

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

stlturners.org  
June 2015

**WELCOME:** Our new location at the CJAP facility (8300 Valcour) was well received by the members. The large meeting area and storage room are terrific and will let the club serve the members and grow in the future.



Our hosts, Jim Clarkin and Terry O'Reilly

(recently retired from CJAP) worked with Bob to make it possible and the club members recognized their efforts by giving them an ovation. Jim and Terry took the members on a tour of the facility for our pre-meeting demo.



[CJAP](#) emphasizes safety and training to prepare their students for a career, not just a job. They work with several local colleges to transfer CJAP training to college hours and encourage advanced training. The facility does more than just teach carpentry. Classes are offered in commercial doors, hardware, ceilings, flooring, welding, conveyers, and even robotics. It is a 4 year program with 40 hours of training every three months. Students return to their job site in the off time for on-the-job training. After completing 18 units and 6000 hours of OJT, students achieve Journey level status. Since workers keep working themselves out of a job as they complete a project, they are encouraged to take advanced training to prepare themselves for the next phase. Journey workers are also required to continue their training. This is the training facility for Missouri, Kansas, and Southern Illinois and approximately 900 students are enrolled. We look forward to our relationship with CJAP.



## June Meeting Demo > Discussion of Finishing Techniques●



**John Anderson** sands his projects to 400 grit and then applies a 1# cut of shellac (no wax) as a sealer with a paper towel. He then applies a couple coats of Danish Oil, Minwax Antique Oil, or Minwax Tongue Oil. After the oil is dry he uses the Beall Buffing System to polish the piece. John also uses [Velvit Oil](#). It is not available locally but can be ordered from their web site. (Editor's note: Dick Maes will be in Wisconsin in August. Contact him if you would like to make a purchase.)



**Michael Blankenship** applies 8 to 12 coats of wipe on poly, teak oil, or Woodturners Finish to his pieces; sanding with 400 grit between finish coats. After the final application, the piece is sanded with 600 grit, buffed with [gray](#) then [white](#)



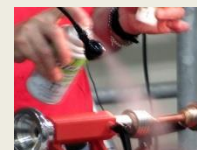
ScotchBrite, and polished with Turtle Wax [Rubbing Compound](#). The rubbing compound is applied and wiped off three (3) times to get the shiny finish he and his customers want. He finishes the bottom by hand but all of the other sanding, buffing and polishing is done with the piece mounted on the lathe.



**Gary Johnson** sands his segmented turnings to 400 or 600 grit as needed. He then seals it with shellac and applies poly or a lacquer (wipe on Deft is his choice). He then uses the [Beall buffing system](#) to bring out the shine. A 4" wheel is run at ~1725 RPM and three compounds are used. The first is Tripoli buffing compound (applied with linen), then a White Diamond buffing compound (applied with linen/cotton), and the Carnuba wax is applied (applied with cotton flannel). There is a separate wheel for each compound/wax. [Bowl buffs](#) are used to finish the inside of bowls. Because of their small size, they must be run at a high speed to generate heat.



**Jeff Nasser** uses a skew as a scraper to smooth the surface of his pens before applying a CA finish. The first coat is thin CA and then medium CA is used for the buildup coats. Running the lathe at a slow speed (~600 RPM) with the lathe bed covered for protection from the CA splatter, he uses a small plastic bag on his finger to smooth the CA as it is applied. An accelerator is applied between coats to speed up the process. A light mist is applied to minimize bubbles and fogging. After the final coat (the number depends on the density of the wood) he wet sands to 800-1200 grit. Water or Danish Oil is used for the wet sanding. He then used a paper towel for polishing.



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**Bob Goulding** prefers to finish his projects with a hand rubbed lacquer. He uses [Deft](#), clear, gloss spray. He uses the gloss and rubs it to a satin finish because the silica used in the satin and semi-gloss cause it to lose some clarity and masks the grain. He sands to 220 to 320 grit, seals with 2 coats of lacquer and re-sands with 320 grit after a couple of hours.



