

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022

A member of the American Association of Woodturners

**MEETING ON ZOOM THIS MONTH**

Meeting time: The second Saturday of each month at 9 am  
[www.alabamawoodturners.com](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## SEPTEMBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I am very pleased that we are going to have Ernie Conover as our guest artist via zoom for our September meeting. I just watched an instructional video by Ernie Conover on the Bora WTX Straight Edge System and although I have owned this for several years, did not fully realize how to fully use it. I also learned what dados, grooves, and rabbits were, although I have heard those terms a lot, I never really understand them. Every time I watch an Ernie Conover video, I learn a lot. He is knowledgeable and experienced in every aspect of woodworking. If you want to know about furniture making, or setting up a Wolverine grinding jig, or are exploring scroll saw chuck options, or looking to turn a Hawaiian Calabash Bowl, just research Ernie Conover. I just recently purchased "The Router Table Book," and "Turn a Bowl – Getting Great Results the First Time Around." So, I am looking forward to his demonstration this month.

Since we are not meeting in person, we will not be meeting at Hardware Park for our usual morning meeting, and we will not be holding a class Saturday afternoon. And the Karl Harper Challenge will be postponed until next month.

We do have several folks from our club who will have booths at the Tinglewood Festival Saturday at Montevallo's Orr Park, from 9am till 5pm. Tinglewood is an "All Woodworking Event", featuring chain-saw carving expo, whittling contest, artist booths along with demos, live music, a classic car show, wooden boat race, food. For children, there will be make and take art, inflatables, Alabama Wildlife Center, Balloon Guy, and a traveling snake show. Some will be giving live demos on lathes at their booths. There will also be activities for children, chainsaw carving demonstrations, an antique car show, live musical entertainment. Tim Tingle, not my brother, the other Tim Tingle, is a wood carver from Montevallo, and began carving faces into cedar trees since the ice storm of 1993. The festival was started in 2018. This is a great opportunity for our organization to promote some interest in woodturning.

Our board met this week, and we discussed we were going to do with the collection that Bill Hubbard left AWA. It was Bill's wish that we seek to get top dollar for each of the pieces Bill left us. We decided that some of the items by well-known woodturners might bring more return on E-bay or Esty. We also decided that some of the collection be offered to AWA members only. Of course, AWA members will be notified when items are listed on E-Bay or Esty.

*Continued on page 2*

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Red Mountain Makers will be having a Grand Opening event Sunday afternoon, September 18, from 1-5. This is an open house/fund-raising event. We will have several woodturners offering short demos in woodturning class area. This is also a good opportunity to expose the community to the art of woodturning. We will also have one of our non-variable speed lathes up for auction with a minimum \$150.00 bid. We have also decided to make the other non-variable speed lathe available for rent, as well as a set of basic tools and a chuck. If you are interested in turning, but don't have a lathe or tools yet, this might be a good way to get started, without having to spend a lot upfront.

A word about our training program. A lot has changed over the last two years for our club when it comes to training. Currently David Fancher, Harold Deason and I are going through training sessions led by Carl Cummins. These are designed to enable us to assist anyone willing to offer a woodturning class at Red Mountain Makers. If you would be interested in being an assistant or if you would be willing to offer classes, please let us know. President's Challenge for next month is "spinning tops."

See you soon!

Terry

**SEE YOU ON ZOOM!**

## SEPTEMBER DEMO BY ERNIE CONOVER



Ernie Conover will be showing how to turn a useful, beautiful tray from dry wood.

Ernie Conover is a veteran woodworking author with eleven books, many videos, and hundreds of articles to his credit. His most recent book is the 3rd Edition the Lathe Book, published by Taunton Press. It came out in February of 2020. His work has received numerous awards and been the subject of several one-man shows. He lectures widely for clubs, trade show groups and woodworking stores and is frequently called upon as a consultant and expert witness in the woodworking field. Ernie is also a lathe designer having developed his own lathe and worked on the designs of the Nova and the Powermatic 3520b. When not writing, lecturing, or consulting he is actively teaching at Conover Workshops—a craft school founded by the Conover family.



