

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2023

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](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## FEBRUARY AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I really missed our club meeting last month. Our daughter and her two girls spent Friday night with us, and our youngest granddaughter decided she wasn't going to go to bed. So, there was a lot of screaming and crying, etc. until about 4:30 or 5 a.m. I guess she finally wore herself out. I have stomach issues anyway, and by that time, I was having severe stomach cramps, not to mention the lack of sleep. (Now, the girls are not allowed to stay with us overnight when I have something the next day.) That's probably more information than you wanted to hear, but I wanted to let you know that I will make every effort to be at our meetings, unless there is some emergency. Many thanks to Tim Tingle for taking pictures of the meeting.

At our recent Board meeting, we discussed how we do our meetings, and ways to mix things up a little. We would like to see more members of our club volunteer to offer demos at our meetings. But we realize that it might be a bit intimidating to turn in front of a group, especially when we have folks who have been turning a long time. We came up with several ideas. Maybe, instead of one person doing the demo and then the afternoon class, we have two folks do a demo, and have the afternoon class be about basic skill training on how to use different tools, or how to sharpen your tools. (for those who missed Carl's class). There is no reason that the afternoon class following our meetings, must be a continuation of the morning demo. Please think about that and let us know at the next meeting how you feel about occasionally changing the format of our meetings. Some chapters have a meeting in the morning, and have their class in the evening, on another day of the week. Hum....

We also discussed having several people collaborate on a project. We have done that in the past, and it worked out great. We discussed having a meeting about our greatest failures, with all of us bring something that just didn't want to turn properly; a funnel instead of a bowl, or a pen that we used the wrong bushings on, etc.

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At this time, I have a Delta table saw that is out of adjustment. The blade is not at a 90 degree angle, I can't seem to be able to get it adjusted properly. Wouldn't it be great if we had a way to help each other with these kinds of issues. For instance, I might have some wood that needed to be milled, maybe someone in the club could offer some assistance with that. Or maybe it is a turning issue, like I love to make bottle stoppers, but I have trouble with the threading... Or maybe you need help with making dovetails, so it will fit on your chuck better...

In our recent questionnaire about demos, we received responses from three people. In-person demos, when possible. I am contacting the clubs in our state and neighboring states, to see who might be available for demos, both in-person and zoom for when we can't find an in-person demonstrator. Round robin – if or when we do a round robin, we are probably going to have to do it in the classroom area. If there is nothing else happening that morning, we can spread the lathes out.

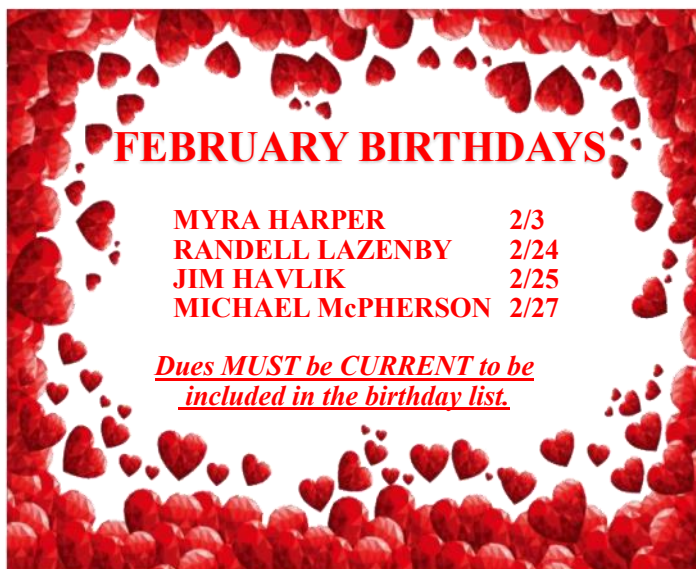
We are also planning to have more “question and answers”, panel discussions, team challenges, demos on turning tool handles, hollow forms, live edge bowls, and possibly multi-axis turning. At least that is our goal for this year.

Reminders - please remember the up-coming symposium in Louisville June 1-4. And please remember that Covid is still being transmitted. Be as safe as you can, and social distance if possible. And bring something for the raffle table if you can.

BTW, we have new lights for our classroom area. This is something we have needed, especially for cloudy afternoon and night classes.

Take care of yourselves, and the ones you love.

