to order at 1:07 by President Al Hird. Introductions of the 29 attendees were made with everyone explaining what they have been turning, what they would really like to try turning, and what has prevented them from turning. The winner of the last category was generally cold, inhospitable shop environments.

A. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the November meeting are on the website. No business meeting in December, instead members gathered for a demo/turning day and enjoyed learning from one another.

B. **Treasurer's report:** Frank presented a balance of \$2499.40.

C. **Library report:** No report.

D. **Community Ed report:** The Spring Community Education classes have been scheduled and are shown in the SF Community Education brochure as follows:

- Woodturning 101.....Thur Mar 9
- Woodturning 101.....Tues Mar 24
- Pen making.....Tues Mar 31
- Duck Calls.....Thur Apr 9
- Green Bowls.....Tues Apr 14

All classes are at the CTE Academy, 4700 W Career Circle, room D106; hours are 6:00 – 8:30 pm. We have been invited to a “Meet & Greet” put on by SF Community Education. It will be held Jan 22 from 5:30 to 6:30 at the Minnesota Hy-Vee. Any club member is welcome to attend.

E. Membership report: Corky passed around the most current membership list and asked members to check it for accuracy. Royce passed around a list for those members that have paid their 2015 dues and are still in need of a nametag.

F. Old Business:

1. Several members participated in a turning demo on December 12th & 13th at *Sticks & Steel* (8th and Railroad, downtown SF), where they could sell their creations directly to the store’s customers. Doug said members sold about \$900 worth and gained some good exposure. The store owner is willing to purchase items from members (at agreed upon prices) that she can then display, price and sell in her store. There was discussion about doing another demo at her store, perhaps in September or October during Downtown First Fridays.

2. Al mentioned he had checked with the Empire Mall concerning a kiosk type display option where members could sell items. The cost of \$500 per month appears to be prohibitive. If anyone has other ideas for advertising, displaying, selling or demonstrating turned creations, please bring those to the club’s attention so we can pursue them. A Club banner exists (stored here at Harrisburg HS), as does a Club plaque (at Doug’s place).

3. Doug will bring bat blanks to the next meeting. A list was passed around for those interested to sign up for the number they would like to purchase. Also, a list for anyone wanting alabaster was passed (Doug will be going to Colorado later this year; cost about \$1-\$2 / lb.).

G. New Business:

1. Stan Houston dates are February 20-21 this year.

2. The February 7th meeting will be the day to make Pens for the Military. Goal is 150 pens. Start time will be 10:00 am; meeting at 1:00pm; continuation of pen project thereafter to finish up. We would appreciate it if anyone having small lathes, mandrels, pen presses, or tools could bring them to help with the project. Several volunteers hope to glue tubes into the pen blanks prior to the February meeting so things will progress faster.

3. Al had contact with a Boys/Girls Club organization from Flandreau (which is associated with groups in Brookings and Yankton) concerning helping youth learn woodturning skills. Asking if our club would encourage him to pursue this, members responded positively. It is part of our mission to bring such education to youth, and was part of the reason we have been provided grants from AAW.

4. Members were presented with two challenges. For February, the challenge will be to turn something from pallet wood. “Extra Credit” will be given if the piece has a nail hole (or nail – do be careful!!). A second, on-going challenge will be for the longest continuous shaving you can produce (WOOD shaving; no acrylics - no cheating).

5. Al brought up the possibility of a Club project/challenge for this year that would involve as many members as possible – that being to attempt to set up and turn a large diameter plate or bowl (the world record currently being almost 14 feet in diameter). Al has three different size tractors available (with various size rear tires that would work for mounting the piece onto). As would be expected, with the mention of a tempting, thought-provoking task combining the thrill of tractors, tools and turning, a lively discussion ensued amongst the

male membership. Corky was volunteered to do some math and planning (how big, how many rings, how many pieces per ring, etc.), Doug will try to locate some 2 x 6s and possibly someone to donate glue. Members were asked to think about this project and bring their ideas and questions to future meetings.

6. Show and Tell had a variety of items. If you wish to stamp a brand on your works, check the website *Brandingirons.com*.

7. Frank and others brought wood to share. John S. contributed 3 boxes of magazines that were sold, with the \$20 going to the Club's treasury.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30. Demonstrations followed: Frank using turquoise inlay, Royce turning duck calls and pens, Doug making Christmas trees and vases.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Lynch, Secretary

January Meeting Show and Tell Table...

