



# Alabama Woodturners Association

September 2010

# 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](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## Coming Events

September—Jimmy Greenwood—Tennessee Club—Turning Hollow Forms  
Pre Meeting: Wilford Bickel  
October—Craig Jackson—Easy Rougher  
November—Round Robin  
December—Christmas Party  
January 2011—TBA

## AWA Officers

**President**—Jerry Osmundson  
**Vice President**—Dave Chanslor  
**Secretary**—Richard Serviss  
**Treasurer**—Phil Duffy  
**Directors**—Judy Osmundson, Donald Payne, Jess Walls, Brian Simmons, Moody Davis, Laura Reder, Tom Corbett  
**Web Master**—Robert Scheitlin  
**Training**—Phil Fortmeyer  
**Newsletter Editor**—Dave Chanslor

## Jess Walls does Weed Pots!

Jess Walls, a “renaissance man” in the wood-working field demonstrated how to make nifty little weed pots with a flair last month. Jess turned a weed pot out of maple in August and talked us through all the ways to make them stand out with enhancements. He had a few weed pots that he has turned to show what a finished product can look like. He uses leather dyes to ebonize the wood and a power carver to add texture. Jess does woodworking (flat stuff) as well as turning( round stuff). He is an electrician and lives in Boaz.



Jess has started a woodturning club in the Boaz area called the North Alabama Woodturners. Some of his members also belong to the AWA and contribute extensively to our organization. Tommy Hartline and Sean McCurley are frequent winners in the monthly competition we have and are members of the North Alabama club.



## Inside this issue:

Turning Competition Pics—p. 2

## \*\*Notice\*\*

### Make tops and ornaments!

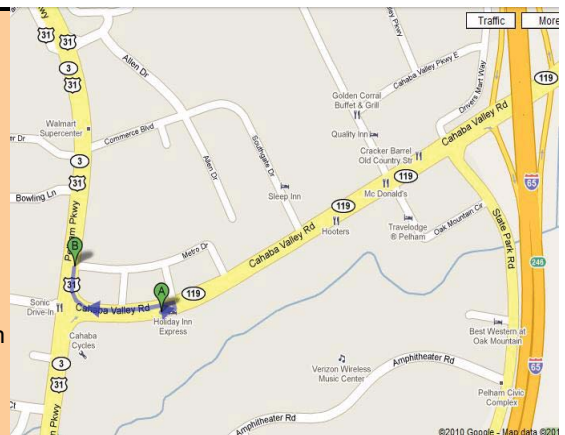
**Coming in October:  
Craig Jackson  
The Easy Rougher  
Inventor!**



# WOODCRAFT

Helping You Make Wood Work

2215B Pelham Pkwy N (US 31)  
Pelham, AL 35124  
Phone: (205) 988-3600  
Web Site: [www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)  
Email: [Woodcraft511@bellsouth.net](mailto: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



# Turning Competition

*AWA has a display of work done by members each month and these items are judged and ribbons awarded. Nice work folks!*

## ADVANCED



Kevin Felderhoff



Judy Osmundson



Staten Tate

## ENHANCED OR SEGMENTED



Bill Hubbard



Tommy Hartline



Staten Tate

## Intermediate

## Beginner



Roger Smith, 1st



James Files 2nd, 3rd



Lester Daw



Buddy Finch



### President's Message:

Now that the weather is finally starting to dip below the 90's, the nights are getting into the 60's and the mosquitoes are dying out it is once again time to start turning in earnest. We have a couple of club projects to focus on and they are the ornaments for the Christmas tree and the tops for Dr. Killen. After the meeting on Saturday Phil Fortmeyer will be heading a turning event to see how many simple Christmas ornaments we can turn. The idea is not to turn the more involved ornaments but to turn ones that can be done fairly easily. His church class has volunteered to paint them and some of the basic shapes are icicles, bells, Christmas trees, snowmen,

etc. We will be using 2 rooms at the center and should have about 10+ lathes. Give Phil a call at 205-612-7496 if you have any questions. The more turners the better it will be.

