



# Sawdust and Shavings

## Dakota Woodturners Newsletter

Mandan, ND  
March, 2024

Issue 306

AAW Chapter #115

### Prez Sez

March 2024

It was another fantastic week of turning with the kids at the Bismarck Career Academy. A big “Thank You” to all that help mentor. I know you all definitely made an impact on the kids beyond just teaching them the art of woodturning. I saw firsthand how some of the kids open up to you and really enjoy themselves and they began to not worry about getting covered in wood chips. Well done mentors and thank you again.

The Dakota Woodturners Spring Symposium is fast approaching and now is the time to reserve your slot. The Symposium is scheduled for April 19, 20 & 21, 2024, and the cost to attend is \$150, which includes lunches Saturday and Sunday. The symposium program will be the same as past years with three instructors and three hands-on rotations. The demonstrators for this year are Kirk DeHeer, Steve Prichard, and Rebecca Kielpinski. During our March meeting, we will review a few of the tasks that need to be completed prior to and during the symposium, we will ask for volunteers to take on a few of those tasks (arm twisting may be involved). I’ve been brainstorming with Kleber and a few of our past Presidents to come up with new and different demos for our monthly meetings. We do have a few new ideas, but it is challenging to not recycle the same old projects. Kleber and I would like to hear your ideas on projects that you would like to see. During the March meeting, we will take a few minutes to discuss your ideas for future demos. If you would like to lead a demo, we will work with you to pick the month that fits your schedule. Just a quick reminder to get your Mandan Band Blast donations completed and delivered. This reminder is for me as well. I still need to select my donation items and bring them to the meeting.

#### KEY DATES COMING UP:

-Next DWT meeting: Saturday, Feb 9  
Spring Symposium April 19-21

I know the Mandan Band Boosters appreciate our donations, and our turned items are a big part of their fundraising evening. Thank you to all that have donated items in the past and those of you that are donating items this year.

This month’s demo will be “a half log to a bowl” all in one turning. This demo is based on David Ellsworth’s demonstration at the Rocky Mountain Symposium. I’m not much of a substitute for David Ellsworth, but I hope to provide you with what I have learned about his turning processes and techniques during the demo.

See you Saturday, March 9, 2024.

As my old mentor would say “Keep the Chips & Ribbons Flying” and let’s do it Safely.

Ron Day

### DWT Meeting Minutes

January 20 meeting: Recorded by Todd Richardson

Meeting called to order at 9:04

Short discussion on meeting from the 13 th being cancelled due to weather and ensuring everyone is notified.

Introduction of Guests – Carolyn Kosset from the Mandan Band Boosters visited to describe the group and what they do for young musicians. She thanked us for our support in the past and gave information for this years Band Blast on April 13.

Donations can be brought in to Feb and March meetings.

Kevin Lacher joined at the meeting, he was introduced to turning by Greg Pollert. Mark Sharonowski from Regent travelled in for the meeting. He has some experience and brought in some segmented pieces for show and share. Meeting Minutes – Peggy Rask made a motion to accept the December 2023 minutes. Stan Zalumskis seconded and the motion carried. Treasurer's Report -Income & expenses report is complete and tax documents are in.

#### Old Business:

Career Academy dates and information was given out by John Warren. The group on Feb 26 required a woodturner to lead the class. Signup sheets were passed around. Raffle Incentives – Mark Kielinski spoke to the summer raffle and requested pledges. He explained the incentives for turning in pledges and items early. Dolly had two of the 25th anniversary t-shirts remaining to deliver.

#### New Business:

Chapter dues for 2024 are \$20 and are now due. A picture reminder was given out in regards to the directory. The Winter party will be 5:00 PM on Feb 10th at the Mandan Eagles club. Stuffed porkchops or chicken. We bring desserts and an item for a gift exchange. Bring one, get one. Jim Porter thanked all who have organized or hosted parties in the past for the club and spoke to the importance of social aspects and comradery in our organization. Steve Hamar gave a construction update on his house build for future parties. A potential tool order was discussed. Ron Day wanted to gauge interest and explore potential vendors.

The 2024 Symposium will be April 19,20 and 21. The cost is \$150 for the hands-on event. Members are encouraged to enroll and spread the word. The instructors will include Rebecca Kielinski leading a class on rimmed bowls, Kirk DeHeer from Utah will be teaching box-making techniques, and Steve Pritchard from Atlanta will be leading a Gnome making workshop.

The floor was opened for additional items. John Warren brought up the national AAW symposium in Portland over Memorial day weekend. He said if we have enough people going we can get discounted tickets. Dolly has pen kits available for the Hero Pen Project. A call for spinning tops was made to prepare for the year's events. The mystery prize was won by Pat Schweitzer. He received a bottle of Dr. Kirk's scratch free finish. How cool is that!

