



# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com  
April 2022



## April Demonstrator Michael Blankenship – Turning a bowl with a copper lid.

For this project Michael turns the lid first and fits the bowl to the lid. The copper is 22mil / 16 ounce from [Basic Copper](#). He purchases a 6" x 10' piece and cuts to size as needed.



Shaping the lid is done using a wood form secured to the head stock. A small dimple is made in the center of the copper square and the tail stock is brought up to secure it. A dimple works better than a hole as the cone tends to wallow out a hole. It will still puncture a hole but better controlled when starting with just a

dimple. A ball peen hammer is used to texture the copper. Starting at the outside and watching for any humps that might fold over. Michael works the texturing towards the center – while turning the piece round and round. When the desired texture is completed, the tail stock is moved back while holding the copper to the form and the center is textured with the peen end of the hammer.



The tail stock is then moved back into place and snips are used to rough trim the square copper to a circle. After rough trimming, the flat face of the hammer is used to flatter the outside edge of the copper to the form. A scraper is then used to round the copper – pulling from the inside toward the form to keep the copper from bending. Sandpaper is then used to finalize the edge. Since a burr is

raised on the inside edge of the lid, sandpaper is used on that edge to remove the burr while spinning on the lathe.



The bowl is then mounted on headstock and the recess for the lid is formed. It should not be much deeper than the copper. The outer rim is then size for appearance and the remainder of the inside and outside of the bowl turned. A piece of tape on the top of the lid can be used to hold it for trial fits to the bowl (unless you have already finished the lid and installed a knob).

A propane torch is used to give a range of colors to the copper. Heat is applied in a sweeping motion to the back side. When colors appear and are what you want the lid is flipped over and checked for appearance. If you are satisfied with the colors – quit. If not, more heat can be applied to the front but more heat also darkens the surface. Experiment to see what can be done.



A button with a small dowel is then inserted through the hole in the center of the copper lid and a knob is glued to the dowel to complete the assembly.



Our thanks to Michael and his assistant Jackie for demonstrating how to turn a bowl with a copper lid. A video of Michael's demonstration is available on the WTSTL YouTube Channel.



**Create a bowl with a lid (metal, wood, lid from a pot) for the May President's Challenge! See the President's Spin article below for more information.**

**WTSTL Hybrid Meetings●** Each meeting lets us improve and address new issues with our hybrid system. Online members were issued a ticket for door prizes. You will be notified if you are a winner. Door prizes will be held for two months for remote winners to pick up or make arrangements for delivery. If not claimed, they will go back into the prize pool. They are stored in the locked cabinets – contact an officer to claim your prize (winner's name is marked on the item).

**We need your help too.** Please give us feedback on the good and bad with the A/V system so we can make your online participation a great experience.

If you do not see video at the start of the meeting (~1pm CT) let us know via the Zoom Chat window.

If the video drops offline or there are other issues let us know via the Zoom Chat window

**Please mute yourself during the meeting as any background noise overpowers the demonstrator and puts you in the demo screen.**

Please send Rob and Charlie an email with any suggestions. We monitor the chat but texts, email, and voice feedback is difficult during the meeting as the AV team is quite occupied with operation of the equipment.

In person meetings will continue to be open to visitors (except when a paid demonstrator is scheduled); remote participation will be available via Zoom. We are discussing the possibility of exchanging Zoom demonstrations with other clubs around the world. More to follow as details are defined.

**Pre-Meeting Demonstrator●** This is an opportunity for members to mentor and lead a demonstration. Contact Tom Zeller to volunteer.

**Website●** Electronic membership to the WTSTL is available via the club website. After entering your contact information and selecting your plan you will go to PayPal to complete your application and enter the amount to pay. When PayPal asks for our organization, enter **Woodturners of St. Louis**. You will receive a follow up email with your membership card. If you are not contacted within a couple of weeks, email the club Treasurer.



**President's Spin●** The Presidents challenge for MAY is to turn a copper lid for a bowl. If you do not have the equipment to do that, then turn a bowl with a wood lid. Or you can turn a bowl with a glass lid from a discarded crock pot or some other broken item where the glass lid can be repurposed. The repurposing idea was suggested by Wayne lehl. If you have questions about repurposing an item for this challenge, give me a call.

