

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

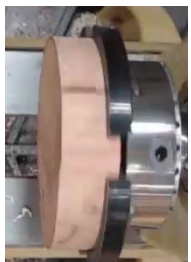
WTSTL.com
August 2024



Ken Bald was our August demonstrator on turning a lidded box for the Beads of Courage community program. Ken showed typical glue ups that he uses for the box often mixing colors from layer to layer.

A hole is drilled in the center to the depth he plans to hollow. The blank is mounted on a screw chuck then a recess is turned in the bottom. The piece is reversed and the hollowing starts. Ken demonstrated several ways to

hollow – conventional gouge, box scraper, hook tool, and the Lyle Jameson laser system.



After the box was hollowed a lid is turned and fitted with a Beads of Courage bead. The lid is first mounted in a chuck and a recess turned.

The lid is reversed chucked and finished on the top. A recess is cut to accept the Beads of Courage bead (available for \$1.25 from Becky Blankenship). Ken uses polyurethane for a finish. The Beads of Courage program is very stringent on the finishes that can be used. Check the

article further down in the newsletter for a link to their site for more information on suggested sizes and finishing techniques.



Ken provided three blanks to members for turning a box for the program. Thanks to Ken for a great demonstration on turning a lidded box for the BOC.

[A video of this demonstration is available on our YouTube channel.](#) To find this and other videos – go to YouTube.com and search on *Woodturner St Louis*.

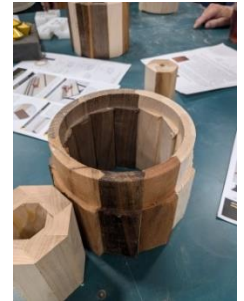
<https://www.youtube.com/@woodturnersstlouis2950/videos>

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.



Pre – Meeting Demo ● Thanks to Rob Conaway for going thru the set up creating a box using bird's mouth router bits. These links will provide you with more information on the process.

Rick Madden Demo: [Stave boxes and bowls](#)



Yonico bits:

<https://www.precisionbits.com/images/companies/1/Yonico%2015330%20-%203%20Piece%20Birdsmouth%20Router%20Bit%20Set%20Instructions.pdf>

Lee Valley Document

<https://assets.leevalley.com/Original/10091/45160-bird-s-mouth-joinery-bitst-c-01-e.pdf>

Infinity

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0745/9622/1217/files/Birds_Mouth_Bits.pdf

The bird's mouth joint is an alternative to a mitered joint and results in a stronger joint.

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.

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 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.**

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 ● This was another great month for demos. Well done Ken in introducing Beads of Courage lidded boxes. Additionally, thank you for demonstrating the Lyle Jamieson Basic Hollowing System. This is a great way to accurately make your wall thickness uniform. We have again added more Pens for the Troops. 250 is getting to be a number to beat, not meet. Well done! The President's Challenge is to turn a Beads of Courage lidded box. I would like to Challenge everyone to bring a community support item for both Show-n-tell and President's Challenge. Let's make September our Community Service Month! Until next month, keep turning! - **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.

Congratulations to the August PC winner: Steve Reynolds for his rattle.

President's Challenge for September – Turn a Beads of Courage box or any community service item (pen for the troops or nursing home item).



Vice President ● Many thanks to Rob Conaway and Ken Bald for their presentations about making boxes. The new year is approaching, and we need people to demonstrate starting in January. Please consider sharing your interest and skill with fellow club members. – **Becky Blankenship**



Treasurer Report ● **Dues are due for 2024 membership.** Electronic membership applications and payments can be made on the website. We are now at 97 members! 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 ● The pre-meeting demonstration on bird mouth staves was done by Rob Conaway. The meeting demonstrator was Ken Bald. He explained about one of our club's charity projects which is creating boxes to donate for Beads of Courage. There were 25 members present and 2 members watching via ZOOM.

We welcomed a new member to our group: Michael McVey. - **Valerie Botkin**



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. 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.

New additions in August: Woodturning magazine #396, 397 and 398.

Older magazines and books are being made available to members – books for \$2 and magazines for free. They will be available at the September meeting and then donated to other organizations and clubs.

Rich needs assistance with the library. Consider serving as a club librarian or assistant. - **Rich Hinkebein**

- **Club News:**

WTSTL September meeting • Ken Bald will be our brat and hot dog chef at our “picnic meeting”. Weather permitting we will have social time in the parking lot and then have free time turning on the Comets in the building – pens for the troops before our regular meeting at 1pm. Brats, condiments, plates, and utensils will be provided. Bring a dish to share, a drink, and a lawn chair. Set up will start at 11:15am and serving at 11:45am. Pen turning can start whenever you finish eating and want to turn. All supplies for the troop pen turning will be provided. Our regular meeting with a demonstration by Michael Blankenship will start at 1pm.



- **Old Capitol in St. Charles –**

- Becky Blankenship, Sean Folis, Charles Sapp, and Rich Hinkebein hosted the carpenter’s shop during Statehood Days. They demonstrated how a pole lathe and treadle lathe operate and showed visitors several turned items. Our next event at the Old Capitol may be Seniors Day in October. Contact Rich H if you are interested in helping and for more information.



- Join me in welcoming our new members: Bart Hildreth and Michael McVey.

[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. – **Becky Blankenship**



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 150 250 pens and we are currently at 226!*



Tech Tips ● Take care with your tools. Cast iron is strong but also brittle. This lathe was tipped over by a car and fell on it's side landing on the motor adjustment lever. The impact of the fall caused three major cracks in the frame and one in the bed. Make sure your equipment is not in a place that it may be knocked over.

Video Resources ●

- Did you notice the new pan / tilt / zoom capability of our video system at the August meeting? Thanks to the generosity of Steve Botkin and Rob Conaway and a lot of tech time a new computer has been purchased, software upgraded, sound system improved, and a new camera added to the system. Tom Reel built and donated the storage box that is now attached to the back of the video cabinet. THANKS!



- 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 and search on *Woodturner St Louis*. <https://www.youtube.com/@woodturnersstlouis2950/videos>
- Carter and Sons have a video on tool sharpening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEK1cFhButQ>

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](#).

Turning events ● Watch for member Michael Blankenship's and Tom Heusler's booth at the St. Charles, MO Mosaic Fair on Main Street on Sept 13-15, 2024.

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.
- 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
September 22, 2024	Pen turning for the troops on Comet lathes before/after lunch	Bell ornament – Michael Blankenship
October 27, 2024	Hook tool – Fred Groves	TBD – Tom Zeller
November 24, 2024	NO PREMEETING	Wine and Cheese Social; election of officers

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.

August Hybrid Show and Tell



Charles Sapp



Bill Eggers





Wayne lehl



Bill Eggers



Bill Eggers



Steve Reynolds



August President's Challenge Winner

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. 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 with a pre-meeting at 1130am.

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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Audio Visual:	Steve Botkin	314.504.0684	Steve@Botkin.ws

Questions: webmaster@wtstl.com

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

www.WTSTL.com