



# Sawdust and Shavings

## Dakota Woodturners Newsletter

Mandan, ND  
July, 2022

Issue 288

AAW Chapter #115



### The Prez Sez

#### Prez Sez July '22

Just another quick reminder that the July meeting will be at John Warren's shop. John's address is 2434 Roberta Drive N, Mandan. It is near Lake Harmon, south of Mandan. Based on past summers, if you have a comfortable folding chair, bring it to the meeting. It's better to bring it along and not need it than to not bring it and be uncomfortable during the meeting.

Keep on selling those raffle tickets. For those of you that have not picked up your raffle tickets yet, why not pick them up now? I can't think of a better opportunity to get some exceptional wood turned items than through our raffle. Two tickets for \$5, a book of 10 for \$25. The more tickets you get, the better your chances of scoring a fantastic item. I'm looking at the items I just finished, all three turnings are wood burned. I'm pretty happy with the way they turned out. If I wasn't, they wouldn't be going to the raffle. I'm pretty sure every item artfully created by a DWT member has as much effort and skill put into it as the ones I made. To think that someone buying a book of 10 tickets (\$25) is going to get one of my (or your) turnings for \$25 is crazy. It's possible they could get more than one item with 10 tickets, it's also possible they won't get anything. The Wayne Gretzky quote that comes to mind is, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." Make it happen. Pick up those raffle tickets and buy them

#### KEY DATES COMING UP:

DWT General Meeting: Saturday July 9 (mtg at John Warren's shop)  
Capital Affair: August 6-7  
DWT Picnic: Saturday Aug 13

yourself or do your friends or family a favor by selling them a chance to win some great turned items.

A HUGE thank you to those that helped at the "Art in The Park" event. The planning, setup, tear down and running of the booth was planned while I was recovering from foot surgery. Thank you again. Next up is the Capital A' Fair. At the meeting at John's shop, there will be a sign up sheet for times to assist at the booth, either turning TOPS or selling tickets.

The DWT Annual Picnic will be the second Saturday in August. The event will be at Pat Schweitzer's house. At the July meeting we will see what we need help with. Don't be afraid to step in and help when asked.

Remember, practice, practice, practice...

mk

## **General Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2022**

Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m.

There was one guest – Dave Schmitz

Stan Zalumskis made a motion to approve the Secretary's minutes as published. Second by John Warren and motion passed.

Treasurer report by Spud Gruman – current balance is \$25,886.71. It was noted that the council grant money is not included in this amount. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Peggy Rask. Second by Stan Zalumskis. Motion passed.

### **Old Business:**

Raffle – Raffle tickets are available from Jim Porter. Pledged items are to be given to Dave Malarkey when they are completed. The contact information will be sent out as a separate email. Dave purchased two rolling bins for the raffle donations to be stored and transported in, as was voted on last month.

July meeting – the meeting will be held at John Warren's shop on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring a chair with you as there are not enough for everyone.

### **New Business:**

Art in the Park – we will be demonstrating and selling raffle tickets at Art in the Park. Set up will be July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Demos and ticket sales will be Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 – 7:00 and Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 5:00, followed by tear down. A sign up sheet was passed around but all member are encouraged to come volunteer to help at some point during the event. Steve Hamar will bring the trailer with equipment to set-up.

DWT Picnic – the picnic will be held August 13<sup>th</sup> at Pat Schweitzer's. Bring a dish to share and the fun starts at 4:00 p.m. The club will provide the burgers, brats and beverages. Also

bring items for the silent auction fundraiser. Set up will happen that morning.

Fall demo – Nick Agar will present a demo on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and then do two days of hands on classes. He does a Viking bowl that you can view online. We are waiting on the costs.

Spring symposium – Ron Day is still working on this event.

Lathes – the E-board decided to try letting members check out the Nova lathe. We will attach it a board base to stabilize the lathe. If things go well, we will consider adding the tube lathe for check-out. Let the board know if you are interested in checking out a lathe. The member will need tools and possibly a chuck – this will be discussed more. The person will be required to spend time at a mentor's shop for some basic skill training before getting to check out a lathe.

President's Challenge – this month was a kitchen item or tops. There were five members who met the challenge and Dolly Erickson won. She selected the Bake option and received a sourdough bread mix. The July challenge will be to make and bring a show & share item.

Mystery Door prize was won by Steve Hamar. It was Mahoney's wax.

