

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

stlturners.org
February 2015

February Meeting Demo > Walt Ahlgrim: Twisted Candle Stick Holder●



If the last time you did the “twist” was to Chubby Checker in the 60’s. And to do it now would require help getting up from the floor, then you might want to consider doing the “twist” with your wood turning. A spiral is a cut line, like a screw thread or a grapevine that travels around and along a cylindrical object. The center can be solid or hollow and multiple “bines” (the area that is not cut away) can be created. It is up to the turner to decide how many rotations to make along the length but some will be more pleasing than others. The spiral may twist to the right or to the left; single or

multiple bines; the choices are up to the turner. Walt provided a step by step demonstration on how to create the twisted candle stick holder.

1 Rough out a blank 4 X 15 inches; watch for flaws that would weaken your turning (do not use the piece if it is unsafe to turn)

2 Cut blank down to 14 inches.

3 Decide what end is going to be the top.

4 Grind a taper on a drill bit (7/8” is typical). Drill a pilot hole if turning green wood as the spade bit tends to wander.

5 Drill a tapered hole in the top to hold the candle using the modified spade bit.

6 Put a live center in tail stock (if your live center does not fit the taper cut in step 5 then make an adaptor)

7 Hammer a drive center in the bottom of the blank and mount on the head stock.

8 Turn a tenon on bottom, between centers.

9 Get blank semi-round.

10 Turn top within ½ inch of the center hole.

11 Dismount blank and sand around hole.

12 Install chuck and loosely mount blank in chuck.

13 Bring up tail stock to get good alignment.

14 Tighten chuck and true up stock.

15 Turn shape, sanding as needed.

16 Put a long tool rest on center (aligned with center of head stock to use for drawing horizontal lines).

17 Locate any feature that you want to keep and draw a horizontal pencil line thru it. See Fig 1.

18 Set your index on an even number then loosen the chuck and rotate the work in the chuck so that the features you want to keep align with the tool rest.

19 Using the index wheel, draw the 12 even numbered index horizontal lines. Fig 2

20 Measure the carved area length. Let’s say it is 120mm.



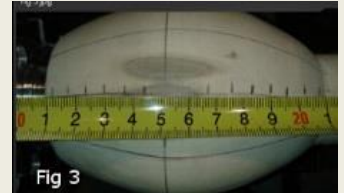
21 Divide $120/14 = 8.57\text{mm}$ (14 was chosen so that the bines would make a complete rotation)

22 Make a list of the 14 points in this case: 8.57, 17.1, 25.7, 34.2, 51.4, 60 etc.

23 If there is a feature, draw a vertical line all the way around piece (through the feature).

24 Put the closest number from your list on the vertical line that was drawn through the feature.

25 Layout the other 13 lines. Note that in this picture, the ruler is at 51.4 mm, the ruler has been moved to place 51.4 mm on the vertical line through the feature. Fig 3



26 Draw the other vertical lines around the piece. Fig 4

27 Starting at the feature (if you have one), connect the dots to draw the twist all the way to both ends. Fig 5



28 At one end, rotate 3 lines or 90° and make a mark. Fig 6



29 Draw the other twists starting at the marks. Fig 7



30 Draw the odd numbered index horizontal lines. Fig 8



31 On the odd lines draw left and right side of the twists. Fig 9

32 The layout of the twist is now complete. Fig 10



33 The next lines are completely arbitrary; we will make them with a red pencil. They are purely for support while carving and will be carved away at the last moment.

34 If there is a feature or flaw, make a red dot on the horizontal line 3 lines above the spot. Fig 11



35 Lay a small square on a twist line. With the corner on the dot, draw a red line at 90° to the twist; follow the red line to both ends. A sanding sponge makes it easy to align with the twists and create supports that are at 90° to them.

