

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

stlturners.org

July 2013

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

July Demo > Jon Spelbring – Turning Utilitarian Items / Ice Cream Social • Jon has found that turning utilitarian items is not only fun but that it also makes up for a lot of Turned Treasures' sales at shows. Members have also told the Board that they would like some time to visit with the other members and share ideas at the meetings. So the idea of turning an ice cream scoop handle for a kit and combining that with an ice cream social quickly became the theme for the July demonstration.



Jon uses a spring loaded center punch to mark the center of the stock. These are available for about \$3 at Harbor Freight. You just push in on the mark and a spring loaded device "punches" a small dimple on the stock which can be used for the steb and tail stock centers. In this case, Jon was marking a point to align a drill bit. With the lathe set at a slow speed, the tail stock is advanced to drill to the depth needed for the scoop tang. This is not a critical depth as long as you go deep enough, but you can also put



a piece of tape on the bit to mark the depth. (Editor's note – leaving the tail assembly loose on the rails and advancing the bit until it just starts to engage and then tightening the tail assembly will help it align with the head stock.) Using calipers (with the ends rounded so they don't grab the piece) a bedan was used to quickly cut the tenon on the end for the



ferrule. Jon continued to shape the handle with a skew and gouges. He likes to turn with an offset tool rest where the post is offset instead of in the middle. This is useful for getting a longer reach into a turning and rotating it to get up-close. Although the post is separate, Jon prefers to lock-tite a post to each rest. Once the handle is shaped, Jon uses his D-Way beading tool to add decoration. The scoop from the kit is

typically attached to the handle with epoxy. Some kits completely seal the end and some just have a tang that fits in the hole. With the latter type, Jon seals the end with some of the epoxy used to secure the scoop and applies a friction or lacquer finish. Thanks for the demo Jon.



After quick clean up of the area, the ice cream, sprinkles, whipped cream, and nuts were brought out and the meeting dismissed for the ice cream social!



Walt, Dave, & Bill



Dan, Cecil, Rick, Bob, Jeff

Pre-Meeting Demo> Bill Farny – Hold It● If you have every wondered how you would/could hold a piece to turn I hope you were at the July meeting when Bill Farny presented an extensive summary of various means to hold your work.



- Mandrel - stock is mounted on the shaft and secured between the head and tail stock and secured by friction from the nut being tightened against the work
- Arbor – mounted in the head stock with a protruding screw (e.g. 3/8”) often used for bottle stoppers
- Collet – designed to hold small parts on the lathe safely and accurately. It is great for holding small turnings. After the piece is inserted into the collet, the collar is tightened. Each collet is designed to hold a specific size tenon. Sets are typically available from 1/64” to 3/4”.
- Drill Chuck – although typically used to hold drill bits this device can also provide a secure grip for dowels and tenons up to the capacity of the chuck (typically 3/8” or 1/2”). Both keyed and keyless chucks are available.



- Wood compression collet – Homemade design at a fraction of the cost of metal collets. A hole of the desired size is cut into the end of a turned cylinder, slots are cut, and a compression fit is obtained with the use of a hose clamp. A locking nut is secured in the end for easy mounting to the head stock drive screw. The plastic “locking material” in the end of the nut is cut away so that it will firmly mount to the head stock screw should there be a shoulder on the screw. [Inventory Sales Company](#) at 9777 Revis Road, St. Louis has an inventory of fasteners that will fit your lathe.



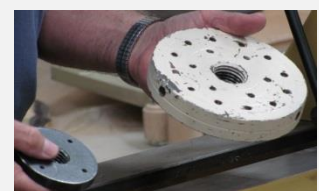
- Chuck – Known for their precise, smooth action, chucks can be used for mounting your turning and offer a wide range of accessories. Cole jaws can be used for reverse chucking bowls so that the bottom and foot can be shaped and finished off. The pads can be positioned in many locations giving a wide range of sizes and shapes that can be held. Pin jaws are made for holding smaller work such as finials and dowels; dovetail jaws give a wide range of grips; step jaws provide various size grips. Remember, always leave a lip to register against the jaws so that your work does not rock from side



to side and use the tail stock for support whenever possible (especially when holding square stock in the chuck). Chucks can also be used in expansion to hold a piece by mounting the jaws in a recess cut in the piece. Sufficient wood must be available to prevent the expansion of the jaws from splitting the piece.

