

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com  
January 2024



**Pagoda box: Keith Buxton**, Show Me Turners in Festus, begins with a blank about 3.5 x 3.5 x 5". A tenon is turned on both ends. The blank is then parted into a bottom and top piece.



The bottom is mounted into a chuck, shaped, and hollowed. It is then reversed into the chuck using an expansion grip

and the base is completed.



The top is mounted into the chuck and a mortise cut so that the bottom fits with a snug friction grip (turner's choice). The Pagoda shape is then formed on the "bottom" of the top (lid) with the wings cut to go out and up. After initial shaping, the top is reversed chucked using the recess and the lid is given its final shape. The curvature of the bottom flows to the top to give the appearance of one piece.



A hole for a finial is drilled or turned on the existing blank.

Thanks to Keith for a great demonstration on turning a Pagoda box.

The [video](#) is available on the WTSTL Youtube Channel.





**Pre – Meeting Demo** ● Thanks to Wayne Iehl for his demonstration of multiple ways to hold a turning to finish the base. Wayne showed various jam chucking techniques, use of hot glue and how to remove it with alcohol, collets made from pvc and band clamps, jigs to hold a goblet and not break the thin stem, off center mounting, donut chucks to hold bowls securely, and much more.



**WTSTL Tool Boxes and Turning Tools** ● Each of our Comet lathes has a number and there is a tool box with tools with the same number in the movable/lockable cabinets. 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 cabinets. 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 Botkin 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.**



**President's Spin●** Welcome to 2024! Thank you all for the great turn-out for the first meeting of the year. It was great seeing several new people come and join the club. I would like to again thank our two presenters for a job well done. I hope everyone saw something new to try or an alternate way of doing something. One of the things that I have learned from being the Newsletter Editor and Video Person, is there is always another way to accomplish something on the lathe. If you find the time in your shop before the next meeting, please look for an opportunity to make a pen, small object or Beads of Courage box. We are looking to set some goals this year for community support. Thank you all again for giving me this great opportunity to serve the club. - **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 January PC winner: Wayne Iehl for his off center candle holder. See pictures of the winner and all the great entries in the Show and Tell section of the newsletter and on our website.

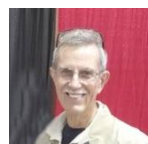
**President's Challenge for February** – Turn a Pagoda or other style lidded box.



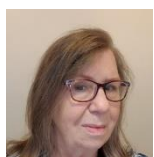
**Vice President's Report • [Beads of Courage](#):** The Beads of Courage is a program for kids in need. BOC is a not-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and teens coping with serious illness. The program integrates the use of beads as visible, tangible symbols 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 Charlie. Bring your boxes (or bags) to the meeting and give them to Becky.



At the end of the 2023 Becky distributed the boxes we had collected to the donations specialists at BJC in St. Louis. The picture shows the specialists with a couple of the BOC boxes. – **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 downloaded 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 •** 44 people attended the January 2024 meeting in person and online.

This month's pre-meeting activities featured Wayne Iehl demonstrating multiple ways to hold a turning to finish the bottom and Keith Buxton, Show Me Turners, turning a Pagoda box for the meeting demonstration.

We had a fantastic turnout this month – many visitors and new members. Welcome to all of you. We hope you enjoyed the meeting and got something out of it that makes you want to come back.

Rob reminded everyone that the May meeting will be on the third Sunday due to a conflict with Memorial Day weekend.

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.

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**

#### **Club News:**

- Thanks to a generous donation from a member the AV system has been upgraded to handle more inputs. That allows switching from PowerPoint to the cameras more easily and possibly adding more cameras in the future. An application was submitted to the AAW for a grant to improve our streaming capability. We should hear the results in the spring. The Show and Tell will be moved closer to the television screens to eliminate the long run of cables and provide more video stability. Tom Reel, AV team member, is building a cabinet to attach to the metal cabinets to house the equipment and reduce set up and tear down time. Thanks to the AV team for all their time and efforts. (Steve Botkin, Tom Reel, and Scott Eiswirth).
- **Please join me in welcoming our newest members:**

Randy Dicken from Highland, IL  
Art Staden from Frontenac, MO  
James Blasberg from Innsbrook, MO

## 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.
- Mahoney – [Sharpening turning tools](#)
- Alan Stratton – [Three part goblet](#)
- [Turning Figured Wood](#)
- [Buying a Lathe](#)

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 Becky Blankenship.