Terry



## 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.**

# FEBRUARY DEMO BY JOHN SOWELL



John Sowell has been turning items for function and whimsy for about 12 years. He is primarily self taught but has studied books, videos, workshops, symposiums and formal training from professional turners such as Glenn Lucas, Jimmy Clewes, Rudy Lopez and David Ellsworth.

Bottle stoppers and openers are a fun project for the lathe. Design opportunities are limited only by the turners imagination and the participant will have an opportunity to practice tool techniques and forms while producing a stopper, opener or both during the session.

**DON'T FORGET THE AFTERNOON CLASS!**



From bottle openers  
class by  
John Sowell

# JANUARY DEMO BY HOWARD KING



### **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**

### **NEW still in the box**

**Nova Comet II DR midi lathe for sale \$500**  
**Contact Pete Marken at p\_marken@bellsouth.net**

### **WOODCRAFT HAS MOVED!**

2975 PELHAM PARKWAY

This is 3 miles south of the old store. Just before Old Time Pottery on the same side of Pelham Parkway as the old store. The sign is up now so you should be able to find it. LOTS more room.

### **!Message from Jim Black!**

Last month I attended the AWA meeting, that evening went to a basketball game, and went to church the next day. A couple days later I started feeling the symptoms of Covid. I don't know where I got it or who all I might have given it to. I suffered with it about three weeks, but I am over it now. Just wanted to let you know that Covid is still alive and circulating around here.



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.

**Is it time to start talking about the Children Hospital Christmas tree AGAIN?**

**Yes, it is!**

**Is it true that we must have more members helping in 2023 that we did in 2022?**

**Yes, it is!** Less than 15 AWA members contributed to the project in 2022.

**Do I have to be able to turn those fancy, skinny finials to contribute?**

**No you don't!**

We do need those beautiful long elegant ornaments with fine finials but that is not all that we need. To be able to completely fill the tree with ornaments we have to have at least 150 small, short (less than 3.5 inch) items.

**Alright, alright, what can I do?**

**I have just the solution for you!**

If you have a collection of ornament patterns or a pattern book, please share. Bring them to a meeting or email them to Sandra McMillan at <mailto:macdra47@gmail.com>

If you do not yet have a collection or pattern book, search the internet and share. Here are a few ideas that I found.



**Then get planning  
on what you are  
going to make for  
this year's ornament  
collection.**

## Carl Cummins

Recently I gave a demo of woodturning at the Huntsville Museum of Art, part of an event organized by the Alabama Designer Craftsmen.



### AAW Symposium in Louisville June 2023

Several from Birmingham have plans to attend the National Symposium which this year will take place in Louisville June 1-4, 2023. Last year we had ten who went to the National Symposium in Chattanooga, which qualified for an extra discount plus a reserved table at the banquet. If you are thinking of going, please let me (Carl Cummins) know now. I will start a list, and a little later I will collect pre-payment by check. If you have already registered just let me know that as well. You may contact me via the club email address [alawoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:alawoodturners@gmail.com)

#### **Here is the offer from AAW:**

##### **Chapter Group Discount**

Back by popular demand with an even better discount! Register with your local chapter and receive a \$40 discount. Chapters that bulk register 10 or more AAW members receive a special discount rate of \$315 per member. Registration must be coordinated through a Chapter representative and be paid with check (not credit card). Applies to current chapter members who are also AAW members.

Includes opportunity to purchase dinner tickets and reserve chapter group dinner seating.

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**  
Spalted Holly  
12" diameter



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**  
Manzanita Root Burl  
9" diameter



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**  
Spalted Alabama Ironwood  
9" diameter



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**  
Holly Root  
13" diameter



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**  
Quilted Crape Myrtle Fork  
15" diameter



**LYNN BASWELL**



**SANDY BISHOP**  
Glass top table with turned legs



# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**CARL CUMMINS**



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**DWIGHT HOSTETTER**



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**HOWARD KING**



**RON HERBSTER**



**RANDY TYNER**  
Hollowform in Elm



# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**DWIGHT HOSTETTER**

A garden bench. The pegs locking the tenons on were turned on my lathe out of white oak.