He then sprays another 2 coats of lacquer, lets it dry for a couple of hours and wet sands with 320 grit. He inspects the piece under a light looking for any orange peel, dust or other flaws. Side grain may only require 2 or 3 coats of lacquer while end grain may take 10-12 coats to fill and become smooth. He then continues to spray and wet sand until all flaws are eliminated. The piece is then rubbed out with 0000 steel wool (wiping and inspecting under the light for a uniform, smooth, satin finish). Carnuba was is then applied and buffed with an old T-shirt.

HUT wood finish is good for small items (but not good for items used around water). After sanding to 240 grit or finer, with the piece mounted on the lathe the block of HUT is moved slowly from one end to the other leaving a thin coat on the surface. With the object turning about 1500 RPM, a crumpled piece of paper towel is held against it to generate heat and spread the finish. After cooling, a light polish with a clean cloth generates the desired shine. HUT can also be applied to a buffing wheel turning about 3400 RPM. The piece is then held against the buffing wheel to apply the finish.

## Library News > Rich Hinkebein • New items this month:



- American Woodturner magazine – June 2015 issue
- Woodturning Notes by Allan Batty – A concise little book that only costs a few dollars. It has good pointers on basic turning tools and techniques.



- A Lesson Plan for Woodturning by James Rogers – This well written book should be useful for both new students and instructors to use as a guide through the learning process. It gives step-by-step instructions for mastering woodturning fundamentals.
- Mastering Woodturning Sharpening Techniques by Glen Lucas – This DVD gives a detailed look at various sharpening jigs, how to use them, proper angles on the different tools, and how to achieve a good cutting edge.
- The library list on our club website has also been updated.

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.

Our library is only open on Sunday at our club meetings and is open to all our paid 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.

A reminder to all members: *"If you can't get to a meeting:*

- *You can ask another member to return it.*
- *You can mail it to me.*

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. We typically have around 90 items checked out by members at each meeting. 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. The large meeting space allows me to spread out the material so you can review and check it out. Please let me know if you have any suggestions to improve our library. – Rich Hinkebein



## Tech Tips of the Month >

• Cherry and walnut can be "Ebonized" by applying a solution made from vinegar and steel wool. The steel wool (or other iron) is soaked until rust appears creating an "iron solution". After filtering out any particles, the solution is applied to the piece and it immediately turns the Cherry/Walnut into a rich black color. – [Holland Bowl Company](#) / Charles Sapp



**President's Spin > Bob Goulding** • Welcome to our new members and visitors. What do you think of our new meeting place? Terrific isn't it! I hope you are as excited as I am. We will be much more comfortable here and will be able to accomplish more and grow. Special thanks go to our CJAP hosts, Jim Clarkin and Terry O'Reilly. These two guys have made this possible.

Name tags are important to helping us get to know one another. If you do not have one in the book, get with Charlie to have one made for you. Please put them in the box by the door before you leave the meeting so we can have it for you at the next meeting.

I want to tell all of you how proud I am for your willingness to get involved in helping people. People frequently contact us with unique woodturning problems. When I send out a message to the membership I get multiple responses for a solution. This month we had a woman who fell down stairs and broke some rare spindles and an organization is restoring an old church and needed some column bases turned. Cecil Robinson and Jeff Nasser came to the rescue. And this month I sent out a call for something the club needs - a grinder and a shop vac. Thanks to Bill Bales and Steve Geho for responding to that request.

Rob Conaway has the LED lights that were ordered. If you did not pick up yours at the June meeting, please contact Rob to make arrangements. They are \$12.50 each.

I would also like to recognize our sponsors that offer a discount to club members – U Pick Lumber, Rockler, Woodcraft, St. Charles Hardwoods, and Hartville Tools. They are listed on our web site. And a special thanks to those that donated prizes for our door prizes today to help celebrate our move – Rockler (gift card and turner's apron) and St. Charles Hardwoods (two gift cards) and CJAP for making this possible. Be sure to thank our sponsors when you redeem their gift card or shop at their store.

