

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2024

A member of the American Association of Woodturners  
Meeting at Hardware Park, 811 5th Avenue North, Birmingham  
Meeting time: The second Saturday of each month at 9 am  
[www.alabamawoodturners.com](http://www.alabamawoodturners.com)

## FEBRUARY AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I apologize for missing our last meeting, but it sounds like y'all had an interesting discussion. From the notes I received, most of the discussion seemed to focus on two topics, equipment for the class area, and dues. Ron Herbster asked about the possibility of getting a bigger lathe for the class area. I like that Ron is thinking about possibilities. Sometimes, thinking outside the box helps us to be aware of doing things we haven't considered. There are two main reasons why that is not practical, at this point. One reason why we can't do that right now is there is just not enough room. There is just no space in our class area for a big lathe. Maybe, in the future, if RMM acquires more area for classes, that would open possibilities for a larger lathe. The other reason would be cost. If we had enough funds to purchase a larger lathe, it might be more practical to use those funds to bring in outside demonstrators. We are trying to figure out a way for folks to make donations to the club through our website. Again, I thank Ron for thinking outside the box!

The other topic that seemed to create the most discussion is possibly raising our dues, maybe to \$40.00. I have looked over my notes, and I know how a few folks responded to that, but I would like input from all our members, even the ones who attend via zoom. So, if each of you would respond to this issue by emailing me, I can get a sense of the whole club's opinion on this issue. [terryjtingle@gmail.com](mailto:terryjtingle@gmail.com) I would like for us to vote on this in our March meeting.

*Continued on page 2*

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Our demonstrator for February will be Bill Willis. He will be going over chain saw safety. We will be sitting around tables for four people, and Bill will have a chain saw for each table. We haven't had a demo focused on safety in a long time. Thanks to Scott Arnold for recommending Bill. Carl will be doing our afternoon class on the bowl gouge.

We will, as usual, be meeting Friday at 2:00 to setup for the meeting Saturday. Your help in setting up is always greatly appreciated.

Our programs for the next few months are:

**March** - Robin Costelle - two-piece hollow forms with the afternoon hands-on workshop on the same topic.

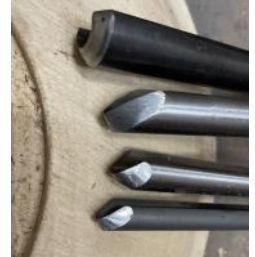
**April** - Michael Anderson - Egg -in -Egg turning with the afternoon hands-on workshop on the same topic.

**May** - Round Robin - a variety of projects in simultaneous demos. Afternoon workshop not yet planned.

Terry

**AFTERNOON HANDS-ON WORKSHOP WITH CARL CUMMINS**

Saturday afternoon Carl Cummins will offer a hands-on workshop in Bowl Gouge Technique. This is intended for those relatively new to woodturning or anyone who wants to brush up on technique. Space is limited to



6 participants. *If you want to attend please register at <https://redmountainmakers.wildapricot.org/event-5584755>*

See email for AWA registration code.

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**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

MYRA HARPER	2/3
MATTHEW BUSICK	2/7
OWEN ROBERTS	2/8
JIM HAVLIK	2/25
MICHAEL MCPHERSON	2/27

***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.**



Children's  
of Alabama®

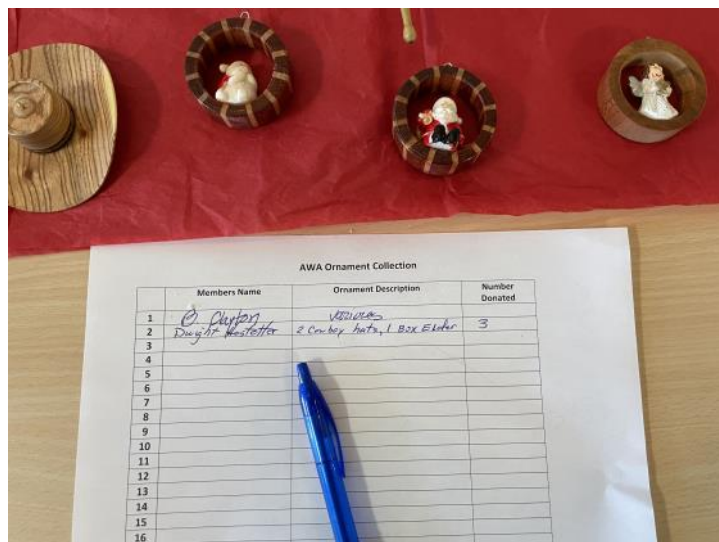
Alabama Woodturners Association  
(AWA)  
Supporting  
Children's Hospital of Alabama



***2024 Children's Hospital Christmas Tree Turned Decorations***

We have 40 ornaments in the box for 2024. Many thanks to Bruce Clayton and Dwight Hostetter for getting us off to a really good start.

