



Alabama Woodturners Association

AWA Newsletter

A member of the American Association of Woodturners



April 2015



Location: Homewood Senior Center at 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL 35209
Web Site: www.alabamawoodturners.com

Coming Events

April 11-**Frank Bowers**~
'Poor Man's Hollow Form'

May 9-**Team Challenge**~
Four member teams turn creations from four similar pieces of wood

June 13-**Phil Morris**~
'Advanced Pen Turning Techniques'

July 11-TBD

August 8-**Dennis Paulus**~
'Unique Carved Acorn Box'

September 12-**Mark St Leger**~
'Extraordinary Boxes'

October 10-**Jess Walls**~
'Platter with Offset Bowl'

November 14-**Round Robin**

December 12-**Christmas Party/Luncheon**

April-Frank Bowers "Poor Man's Hollow Form"

I am a full time woodturning instructor and demonstrator. From an early age I have worked making things from wood along with numerous remodeling projects but never introduced to woodturning. After moving to Georgia I had an opportunity to see a wooden pen demonstration and was hooked on turning. From that point I took lessons from noted turners in Atlanta and professional turners from around the world who came through the area.



I enjoy using the lathe to transform recycled woods into useful items and artistic objects. The thing I like most about woodturning is the instant gratification, you can spend an hour or two and complete a project, as opposed to regular wood-working where months later you're still working on that week-end project.



Over the past 15 to 20 years I have taught over 800 classes of 6 to 8 students and an untold number of individual one day sessions. I enjoy teaching and demonstrating almost as much as turning itself. My goal is to keep learning and pass this knowledge on to others.

Demo: Poor man's hollow form without deep hollowing tools.

This demonstration will takes you through my way of turning a two part hollow form, using your bowl and spindle gouge only.



(Editor's note: Frank's picture from an earlier visit to Alabama Woodturners is also on the home page of the AWA website-<http://www.alabamawoodturners.com>)

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Notice

How many Christmas ornaments have you made and turned in? As of our April meeting, there are only 255 days until next Christmas but, more importantly, 201 days until we decorate the Christmas tree at Children's Hospital!



Do you have an April birthday? If so, please see Jean or Amy at the sign in table or email us at clineclan1@gmail.com or leobenefield@gmail.com.



Wayne Loveless-March Meeting Demonstrator



March Turn and Tell

March Participants

Gary Hales-Ash Mallet

Jean Cline-Spalted Maple Bowl/Cedar Doorknobs

Howard King-Ash Natural Edge Bowl/Red Oak Vase

Tommy Hartline-Bradford Pear Scalloped Bowl

Maurice Clabaugh-Holly Root 'Community' Security Box

Sally Street-Apple Winged Bowl/Bradford Pear Natural Edge Bowl/Oak Dibbler

John Sowell-Cherry Bowl/Bird's Eye Maple and Turquoise inlay 'Free Spirit' Bowl

Carl Cummins-2 Cherry Bowls/Cherry Trembleur

Will Pate-Unknown Wood Golf Club Ornament

Bill Payton-Osage Orange Bowl

Pete Marken-Oak, Red Oak, Maple, Peruvian Walnut Segmented Vase/Redwood Burl
Hollow Form Bowl

Gary Sartin-Cedar natural Edge Bowl/Spalted Maple Pen/Longworth-style Chuck
made from cutting boards and a Penn State Industries faceplate

Jack Capps-Maple Eye Glass Holder

Saturday Afternoon Mentoring (Starts about 1 hour after the morning session ends or about 1:00)

The April Saturday afternoon class will be taught by Frank Bowers, who is our April guest demonstrator

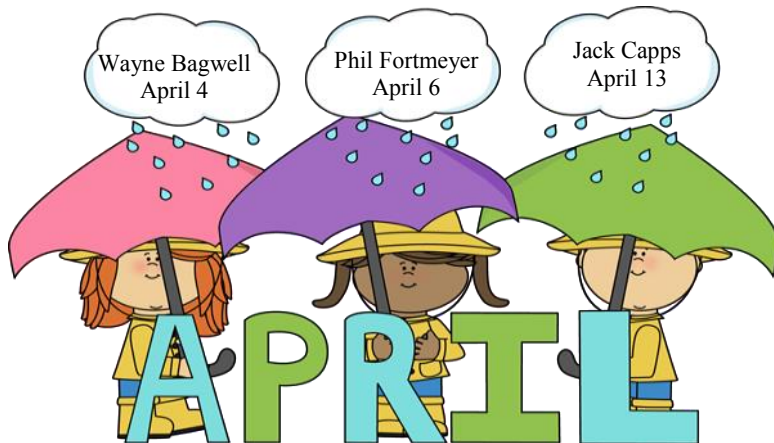
Don't forget about Phil's Drop-In Skills Class in the Craft Room before the start of the meeting on Saturday!