#### Show and Share:

Mike Sharonowski brought in a segmented windmill bowl made of purpleheart and maple. He described the bandsaw jig used to create the piece. He discussed some sanding issues and asked for advice. He also brought in a second segmented bowl. Guy Otteson brought in a square golf putting hole and discussed the process of making them. Mark Carey Mark brought in a spalted birch vase with a unique grain pattern that looked like a face. He titled it 'Face in the Vase'

Doug Alm brought in a platter made from golden willow that was from his great-great grandfather's homestead. The crotch figure and grain patterns of the wood were fantastic, but Doug said it was tremendously difficult to turn. Mike Orgaard crafted a toothpick holder using wood he received from Luis Pittman

Larry Nelson created striped woodturned vases that he created. The stripes in the vase were made of many paper layers that were epoxied and built up. James Rudick brought in 2 bowls and a lidded vessel. Very nicely done work.

Wayne Peterson brought in a salt and peppermill set and turned them in for the raffle.

Dolly Erickson had worked on a mermaid platter that she displayed. Additionally, she had a spatula and a spoon.

George Scholl George brought in four different ornaments with 3-piece construction. He discussed the dye job with the various colors bringing out the wood's figure.

Greg Pollert brought in a collection of bowls he had recently completed. He brought in one of walnut, cedar, oak, and another bowl of unknown wood species. He donated the cedar bowl to the band blast.

Mark Kielpinski Mark had the roped bowl from the previous demo. It was painted black with a copper gilding on the rope. Mark spoke on the process of misfit bowl repair and showed some work he had done for that. Mark brought in a collection of eggs and spheres and answered questions about the embellishment process. Mark woodturns them, passes the ball to Rebecca who colors and decorates them, then back to Mark who does the tedious work of shading. He also displayed an example of a painting and dry brush technique. Additionally, he had some kitchen items including a garlic press and some cherry carved measuring spoons. Lastly, he showed the large maple bowl that allowed him to carry all of his work.

Rebecca Kielpinski brought in more spoons and talked about turning them to specifications. She also had a spatula completed.

Kleber Hadsell Kleber brought in vases, one of walnut and one of 'golf course elm'

Next president's challenge is 10 tops.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:15.  
Followed by a demo by Keber in making curvy layered bowls.

Minutes from 02/10/2024 Meeting:  
Recorded by Todd Richardson

Meeting called to order at 9:00  
Introduction of Guests – Monty Condrey of Bismarck joined us.  
Treasurer's Report – all outstanding bills have been paid.

Old Business:  
Social tonight at the Mandan Eagles.  
Career Academy mentors update from John Warren. Thanked mentors who had volunteered and gave the dates for upcoming classes.

Raffle Incentives program. Mark Kielpinski informed us 27 items were pledged and is looking for at least 10 more.

2024 Dues are due. \$20 for the year.  
Mark Kielpinski only needs a few more photos for the directory.

Mandan Band Blast items can be brought to the March meeting.

Tool Order update by Ron Day. He discussed Woodcraft's franchise system and how it makes it difficult to do club-based orders with discounts. He will check into Woodturning Wonders.

New Business:  
Information about the 2024 Symposium was given out and all are invited to register. The event will be Beginner-friendly. There will be three hands on sessions, a gallery show, and a silent auction.  
Discussion of the Emerald Ash Borer.

Mark Keilpinski informed us that Mike Mahoney has placed the full contents of his instructional DVDs on YouTube for free. It is also noted that Richard Raffan has high quality material on YouTube as well.

Next Women in Turning is February 15.  
John Warren made a motion to update the camera and audio equipment. Two new cameras and PA system. Motion carried. Before purchasing new equipment, Kleber offered to replace the cables and test them at the WIT meeting. The funds are approved for new equipment if the cables don't work. Educational Incentives went to Kleber Hadsell, John Warren, and Rebecca Kielpinski. President's challenge for next month is to bring in 10 tops and a show & share item.

Show and Share:  
Doug Alm brought in a white oak vase and spoke of some anomalies in dealing with a crack on it. Additionally, he brought in a birch platter with a mountain lake scene for the band blast. Larry Nelson brought in two bowls. The first was Ash with a black rim. Larry spoke of the process of sanding, sealing, and dying with a black shoe polish. The other bowl was a cherry piece with black texturing and an airbrushed center.

## Show and Share, February 10th

Peggy Rudick brought in two bowls as well. The first was an ambrosia maple and the other was a well done ash bowl.

James Rudick brought in some red oak pieces. He made a plate, a cup, and a lidded hollowform. George Scholl George brought in tops with iridescent painting and colorings. He tried the paper technique from the previous month and brought in a pen with a Celtic knot made of paper inlay.

Wayne Peterson completed his rose engine lathe and brought in his first pieces, a decorated lidded box.

Mike Orgaard made a footed bowl out of a burl. Alan Welte brought in a vase he called a 'trumpet bell end grain bowl.' He also had a Christmas ornament, a sphere-box bauble.

Dolly Erickson brought in a large thin platter with an intricate tree wood burned onto it. Mark Kielpinski brought in a big leaf maple spoon, two coffee scoops, a bottle opener, a small spoon, two spheres, and a bowl.