It is never too early to begin making your ornaments to contribute to this worth project. If you worry that your ornaments might be too simple, don't because the simplest to the most complex sold at the Encore Side by Side Christmas Concert. Remember, the AWA contribution to both organization creates funds for participants and patients who need additional help in paying for their services.



# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**CHRIS HENLEY**



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**



**JOHN SOWELL**  
Spalted Cherry 8" x 7"



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**



**SANDRA MCMILLAN**

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**SUSAN MCMILLAN**  
Cherry Burl



**HOWARD KING**  
Natural edge hollow form  
made out of Apple



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**JOHN SOWELL**  
Red oak Burl 3" x 5"



**MAURICE CLABAUGH**

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**MARTY COGEN**



**RON HERBSTER**

Main thing I've been working on is getting a better carving station setup.



**RON HERBSTER**



**HOWARD KING**

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**JEFF WYATT**

6-Slat Appalachian Rocker with post & rung stool in Cherry, weaved with Hickory bark on display at the TAW Symposium.



**BRENT CLAYTON**



**HOWARD KING**

A plaque made out of Cherry Burl



**JOHN SOWELL**

# WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



**RON HERBSTER**



**SANDRA MCMILLAN**



**JOHN SOWELL**  
View 1



**JOHN SOWELL**  
View 2



**HOWARD KING - DEMO**





## AWA LIBRARY

The materials in the AWA Library are now available for checkout. Since this is a new system (it actually began in 2020 but right before the Covid shutdown) I'd like to go with the following procedures and see how well it works. Your feedback is welcome.

1. A chart listing the materials will be available on the AWA website. You can find it on the "Learning" tab at "Library Listing" which is a link to <https://alabamawoodturners.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AWA-Library.pdf> The materials are grouped according to type: DVDs, Books, Magazines. If you want to check any item(s) out please let me know by sending an email to [alawoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:alawoodturners@gmail.com) prior to the next scheduled meeting. Please give me both the item number and its title so I can make sure I get the correct item.
2. The day of the meeting I'll pull these items from where they are stored. I'm going to plan to be in that room in the other building, i.e. the Red Mountain Makers space, from about 8:15 - 9:00 in case anyone wants to come browse and see what's in the library. Around 9:00 I'll bring any requested materials to the Hardware Park meeting room and check them out. I'll probably plan to stay at the meeting until around 9:30, but if you want an item and are going to be late let me know so I can stay until you get there.
3. Items will be checked out for one month, so they will be due back at the next monthly meeting. If you need to keep something longer please let me know; as long as no one else has requested it there shouldn't be a problem with keeping it an additional month. Questions, problems, suggestions, etc. can be sent to me at the above email address or see me at the meeting.

Thanks,  
Jane Rabey  
AWA Librarian

### 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.

## 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!'

Wayne Bagwell turned a toy for the January challenge, won by Lynn Baswell for February.

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.

### Turning Pens for Troops

Turning pens for the troops sponsored by Woodcraft has been a long-time project of our club. This project provides pen to our troops all over the world. Several of our members have met soldiers that have received a pen. All the service members speak of how much this meant to them and that they still have the pen. Last year, our club turned in over 323 pens! How the program works is that for every pen that we turn in Woodcraft gives us a slimline pen kit to make another one with. This makes it very important that if you pick up a pen kit at a meeting, that you complete the pen before the next meeting.

Pen for troops is off to a good start. If you have a pen kit from last year please finish it and turn it in at the next meeting. When we turn a finished pen into Woodcraft they give us a pen kit to make another. There are pen kits and drilled blanks at every meeting. Please pick one up and make a pen for our troops.

David Fancher



## LEADERSHIP

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Secretary: John Rhymes  
Treasurer: Carl Cummins  
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