

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

July 2017

A member of the American Association of Woodturners  
Meeting location: Homewood Senior Center, 816 Oak Grove Rd., Homewood, AL 35209  
Meeting time: The second Saturday of each month at 9 am  
[www.alabamawoodturners.com](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## JULY DEMO

# Three Piece Christmas Ornament

Designed and Crafted by Howard King, Justin Miller and Royal Ritchey!

The afternoon class will be a continuation of the morning demo. Please join Doctor Phil if you are interested in making these ornaments.

**CRAFT SUPPLIES USA**  
— THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG —

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Or you  
could just  
turn the  
page  
here!

## **Hey! Wanna learn more about turning? Or help someone else learn more about turning?**

Mentoring is available Saturday afternoons in the Craft Room at the Homewood Senior Center. Sessions start one hour after the demonstration ends or 1 pm.

AWA owns lathes, chucks and tools to use in class, but you may also bring your own.

**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**

## **Wooden Pendulums**

by Fred Holder

I recently had a lady contact me seeking a wooden pendulum. I had never made one but told her I would be happy to give it a try. I searched the Internet and found a picture of an ancient Egyptian wooden pendulum (see Figure 1). I made a copy of that pendulum (See Figure 2) and sent a photo to her. She indicated that she wanted a pendulum that was more plump and about 2" long. Based on that information, I made a second one as close to what I felt she wanted (see Figure 3). She was very happy with it, but wanted the hook on top removed.

She advised that she wanted to use the pendulum for healing purposes. I have used pendulums over the years to seek answers to questions that I did not have an answer to. If you can clear your mind when using it, you can get very good yes or no answers. For this article, I decided to include a bit of information from the Internet on the subject of pendulums. The following is some of that information:

"A pendulum is an object suspended by a cord, used for obtaining information which the normal senses are unable to access on a conscious level. You could improvise with an everyday object, such as a pendant, a chain, a plumb bob or a ring on a thread. However, a purpose-made pendulum is best because it has a shape and geometry, that is, a symmetry. This allows the swing to be more even and more sensitive and therefore more effective. The pendulum, as an extension of the person using it, may be influenced both consciously and subconsciously making the responses accurate as well as inaccurate. Wishful thinking or a preconceived outcome, however slight, can be magnified making the use of the pendulum in that instance ineffective. The user must take steps to prevent this. Insufficiently specific questioning can result in senseless responses."

## June Meeting Recap

Thank you to Pete Marken for our June demo!



## AWA July Birthdays

Gary Sartin - 7/1

Bill Dunn - 7/9

Jim Hipp - 7/21

Sandra Capps - 7/2

Mel Brown - 7/15

Gary Garris - 7/22

Scott Arnold - 7/4

Bill Rosenblum - 7/19

Royal Ritchey - 7/23

Philip Morris - 7/7

Randy Ferguson - 7/27

**Don't forget!**  
**This Saturday**  
**after the meeting**  
**we will have a**  
**hotdog cookout!**  
**All you need to**  
**bring, aside from**  
**yourself, is a side**  
**dish, dessert**  
**and/or drink!**



## The Karl Harper Perpetual Challenge

AWA has established a perpetual turning challenge in memory of Karl Harper. This challenge is an excellent remembrance of Karl as he continuously expressed a 'try anything' spirit and was an inspiration to us all. This is the process: a piece will be turned by a member to be presented at the next meeting, a name will be drawn from those attending and, if accepted, they will take that piece to keep and will bring a piece the following month. If they decline, then another name will be drawn. If you question your skill level, don't! Karl never did! You are good enough at whatever level you are! Karl would want us to put a bag over our heads before we turned because he thought 'Lights are for people with disabilities!'

At right is the piece brought by the June challenger.



## **PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE**

July - Finial

August - Embellished turning, can be paint, dye, chatter tooled, pyrography

September - Christmas ornament

October - Child's toy

November - Hammer or gavel

Please bring a piece and show what you can do!



