

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

[stlturners.org](http://stlturners.org)

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## Next Meeting

**17 APRIL 2011**  
**1pm Tree Identification**

**Pre-Meeting**  
**None**

## THIS MONTH

**Egg Exchange**

## Jimmy Clewes

**6 AUG 2011**

## PEN and BOWL



**EXCHANGE**

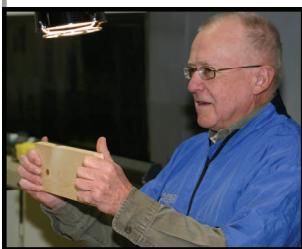
## Dr. Joe Emmons Honorary Lifetime Member



We made Joe an Honorary Lifetime Member for his involvement during the early years of the club and for the inspiration and mentorship he has provided for many of our members. Chris talked about a natural edge bowl that Joe helped him make and Dave shared stories of Joe's life. Shirley Emmons accepted the membership for Joe.



## Pre-Meeting Wood Grain Direction and Tool Work



Gary and Dave lead a discussion illustrating the different cuts of lumber from raw logs. They used a sample log cut into various pieces to different ways of harvesting the lumber. The purpose was to understand how harvesting lumber a particular way will determine how it behaves as it turns and dries. The grain direction also determines which tools a turner can use and how he needs to orient his tools.. The main topic of discussion was turning in a direction which supports the wood's fibers.



## SHOW and TELL

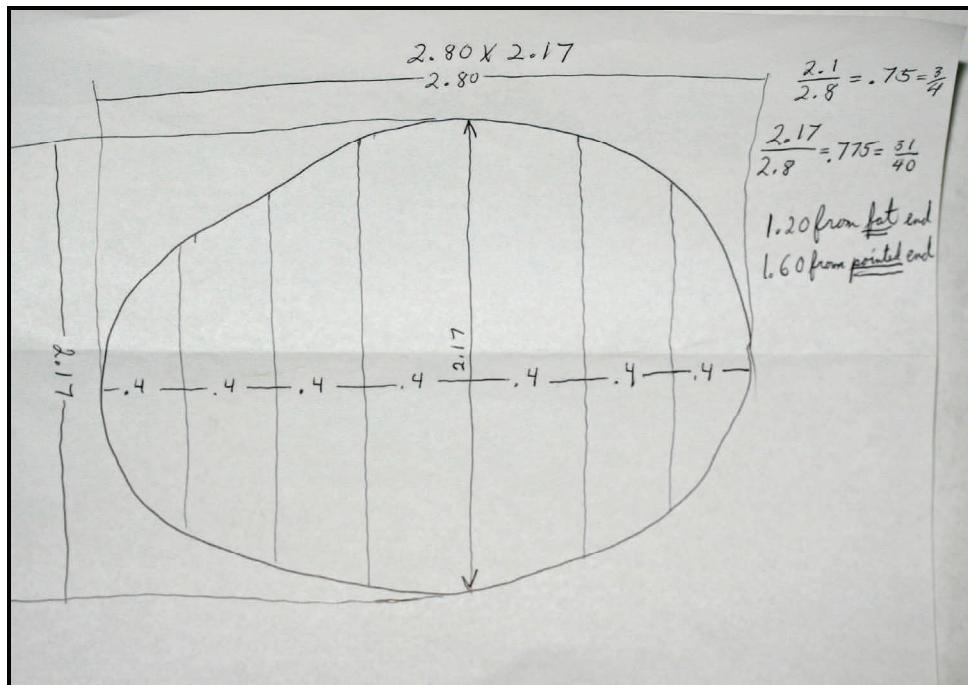
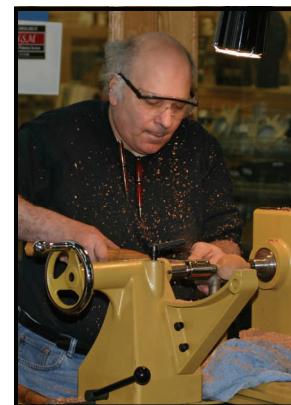




## Show and Tell



## Demonstration Turning an Egg



Jeff Nasser demonstrated his techniques for turning eggs. He enjoys turning eggs because they are just large enough to show-off the grain, color, and texture of different species of woods. Also, even though he understands that the wood will move with moisture changes, he enjoys turning eggs to very precise measurements.



## **An Interview Woodturners of St. Louis Chapter Librarian Rich Hinkebein**

By Greg Works  
April 2011

The club's library is a great resource for advancing the club's mission which is to promote woodturning. The library contains an extensive collection of videos, books, and magazines. The person responsible for maintaining, organizing and replenishing the library is Rich Hinkebein. This requires time and effort. So, if the opportunity arises, thank Rich for all the hard work. Rich has served the club as librarian since 2005. I hope you enjoy learning about Rich as much as I did.

### **How and when did you get started in woodturning?**

A few years before I retired, which was June, 2004, my two kids purchased a lathe for me as a Christmas gift, after many years of hinting. I was always fascinated by the turnings I had seen and wanted to try it. For many years I had done furniture building and so had some of the tools. I lived in the Chicago area at that time and I took a very basic one day course that got me started and then a two day course taught by Binh Pho on bowl turning. After retiring and relocating to St. Louis, I joined the club and heard about the mentoring program. I was set up with Bill Rubenstein which was and still is a tremendous help in an effort to progress. I always have questions or need another opinion.