36 Where the red line crosses the equator, make a red dot on the closest horizon line.

37 On every 6th line make another dot on the equator.

38 Make a red dot where the red line ends at the top and bottom.

39 Connect the red dots drawing parallel to the first red line so you have 4 red lines.

40 Clean all the chips from around the lathe. If you get a chip out from the drill on one of the bines you need to find the chip and glue it back in place.

41 With the turning still mounted on the lathe, drill as many holes in the piece, as deeply as you can without hitting the other side's twists. A Vermont American 3/8" drill with a lead screw works well. (Walt got 25 holes in the void between each twist.)

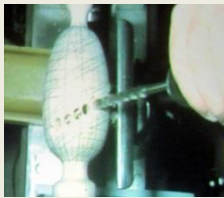
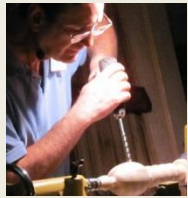


Fig 12



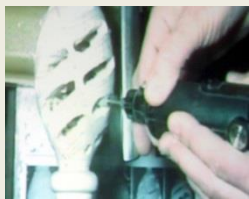
42 Clean up again.



43 Drilling at an angle, connect the drill holes removing as much waste as possible. Fig 13



44 Using a Dremel tool and a [burr](#), remove all the unwanted wood you can reach. At this



point try to make the twists into octagons using a file to keep lines straight. Keep your red supports as long as possible. Fig 14



45 Use calipers to locate the wide point in the twist and thin them out. Do not thin to the smallest point. If you try to size to the smallest point you will thin one part smaller and just keep going until you have nothing left. Just use an "average" width.

46 Using emery paper or cloth backed sandpaper, sand the twists to round and finish. (Editor's note – [Abranet](#) is also good for sanding. It lasts longer and does not load up like sandpaper.)

47 Cut a tenon for mounting to a base.

Thanks Walt for a great demonstration that took a lot of preparation time. (Walt had blanks turned to multiple steps along the way so that he could get through the entire demo in the allotted time.)

Additional sources with information on spiral turning:

AAW American Woodturner Spring 1999, March 1997, Spring 1998 (these are available on-line to members of the AAW and copies may be available in our library).

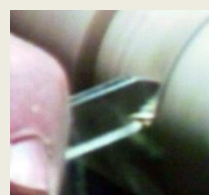


February Pre-Meeting Demo > John Buehrer – Part 2 of Turning Basics: Beads and Coves with a spindle gouge

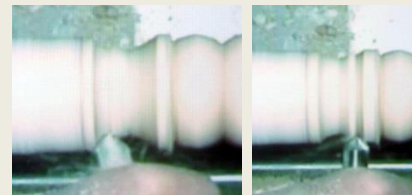


There are three basic shapes used for turning – straight lines, beads, and coves. John demonstration was on turning beads and coves. The program was to help develop tool handling skills with the spindle gouge. A cylinder was turned and a series of lines laid out down the length of the blank. John first emphasized the ABCs of turning (anchor, bevel, cut) and using a grip on the tool so that you can roll it for the cuts. Once the bevel is riding the wood, lift the handle to establish the cut and then lift and roll

the tool handle to form a bead. The width of the bead and the final inside diameter will establish whether it is circular or oblong.



For the cove, lines were laid out to define the width of the desired cove. Then, starting in the middle with the flute vertical, the gouge was rolled over while making the cut to the bottom. Cuts are made first from one side and then the other in an ever widening pattern until reaching the outer marks. Always cutting downhill!



John ended the demonstration with a couple of tips that are included in the Tech Tips section of the newsletter. Thanks John for a great introduction to the use of the spindle gouge for turning beads and coves.

Links for more information on turning beads and coves:

[Turning a cove with John Lucas](#)

[Turning Coves and Beads with Ron Brown](#)

[WTSTL Newsletter March 2014](#)

Library News > Rich Hinkebein

Last month the following items were added:

- AAW Symposium Techniques DVDs for years 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 Volumes 1 and 2. These contain a variety of topics from symposium presentations condensed into about 20 minute segments. Even these older ones are pertinent to most of us and you can just watch the sessions of interest to you.
- American Woodturner magazine – contains some good tips and challenging projects.
- Across the Grain – a small book of pictures of museum quality projects. It was described in the last issue of American Woodturner



Several of our DVDs have developed problems from fingerprints, dust, dirt, scratches, and other issues. Please handle all DVDs with care and by their edges or center hubs. Let me know of any problems with them that cleaning does not fix.