- Faceplates – made from steel, aluminum or even wood, provide a means to hold cross grain turnings.

They are not recommended for securing in end grain. Glue blocks can be secured to the faceplate to hold the turning or donuts can be constructed to provide access to the bottom of turned bowls for finishing. Dry wall screws should never be used for securing work to a





faceplate as they are too brittle. Metal or wood screws must be used; the shank diameter should match the holes in the faceplate and at least 7 threads



should penetrate the turning piece.

- Jam chuck – This is a friction fit and can be used in a variety of ways. To hold a bowl, grooves can be cut in a plate and tape used as a back-up along with the tail stock. A rounded piece of stock with a non-slip material (such as drawer liner or even a paper towel) along with pressure from the tail stock can be used to clean up the bottom of a natural edge bowl. Even a



sphere can be held and turned with the friction of a jam chuck on the head and tail stock.



- Vacuum chuck – The heart of the system is a pump to provide a consistent vacuum (Bill Rubenstein has pumps for sale, \$199, http://stubbylatheusa.com/Online_Store/VacuumPumpStraightTalk.pdf).



Various vacuum chuck heads are used to hold bowls and other items. The heads can be purchased commercially or homemade from a variety of items. Packing foam makes a good sealant between the turning and the chuck.

- Glue blocks – Super glue and hot melt glue can be used to secure turnings to a glue block that is secured in the head stock. A tenon cut on one side and a recess on the other provides additional support and alignment. (When using super glue some of it often remains in the nozzle and plugs it. Bang the bottle on a table after use to clear the nozzle for next time!)
- Double faced tape – This high strength tape is used to hold smaller pieces to a faceplate or block without screws. Both surfaces need to be dry, flat, and clean to use the tape. After applying the tape to one side the covering is removed from the other side – rather than picking at the edge, make a cut in the middle of the tape covering and pick at it. It will come off a lot easier than picking at the edge!
- Expanding arbors – Working in reverse of the compression collets these devices pull a wedge through a hole to expand into a recess to secure your work.



If you need more ideas, Richard Raffan's book, Turning Wood, has a chapter on drives, faceplates, and chucks. It is available in our library. You can also check the catalogs from [Packard Woodworks Inc.](#), [Peachtree](#), [Penn State Industries](#), [Craft Supplies USA](#) or with Bill for design advice on making your own. Thanks Bill for a great discussion on holding devices.

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



- Dale Nish – “Woodturning Christmas Ornaments”. It is creative and has several nice projects for small pieces of wood.
- Walter Hall – “Complete Guide to Turning Pens and Pencils”. Good tips and suggestions on a wide variety of styles.
- Nick Gibbs – “The Real Wood Bible”. 100 woods are described with color pictures before and after finishing.

- Michael O'Donnell – “Turning Green Wood”. A popular book focusing on bowl and natural edge projects from fresh logs. It is geared toward the newer turner.
- Nick Arnull – “Contemporary Woodturning, Techniques, and Projects”. Good basic information and interesting and unusual projects, including instructions on piercing, texturing, and coloring.
- Stephen Hogbin – “Hogbin on Woodturning”. Described by Jon Spelbring in the June newsletter book review article. We also have his previous book: “Evaluating: The Critique in the Studio Workshop”.
- Woodturning Design for August 2013. Excellent articles including ones on bowl design and pen turning.

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 will soon be on our club web site. Please take advantage of this wonderful club benefit.



President's Spin > Jon Spelbring • Wow, this summer is passing so fast! It seems like it was spring just last week. Oh wait, it kinda was. I hope everyone is enjoying our remarkable weather. Let's hope it holds!

The past couple of years have flown by too. It seems like only a couple of months ago that I met with the old board, and was nominated to be president. But, time presses on, and I'll only be your prez for a few more months. So, if you are interested in the job, or know someone who is, send them on over!