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Jerry Hanchey | 9-1  |
| Mark Coutts   | 9-4  |
| Charles Moore | 9-4  |
| Steve Mills   | 9-5  |
| Randy Tyner   | 9-7  |
| Marty Watkins | 9-13 |

**Dues MUST be CURRENT to be included in the birthday list.**

### 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!

**MEMBERS DUES MUST BE CURRENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BIRTHDAY LIST.**

# AUGUST DEMO BY CARL CUMMINS



**CARL CUMMINS**

**LINDA & STEVE SIMCIK**

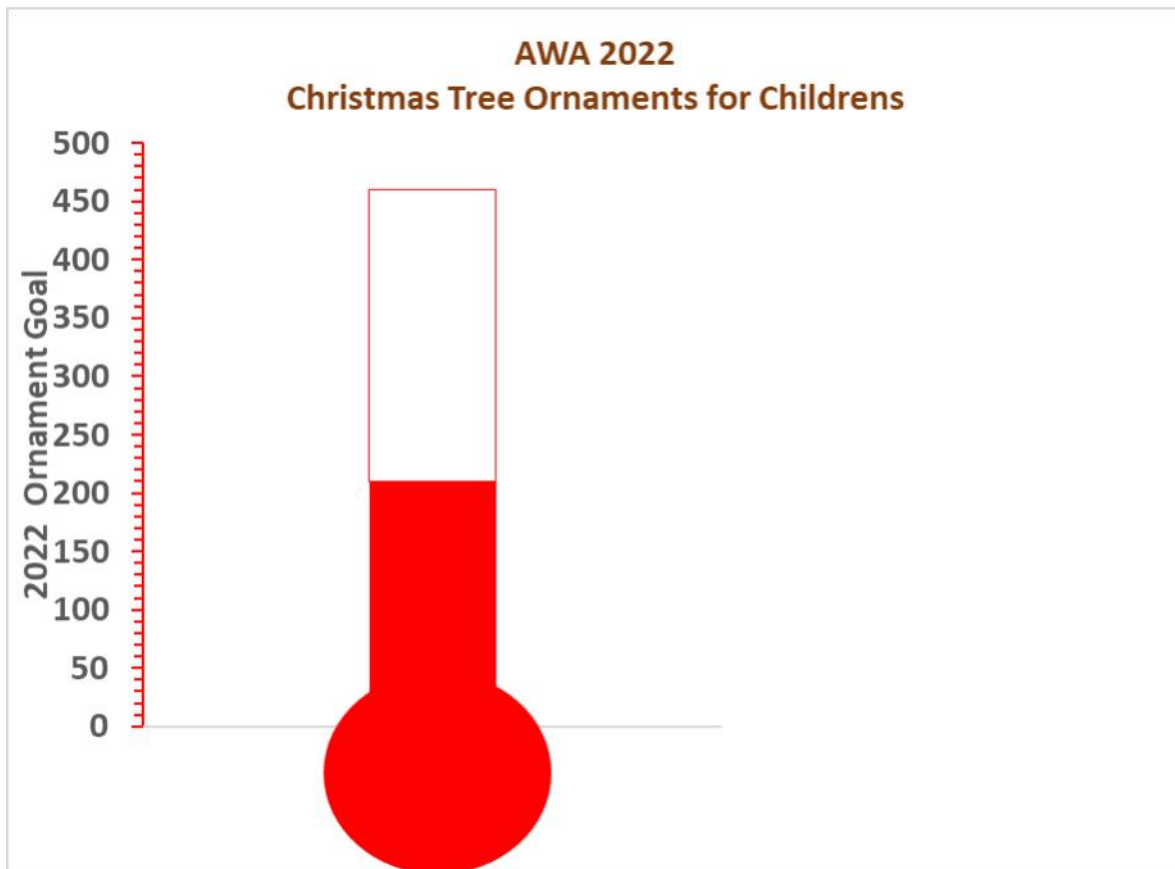
# Alabama Woodturners Association (AWA) Supporting Children's Hospital of Alabama



Children's  
of Alabama®



Many thanks to Brent Clayton and Susan McCalla for their contributions of Christmas Ornaments in July.  
Please bring your ornaments to our next in-person meeting in October 2022.