We will continue to meet at the Carpenters Training Facility on Valcour for our monthly meetings.

If you are a new turner (or even an experienced turner) looking for help or needing a question answered, contact me and we will get you to someone that can help. Members will be directed to the Mentor Coordinator, and he/she will have the responsibility to direct the member to another member that can help. I will act as an interim Coordinator, but I would like to have another club member take that responsibility. Contact me if you would be willing to serve in that role.

Our demonstrators for May will be Michael Blankenship & Steve McNeil who will demonstrate segmented bowl. We currently have three (3) open demonstration dates August through October. If you are interested in doing a demonstration for the club, please see me or John Hoeing. If you don't feel comfortable doing a demonstration in front of the full club but would like to get some experience doing a demonstration, we can arrange for some time at a pre-meeting between 11:30 to 1:00pm.

#### TO SELL OR NOT TO SELL.

The next time you make something fantastic a bowl, platter, lidded box, vase or hollow form and somebody say to you "You could sell that at the XYZ Craft Fair and make a lot of money" you might want to consider some thing before you jump in with both feet.

1. You will need to purchase tables, metal racks, a few chairs, tablecloths/ sheets to cover your table display items to help your items stand out. Plate racks to hold your platters and flowers live or dry to go inside your vase, hollow form or your Ikebana. Tables cost from \$30 to \$100 each. Metal racks cost from \$40 to \$80. Chairs range from \$10 to \$30.

2. If your venue is outside, you may need a tent, if you don't use a tent, you could be in the sun all day and a hat and sunscreen is advisable. A tent with four side sides is recommended to help protect your items as well as protect you should it start to rain. You will need four heavy weights or large building cinder blocks for each corner of the tent as well as straps to hold each of the weights in place. Metal racks are a nice way to display your items. The open grate of the racks allows for easy viewing but does not hold items steady in strong winds. Tents cost from \$100 to 300, Bricks and straps cost about \$40 to \$60.

3. Things to be aware of for outdoors venues. Rain can be a problem and you should be prepared to cover your finely turned collectables, least they fall victim to wet circumstances. A tent with sides can help but is no guarantee. Dew/water can form overnight and adhere to the top of the inside of your tent. When you arrive the next morning, your work is ahead of you. To get the water off the inside of the tent while still protecting your finely turned possessions. Blowing wind - If it's blowing more than 10 MPHs your items are going to be toppled to the ground like some 3-year-old kid having a temper tantrum. So, what do you with the bowl that now has a giant chip in it or a platter with a large ding? You may be able to epoxy in the chip or remount the platter and remove the ding. But this takes more time and money.

4. The cost of the venue/space at a craft fair can range anywhere from \$50 to \$150 per day. I did work a craft fair which offered me free space if I would demonstrate wood turning on a lathe. This was a benefit. HOWEVER, I had to bring a small lathe, stand, lathe tools, chucks, sandpaper, finishes, extension cord, wood to be turned, blanks, mask, eye protection, smock, Plexiglas shield to protect the public and a sense of humor. In addition, you will need display racks, sharpie, tape masking & packaging, 3X5 cards, pricing tags, PayPal reader or Square reader, bungee cords, string/cord and business cards and two vehicles one to carry the lathe and tools and one vehicle to carry the product (your fine turned wood turnings).

Other considerations are how well is the event known or well-advertised? The cost of food at the event. Coffee and donuts in the morning or an egg McMuffin at McDonalds. Lunch can cost \$10 to \$20. You can save if you pack a lunch the night before. The cost of fuel to drive to the venue. O'Fallon Mo to Kimmswick Mo (Apple Butter Festival) is ~50 miles one way for a total of 6 trips setup is on Friday night, festival is Saturday and Sunday. 300 miles/20 miles per gallon X \$4.00 per gallon = \$60 in fuel cost and this does not include wear and tear on your vehicle. If your customers pay using a credit card PayPal/Square charges you 3% of the cost of the transaction. The cost of storage containers to transport you valued/prized items from home to your selling venue range from \$25 to \$50. Remember you can buy some cheaper plastic totes, but they may not protect you items very well. You will need some small towels/cloth of some kind to wrap your item for travel. The cost of a hotel if you venture out of town can range from \$100 to \$150 dollars per night. If you sell you items on Etsy or eBay, both sites charge you a fee. I believe eBay fees are greater than 10% per item.