I'm not done yet though! I misspoke (surprise!) at the last meeting. This month the President's Challenge is not the Kendama (that's next month -to bring to the picnic). August's challenge is all about dieting. Yes folks, thin is in! I would like all participants to turn something thin - as thin as you can. I'm sure that most people's mind jump straight to thin-walled bowl. Yes, that's certainly one option, but there are others. For example, turn a hollow form, or a hollow Christmas ornament. Or how about a trembleur? (<http://robert.bosco.pagesperso-orange.fr/trembleur.htm>) “What's that?” asked Mssr. Escoulan. It's basically a long, and in places, very thin spindle. Still not your thing? How about a thin stemmed goblet?



I hope that everyone had a good time at last meeting - there wasn't much ice cream left. Next time, I will recommend that we also have a sugar free selection (I kinda forgot). Anyway, perhaps my successor will keep the ball rolling. You can't beat ice cream in July.

We've got one more meeting before the picnic, and as you know, the August demo will be on making a Kendama. Also know, that the Kendama will be our game/contest for the picnic. The tricks/rules will be in the

next newsletter. Charlie has added the instructions/dimensions to the newsletter and to the website under [Projects](#). Don't feel like you have to wait for my demo.

Also, the new picture member directory is on line - and it's protected. You must be logged in to see it. Good work, Charlie! It can be found under the members tab.

I would be remiss (and in trouble) if I didn't remind everyone who has not yet made a vase, to please do so! (there, now I get dinner - yay!)

I guess that's it for now. I hope to see everyone at the next meeting! -Jon

Tip of the Month> If you have a keyed Jacobs chuck, use it to store your key when it is OFF the lathe. – Bill Farny



Club News>

Scholarships / Training● The AAW offers scholarships/grants for training. For 2013 the AAW Education Opportunity Grants (EOG) had 117 applications and 27 were approved in the amount of \$35,723. Applications must be submitted by December 31 annually. Contact any of the officers if you would volunteer to write an application for our club. <https://www.woodturner.org/resources/eog/>.

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. If you are renewing, please make sure that the [contact information](#) we have on file is correct.

Attendance/Treasurers Report● Forty four members/guests attended the July meeting.

Web site● The new site is open: www.stlturners.org and development continues. The Kendama article from AAW has been loaded under the projects tab; newsletters back to 2005 have been loaded; and a photo directory of current members is available under the members tab. Let Jon know of any issues or suggestions. It has a “firewall” so that non-members will not have access to any member information. If you have any issues logging onto the site or becoming a registered member, contact [Jon Spelbring](#) or [Brandon Harris](#). If they do not respond within 48 hours, please contact them again via email.

Each member can load pictures to their profile. If you would like to be featured on the home page, provide Jon with 4 to 6 good quality pictures (640 x 480) of your turnings with the same background.

We are in the process of taking over the old URL so www.stlturners.org will continue to be our official URL.

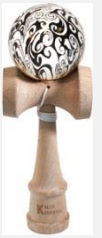
New Members● Dave Ackmann joined last month but I just got his picture. Welcome Dave.



Safety Shield & Videographer Assistance Needed ● We need help in getting the safety shield and video equipment set up prior to the meeting. The shield must be brought off the shelf and assembled. The video screen needs to be set-up on top of a cabinet at the front of the room, and the projector set up on a roll away cart. If you can help, please contact any of the officers.

Picnic Planning ● **September 29 is the date** for our club picnic. Note that it is on the 5th Sunday versus the 4th Sunday of the month and will be at Spencer Creek Park in St. Peters. Lunch will start at 1 pm.

Jon announced that the challenge for the picnic is to turn a Kendama. The Kendama is like the traditional cup and ball game, except more complex. It is known in Japan like the yoyo is known in the Western world. It consists of a ball attached to a string, with three separate cups in which the ball can be caught. The ball also has a hole in it that can be caught on the tip of the stick. As you can tell from the picture, Jon is quite excited in having caught the ball in front of the members at the July meeting. The internet has several videos that show multiple tricks firsthand.



The August 2011 issue of the AAW American Woodturner has an article by Arnold Ward on building a Kendama and it is available on-line for members of AAW, in our club library, and on the [Project](#) page on our web site (reprinted with permission of the AAW). Suggested dimensions from the AAW magazine are also provided at the end of this newsletter.