Tops – additional tops are needed

Ron Day mentioned he is on the ballot for the AAW board and voting opens August 1<sup>st</sup>.

DON'T try fractal burning!!! People have been killed trying this. Stay far away from this activity.

Dolly Erickson has Freedom pens here to check out and is still waiting on the return of 80 pens.

Spud announced a member is selling out his turning stuff and there are items for sale on the table.

Someone has a jet lathe bed extension for sale for \$50 – for a midi.

Al Prom has wood available in his car and another member mentioned that Al was on the news.

Show & Share –

Doug Alm – Elm natural edge bowl & end grain bowl

George Scholl – elm Celtic knot hollow form & a Russian olive large hollow form

Larry Nelson – lidded box

Wayne Peterson – spalted birch hollow vase

Dale Sauer – segmented bowl – assorted woods

John Warren – two large elm & white oak platters, boxelder large bowl

Dolly Erickson – pizza cutter from red eucalyptus

Kleber Hadsell – two wave bowls – one with epoxy band, small shedoa saucer, and an elm platter

Discussion during show and share was the Mahoney's oil helps to hide some flaws in your pieces, at least when compared to finishing with wipe-on poly or lacquer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. after motion by Dolly Erickson and second by Peggy Rask.



After the June meeting, Ron Day put on a really nice demo on how to make small bird house decorations. We should do a president's challenge sometime later this year on these! Thanks Ron!



## *W.I.T.*

## *Women In Turning*

The next WIT activity will be meeting for lunch and a planning session after the July DWT general meeting.

Show and Share June 11, 2022 Pics





Share, June 11 2022 Pics (cont)



MY 2 Cents:

## ***Polyurethane varnish***

When introduced, polyurethane was a revolutionary finish that has largely replaced alkyd (oil) varnish in the marketplace. Most woodworkers have used polyurethane, which has several traits that make it very popular:

- readily available
- very predictable
- flows well
- many levels of gloss
- mineral spirits based
- a relatively mild odor
- extremely durable and tough

Polyurethane on turned work also has problematic traits to consider:

- It's formulated to be applied in a thick coat, but can sag and pool if applied too heavily.
- long open time allows brushing onto large flat surfaces such as tabletops.
- It may or may not contain UV inhibitors.
- It's difficult to repair and finish failure usually ruins the work.
- It forms a physical barrier over the wood, which people might not like.

## ***Polyurethane application notes***

Stir polyurethane slowly to not introduce air bubbles, but stir it thoroughly. Shake

aerosols for the full time recommended on the label, to mix the materials within the can.

Every level of polyurethane, except gloss, contains flattening agents that appear milky and settle in the can. They are a form of silica to muddy the finish so it doesn't refract light completely. The more flatteners, the less shine.

Apply polyurethane in thin, uniform coats. Thick coats will sag. It is far easier to add additional coats than it is to repair a huge sag. With an aerosol can, practice because it is easy to apply too much finish.

Finish the outside of a bowl first and place something under the inverted bowl to keep the rim from touching anything while it dries. If

**Polyurethane** – *This popular and durable varnish comes in brushing and wipe-on forms.*

you do get a run it will be at the rim, which is easy to get at and remove. Place the wet piece in a box set on its side so dust in the air doesn't settle on the wet finish.

Read the label for drying time and pay attention to any second-coat instructions. Since polyurethane dries from the surface in, the finish will skin over before it thoroughly dries. Many turners have planted a fingerprint by touching polyurethane that was dry on the top but still wet underneath.

Carefully inspect the work between coats, and be very critical. Look for sags, dust particles and flaws. Use 220 grit silicon carbide abrasives (auto body paper) with a dish of water. Wet-sand the finish to remove flaws, and thoroughly dry it before the next coat. The goal is not to build up thick coats, but to create a thin layer with no noticeable flaws. Thick polyurethane looks dipped in plastic and rarely comes out great.

Although some turners apply polyurethane to work spinning on the lathe, this is not the best practice. Not only do you need to have the lathe run for hours at a very slow speed (which can overheat the motor), but excess finish is likely either to drip onto the lathe bed and harden, or to migrate to the largest diameter and pool there.

Mark K.

For Sale:



I have a 24" bed extension for a Jet Mini Lathe.

\$75

Dolly Erickson: 701.329.9692

Some of the local businesses and organizations that support DWT via discounts, donations, places to meet etc.



Career Academy &  
Technical Center