If you are interested in participating either as a student or a mentor, Phil would love to talk to you and sign you up! Phil Fortmeyer-(205) 612-7496.

Alabama Woodturners owns six Rikon lathes, chucks and the tools necessary to use in classes. You may also bring your own tools. The training will be held in the Craft Room at the Homewood Senior Center.

Buddy Finch, AWA's world-famous towncrier whose birthday was March 11, was the winner of the March Birthday door prize. He won a 106-piece Kobalt Drill Accessory Set.

The April birthday gift is a DeWalt 14-piece drill bit set and 34-piece screwdriver bit set thingy (Editor's note: 'Thingy' is a highly technical term used when the co-editor is not sure what to call the screwdriver part).



Happy Birthday to AWA's April Showers!



Raffle/

Birthday Gift Door Prize News

To piggyback on last month's demonstration, the 'regular' raffle for April will be one of two skewers!

A future raffle prize will be an HTC Adjustable Mobile Base HTC-2000. Ideal for speedily skateboarding across the shop when you're in a hurry!



Do you have an interesting raffle idea or a product you'd like to win? Please see Jean or Amy at the raffle/sign in table.

If you've been to the meetings for the last few months or actually read the newsletter, you've noticed that the AWA has been giving a birthday gift door prize to a turner who has a birthday during the month of that meeting.

Here are the 'rules' for 2015 as they stand now:

- 1) This is a door prize so, yes, you need to be at the meeting to win.
- 2) You need to make sure Jean and/or Amy have your correct birthdate. No fair changing your birthdate in the middle of the year! You're stuck with the one they originally gave you!
- 3) We have prizes for the entire year that we have been numbered. The prize winner for the current month (i.e. March) will draw the prize number for the next month (i.e. April) so Amy and I don't have to bring all of the prizes to all of the meetings. (We sometimes have a hard time just getting us to the meetings!)

Tree Talk: Bradford Pear

Pyrus calleryana, the **Callery pear**, is a species of pear native to China and Vietnam, in the family Rosaceae. It is a deciduous tree growing to 16 to 26 feet tall, often with a conic to rounded crown. The leaves are oval, 1.6 to 3.1 inches long, glossy dark green above and slightly paler below. The white, five-petaled flowers are about 1 inch in diameter. They are produced abundantly in early spring, before the leaves expand fully.

The fruits of the Callery pear are small (less than one cm in diameter), and hard, almost woody, until readily taken by birds, which disperse the seeds in their droppings. In summer, the foliage is dark green



softened by frost, after which they are and very smooth, and in autumn the

leaves commonly turn brilliant colors, ranging from yellow and orange to more commonly red, pink, purple, and bronze. Sometimes, several of these fall colors may be present on an individual leaf. However, since the color often develops very late in fall, the leaves may be killed by a hard frost before full color can develop.



Callery pears are remarkably resistant to disease or blight though they are regularly killed by strong winds, ice storms, heavy snow, or limb loss due to their naturally excessive growth rates. Some cultivars, such as 'Bradford', are particularly susceptible to storm damage.



The species is named after the Italian-French sinologue (Editor's note: Sinology-Academic study of China, primarily through Chinese language, literature and history) Joseph-Marie Callery (1810–1862) who sent specimens of the tree to Europe from China.

In much of North America, cultivars of *P. calleryana* are so widely planted as ornamental trees that they have become a nuisance. The trees are tolerant of a variety of soil types, drainage levels, and soil acidity. Their crown shape varies from ovate to elliptical, at least until loss of limbs due to excessive and unstable growth rates. The initial symmetry of several cultivars leads to their attempted use in settings such as industrial parks, streets, shopping centers, and office parks. Their dense clusters of white blossoms are conspicuous in early spring, though their smell is commonly found unpleasant by many people.



