

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

stlturners.org

September 2013

September Picnic>



The annual club picnic was a great success with about 50 club members and family attending the event at Sutter Mill Park. A special thanks goes to Laura Spelbring for coordinating the event, making the flower arrangements in the vases turned by club members for the table decorations, and for fixing the coffee. Thanks also to Jeff Bemis for doing the cooking and bringing the variety of fantastic pulled pork; to Ray Koeneman for reserving the pavilion; and to all members and their families that attended and brought that great food.



Sell, Swap, Socialize● Tools, wood, and even a lathe were offered for sale at the swap and sell table. Members found some great bargains and had an opportunity to socialize before lunch.



Doug Ellermann, Gale Elble, Kay Hinkebein check out the tools.



Doug, Gale, Michael Blankenship, & Cheryl Koeneman



A variety of tools and jigs were offered for sale at the picnic.



Dan Schmoker, Jenne Ahlgrim, and Dotti Schmoker



Michael & Jackie Blankenship and Cheryl Koeneman

Kendama Competition • Following lunch, Jon announced the Kendama competition was starting. The contestants took the field and were allowed a brief time to warm up. Competition was single elimination, meaning that you got one try and if you failed you were out. So the competition for each challenge moved along at a brisk pace. Prizes (gift certificates) for the Kendama contests were awarded for:

- most successive catches (any cup)
 - Charles Sapp for the small and large end cups
 - Chris Weiler for center cup (end of stick)
 - Brandon Harris for the outside cup
- most successive spike catches
 - None during the competition
- most flip catches (back and forth between the side cups)
 - Chris Weiler
- all three cups, in order (largest to smallest)
 - None
- same as above, but finish with a spike catch
 - Not a chance



First event – consecutive catches on the cups. Chris, Jon, Dan, Jan, Laura, Charlie, and others not pictured



Laura and Charlie were the finalists.



Charlie was the winner.



Walt Ahlgrim, Brandon Harris, and Bob Goulding



Dixi Smith and Walt Ahlgrim



Bob Goulding



Brandon Harris won the outside cup catch challenge.



Kendama contestants.



After several tie breaking rounds, Chris was the winner for consecutive catches in the stick center cup.



Jan Hoffmann concentrates as she tries to catch the spike in the ball and not hurt herself or anyone else.



All entrants were winners! Back row: Dixi, Brandon, Walt, Dan, Laura, Jan, Charlie. Front row: Bob, Chris, Jon

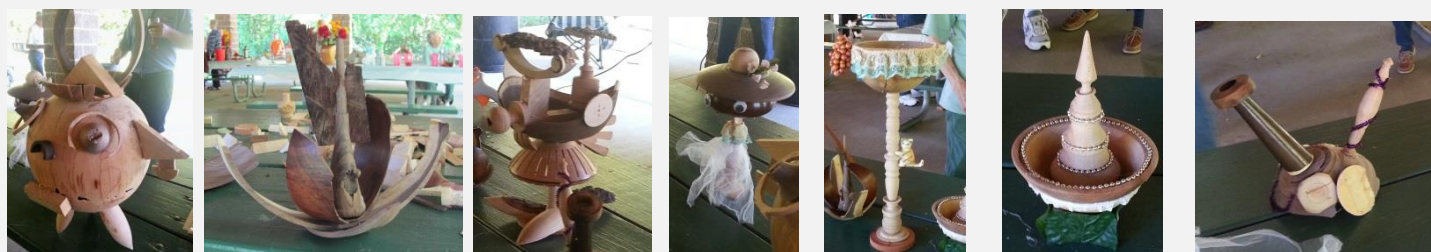


Members that did not compete were fascinated by the toy and tried their luck through out the afternoon. Bob & Alice Arndt gave it a try.



Freda Otto, Larry Guptill, and Jon Spelbring watch as Phyllis Guptill works on catching the ball on the Kendama spike. She DID it! She actually caught the ball on the spike. Learning from watching Phyllis, Larry and Jon also caught the ball on the spike during the afternoon festivities.

Critter building• Creating critters and works of art from scrap turnings is always a favorite activity of the picnic as it gets a lot of family members involved. As soon as the hot glue was ready, the scrap pieces were gathered by up by the teams to assemble their creation. Seven teams created pieces. Each piece was judged by the audience applause and it came down two entries. The readings from the applause meter reading on the smart phone app were deemed too close to call so a tie was declared. Clare Andracsek, Gail Elble, Chris Weiler, and Bill Farny were declared the winners. (Editor's note: Clare was the winner last year and still has it displayed on their mantle. Bob must provide her with plenty of scrap to practice with during the off season.)



