

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

WTSTL.com

June 2026

Meetings are on the 4th 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. Next meeting will be July 28, 2026.



Platter● Paul began the demonstration by squaring up the face of a waste blank that would later be used to support the platter during final turning. He attached a faceplate to the future top of the platter blank using #14 stainless steel screws. He emphasized avoiding drywall

screws because they are hardened and can shear, potentially releasing the blank from the lathe. The screw holes will eventually be removed when the front of the platter is excavated.



With the faceplate mounted on the headstock, Paul turned the bottom of the platter. He formed a foot with a slightly recessed center so the finished platter would sit firmly on a surface. Paul also likes to create a secondary foot as a design element. A gentle curve was then shaped from the foot to the rim, and a small recess near the edge was added to provide a secure grip when picking up the platter.



Once the bottom was complete, the faceplate was attached to a threaded accessory on the tailstock. The waste block was mounted on the headstock, and the platter was brought up against it. Medium CA (super glue) was applied around the rim to secure the platter to the waste block.

When the front was finished, a small flat chisel was used to separate the platter from the waste block. Paul noted that other methods can also be used to secure the platter, including yellow glue with a sheet of paper between the surfaces, hot glue, and similar techniques. Any remaining glue residue on the bottom can be removed with a scraper or by sanding.



Many thanks to Paul for an informative demonstration on platter turning and the tool techniques involved. A recording of his demonstration is available on our YouTube channel. [Search YouTube for Woodturners of St. Louis.](#)

Editor's Note: There are many ways to hold a blank for turning. Paul liked the freedom of style that a waste block/CA provided. The blank could also be held with a scroll chuck; gripping a tenon or recess on the bottom. Turning the top and then reverse mounted using a jam chuck, Cole jaws; Longworth chuck, or vacuum chuck to further clean up the bottom. Talk to a member if you have any questions. We plan to have a session on how to hold blanks soon. Chatgpt will give you suggestions on faceplate size, screw size, screw length, and speeds for turning platters.



Pre-Meeting● Thanks to Jerry Goodson for his demonstration and instruction on how to use a skew. Jerry emphasized the need for a sharp tool and then turned a couple of finials to show technique.



Jerry keeps it between centers to help reduce the vibration and cuts at about the 10 o'clock position.



Open Turning / Training on the Second Tuesday of the month● The club is now offering open turning and training on the second Tuesday of the month. **Next class is July 14, 2026; project is a honey dipper.**

The time will be to offer hands on turning, to cover techniques, and to answer questions regarding turning. It will be at the Carpenter's Training Facility, 8300 Valcour Ave, Affton, MO starting at 530pm and wrapping up by 830pm.



Members are asked to contact [Ray Hinkle](#) before the class so material will be available. Please bring your face shield and spindle/bowl gouges/ parting tool for the class.

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 Zoom 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. Recorded demonstrations are posted on the club YouTube channel.

Mentoring● Woodturners of St. Louis has a mentoring program for members. On our mentoring page, you'll find a list of members who have graciously agreed to invite other members into their home workshops for mentoring sessions. In some cases, mentors can visit your home to give instruction there instead. And some mentors offer consultations via Zoom or email.

We have several mentors available now, and we'd love to add more. If you're an experienced WTSTL member and would like to be a mentor, contact our President.

If you're a WTSTL member and would like to arrange a mentoring session, please go to our mentoring page. The locations of our current mentors are listed there, so you can choose the one closest to you. The topics they're willing to give instruction on are listed there as well.

We hope this program will bring members together to share our skills, spark fresh creativity and learning, and strengthen our sense of community.

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 month we celebrated Father's Day. During our hands-on session this month we had a father / daughter team show up for some turning fun. Jennifer Hannah,



a CJAP Student, brought her dad Ron out. What a great way to spend a weeknight with family. They produced some tealight holders that will be around for a lifetime. In July's session we will be making honey dippers; it is the perfect project for July. If you know any beekeepers, you know that they are starting to harvest honey from their hives. Come out and make a great tool for a tasty treat. Please contact Ray Hinkle if you plan to attend.



This month's meeting was one not to miss, Paul Krautmann demonstrated a platter. Paul is a very talented wood turner and very entertaining to watch. The thing that stuck out the most to me is that Paul does not like to use chucks. He uses a piece of wood attached to a faceplate, then he uses CA glue to attach his bowl blank. He made it look so easy! It is great to see a different perspective, I think there were a few people that thought that the platter would fly off during the turning process. His technique is very refined, it seemed like he was cutting butter. Sharp tools and patience go a long way in our art form. Paul did a great job of demonstrating that during his demo. I am excited to see the platters that our club members bring for the President's Challenge next month.

This month's challenge was a clock; there were some great pieces brought in. Collin Cox was the winner of the challenge. He made a very cool desk lamp with a clock on the base. Collin integrated magnets into his project, my words do not do his entry any justice. Take a look at the picture on <https://wtstl.com/>.

