

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

stlturners.org  
Feb 2013

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

**February Demo > Dave Endres Off Center Mallet** • No, the whole mallet was not off center, but off center turning was used for the handle. Dave started by marking the center



of the mallet head and boring a hole completely thru it for the handle before starting his turning. He turned the mallet head from Osage Orange but any dense wood would work. After shaping the mallet head Dave added decorative beads and used a wire to burn them in.



The handle was turned from hickory. Dave demonstrated how a steb drive center is a safety feature for spindle turning as it slips when too much pressure is applied. He also pointed out the benefits of being able to



turn with either hand to keep the chips away from your body. The end was sized to fit the hole drilled in the mallet head. Instead of using calipers, Dave used an open-end wrench that matched the hole in the mallet head to quickly check the handle diameter. After the end diameter was complete, the remaining length



was shaped with a large cove. Then came the off center turning. Using the cross marks made on each end of the handle (made to locate the center at the very start) Dave first moved both ends up from the center about 3/16" and made light cuts. And then moved both ends down from the center about 3/16" and made light cuts. The off center turning created an oval shape to make the handle grip more comfortable.



A slot was then cut in the end of the handle, glue applied, and a wedge (cherry was used for contrast) was driven into the slot once it was inserted into the mallet head. Note that the wedge was placed so that it would not split the mallet head. A quick sanding of the end to remove any excess wood and a finish with Mahoney's walnut oil and it was ready to use. (Woodcraft personnel also suggested that boiled linseed oil and pumice could be used as a finish. Note, if you ever use boiled linseed oil make sure you properly dry/dispose of any rags or paper towels that are used as they can spontaneously catch fire if rolled up).



**SAFETY STAND DOWN> Charles Sapp Lathe Safety** • We wrapped up our safety reviews with a presentation by Charles Sapp on lathe safety summarizing his top 10 safety tips:

- #10 Know your machine and have proper training- read the instruction manual and utilize training thru community and professional organizations
- #9 Inspect your work area, equipment, and work piece – clear the work area of debris and inflammable liquids/vapors, keep a fully-charged fire extinguisher close, utilize caution when using stock with cracks, splits, or irregular shape. If unsure, don't turn it.

- #8 Secure your work piece – ensure chuck jaws are tight and the work piece is flush against the jaw face, utilize the tail stock for additional support and to reduce headstock bearing and chuck load, ensure drive spur and tail centers are in solid wood, not bark, and use strong screws (#10 or 12) to secure work to a faceplate (not drywall or deck screws as they are too brittle)
- #7 Do a pre-turning check - ensure all guards and locking devices are secured, make it a practice to remove chuck keys and knockout bars immediately, position tool rest close to work and then rotate piece by hand to make sure it clears the tool rest and lathe bed, start with a slow speed and then increase
- #6 Personal safety - always wear safety glasses or face shield, dust mask or air filtration, and hearing protection, tie back long hair, remove jewelry or objects that may catch on fixed or rotating parts, and be aware of the toxicity of the work piece to skin, respiratory, and eyes
- #5 Be aware of the RED ZONE directly in front/behind the work piece, step out of the zone when starting the lathe or observing
- #4 Sanding and Finishing – ensure chuck is secure if turning in reverse, always remove tool rest before sanding or applying finish, use small piece of rag or paper product to apply friction polish (coffee filters make good application pads), never leave the lathe running unattended
- #3 Tools – keep tools sharp and clean as a dull tool must be forced thru the work increasing risk of an accident and use the proper tool for the job ( a roughing gouge should never be used for bowl turning).
- #2 A, B, C – Anchor, bevel, cut – always contact the tool rest before contacting the wood, get the bevel riding, then start your cut
- #1 Stay alert – use all your senses, pay attention to unusual sounds or vibrations, STOP and investigate, and never turn when tired or under the influence of alcohol or medication

Charlie then had several pictures with illustrations of safety violations that were projected on the screen and the members were asked to identify the violations.

**Alan Carter Demo/Hands On April 6-8●** Alan Carter ([www.alancarterstudio.com](http://www.alancarterstudio.com)) will host a demonstration on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the Kirkwood High School in the auditorium on the South side by the main entrance. Member's cost to attend the demonstration is \$40 if you register and pay by the 24 March club meeting; \$45 for registration after that and at the door. Jimmy Johns box lunches will be available for \$10 each at the demo.



