



# SAWDUST & SHAVINGS

Dakota Woodturners Newsletter, Bismarck/Mandan ND.  
Chapter #115 of the AAW



<http://dakotawoodturners.com/>

Issue 123

December 2007

## The Prez Sez

The December meeting will be my last as president of the club. It's hard to believe that 2 years have gone by so fast. The new crew will take over in January and a fresh group will bring new and better ideas to grow the club. I thank everyone for his and her support the past 2 years, without it I would not have been able to do the job.

Ron and Duey are doing classes again at their shops and as busy as their schedules are they still step forward. A big thank you from myself and speaking for the members, a big thank you.

Dennis is still burning the candle at both ends for the club and I thank Dennis for all the work on the website and taking over the newsletter.

The symposium is on schedule and should be a highlight of the New Year. The club received a grant from DWAC and the North Dakota Council of the Arts. It will take a bite out of the cost of our symposium.

The show and tell continues to amaze me at the quality of the work that keeps improving. I hope the club continues to take the time and let members show their treasures.

The December meeting will be on surface preparation. Duey has a few ideas and will have help from our artist in residence, Alice.

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## STUFF

Dennis called the other day and wondered where my article was. So, I better get it done. Cold weather, wind, hunting season and finished yard work and all that other stuff. Pat has bragging rights again. According to Pat he toppled a huge buck running full bore at 2109 feet – I think they were short steps! We had a few days of windy weather as you all know. But, the ultimate wind speed test is if there are white caps on your cup of coffee – then it's windy.

The other half had her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and we had an open house and a lot of her friends showed. Our three children and granddaughter made it a great day. How quickly the years seem to vanish into the pages of time.

Enough of that, let's get to visiting about finishes – wipe on that is. It is very hard to select a finish by reading what is on the container. There are two available wipe-on finishes, wiping varnish and oil-varnish blends. Both will produce near perfect results. A wiping varnish is thinned with about half mineral spirits. Oil-varnish blends are a mixture of linseed oil, tung oil or modified soybean oil and thinned with mineral spirits. The difference between these two finishes is; wiping varnish cures hard and oil-varnish blends cure soft. So wet coats of wiping varnish can be applied and left wet on the wood to harden and build up to a more protective thickness. An oil-varnish blend, after applied, has to be wiped off after each application or the surface will become gummy or sticky.

This is a very big difference. Wiping varnish can be built up for better protection against water and humidity exchanges while oil-varnish blends have to remain thin, therefore less protection. A good way to test this is to place a small amount on a piece of glass. The varnish will dry hard and smooth while the oil-varnish will cure soft and wrinkled. If you make this test with the finish you are using you will know if you have a varnish or an oil-varnish blend. Labeling on containers is quite misleading. A well-known brand labeled as tung oil finish is really a wiping varnish.

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In closing I would like to thank all the members who helped my tenure as prez: Dunc, Weldee, Ron, Duey, Dennis, Kelley, Kris and Alice and all who helped over the years. I hope the club continues to prosper and grow.

Keep the trees falling and the chips flowing, Your Prez,  
Pat the Retired Plumber

## DAKOTA WOODTURNERS CLUB

### Membership meeting minutes – Saturday, 10 November 2007

The regular meeting of the chapter was held at the Bismarck State College Vo-tech shop with 32 members and one guest, Dale Hurt from New Salem, in attendance.

## SHOW & SHARE

Weldee Baetsch brought in another Banksia Pod project, a hummingbird feeder. He also brought in a couple of examples of inside-out turnings demonstrated at last month's meeting. He explained the problems he had initially but his second attempt improved.

Don Christianson brought in some very nice segmented vases. He also brought in some square boxes he built. He is planning on consigning these pieces and asked for input on establishing prices.

Earl Setterlund brought in three completed Silver Maple bowls he turned for the Washington Street tree project.

Larry Nelson brought in a very nice Ash bowl, which he finished with wipe on lacquer.

Alice Berning recently attended a Rosemaling workshop and brought in some samples of Basswood wooden bowls she purchased. Alice explained a bit of the process in apply base coats of paint to the bowls before starting with the final decorations. You will be able to learn more of the process at next month's meeting, as Alice will be demonstrating various surface enhancements for turned projects.