If you ordered bottle stoppers and/or pepper grinder kits they are in and will be available for pickup at the meeting on Saturday. We have them separated into bags with your names on them and the amount owed to the club. Please be ready to pay Phil as the club paid for them and Phil likes money as much as he does wood. We were able to get some really good deals on them and we will look at doing this again. Also a list was sent around at the August meeting to see how many were interested in purchasing green wood sealer and so far we have 27 gallons requested. We need to get close to 55 gallons so we won't have to store the 55 gallon drum. The list will be at the sign in table on Saturday.

We will begin the raffle on a Rikon lathe on Saturday and like in the past we will offer the tickets until we collect enough to cover the cost. The lathe will be on the table to entice everyone to purchase a ticket.

I look forward to seeing everyone at on Saturday and keep turning.

### Editors Comments:



Our demonstrator for September is from the Tennessee Woodturners Association, Jim Greenwood. Jim is a very accomplished turner and will do a great demo. **Moody Davis** (AKA Clock Doc) will demo at TWA as part of a swap of demos.

*Come and See Us!*

Anyone who is the least bit interested in knowing more about this addictive hobby, contact Richard Serviss at (205) 853-2136 or Phil Duffy at (256)355-4201 and they'll happily answer your questions and get you signed up. OR...come visit us at our next meeting. We meet the second Saturday of each month. Meeting starts at 9:00 am, but people start showing up before 8:00 am.

### 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](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com) for much more about our club.

## Turning into a “Grampy”: Revisited by Maurice Clabaugh

Being a Grandpa is new to me. I knew little about them. On my mother’s side of the family he was never spoken of and on my father’s side, I was around him less than two years before his death. So, I don’t have a role model. And my father was never a patient man and learning at his side was impossible, even though he was a carpenter/weather stripper for several years. War injuries made him impatient with people who were careless or inefficient in their actions. There was” no time to teach when he could do it better and faster himself.” Not a particular attribute of my father but a symptom of many World War II veterans. Even after teaching adults for 30 years, the role of teaching grandchildren is a whole different challenge.



I have three grandchildren: Jonathan 14, Katie 9 and Kimberly 3 years old. Jonathan is fourteen going on thirty. Since 2005, Jonathan has visited “Grampy” and Grammy” by himself for a week each year. For the past four years, during his visit, I have tried to spend some “quality time” in the shop with him. You know “Grammy needs some break time” from learning how to be a “Grammy”.

The first year we tried to build something but throwing sawdust through a fan blade was too distracting. The next year we built a birdhouse which Grampy had pre-cut and drilled nail holes. He still tried and tried to hit the nail with the hammer, missing most of the time. When I told him “the object is to hit the nail rather than the wood” He replied,” I am just trying to texture it, Grampy.” Yes ,I turned my head and tried not to laugh. Returning home he choose to give it to his father for “Fathers day”. “Dad, noticed I textured it really well with the hammer!” Jonathan reported with pride.

The second year, he asked to build a step stool for his room. This of course took more time in the shop than the previous year. But after two days (with “Grampy” cutting the boards, sanding and putting on the final coat of finish) an oak stool was completed. He took it home with him and it resides deep in his closet darkness without even a thank you to “Grampy”. I guess it was time well spent! I tried to make a connection and maybe I did. But it was never acknowledged.

This next year, I was determined to get him started turning on the lathe. And although his attention span was still short, he accomplished more than in past years. He made five bottle stoppers and a two-piece mallet in three sessions of three hours each in the workshop. But even more encouraging to me was that he asked *twice* to go to the shop to turn.

The following year, Jonathan turned a bowl in one four hour session. And this year after turning fourteen, He asked to turn a bark edged bowl. I explained that he had only turned only three times and these sessions were a year a part. He settled on a pepper mill and in three hours he had his finished pepper mill ( shown in the picture with his accomplishment). Not only was he proud of it. He couldn’t wait to fill it with peppercorns and show it to his dad, who is the chef of the house.

Maybe I have sparked the interest of a “newbie” turner. None-the-less I am experiencing the excitement in passing something I know to a new generation. Since I am a granddad and I’m determined to be a good one, I am committed to enriching my grandson’s life. I hope to teach him about the satisfaction of sharing quality time with someone he loves, while doing something he is proud of will earn me the “Cool Grampy In Training” recognition I am working for. Alas, I am afraid this was the last year to accomplish more turning. For Jonathan, turns fifteen in January and he is already talking a driver’s learning permit. You’ll know what that means, cars, girls, and the end to trips to grandparents.