Then on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Alan will host a day of hands-on turning at Craft Alliance at 501 N. Grand Blvd, St. Louis, MO (*note this is a change in location*). The cost for the hands-on is \$100/day and priority is given to members attending the demo. Hands-on slots are available for 6 turners/day and are filled on a first come basis. The application form for the demo and hands-on is provided in the newsletter. A map to the demo at the Kirkwood High School can be found at: <http://goo.gl/maps/0meg4> ; a map to the hands-on workshop at Craft Alliance can be found at: <http://goo.gl/maps/zpR9d>

**Library News > Rich Hinkebein** ● Last month the following items were added:

- DVD: In-Depth Hollowing by Lyle Jamieson
- Books: Turned Boxes by Chris Stott; Segmented Turning by Dennis Keeling; Turning Salt and Pepper Mills by Chris West; Projects for Woodturners by Chris Child; and Tops, the Universal Toy by Michael Cullen
- Magazine: Woodturning Design April 2013 (An index of the articles in Woodturning Design can be found on their website.)

Our library is only open on Sunday at our club meetings and is open to all our members for checking out books, videos, and DVD's.

When checking out material, sign/date the card and put it **BEHIND** the letter of your last name in the box. When you return material make sure you put the card back in the item and that the card goes with that item. Watch that you do not put multiple cards in one item. And please sign legibly so you can be tracked down if something is amiss.

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. A complete listing of our library is on our club web site. Please take advantage of this wonderful club benefit.



Doug, Alan, Lisa, and Rich reviewing library material during break.



**Pre-Meeting Demo> Dave Endres** ● In between fielding questions from the members on a variety of subjects Dave turned a single piece mallet. During the demonstration Dave showed the use of his beading tool, burning wires, and the Ray Key dual edge shear scraper to achieve a “sand free” surface finish. He also discussed safety and turning techniques such as body movement and tool control.



**Tip of the Month** ● When using a wire to burn in accents on a turning it is safer to put the wire on the back side and pull toward yourself versus pushing in/toward the piece. Should the wire break your body will move away from the lathe instead of being thrown toward the spinning piece. –

*Member Bob Greenwood*

**Bandsaw blade folding> How to get 5 loops** ● You know it can be done because that is typically the way larger blades are shipped. If you would like to know how to do that 5 loop fold yourself check out this video from Highland Woodworking. It is very straight forward once you know the technique. And always wear your safety glasses!



[http://www.highlandwoodworking.com/blasts2013/foldbandsawblade.html?utm\\_source=iContact&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Wood%20News&utm\\_content=Fold+a+bandsaw+blade](http://www.highlandwoodworking.com/blasts2013/foldbandsawblade.html?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Wood%20News&utm_content=Fold+a+bandsaw+blade)

**President's Spin On Being Social > Jon Spelbring •** We're off to a good year, I think. We've refreshed ourselves on how to turn safely. We're all taken care of insurance-wise, and we've got the Alan Carter demo just ahead (you DID sign up for at least the demo, didn't you?).

But enough about the business end of the club. I'd like to take a moment to talk about the social side - no, not Facebook or Twitter, but genuine human interaction. It's been pointed out that woodworking in general, and woodturning in particular is usually a solitary thing. True, and some people even prefer that. However, what a club like ours offers is a chance to talk to and visit with other turners; exchange ideas, ask questions. I think it's important for the club, and for you, the members.

Charlie has been pushing the photo-roster so that we can put faces to names when we're not at a meeting, and the wearing of our name tags during the meeting. This is especially important to new members. It's always easier to make an introduction, or ask a question when you can call someone by name. So, please do wear your name tag, and if you haven't already been captured by Charlie (candid camera) Sapp, please get with him at the next meeting.

Along the same thought line, we're starting to act on the mentoring question in the survey you filled out. If you haven't filled one out, please let Charlie Sapp or Walt Ahlgrim know, and they will get you a copy. As new members join, they will be assigned a mentor. This isn't a woodturning mentorship, but rather someone to answer questions about the club, maybe introduce them to other members who have similar interests. In short, make them feel welcome, and feel that they are a part of the group. So, I would like to ask the other members to please take a minute to introduce yourselves to the new members.