Our new mentoring program is coming together. We have 8 mentors signed up and would like more. The program will function through a **Mentoring Coordinator, Bob Greenwood**. If you would like to have a mentor or be a mentor, contact Bob and he will match you up with a member near you that has experience in your needed area. Thanks Bob, for taking this role with the club.



The President's Challenge for July is to turn something – anything, from a 3 ft. 2x4. It must be a standard 2x4 of fir or pine. Cut it, glue it, paint it, whatever – as long as turning is part of the end result.

The President's Challenge for June was to turn a box for the Beads of Courage program to help children with cancer. I cannot tell you how rewarding it is to be President of this terrific club when I saw the number of boxes that were submitted. Fantastic! Twenty five boxes were turned and we even had some bead bags created for the challenge. Steve will be making arrangements with Children's Hospital for delivery. We would like for this to be an ongoing community program for the club. So please continue to turn those boxes and we will get with you on plans for future donations. Great job, thanks again.

Thanks to Rob Conaway for working the video system. At our next meeting we will have the lighting figured out so that we can turn off the front bank of lights to enhance the video screen. If you would like to be a backup videographer for the club, please let me know and we'll get you trained.

We have great demonstrations on sharpening and casting/turning plastic resin pen blanks planned for the July meeting. If you have a topic that you would like to demonstrate in the future, please contact me. I am looking forward to seeing you in July. Have a safe and fun holiday! – Bob Goulding

## Club News>



**Membership●** 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 50members/guests attended the June meeting. - Walt Ahlgrim

## Community Projects● Boxes -

**Beads of Courage>** Thanks to all of the members that turned the 25 boxes for the Beads of



Courage program. We are making arrangements to distribute them to Children's Hospital. This will be an on-going community service program and we are challenging other clubs in Missouri to get them involved. It is unfortunate but the need continues to be more than just our club can provide. This batch will bring smiles to several children. The club will have the logo beads available whenever you need more



— contact me or Bob Goulding for the beads. Thank you again. — Steve Reynolds

**Sewn bags for BOC—** Walt's wife, Jenne did some research into how she could become involved in this community project. If you or someone you know would like to contribute a sewn bag, contact Walt or his wife for more information. Her story is below:

*When Walt told me about the Turner club's challenge for Beads of Courage boxes, I found their website and instructions for sewn bead bags. There are several sites with detailed bag construction instructions, many were exactly the same, so I sent in for the labels and got them within a week. The smallest amount you can order is 25... I didn't want to make that many after reading the instructions, but dutifully made 5 bags and then took them to Mercy Children's Hospital (knowing them to be in the Beads of Courage system). My 5 bags were lined and seemed huge. They showed me their drawer with many colorful examples, none were lined and all were smaller than mine. The size others were making can be made from quilter's fat quarters without wastage and were so much easier to do, while still being able to hold many beads. I finished the remaining 20 bags in the modified unlined design. An important instruction from the website is to reinforce the drawstring slot securely with backstitching.*



*Seeing 20 or so bags in the drawer, I said "Gee, it looks like you have a good supply, do you want/need more?"... The reply was "Oh yes, we sometimes go thru 30 or more of these in a day". There are others making these bags, but if you want to help, it sounds like your gift will be well received and treasured.*

*Here's the website to order labels: <http://www.beadsofcourage.org/machform/embed.php?id=7>*

*But, ask Walt to give you a bag of 12 (I just ordered 100) if you want to start in a smaller scale.*

*Here's a picture of some of the bags I made, there are so many delightful dinosaur and doll and toy prints to choose from! - Jenne Ahlgrim*

**>New members●** Please join me in welcoming new member Mike Bockerstette from St. Charles, MO.

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

**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. You can also establish your own gallery! If you have any problems with web site operation, downloading, or general suggestions please contact the officers.