A reminder to all members: *"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.*

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 and date the card and put it **BEHIND** the letter of your last name in the box.

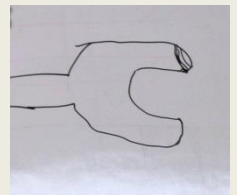
When you return material, make sure you put the card back in the item and make sure that the card goes with that item.

Watch that you do not put multiple cards in one item. Remember to sign legibly so if something is amiss we can contact the correct person.

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. A complete listing content is on the club web site. Please take advantage of this wonderful club benefit and return items in a timely manner.

Lumber Supplier● [Lumber Logs](#) is another source for turning material. They are a log recycler in St. Louis and have wide boards, crotch pieces, 4x4, 4/4, 8/4, some 6/4, burls and other items. Check out their web site for more information.

Tech Tips of the Month > An open end wrench can be used to size and cut tenons. As an open end wrench it works like a caliper set to the desired size. With a cutting edge ground on the top surface, as in the picture, it can be used to cut the tenon. This is very handy when cutting a tenon to fit a specific size drilled hole. – John Buehrer



Making vacuum chuck adapters, jam chucks, face plates, and other fixtures that thread directly onto your lathe spindle is easy and inexpensive. They can be made by cutting threads in MDF or wood. The [tap](#) comes in the common sizes for lathes (1 x8, 1.25x8, M33-3.5). After truing up the stock, a recess (1" or 1.25" x 1/8" deep depending on your lathe) is cut with a forstner bit so the fixture will register properly on the head stock. Then a hole is drilled completely through the center for threading (about 1/8" less than the drive diameter). The tail stock with a [spring loaded center](#) (to keep the tap firmly seated; Enco part #64138753) is used to center the tap and to get a straight alignment. The tap is then hand threaded into the stock. Superglue can be applied to the threads for added strength and the die run through again after the glue is cured to clean up the threads. – John Buehrer



Meeting Demonstrations> Thanks to Chris Weiler for being the videographer for both of the demonstrations. We have a great demonstration planned in March with Matt Keim discussing platter design and turning platters. Volunteers for future demonstrations are needed. What about programs on finishing systems – Beall buffing, hand rubbed lacquer, oil, wax...; cutting chased threads in wood; cutting captive rings; others..... Please contact Bob Goulding with suggestions and to volunteer for a demonstration.

President's Spin > Bob Goulding ● The Woodturners of St. Louis had a very successful booth at this



year's Woodworking Show in Collinsville. We can primarily thank Jeff and Paula Becker who not only organized and ran our booth, but set it up, tore it down and spent untold hours there, over three days. Please thank the Beckers, personally, when you see them next. We displayed a new banner and had club handouts for our booth. They looked great and made our booth both look professional and function well.



I also want to thank all the members who donated their time to man the booth. You all did a great job of demonstrating the fun of turning and explaining and selling our club. I feel confident in saying that all those who manned the booth had a good time.

Those members were: Gary Johnson, Jeff and Paula Becker,

Ken Magill, Don Dylewski, Walt Ahlgrim, Jon and Laura Spelbring, Dave

Ackmann, Ted Laffey, Ernie Guhl, Charlie Sapp, Tom Brock, John

Moore, Bruce Lattimore, Chris Weiler, Steve Geho, Steve Reynolds, Rob Conaway and Bill Lutz.

If I missed anyone, I apologize. Thanks also to Turned Treasurers (Jon & Laura Spelbring) for the use of their mini lathe and accessories.