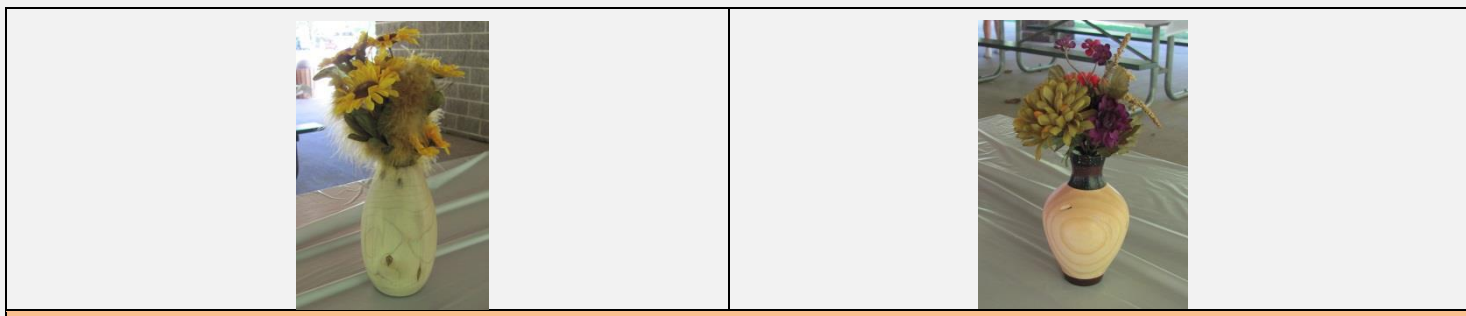
Entries for the critter design contest.





Table Decorations • Members turned and donated vases to the club and Laura Spelbring put together the flower arrangements for the table decorations. A couple of the vases were auctioned off to raise funds for the club. Nice job by everyone. Thanks.





More picnic pictures● The electronic newsletter has additional pictures from the picnic at the end of the newsletter. Sorry, they are only available on the web site.

Library News > Rich Hinkebein● The library was open for returns and DVD check outs at the picnic.



There were no items added to the library this month. But Rich is reviewing some new material and will have them available next month. If you have any suggestions for additions to the library, please contact him.

An index of our club library is available for members on the [club website](#).

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. Please take advantage of this wonderful club benefit.



President's Spin > Jon Spelbring ● Wow, another month gone. This summer really seemed to fly by. For me, our annual picnic signals that fall is here. That means cooler weather, and hopefully, more time in the shop. Speaking of "in the shop". I hope to see some unique and beautiful lidded boxes at the next meeting in response to the October President's Challenge!

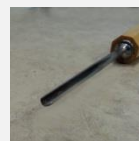
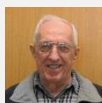
Congratulations to all of the Kendama contest winners! Who says toys are for kids. I am planning to make a few more for my nephews. I hope that those who participated had fun making them.

I would also like to say "thanks" once more to Jeff, Laura, Ray, and everyone else who helped make this year's picnic a great one. Well done!

On a club business note, I am looking for volunteers for the October 27th pre-meeting and the demonstration. Given that it's October, and we have our ornament exchange at the wine and cheese social in November, tradition says that the pre and demo should be about ornament making. So, if you would like to do the pre-meeting or demonstrate an ornament (any kind you like!), please contact me, or one of the other officers.

That's all I have for this month. Keep on turning, and have fun! - Jon

Tip of the Month> When making open segmented turnings you often end up with some excess glue at the joints. A “V” tool is very handy for cleaning up joints. The “V” fits nicely at the intersection and the wings of the “V” can be used to clean off the horizontal and vertical surfaces and maintain the perpendicular intersections. — Dan Hill



Club News>

Attendance/Treasurers Report● Approximately 50 members/guests attended the September meeting/picnic.

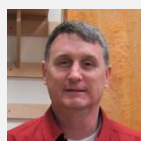
Web site● The new site is open: www.stlturners.org and development continues. If you have any issues logging onto the site or becoming a registered member, contact [Jon Spelbring](#) or [Brandon Harris](#). If they do not respond within 48 hours, please contact them again via email.

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.

The club web site offers a page for your “for sale” items. Check it out under the “forums” tab. The information is available to both club members and anyone else logging on to our site.

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

Safety Shield & Videographer Assistance Needed● Thanks to those that helped in getting the safety shield and video equipment set up prior to the meeting and put away. This will be needed at all the Woodcraft meetings so please continue to help with the set up and put away. Thanks to Chris Weiler for a great job with the video of both the pre and meeting demos.



September President’s Challenge> Kendama● The President’s Challenge for September was to turn and compete in the club Kendama competition. Congratulations to those that entered. See pictures of the competition at the annual picnic in this newsletter.

October President’s Challenge> Lidded Box● Turn a lidded box. On center, off center, tight fit, loose fit,....turner’s choice. Entries must be a new turning and 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. All positions will be up for election at the November meeting (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer). Editor’s note: Bob Goulding has indicated that he is a candidate for President; Walt Ahlgrim is willing to serve as Treasurer for another term; and Charles Sapp is willing to serve as Secretary for another term. We do need a candidate for VP.

Professional Turner Seminar● The club has scheduled [Nick Agar](#) for a seminar and hands on turning event on 12-14 April 2014. The hands on turning will be at Woodcraft. Cost and sign up will be available soon.

Club Membership Roster● Members with electronic access can view the [roster](#) on-line.