Pear wood (of any species) has one of the finest textures of the fruitwoods. It is prized for making woodwind instruments, and pear veneer is used in fine furniture.



Callery pear has been used as rootstock for grafting such pear cultivars as Comice, Bosc, or Seckel, and especially for nashi pear. The Callery pear is an invasive species in many areas of eastern North America, outcompeting many native plants and trees. In the northeastern United States, wild Callery pears sometimes form extensive, nearly pure stands in old fields, along roadsides, and in similar disturbed areas.

While various cultivars of the Callery pear are commonly planted for their ornamental value, their prolifically pro-

duced fruits are taken by birds, which disperse the seeds in their droppings. The various cultivars are generally themselves self-incompatible, unable to produce fertile seeds when self-pollinated, or cross-pollinated with another tree of the same cultivar. However, if different cultivars of Callery pears are grown in proximity (within insect-pollination distance, about 300 ft), they often produce fertile seeds that can sprout and establish wherever they are dispersed. The resulting wild individuals, of various genetic backgrounds, can in turn interbreed, producing more viable seed and furthering expansion and dispersal of the wild stand of the species. These plants often differ from the selected cultivars in their irregular crown shape and (sometimes) presence of thorns.

While these wild plants are sometimes called "Bradford pear" (for the 'Bradford' cultivar), they are actually wild-growing descendants of multiple genotypes of *Pyrus calleryana*, and hence more correctly referred to by the common (or scientific) name of the species itself.

Edited from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrus_calleryana

Officers of AWA

President-John Sowell
Vice President-Carl Cummins
Treasurer-Jennifer Smith
Secretary-Laura Reder
Directors-Staten Tate, Bill West, John Sowell, Dwight Hostetter
Webmaster-Michael Malinconico
Newsletter Editors-Jean Cline, Amy Benefield

Welcome to New Members:

Lee and Janet McDonald
 Birmingham, AL

Coming in May-Team Challenge!

We need two more teams of four people. Each team will receive a bag with four pieces of wood. Each team will decide what shapes to turn. They may be individual, stand-alone articles or a composite work. You decide!

Please contact John Sowell at (205) 823-6088 or sowellj@bellsouth.net to participate.



President's Challenges For 2015

February-Done!

Something you'd use or find in the kitchen

March-Done!

Worst blowout or break you kept as a reminder

April

Spindle work turned +80% with a skew

May

Ball-Round as round can be but without using a jig!

June

Hollow form

July

Turning between centers on 3 or more axis but no eccentric chuck!

August

Turning from 3 or more pieces glued together

September

Christmas ornament

October

Natural edge bowl (bark or not)

November

Mushrooms

President's Challenge-March

March-Worst Blowout or Break that You Kept As A Reminder

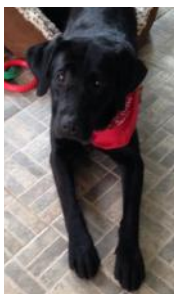
PARTICIPANTS

HOWARD KING
GARY HALES
CARL CUMMINS
GARY SARTIN
BILL HUBBARD
LESTER DAW
PHIL DUFFY



CHECK OUT THIS BEAUTIFUL QUILT!

Myra Harper is selling raffle tickets to win it. Proceeds will help blind veterans cover expenses incurred above what the V.A. will pay such as travel costs for treatment and training. So be sure to see Myra at the April meeting to purchase your raffle tickets.



Tickets are \$5 or 3 for \$10. (Don't forget to bring your 'regular' raffle ticket money, though!)

March Turn and Tell



PETE MARKEN



JACK CAPPS



GARY HALE



SALLY STREET



TOMMY HARTLINE



BILL PAYTON

WILL PATE



CARL CUMMINS



GARY SARTIN



HOWARD KING



JOHN SOWELL

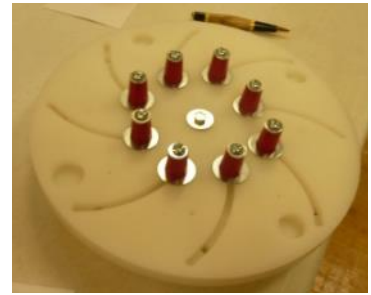


MAURICE CLABAUGH



How'd They Do That?





More How'd They Do That?

