

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

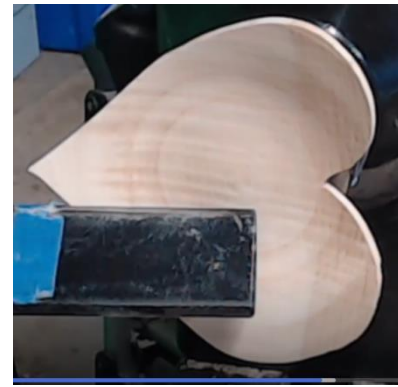
WTSTL.com
March 2023



Jeff Hornung – Playing with Fire / Shou Sugi Ban • Shou Sugi Ban (or Yakisugi, as it is known in Japan) means “burned cedar.” It is an 18th-century Japanese wood burning technique that creates an intriguing charred appearance that highlights natural wood veining, creates textural interest, and varies in appearance according to how much fire is applied and which type of wood is used.



Jeff prefers to use hard maple for his pieces but other woods such as red cedar, cypress, pine, basswood, and oak can be used. This technique can be applied to any turning. For the demonstration Jeff used a heart shape blank cut from maple.



The blank is mounted between centers, the back is shaped and a tenon is cut. The piece is then mounted on a chuck and further shaped with the tail stock in place for safety (as long as possible). The piece is then ready for the fire.

Moving to a safe place for fire, in the open air, the surface is burned. You want the surface to caramelize the resins – not just turn black and sooty. When it crackles – move on. Propane will work but MAPP gas works better.



After the surface is charred, a steel brush is used to remove the majority of the char. Then move on to brass and then nylon brushes to finish. A powered brush can be used to speed up the process. Brush with the grain to remove the char.

Jeff uses Unicorn Spit (brand name) to colorize the surface. The surface is wet with a spray bottle to help the colors blend. Colors are then



applied and blended going from the lightest to darkest. Black accent streaks are applied with a small brush.

Since Unicorn Spit is water based, Rustoleum 2x is used to seal the turning.



A video of the process will be available in the club library and on our [YouTube channel](#).

Thanks, Jeff, for a great demonstration on a unique method to burn and then colorize our turnings.

Here are some links that further describe the technique of Shou Sugi Ban.

<https://www.masterclass.com/articles/shou-sugi-ban-guide-how-to-master-japanese-wood-burning>

<https://www.thespruce.com/what-is-shou-sugi-ban-yakisugi-5119876>

Pre-Meeting Demonstrator/ Mentor● Thanks to our members for stepping up to mentor others during the pre-meeting hands on turning with a spindle gouge. In April the pre-meeting will focus on the use of the parting tool. Contact Tom Zeller to volunteer. Your help is needed and appreciated.



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.

WTSTL Hybrid Meetings● Each meeting lets us improve and address new issues with our hybrid system. 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.

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.

Website● Electronic membership to the WTSTL is available via the club website. After entering your contact information and selecting your plan, log on to your PayPal account 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● Thanks to everyone for helping with the pre-meeting hands on turning. At the May meeting (note that it will be on the third Sunday due to the holiday) we want to expand the hands-on time. We are still formulating the format but it will be along the lines of: rotation of two or three projects (top, bowl, platter) so that turners have an extended time to experience both spindle and cross grain turning with 4 lathes available for turning; start at 1130am and wrap up around 3pm. We also plan on having a demonstration in the main meeting room for those that enjoy that experience. The main demo will be available for review via video for those participating in the hands on turning.

We will have more defined by the April meeting and discuss it then. To best utilize our time and resources we plan to send out a sign up form in early May so that we know how many turners we might have for each rotation/project. [Email me](#) your thoughts and suggestions for the hands on meeting.

The response to the March President's Challenge was outstanding and a great kick off to our two categories – open and novice. Congratulations to Wayne Iehl and Steve Knese for their

salt cellar entries. The challenge for April is to use the burning technique demonstrated by Jeff at our March meeting to any turning. - **Tom Zeller**

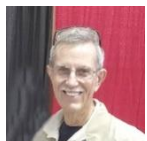
President's Challenge • Members select their choice of winner for the PC. During the break, review the items on the challenge table. Separate your ticket and write your selection (the number in front of each entry) on the back of the one marked "TICKET". Place it in the PC bowl. Your voting ticket will enter you in the door prize drawing. **One PC entry per member; must be turned following the challenge. There are NOW TWO categories for the President's Challenge – Novice and Open. Individuals decide which category to place their entry depending on the challenge. An experienced turner may never have done the challenge and feels like a novice. The category selected is done on the honor system. When voting – vote for one entry in the open category and one entry in the novice category.**

Congratulations to Wayne lehl in the open category and Steve Knese in the novice category for their winning entries of a salt cellar for the March challenge.

