



Alabama Woodturners Association

January 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

Coming Events 2013

- January** -Mike Peace
 - February** -Mark Sillay
 - March**-Maurice Clabaugh
 - April** -Jim Greenwood*
 - May**-Round Robin
 - June** - Nelson Brooks*
 - July** -Joe Wujcik*
 - August**-Staten Tate*
 - September** -Cynthia & Michael Gibson
- * Not confirmed

Officers of AWA

- President** – Richard Service*
- 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 *

* Proposed

Inside this issue:

Sharpen your Fortsner Bits

Notice

*Dues are Due!
Wear your
Name Tag!*

Happy New Year!

2012 is fading fast and a new year is ahead for AWA. We were not able to hold an election of officers at the Christmas party as is our tradition so the first thing on the agenda for 2013 is to elect a slate of officers. Phil Duffy served as president in 2012 did an excellent job. The program chairman and VP was Jess Walls who also did a great job. All of the other officers served well in 2012 as well and most are returning to continue to serve the AWA. The proposed slate of officers is as follows:

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

The AWA thanks all of those who served in various capacities in 2012 and past years. That includes demonstrators, participants in show and tell and all the other jobs which make AWA work and grow. Your contributions are appreciated. We are fortunate to have many talented members who gladly share their knowledge and skills to keep AWA attracting new members.

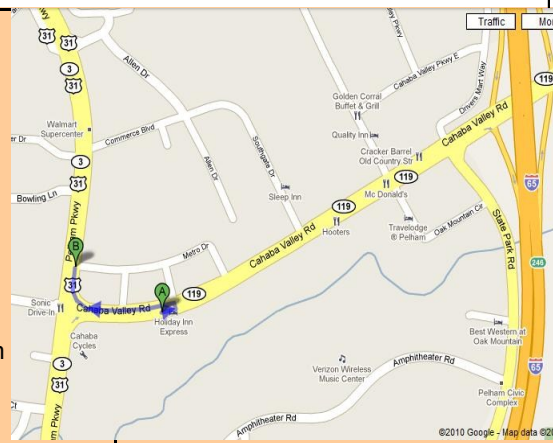
2012 was a good year for us and 2013 can be even better:

- Get involved in workshops, leadership, demos, show & tell, etc.
- Participate and learn so much more
- Get to know more of our members
- Bring a new member

Richard and Will have a lot of exciting things planned for 2013 so sharpen your tools and join the fun!



2215B Pelham Pkwy N (US 31)
Pelham, AL 35124
Phone: (205) 988-3600
Web Site: www.woodcraft.com
Email: 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



Mike Peace is the January demonstrator

Be sure not to miss this!

Mike's been turning for about six years and enjoys a wide variety of turning from ornaments to hollow forms.

He is a member of the American Association of Woodturners and active in three woodturning chapters in the Atlanta area, serving as President of one. Mike enjoys teaching and demonstrating woodturning. He is a regular participant in a number of on-line woodturning forums. He has had articles published and has been a tipster in *American Woodturner* and *Woodturning Design*. Mike Peace lives in Suwanee, GA with his wife Barbara. Before he retired Mike worked at ADP as a project manager doing payroll software implementations. After a couple of years of active duty, he continued serving in the US Army Reserve retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. More information on his woodturning can be found at his homepage <http://mikepeacewoodturning.blogspot.com/>

Hand Chasing vs. Threading Jig

Mike Peace will demonstrate the differences in cutting threads using a shop made threading jig and also the traditional way using thread chasers. He will show how to put threads on a lidded box and how to use threaded inserts on projects like an urn and acorn box where the main wood used is not suitable for threading.

He will demonstrate the use of various shop made ancillary tools he uses in the hand threading including a recess tool, armrest, pyramid tool and round skew.





The February Program - Maurice Clabaugh:

Iron Wood Blossom which won First Place in the Friends of Hurricane Creek "Creekstravaganza and Creek Wood Art Show" September 2012. 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. Sign up at the January meeting for the limited space and make a "Blossom vessel" of your own.

Sign-up sheets will be available for upcoming workshops and training. Be sure to sign up at the sign-in table.



The December Christmas party capped off a good year for the AWA. Thanks for all those ladies who put the food together. Thanks to Ray and Sue Morgan for the pictures.



Christmas Party



HOW TO SHARPEN FORSTNER STYLE DRILL BITS

Written by John Lucas



Some special insights and techniques by John Lucas regarding Turning and Forstner Bits and Sharpening

I purchased an inexpensive set of Forstner style bit many years ago. I use them for all sorts of drilling operations. Now that I do mostly turning I use them to hollow some projects to speed things up. I had to make some vessels out of Bradford Pear for a client and had to do it in short order. So I chose the drill bits to speed up the hollowing. Wrong decision. These things were so dull all they did was burn the end grain on the wood and if I had a smoke detector in my shop it would have been screaming. I decided it was time to do something about that. If the bits are just marginally dull you can replace the steps that I do with the belt sander with hand held diamond hones like the one I use on the outside in the last photo. If it's as dull as mine were you need a more aggressive way to remove metal.

I start with a 1" belt sander. The first thing to do is sharpen the face of the bevel. I do this right next to the platen on the strip sander. I gently push the flat bevel against the belt so I can feel when it's flat. Then gently grind this bevel until I've polished the whole edge.

Then I sharpen the top edge of this bevel. You have to be careful when grinding this edge. You have to stay away from the center and avoid touching one of the teeth on the outside rim. It's also important to grind the relief angle. I set the bit on the sanding belt with the machine turned off. This lets me find



the proper angle. Then I turn on the sander and grind very carefully.

My drills come in two styles. Round outer rim and toothed outer rim. To sharpen the toothed rim I use a Dremel and a cut off wheel. You can't apply much side pressure on the cutoff wheels so be very light. Match the angle of the cutters and just touch them up until the whole edge shines. You can sharpen the center spur using the same Dremel cut off wheel. Do all 4 sides but try not to touch the center point. You want it to stay centered. Just try to gently touch all 4 sides.

If you have bits that have a smooth outer rim use the Dremel and abrasive stone. I use one of the cone shaped ones but I've tried lots of different ones and they all seem to work.

The last thing to do is to get rid of the burr's left on the outside. I use a diamond hone to remove the burr from the outside. Just lay it flat on the outside bevel and rub until it's smooth. Once I did this which only took about 5 minutes my drill bit ate that Bradford Pear for lunch. It worked so well I sharpened the entire set which only took about an hour.



Remember:

**Wear you Name Badge
Dues are Due
Sign up for workshops**

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 for much more about our club.