



# Alabama Woodturners Association

March 2013

# AWA Newsletter



A member of the American Association of Woodturners

Location: Homewood Senior Center at 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL 35209  
Web Site: [www.alabamawoodturners.com](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## Coming Events

- March**-Maurice Clabaugh
  - April** –Jess Walls
  - May**-Round Robin
  - June** - Jim Greenwood\*
  - July** -Joe Wujcik\*
  - August**-Staten Tate\*
  - September** -Cynthia & Michael Gibson
  - October** - Pat Johnson\*
- \* Not confirmed



## The March Program -Maurice Clabaugh:

Maurice has turned several "Turned under edges" on vessels but his favorite is the "Blossom" shape. Additionally, he will have a hands-on training session for members in the afternoon the same day. Regular attendees are all familiar with Maurice's



craftsmanship and his unique woodworking pieces. Be sure not to miss Maurice's demonstration at the March meeting. It is guaranteed to be interesting and educational.

## February Program:

We had a good turnout for the February AWA meeting where Mark Sillay gave a wood turning demonstration and hands-on works shops Saturday afternoon and on Sunday. Mark is an excellent instructor and covered some basic wood turning techniques as well as advanced techniques. He showed and demonstrated some specialty tools. The panoramic view of the meeting below shows Mark and his audience which were well entertained and educated. More on Mark Sillay on Page 3.

## Officers of AWA

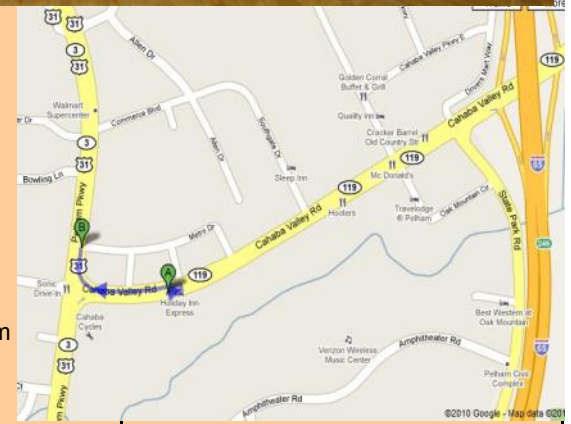
- President** – Richard Serviss
- Vice President** – Open
- Program**—Will Pate
- Treasurer** – Jennifer Smith
- Secretary** – Laura Reder
- Directors:** Staten Tate, Bill West, Sean McCurley, Jeff Hicks
- Web Master** – Michael Malinconico,
- Training** – Phil Fortmeyer
- Newsletter Editor** – Dave Chanslor

## Inside this issue:

Show & Tell  
Volunteers that keep AWA going!  
New Members



2215B Pelham Pkwy N (US 31)  
Pelham, AL 35124  
Phone: (205) 988-3600  
Web Site: [www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)  
Email: [Woodcraft511@bellsouth.net](mailto:Woodcraft511@bellsouth.net)  
Manager: Jay MacDougall  
Store Hours:  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 am – 7 pm  
Thursday: 9 am – 9 pm  
Saturday: 9 am – 6 pm  
Sunday: noon – 5 pm



## \*\*Notice\*\*

*Dues are Due!  
Wear your  
Name Tag!*

# SHOW AND TELL TIME



Sean McCurley



Roger Smith



Will Pate



Alan Stanton

**Who are these people and what are they doing? (Turn the page)**



John Carpenter



Amy Benefield



Marvin Little



Michael Malinconico

## ~~~Notice Update~~~

International Association of Penturners has created a forum for the Central Alabama Penturners. Woodcraft has agreed to allow a meeting place there. We are looking at a once a quarter meeting, the first has not been set at this time. The 1st meeting of the Central Alabama Chapter of the International Association has been set.

The meeting will be held on March 30th beginning at 9:30 A.M. We will be using this time as a meet and greet and to decide on when to schedule meetings. So bring some show and tell and stuff and a good story.

If you are not a member of the IAP [www.penturners.org](http://www.penturners.org) I highly recommend joining as its free and has a tremendous amount of information available to pen turners.