**JOHN SOWELL**



**RANDY TYNER**  
Small Burl Bowl



**ROCKY KIMBLE**

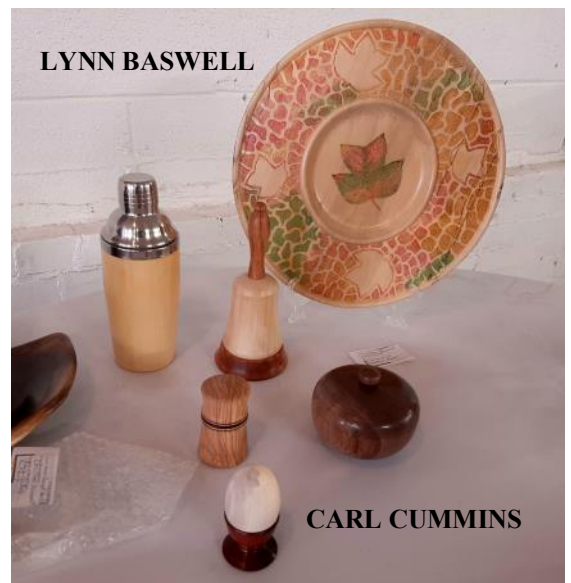


**SANDY BISHOP**



**RANDY TYNER**

Made the cutting board for an older customer that raises bees. He cut this piece of walnut off his own land.



**LYNN BASWELL**

**CARL CUMMINS**

# WHAT SUSAN MCCALLA HAS BEEN DOING



SUSAN MCCALLA



SUSAN MCCALLA



SUSAN MCCALLA



SUSAN MCCALLA



SUSAN MCCALLA



SUSAN MCCALLA

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**HOWARD KING  
CHERRY BURL VASE  
3 VIEWS OF THE SAME VASE**



**HOWARD KING  
DESERT IRONWOOD VASE  
3 VIEWS OF THE SAME VASE**

## The Karl Harper Perpetual Challenge

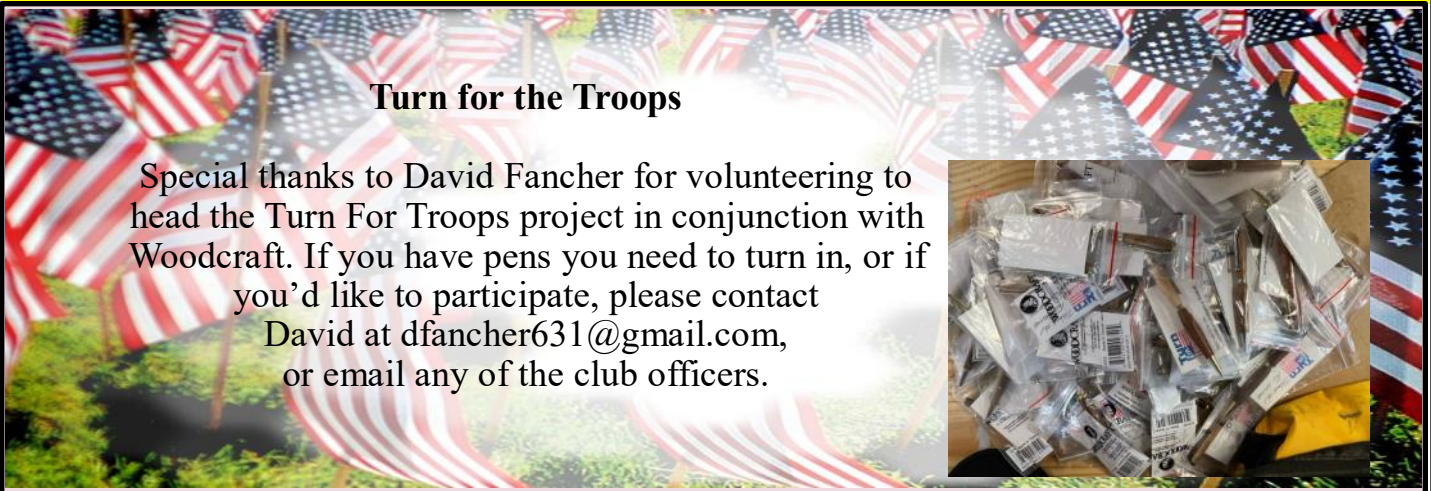
AWA has established a perpetual turning challenge in memory of Karl Harper. This challenge is an excellent remembrance of Karl as he continuously expressed a 'try anything' spirit and was an inspiration to us all.

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!'

Michelle Marken turned a pen for the January challenge, won by John Sowell.



### 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.

### *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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