Club Members in the News>

- **Michael Blankenship** - The flooding in Colorado caused the cancellation of the 15th annual Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium which was featuring Michael Blankenship with his demonstration of "Turning Blind". However, he has been re-scheduled for the symposium in 2014!



- **Dan Burleson** – Dan was awarded a blue ribbon Award of Excellence at the Queeny Park Art Show for 3D along with another wood artist (not a turner) and a sculpture artist. There were 130 artists competing. It is not very often that a Woodturner is chosen above a potter or jewelry artist. Dan accepted the ribbon on behalf of all woodturners as it promotes woodturning to the public. He is currently demonstrating at Silver Dollar City.



- **Matt Keim** – Matt was a featured artist at the Schlafly Outside Art Fair. Now in its 10th year, Schlafly Art Outside is a three day juried art fair featuring over 50 artists from the St. Louis area.



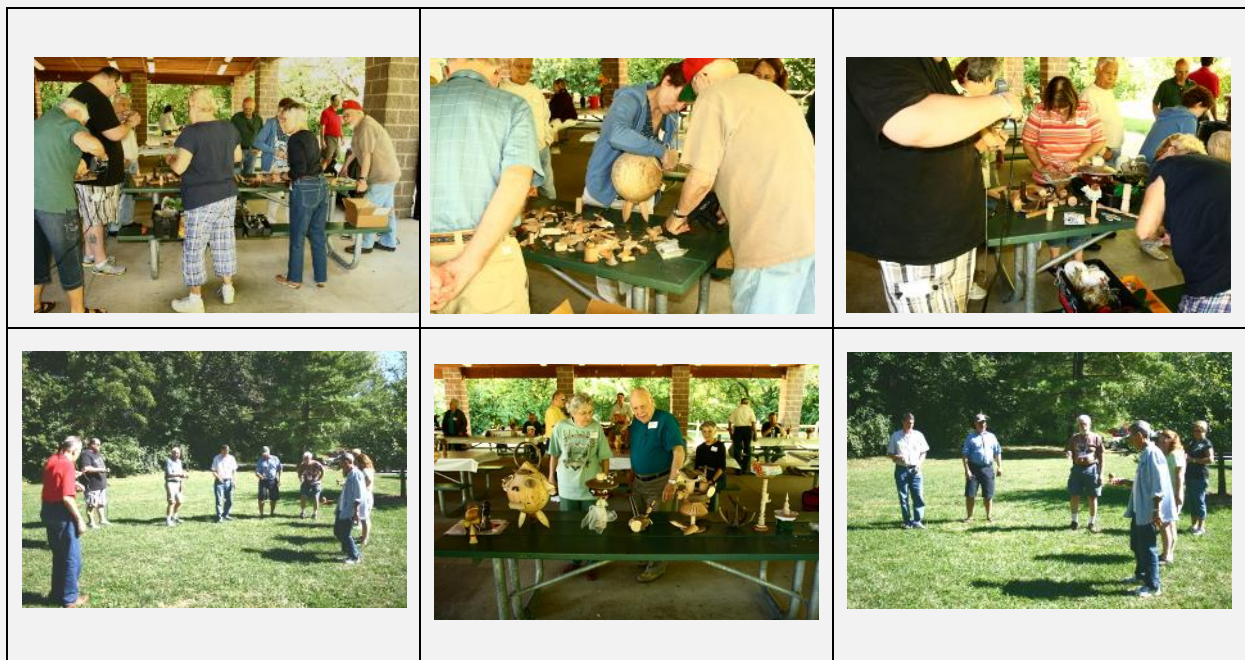
American Association of Woodturners● The AAW is dedicated to providing education, information, and organization to those interested in woodturning. You can join the AAW at their site: <http://woodturner.org/member/MemberLogOn.asp>. Membership comes with access to on-line training information and includes 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.

Upcoming Events:

Coming Events Calendar		
Oct 27	Meeting at Woodcraft	Turning Christmas ornaments. Demonstrators TBD
Nov 24	Meeting at Woodcraft	Annual Wine & Cheese Social, Ornament exchange, Officer Election. No pre-meeting or meeting demo. Bring an appetizer and drink to share.
Dec	No meeting	Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Member Interests ● The Board needs your feedback/input on demonstrations for next year. What would you like to see turned – functional items (rollings pins, salt shakers, bowls, tools,..) or would you like to create art (wall decorations, jewelry, air brushing, surface decorating,..) or would you like to see pens (wood, plastic, nuts, ...)? How about techniques in photographing your work? WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK to better serve you. Please send an email to [Charlie](#) or contact any of the officers with your thoughts.





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	jon@spelbring.net
Vice President:	Dan Burleson	636.299.6302	danburleson1@gmail.com
Secretary:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	cwsapp@charter.net
Treasurer:	Walt Ahlgrim	314.567.5268	stlwoodturner@sbcglobal.net
Conf. Admin.	James Payne		jpayne.2011@gmail.com
Newsletter:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	cwsapp@charter.net
Librarian:	Rich Hinkebein	636.332.2396	kathryna1945@yahoo.com

Questions: info@stlturners.org