

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

MAY 2022

A member of the American Association of Woodturners
MEETING IN PERSON THIS MONTH
Meeting time: The second Saturday of each month at 9 am
www.alabamawoodturners.com

MAY AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Not long ago, Carl shared with us three books that he found helpful in learning how to turn. One was "Woodturning, A Foundation Course" by Keith Rowley. The new Edition includes a DVD Tutorial. I am going through it currently. If you are new to turning, or only make a few items, this is a good book to get a more comprehensive understanding of woodturning. "Getting Started in Woodturning" 2nd edition, is a publication of AAW, American Association of Woodturners, the national association of which we are a local chapter. This book provides 18 practical projects as well as expert advice on safety, tools, and technique; 20 ways to master spindle turning; guidance in what to look for when buying your first lathe, first bowl gouge, etc.; how to use faceplates and chucks, how to avoid catches, what projects are good to start with when turning. The third book, "Woodturning Techniques" by Mike Darlow discusses methods of gluing, tool grinding/sharpening, spindle turning, cupchuck turning, faceplate turning, bowl turning, and threading. I am working through each of these books to learn how to use the tools I have effectively and safely, to turn the things I want to learn to turn.

The American Association of Woodturning has demonstrations often on line that are very cheap, even cheaper if you are a member of the national organization. The other resource that we have is each other. I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time with Harold Deason and learning how to turn a garden dibble and mallet. Our contract with Red Mountain Makers requires that we offer two classes a month to the public. We offer our Saturday afternoon classes to the public, and I offer classes on pen turning a couple of times a month. Carl has taught a 6-week course. So, we are covered, but I sure would like to see a few others, who have special skills, to offer to teach. Every time we introduce someone from the community to our organization, that is another person who might really get excited about being a turner.

AWA is still in need of a librarian. We have books and DVDs that could be helpful, but they are just sitting in storage.

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PRESIDENTS NOTE CONTINUED:

Our other big need is for demonstrators for our monthly meetings. We have done round robins in the past, where several people demonstrate all morning. That would take some effort right now, but I think do-able with a lot of assistance. I need to call a meeting of the board to discuss these issues. I certainly hope that those of us who are going to the upcoming symposium in June, will be able to make some connections there that will provide us with possible demonstrators.

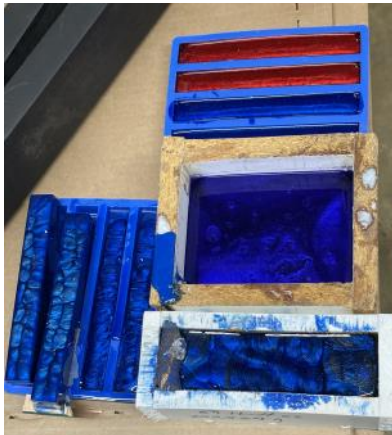
Big thanks to Carl, John, and Scott for helping to get the new lathe stand adjusted so we can use the casters. Carl had recommended getting rid of the big cabinet in our classroom, and replace it with a smaller one, and I think it is time we revisited that discussion. We want to make the classroom as functional as possible, for the students and the teachers. And I think making that change in cabinets, will do just that.

Remember to bring your turned items for show and tell, pens for troops, tops, and Christmas ornaments for Children’s Hospital.

Next month President’s challenge will be any item you can use in the kitchen.

Happy and safe turning!

RECAP OF CARY BONE’S APRIL DEMO



**RESULTS OF DEMO
By CARY BONE**

Copied from April 10th email from Scott Arnold. The email included the video of the demo by Cary Bone, as well as a print out with useful information on this subject.

I certainly hoped you enjoyed our meeting yesterday. I will say that my personal observation was that for our first non-turning meeting in quite a while, there was more audience participation than I’ve seen in years. I want to thank everyone who attended (both in person and by Zoom). The original plan was to go one hour on the demo, but with the great questions we went double that time.

He also asked that I mention he used the term “Polyester resin”. The correct term should have been “Polyurethane resin”.