President's Challenge for April – texture any turning using the Shou Sugi Ban technique demonstrated at the March meeting.



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 Ken. Bring your boxes (or bags) to the meeting and give them to Ken Bald. – **Ken Bald**



Treasurer Report • Dues are due for 2023 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● 30 people attended in person and 3 online.

Before the meeting, the hands on demo was the spindle gauge. All three Comet lathes were used by mentors and members to share helpful tips and tricks. Tom brought a fourth lathe in to demonstrate several ways to finish off the back of a bowl.

Tom opened the meeting and provided information regarding upcoming activities and meeting plans. He mentioned that the meeting in May was going to be an “open shop” meeting – meaning that in addition to having a demonstration the hands-on turning would be open from 1130am – 300pm. Members that want some mentoring or help with a project can turn for an extended period of time. The demo will be hosted in the regular meeting area, streamed, and available to watch after the meeting. Projects for the hands on turning will be available; members should bring their tools and safety accessories. Suggestions and more discussion will be held at the April meeting. If you have questions, or examples to share with others, be sure to bring them with you.

Charlie has enhanced the way to photograph and display both the President’s Challenge and Show and Tell. Each item submitted will be photographed in the back of the room as the meeting gets underway. When it’s time for the President’s Challenge and Show and Tell, each contributor will be asked to give a short description of their project. Members can also send pictures of their work to Charlie if they cannot attend the meeting.

We had an outstanding group of projects this month. We also segmented the President’s Challenge into two groups allowing “Novice” turners an opportunity to win as well as the more experienced (open category).

Congratulations to our President’s Challenge winners this month:

Open: Wayne lehl

Novice: Steve Knese

Our Demo this month was given by one of our long-time members, Jeff Hornung. Jeff showed us that fire (used safely via a torch), can be used to caramelize a portion of the wood (usually the sap areas), and can be used as a base to embellish with color, giving us yet another artistic avenue to explore with our woodturning.

The PC for April is to use the torching technique demonstrated by Jeff to any turning.

Be safe, be well, and enjoy turning. - **Linda Osterwise, Secretary WTSTL**



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.

New material is being catalogued and will be available at the April meeting.

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 – 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:

- We want to thank John Hoeing for his service to the club. John decided to take a sabbatical for a year. Per the bylaws his position as Vice President was filled with an appointment by the Board. Ken Bald agreed to serve as VP for the remainder of John's term. Thanks Ken.
- Jeff Hornung had an exhibit at the Queeny Park Art Fair. Notice the Shou Sugi Ban turnings on the right display shelves.



Video Resources •

- The Woodturners of St. Louis 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/@woodturnersstlouis2950/videos) and search on *Woodturner St Louis*. <https://www.youtube.com/@woodturnersstlouis2950/videos>
- Past demonstrations are also available on DVD in our library and listed on the website demonstration tab.

New Members ● Please join me in welcoming our new members:

- Matt Biekert from Shiloh, IL



- Adam Biekert from Shiloh, IL



Upcoming Events ● *The dates for the May and November meeting will be the 3rd Sunday of the month due to conflicts with Memorial and Thanksgiving holidays.*

St. Louis Pen Show – June 22-25 at the Sheraton Westport Chalet

AAW: 37th International Woodturning Symposium; Louisville, Kentucky; June 1 – 4, 2023

Note – Not a member of the AAW. They have a guest membership that provides FREE sixty day access to AAW resources and full online access to all published content. Check out their website: [AAW Guest Member](#).

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 Ken Bald.

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. *Our goal for 2023 is 50 pens and we are currently at 12.*

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 Tom Zeller to volunteer.
- Audio / Visual Team – Additional support is needed to help set up, monitor and understand the system for backup. Talk to Rob Conaway to volunteer.
- Mentor Coordinator – Coordinate with members looking to improve their skills
- Pre-Meeting Mentor – Set up the Comets and be available to mentor members and visitors
- We appreciate all the help with set up and clean up. Contact Tom Zeller for more opportunities.

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 |
|----------------|---|---|
| April 23, 2023 | Parting tool and its multiple uses | Paul Krautmann, goblet with captured ring |
| May 21, 2023 | Open shop – bring a project to turn or for mentoring; lathes available; bring your tools and safety equipment | Demonstration TBD – Contact Tom Zeller to volunteer |
| June 25, 2023 | Scraper and its uses | Tom Zeller, three sided vase |
| July 23, 2023 | Embellishing tools | Jerry Rymarquis, TBD |

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 **by the Friday prior to the next meeting.** Include the species of wood, finish, size, and any comments.