Last weekend I attended the St Louis Pen Show, it was our second year selling there. There are some amazing artists making amazing pens. I really enjoyed talking to woodturners from across our country about their process and techniques. I loved seeing the innovations in the art of kit-less pen making. The exchange of ideas and feedback was great to see. It was very similar to our meetings; I came home from our monthly meetings with great ideas and inspiration. Thanks to everyone that speaks up to add value to our monthly meetings. I hope that people keep ideas coming. Remember that your comment may be the one piece that someone needs to finish their personal puzzle. - **Moe Milstead**

President's Challenge • Members select their choice of winner for the PC. During the break between the business meeting and the demonstration, 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; entry must be turned following the challenge.

Congratulations to the June PC winner: Collin Cox for his lighted/magnetic clock.

President's Challenge for July 2026 – Turn a plate/platter. (See the club YouTube video for more information).



Treasurer Report • **Dues are due for 2026 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. New members are asked to complete the application form. Club patches are available from the Treasurer for \$5. – **Charles Sapp**



Secretary's Report • Hands On Session June 9, 2026: We had 11 people in attendance, 3 mentors and 2 working on AV equipment.

Meeting June 23, 2026

Pre-Meeting Demo was on "Spindle Turning with a Skew". Demonstrator was Jerry Goodson from the Show Me Woodturners.

The meeting demonstration was on "Turning a Platter". Demonstrator was Paul Krautmann also from the Show Me Woodturner's group.

We had 32 members in attendance, 4 visitors, 3 attending via Zoom. The Board voted to spend \$296 for a new Osbot camera to upgrade the AV system. – **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 complete listing content on the club website. Please take advantage of this wonderful club benefit and return items in a timely manner.

Since Moe will be serving as President the club needs a club librarian. Please contact one of the officers if you are willing to serve or assist in this needed position. – **Moe Milstead**

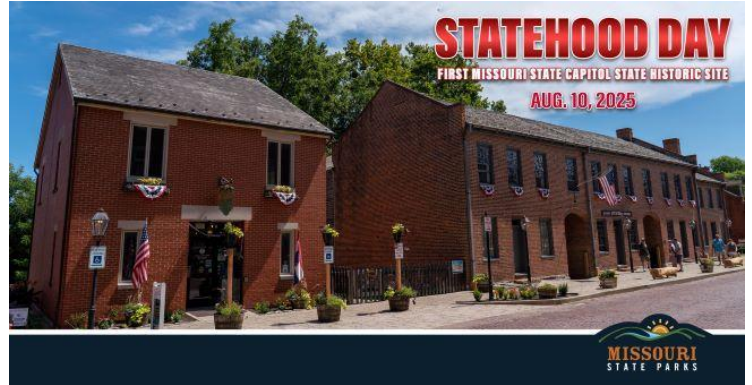
Community Programs ●

Statehood Day at the Old Capitol in St.

Charles ● The Department of Natural Resources is looking for a few volunteers to help demonstrate the pole and treadle lathes, along with some other antique tools, during an upcoming event.

When: Monday, August 10

Time: Noon to 4:00 PM



It's a fun chance to share these traditional skills with both kids and adults. If you're available and would like to help, please contact Charles Sapp.

Thanks for considering it!



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. In 2025, our club delivered over 350 pens to Woodcraft for distribution to the troops.



Wig Stands – Wig stands will be collected and delivered to a hospital in the fall. A video is available on our YouTube channel and article links included in the March 2025 newsletter on how to turn a wig stand.



Members Exhibits • Moe and Devin Milstead and Charles Sapp participated in the St. Louis Pen Show. Moe and Devin had a booth and Charles worked at the [TACCIA booth](#) with Shu-Jen Lin, the founder of TACCIA. The show was well attended.



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. Check out their website: [AAW](#) .

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 Rob Conaway 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 Moe Milstead 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 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
July 14, 2026	530-830PM Turning Tuesday – Honey Dipper (see NL for more info)	
July 28, 2026	TBD – contact Moe or Rob to volunteer	TBD
August 25, 2026	TBD	Keith Buxton - Lantern
September 2026	TBD	Jeff Hornung - TBD
October 2026	TBD	Michael Blankenship - Ornament

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.

June Show and Tell



Charles Sapp



Ken Bald



Ray Hinkle



Tom Reel



Collin Cox

June President's Challenge
Winner - Clocks



Collin Cox



Steve Nagy



Art Staden



Steve Nagy



Diana Votaw



Randy Dicken

For 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 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:	Moe Milstead	501.286.5923	moe_milstead@msn.com
Vice President:	Rob Conaway	314.378.2514	riconaway@yahoo.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:	Moe Milstead	501.286.5923	moe_milstead@msn.com
Audio Visual:	Steve Botkin	314.504.0684	Steve@Botkin.ws
Director:	Tom Zeller	314.484.6499	zellertom83@gmail.com

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