One last thing: Getting into resin casting and stabilizing is not a cheap investment (an awful lot like woodturning)! Besides pressure pots, vacuum chambers, and vacuum pumps, you also must buy the resins (Alumilite/Liquid Diamonds), stabilizing fluids (Cactus Juice), colored dyes, powders, etc. Several of us in the club have already taken the plunge and would be happy to share what we know. I will say that it costs us roughly \$100/gallon for Cactus Juice and \$200 for Alumilite (includes one gallon each of Part A & B).

All that to say, Cary charged the class on a per pour basis for each blank we created using his supplies and I would say that’s a fair way to do it. So, if you’d like to come try it we can certainly figure out what it would cost based on whether you wanted to do a pen blank, bottle stopper blank, ring holder blank, etc.

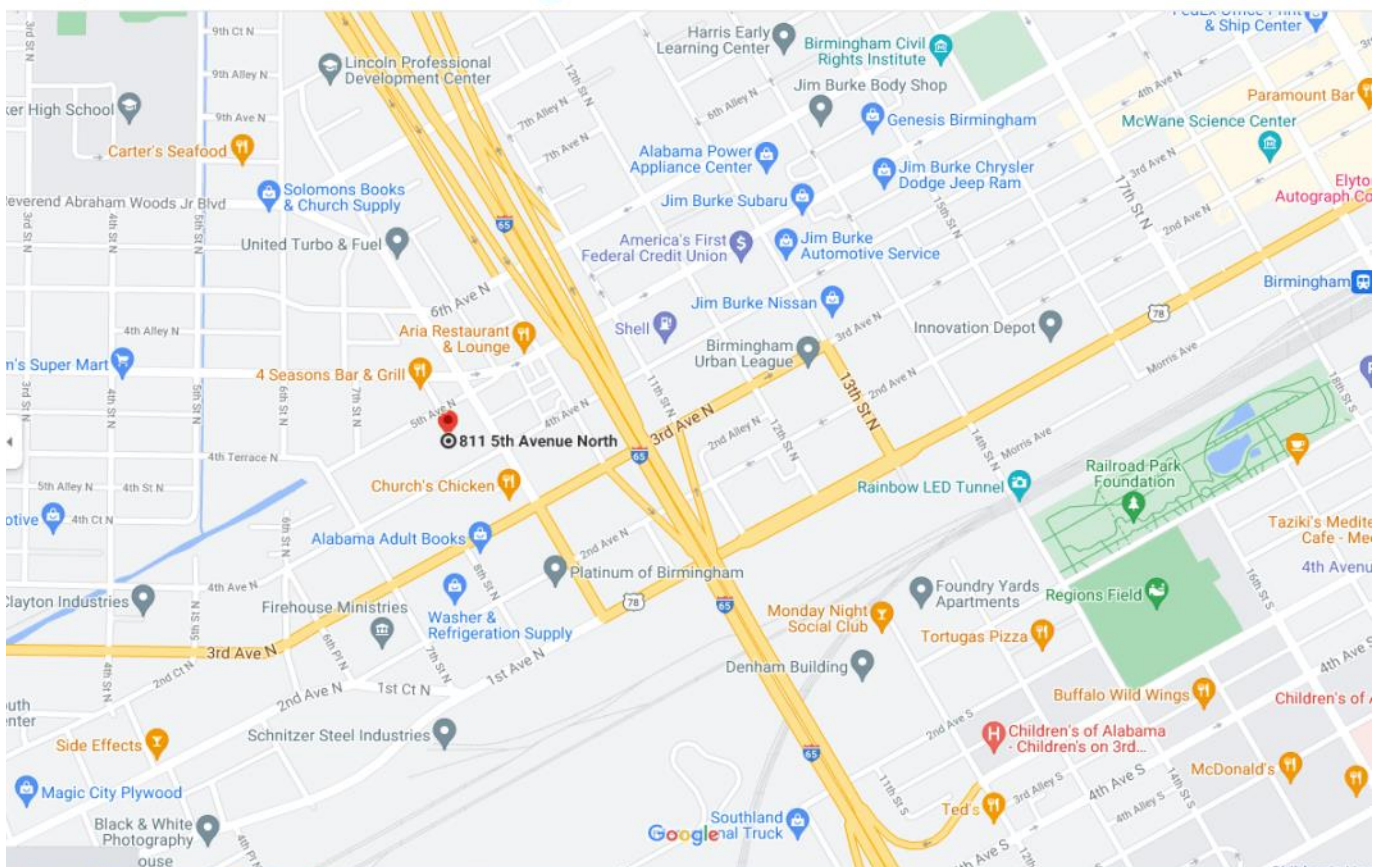


Our meeting place this month is Hardware Park (formerly Long-Lewis Hardware), downtown between 4th and 5th Ave. North. The exact address is

**811 5th Ave North
Birmingham, AL 35203**

You'll enter through this door.