5. Finally, you took a class with a hot shot woodturner whose specialty is wood pens or wood bowls or wood platters. He tells you that he has had great success selling these items at his local flea market or Craft fair or even a gallery. You just finished his class, and you are feeling pretty good about the items you made in his class and can't wait to get home and make some to sell at your local flea market. Just because Mr. Hot Shot Woodturner can make and sell his items doesn't guarantee that you will be able to make and sell your items at your local venue. What price do you put on your items?

6. Simple math, The Craft Fair cost you \$100 + gas \$10 + food \$15 = total \$125. You sell \$500 worth of product. You spend 4 hours getting ready to go, 1 hour packing the vehicle, 10 hours at the show and 1 hour unpacking. Total spent is 16 hours = \$23.44 dollars per hour. BUT that doesn't include the time you spent making the items.

7. I do not want to sound negative I just want to open your eyes to other outside pressures that you may/will encounter when trying to sell your prized hand turned item.

Thanks to Rob Conway and Scott Eiswirth for managing the video presentation, I know it is a lot of work.

Thanks to our demonstrators Michael Blankenship and Jackie Blankenship for their detailed presentation showing how to make a copper lid for a bowl.

I will be out of town in May and Joe Hoeing will be leading the meeting. - **Tom Zeller**

**President's Challenge • Members select their choice of winner for the PC.** During the break, review the items on the challenge table. Separate your ticket and write your selection (the number in front of each entry) on the back of the one marked "TICKET". Place it in the PC bowl. Your voting ticket will enter you in the door prize drawing.

In addition to the winner selected by the members receiving a gift certificate, an additional door prize ticket will be given to everyone that provides a PC entry. The PC tickets are a different color and will have the entrants name written on the ticket. Look for your name on those tickets. You will not need the matching stub for the PC ticket. **One PC entry per member; must be turned following the challenge.**



**Vice President's Report • [Beads of Courage](#):** The Beads of Courage is a program for kids in need. BOC is a not-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and teens coping with serious illness. The program integrates the use of beads as visible, tangible symbols of their experiences and treatment. Children



receive a bead for every test, procedure, or treatment they undergo. Woodturners donate boxes to hold the beads they earn. Details on requirements for the boxes can be found on the club web site. Suggestions for BOC bags can be found [here](#). Ceramic beads to attach to the boxes are \$1.25 (13/16" in diameter) and available from John. Bring your boxes (or bags) to the meeting and give them to John Hoeing. – **John Hoeing**



**Treasurer Report • **Dues are due for 2022 membership.**** Electronic membership applications and payments can be made on the website. If you prefer to complete and mail a paper [application](#), it is available and can be down loaded from the club website. Renewing and new members are asked to complete the new application form. Club patches are available from the Treasurer for \$5. – **Charles Sapp**



**Secretary Report •** April 24<sup>th</sup> - Pre-meeting: WTSTL wrote and delivered a check for \$250 for facility usage.

Tom Zeller (President), started by making several announcements:

- A thank you to members that made cash donations to our group that will help us continue to use the CJAP building for monthly meetings
- Seven gallons of end sealer were sold/distributed. Several members indicated that they would also like to purchase end sealer. Tom will pick up 5 more gallons from the Show Me Woodturners for distribution at the May meeting.
- AAW has approved our grant request for \$1,000 to be used for upgrading electronic equipment
- Richard Raffan (Australian Woodturner) has uploaded approximately 15 new videos to YouTube on a variety of subjects
- Twenty nine members attended in person; six attended via Zoom.

The Show and Tell portion of the meeting was full of interesting tidbits. Ken Bald made a Piggy Bank by creating a lidded box. He used his thread chasing tool to create threads so that the top of the bank could be screwed off and on. He finished the bank by cutting a slot in a metallic bit coin and inserting it onto the top of the bank.

Wayne Iehl made his Bowl-from-a-board by "cutting" his board on the lathe, giving us another method of cutting out the circles for our bowl.