### **What does the woodturning club mean to you?**

The club is a great place to ask questions, see what good things others produce as well as seeing some of the difficulties we all face in our turnings.

### **What made you decide to take on this role?**

Jo Williams had been doing a number of tasks to support the club and at one of the meetings she asked for help and after waiting long enough to realize no one else was going to volunteer, I agreed to be assistant librarian to help her. That eventually worked into the full time job.

### **Has this been a rewarding experience for you? If so, in what ways?**

Yes, it is a good feeling to be able to help people. I appreciate the requests from members about recommendations on what we have that may be helpful to them.

### **What are your pet peeves as club librarian?**

I sometimes miss what is being taught due to needing to be in the back of the room and the instructor's voice may not carry over the ventilation systems or I am trying to straighten out problems that develop with cards misplaced, late items, etc. It is helpful however to have the library in the meeting room so people can browse at their convenience and I miss a lot less than if the material was in a different room.

**The club's library holdings are fairly large. Is there some sort of strategy around what is added and when?**

A lot of people before me had organized and contributed to the library holdings, so I just continued the system that was set up, with a few minor changes. A great help was when our officers suggested an expense budget of up to \$1000.00 per year. I use it all. That continues and has added a great amount of good material. I try to purchase items produced by turners who have demonstrated at our club, items requested by members, a variety of project type materials, DVD's before books when appropriate, and then whatever I think is good quality material that will contribute to the library.

**If someone wanted to contribute to the club library, how would they go about doing that?**

Contributions can simply be given to me if it is a book, magazine, or DVD. I will take it home to log it in, put it in the library list, and make it available at the next meeting. Cash donations should be made to the club treasurer. Many people have made donations of items to the club and probably have not gotten the recognition they should have.

**A few questions about you as a woodturner... Do you have a favorite style or styles of woodturning (functional, art, bowls, spindle, etc.)?**

I like doing most turnings and with whatever wood I can get my hands on. I particularly enjoy taking wood that are scraps or destined to be firewood and turning it into something useful. I also enjoy doing the open segment turning as described in William Smith's book, which is in our library. I donate the cutoff pieces and mistakes to my neighbors fireplace and the mulch to my bother to put in his farm gates to help with the mud in the traffic areas.

**Where do you see yourself heading as a woodturner?**

This is my retirement hobby, not a job. I want to continue to improve and occasionally sell something so I can get more tools. I enjoy producing things that other people like and I give to family members who hopefully will have an heirloom piece.

**What is your most memorable woodturning experience?**

Probably responding to the club challenge a few years ago to produce wooden items to use at the November wine and cheese meeting. I still use on special occasions my plate, goblet, cheese pick, bottle stopper, and wine bottle coaster.

**What woodturning-related experience have you not yet experienced that you hope to have (a particular project, mastering a skill, meeting a person, attending an event, etc.)?**

I would someday like to attend one of the turning schools, but that is not urgent.

**How much time do you spend woodturning?**

On a good day I work in my shop 2-3 hours in the morning and the same in the afternoon. There are a lot of exceptions to this routine. I am not interested in a lot of production but try to do each item a bit better than previously as well as do a variety of items.

**What is your favorite woodturning that you have completed and why  
(difficulty, special occasion, really interesting idea)?**

My favorite was the bowl that I showed at a club meeting last year. It was made from a large piece of spalted pecan from Gary Hinegardner's firewood pile and from ebony that had been discarded from a manufacturing process. It had an ebony rim and three ebony legs and finished with teak oil. I sold it for enough to buy another spindle gouge.

**What is your shop like (special built, basement, garage, neat, cluttered, type  
of lathe you use, etc.)? Be as descriptive as you'd like.**

When we relocated to our retirement home I claimed the back portion of the basement as my shop. I still have my original lathe which I use for buffing and for the outboard sander. I have upgraded to a Stubby lathe and it is a tremendous help in being able to do larger pieces and more types of work. It is a great tool and I also added a vacuum pump. I made an air filtering system, rolling tables, etc. I have shelves for storing wood and for drying roughed out pieces, good lighting over various areas, and a work table in the center. Other major tools in include a table saw, jointer, band saw, compressor, thickness planer, and miter saw. It stays fairly well organized but still dusty. I also keep files on various projects to refer to for reminders or ideas. Visitors are welcome.

**Is there any piece of woodturning advice you'd like to share with the club  
members?**

Turn as often as you can with whatever wood you can get. Read and try different things. Don't hesitate to ask questions and to learn from others.

**Anything else you'd like to add?**

Just to use our library. There is a lot of good material to provide both instruction and ideas. But return the items you check out so someone else can benefit from it.

James Payne  
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11469 Olive Blvd  
Saint Louis Missouri 63141

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - WOODTURNERS OF SAINT LOUIS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Submit application by mail or during the next meeting.

Woodturners of St. Louis  
c/o Walt Ahlgrim  
10 Ramblewood Ln  
St. Louis, MO 63141

**CHECK PAYABLE to:**  
**Woodturners of St. Louis**

- New member
- Renewing member
- Individual Membership (\$30)
- Family Membership (\$40)
- Newsletter by email
- Newsletter by snail mail.