

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

December 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)



FINISHED TREE



Avery

Thank you Jennifer Smith for decorating and the pictures. There are more pictures on the website. Start now for ornaments for the 2020 tree! Avery is Bill West's great-granddaughter, She has come with her mother and grandmother to decorate the tree since she was in a stroller. Bill's daughters, Julia and Margaret, and granddaughter, Laura, are the true decorators and have been for many years.

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Turn  
The  
Page  
Here!

## Finishing the Year

by Carl Cummins

We've arrived at December which makes a good time to look back at the year just past.

For me the most memorable things are the demonstrations we have featured at our meetings. Our visiting guests were Nick Cook (June), Peggy Schmid (August), and Frank Bowers (October). Club members who gave full-length demonstrations were Jerry Osmundson (January), Jack Capps (February), Pete Marken (April), Howard King (May), and me Carl Cummins (March and November). In July we had a Round-Robin featuring John Sowell, Jack Capps, Justin Miller, John Jackman, and Dwight Hostetter, followed by grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Many Thanks go to Gary Hales, VP and program director, for arranging the programs and doing the grilling!

Every month we had a newsletter thanks to Michelle Marken. Every month we had the Instant Gallery, Karl Harper Challenge, and President's Challenge. Thanks to all who participated.

Continuing the tradition of decorating a Christmas tree for Childrens Hospital we turned over 300 ornaments. Thanks for Jennifer Smith for leading this and the decorating. Photos of the tree and close-ups of many ornaments are on the website.

This was our second year of Turn For Troops. We had 10 participants turn over 200 (!) pens with Ron Herbster managing.

New this year is "Small Group Get-Togethers". Various members invite others to their shop to turn or talk or whatever. These are organized using an email list of those who expressed interest. Hosts included Howard King, Ron Herbster, Myra Harper, John Rhymes, and perhaps others that I didn't hear about. Some get-togethers occurred over breakfast just to talk. If you would like to be added to the email list, tell Scott Arnold.

Our mentors have worked one-on-one with other members helping them get started in woodturning or in getting better. Mentors are listed on the website under "Learning".

We continued our plan to update classroom lathes, one per year, this year getting a Rikon 1218 with variable speed. Late in the year we had the opportunity to buy a Jet 1221 at a good price, so we got a head start on next year with that. We now have 5 updated variable speed lathes for our classes. Funds for these lathes have come primarily from member donations (Thank you!) in the form of raffle tickets. This year we raised \$1549, so in addition to getting the lathes we will award 5 prizes at our end-of-year party. Thanks also to members who every month donated wood or tools etc, plus the companies that give valuable items: primarily Woodcraft and Craft Supplies plus Penn State Industries.

Speaking of the party, I hope you have already seen my emails about bringing food and the optional gift-exchange. We will start activities at 10 a.m., but I encourage you to join me in arriving earlier to help set up and to socialize.

One more thing: We will hold an auction of turnings and tools donated by demonstrators and other members. See elsewhere in the newsletter for descriptions of items donated so far. I invite you to bring additional items to the meeting. Most importantly, be prepared to bid and buy!

In closing, please join me in thanking the club officers, board members, and other volunteers who make the extra effort to make all these things happen. Thank You!

## AWA Board Meeting December 2, 2019 notes by Carl Cummins, President

In attendance:

Carl Cummins, John Sowell, Scott Arnold, Bruce Gibson, Phil Fortmeyer

Report from Nominating Committee (Carl, Scott, Phil)

Candidates proposed:

President: Scott Arnold

VP (not including program chairman): John Sowell

Secretary: John Rhymes

Treasurer: Carl Cummins

Board: Tom Corbett, Bruce Gibson, Ron Herbster

Phil will continue as Training coordinator.

We proposed that programs will be organized by committee of anyone interested, thus far including Carl, Scott, and Phil. Scott suggested having a panel discussion as a program, for example a discussion of drying green wood including denatured alcohol.

Raffle grand prizes

Total of donations this year was \$1549.

We will have 5 prizes totaling in value \$814 (more than 50% return to members) but at a cost to club of \$608.

- 1) Thompson Tools Group A retail value \$255
- 2) Thompson Tools Group B retail value \$215
- 3) CBN wheel retail value \$149
- 4) Craftsman chainsaw retail value \$120
- 5) Woodcraft gift certificate value \$75

We will draw first for the highest value prizes, but if the winner is present then he/she may select any available prize. If winner is not present then he/she gets the highest value prize. This process will be repeated for each remaining prize. (Only members can be winners).