One more thing. The new website is coming along nicely, and I think you will be pleased with it. Here are some of the features we're implementing:

- Everyone will have their own login/account. With that account, you'll have:
  - Personal profile
  - Picture gallery
  - Event calendar (interactive)
  - Discussion forums (questions, projects, for sale, etc.)
  - Each account will have a picture, so that when you send or receive messages, you can put a face to the name.

There will also be a complete archive of newsletters, links to woodturning resources, and the history of the club. I guess that's it for this month. Don't forget - this month's challenge is "Crazy Egg". I hope to see some truly outlandish creations! - Jon

**Membership dues are due•** Dues for 2013 became payable at the end of last year. An application is available on the club web site. Dues are \$30 individual; \$40 family.

[http://www.stlturners.org/pdfs/stlw\\_Member\\_Form\\_ver3.pdf](http://www.stlturners.org/pdfs/stlw_Member_Form_ver3.pdf)

Please make sure that the contact information we have on file is correct (check the on-line roster on the club web site under "members only").

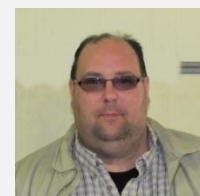


## Club News>

**Attendance/Treasurers Report●** Forty seven members/guests attended the February meeting. Walt reported a balance of ~\$2100 with insurance still to be paid. A summary of 2012 transactions is provided at the end of the newsletter.

**Insurance●** Since the AAW no longer provides insurance coverage for the chapter members we had to purchase our own. We are now covered by the Hartford Company and have coverage for all members of the club, not just AAW members.

**Web site●** The new site should be ready for release in about a month. If you would like to be a “beta” tester to provide feedback before it goes live, contact President Jon Spelbring.



**New Member●** Please join me in welcoming Brandon Harris from St. Peters, MO.

**Lathe safety shield●** We are obtaining the design used by the AAW at symposiums. That design allows for lighting, video, and speakers to be on the same mounting system as the protective shield.

**Picnic Planning●** Laura is asking members to turn a vase to be used for arrangements at each of the tables. They can be wet or dry and of just about any size. There may be a “vase exchange” or awards – TBD.

**Coffee and Cookies●** The club has purchased a coffee pot for demonstrations but in the interim we now have coffee available at our meetings. In addition, Laura has made arrangements with BC Bakehouse to supply cookies for our meetings. They are 50 cents each and purchased on the honor system. Member reaction was positive at our Feb meeting as they were all sold.



**President's Challenge>** The February challenge was to make an off center turning and several members responded. During the break, members voted on their favorite entry and Rich Hinkebein's bird house was the winner. Rich shared Frank Penta's site that gave him the inspiration for his turning, [www.woodspriteturnings.com](http://www.woodspriteturnings.com). Rich received a gift certificate from Craft Supplies and all entrants are on their way toward qualifying for the big drawing at the end of the year (each member must be a participant for at least 6 times during the year to qualify). See the Show and Tell section for pictures of all the entries.



The challenge for March is turning crazy eggs – not just your typical turned egg. It must be pierced, dyed, carved, off center - your choice to make it **crazy**. It will be an egg - extravagant event!

## Upcoming Events:

Calendar of Events		
March 24	Meeting at Woodcraft	Pre-meeting demo at <b>11:30am</b> with Dan Burleson reviewing roughing techniques and the basics of making square stock round. Meeting demo by Jon Spelbring on table leg turning.
April 28	Meeting at Woodcraft	Pre-meeting TBD. Meeting demo by Dan Burleson on basic techniques for turning a platter.

### WoodTurners of St. Louis present **Alan Carter**

#### **Demonstration at Kirkwood High School, Saturday, April 6, 2013 9am – 4pm**

Member: \$40\* ☐ Non-Member: \$50\* ☐ Student:\*\* \$0 ☐

Box lunch: \$10\*\*\*☐

\* Registrations after 24 March are \$45 for members/\$55 for non-members

\*\* Students 18 years old and younger may attend for free but must complete this form and register prior to the demonstration.

\*\*\* Saturday Lunch can be on your own or you may order a box lunch for \$10 (all participants).