Prizes will be awarded for two categories: Style/Appearance and Scoring/Playing the Game. For more information: www.kendamakyokai.com/index_english.html , <http://sweetskendamas.com/videos/tips-tricks/> or the video at http://search.yahoo.com/search;_ylt=Aowzo16aQbVhztYb45uZy6ubvZx4?fr=yfp-t-900-1-s&toggle=1&cop=mss&ei=UTF-8&p=kendama%20tricks.

We will also have the creative event where everyone can assemble “whatever” from scrap wood pieces using hot glue and imagination. (Members, save those ends and cut offs and bring them to the picnic for this event.) There will also be the swap and sell table where you can trade or sell wood, tools, finishes, Laura is asking members to turn a vase and **bring it to the August meeting** so she can make the flower arrangements for the tables. The vases can be wet or dry and of just about any size (4” – 12”). There may be a “vase exchange” or awards and an auction of donated vases – TBD. Let [Laura](#) know ASAP that you will be turning one for the picnic.

More information on activities and a map will be available at the meetings and in the August newsletter.

Coffee and Cookies ● Complementary coffee is available at the meetings. Cookies are 50 cents each and purchased on the honor system.

President’s Challenge > July Favorite Turner Look Alike ● The President’s Challenge for July was to turn a piece in the style of your favorite turner. The winning entry, selected by the members, was the thin wall vase with piercing and painting by John Buehrer. Congratulations to John. His piece was in the style of Frank Sudal (not Binh Pho). The other entries in the President’s Challenge are shown in the President’s



Challenge section of the newsletter.

August's Presidents Challenge – Go thin● Any style of thin wall, thin shaft, thin whatever turning. Entries will be judged by the members. A gift certificate will be awarded the winning turning and all entrants will get credit toward the year end drawing (minimum of 6 entries during the year).

Nomination of Board Members for 2014● If you are interested in serving the club as a Board Member, please contact any of the current officers. Jon is currently serving the second of his two year terms and we will need a member to step forward to serve as President. The other positions will also be up for election.

Death of former member● Ken Maness, [Ken](#) was a member of the club until he had health problems. He passed away on July 9th.

Professional Turner Seminar● The club is planning to bring in [Nick Agar](#) for a seminar and hands on turning event on 12 April 2014. James Payne will have more details to follow.

Symposiums>

●Southwest Association of Turners woodturning symposium will be held in Waco, TX Aug 23-25, 2013, visit www.SWATurners.org for more information.

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. Our club is a chapter of the AAW.

Remember to vote for your 2014 AAW Board of Directors. Voting must be completed by Oct 18, 2013.

Book Review by Rich Hinkebein>“Segmented Wood Turning” by William Smith●

This book was published in 2002 and focuses on open segment turning versus the traditional types of segmented turning. Open segments are small pieces of wood with spaces in between them. The method can be used to create a form with multiple layers of segments or to give a special feature to a bowl by adding one or more rings of open segments. This is a simple way to jazz-up an otherwise plain bowl by inserting a ring of segments of a contrasting color. The author strives for about 1/3 of the diameter of a ring to be open space. He has provided a chart that lists the size of the segments based on diameter of the ring being developed and the number of segments that the turner has chosen to use. The degree of angle of each segment is based on

the number of segments in the ring. Thickness of the segments can vary but he uses 3/8 inch for his sample project.

The book includes indexing wheels for various numbers of segments which you can copy, glue to a thin piece of material, drill a hole to fit the spindle of your lathe, and then place behind the chuck. He describes how to set these up with a pointer attached to the lathe to evenly space the segments. You could also use the indexing system that is on most lathes, make your own wheels, or purchase them. Another jig needed is one to properly position each level of segments. He gives clear instructions on how to make this simple tool to fit your particular lathe. I have not yet made one of these but just use the end of the tool rest and then visually fit in the last segment when the previous segments interfere with the tool rest. He recommends ripping the segments from a board of at least 3/4 inch thick to give room for design options. These strips should then be planed or sanded to ensure they are of even thickness and are flat which will make adding the next ring or the rim easier.