**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 2024 is 150 pens and we are currently at 13.*

## 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.

**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.)



**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
February 25, 2024	Jeff Nasser – Finishes	Jerry Rymarquis – Melted box
March 24, 2024	Becky Blankenship – Polymer Clay	Tom Dolan – off center bowl

**Upcoming Events** • *The dates for the May meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month due to conflict with Memorial Day weekend.*

**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.





# January Hybrid Show and Tell



Wayne Iehl

**Wood:** Cherry

**Size:**

**Finish:** Shellac

**Comments:** Off center candle holder

Winner Jan 2024  
President's Challenge



Charles Sapp



**Wood:** Stabilized wood with color

**Size:**

**Finish:** Friction polish

**Comments:**



Tom Zeller

**Wood:** Grapefruit & Walnut

**Size:** 13 x 5

**Finish:** Oil

**Comments:**



Becky Blankenship

**Comments:** Dancing figures secured to the base with magnets.



Tom Reel

**Wood: Maple & Walnut**

**Finish: Friction on handle  
and butcher block oil on  
ladel**



Tom Heusler

**Wood: Ash**

**Size: 4 x 8**



John Coburn

**Wood:** Oak

**Size:**

**Finish:**

**Comments:** Turned by son, Erick Coburn



Charles Sapp

**Wood:** Mulberry

**Size:** 7 x 4

**Finish:** Walnut oil and wax

**Comments:**



Keith Buxton

**Comments:** Pagoda boxes  
turned by January demonstrator.



Walt Ahlgrim

**Wood:** Oak

**Size:**

**Finish:** Walnut oil

**Comments:**





Wayne Iehl

**Wood:**

**Size:**

**Finish:** Shellac

**Comments:** Off center candle holders



Keith Buxton

**Comments:** Scoop



Tom Zeller

**Wood:** Maple

**Size:**

**Finish:**

**Comments:** Simulate ATT wire spools



Walt Ahlgrim

**Wood:** Walnut

**Size:**

**Finish:**

**Comments:** Handle for miter guage



Jerry Rymarquis

**Wood:** Maple & Walnut

**Size:**

**Finish:** Danish oil

**Comments:** Oil filled  
kaleidoscope



Ellen Williams

**Wood:** Cherry

**Size:** Small

**Finish:** Tung oil

**Comments:** Banks



Jeff Nasser

**Wood:** Maple with Oak caps

**Size:** 6 x 1 7/16

**Finish:** CA glue

**Comments:** Baby rattle with popcorn inside



Murray Meierhoff

**Wood:** Walnut with oak lid

**Size:** 7

**Finish:** Danish oil

**Comments:**





Bill Grimes



**Wood:** Rosewood with epoxy inlay

**Size:** 7 - 8

**Finish:** CA w/o polish to provide grip

**Comments:** Ratcheting screwdrivers with dragon and paddle inlays



Bill Grimes



**Wood:**

**Size:** 4

**Finish:** CA, wax and polish

**Comments:** Seam ripper ; Epoxy with Sapele Celtic knot





Ellen Williams

**Wood:** Sycamore

**Size:**

**Finish:** Wipe on poly

**Comments:** Doodle bowl



Steve Nagy

**Wood:** Cherry, Maple, Walnut, Oak

**Size:**

**Finish:**

**Comments:** 241 pieces



Steve Nagy

**Wood:** Pine, Oak, & Walnut

**Size:**

**Finish:** Walnut oil & poly

**Comments:** Wands. Wood burning, silver paint, black stain, and texturing tool for enhancements.



Gary Guzy

**Wood:** Ash & Bloodwood

**Size:** ~10

**Finish:** Shellac & Minwax wipe on poly

**Comments:** Candle stand



Walt Ahlgrim

Comments: Lathe  
accessory stand for  
chucks and tool rests



Rob Conaway

Wood: From USS Arizona and  
USS Missouri

Comments: Pens donated to  
American Legion Post 111



Rob Conaway

**Comments:** Pens donated to American Legion Post 111 representing Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard



Bob Goulding

**Wood:** Palo Verde

**Size:** 2 x 6

**Finish:**

**Comments:** Very interesting bark





Bob Goulding

**Wood:** Decorative Plumb

**Size:** 6 x 3

**Finish:** Spray Deft lacquer

**Comments:**



Bob Goulding

**Wood:** Apple

**Size:** 6 x 4

**Finish:** Spray Deft lacquer

**Comments:** Natural edge bowl





Bob Goulding

**Wood:** Pepper wood

**Size:** 6 x 2

**Finish:** Mineral oil

**Comments:**



Bob Goulding

**Wood:** Sequoia

**Size:** 11 x 6

**Finish:** Spray Deft lacquer

**Comments:**



Karl Ernst

**Wood:** Unknown

**Size:**

**Finish:** Black Minwax Polyshades

**Comments:** Yarn bowl



Rob Conaway

**Wood:** Kentucky Coffee

**Size:**

**Finish:** Mahoney Walnut Oil

**Comments:** Tea light holders

**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.woodturnersofstlouis.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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