

# Alabama Woodturners Association



Happy Easter!



# Newsletter

April 2019

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)

## April's Demonstrator is Pete Marken



"I started woodturning about 25 years ago and found I really enjoyed it more than any other kind of woodworking. I really got into it. Then about 10 years ago, I started doing [segmented woodturning](#).

Segmented woodturning is a really interesting style of woodturning where you assemble dozens or hundreds of wood segments in one project to create unique patterns. In conventional woodturning, you're turning a solid piece of wood on a lathe. You're working with one block of one type of wood. I found this was limiting what I could do compared to segmented woodturning. Then within the last year I started doing Corian. There is a learning curve on this as with anything else. Luckily I have resources I am able to call upon for direction. Finishing is very simple, just sand it with micro mesh.



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In this issue:

Meeting Recap - Page 2

President's Challenge - Page 3

Birthdays - Page 4

Turn & Tell - Page 5

Karl Harper Challenge - Page 6

Opportunities & Library - Page 6



Turn  
The  
Page

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

### March - Carl Cummins



# ***PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE 2019***

**Note the challenge for November! I suggest you do this now so that we can see how the bowl looks after several months of drying. If you don't have wet wood, ask me (Carl Cummins); I have some to share or I can ask around.**

This series is designed to encourage everyone to have some fun at the lathe and perhaps try something different from your usual projects. These topics may seem easy or difficult, but you don't need to worry about creating a great piece; you only need to try. One additional requirement is that pieces submitted must be turned within this year 2019. At the end of the year I'll award a prize to the one who participates most consistently.

## **January: egg**

Turning an egg shape is a good exercise in tool control, cutting a continuously changing curve, and in creating a desired shape. This is not easy at first, but practice in the long run will pay dividends in all your turning. As your skill improves you could create a collection in various interesting woods.

## **February: funnel**

Most of us have turned a bowl with a hole in the bottom (oops!), but that's not what I'm looking for. A funnel should have a spout on the bottom. Note that the spout can be small or large. You can challenge yourself by making it with a thin wall.

## **March: loose-lid covered box**

As opposed to a friction-fit lid or a threaded lid, one should be able to open the box with one hand simply by lifting the lid. I suggest a box with the diameter larger than the height. This could be turned from face-grain blanks or end-grain, but I suggest dry wood so it will retain its shape. The lid could be in matching or contrasting wood.

## **April: ogee**

This classic shape can be a challenge to get looking nice. You can choose any type of project to include an ogee, for example a bowl, or candleholder, ornament, vase, platter, etc.

## **May: added color**

You probably recall Jack Capps' demo of "hydro dipping" (aka "marbling"). This is just one of endless possibilities. You also have free choice of any item to turn, such as an ornament, bottle-stopper, box, bowl, hollow-form, etc.

## **June: jewelry**

There are many possibilities here. Not long ago Jean Cline demonstrated making bracelets. Another possibility is earrings shaped like tiny Christmas ornaments. Pendants are popular. Ring core bands came on the market not long ago (see [woodturnerscatalog.com](http://woodturnerscatalog.com)).

## **July: one project made from three or more different types of wood**

You can choose any project and any woods. Components may be glued together or loosely assembled. It's nice to see the woods identified if known.

## **August-September: TBA**

## **October: ornament**

Our Christmas Tree decoration project deadline arrives in October, so let's all bring in one or more ornaments to show and donate to the project. But don't save everything for October! Please bring in ornaments all through the year so we don't have to worry about meeting the goal.

## **November: bowl turned from wet wood**

I hope you will get a head start on this. Turn a bowl *now* from wet wood, going all the way to final shape and thickness in one session. Also make record of the date you turned it. When you bring it to the November meeting we can see how it did after drying.



# President's challenge — MARCH



CARL CUMMINS



ROBERT JONES



JACK CAPPS



HOWARD KING



SANDY BISHOP



JOHNNY CARPENTER



SANDY BISHOP



SANDY BISHOP



SANDY BISHOP



ROYAL RITCHEY



BRENT CLAYTON

I apologize in advance if I missed anyone or gave credit to the wrong person.

## AWA April Birthdays

Wayne Bagwell 4-4  
 Tom Cromer 4-4  
 Phillip Fortmeyer 4-6  
 Susan McCalla 4-6  
 Robert Henry 4-9  
 Greg Dobbs 4-10  
 Jack Capps 4-13



# April Turn and Tell Highlights



Pete Marken



Jerry Hanchey



Brent Clayton



Dwight Hostetter



Jack Capps



John Rhymes



John Rhymes



Bill Hubbard



Sandy Bishop



Howard King



Howard King



Howard King



I apologize for not having the names to go with the pictures.

## *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!



## 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!'

March challenger was Gary Garris. The flower is the bottom of a pinecone. The challenger for April is Carl Cummins.

### **Opportunities To Help Others**

This year we will repeat our projects to help others in the form of Christmas Ornaments to benefit Children's Hospital and also pens for U.S. Military personnel. Jennifer Smith will collect the ornaments, and Ron Herbster will collect the pens. We'll have more details about these efforts at meetings and future newsletters. Meanwhile you could go ahead and start making these and bring them to a meeting.

### **AWA Library**

Wayne Bagwell and Lester Daw have volunteered to manage our library, so Thanks to them! Thanks much to Greg and Pat Faulkner who have done this for the past several years!

Items checked out are normally due back the next month, a "renewal" after two months. After that it is simply over-due. Please check for books or DVDs you may have checked out and bring them back at our next meeting. At this point we don't charge over-due fines. I hope we don't have to go there. Thanks!

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS!**

May - TBD

June - Nick Cook

July: Round Robin & Cookout

August: TBD

September : Peggy Schmid

October : Frank Bowers

November : TBD

December : Christmas Party

