



WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

stlturners.org

April 2014

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

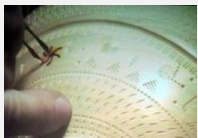
April Demo > Nick Agar • Nick comes to our club from Devon, England where he has his studio and gallery. He has over 28 years of woodturning experience. He is inspired by nature's coloring and textures and incorporates them into his work with carvings, punching, painting and metalizing.



Nick began the demonstration with a piece of soft maple that was turned into a cylinder and then shaped like a vase. He then collected some shavings, wet them, and rubbed the surface to raise the grain. The piece was then sanded to about 320 grit (leaving enough "tooth" for the paint to adhere). The vase was then painted with the first of four coats of white milk paint. The first coat was applied in several directions but subsequent coats were applied throughout the day in a circumferential manner to give the effect of a potter's wheel. Each coat was given time to dry and sanded with 320 grit between coats. The final coat was sanded to 1200 grit to give the vase a ceramic look and shine. Then using masks cut from blue tape and a torn brown paper bag, Nick airbrushed patterns onto the vase.



The Viking sunset bowls have become a signature class and demonstration turning piece. The idea was conceived on the woodturning cruise in Norway. Nick shapes a plain piece of wood into an object that looks like a spun metal-pewter bowl with a sunset color on the inside and details made with simple punches and texturing tools. He likes to use maple for the bowl due to its white color and close grain. A step by step pictorial of Nick turning a Viking sunset bowl can be found on the web at: <http://www.axminster-wtc.co.uk/videos--tutorials/viking-sunset-bowl.pdf>. Once the outside of the bowl is



turned and sanded to 400 grit it is textured. Nick used a variety of tools from [Sorby](#), leather working tools, counter sink bits, Phillips head screw driver, automatic center punch, wood burners, end mill cutter,...for texturing. Punches must be hit hard enough to keep the wood from



returning to its original shape but not too much to destroy the fibers. Pyrography can also be used, but shavings should be cleaned up or burning done in another area to eliminate the chance of a burning ember starting a fire. Once the texturing is complete, the outside is burnished with chips while the lathe is turning.

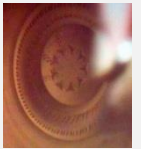
Nick then demonstrated airbrush techniques. He emphasized the need to practice before working on the bowl, getting used to bringing on the air and then the paint. He used a set of 6 low cost [airbrushes](#) for the demonstration, with a different color in each bottle. Using a black alcohol based stain (dye) that penetrates into the wood he sprayed the outside until the color looked wet, allowed it to dry for a short time and then re-sprayed as necessary to totally cover the outside.

A thin layer of [silver gilt cream](#) was then spread over the outside with a finger, using small

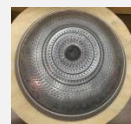


amounts and little circles. Care was taken to not get the silver in the pockets.

The bowl was then remounted to finish the inside. The rim was cleaned up, textured, and sprayed with the black dye and the center hollowed. A small dome was turned at the bottom, sanded, textured, burnished and painted with the black dye. Silver cream was rubbed on the center with the lathe off. The inside was then sanded to remove any overspray and silver cream. Using the airbrush, color was added first with yellow, then blended with red, and finally with a little black around the top edge to tone it down. Silver paste was then added to the rim with the lathe running.



The bowl was then reversed chucked to remove the bottom tenon and decorate the foot. Cole jaws, jam chuck, or a vacuum chuck can be used. You can check out the system sold by [Rubber Chucky](#) and get a 10% discount if you mention Nick Agar.



Nick then turned a platter to use for more demonstrations of airbrushing. Additional information on the platter turning can be found at: <http://www.carolinamountainwoodturners.org/articles/468>.