**Make sure to look for our new
flag on the corner!**





Children's
of Alabama®

**Alabama Woodturners Association
(AWA)
Supporting
Children's Hospital of Alabama**



In November, AWA members will be at Children's of Alabama to install our Christmas tree for auction. To keep this long term project going for many years to come we need everyone contributing. A few examples of ornaments submitted in the past are shown here. Hopefully these photos will provide ideas for what you can produce.

We would really like to have a few members demonstrate how to turn their favorite ornament at one of our upcoming meetings. You would not have to carry the whole program but share your work with a few other members presenting too. If you are willing to demonstrate please let Sandra McMillan know. Sandra can be contacted at by email at <mailto:macdra47@gmail.com> . If there are no volunteers Sandra is going to call on members to help.



BILL HUBBARD'S LAND

28 Apr 2022

Greetings from the UWA Cahaba Biodiversity Center!

You may recall, Mr. Bill Hubbard left 2153 acres along the Cahaba River in Bibb County to the University of West Alabama for the purpose of education related to biodiversity, conservation, and land use management. Since the passing of Bill last January, our personnel have gone to work to ensure his wishes and vision are realized for the incredible gift he bestowed upon us.

We have been working to transform the facilities to accommodate various size groups in a variety of settings. For instance, the workshop, where previously the tools and equipment of the master craftsmen resided, is now climate controlled and full of tables and chairs. A two-mile hilly driveway has not proved easy...but broadband internet is soon coming to our campus which will open many other educational doors. The CBC now has a motor pool of four Kubota UTV vehicles with an ability to carry five passengers each allowing us to move 20 people on the trail at any one time. A stone pavilion will soon be constructed near the north end of the property on the river. All of these things are in addition to the 22-bed dormitory that Bill was able to see to completion, much to his approval. One of the bigger items in the works is a proposed \$30.6 million facility by the Alabama Forestry Association that would focus on workforce development for the forestry industry, a prospect for which we are extremely excited.

In the meantime, hosting educational groups continues, and our calendar is filling up! Last Saturday, the CBC hosted two simultaneous events facilitated by Extension service: a land management workshop for local landowners and the local 4-H dendrology club. This week a high school class from West Blocton High will visit and learn about water quality and biodiversity. Next week, biologists from various agencies, federal and state, will visit for a fish identification workshop utilizing the Cahaba River, Schultz Creek, and Little Schultz Creek as sampling areas. Later in May, the Alabama Plant Conservation Alliance and a class from Tuscaloosa County High School will also visit.

As you can determine, Bill's gift is making a huge impact and will for ages to come. We are very excited for the future as we continue to develop and will love to share our progress with anyone, but especially with those who knew him best. If any of you would like to visit or perhaps have a club retreat, we would love for you to have the opportunity to do that. Please coordinate with Mrs. Susan McCalla and it can happen.

—Brian Keener, Ph.D.—Director of the UWA Cahaba Biodiversity Center

Pictures from the two simultaneous events facilitated by Extension service: a land management workshop for local landowners and the local 4-H dendrology club. These events were hosted by the UWA Cahaba Biodiversity Center.



Why join the AAW?

Plain and simple, you are enthusiastic about woodturning.

An AAW membership offers you access to the single largest portfolio of high-quality educational woodturning resources available in the world. Membership is the fastest way to learn and enhance your woodturning expertise.

An AAW membership can help you:

- Experience the remarkable world of woodturning.
- Connect with others who share your passion.
- Be an active and knowledgeable member of the woodturning community.
- Make a commitment to your own personal and creative development.
- Express your dedication to preserving woodturning for future generations.