#### **Hands-On Classes at Craft Alliance, 501 N. Grand Blvd, St. Louis, MO**

#### **Sunday & Monday April 7 & 8, 2013 9am – 4pm**

Lunch is on your own. It is suggested that you bring a sack lunch so that you can meet with the other turners and Alan during the break. Each class is \$100 and you may register for more than one session. Classes are filled on a first paid, first served basis. Members attending the demonstration will have priority.

Class date preferred: Sunday 7 April 2013 ☐

Monday 8 April 2013 ☐

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **WoodTurners of St. Louis**. Mail the completed form and payment to:

**Walt Ahlgrim**  
**10 Ramblewood Lane**  
**St. Louis, MO 63141**

## February Show & Tell



Plates turned and decorated by Dan Burlison.



Bowl and plate by Bill Farny.



Although Dave called this his "double skew" it is actually a tool he made to clean up the corners of mortising cuts in the timber furniture he is making.





Bowl from Manzanita root burl that Bob Goulding purchased in California. Bob turned the outside then wrapped it in duck tape for stability while he turned the inside. A long extension was used for the sanding pads to finish the inside.



Cecil Robertson brought in the grinding jig that he purchased from Johannes Michelsen at the Woodworking Show in Collinsville.



Jeff Nasser displayed a pepper mill made with cross grain laminations and a box of pens turned with exotic woods.





## 2012 Income/ Expenses

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>1,736.01</b>
Demonstrations	-1,203.74
Berger	-1,344.50
Bosch	144.00
Clews	-3.24
Drawings	32.00
Ticket Sales	2.00
Other Drawings	30.00
End Sealer	-112.25
End Sealer Sales	265.00
Other End Sealer	-377.25
Members Dues	3,020.00
2012	2,075.00
2013	915.00
2014	30.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>-3,336.45</b>
Uncategorized	0.00
Club Expenses	-1,558.47
Audio-Video	-15.45
Chairs	-736.38
Flyers	-19.57
Government Fees	0.00
Membership cards	-85.65
Picnic	-152.02
Postage	-18.00
Tools	100.00
Web Site	-598.50
Other Club Exp...	-32.90
Libaray	-804.85
News Lertter	-973.13
Postage	-264.38
Printing	-708.75

OVERALL ... -1,600.44

Checking Ballance 12/31/2012 2,855.75

## Entries for the President's Challenge – February 2013 Off Center Turning



**American Association of Woodturners** • The AAW is dedicated to providing education, information, and organization to those interested in woodturning. You can join the AAW at their site: <http://woodturner.org/member/MemberLogOn.asp>. Membership comes with access to on-line training information and includes a subscription to the *American Woodturner* magazine. The 27<sup>th</sup> international symposium will be held in Tampa, Florida, June 28-30, 2013. Our club is a chapter of the AAW.

Woodturners of STL  
771 Meadow Cliff Drive  
St. Charles, MO 63303

Join the Woodturners of St. Louis: If you like turning wood, making things on your lathe and want to learn more about woodturning then join the Woodturners of St. Louis. Learn and share ideas with like-minded Woodturners of St. Louis. Our chapter normally meets from 1:00pm to 4:00 pm on the fourth Sunday of every month at Woodcraft Supply; 2077 Congressional Drive (Westport area), St. Louis, MO 63146.

<http://www.stlturners.org>

**Facebook site** • Check out the club Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Woodturners-of-St-Louis/292734664135601> and “Like” the page (click on the “Like” icon) to receive updates.



#### Board Members

President:	Jon Spelbring	618.698.3626	<a href="mailto:jon@spelbring.net">jon@spelbring.net</a>
Vice President:	Dan Burleson	636.299.6302	<a href="mailto:danburleson1@gmail.com">danburleson1@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	<a href="mailto:cwsapp@charter.net">cwsapp@charter.net</a>
Treasurer:	Walt Ahlgrim	314.567.5268	<a href="mailto:stlwoodturner@sbcglobal.net">stlwoodturner@sbcglobal.net</a>
Conf. Admin.	James Payne		<a href="mailto:jpayne.2011@gmail.com">jpayne.2011@gmail.com</a>
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Librarian:	Rich Hinkebein	636.332.2396	<a href="mailto:kathryna1945@yahoo.com">kathryna1945@yahoo.com</a>

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