



WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

stlturners.org
September 2016

Picnic

The annual picnic this year was held at Spencer Creek Park. The weather was good, a little warm at the beginning and a little rain at the end, but all in all good. The food was good and company was better.

We had a couple of firsts for this picnic. First, this year we tried something a little different for our meal. Jeff Bemis woke, before sunrise, to begin smoking pork. When it arrived it pulled apart and tasted incredible. Smothered in some warm barbeque sauce, this was well received by all in attendance. Thank you Jeff Bemis!



Next, we divided the turners in attendance into two teams. After putting a tenon on a cylinder the competition started with each turner given 5 minutes on the lathe to turn whatever they wanted. Their idea was then communicated to the next person in line. This person then determined if he or she would

continue with the path laid out. They then had their 5 minutes to turn. Both teams ended up with a multi-part piece. One was a multi-lidded, sectioned 'box'. The other was a goblet-vase. The event was great fun. The team turning showed just how creative the club members can be when pressed.



The creature creation event continue to bring out the creative challenge for our members and spouses and

was a great use for those cut offs and broken vessels.



John, Bob, and Jeff brought the pieces they had turned from the white birch for the CJAP director for show and tell. The tree was planted several generations ago and recently died. Our challenge was to turn some items for the family that could be passed on to future generations. (If you have finished yours, please bring it to the October meeting.)





Tom Boley Demonstration & Workshops

Tom Boley, [Red Oak Hollow Woodturnings](#), provided the club members with a day of instruction and demonstration on turning natural edge, square natural edge, and bias-cut natural edge bowls. Members then received hands-on training at the two days of workshops and successfully completed several natural edge bowls. Tom is a talented and inspiring instructor and we hope to have him back in the future to demonstrate spindle and platter turning.

Thanks go to AAW for the EOG grant that we received in March so that we could purchase our Comet mini lathes for the workshop; Gary Hindgardner for use of his mini lathes; and the Bill Rubenstein estate for the Stubby lathe. All were used for the workshops. And thanks to all of the members that participated and helped with the set up, tear down, and clean up.



Creve Coeur Farmer's Market

The farmer's market was a new opportunity for the club to market what we do and what we are about. It was great fun to show new people how to turn a pen for the first time. Walt was able to show one person how to turn 2 pens. The first of which was donated to a St. Louis County Officer, who stopped in to check on the market.

Charlie, Dick and I were also able to teach people how to make pens for the first time. We had 7 people, make 8 pens. Using the new pen mandrels and carbide tools, we coached people through ABC's and

basic safety. The event was definitely a success for the club. We were able to speak with several people about the club and sell some of our turnings.



Library News ● 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.



- No new items this month

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.

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. All of the magazines have been moved into storage, due to space limitations, with the exception of American Woodturner. Magazines are available upon request. – **Rich Hinkebein**



President's Spin ● It has been a busy end of summer and start of fall for the club. Representing the WTSTL at the Creve Coeur Farmer's Market in the Westgate Shopping Center on September 24 were Walt Ahlgrim, Rob Conaway, Dick Maes, and I. With the two Comet mini lathes that Rob and Walt brought from CJAP, we were able to offer shoppers with hands-on guidance in pen turning. We kept the lathes busy with a unique experience for our customers. We promoted the club and we sold some of our turnings. All agreed it was a successful event.

Afterwards, Dixi Smith joined us and we drove to Nancy Rubenstein's home to disassemble the Stubby lathe that Bill & Nancy generously donated to the club upon Bill's death. Six hundred plus pounds of iron were carried up a hill and loaded in Rob's truck and Walt's van for transporting to CJAP.

The Comet mini lathes were transported to the park by Rob for a collaborative turning event at our annual club picnic on September 25th. We had two teams of eight that participated in the collaborative turning. Thanks to everyone for their help with the picnic. A special thanks go to Laura Spelbring for coordinating the event, Ray Koeneman for reserving the pavilion, Jeff Bemis, for smoking the meat; and to all of you who brought food to share.

On Sept 27th Steve Reynolds and I drove to Wood Hat Spirits Craft Distillery in Montgomery County to pick up 5 mini lathes from Gary Hinegardner to use for the Tom Boley symposium. Walt, Dixi, and Rob met us at CJAP where the Stubby was reassembled and the mini lathes were unloaded. Walt also unloaded the second TV that was purchased for our AV system and took notes for design/build of new 220 volt plugs/extension cords for the lathes.

After a couple of days to "rest", we started set up for the Tom Boley symposium on Oct 1st-3rd at CJAP. Tom was an interesting, skilled demonstrator and we received very positive feedback from all of those attending.