Phil Morris



### It's the Video Crew!

Isn't it nice to have a birds eye view of the lathe work on the screen during the demo? Isn't it nice to be able to buy at cost a video of the demo so you can recall all the details you want to remember from the wood turning professional demonstrator? Well, thanks to our video crew, John Carpenter, Amy Benefield and Marvin Little who volunteer to make it all happen, all that is available to you as a member of AWA. Be sure to thank our video crew at the next meeting for the time and effort they put in to set up and to video and record the demos. Also a thanks to Mel Brown who developed much of what we do today and still processes the recordings and puts them on DVD to be made available at our meetings or mailed it to you.

**What about the other guy?** That's our **Web Site Manager**, Michael Malinconico. Michael was born, and grew up, in Brooklyn, NY. His interest in working with wood began in early childhood. He received a BS in physics from the City University of New York and went on to do graduate work in physics at Columbia University. Michael worked on a doctorate in theoretical physics for 5 years then went to work for NASA during the Apollo project.

He became a professor at University of Alabama and taught courses on information technology, including a course on creating and maintaining Web sites and retired in 2007. His life partner is Sally Street and AWA member.



### More on Mark Sillay's demo:

Mark demonstrated a technique for making Christmas ornaments using "tooth pick technology" in which he uses a tooth pick to join the top finial and the bottom ice-cycle to the body using a tooth pick that extends through the body of the ornament. He discussed tool techniques including body position and the relation of the tool to the wood for smoother cuts.

Mark showed us some specialty tools and special grinds he uses on some of his tools. The workshops were well attended and according to the Phil Fortmeyer and Richard Serviss went very well. We thank Mark for coming and sharing his woodturning expertise with AWA.



A video of each AWA meeting is provided on DVD for your benefit for only \$10 postage paid. You can log on to [www.alabamawoodturners.com/](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com/) then click on Club Videos or [www.melbrown4u.org/video.htm](http://www.melbrown4u.org/video.htm) or call Mel Brown at 687-1247

### Meeting Location—816 Oak Grove Rd. Homewood AL

From I-65 N, exit 256B (From I-65 S, exit 256A). Turn West on Oxmoor Rd. go about .5 mi – halfway there take the left fork at the traffic light (means you'll go straight ahead) – Turn left onto Oak Grove Road and go about .2 mi. Homewood Senior Center is on the right. Check out our Web Site at [www.alabamawoodturners.com](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com) for much more about our club.

## Thoughts on Sanding by Ronnie Perkins

Woodturnings Design February 2013 has a good article on sanding. However they omitted a little information I believe, and here are my thoughts:

Don Russell and Nelson Brooks have said "worn out 100 grit sand paper does not make 220 grit sand paper.

We all learn something in our studios (shops) that we can share with other wood turners. I would like to share two tricks I have found about sanding:

1. Raised grain trick: After I finish sanding, I take a paper towel and dampen it. Then I rub the wood that I am working on to raise the grain. Then I take a dry paper towel while the lathe is turning and dry the wood. Then I return to the last grit of sand paper I used and re-sand. This gives a smoother turned piece. The finest grit I have used on this trick on is 600 grit.
2. Paper sack burnishing trick: Pens, Bowls, Platters, Turkey calls, or whatever wood project you are working on except those odd and rough sided things like Maurice turns. This will embellish your wood project that is now more than fire wood. Maurice said "from fire wood it came and fire wood it can go back". The paper sack I am told has some kind of wax in it. This puts a slick smooth surface on the wood. Back in the old days, furniture and cabinet makers used a paper sack to help get that smooth slick finish on their wood. If it worked that way why not on wood turned on the lathe.



When Don Russell taught us "Poly Chromatic Staved Bowls "(segmented bowls to everyone else), he planned to show us how to use spray can lacquer as a finish for our bowls. We were all using the same materials including sand paper. He picked mine and said it was the slickest in the class. He had walked around the room and rubbed every bowl there. That morning before going to the class I bought a Hardees biscuit "to go" in a paper sack. When sanding time came and I finished the last grit we had, I went to the rest room and got the paper towel. Then I remembered the Hardees sack. And that made my bowl the slickest. I told Richard Serviss how I did the two tricks. He told his wife and she doubted the process and then he showed her and now she is a believer.

Ronny Perkins

### New Members:

We had three new members to join the AWA at the February meeting. They were **Brian Larson**, **Larry Hicks** and **Dudley Massey**. I got a picture of Brian at the meeting but the others eluded the camera. Please welcome our new members at the next meeting and help our club grow!



Brian Larson New Member