With an AAW membership you have access to:

- 3,000+ online projects, articles, videos, and tips are in AAW's Explore! search tool. Get the best project instructions, technique guidelines, and information in just a few simple clicks. Easily searchable by topic and includes all interest areas.
- 12,000+ images of member work are in AAW's Forum gallery online. Get inspiration, ideas, and feedback simply. Connect with woodturning enthusiasts using this member-moderated virtual community.
- 475+ online videos are quickly searchable by topic in AAW's Video Source. Avoid the frustration of searching YouTube. Get relevant woodturning videos in just a few clicks. All videos are prescreened by the AAW for quality content and safety.
- 150+ issues of American Woodturner are online with a searchable index.
- 38+ issues of Woodturning FUNDamentals publication and the Woodturning FUNDamentals online learning portal offer one-stop basics. Helps newer turners build and expand their woodturning knowledge and skills safely with a curated selection of information, projects, tips, and videos.
- 365 affiliated chapters are all easily searchable in our directories. Find a chapter near you fast. Also, search for symposia, demonstrations, exhibitions, events, organizations, and schools, and more, quickly and easily.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS (AAW) NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The American Association of Woodturners is an organization that is committed to delivering the highest quality woodturning resources and education to its members. Today, the AAW has more than 16,000 members worldwide with 365+ local chapters, publishes the American Woodturner journal, organizes an annual International Symposium, sponsors woodturning outreach and education activities, and operates a gallery space in St. Paul MN's Landmark Center. Our organization, the AWA, is Local Chapter number 111 of AAW.

In June, AAW will present a live, In-Person Event, the AAW's Annual International Woodturning Symposium. The location is close, Chattanooga, TN. The dates are June 23-26. In 3 ½ days, there will be 100 compelling presentations to help us become better. If you decide to attend, please know that if we register as a club, we get a discount. Please inform Carl if you plan to go!

AAW also offers weekly newsletter articles and instructional videos. And they provide Zoom videos for members and visitors. For instance, on Saturday, February 19th at 2:00, AAW had a Zoom video demo "From Pen Turning to Pen Making" with Mark Dreyer and John Underhill which was excellent. Also scheduled on March 19th, at 1:00 p.m. AAW will be presenting Dale Larson "Cutting the best bowl from a tree," where Dale will tell how to cut intentionally to get the exact grain you want for your bowl. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-AAW members.

If you are not a member, check out their website to see all that they offer.

Web address is www.woodturner.org

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING



CARL CUMMINS



BRENT CLAYTON
BLACK WALNUT BOWL-View 1



BRENT CLAYTON
BLACK WALNUT BOWL-View 2



MAURICE CLABAUGH



HOWARD KING



JOHN SOWELL
“Gavels with Cherry head and leopard wood and idk handles after an 1890s circuit riding judges gavel”

WHAT HAS EVERYONE BEEN DOING



RANDY TYNER
Bandsaw bowl to match
The cutting board



RANDY TYNER
Cutting board



RANDY TYNER
Ambrosia maple and
walnut hollowed vase. Added a
small touch of off centered finial



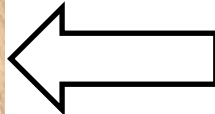
MAURICE CLABAUGH



MAURICE CLABAUGH



JOHN RHYMES
"My first acrylic pen - from a blank
cast in last month's class."



Blind Veteran Wood Turner



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

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_XGRjlvMDk

COPY & PASTE
Also on the AWA website.

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!'

We will resume this challenge once we start meeting in person again.

Turn for the Troops

Special thanks to David Fancher for volunteering to head the Turn For Troops project in conjunction with Woodcraft. If you have pens you need to turn in, or if you'd like to participate, please contact David at dfancher631@gmail.com, or email any of the club officers.

UPDATE: Pens for troops is going great. At the last meeting 50 pen kits were picked up. Please finish these pens and turn them in at the next meeting. I need them to exchange with woodcraft for more pen kits. Thanks to donations from members, we have lots of pen blanks.

Leadership

President: Terry Tingle
Vice President: Harold Deason
Secretary: John Rhymes
Treasurer: Carl Cummins
Board: Scott Arnold
Board: Tom Corbett
Board: John Sowell
Board: Richard Serviss
Librarian: **volunteer needed**
Training: Under Development
Newsletter: Michelle Marken
Webmaster: Carl Cummins

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