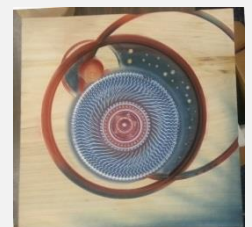
After showing some techniques on paper, Nick started airbrushing the platter. Using a leaf template he sprayed from one side around the edges and then from the center which gave a misting or ghosting effect around the edges. When applying several templates you can use [Frisket](#) to mask the area and blue tape – folded to make a fence to shield adjacent patterns. Waves can be made with French curves, cracks with a small slice of tape, mountain tops from torn paper, circles, ellipses, and rectangles with various templates.



Nick demonstrated off center turning on a large rectangular piece that had a sacrificial board (MDF) secured to the back with hot glue (and a couple of screws for safety). A faceplate was then attached to the MDF. He emphasized the need for extra precautions when turning off center – make a safe zone by placing the end of the tool rest past the turning piece



and use only an underhand grip to keep your hands in a safe zone. With the tool rest at the centerline and lathe speed set low for safety, he used a 3/8 inch spindle gouge with a fingernail grind to cut grooves, then sanded, textured, and painted his design. Then he marked the face plate (so he could come back if desired) and moved it to another location on the sacrificial board and continued decorating. This was repeated a couple more times keeping the tool rest at center for all cuts until the piece was finished. Nick emphasized the need for the tool rest to remain on center and possibly using a collar to the proper length on the tool rest post to ensure its placement.



Nick concluded his demonstration with a power-point presentation showing his studio and home in England. Thanks to Nick Agar for demonstrations of new texturing and airbrushing techniques to enhance our turnings.

See pictures of the hands-on workshop in the newsletter where students applied the techniques taught in Nick's demonstration.

Editor's note – Thanks to Dave Ackmann for locating several of the links to Nick's demonstrations and supplies and James Payne for pictures of the hands-on workshops. For a limited time, additional pictures of the demonstration can also be found at: <http://rickforrestal.blogspot.com/2014/04/pic-today-41314.html>.

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



- American Woodturner magazine – several articles that will help build basic skills.
- DVD Number 8 from Malcolm Tibbett – furnishings.

We have several VHS tapes on woodturning. They are in storage and not displayed at the meeting. Members can review the VHS tapes that are available on the club web site: [Library Directory](#). Let me or President Goulding know if you have a VCR and any interest in looking at or keeping the VHS tapes. We are running short on storage space and considering removing the VHS tapes.

If you can't get to a meeting:

- *You can return that item to the Woodcraft store at your convenience, just put your name and St. Louis Woodturners on the item and the store will get it to me.*
- *You can ask another member to return it.*
- *You can mail it to me or the store.*

Your support would be appreciated.” - Rich

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 and return items in a timely manner.

Tips of the Month • When screws are driven through your faceplate into the wood they raise a small mound that makes it difficult to get a flat mounting. Counter sink the holes on the back side of your face plate so that the raised wood does not throw off your faceplate mounting - Nick Agar

Shelf paper (contact paper) may also be used to mask your piece when airbrushing. – John Bouchillon



President's Spin > Bob Goulding • Thanks to everyone that made our Nick Agar demonstration and hands-on workshops such a success: James Payne for arranging the demonstration, Dave and Nancy Endres for hosting and providing housing for Nick, Jerry Goodson for videography, Walt Ahlgrim for arranging the lunches and refreshments, Jon and Laura Spelbring for the coffee and cookies, Rockler/St. Charles Hardwoods/Craft Supply for door prizes and all of you that attended! We had over 40 members and guests attending the demonstration and 14 turners for the hands-on workshops.

As a very special treat, our May 18th meeting will feature [Jim Adkins](#) who will be turning a [beaded platter](#). We expect to start the meeting at 11:30am and Jim will start his demonstration around noon with a short break sometime in the afternoon. Google the above links to see examples of his exciting work. You will want to be there for this demonstration.

We would like to have more of you involved with the club collaborative. The next meeting is May 17th at Bill Farny's house. Please let me or Bill know if you are coming so we can have enough food. See the article in the newsletter for more information on the collaborative and see the web site for pictures of past club entries.

The President's challenge for May is to turn a platter. You are encouraged to include texture, painting, but that is not a requirement.

