

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

DECEMBER 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

DECEMBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

We've always done it that way. How quickly we get used to a certain routine, and think it has to be done that way all the time. It's comfortable. It's cosy. For some. For others, it is a lot of work to do. In our November meeting, we did something different. We set up three lathes, and some folks made tops, and others watched. Then the folks who were really good at making tops mentored other folks. I saw Lee Ferguson make a top with traditional tools, and he usually uses Easy Wood Tools. I was impressed that he was willing to get up and try something new in front of other folks.

Sure, it would be great if we could secure an outside "professional demonstrator" for each meeting, but that is just not going to happen again, like it did in the past.

So, do we consider having a mentoring meeting every now and then when we can't find a demonstrator. I happen to think our organization will flourish only when every member contributes time and energy and imagination to the club. Sure, if you are 94 years old, we would not expect you to be doing demos or helping to set up, etc. But I hope you get what I'm saying. We have an election coming up. Please consider serving on the board, if you can. It does require you to belong to the national organization. We need folks who will help us secure demonstrators for each meeting and help with the planning of the future of our club.

It is easy to criticize the way we do things, or the decisions we make. It's harder to actually be part of the decision-making process and be a positive influence on others.

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We have had a good year for the most part. I think next year could be better. But it won't be without your help. I haven't said anything, but we need everyone to step up and pay dues. I think that is just basic. I'm looking forward to this Saturday's Christmas and Holiday party. I hope you can come. If you can't make it, I wish you Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year.

Terry



DECEMBER AWA PARTY INFORMATION

Due to the nature of the party/meeting and change in location, there will be no Zoom

For our December meeting we will continue the tradition of holding our annual Holiday Party. There are many ways this is different from our usual monthly meeting. The location and start time are different than usual. We will meet at the Gardendale Presbyterian Church. 200 Tarrant Road, Gardendale, AL 35071. The church is just a few minutes from I-65. For directions see end of this article. We will start officially at 11:00 AM, but you are welcome to come early to help set up. Of course spouses and friends are welcome as guests.

These are the agenda items, but not necessarily in any order:

Gift exchange - If you bring a gift, you will get a gift.

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

JOHN NICHOLS	12/06
MAURICE CLABAUGH	12/19
CARL CUMMINS	12/28
JIM JOHNSON	12/28
JAMES GILBERT	12/30

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

Birthday Door Prize News

AWA gives a birthday gift door prize to a member 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.

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Raffle Grand Prize drawings - We will draw from all tickets collected this past year. Prizes are

- Woodcraft Gift Certificate, value \$200
- CBN 4-in-1 Wheel from Woodturners Wonders, value \$180
- Mini hollowing set by Laurent Niclot: two tools, handle, and caliper, value \$155
- battery-powered air blower, value \$70.

Only current members are eligible.

Election of Officers - If you want to run for an Office or Board position, speak up.

Karl Harper Challenge drawing - All members are eligible (but it's optional).

Birthday drawing - for a gift certificate if the name drawn is in attendance.

Door prize drawings -All who attend are eligible.

Dinner details -

The AWA is providing turkey and also providing tea, both sweet and unsweet along with ice. If you prefer some other soft drink (besides water) or you want a particular sweetener for tea, please bring it yourself. Club members are bringing side dishes and desserts. See separate emails for details.

We will **not** do Instant Gallery / Show & Tell - Please save this for next month.

We will **not** do an Auction – Please save for a future occasion.

Directions to Gardendale Presbyterian Church, 200 Tarrant Road, Gardendale, AL 35071: From I-65 take the Fieldstown exit and turn east. (If you are coming from the North, turn left. If you are Coming from the South, turn right.) Go to Highway 31, turn right.

Go to Tarrant Road, turn left. Church is about 1 block on the left, if anyone gets lost, they can Call Terry and he'll help. 256-339-4030

NOVEMBER DEMO RECAP



**Dwight Hostetter
with James Gilbert**



Lee Ferguson turning a top



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



Children's
of Alabama®



These are pictures of this years tree at Children's of Alabama that was decorated on November 3rd. There were 29 ornaments left for 2025. Please bring your finished ornaments to our January meeting.

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



KEN WARR
Segmented bowl



KEN WARR



ROCKY KIMBELL



WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



MIKE BRISCOE
Ornament



CARL CUMMINS
Bowls - Cherry with Curly Maple



CARL CUMMINS
Box - Curly Pynma



DWIGHT HOSTETTER
Working on Christmas Presents

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



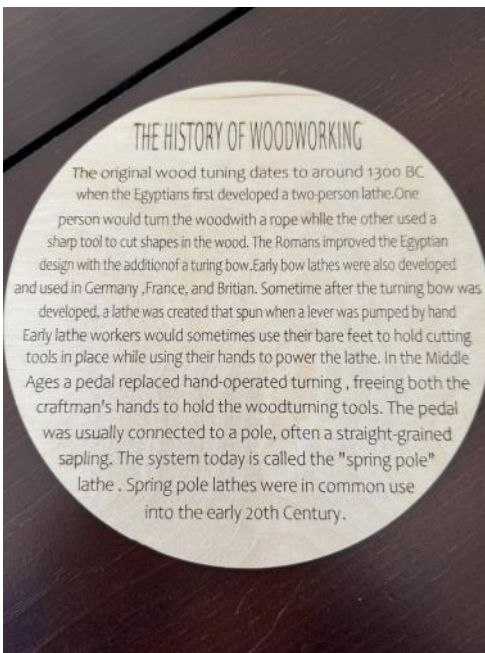
HOWARD KING



DWIGHT HOSTETTER
Working on Christmas Presents



HOWARD KING



RANDY TYNER

Took me all day to make 2 of these. I made these for a friend whose wife gave him an old rotten version of this when her husband died. He will give her this new version for Christmas. Evidently it meant a lot to him.

WHAT JEFF WYATT HAS BEEN DOING



JEFF WYATT
Class at John C Cambell



Jeff Wyatt
Class at John C. Campbell -
4 legged Windsor stool

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 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!'

Michelle Marken turned a pen for the November challenge, won by Dwight Hostetter for December.

If you want to watch the video of Karl Harper turning here is the link!
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 300 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.



From David Fancher;

Pens for Troops. Last year the Birmingham Woodcraft store ranked 4th in the nation for the number of pens (520). Most of these pens came from our club. This year, so far, we have turned in 202 pens! Last month 25 pens were turned in. Please come by the table at the meeting, get a doughnut and pick up a pen kit(s) to turn. There are pen blanks available that already have tubes glued in.



LEADERSHIP

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Vice President: Harold Deason
Secretary: John Rhymes
Treasurer: Carl Cummins
Board: Scott Arnold
Board: Tom Corbett

Board: John Sowell
Librarian: Jane Rabey
Training: Under Development
Newsletter: Michelle Marken
Webmaster: Carl Cummins