You don't have to be an accomplished woodturner to help out in the booth. If you can turn some beads and coves or tops, that's fine. Or, you can just talk to the people who stop by the booth. Not only is it fun, but you get into the show for free. I hope to see more club members volunteer next year.

We will continue to work our way thru the AAW syllabus in the pre-meeting demonstrations. In March, Rob Conaway will present using a chuck and convex and concave facing cuts. In April, we need a volunteer to cover side grain turning, using a waste block, drive screw, expansion chucking and faceplates.

Remember that our May meeting will be on May 17th due to the regular meeting date being on Memorial weekend. – Bob Goulding

Club News>



Membership dues are due● Dues for 2015 are payable now. An application is available on the club web site. Dues are \$30 individual; \$40 family. If you are renewing, you don't need to complete a new application just pay your dues to Walt and make sure that the contact information we have on file is correct.

Attendance/Treasurers Report● Approximately 43 members/guests attended the February meeting. - Walt Ahlgrim

Newsletter● Did you know that by hovering your mouse over the "blue" text in the newsletter you can click and be taken to the web site that provides you with more information on the subject? Give it a try if you have not done so in the past. Want to make the text and pictures bigger – just Ctrl + Scroll on your mouse to increase or decrease your screen display.

Community Projects●

AAW Symposium> The AAW symposium has two programs going that offer a club the opportunity to **ReTurn** to the Community.

Empty Bowls - The local Pittsburgh chapters are issuing an open invitation to all AAW chapters to create and donate bowls (or other turned items) which will be sold to help support [Variety the Children's Charity](#) in Pittsburgh that offers adaptive and assistive technologies to children with disabilities. [Learn more about the Empty Bowl project.](#)

Beads of Courage - Woodturners make and donate to [Beads of Courage](#) lidded bowls or boxes which will hold the beads children acquire as they go through stages of treatment. The [donated containers](#) will be displayed in the Instant Gallery and will be delivered to local hospitals. Beads of Courage program, a nonprofit that provides innovative, arts-in-medicine supportive care to transform the treatment experience for children coping with serious illness. (6" or more in diameter, easily removable lids, burn or engrave "Beads of Courage on the lid) [Learn more about Beads of Courage design guidelines.](#)

Club Vice President Steve Reynolds is coordinating our efforts to support these charitable programs. Our goal for the club is to provide at least 10 turned bowls and 15 pens for the Empty Bowl project and 10 lidded boxes for the Beads of Courage. The AAW Symposium is June 24-28, 2015. Contact Steve with your turnings for either or both programs. Thanks in advance for your support.

Dixon Springs Stewardship Week> Several of our members are also members of the Lincoln Land Woodturning Club. They demonstrate at the Dixon Springs event annually during the week that contains Arbor Day (April 19-25, 2015). There are classes from Kindergarten to 6th grade based on conservation, forestry, nature, and use of natural resources. Their presentation is to show fun uses of wood to kids in grades K-3rd. They do demonstrations and like to give each child a top. In the past they have donated about 300 tops during the event. They would appreciate any tops that you can make and donate for the event. A diameter of greater than 1 5/8" is required (choking hazard). Please bring your top donations to the March meeting. — John Anderson, Tom Brock, Dan Schmoker



Coffee and Cookies● Complementary coffee is available at the meetings. The price for cookies is posted. Purchases are on the honor system.

Sandpaper● Thanks to Dan Burleson we will have sandpaper for distribution to members at the March meeting. And thanks to those that brought turnings to the February meeting for Dan to give the distributor that supplies the sandpaper as a token of our appreciation.

Web site● If you have not signed on to the [club web site](#) but want to establish an account send your request to the President, Bob Goulding. Once your membership is verified, he will contact the web master and an account will be established for you with a temporary password. When you sign on for the first time you will be able to set your own password. 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.

New members● Please join me in welcoming our new member Keith Baizer from St. Louis, MO and Alan Lee from Grafton, IL.

