

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

October 2018

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

October Demo ~ John Jackman

I joined WAWTA approximately five years ago, but was not very active. However, I did turn some lidded boxes and I enjoyed learning from the local members of the Tuscaloosa group. The turning point, pun intended, for me was when Maurice Clabaugh asked me to help him build his new studio. The weather did not always cooperate, so on rainy days we decided to turn bowls. Watching him turn and listening to him explain what he was doing made all the difference in my improvement as a wood turner. I joined AWA about November 2016, Maurice invited me to a meeting in October and immediately I saw the potential to learn so much more in this rich wood turning environment. My favorite things to turn are bark edge or natural edge bowls, and secondly, hollow forms. I have worked in the building trades most of my life and have enjoyed framing, trim carpentry, built-ins and even some furniture, but the most enjoyable woodworking endeavor is wood turning.



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<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com>



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

**REMINDER: Lathe Demo Cleanup Volunteers for
October and November:**

Lynn Baswell

David Fancher

Please plan accordingly!

A Week at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

I spent a most enjoyable week this past June turning (~2 of the 5 workshop days) at Arrowmont in Gatlinburg, TN. The gift certificate I won from the AWA paid for half of my total expenses for the week. We built a three-legged pedestal table (six total parts) and learned the fundamentals of milling, gluing up the main pedestal and laying out all the other parts. I had my choice of the table top shape. We safely used the table saw, router table, band saw, sanders and lathe. Hand tools were used to complete the dovetail slots for the three legs and taper the legs. Glue up and finishing techniques were demonstrated.

Arrowmont's workshops, parking lots, administration building, dorms and cafeteria were all within easy walking distance (~ 300 to 400 yards). I didn't use my car all week. What a great atmosphere to interact with students, craftsmen and artists, especially during meals. We worked 9AM to 5PM with instruction and 6 PM to 11 PM if at least two students were present in the shop.

Our class had four students with highly varied experience levels. Two students had never turned anything, one student was a professional contractor and one was an experienced woodworker. We turned a practice pedestal out of "dry-really, really dry" oak. This exercise made turning our keeper pedestal of cherry or walnut easy in comparison. Both of our novice turners completed their pedestals. Our very capable instructor was Ben Blackmar.

One night we got to visit all of the other shops and admire their week's work that included jewelry, hats, textiles, prints, photographs, paintings, pottery, leather work etc. I loved the entire educational experience and felt like I was back at summer camp.

Bob Moore
September 2018



PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

Topic for October: "Something Old, Something New". Do you still have the first bowl you turned or other very early turned item? How would you do it differently now? Bring in your old item along with a new version of the same thing. What if you don't still have or can't find your early pieces? In this case just look around for an old item (bowl, candle-holder, vase, pen, etc.) then see if you can turn a copy or improve on it.

Finally for November the topic is "Newly turned gift." Here you may do any project you like with the stipulation that you do something intended as a gift, or at least nice enough to be a gift. Just in time for the gift-giving season!

If you missed any previous months' challenges, please feel free to do those too. They will count toward the annual total as well. We will award a prize based on participation.

Have fun and stay safe!

- Carl

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE— SEPTEMBER

Ornaments, two or more in different styles



Ron Herbster



Ron Herbster



Bill Calderwood



Howard King



Sandy Bishop



Dwight Hostetter



Sandy Bishop

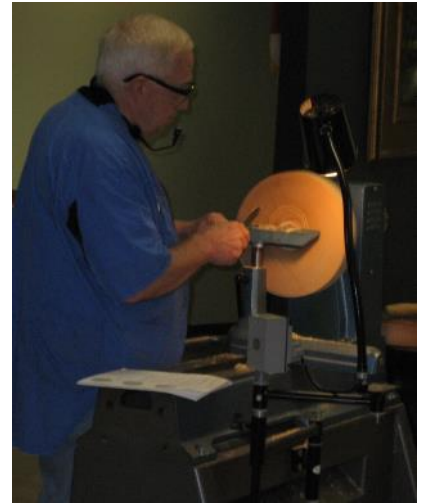


Susan McCalla



Carl Cummins

September Meeting Recap - Phil Duffy & Staten Tate



September Turn and Tell Highlights



Is this American chestnut?



John Jackman



John Jackman



John Jackman



Maurice Clabaugh



Pete Marken



Maurice Clabaugh



Maurice Clabaugh



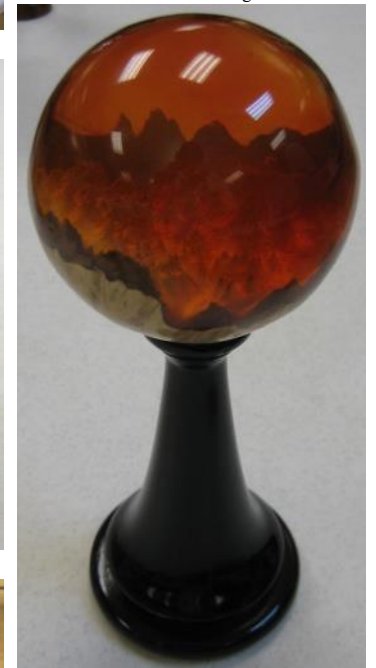
Pete Marken



Maurice Clabaugh



Bill Calderwood



Gary Hales



Howard King



Ron Herbster



Howard King



Sandy Bishop



Sandy Bishop



Sandy Bishop

September Turn and Tell Highlights, Cont.



