

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

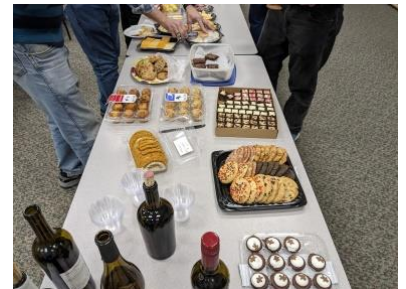
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com  
November 2023

**Annual Wine & Cheese Social / Ornament Exchange / Election •** Another year has come and gone. We have seen many great demonstrations from: Keith Buxton (flask/canteen); Tom Dolan (salt cellar w/pivoting lid); Jeff Hornung (Shou Sugi Ban), Paul Krautmann (goblet with captured rings); Tom Zeller (natural edge bowl and lidded box); Jerry Rymarquis (gnome and hot air balloon); Ken Bald (pepper mill); John Ferreira (casting resin blanks); and Michael Blankenship (hollow ornament). We exchanged ideas with our Show and Tell entries, turned 118 pens for the troops, enjoyed a picnic in the parking lot; exchanged ornaments, turned several Beads of Courage boxes for Children's Hospital; and many turnings were given to nursing home residents. Thanks to everyone for participating in these community programs and making 2023 a very successful year for the WTSTL and community. Check the newsletters on the club website to review the year's demonstrations, activities, and Show and Tell. Great demonstrations and pre-meeting events are being scheduled for 2024.



The wine and cheese annual event was another great success. The ornament exchange continued the great tradition of creating and exchanging each other's turnings. Pictures of the ornaments are in the Show and Tell section of the newsletter and on the club website.



Congratulations to our new (and returning) officers: Rob Conaway, President; Becky Blankenship, VP; Linda Osterwise, Secretary; Charles Sapp, Treasurer.

Your continued support of the WTSTL is appreciated. Dues for 2024 are unchanged - \$35 for an individual; \$45 for a family (up to 3 at the same household). Applications can be downloaded from the [website](#) and mailed or you can complete the application and payment on-line.

Happy Holidays! Happy Turning!

**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.)



**December – No meeting. Enjoy the holidays with family and friends.**

On behalf of the Board and members, our thanks to everyone that has served as an officer or on a committee for the WTSTL or been a demonstrator. Your contributions to the club are appreciated. Becky Blankenship is looking for demonstrations / demonstrators for 2024. Please contact her with ideas or volunteer to be a demonstrator. If you would like to do a collaboration with another member that would be ideal.

**WTSTL Tool Boxes and Turning Tools**● The cabinets have been reorganized. All of the turning equipment is in the tan cabinet. Please return it to that location after use.

Each of our Comet lathes has a number and there is a tool box with tools with the same number in the movable/lockable tan cabinet. When setting up the pre-meeting area get the numbered box that goes with that Comet. This helps us identify any missing items and which box to replenish.

It is also very important to put the tools from a specific box back into that same box for inventory control. And, be sure that the tool boxes are taken back to the meeting room and stored in the locked mobile tan cabinet. The chuck and all loose items (spurs, knock out bar, ...) should be removed from the lathe and put back in the tool box for secure storage.

**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.

**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.

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



**Outgoing President's Spin●** Congratulations to our new officers. I know the club is in capable hands and I look forward to working with them in the future.

Thank you for your support of the club during my term as President. It has been a rewarding and enjoyable experience. Our time has been filled with outstanding show and tell items, demonstrations, pre-meetings, and community service activities. A special shout out to the Audio-visual team for their efforts to record and transmit the meeting for our members. I want to say thanks to all the club members that helped set up and tear down the chairs and table at the meetings. Finally, thanks to the current club officers for all their hard work in helping to keep the club functioning. - **Tom Zeller**



**Incoming President's Spin●** Thank you for the vote of confidence in me for this position. I have been in a couple of supporting positions in the past few years, Newsletter Editor and Video Person. Both positions have offered unique opportunities to see all the members of this organization have to offer. I am

amazed every month to see what people thought up, designed, created, and finished. A few years ago, we had a challenge to create Beads of Courage lidded bowls. I would like to look to the club membership to again look to opportunities for us to give back to our local community. We will have more details at the January meeting. Until then, please have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season! Thank You again for this opportunity to serve as the President of the Woodturners of St. Louis. – **Rob Conaway**

**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. (Note – if there are insufficient entries for either category they may be combined.)**

Congratulations to the November PC winner: Ken Bald for his ornament. See pictures of the winner and all the great entries in the Show and Tell section of the newsletter and on our website.

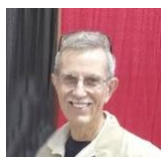
**President's Challenge for January** – Turn a spindle (candle stick, gavel/mallet, ring stand,...turner's choice of a spindle turning)



**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 (1 3/16" in diameter) and available from Becky. Bring your boxes (or bags) to the meeting and give them to Becky Blankenship. – **Becky Blankenship**



**Treasurer Report** ● **Dues are due for 2024 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** • About 30 people attended in person; the meeting was not streamed.