Steve Wolff brought in a masterpiece level segmented vase. He spoke to the process of dying the bright red color with aniline dyes and building up layer upon layer of lacquer for a glossy shine. Steve was told by his wife that the piece needed to be slightly taller, so he donated it to the band blast and went to start over.

John Warren created a 3-legged pot from the demo that Helen Bailey gave when she was in town.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54

Followed by a demo from John Warren. He demonstrated techniques in using iridescent paints and showed how to make a cosmic bowl and centrifuge paint spun bowls. He showed an apparatus for preventing paint overspray on a stationary lathe and another for shielding paint on a spinning lathe.





John's Demo Coloring Rims:



Spring Semester Career Academy  
Mentoring:



**Member Vetted Videos:**

No individual videos were submitted for this month's newsletter.

If you have a video (YouTube, Vimeo, etc...) that you have watched and believe that other DWT turners could benefit from watching it, send Mark K the link. This could be a video related to something that we are working on or interested in, a demonstration of a project (making a bowl, pens, hollow form, etc...) or a related skill (applying finish, sanding, lathe maintenance, etc...). Please include a quick description of what the video is about.

My 2¢ - March 2024

Supply of Wood: When you go to a symposium or have a visiting artist demonstrate to your club and it gets to the Question and Answer time, someone will always ask the question, "What is your favorite type of wood to turn". I'd say three out of four times the answer will be "Free Wood". After a bit of laughter the turner will then say maple or walnut or some other type of wood depending on what they are turning and where they live.

I'd like to talk about that supply of wood that we as turners depend on. First lets talk about the mail order companies. Cook Woods, West Penn Hardwoods, Craft Supply, Rockler and Woodcraft all carry domestic and exotic hardwoods. If you are looking for a specific wood, one of these suppliers will have it. You may not find exactly the size you want because they generally carry a supply of spindle turning stock (1"x1", 1.5"x1.5", 2"x2"), some bowl blanks and maybe something smaller that they call a craft box with sizes for bottle stoppers or small birdhouses. These woods are not free (if you find a place where they are, let me know). These pieces are generally expensive. Add onto the price tag shipping and tax and you have quite a bit invested before even turning the item.

I will say that these companies do have sales. I typically only buy from them if the items are on sale (I know, say it, I'm cheap). I usually do not have an immediate project to complete with the wood when I order, the wood will sit and be stock I can use in the future. Why does it sit? Isn't that expensive. Yes, it is, but I need wood that has dried to my standards and that I have looked over for any imperfections or oddities. Sometimes the wood will be shipped with moisture and will move some. I want to minimize and control that and I can do that by building up some stock of frequently turned woods. I can always wait for a sale. The next option is to purchase wood locally. We are lucky to have a couple of sawmills and wood supply options near us in Bismarck-Mandan. Roughrider hardwoods usually has a nice selection of domestic and exotic hardwoods available. Generally the lumber is kiln dried

(advantage) and you can immediately see what you are getting. It is usually lumber though and it is not much thicker than 2". Large bowls or hollow forms may be difficult unless you are a segmented turner. We also have Flatbed Firewood (Elliot) just north of Bismarck and he has a sawmill. He can take a tree and cut it to the thickness that you need. He also has a kiln which will decrease the moisture in the wood. There are wood slabs available in a variety of domestic woods, elm, ash, walnut, oak, maple and hackberry (to name a few). You can browse through the shop and see what is available.

The other option is to go out and get some of the "free wood". That's the tree that a neighbor has had laying in their yard after it fell over in a storm. Maybe it's a piece of wood someone gave to you and wants something made out of it as a remembrance, you get the rest of the wood of course. This free wood works as long as you have a way to get it to your shop. You also need a way to cut it down to size, either a chainsaw or a

bandsaw (or both) might be needed. Depending on how large the piece is to start with you may need a way to get it to the car or truck, then to the shop. If you are getting a nice big piece of \_\_\_\_\_ (insert your favorite wood) from someone if it is green you may want to core it instead of wasting all of the interior wood (depending on size). If it is green wood, it should be sealed. If it's in log form you can seal the ends but will eventually need to deal with sealing the smaller sections you cut it into. Wood dries naturally at about 1" per year. That 10" log might not be dry for a while. There is also the time to go out and cut the wood or prepare it for turning. This free wood seems pretty involved. If you are getting wood from someone that is ready to turn, it is truly a gift. All three of these types of acquired woods have their advantages and they all have disadvantages. There is no such thing as "free wood", along the way, someone had to pay for it one way or another. When (if) you receive some of that "free" wood, pass your good fortune on to someone else. It doesn't need to be immediate but at some point. It's what we do. mk



**For Sale:** 12-inch Disk Sander. Works fine, I'm just looking to upgrade and no longer need this one. Pretty sure I have a few disks for it also. I'll deliver for \$40. Call Kleber at 701.319.8609

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