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.

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.**



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.

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. Club events take priority.

ZOOM Streaming Links • Our meetings will be streamed via ZOOM unless noted in the meeting information on the web page. All members should receive a reminder and 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 requesting the link.**



March Hybrid Show and Tell



Bob Goulding

Wood: Lenors
Pepperwood

Size: 6" x 4"

Finish: Deft lacquer

Comments: Closed form,
natural edge bowls are a
little more work – but
worth it.



Bob Goulding

Wood: Spruce

Size: 9" x 7"

Finish: Deft lacquer

Comments: Crack that
goes most of the way
around was a challenge.





Bob Goulding

Wood: Mesquite plate

Size: 9.5" diameter

Finish: Deft lacquer

Comments:



Bob Goulding

Wood: Russian Olive

Size: 6" x 3.5"

Finish: Deft lacquer

Comments:



Jeff Hornung

Wood: Maple

Size: 12"

Finish:

Comments: Basket
weave demo piece from
JC Campbell On-Line
Class



Steve Knese

Wood: Canary /
Cherry/Maple/Walnut

Size: 4 x 4

Finish: Tried and True

Comments: Salt cellar



**March President's
Challenge Winner in Novice
Category**





Dan Hill

Wood: Mahogany

Size: 4 x 2

Finish: Poly

Comments: Salt
cellar



Charles Sapp

Wood: Acrylic and wood
casting

Size: 4 x 4

Finish:

Comments: Texture on
sides is difficult to get –
unless it chatters on you by
mistake.



Wayne Iehl

Wood: Walnut and Cherry

Size: 5 x 5

Finish: Walnut oil

Comments:



**March President's Challenge
Winner in Open Category**



Joe Farrell

Wood: Maple and
Sycamore

Size: 4 x 3; 3 x 12

Finish: Poly

Comments: Salt cellar and
pepper mill





Jerry Rymarquis

Wood: Oak and Redwood
Burl Maple

Size: 3.5 x 1.75

Finish: Danish oil

Comments: Salt cellar



Steve Nagy

Wood: Walnut

Size: 4 x 3

Finish: Walnut oil

Comments: Oil darkened
the natural color of the
walnut. Salt cellar



Wayne Iehl

Wood: Walnut and Maple

Size: 3 x3

Finish: Shellac

Comments: Lidded box



Becky Blankenship

Wood: Mulberry

Size: 2.5 x 5

Finish: Yorkshire grit and
wax

Comments: Salt cellar



Steve Knese

Wood: Cherry

Size:

Finish:

Comments: Wood rescued from a daybed built 50 years ago.



Karl Ernst

Wood: Walnut

Size:

Finish: Walnut oil

Comments: Salt cellar



Becky Blankenship

Wood: Mulberry

Size:

Finish:

Comments: Salt cellar



Tom Brock

Wood: Cherry

Size: 5 x 3

Finish: Poly

Comments: Pencil cup



Dan Schmoker

Wood: Figured Maple

Size: 11"

Finish: 5 coats of
Waterlox

Comments:



Steve Nagy

Wood: Teak insert

Size: 3"

Finish: Poly

Comments: Wave bowl
following techniques
demonstrated by John
Beaver at Tennessee
symposium. Teak is
steamed to flex fit the top
and bottom pieces.



Wayne Iehl

Wood: Walnut and Maple

Size: 3 x3

Finish: Shellac

Comments: Lidded box



Charles Sapp

Wood: Catalpa

Size: 12"

Finish: Deft lacquer

Comments: Singe axis that give an off axis effect due to limb curvature. Based on Paul Russell demo at the Woodturners Worldwide Online Symposium.



Linda Osterwise

Wood: Oak

Size: 2 x 3

Finish:

Comments: Salt cellar with
pivoting lid



Murray Meierhoff



Wood:

Size:

Finish:

Comments:



Murray Meierhoff

Wood: Red bud

Size:

Finish:

Comments: Natural edge



Murray Meierhoff





Murray Meierhoff



Dan Hill

Wood: Maple

Size:

Finish:

Comments:



Tom Reel

Wood:

Size:

Finish:

Comments: Salt cellar



Wayne Iehl

Wood: Red Cedar with
Walnut stem

Size: 3 x3

Finish: Shellac

Comments: Apple box





Karl Ernst

Wood: Cedar

Size:

Finish: Clear acrylic

Comments: Salt cellar



Tom Reel

Show and Tell items are featured on a slide show on the club website home page. Check it out!

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](#). 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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|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
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