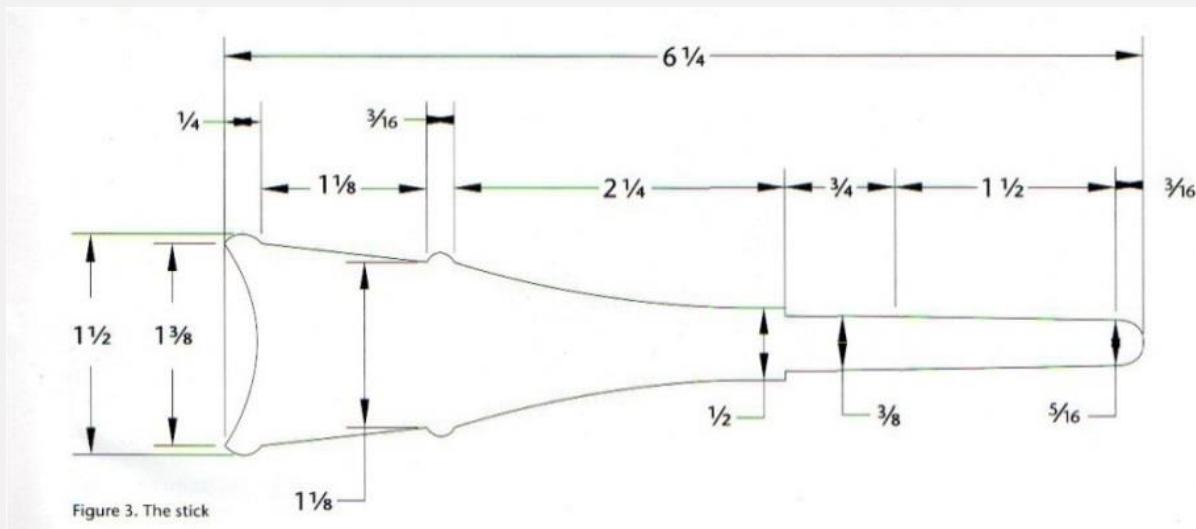
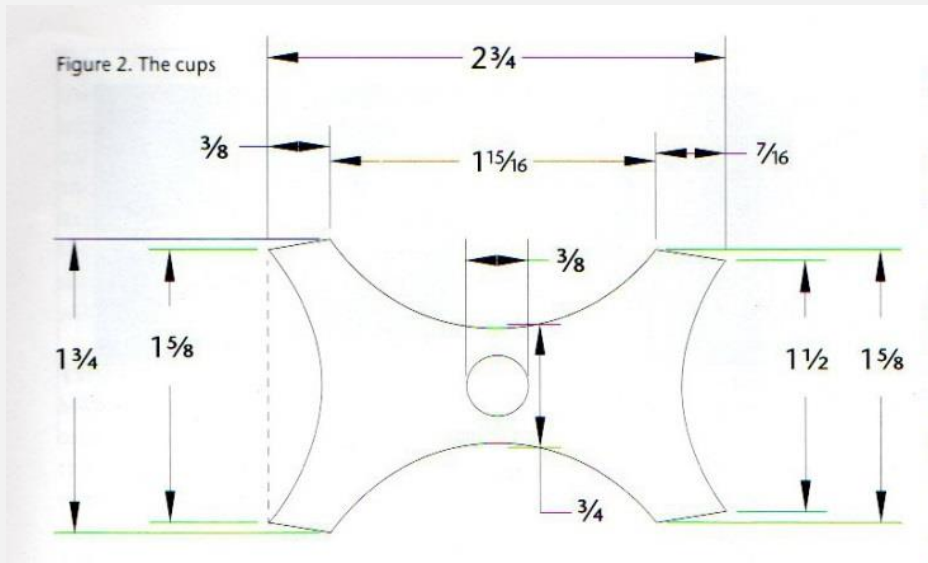
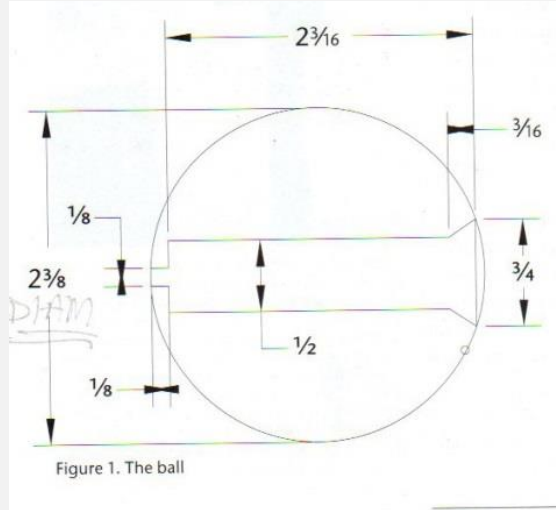
There are a variety of ways to cut the segments. I have switched from the miter saw to the band saw because it is quicker for me. I then quickly sand the cut edges, which are end grain, on 120 grit sandpaper on a disk sander. He mentions that exact measurements are not critical although more so for projects using larger numbers of segments. It helps to lay out the segments in the correct order you want before gluing up to avoid confusion. He uses a small amount of yellow glue, puts pressure on the segment for 5 seconds with his fingers, and then moves to the next segment. Wait ten minutes, face off the ring gently to ensure flatness and even height, and then do the next layer.