At the end of the symposium we loaded up Gary's lathes in the trailer and Laura and I drove them back to Wood Hat Spirits. Thanks to everyone that participated, help set up and pack up, and man the videography. What a great symposium.

We've had a whirlwind of past events and we have an exciting fall coming up. Our next meeting is October 23rd and the President's Challenge is to turn an item with a Halloween theme. If you have turned pens for the troops or have items you have turned from the white birch from CJAP, please bring them to the October meeting. I shared pictures of the birch turnings that were brought to the picnic and the CJAP staff was very impressed. They will be at the Oct meeting to receive them. Premeeting will be open turning on the Comets. We will have instruction available, but you need to bring what you would like to turn, tools, and face protection. We will have pen mandrels available if you would like to finish your Troop pen (bring all your material and finish). Michael Blankenship will be demonstrating the turning of a hollow ornament at our October meeting – be sure to be there!

November is election time for club Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. If you are interested in serving, please contact me. The club by-laws (available at the club web site online) cover the responsibilities of each position.

Thanks for all your support and help in our club activities. It is much appreciated. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Oct 23rd meeting. - **Charles W. Sapp**

Club News:

Vice President's Report • [Beads of Courage:](#)



We have turned 30 boxes for the Beads of Courage program this year. We still need 45 more to meet our November 2016 goal. I know that several of you were working on the PVC boxes so try to finish them and bring them to the next meeting.



Let's all remember that the Beads of Courage is program for kids in need. We set some goals at the beginning of the year. We still need to make 45 more lidded boxes to meet the 2016 goals.

The beads are \$1.25 and available from Steve at the meetings. Members will receive a drawing ticket for each bowl that is contributed; drawing will be held at the November meeting for a \$20 Rockler gift card. – **Steve Reynolds**

Membership • An [application](#) is available on the club web site. Renewals do not require an application.



Simply pay your dues to Walt and make sure that the [contact information](#) we have on file on the club web site is correct. – **Walt Ahlgrim**

Attendance/Treasurers Report • No update. There were approximately 50 members/guests attending the September picnic.

Secretary • No Update. – **Rob Conaway**

In the News • More Woodturning Magazine – [Current Edition Contents](#)

AAW Board of Directors voting – <http://www.woodturner.org/page/2017BODCandidates> Voting closes on Oct 21st.

Scholarships / Training● The AAW Board of Directors announced a scholarship initiative. In recognition of the invaluable contributions made by our local chapters to our educational mission, scholarships to the nation's leading woodturning centers will be provided in 2017 to members of the American Association of Woodturners. Our chapter will be allotted one nomination.

If chosen by the AAW, the member submitted by our club for the scholarship must agree to host a demonstration for the club within 6 months of the training on the subject matter from Arrowmont, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, or JC Campbell. If you are an AAW member and interested in being considered, contact President Charles Sapp (in writing/email) stating that you agree to the terms by **Nov 15th**.

The program is to provide tuition only. Any room and board and travel to the school locations will remain the responsibility of the nominee. John C. Campbell Folk School is located in Brasstown, NC; Arrowmont is in Gatlinburg, TN; Anderson Ranch Arts Center is in Snowmass Village, CO. *All classes will take place in 2017.*

Women in Turning ● WIT is a new committee established by the AAW to encourage and assist women in their pursuit of turning. The committee uses contributions to fund demonstrations and equipment at symposiums. You can specify that your donations to the AAW go to WIT and/or you can make donations in the WIT box on the coffee/cookie table at our meetings. Laura Spelbring will collect the funds and make the donation to WIT on behalf of our club at the end of the year.

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, Charles Sapp. 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.

October President's Challenge ● Turn an item with a Halloween theme.

We will be continuing our new voting procedure. During the break review the items on the challenge table. Tear the tickets and write your selection on the back of the one marked "TICKET". Place in the President's Challenge bowl. In addition to the winner selected by the members, a gift certificate drawing is also held from all of the President's Challenge entries.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Pre-Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Meeting 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Oct 23, 2016	Hands on – Learn to turn a pen for \$5 (material provided) or bring your own material and use the club lathes at no charge	Michael Blankenship – Turning a hollow Christmas ornament.
Nov 20, 2016	No pre-meeting	Wine and Cheese event. Ornament exchange. Annual officer election.
Dec 2016	No meeting. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year. Have a Happy Holiday Season.	

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

Facebook Group ● Our club has a Facebook group that is a great way to post pictures of your work, provide tech tips, and share ideas. It is a closed group. When you go to the site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1157348070957128/?fref=nf> click on “Join” and your request will be processed by our Facebook administrator, Jason Hill.

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 September have or ideas on your next project.

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