

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

August 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)



## LYLE JAMIESON

Lyle has been involved in both woodworking and turning from an early age. His father mentored him in the intricacies of wood, both structurally and artistically, and as a result of this background, he got his start in the woodworking field.

Lyle has developed a style that is both innovative in design and technically challenging. His creative energies and desire to cultivate his technique soon led him to attempt turning the human form, which requires a multi-axis approach versus the more traditional single axis. From these techniques, Lyle was able to create the Jamieson Hollow Form Turning System.

Lyle Jamieson's turned sculptures adorn the shelves and display cases of museums, patrons, and institutions around the world. Lyle is the President of Northwest Michigan Woodturners, and a member of Northwestern Michigan Artists and Craftsmen, Traverse Area Arts Council, Wood Turning Center, American Association of Woodturners, and Collectors of Wood Art.

Lyle is also accomplished teacher of woodturning technique. He has been a demonstrator at the AAW national and local chapter symposiums since 1996. Lyle was a selected instructor featured in the 1997 AAW Symposium Video. He is a frequent instructor at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Provo Symposium, Appalachian Center for Crafts and Brookfield Turning Center. Additionally, Lyle is an Extended Education instructor in Woodturning at Northwestern Michigan College and does workshops and demonstrations for beginning and advanced students in his Traverse City studio.

Lyle's trademark is hollow forms. He is the inventor/creator of the Jamieson Hollow Form Turning System for safer, in-control hollowing, that is fun, too. The system creates a rest behind the main tool rest which simplifies the hollowing process. A turner can stand beside the lathe and gently guide the cutter into the vessel with fingertip control. A laser beam measuring device accurately measures wall thickness of hollow forms. The Hunter-Jamieson nanograin carbide cutter is also available.

Today, Lyle is an accomplished teacher of wood turning technique and now resides in a beautiful corner of northern Michigan...

Visit Lyle's website at [www.lylejamieson.com](http://www.lylejamieson.com)

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Turn  
The  
Page  
Here!

August is here and brings another opportunity to join the fun and comradery of the Alabama Woodturner's Association on Saturday, August 10th! This month's program is our first live Video Conference where we'll have instant interaction as if he were here in person. Lyle Jamieson will be in his shop showing us the use of his torque control hollowing system he developed and refined through the years.

As has been our custom, our afternoon training class will dovetail on the morning demo. I plan on having most of the currently used hollowing tools and cutters available to use. You should bring what you have, if you need help using yours.

This is your opportunity to use and learn how the tools work and feel, as well as how to sharpen and maintain them.

As part of our club's commitment to training for all, I remind you our classroom has 6 lathes. Because someone may want help with something other than hollowing ... I need to hear from you...what you want, so I can make sure we have the materials and lathes set to accommodate what **YOU WANT!!**

So **PLAN AHEAD!!!** ... **Reserve your space** in the afternoon class by **calling** me at **205 – 612 – 7496**, OR **email** me at [philfortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:philfortmeyer@gmail.com)

I look forward to hearing from you before and seeing you at the meeting on Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup>.

## July - Round Robin



JOHN SOWELL



JUSTIN MILLER



DWIGHT HOSTETTER



JACK CAPPS



JACK JACKMAN

I would like to thank our turners for their hard work. A lot of people showed interest in the turning that was going on.

I would also like to say thanks to all the food help, especially the wives who came and helped.

THANK YOU to all.

Gary

## Experiences in Raleigh

### KID IN A CANDY STORE - RON HERBSTER

Before going to Raleigh, I was quite apprehensive about the whole deal. This was my first symposium, it wasn't going to be cheap, I had to travel a good distance and on top of all of that, they were expecting over 1000 attendees. I don't like crowds.

I have to say AAW did an excellent job of providing an array of information on what to expect, what topics would be covered and by whom, when the different demonstrations would be held, and what vendors would have a WIDE variety of toys for sale. I know Scott Arnold thinks I tried to buy one of everything but I honestly didn't.

During the two days I was there I was able to attend seven different presentations where I was able to see how a few of the different turners were able to achieve some beautiful works of art. I was also able to see how I could improve my turning skills and ways to try new styles.

All of the demonstrators I heard and met were very knowledgeable and willing to share their skills in a clear concise manner. My only regret was it was over too soon. Then again if I'd have seen much more I may have gone into overload. Besides I had to get back home to try my new toys, start building jigs (instead of buying them) and if I can, apply some of the things I learned.

Because of this good experience I plan to attend future symposiums whenever possible.

