

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com
February 2025

Meetings are now on THE 4th TUESDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE EVENING. Premeeting starts at 5pm and main meeting starts at 6:30PM. Meetings continue to be hosted at CTF at 8300 Valcour Ave; Affton, MO. Next meeting will be March 25, 2025.



Paul Krautmann – Using Skew and other tools to turn a French rolling pin • Paul started the project with a blank about 22” long. The diameter is optional depending on the end user. Paul went through some of the history / mystery surrounding the skew, demonstrated the correct way to position and avoid catches. He then showed how many other tools can be used just as effectively and perhaps with more comfort to the turner – roughing gouge, parting tool (using the multiple cutting surfaces to achieve different surfaces), gouge wings,....

Since any nick/gouge in the tool rest will be transferred to the turning, Paul suggests that the surface be smoothed with a file. He also suggests that the sharp edges on a skew be rounded over so they do not dig into the tool rest.

Before starting the rolling pen, Paul used the square blank to demonstrate how multiple tools can be used to create transitions from square to round.



Once the blank was a cylinder he angled the tool rest to help cut a taper. In the end, Paul gave a slight curvature to the “straight” taper and then added a knob to each end.

Thanks to Paul for a great demonstration on a spindle project. A video of the demonstration will be available on the WTSTL YouTube channel.



Pre-Meeting● Murray Meierhoff instructed turners at the pre-meeting on how to turn an apple. Working with an ash blank mounted between centers it was rounded and shaped. A gum ball stem soaked in glycerin was used as the stem. Thanks Murray.



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 mentor's 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.

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.

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.

Welcome to New Members

Brian Botkin of Dardenne Prairie, MO
Devon Milstead of Wentzville, MO

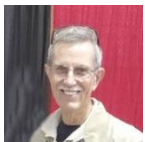


President's Spin ● Another great couple of demonstrations and meeting is complete! Thank you Murray for showing us how to turn an Apple! Great project for the teachers we are grateful to have helped us throughout our lives. Thank you Paul for show us how and when to use a skew. Knowing when to use a tool is a valuable piece of learning. Thank you all for adapting to the new meeting schedule! It has been something of a challenge, but we have made it work. We are still looking for a Newsletter Editor. As I described in the past, this is great way to get first hand looks at presentations and more time to ask questions about how someone does the object of the presentation. This leads me to another ask. Please think about opportunities to share your knowledge with the club. Either in the positions of leadership, pre-meeting demo or meeting demo. These are all great ways to share your knowledge and experience or specific skills you have honed through the years. Thank you! 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 February PC winner: Wayne lehl for his flower arrangement.

President's Challenge for March 2025 – Turn a rolling pin.



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 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 January: We had 30 attendees at the meeting. An additional 2 people attended via ZOOM.

I would like to see more women join our group. If you have a significant other, wife, daughter or granddaughter that might be interested in learning how to turn, please invite them to attend with you. - **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.

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 2025 is 275 pens.



Wig Stands – This is a new project for the club. Details will be forthcoming and Rob will be doing a demo on turning the stand at the March meeting.

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. 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.



Welcome to our new sponsor – [Goebel Furniture](#). They are providing cut offs from their furniture making that are great for turning projects.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Pre-Meeting 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Meeting 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
March 25, 2025	Carbide tools – Rob Conaway	Turning a wig stand – Rob Conaway
April 22, 2025	TBD	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.

February Show and Tell



Charles Sapp



Wayne lehl

**President's Challenge Winner –
Feb 2025**





Wayne lehl



Wayne lehl





Tom Heusler



Tom Heusler





Don Eskridge

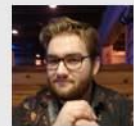


Rob Conaway





Steve Nagy



Devon Milstead



Alumilite casting with Fordite (layers of paint)



Bob Goulding



Olive and Mesquite

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.**

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 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.

President:	Rob Conaway	314.378.2514	riconaway@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Tom Zeller	314.484.6499	zellertom83@gmail.com
Secretary:	Valerie Botkin		valeriebotkin@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	cwsapp@charter.net
Newsletter:	Charles Sapp	636.928.0149	cwsapp@charter.net
Librarian:	Rich Hinkebein	636.332.2396	kathryna1945@yahoo.com
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