Duey showed a section of Birch log about 3" in diameter with growths on the sides of the log. He said you should not overlook using these for turning projects as the growths result in some interesting grain patterns. He showed a few of examples of ornaments with the grain patterns on the globes.

Marlene Roles showed a Box Elder bowl and said she

purchased another as a sample from Kris Roberts so she could work on turning thinner sides. She also said she started turning pens. She showed samples made from various materials including Corain. She talked about her progress, starting out with mixed results, but improving and learning more with each succeeding attempt. She showed examples of the progression saying they were steps A – F.

Earl Setterlund reminded members about the ND Christmas Tree lighting. Pat Schweitzer said he received a letter with information on donating ornaments and inviting members to attend.

## BUSINESS MEETING

Kelly Geir presented the treasurer's report.

Pat Schweitzer reminded the members about completing the Silver Maple bowls for the City. He requested having someone head up the project. Kris Roberts volunteered to chair the project and keep track of the bowl blanks and completed bowls. The goal is to get approximately 30 bowls completed by January. The City plans on presenting the bowls to the Washington Street residents at an Arbor Day ceremony.

Duncan Warren presented the nominating committee report. Duey Marthaller will be nominated for President. Ron Day will be nominated for Vice President and Alice Berning has accepted a call to be nominated for another term as Member-at-large.

Dennis Schwind reported on the new Club web site. He plans to update the history of the chapter and also the inventory of the library on a separate page with the help of Ralph Feland. He outlined plans for member gallery pages. Any member wishing to have their work displayed should contact Dennis to arrange for photos and other information. Club members are welcome to suggest any additional content and modifications.

Duey Marthaller said he still has not received a reply from Jimmy Clewes. Weldee Baetsch said he would send another message to Clay Johnson at Choice Woods for assistance in contacting Jimmy.

Ron Day reported the April symposium is set for the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. Firm commitments have been received from all three turners, Dick Sing and his friend from Atlanta, GA and Keith Gotshall from Colorado.

Dennis reminded members the January meeting will be held on the first Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup>. We will need to provide the Bismarck Eagles Club with a count, so check your calendars so we can get a rough count at the December meeting after which final details will be worked out.

Bryce Hill reported that Roughrider Hardwoods would be holding a sale on woodturning tools next week with a 15% discount.

Weldee Baetsch said he would be meeting with BSC on next years contract. He asked for any input on requesting equipment required for the symposium and future meetings so they could be included in the contract.

Duncan Warren reported the Acme Electric tool show would be held the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are need for demonstrations. Cliff Rime and Bill White will be demonstrating at the Minot store.

Discussion was held on the selling the lathe recently purchased by the chapter. Kris Roberts moved to sell the lathe. Duey Marthaller seconded the motion. After some extended discussion on the pros and cons of selling this lathe and possibly purchasing a larger lathe similar to a Powermatic 3520, Ron Day moved to suspend discussion and call for the questions. Duncan Warren seconded the motion. Motion carried. On a show of hands the motion to sell the lathe passed on a 19 to 6 vote. Bryce Hill then moved to establish a fund to purchase a larger lathe and to deposit the proceeds of the sale to this fund. Ron Day seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A short discussion was held on the procedures for selling the lathe. Weldee Baetsch moved to accept sealed bids to be opened at the next meeting with the minimum bid to be \$275.00. Gary Nagel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Bryce Hill brought in the sample of the Scepter being made for BSC. Pat Schweitzer turned the prototype of the bottom portion and BSC liked the design. The top was developed by the BSC Art Department. Bryce asked for input on matching and mounting the two pieces of the Scepter. The final bottom portion will be turned from Badlands Cedar.

Pat Schweitzer said John Warren has again requested the donation of turned projects for the Mandan High School Band fund-raiser. Donations will be accepted at the December meeting. Members need to establish a price for their donation.

Duncan Warren said we should continue holding beginning turning classes. Ron Day currently has three members interested and will work with them to schedule dates. Duey Marthaller is also working on putting together a bowl turning class.