**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.

### Symposiums and Classes>

● **LincolnLand Woodturners Demo and Workshop** - John Buehrer will be demonstrating the turning of an acorn box as well as providing tips on lathe maintenance. Demo on July 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 4pm, lunch included, \$15. Workshop July 12<sup>th</sup> 8am – 11am or Noon – 3pm, \$30. Attendance at the demonstration is mandatory to attend the workshop. Contact Tom Brock or [lincolnland.woodturners@gmail.com](mailto:lincolnland.woodturners@gmail.com) for more information and to register.

### President's Challenge> June Boxes for Beads of Courage●

Thanks for your support of this community service program. Seventeen members – Richard Grossman, Steve Reynolds, Ray Koeneman, Charles Sapp, Alan Chin, Steve Nagy, Bill Farny, Ron Andrascsek, Dan Hill, Rich Hinkebein, James Otto, Jim Schneider, Walt Ahlgrim, Dick Maes, Chris Weiler, Rick Madden, and Bob Goulding submitted 25 boxes! The variety and creativity was amazing. They will bring a smile to many children going through a trying time of treatments. Close up pictures are shown further down in the newsletter. We are also taking pictures of each one for posting on the club web site.



**July President's Challenge ●** Turn whatever (your choice) from a three (3) foot long 2x4. It must be a standard 2x4 of fir or pine. Cut it, glue it, paint it, whatever – as long as turning is part of the end result. — Bob Goulding



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 26, 2015	Premeeting 1130am – Bill Rubinstein will be demonstrating various sharpening techniques and jigs.	Meeting 1pm at CJAP; demonstration by Dave Ackmann on casting and turning plastic pen blanks with various materials embedded.
August 23, 2015	Turning YoYos	Steve Reynolds turning a wave form bowl.



## June Show and Share



Dave Ackmann showed acrylic pens that he cast using gum balls for a filler. (Dave will be demonstrating this technique at the next meeting.) He also had wood and acrylic beads that he is turning for the Beads of Courage program. See the May newsletter for info on how to turn beads.

Bowl turned by Richard Grossman.



Segmented bowls and vessels by Gary Johnson that used the Beall buffing system for finishing.

Jason Hill (visitor) turned a couple of shaving brush handles. One was made from a glue up of several colored pencils.



Bowls and goblets (with captured rings) by Charles York.

Decorated holly box John Buehrer. The pattern was also continued on the inside of the box!



Charles Sapp turned a segmented cherry urn and two bowls from cherry. The bowls were Ebonized using the technique described in the tech tips section of this newsletter. [PVC inserts](#) were used for the threads in the urn.

Segmented pepper mill by Jeff Nasser.



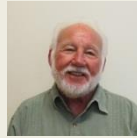
Oil and crystal filled kaleidoscopes by Laura Spelbring.



Walnut lidded vessels by Rich Hinkebein.



Dan Burleson finished his 28" x 7" hard maple beaded and colored bowl. Additional pictures can be viewed at his [web site](#).



Strawberry ice cream cone box, candle, and bowl turned by Dick Maes.



# Entries for the June President's Challenges – Box & Bags for the Beads of Courage Program



**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 8300 Valcore Avenue, St. Louis, MO <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	<a href="mailto:bobisturner@yahoo.com">bobisturner@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President:	Steve Reynolds	636.938.5366	<a href="mailto:stephen-reynolds@sbcglobal.net">stephen-reynolds@sbcglobal.net</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>
Newsletter:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	<a href="mailto:cwsapp@charter.net">cwsapp@charter.net</a>
Librarian:	Rich Hinkebein	636.332.2396	<a href="mailto:kathryna1945@yahoo.com">kathryna1945@yahoo.com</a>
Questions:	<a href="mailto:info@stlturners.org">info@stlturners.org</a>		