Symposiums and Classes>

- [29th Annual AAW International Symposium](#) June 25-28, 2015 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA. Volunteers are needed for a lot of jobs – packet stuffing, registration, sales, video, Contact Bob Goulding if you are interested or want more information.



President's Challenge> February handled bowl● We had two winners in the challenge to turn a handled bowl. Rich Hinkebein and Steve Reynolds were selected by the members as the winners of the February President's Challenge. The other entries in the February President's Challenge are shown in the picture section of the newsletter. Congratulations Rich and Steve.



March President's Challenge ● It occurs to me that perhaps I have been too ambitious in picking items for the President's Challenge, particularly for March. Therefore, we will have a split challenge for next month. For those of you who accept the challenge of an open, twisted piece such as Walt demonstrated, the prize will be \$50 worth of the Craft Supplies Gift Certificates. The other challenge is to utilizing beads and coves for a tool handle as John demonstrated in the Pre-Meeting. The winner of that challenge will receive the usual \$10 gift certificate. – Bob Goulding

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mar 22, 2015	Pre-meeting 11:30am with Rob Conaway on using a chuck and convex/concave facing cuts.	Meeting demo with Matt Keim. Platters and Platter Design (1pm)
April 26, 2015	Pre-meeting 11:30am VOLUNTEER NEEDED for side grain turning, using a waste block, drive screw, expansion chucking, and faceplates	TBD
May 17, 2015	TBD	TBD Note the date change due to Memorial weekend on the regular meeting date.

February Show and Share



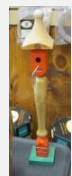
Ash bowl using Rit dye for the center by Rich Hinkebein. It was finished with Mylands wax and buffed.



Jeff Nasser tuned a beautiful peppermill and box from Desert Ironwood. The inlay in the peppermill is holly and in the box is turquoise and silver.



Dan Burleson brought in some of his basket weave vessels and boxes. He is now putting the weave on the inside of the vessels. Here are a couple of links to some of his recent turnings: [DEC/JAN](#) and [boxes](#).



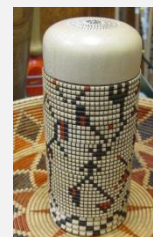
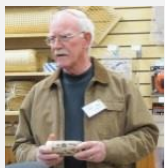
Off center vase turned in oak, candle sticks and a bird house by Charlie Yonk.



Bill Farny design a wall hanging turned from birch and airbrushed. He also used pearlescent airbrush colors on the textured maple bowl.



Segmented oak vase with 210 pieces (displayed by Jackie) and bowl turned from hackberry by Michael Blankenship.

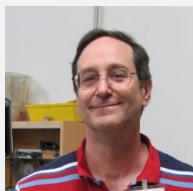


Basket weave designs on a cake platter, platter, and a cryptex by Rick Madden. The cryptex has 7 rings that must be properly aligned to open the box. You may have seen these with letters or number, but Rick took it to another level with a bead design that had to be aligned. Here is the [link](#) to where he got the idea and another one to a [video](#) on making a cryptex. There is also an article on crafting a cryptex in the AAW American Woodturner April 2010 magazine.

Additional Entries for the February President's Challenge – Bowl with a Handle



Double handled bowl by Gary Johnson.



Walt thought the handles looked like ears so he burned a face on the bowl. The bowl was turned on multiple axes to get to the final shape. Can you figure them out?



Handled bowl by Mike Vogt.



Maple bowl with textured surface and handle by Charles Sapp.

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.



If you enjoy 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>

American Association of Woodturners• WTSTL is proud to be one of 350+ worldwide chapters of the American Association of Woodturners. We encourage you to join this fine organization. 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 and we encourage all club members to join the AAW. They have been publishing a great series of on-line woodturning training articles for members that are worth the price of membership by themselves. They have also indexed all of the past AAW magazine articles so you can search and find help with most any issue you may have or ideas on your next project.

Board Members

President:	Bob Goulding	636.745.2333	bobisturner@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Steve Reynolds	636.938.5366	stephen-reynolds@sbcglobal.net
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		