## Deadline Approaching!!!

October is the last month to collect Christmas Ornaments for our Children's Hospital Tree. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to date. If you have not given yet, get busy. As of July, only seven different members have made and contributed ornaments. Let's get that participation rate up. Only with your help will we make that happen.



### **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.

**JOHN JORDAN STUBBY 750 FOR SALE**  
**\$2500 Contact Pete Marken at p\_marken@bellsouth.net**

### **RED MOUNTAIN MAKERS GRAND OPENING**

Red Mountain Makers is having a Grand Opening Celebration from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday, September 18. We've been in operation at our new location since February and want to show off our progress. Join us for an afternoon of tours, demonstrations, raffles, a silent auction, and fun!

We'd appreciate you sharing this all-ages event with your network to help raise awareness of what we offer to the community.

This is a free event, but we'd like everyone to RSVP here on EventBrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/red-mountain-makers-grand-opening-and-fundraiser-tickets-403653216637>



If you want to watch the video of Karl Harper turning here is the link!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_XGRjlvMDk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_XGRjlvMDk)

COPY & PASTE  
Also on the AWA website.

Challenge listed on the last page.

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**BRENT CLAYTON  
HUMMINGBIRD  
HOUSE/ORNAMENT**



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**HOWARD KING**



**CARL CUMMINS**

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**HOWARD KING**



**HOWARD KING**



**RANDY TYNER**



**JOHN KILLIAN**  
AU salmon gum, burl bowl



**JOHN KILLIAN**  
California claro walnut bowl



**JOHN KILLIAN**  
Carved AL cherry burl keys and change tray

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**JOHN KILLIAN**  
AU blonde/brown mallee burl platter



**JOHN KILLIAN**  
Egg glue ups in spalted box elder bowl



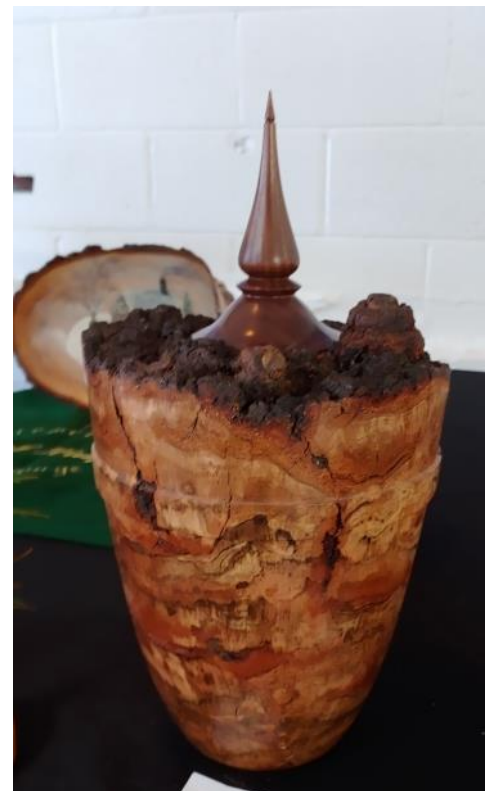
**TERRY WHITE**  
Turned from an old hunk of Silverleaf Maple. Hollowed using the Jamison system. Coated with sanding sealer, then several coats of polyurethane.