Our November meeting was fantastic! We had a great turnout, saw some very interesting turnings and many turned ornaments. Thank you, Ken for leading this month's get-together.

The only business that was held, in between bites and sips, was the voting of new officers. The slate of officers below was approved as proposed.

President	Rob Conway
Vice-President	Becky Blankenship
Treasurer	Charles Sapp
Secretary	Linda Osterwise

A special Thank You to Tom Zeller and Ken Bald for leading us through this past year offering many great demos, and offering personal attention to those that have asked. Thank you, Charlie Sapp, for all that you do throughout the year in your multiple roles supporting our club. To our new officers – welcome to the team!

The winner of this month's President's Challenge was Ken Bald. Ken created his ornament with a Celtic Knot (see pics in the Show and Tell section of the newsletter and on the website).

No meeting in December. Enjoy the time with your family and friends.

Have a happy holiday season, 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 items this month:

American woodturner magazine v.38, #5  
Woodturning magazine issue 387  
Turned Bowl Design by Richard Raffan - donated book  
Uncle Freddie's peppermint school - donated

Our library is a great source of inspiration and knowledge. We typically have around 50 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**

**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**. Pastor Mike Wondel, Church of the Shepherd in St. Charles, accepted the turnings for their “Unexpected Christmas” program. The turnings will be given to residents in nursing homes, memory care

units, and shut-ins. Thanks to all the members that contributed an assortment of turnings for this community program!



**Beads of Courage** – boxes for storage of the patient’s beads (see article in the NL) – give your items to **Ken Bald**. Becky is making arrangements for delivery of the boxes to Children’s Hospital. Pictures will be available in future newsletters. Thanks to all that are supporting this program.

**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**. Charles Sapp presented 116 pens to Woodcraft staff member, Art Waterman, on behalf of the WTSTL.



Congratulations and thanks to WTSTL member, Steve Botkin, for turning 100 pens for the troops program. Steve is shown below turning #100. *Our goal for 2024 is 150 pens.*



**Video links** • This is an interesting article by Kent Weakley on [discussing bowl tuning](#) with David Ellsworth.

[Tenon or Recessed Mortise](#), that is the question. Check out this video by Kent Weakley

#### **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 Becky Blankenship to volunteer.
- Audio / Visual Team – Additional support is needed to help set up, monitor and understand the system for backup. Talk to Steve Botkin 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 Rob Conaway for more opportunities.

**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](mailto:CWSAPP@CHARTER.NET) requesting the link.

**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.*



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Pre-Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Meeting 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
No meeting in December 2023. Enjoy the time with family and friends. 		
Jan 28, 2024	TBD-check the website closer to the meeting date	Keith Buxton turns – inside out tulips, Pagoda box, or coffee scoop (actual project TBD).
February 25, 2024	TBD	Jerry Rymarquis – squished / melted box
March 24, 2024	TBD	Tom Dolan – off center bowl
April 28, 2024	TBD	Jeff Hornung - TBD