The book also shows some more complicated projects, gives a lot of ideas on how to do the work, and has a gallery of finished items. This book is well written, concise but thorough, and with lots of excellent pictures to clearly describe his process.

Upcoming Events:

Coming Events Calendar		
Aug 25	Meeting at Woodcraft	Both the pre-meeting and meeting demonstrations will be on turning a Kendama. Charles Sapp will be turning a sphere and drilling it for the Kendama at the pre-meeting. Jon Spelbring will be turning the cups and the stick for the Kendama during the meeting demo.
Sept 29	Annual Picnic	Meeting will be held at Spencer Creek park. Challenge – bring your Kendama for judging and competition. Turn a vase for table decoration! See article in the newsletter for more information.

Kendama Drawings from American Woodturner, August 2011 issue, article by Arnold Ward.
 Dimensions are in inches.



July Show and Tell



Dave Ackmann turned these bottle stoppers with various shapes and cabochon inserts. He also shared his experience on how to tap a bottle stopper for the stainless steel insert. It is found under projects on the club web site.



John Bouchillon showed his first natural edge burl bowl and a soft maple bowl that he turned with a carved dog wood flower insert in the bottom. .



Brandon Harris' first bowl turned from a cherry root.



Dan Schmoker showed a bowl turned from a Manser cherry burl and a maple bowl with chestnut dyes.



Jeff Bemis' first natural edge bowl turned in walnut.



Pens turned by Jan Hoffman and the jig she designed to hold the pen blank while drilling. The top pen is silver maple with a CA finish, the middle pen is mahogany with a Briwax finish, and the bottom pen has a Shellawax friction polish finish.



Cecil Robertson showed a slice of white oak that he obtained after the tree was blown down by a recent tornado. A count of the rings showed that it was ~150 years old.



Richard Hinkebein showed open segmented bowls that he turned after being inspired by a book written by William Smith. The book is available in our library. Be sure to read Rich's review of W. Smith's book on segmented turning in this newsletter.

Additional Entries for the President's Challenge – July Turn a Piece in the Style of your Favorite Woodturner (Answers at the bottom of this segment)



Bob Goulding turned this hollow vessel. Who was his favorite turner?



Chris Weiler turned this box in the style of what favorite turner?



Rich Hinkebein had two favorite turners. One known for his open segmented turnings and the second for segmented jewelry. Who are they?



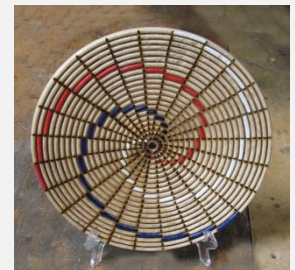
Laura Spelbring designed this turning after which favored turner?



Jon Spelbring's off center turning was patterned after which favored turner?



This artistic design by Bill Farny was patterned after which favored turner?



Charles Sapp did this beaded plate turning in the style of what favored turner?

- Bob Goulding – David Ellsworth
- Chris Weiler – Richard Raffan
- Rich Hinkebein – William Smith & Malcom Tibbetts
- Laura Spelbring – Steve Hogbin (one of his books was reviewed in the June newsletter)
- Jon Spelbring – Jon Escoulen
- Bill Farny – Allen Carter
- Charles Sapp – Dan Burlison

Woodturners of STL
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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.



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