Thanks to Dan Burleson for bringing some powdered copper to the Agar demonstration. He will bring it again to the May meeting and we will have some small bottles of it available (free) to members.

I encourage all of you to fill out your profile on our club web site and upload some of your pictures. New members – please get with our Newsletter Editor, Charlie Sapp, and get your picture taken for our pictorial membership directory that is available on-line only to members. — Bob Goulding

Club News>

Membership dues are due• Dues for 2014 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• About 40 members/guests attended the Nick Agar demonstration and 14 members participated in the hands-on turning workshop with Nick. — Walt Ahlgrim

Web site• Each member can up-load pictures to their profile. If you would like to be featured on the home page, provide Jon Spelbring with 4 to 6 good quality pictures (640 x 480) of your turnings with the same background. If you have any problems with web site operation, downloading, or general suggestions please contact the officers.

Members in the news• Dan Burleson had his first show of the year at the Queeny Park Art Show in Ballwin, MO. He was awarded a first place ribbon "Award of Excellence" for 3D art in wood with his [Waterfall Bowl](#). His next show is Mother's day weekend, May 9-11 at Laumeier Sculpture Park.

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

May President's Challenge – The President's challenge for May is to turn a platter. Enhancements with texturing, airbrushing, carving, is encouraged but not required.

Collaborative● The AAW sponsors a competition for clubs to turn a collaborative. What is a collaborative? It is a project that is completed by as many club members as possible, with a minimum of six participants working as a team. All team members must belong to the AAW. Pieces are judged in three categories: artistic, mechanical/technical, and fantasy. The next meeting is May 17th at Bill Farny's place. Lunch will be between noon and 1pm and the meeting will break by 4pm. Please contact [Bill](#) for more information and let him know that you would like to participate. [RSVP](#) so that he and Charlene have a head count for lunch. All levels of turning are needed and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Symposiums>

● **AAW >** The American Association of Woodturners Symposium is June 13-15, 2014 in Phoenix, AZ. Register today. Click on the graphic 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.

Upcoming Events:

Calendar of Events		
May 18	Meeting at Woodcraft – NOTE THE DATE CHANGE DUE TO MEMORIAL WEEKEND	<u>Business meeting will start at 11:30am</u> and then Jim Adkins will be turning a beaded platter for both the pre-meeting and meeting demos.



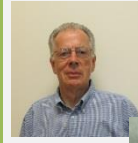
Gallery



Thin wall turning and airbrushing by Ray Koeneman.



Segmented vase by Gary Johnson.



Dixi Smith turned this thin wall natural edge bowl.



Beaded and textured bowls, plates, and platters turned by Dan Burleson.



Walnut and mahogany open segmented bowl by Michael Blankenship.



Turning art work designed by Bill Farny.



Thin walled natural edge vase by Bob Goulding.

Pictures from Nick Agar Hands-on Workshops



Ken Angeles Sr., Tom Zeller, Steve Reynolds



Tom Brock and Dan Schmoker



Don Dylewski, Nick Agar



Bill Farny, Frank (Woodcraft)



Dave Endres and student, Michael



Tom Zeller



Laura Spelbring



Bill Farny



Chris Erwin, Dave Endres, Dan Schmoker



Dan Bursleson, Charles Sapp



Nick Agar, Steve Reynolds



Jackie & Michael Blankenship, Nick Agar



Michael, Don, Chris, Laura, Dan, Bill, Nick, Jon, Tom



Steve, Bob, Ken, Tom, Frank, Michael, Nick, Dan, Bill, Charlie

If you like turning wood, making things on your lathe or 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:	Bob Goulding	636.745.2333	bobisturner@yahoo.com
Vice President:	James Payne		ipayne.2011@gmail.com
Secretary:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	cwsapp@charter.net
Treasurer:	Walt Ahlgrim	314.567.5268	stlwoodturner@sbcglobal.net
Conf. Admin.	James Payne		ipayne.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