**RON HERBSTER**



**HOWARD KING**



**HOWARD KING**





# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



JIM BLACK

Please let me know who did these two and I will add a label to each.  
Michelle—  
cooncub1@aol.com



BRENT CLAYTON



CHRIS HENLEY



SANDY BISHOP



### *Turn for Troops: Frequently Asked Questions*

***Can ONLY slimline pens be turned in?***

***Any style pen may be turned in, however the only kit Woodcraft will replace it with is the slimline kit.***

***IE: turn in a cigar pen and receive a slimline kit.***

#### **What is Turn for Troops?**

Turn for Troops is a national initiative started by Woodcraft in 2004 in an effort to bolster the spirits of active duty and rehabilitating military service members. Woodcraft stores across the country host turning events (typically over Veterans Day weekend) to assist volunteers in handcrafting wooden writing pens, which are then sent to the troops with personal notes from the turners.

#### **How many years has Woodcraft sponsored Turn for Troops National Turn-a-Thons?**

2021 was Woodcraft's 18th year for Turn for Troops national events.

#### **How many pens are turned a year?**

In 2021, volunteers and employees at Woodcraft turned 14,703 pens. Our largest total was in 2009 with 17,228.

#### **How many pens have been made overall?**

Since 2004, the total number of pens submitted has been 219,970.

#### **Who can turn a pen?**

Anyone! No experience is required, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome.

#### **Does my local Woodcraft store have a turning event?**

Store events may vary. At this time the Pelham Woodcraft store does not have turning events. This may change early next year (2023).

#### **Is there a cost to participate?**

No, just your time.

#### **Do I have to bring anything with me?**

Nope. Just a desire to say "thank you" to the troops. Tools, supplies, equipment and safety gear will be provided.

#### **What if I'm not near a store or don't feel comfortable attending an in-person event?**

While the program is designed to take place on a store level, we realize that may not always be possible. COVID-19 concerns are still very real as well. See contact info below to ask how you can still participate remotely.

#### **Where do the finished pens go?**

All completed pens collected during store events are shipped to the Woodcraft corporate office, where they are held pending shipment to military connections.

#### **How does Woodcraft decide where to send pens?**

The Woodcraft corporate office has several contacts across the globe to assist in distribution efforts to active-duty military and those recovering in rehabilitation centers. If those contacts are unable to accept any, they often refer us to other units. Stores receive requests, and sometimes a service member or their family will send us a request.

#### **How can my soldier's unit get pens?**

Provide a contact name, shipping address and number of pens the group can accommodate to your local store; that information will be forwarded to the corporate office. If you are not near a store, please refer to the contact information below.

#### **Is there a minimum or maximum request amount?**

No. We have sent as few as 10 and as many as 6,000 to one location. As long as we are reaching out to our brothers and sisters in arms, we will send however many pens they can use.

#### **Do the troops know where the pens come from?**

Yes. Each pen is individually packed with branded materials from Woodcraft. Turners are encouraged to write a personal note of support on the provided card, which accompanies that pen to its final destination. Cards may include a simple thank you message, the type of wood used, the turner's contact information or prior military service if they are a veteran themselves, or whatever they would like to include.

#### **Why does Woodcraft support this program?**

Our military personnel sacrifice a great deal of time away from their families—often in dangerous locations in harm's way—to protect our country, so we feel it is important to remind them that folks appreciate them and that they are not forgotten. Based on the feedback we receive from those who have received TFT pens in the past, those efforts mean a lot.

## 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!'

Sandra McMillan turned a multi-axis bird for the August challenge, won by John Rhymes.

### 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](mailto:dfancher631@gmail.com), or email any of the club officers.

**UPDATE:** Sent 227 pens to Woodcraft, we are getting close to 300 pens. I will have pen kits and blanks.

See page 9  
for  
information  
about  
Turning for  
the Troops.



### **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: Jane Rabey  
Training: Under Development  
Newsletter: Michelle Marken  
Webmaster: Carl Cummins

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