Duncan Warren told the members of the passing of Bjorn Olgeirson, the father of member Shirley Olgeirson.

With no other business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned to the shop for the technical presentation on wood structure and grain patterns such as crotches, curly and quarter-sawn wood presented by Duey Marthaller. Bill White will hold the turning demonstration on platters. Before the programs Duey asked members to gather at the north end of the shop for a demonstration by Vern Hansen of a small steam engine he constructed on his metal lathe. With steam not readily available the engine runs on compressed air.

Dennis Schwind,  
Secretary

### **Executive Board minutes November 13, 2007**

The E-Board meeting was held at 7:00 PM at Dakota Farms, Mandan, ND with the following members present; Pat Schweitzer, Duncan Warren, Alice and Norbert Berning, Weldee Baetsch, Ron Day, Dennis Schwind and Kelly Geir.

Pat Schweitzer reported the chapter has received grants for the symposium from the ND Council of the Arts and Dakota West Arts Council.

Pat Schweitzer said he would be chairman for the donations to the Mandan High School Band fund-raising project.

Kris Roberts will chair the Washington Street bowl turning project.

Dennis Schwind moved to approve the following classes and demonstrations:

- Dickens Village Festival, Garrison, ND weekends Nov 23, Nov 30 and Dec 7.
- Acme Electric Tool show – Bismarck & Minot Nov 16-17.
- Duey Marthaller – bowl turning class – dates TBA
- Ron Day – Beginning turning class – dates TBA

Ron Day seconded the motion, motion carried.

Weldee Baetsch asked if any special requirements or

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equipment were required for the symposium. Ron Day said all the demonstrators will be using mini lathes and no other equipment was requested.

The program for December will be on wood decoration and embellishments. Subjects covered include painting, carving, dyeing and pyrography headed up by Alice Berning.

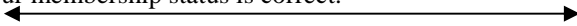
Programs for January through March are open and discussion was tabled until next month after the new officers are elected.

With no other business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Dennis A Schwind,  
Secretary

## CHIPS

**RENEWAL TIME** – We have had a good response on membership renewals. The last newsletter included an application form for 2008. Annual dues are \$20.00. Please check the code on the Newsletter mailing label to verify if your membership status is correct.



**WEB SITE** - The Dakota Woodturners web site was recently updated. Please see the history of the club on the “about” page. Updates have been made to the “links”. If you have a favorite site let me know. I am still looking to add gallery pages for any member who would like to submit photos of their work. I hope to also get an updated library list published soon.

The web site address is - <http://dakotawoodturners.com/>  
You can send comments to - [Info@dakotawoodturners.com](mailto:Info@dakotawoodturners.com)

Dennis Schwind



November’s featured turner Bill White demonstrating platter turning - Great Job Bill!



## WHO

It’s a long drive from Willow City, ND to Mandan. Never the less she made it after having arranged with Duncan to provide her with two days of private woodturning lessons consisting of some long hours. The experience must have been a success. Prior to these lessons Kathy Diebold hinted she might be interested in selling her lathe and replacing it with a larger one. Subsequent to Duncan’s teaching process she changed her mind. I called her about six months following her lessons to inquire about purchasing her lathe. Now, imbued with chip making she decided not only to keep her lathe, but to buy another larger one. She planned to keep one at her place of business and the other in her home shop. Thereby she would have ready access to turning whenever time permitted.

Kathy and her husband Bryon own the D & S Motors, a car dealership in Willow City. Besides selling and servicing cars, Bryon builds and rebuilds motors to meet specific requests.

In addition to being a member of our chapter, Kathy has joined the AAW. Her main interest is making bowls. To date her prized production is an eight-inch bowl made out of Box Elder wood. Ash is also her favorite wood for turning. Her other hobbies include knitting and gardening.

Kathy and Bryon are the parents of two children, a boy and a girl.