Mike Blankenship demonstrated making a copper lidded bowl. Mike makes the copper top before he makes the bowl. He used 22 mil (16 oz or 24 gauge), copper sheet, a specially created mold out of wood for the



shaping, and a small ball peen hammer for texturing. He made it look so easy that the President's Challenge for next month is a copper-lidded bowl (lid may be wood or metal ).

The meeting was brought to a close. - Linda Osterwise



**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.

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. We typically have around 90 items checked out by members at each meeting. Members can access a complete listing content on the club website. 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**

**Overdue Library Material** – Our library is suffering from the impacts of COVID. Members are requested to return material after a month or contact the librarian. Many of our items have been out for several months. If you are one of the guilty parties, please email Rich Hinkebein and let him know that you still have the items and make arrangements for return. Thanks.



## **Club News:**

**Dues 2022** • Dues are due for 2022. Application form is available on the club website and may be printed and returned with payment or completed on line with electronic payment.

**St. Louis County / CJAP Covid Masking Policy** • Masking and proof of vaccination is no longer required at CJTF. We will provide an update as needed closer to each meeting if the situation and requirements change – check the website.

**Tips and Tricks**• Following the March demonstration on turning a bowl from a board, Wayne Iehl and Rick Madden both made jigs to hold a parting tool on the lathe at an angle to part off the rings. This eliminates the need to made the rings in two parts and the need for a bandsaw. The pictures below show the jig made by Wayne Iehl. It mounts in the tool rest and puts the parting tool (in this case a ground kitchen knife / Rick used a 1/16" parting tool) on the centerline. A template held against the board lets the uses set different angles so that a curve can be formed with the cut rings. When parted from the board the rings fall back and are captured by the fixture.



**Community Programs** • Please continue to work on these items and bring them to the meeting. For more information on these programs check the club web site.

**Nursing Home Turnings** – small boxes or bowls, ornaments, bird houses, feathered creatures – all are great items for this program – give your items to Charles Sapp.

**Beads of Courage** – boxes for storage of the patient's beads (see article in the NL) – give your items to John Hoeing.

**Pens for the Troops** – Kits are available from the club Treasurer for a \$3 deposit which is returned to you when a completed pen is returned for the program – get your kits and return completed pens to Charles Sapp.

### **Positions to Fill** •

- **NEWSLETTER EDITOR** – The editor is responsible for collecting articles, editing, and assembling the club newsletter.
- **DEMONSTRATORS** – Your help is needed to provide a demonstration at each of our meetings. The demo subject is your choice, whatever you enjoy doing – bowls, hollow forms, plates, boxes, pyrography, resins, stabilizing, tips and tricks, tops, ..... Contact John Hoeing to volunteer.

**ZOOM**• The club purchased a Pro Level account with Zoom so that we can host our meetings and other off-meeting events. Provided it does not conflict with any of our club events, the account can be used by members. If you would like to schedule a remote meeting send an email to [webmaster@wtstl.com](mailto:webmaster@wtstl.com). Club events take priority.

**Mentoring**• The Board recognizes the value of hands-on and one-on-one instruction. Check the website for information on the mentoring program. It will be one turner at a time; you must provide your project, tools, and face shield; a mask must also be worn. Make arrangements with the mentors to participate. Several of our members have taken advantage of this opportunity and provided very positive feedback on the mentors knowledge and instruction.

**ZOOM Streaming Links NOT BEING RECEIVED** • Our meetings will be streamed via ZOOM unless noted in the meeting information on the web page. We may even go live for the Pre Meeting for more interaction. All members should receive the ZOOM link during the week prior to the meeting. If you do not receive the link by the Thursday prior to the meeting, send an email to [CWSAPP@CHARTER.NET](mailto:CWSAPP@CHARTER.NET) requesting the link.



**Tax Deductions**• The Woodturners of St. Louis is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. Donations may be tax deductible. Donate up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA directly to a qualified charity through a [qualified charitable distribution](#). (As long as certain rules are met-such as you're at least 70½ when



making the gift, and the check is payable directly to the qualified charity-then the distribution shouldn't be taxable income.)