### Carl Cummins

Well, ...I had a great time at the AAW Symposium in Raleigh! Overall, I'd say it was a big success. Including what I heard from the other AWA attendees we are returning with many tips on techniques, artistic insights, tools, exotic woods, collectables, new acquaintances, stories, and memories. I re-encountered a friend from France, Laurent Niclot who was featured in the "Artist Showcase". Scott attended several discussions pertaining to club business which can be applied to AWA. I attended demos on thread chasing, skew chisel, oval platter, pocket watch, and carving/pyrography. I'm eager to try to apply what I've learned.

The next best symposium opportunity is September 20-22 in Dalton, GA, "Turning Southern Style". I've already registered!

Have you ever been overloaded with so much great information that your brain shuts down? That's what it was like at the AAW Raleigh Symposium! With 10 classrooms running all day and changing courses every two hours, over 70 vendors onsite showing off their newest wares, an Instant Gallery of more than 700 handmade items, and 1300 registered attendees along with 900 guests, it's truly an event to behold.

A few of the sessions I attended included Two-Step Platters, Simple Embellishing, Off-Center Platter Turning, and Start To Finish Bowls. Of those courses, the Two-Step Platter was the most informative and most enjoyable.

Tom Wirsing presented the session and uses multiple negative-rake scrapers for his finishing cuts. He also re-sharpens his scrapers on a CBN wheel every three minutes or so. The most enjoyable part of the demonstration was his final touch-up cuts with a bottom-feeder bowl gouge. While saying how lucky he had been all day at not skating across the surface with his gouges, on his final bottom feeder pass, it happened.

He was cleaning up the center of the bowl while on a chuck on a practically finished piece. Bringing the gouge up the inside of the bowl, it barely touched the four-inch wide rim edge. The resulting melee made the audience audibly gasp and the 1/8" groove spiraling around the entire rim proved his luck had run out. He quickly recovered and corrected the mistake, but it showed that even the pros are human and made all of us feel better about our turning.

I attended some panel discussions as well, including Selling in the Physical Marketplace, the Membership Meeting, and the Chapter Meeting. A few highlights from those meetings were:

### **Selling in the Physical Marketplace**

- "You can never underestimate your customer's lack of imagination". In other words, give them suggestions and ideas on how they could use a certain piece.
- People pay more money for things they can't use.
- Never negotiate or give discounts on asking price.
- Items sell better if they end in the number 7. (\$47, 97, 147, etc.)
- Never give a straight answer when people ask how long it took you to make an item. If you do give an answer, include the time it took to pick up the wood, cut the wood, dry the wood, turn it, finish it, etc.

### **AAW Meetings**

- AAW has worked with YouTube to remove all fractal burning videos.
- Currently have 16,000 members.
- The duration of membership is decreasing.
- Women In Turning (WIT) would like a female member in each club to volunteer to be a representative. Their main task would be welcoming new folks into the meetings and the club.
- Here are the cities for the next Symposiums:
  - 2020 Louisville, KY
  - 2021 Omaha, NE
  - 2022 Chattanooga, TN

In addition to the classes, panels, and trade show, there were a lot of laughs shared with the Alabama folks in attendance. We made a few new friends and I was even invited to the Lancaster, Pennsylvania Symposium. So, there you have it. Brain overload!

All in all, it was a great time and I encourage each of you to try to attend a symposium in the near future. The conferences in Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, etc., are small enough to get a good taste of what's offered, but also more affordable than a national convention. Turning Southern Style in Dalton, GA is right around the corner beginning Friday, September 20th. Hope to see you there!

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

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: wand** (think "magic wand")

Magic optional

## **September: two Nick Cook projects**

Nick turned 12 items in less than 2 hours. Surely you can do 2 in under 4 weeks! Choose 2 or more of the following: garden dibble, spurtle, honey dipper, snowman, snowman/icicle, spinning top, salt shaker, ring holder, lidded box, coffee scoop, bottle opener.

## **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.

## **December: Christmas Party!!!**

# President's Challenge — JULY



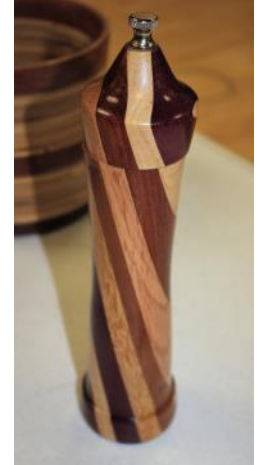
BILL CALDERWOOD



SANDY BISHOP



JERRY HANCHEY



MYRA HARPER

Challenge for September, try two or more Nick Cook projects, garden dibble, spurtle, honey dipper, snowman, snowman/icicle, spinning top, salt shaker, ring holder, lidded box, coffee scoop, bottle opener. (see below)

