

# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com  
November 2024

**Starting JANUARY 2025 meetings will be on THE 4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE EVENING. Premeeting starts at 5pm and main meeting starts at 6:30PM. Meetings will continue to be hosted at CTF at 8300 Valcour Ave; Affton, MO. No meeting in December 2024. Next meeting will be January 28, 2025. Happy holidays. See you in 2025!**

**Annual Wine & Cheese Social / Ornament Exchange / Election** • Another year has come and gone. We have seen many great demonstrations in 2024. Thanks to all our members that demonstrated at both the premeeting and the main meeting. We exchanged ideas with our Show and Tell entries, turned 261 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 2024 a very successful year for the WTSTL and the 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 2025.



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; Tom Zeller, VP; Valerie Botkin, Secretary; Charles Sapp, Treasurer. We have one director's position open; contact Rob if you would serve.

Your continued support of the WTSTL is appreciated. Dues for 2025 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.

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

**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 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.

**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.**

**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.

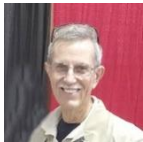


**President's Spin** ● Happy holidays! See you in 2025. - **Rob Conway**

**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 November PC winner:** Jerry Rymarquis for his Viking ornament.

**President's Challenge for January 2025** – Turn a bowl – functional or artsy.



**Treasurer Report** ● **Dues are due for 2025 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 September:** November's meeting was the Wine & Cheese party. 20 members were present and 4 guests also joined us. An election was held for the Board positions that need to be filled. With no nominations from the floor, the following slate of officers was unanimously voted in for 1 year terms:

- Tom Zeller-VP
- Charles Sapp-Treasurer
- Valerie Botkin-Secretary

Thank you to Becky Blankenship for doing a great job this year as Vice President.

On 10/30/24 the Board voted to renew the WTSTL Zoom account for \$159.

On 11/22/24 the Board voted to renew the contract with the domain hosting the WTSTL website. The cost for 2 years is now \$136.88. - **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.

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

## Community Programs ●



**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 Rob. Bring your boxes (or bags) to the meeting and give them to Tom Reel.



Tom Reel delivered several boxes to Children's Hospital. Thanks to all that contributed.

**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.** Thirty two turnings were delivered to the Harvester Residential Community Home in St. Charles. Thanks to all the members that contributed an assortment of turnings for this community 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.** In 2024, 261 pens were delivered to Woodcraft for distribution to the troops. WTSTL member, Steve Botkin, was our major turner with 200 pens donated. Thanks to everyone that helped make this a successful program.





## 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 and search on *Woodturner St Louis*. <https://www.youtube.com/@woodturnersstlouis2950/videos>

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](#).

## 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. **Thanks to Glenn Boland for volunteering to assist.** Additional support would really help. 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.)

**Contributions accepted at any time of the year!**



**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 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Meeting 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
December 2024	<b>NO Meeting. Enjoy time with family and friends.</b>	
January 28, 2025	<b>TBD. Check the website for updates. <a href="http://www.wtstl.com">www.wtstl.com</a></b>	

**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



Wayne lehl



Ken Bald



Don Eskridge





November President's Challenge Winner



Jerry Rymarquis



Tom Reel



Bob Goulding

Our URL is [WTSTL.com](http://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://Woodturners of St. Louis). Learn and share ideas with like-minded Woodturners of St. Louis. Our chapter normally meets from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 8300 Valcour Avenue, St. Louis, MO with a pre-meeting at 5:00 pm.

**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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Vice President:	Tom Zeller	314.484.6499	<a href="mailto:zellertom83@gmail.com">zellertom83@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Valerie Botkin		<a href="mailto:valeriebotkin@gmail.com">valeriebotkin@gmail.com</a>
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Questions: [webmaster@wtstl.com](mailto: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](http://www.WTSTL.com)**