Auction

I will write an article for the newsletter describing items donated so far, and in some cases specifying a minimum bid. Folks are invited to donate additional items the morning of the meeting. Persons who cannot attend may bid by proxy.

We have two old Rikon lathes to sell, but we will hold those until January and/or February. We also have a box of two Record Power chucks and many accessories which we will advertise in January and sell by silent auction in February.

Plans for December meeting  
Start at 10 am  
Gift exchange  
Raffle grand prizes  
Auction  
Election of officers  
Meal

Gift exchange: Folks may bring in one or more gifts (something that you would like to receive as a gift), and will receive one for each one given. We will draw numbers to determine sequence of choosing gifts.

I will send an email very soon for members to volunteer side dishes or desserts for the meal and explain the gift exchange.

Also discussed:

Turn for Troops had 10 participants turning in 200 pens. Worth considering whether to repeat or change the program or add incentive. Note that we give a \$100 gift certificate as incentive for the Christmas Tree ornaments where we had over 300 submitted (most at the October meeting). I will give a gift certificate of \$50 to winner of the President's Challenge. Next President can decide if this should continue.

Phil suggested getting #3 jaws for the Talon chucks (I think this was based on a member suggestion), however considering that we don't have excess income I suggest we wait on this.

Phil also suggested having a member attend board meeting perhaps leading to more participation.

We reviewed the income and expenses for the year. We started this year with \$9116.33 in the bank, and as of end of November have \$7858.84. Scott asked if there is a minimum balance we should maintain. John said, "In the black." Bruce said in the past there was a time when the carry-over exceeded \$10,000, and some were concerned this exceeded a limit for a non-profit organization.

Post-meeting note: I did a Google search and read several articles. None stated any limit for carry-over. All said a carry-over amount would depend on circumstances such as how predicable are income and expenses. Suggestions range from 25% to 200% of annual expenses. We have less than 100%.

I gave a report on our charitable org status. Jennifer is still working on the IRS form. We met recently to cover questions and see what remains. She said she will finish this reasonably soon.



## December AWA NO afternoon training class

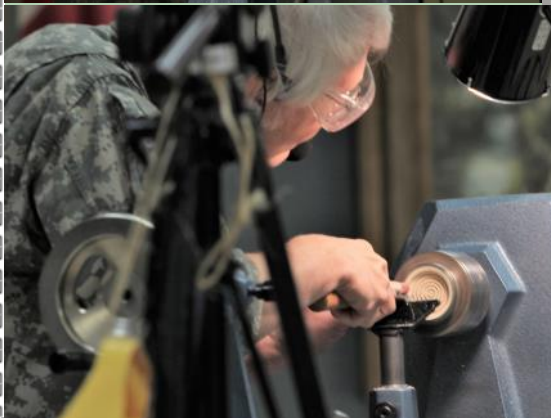
Our woodturning Saturday will start up again in January. As usual, in addition to the morning meeting we will offer an afternoon class, including options from beginner to advanced. The class is open to AWA members of all levels of experience. There will be no charge for the class, but please do reserve your place in advance.

Newer turners will get help with tool handling and technique. You may use tools provided by the club or bring your own.

Again, sign up early by texting your name to Doc Phil Fortmeyer at 205-612-7496 and let him know which project you want to do. We have 6 lathes. So, all we need to help you, is for you to be in the class. Looking forward to a full class and great fun.



November - Carl Cummins



December meeting auction  
by Carl Cummins

At our upcoming meeting we will offer an auction of woodturnings by our guest demonstrators and by other generous club members. In addition we have some tools and accessories. The purpose is to raise funds for bringing in guest demonstrators next year.

Additional donations of woodturnings, tools, etc. will also be welcome at the meeting.

If you cannot attend but want to bid on an item, contact Carl at [cjcummins@gmail.com](mailto:cjcummins@gmail.com), and your bids will be made by proxy.

Please bring your checkbook, credit card, or plenty of cash. This will benefit all of us!