Sandy Bishop



Ronny Perkins



Sandy Bishop



Scott Arnold



Sandy Bishop



Sandy Bishop

Symposium Report

The woodturning symposium "Turning Southern Style" took place Sep 21-23 in Dalton, Georgia. At least two dozen woodturners from Alabama attended. We attended presentations by internationally known woodturners Nick Agar, Graeme Priddle and other highly respected turners/artists/craftsman, covering a wide range of topics including unusual techniques/materials, embellishing, sanding, finishing, selling, etc.

Graeme Priddle gave the demo most new to me. He made small shapes from stiff wire, put it into a burning tool and burned repeated patterns onto the surface of a workpiece. Then his partner Melissa Enler painted lightly over the pattern to add color and depth.

Vendors offered discounts on tools, jigs, supplies, and exotic woods. The demonstration lathes were available for purchase at a discount.

Attendees may display some of their own work in the Instant Gallery. Howard King, Pete Marken and John Sowell displayed fine examples. Attendees were invited to submit boxes for "Beads of Courage" and tops for "Reach For the Top", each benefitting children in need.

Pete Marken had an especially notable weekend. He gave a presentation on how to make a segmented piece. He and Michelle had a vendor booth (offered at the last minute). Pete put seven works in the Instant Gallery and his Vortex Bowl was voted winner of the People's Choice Award. Congratulations, Pete!

The Saturday evening banquet was highlighted by an auction which offered an opportunity to bid on and win works donated by the presenting artists and other accomplished woodturners, tools, wood blanks, entrance fees to other symposiums and more. Drawings awarded Arrowmont scholarships to lucky attendees.

If you have not yet attended a symposium you should consider it as an opportunity to gain, in a very short time, ideas to improve your turning, discounts on tools and materials and meeting hundreds of other people with the same interest as you! The Tennessee Association of Woodturners will hold their 31st annual symposium January 25-26 in Franklin, TN. "Turning Southern Style" will be back next September. The national symposium sponsored by AAW will take place next June in Raleigh, NC, and it will have a similar format except that it will be ten times bigger!

- from Carl Cummins, September 2018



AWA October Birthdays



Marty Cogen-October 6
Nick Menzies-October 10
Ron Griffin-October 12
Bethany Alexander-October 19
Michelle Marken-October 20
Ron Herbster-October 23
Howard King-October 26
Sandra McMillan-October 31



Congratulations to Steve Mills for winning the birthday door prize for the month of September, a chunk of cherry!

Birthday Door Prize News

AWA gives a birthday gift door prize to a turner who has a birthday during the month of that meeting. Here are the 'rules' for this year:

- 1) This is a door prize so, yes, you need to be at the meeting and stay for the drawing to win.
- 2) You need to make sure the Secretary and/or Newsletter Editor have your correct birth date. No fair changing your birth date in the middle of the year! You're stuck with the one they originally gave you!

Congratulations to our raffle and door prize winners for the September meeting!

Mark Couto (x3), James Gilbert, Ron Griffin, Howard King, John Jackman, Susan McCalla, John Sowell, Chuck Smith

Raffle Ticket Prize News

Bring an item to donate and buy raffle tickets. We'll raffle the items donated and all of the tickets will go into the pot for a **BIG** prize to be given away at the Christmas party in December! The **BIG** prize for 2017 was a Scholarship to attend a class at Arrowmont! Smaller prizes were a set of tools and a chuck.

Soooo...what do you donate? How about a tool, jig, turned item, wood blank, etc. If you've been to the last several meetings, you probably saw some of the items that were donated for the raffle. That should give you a pretty good idea. Use your imagination ...within reason, of course! As a bonus, if you bring donations, you'll get one additional raffle ticket for each item!

The success of this raffle depends on your willingness to donate nice items and also to buy raffle tickets.

\$1 each~~~~~\$5 for 6 tickets~~~~~\$10 for 13 tickets

More money = more tickets!!! See Amy for details!

If you don't think you are an expert turner, look at any of the newsletters from other clubs. You will see that your turnings are equal to anything out there. Your turned items **ARE** 'good enough'.

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 how it works: A piece will be turned by a member to be presented at the next meeting. A name will be drawn from the sign-in sheet at that meeting. If the person whose name is drawn accepts, they will take that piece to keep and will bring a piece the following month. If they decline, then another name will be drawn until someone accepts the challenge.

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 September challenger, **Phil Duffy**. Our October challenger is **Buddy Finch**.



AWA Treasurer's Report July 24, 2018

Balance on hand 10/1/2018: (checking account plus \$250.00 cash on hand with Jennifer)		\$9,187.05
Expenditures since 7/24/2018 report:		
Flip Chart	\$36.50	
August/September donuts	\$83.40	
Coffee Supplies	<u>\$29.88</u>	\$149.78
Income since 7/24/2018 report:		
August/September dues	\$125.00	
August coffee	\$28.00	
August raffle	\$151.00	
September Coffee	<u>\$28.00</u>	\$568.00



UPCOMING MEETINGS!

November-Jerry Osmundson

December-Christmas Party!

January-TBD

The following positions are coming available effective with the January 2019 meeting:



- Newsletter Editor
- Meeting Greeter
- Attendance Keeper
- Raffle Ticket Sellers/Handlers
- Membership List Coordinators
- Secretary
- Assistant Treasurer when Treasurer is not available
- Other tasks as requested to make AWA run smoothly

If one or more of these sound interesting to you, please talk to Carl or one of the other AWA Board Members.