Norbert Berning

## I AIN'T GONNA DO THIS AGAIN!

Ron called, "Hey it's time to get the newsletter out. Can you come out to the house and I will show you how to put it together?" "Sure, I'll be out about seven." After nearly two hours the articles were all written and formatted. Ron went through the procedures with me on submitting the newsletter to Flash Printing, getting it folded, printing labels and applying the labels and stamps in preparation for mailing. Ron sent the newsletter and the label files to me by e-mail.

Whoops, I can't open the files on my computer! Turns out Ron and I use different computer programs and I couldn't open the files. By the next evening after a number of e-mails back and forth we finally got the problem resolved, although I had to do some reformatting of the newsletter file and the labels. Finally it was done and I took the newsletter to Flash Printing the next day, getting it back that same day. So that evening I sat down at my workbench and started folding. Forty-five minutes later that was done. "How did I get into this?" Well next, start taping up the edges, apply the labels and postage. After another forty minutes, the same question. "What did I get into? I ain't gonna do this again! This is one heck of a lot of work!" I looked across the room at the lathe sitting idle thinking I could be turning instead. At least it was complete, in the mail and everything worked out. Not so! Turns out an article by Duncan Warren got lost in the shuffle and didn't get into the newsletter. Man, I'm not off to a good start here.

A couple of weeks later: Oh no, now it's time to start on the November newsletter. The second time turned out to be a bit easier. A newsletter template found online made the formatting a little easier after I got it setup. When I went to Flash Printing they asked me if I wanted the newsletter folded. I said "No. Wait a minute! What would it cost to have the newsletter folded?" "Two cents per copy" was the answer. Let's see two cents per copy, times 110 copies, \$2.20 verses 45 minutes at my workbench? "Do it!" "We can also tape it for you." "How much is that?" "I think about two and a half dollars." Let's see another 30 to 40 minutes verses a few more dollars. "Do it, I'll take the money out of my pocket if necessary to save an hour and a half." What a time saver. With everything involved in putting the newsletter together, labeling and putting on postage I got the time down to around three hours or so.

Again I got to thinking. "I ain't gonna do this again." and "How am I going to get out of this job?" After some more thought I reconsidered. I will keep on doing this for a while longer. The reason: Other people in the chapter have been doing it for me, actually for all of us

for quite some time. Now it is my turn for a while. I thought about the hours and hours that Art and Ron put into getting this newsletter into our hands with valuable information on the activities of the club. We all owe them a hearty THANK YOU!

In addition, we need to thank all of the people in the club that have stepped up to serve as officers, demonstrate, serve on committees, help with the symposium and even help clean up after a meeting. Every little bit helps. With elections coming up at the December meeting there is an opportunity for a new group of people to get involved in the administration of the chapter and give some of the stalwarts a rest. I believe the great participation by many members and the resulting division of labor is what makes the chapter such a successful organization. Keep up the good work and thank you all.

Dennis Schwind,  
Editor - (Hopefully not for life)

## Stuff – Cont. from page 1

Salad bowl finishes are really wiping varnishes as they contain the same metallic dryers, as do all varnishes. All finishes are food safe when fully cured. If you are not sure the finish is cured, just smell the finished objects. If you can smell an odor, it's not cured.

This is not an article on finishing, it simply points out "know what you are buying". Example; wipe-on poly is a varnish. Don't be in a hurry to finish, give each coat plenty of time to dry.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is a nice change from being young. First you forget names then you forget to pull up your zipper, but it's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Renew your membership and/or become a new member. Ron Day is hosting three sessions in December on basic turning. Watch for info on the January meeting. (Note 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month)

Dunc



## SCHEDULE

December 1 & 2     Pride of Dakota Show – Civic Center  
December 8         Regular Meeting – Decorated Turnings  
December 11       Board Meeting  
January 5, 2008   Meeting & Christmas Party  
(1<sup>st</sup> Saturday)

## SWAP SHOP

Robe 12" Thickness Planer  
Craftsman 6 Gal 3.5 HP Shop  
Vac  
Contact Bryce Hill – 255-6315

## FOR SALE BY DWT CLUB

Jet Model JWL1236 Lathe  
3/4 HP Variable Speed  
12" Swing – 36" Length - Swivel Head  
Submit sealed bid at December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Minimum Bid \$275.00

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