Calendar of Upcoming Events		
Date	Pre-Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Meeting 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
May 2022	Pens for the troops (material furnished) or bring your own project and tools for mentoring	Steve McNeil and Michael Blankenship demonstrate segmented turning.
June 2022	Pens for the troops (material furnished) or bring your own project and tools for mentoring	Jeff Hornung – Basket weave platter
July 2022	Pens for the troops (material furnished) or bring your own project and tools for mentoring	Tom Zeller – platter turning

**Newsletter Pictures of Show and Tell / President's Challenge Items** • For better pictures and appreciation of your work, please submit pictures of your turnings to [cwsapp@charter.net](mailto:cwsapp@charter.net) **by the Friday prior to the next meeting**. Include the species of wood, finish, size, and any comments. They will be included in the PowerPoint presentations that can be viewed by members at the meeting and on the remote stream.



*But please, continue to bring your turning for Show and Tell and the President's Challenge to the meeting for display and judging by the members. A form will be provided for you to provide information on your turning, please complete it as information will be used by the editor for the newsletter.*

**Shopping with Amazon Smile** • Thanks to those that are using Amazon Smile for their orders and selecting **Woodturners of Saint Louis** as their charity. We are receiving quarterly donations from the Amazon Foundation thanks to them and you. There is no added fee when you make your order and it does help the club.



When you shop on Amazon, please consider shopping on <https://smile.amazon.com>. Just under the search bar is a link to "Supporting". Follow the links to select your favorite charity. We hope you will select **Woodturners of Saint Louis**. You will need to shop on the **smile site** for a donation to count.

**Vendor / Sponsor Discounts** • Check the website for vendors that offer discounts to club members. When shopping at Rockler in Bridgeton, ask them to register your purchase with the WTSTL as they provide gift cards to the club for door prizes after a number of purchases.



## Video Events ●

- The Woodturners of St. Louis now have a YouTube channel. On it you will find many of our demonstrations. To find the videos – go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search on Woodturners of St. Louis.
- Past demonstrations are also available on DVD in our library and listed on the website demonstration tab.

**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. You can also post your pictures on this site.



**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. 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. It is a closed group and only seen by members.

## April Hybrid Show and Tell



Turner: Wayne Iehl

Wood: Walnut

Size: 10" x 2.5"

Finish: Walnut oil

Comments: Bowl from a  
board; winner April  
President's Challenge



Turner: Charles Sapp

Wood: Walnut

Size: ~4" x 4" x 2"

Finish: Lacquer

Comments: Bowl emerging from a board based on demo by Theo on Record Power Video



Turner: Leah Ernst

Wood: Blank provide by Keith Buxton at March demo

Size:

Finish: Lacquer

Comments:





Turner: Ken Bald

Wood: Walnut

Size: 17" x 9"

Finish:

Comments:



Turner: Ken Bald

Wood: Bloodwood

Size:

Finish:

Comments: Threaded piggy bank with bit coin insert. Texturing with Sorby tool.





Turner: Karl Ernst

Wood: Cumari and Purple Heart

Size:

Finish: Lacquer

Comments: Bowl from a board



Turner: Karl Ernst

Wood: Cumari and Purple Heart

Size:

Finish: Lacquer

Comments: Bowl from a board





Turner: Rick Madden

Wood: Pine

Size:

Finish: Unfinished

Comments: Bowl from a board



Turner: Don Eskridge

Wood: Poplar

Size: ~10"

Finish: Wipe on semi gloss poly

Comments: Bowl from a board





# Show and Tell items are now featured on a slide show on the club website home page.

## Check it out!

[www.WTSTL.com](http://www.WTSTL.com)

**Web site●** The URL is WTSTL.com. If you have issues or questions, contact the web master. **Items submitted for the Show and Tell are now being displayed on the home page of the web.** Provide Charlie Sapp with good quality pictures (640 x 480) of your turnings for Show and Tell!

If you enjoy turning wood, making things on your lathe or want to learn more about woodturning then join the [Woodturners of St. Louis](http://www.woodturners.org). 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 Valcour Avenue, St. Louis, MO.

**American Association of Woodturners●** WTSTL is one of 350+ worldwide chapters of the American Association of Woodturners. We encourage you to join this 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 have or ideas on your next project.

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