June  
President's  
Challenge-  
Miniatures



# June Turn and Tell Highlights



Maurice Clabaugh-  
Spalted Hackberry  
Heart-shaped Bowl;  
Mesquite 'Cup';  
Mesquite Filigree



John Jackman-Manzanita  
Root Ball Bowl; Bradford  
Pear, Walnut, Sapadelia  
'Space Ship'; Pecan  
Vessel



John Sowell-Dogwood Vessel (before and after); LVL (Laminated Veneer Lumber) Bowl; LVL Platter;  
Canes; Cherry and Spalted Maple Ice Cream Scoop



Jack Capps-Box  
Elder Box



Bill Hubbard-  
Baseball Bats in the  
style of Mark Sfirri



Pete Marken-  
Segmented Bowl



Jean Cline-Cherry  $\frac{3}{4}$   
Bowl



Bethany  
Alexander-  
5 Pens



# June Turn and Tell Highlights, cont.



Carl Cummins-Dogwood, Walnut, Maple, Holly & ? Boxes, Salt Shaker, Bowl



Ronny Perkins-Pen



Tom Irby-Segmented Bowls



Dwight Hostetter-Walnut and Privett Christmas Ornament; Aluminum Finials



Howard King-Box Elder Bowl; Ambrosia Maple Weed Pot; Ambrosia Maple and Walnut Hollow-Form Vase



Myra Harper-200 year old Pine, Mesquite Shoehorns; Ash Cheese and Cracker Plate; Brazilian Cheese Plate; Bottle Stoppers and Letter Opener; Walnut Yarn Bowl; ?; ?



Here is a brief description of how I made a turned wooden pendulum.

I cut the wood into a square piece about 1-1/2 inches square and about 1" longer than I wanted the final pendulum to be; i.e., for the final pendulum (Figure 3), the wood was three inches long. I mounted this in a chuck with a live tail center in the tailstock. This point made by the tailstock would be the place where the hook would be inserted. I then turned the shape, working down toward a point on the chuck side. Before it became so small on the headstock end, I sanded through the grits down to 400. I then cut down carefully with a skew until the point was cut clean. I then had to do a little final sanding on the point and then applied a coat of Kerf's Wood Creme, a very nice beeswax-based finish that works very well. I then installed the hook and a piece of string to check it out. It worked beautifully. It swung smoothly in the back and forth position (which I had defined to be YES) and sideways (which was defined to be NO). It also swung in a circle when it didn't know the answer to the question.

I should mention, if you decide to make one of these, it helps to draw a "plus" on a piece of paper that you place below the pendulum and mark the direction for Yes and No. You will know that it doesn't know when it swings in a circle. Have fun with your pendulum!

This information is provided by *More Woodturning Magazine*. Please visit their website: [www.morewoodturningmagazine.com](http://www.morewoodturningmagazine.com).



**Figure 1. Picture of an ancient Egyptian Wooden Pendulum.**



**Figure 2. Picture of my copy of the Egyptian Pendulum.**



**Figure 3. Picture of the final pendulum that the lady loved.**



# FOR SALE

See Maurice for details and/or pictures.

|  |      |      |
|--|------|------|
| 1 1/4" Sorby rough out gouge                                 | 99   | 65   |
| 1 Sorby fluted cut off tool                                  | 77   | 35   |
| 1 Large curve tool rest                                      | 65   | 40   |
| 1 Small curve tool rest                                      | 50   | 30   |
| Sorby micro set with handle                                  | 60   | 30   |
| 12" Contour gauge  | 30   | 15   |
| Micro scraper v  | 25   | 15   |
| 1 Drive center   | 20   | 10   |
| 1 Dorby 1/4 sp. Gouge  | 36   | 15   |
| 2 Carbide tools (C1 &C0) unhandled                           | 220  | 155  |
| 6 Assorted calipers  | 150  | 50   |
| 12" Toolrest   | 100  | 50   |
| Skill saw 7" circular with case                              | 55   | 30   |
| Trend power shield   | 385  | 250  |
| General 20260vs-m2 20"<br>over center 24" over gap           | 3295 | 1500 |
| lathe stand and light  | 350  | 200  |
| 1 10" DeWalt contractor saw                                  | 350  | 250  |
| Delta 12" portable planer                                    | 300  | 200  |
| 1 4hp C&H port. compressor<br>13 gal with hose & attachments | 150  | 100  |
| 1 Grizzley 6" belt & 9" disk sander                          | 465  | 220  |
| 1 18" Jet bandsaw & 338-179370 wet/dry vac                   | 1090 | 800  |