**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.



# November Show and Tell



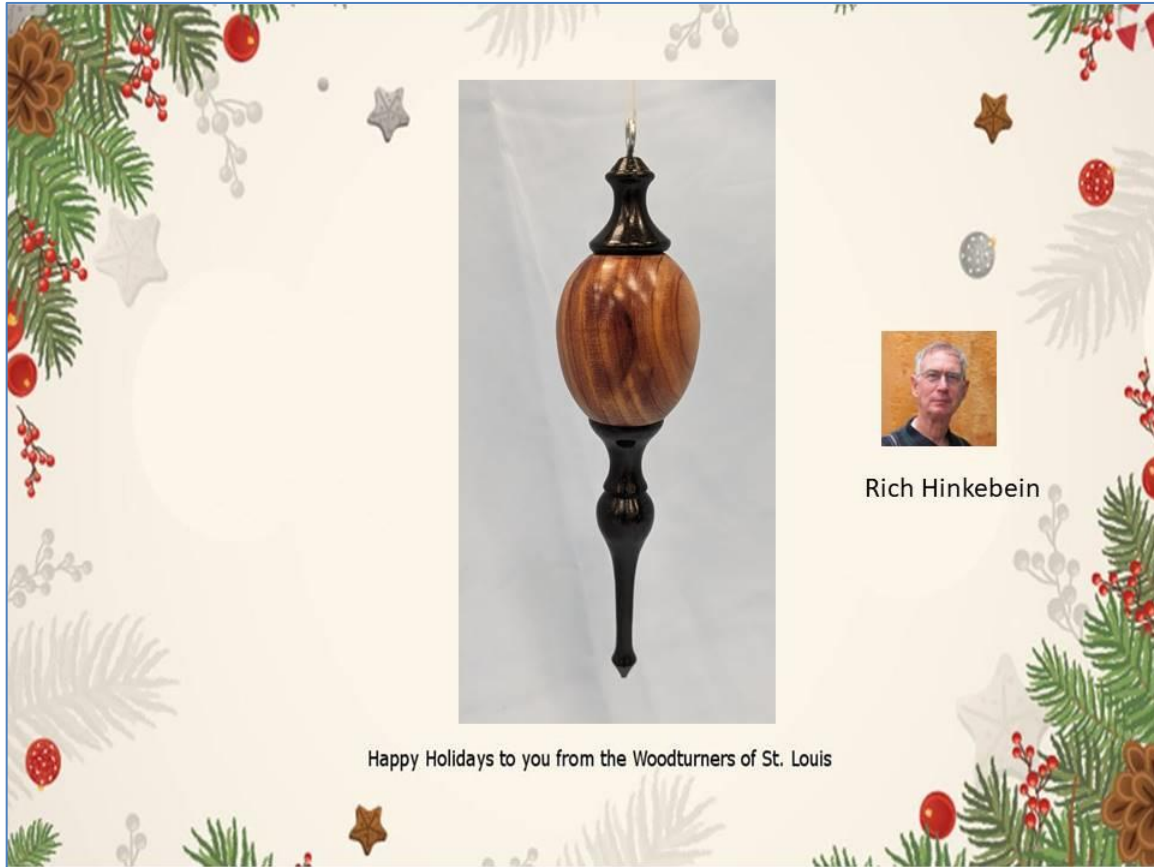
Charles Sapp

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



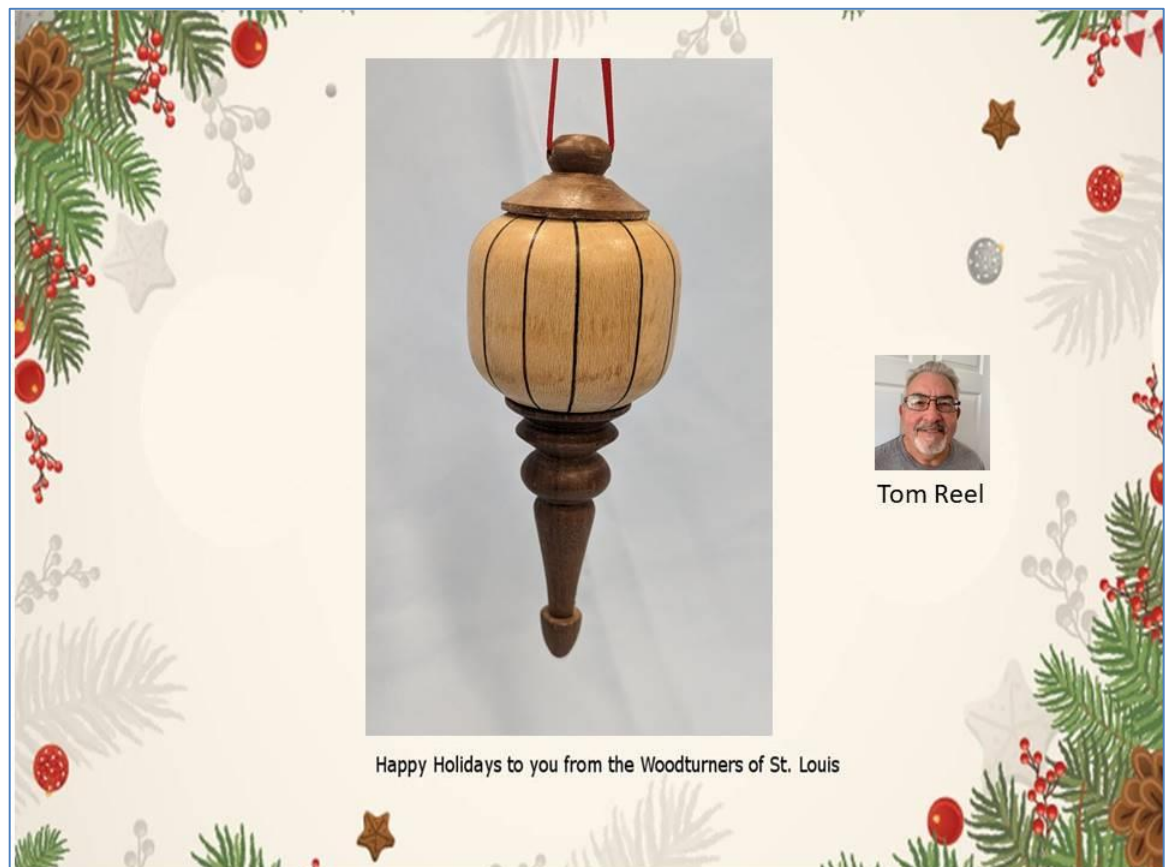
Joe Farrell

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Rich Hinkebein

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Tom Reel

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Becky Blankenship

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Steve Botkin

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis





Valarie Botkin

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Wayne Iehl

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis





Wayne Iehl

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Wayne Iehl

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Joe Farrell

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Gary Guzy

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Wayne Iehl

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Ken Bald

November President's  
Challenge Winner

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis





Gary Guzy

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Jerry Rymarquis

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis



Jerry Rymarquis

Happy Holidays to you from the Woodturners of St. Louis

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

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

Our 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.WTSTL.com). 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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Secretary:	Linda Osterwise	314.630.0133	<a href="mailto:osterwik@gmail.com">osterwik@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	<a href="mailto:cwsapp@charter.net">cwsapp@charter.net</a>
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