## AWA August Birthdays

PAUL SHANK	8-16
BOB ROSSER	8-17
LEE BEADLES	8-26
SANDY BISHOP	8-26
JERRY OSMUNDSON	8-28



# July Turn and Tell Highlights



MAURICE CLABAUGH



JOHN SOWELL



PHIL DUFFY



MYRA HARPER



JERRY HANCHEY

BILL CALDERWOOD



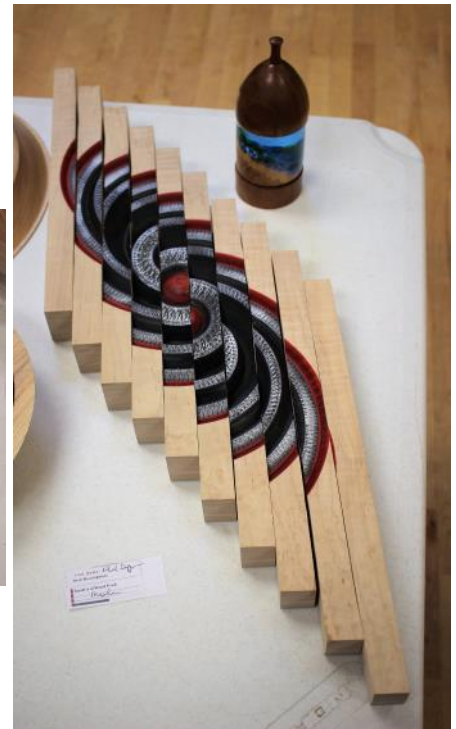
JOHN SOWELL



WAYNE BAGWELL



JERRY OSMUNDSON



PHIL DUFFY

Bring in your projects! Even the OOPS. That's how we learn.



MYRA HARPER



JUDY OSMUNDSON



DAVID DUNCAN

## *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!



JOHN JACKMAN



GARY HALE



WAYNE BAGWELL



MYRA HARPER



SANDY BISHOP



DWIGHT HOSTETTER



SANDY BISHOP



JUDY OSMUNDSON



PHIL DUFFY



JOHN SOWELL



BRENT CLAYTON



MAURICE CLABAUGH



JOHN RHYMES



JERRY OSMUNDSON



JUDY OSMUNDSON



MYRA HARPER



JOHN JACKMAN



## SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Some of the folks who signed up for the Small Group Gatherings (SGG) made time to get together at several locations over the past couple of months. Whether it was making a bowl, turning pens, or just eating omelets together, it was great to see each other outside of the regular meeting.

The first get together was hosted by Ron Herbster in Jemison. Ron showed a group how he turns Christmas ornaments and, as luck would have it, his wife just happened to be taking a loaf of Persimmon bread out of the oven about the time they finished. (At this point, Ron wants me to make sure it's understood that visitors to his shop should not expect this kind of Southern hospitality on a normal basis.)

Next was an outing to Howard King's shop in Good Hope. Now for those that have never been, Howard has a shop nicer than a few of the houses I've lived in. And leave it to Howard to set the stage for the gathering with a breakfast spread! After the tour of his wood-blank storage room (organized by species, of course), Howard gave us a quick tour of the air-conditioned shop. Howard managed to get David Fancher to grab a bowl gouge and before you knew it, he completed his first bowl using a pull cut. After the bowl was finished, Howard gave us Persimmon blanks as parting gifts. Just before we left, he gave us a quick glimpse at part of his expansive, multi-room slab storage area. Howard never does anything halfway!

Meanwhile, Ron hosted another quick get together. He managed to get two lathes working and Jim Rabey assisted with making some pens.

Since then, we assembled for a couple of Saturday morning breakfast outings in Vestavia at the Ranch House. There is also rumored to have been some mentored bowl turning going on after the eggs and bacon!

If you're interested in participating in the Small Group Gatherings just email your information to Carl at [alawoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:alawoodturners@gmail.com). We'll add you to the mailing list for upcoming events.

Scott Arnold



SCOTT ARNOLD  
HOWARD KING  
CARL CUMMINS  
WAYNE BAGWELL  
DAVID FANCHER





## 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!'

July challenger was Jerry Hanchey, a celtic ring cup. The challenger for August is Bill Calderwood.

### 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 in the March newsletter on page 6. Meanwhile you could go ahead and start making these and bring them to a meeting. *So far we have 172 finished pens turned in, 95% of total.* Keep turning them in!

### AWA Library

Items checked out are normally due back the next month, a "renewal" after two months. After that it is simply overdue. 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!

September : Peggy Schmid

October : Frank Bowers

November : TBD

December : Christmas Party

