



Alabama Woodturners Association

Meeting Location: Homewood Senior Center at 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL 35209

www.alabamawoodturners.com

May 2012

Officers:

Phil Duffy, President

Jess Walls, Vice President

Jennifer Smith, Treasurer

Laura Reeder, Secretary

Directors:

Bill West

Staten Tate

Jeff Hicks

Sean McCurley

Demo Schedule:

Jan: Jess Walls, Bowls

Feb: Phil Morris - Pens

Mar: Andy Woodard, Tenn.

Apr: Staten Tate

May: John Jordan

June: TBA

July: Dwight Holtetter

Aug: TBA

Sept: Pat Johnson

Oct: Frank Bowers

Nov: Round Robin

Dec: Christmas party

Training Classes:

(Saturday afternoon after meeting)

Feb: Bill Hubbard

Mar: Mark Couto

Apr: Staten Tate

May: TBA

June: TBA

July: TBA

Aug: TBA

Sept: TBA

Oct: TBA

2012 Dues are due

President's Message:

I just got back from attending the Southern States Symposium in Gainesville and had a great time. Our club had a pretty good showing of support as we had about 12 to 15 members in attendance. Everyone I talked with seemed to enjoy the weekend as much as I did and we all seemed to come away with a few new ideas to try out when we got home. Tom Corbett won a scholarship to John C Campbell Folk School so I know he really enjoyed the symposium. The wives of several of our (as well as North Alabama Woodturners from Boaz) members formed a cheering section and fan club for Rudy Lopez and their noisy antics added to the fun. Sue Walls bought a piece of rosewood at the auction similar to a piece Rudy had turned in his demonstration and in appreciation of his newfound rowdy fan club Rudy offered to turn the piece during his Sunday rotation. I had a chance to watch Mark St Leger turn a few of his neat little boxes, Bob Johnsons presentation on advanced pen turning, Jimmy Clewes oriental box and colored platter demos, Don Geiger's discussion on sharpening techniques, Rudy Lopez turning one of his unique natural edge wing bowls, and Kimberly Winkle's demo on using milk paint and colored pencils to embellish turnings. I wish I could have seen a few more demos that looked really interesting but you only can attend six rotations. Over the years I've probably attended more than thirty symposiums and I always come away with new things to try or answers for problems I was having, and I've never been disappointed for spending the time and money to attend.



For those who missed the April meeting, you missed a great demonstration by our own Staten Tate. His presentations keep getting better and better. He has a real knack for thinking through his program and developing a logical and thorough demo explaining tool selection and technique that yield the best results. More often than not, he will offer several ways of achieving the same result which really makes his demo so worthwhile. I hope he keeps experimenting and continues to share what he learns with the rest of us because he is very good at it. Thanks Staten.

May will be a big month for Alabama Woodturners. We will have John Jordan for the weekend and it doesn't get much better than that. On Saturday, he will turn one of his famous hollow forms providing instruction on the techniques he uses to achieve the platform for carving and embellishing techniques that have made his pieces sought after by collectors and museums around the world. He will demonstrate how he achieves his signature surface embellishments using a variety of tools including knives, rasps, wire brushes, etc. It amazes me how some of the simplest things yield the most incredible results. He will also be conducting Master classes on Friday and Sunday at Woodcraft. A few spots remain available so give me a call if you would like to attend one of the class sessions. Don't miss the Saturday meeting because it isn't often that we get a chance observe and pick the brain of a world class woodturner.



2215B Pelham Parkway
Pelham, AL 35124
Phone: (205) 988-3600
Web Site: www.woodcraft.com
Email: birmingham@mywoodcraft.com
Manager: Jay MacDougall
Store Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 9am-7pm
Friday: 9 am – 9 pm
Saturday: 9 am – 6 pm
Sunday: noon – 5 pm



April demo by Staten Tate — closed form bowls



Saturday afternoon mentoring:

Phil Fortmeyer is our mentor chairman. Phil schedules classes that are of interest to a wide range of experience, Preference will be given to turners with limited experience. There is a nominal fee for these classes to cover the cost of the material used in the class. Bring your own tools or use the tools provided by the club. The club owns six Rikon Lathes, chucks and tools necessary to use in the classes. The training is held in the Craft Room at the Homewood Senior Center.

We will not have a mentor class this month. Contact Phil at 205-612-7496 to reserve a slot.

Scheduled Demos:



May—John Jordan, www.johnjordanwoodturner.com

Our Demonstrator at our May meeting will be John Jordan. John is a well known turner, demonstrator and teacher. We will have an all day session. John will do hollow forms with texturing and decorating. Also, we are planning a hands on class on Friday and Sunday. We will start a sign-up sheet at

Jess Walls is still looking for demonstrators for the June and August meeting. Dwight Holtetter will demo in July, Pat Johnson in September, and Frank Bowers in October.

Meeting schedule: Monthly meeting is the second Saturday of each month. Coffee and donuts at 8:30 am and the meeting starts at 9:00 am.

Meeting Location: 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.

Show your work:

Members and guests bring their turnings of the meeting for all to see. We take a break during the demo and review each turning. We discuss type of wood, finishes, and design changes that occurred during the turning process.