Some of the items to be available:

Jack Capps, February demo: Woodturnings dipped in marbling paint, offered separately

Tealight holder 6-1/2" x 2"

Bottle stopper 3-3/4" x 1-1/2"

Refrigerator magnet 1" x 3/4"

Jack Capps, February demo: Bud vase, walnut, 7" x 3"

Carl Cummins, March demo: Box with hand-chased threads, dogwood and katalox, 3-1/2" x 1-3/4"

Carl Cummins, November demo: Wiessflog style Lattice-top box, walnut and holly, 1-7/8" x 2-1/2"

Nick Cook, June demo: items offered separately

Garden dibble, 11-1/4" x 1-3/4"

Spurtle, 11-1/2" x 1-1/4"

Snowmen, pair partially turned, 8" x 1-3/4"

Ornament with top hat, 7-1/2" x 1-1/4"

Honey dipper, 7" x 1-1/8"

Ring holder, 3-3/4" x 2-1/4"

Lidded box, 4" x 2-1/4"

Mystery salt shaker, 3-3/4 x 2-3/4

Bottle opener, spectraply, 8" x 1-3/4"

Coffee scoop, 8-1/4" x 1-3/4"

Two tops, 2" x 2-1/2"

Peggy Schmid, September demo: Box with polymer resin clay, 3" tall, 2-1/2" diameter, value \$250

Buddy Finch: pen and letter opener set (2018), wood from Southwest-US mission church

Gift Certificate for AAW General Membership, \$60 value, donated by AAW

DVD "Cindy Drozda's Fabulous Finial Box", \$40 value, donated by Cindy Drozda

Pen kits, set of five Big Ben kits plus bushings and drill bit, \$42 value, donated by Penn State Industries

AWA logo cap, \$10 value

Flocking supplies: adhesive, fiber, flocker, \$42 value

Donated by Scott Arnold:

Ryobi drill press, bench-top size. Works fine except depth gauge is broken.

Black&Decker miter saw.

Donated by John Killian:

Jimmy Clewes tool handle adapters, 3/8" and 1/2", designed for Thompson handles and tools,

Hose for compressed air

Grinding wheels, 6", 60 grit and 100 grit

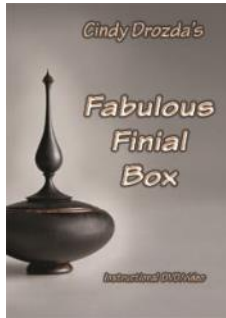
Sanding pads, fourteen, 1-3/4" and 3"

PICTURES ON PAGE 7

# AUCTION ITEMS



BIG BEN PIN KITS



DROZDA DVD



AIR HOSE



6" GRINDING WHEEL



JIMMY CLEWES  
CAM LOCK



SANDING TIPS



PEGGY SCHMID  
POLYMAR CLAY BOX



JACK CAPPS HYDRO  
DIPPED ITEMS



JACK CAPPS  
WALNUT VASE



LATTICE TOPPED BOX  
CARL CUMMINS



AWA HAT



SMALL THREADED BOX  
CARL CUMMINS



VARIOUS PIECES TURNED BY  
NICK COOK



PEN & LETTER OPENER  
BUDDY FINCH



RYOBI  
DRILL  
PRESS

# President's Challenge — NOVEMBER



JIM HAVLIK



RON HERBSTER



JOHN SOWELL



JOHN RHYMES



JOHN RHYMES



SANDY BISHOP

## AWA December Birthdays

JUDY OSMUNDSON	12-1
JENNIFER SMITH	12-1
CHRIS PRUITT	12-6
MAURICE CLABOUGH	12-9
AMY BENEFIELD	12-13
JAMES ARMSTRONG	12-16
JOHN HENRY	12-17
JOHN KILLIAN	12-18
LESTER DAW	12-20
MARY VAUGHN	12-25
CARL CUMMINS	12-28
JIM JOHNSON	12-28





# November Turn and Tell Highlights



MAURICE CLABAUGH



JUSTIN MILLER



JUSTIN MILLER



JOHN SOWELL



JOHN RHYMES



JOHN SOWELL



SANDY BISHOP



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING



JOHN RHYMES



JOHN RHYMES



ROCKY KIMBLE

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

## *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!'

November challenger was Terry Tingle, a pen. The challenger for January is John Sowell.

If you want to watch the video of Karl turning here is the link!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_XGRjlvMDk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_XGRjlvMDk)

COPY & PASTE

### **Opportunities To Help Others**

In our Turn For Troops effort we have over 200 pens turned in, exceeding our goal! More pens will be welcome, especially if you have not turned one in as yet. (See Carl's message on page 3)

### **AWA Library**

We are starting a new procedure for checking items out of the library. Soon the list of books and DVD's will be posted on our website. To check out an item simply email our librarian Wayne Bagwell at [wbagwell@gmail.com](mailto:wbagwell@gmail.com) and he will bring it to you at the next meeting. If you have any items to return, please give those to Wayne (or Carl Cummins - President).

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO DONATE FOR THE COFFEE AND DONUTS.**

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS!**

**December :**  
*Christmas Party*

