

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

MARCH 2025

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

MARCH AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

A big thanks to Carl Cummins for a great demonstration last month. I envy the ease with which Carl turns the most difficult pieces. I think about all the people in our club that we could thank for keeping our club running smoothly. If I tried, I would inevitably leave someone out. I am proud of all our community projects, and the way that so many of you contribute to those projects.

We have a few months of demonstrations lined up. This month, Lee Ferguson will be turning a bowl with carbide tools. Next month, Michael Anderson will be our demonstrator. In May, Beau Bunn, who did the sphere demo for us last year, will be offering a demo for us. In June, Rocky Kimble will offer our demonstration. In July, Ron Herbster will offer a demo on small bowl embellishments. Two other members have agreed to do demos but have not decided on which months they want to do them. There is still a possibility for another round robin this year. If you would like to demo along with other folks, please let me know. It certainly gives turners the opportunity to learn how to do a demo, without all eyes watching you. If you are not an experienced demonstrator, it can stir up a lot of anxiety. But keep this in mind; everyone learns when we share with each other. Even if a demo is not done perfectly, someone learns.

Remember our "Pen for Troops," tops for Dr. Killian, and Children's Hospital's Christmas tree ornaments. **As usual, we will be meeting at Hardware Park this Friday at 2:00 to get everything ready for our Saturday morning meeting.** There will not be a class on Saturday afternoon this month. If you have anything that you can part with, please offer it for our raffle.

Terry

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LEE FERGUSON WILL BE DOING OUR MARCH DEMO

Lee has been turning about one year. His father saw someone woodturning at a demo in Montana. He bought himself a lathe and when Lee went to visit he turned his first bowl with carbide tools. Lee was hooked after that, he is trying to learn with traditional tools as well. Lee said he mostly turns bowls but has started to enjoy spindle turning lately. Lee will be turning a small utility bowl using 3 common carbide tools. (Tips square, round and diamond as well as a cupped tip.)



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

DARRELL BUCKELEW	3/1
HAROLD DEASON	3/1
DAVID FANCHER	3/10
JIM RABEY	3/15
BOB MOORE	3/21
PAM PAUSTIAN	3/22
BYRON LEWIS	3/31
JOHN RHYMES	3/31

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.

RECAP OF THE FEBRUARY DEMO WITH CARL CUMMINS





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



**Children's
of Alabama®**



We begin 2025 with a goal of 300 Christmas Ornaments as normal. What is not typical is we have zero, nil, nada, or naught Christmas ornaments left over from 2024. All 329 ornaments were used in creating our 2024 Christmas Tree for Children's Hospital.

Thanks again to everyone who helped in 2024. Please begin producing ornaments now so that by July we are more than half way to our goal of 300 ornaments.

This is a picture of this years tree at Children's of Alabama that was decorated on November 3, 2024 There were 29 ornaments left for 2025.

Please bring your finished ornaments to our March meeting.

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING

Wood is unknown and dyed with red leather dye.



HOWARD KING
Chinese Chestnut Urn
Dyed Black,
finished with liming wax



RANDY TYNER
Cherry Burl vase

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING
Teak Burl open bowl



CARL CUMMINS
Lidded bowl,
Kou and curly maple



CARL CUMMINS
Brownheart, Maple burl, London Plane and Dogwood



KEN WARR turned the tool handle.



CARL CUMMINS

BILL CALDERWOOD turned the cheese platter from quartersawn heart pine with 126 years of growth rings showing, so the tree was over 150 years old with a 3' diameter trunk

WHAT RANDY TYNER HAS BEEN DOING



**RANDY
TYNER
Small 6.5"
OD change
bowl turned
from
figurative
maple with a
lasered
leather
bottom**



WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



ROCKY KIMBEL
Refurbished vise



LYNN BASWELL
Northfolk Pine Platter

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



RON HERBSTER



HOWARD KING



MARTY COGEN

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



These segmented pens were donated by Jim Zoellner a friend of Bill Calderwood's in FL for Turn for Troops. Jim's wife Millie turned the snowman for our tree at Children's Hospital.



Finished fountain pens from Terry's class.



MAURICE CLABAUGH

H.R. # 4 "Interrupted Rim" Red Oak burl
8.75" w x 5.25" h x .375" t from Red Oak Burl



MAURICE CLABAUGH

Red Oak Burl 52-inch-long x 31" largest Diameter, weight 550 pounds Burl has been hit by lightning internal damage.

This burl is what was used for the 4 pieces Maurice did pictured in this newsletter.



WHAT MAURICE HAS BEEN DOING



H.R. # 13 "Shallow Pond and Sweeping Plain"
Bark edged winged offset suspended bowl
17" l x 10.5" w x .5" h
(Rest on the bark edges)



H.R.#10 "CRATER" SIZE- 10" W X 3" H X .375" T
BARK EDGED "BIRD SHOT" RED OAK BURL
INSPIRATION- THE NAME AND SHAPE FOR THIS BOWL/
SCULPTURE WAS DETERMINED BY THE SHAPE OF THE
CHARRED HOLE BLOWN OUT OF ONE SIDE. THE PATH OF THE
LIGHTNING STRIKE WAS VERY EVIDENT IN THE RAW BLANK.
RATHER THAN DISCARDING THIS FEATURE, CLABAUGH HIGH-
LIGHTED IT IN A BOWL SHAPE THAT EMPHASIZE THE
CHARRED FEATURE. THE BARK ON THE SIDES CONTRAST TO
THE SMOOTH INTERIOR POCK MARKED, FURTHER EMPHASIZ-
ES THE BLACK CHARRED SLASH WHICH STARTS IN THE CEN-
TER OF THE BOWL, CASCADES THOUGH THE SIDE, AND RIP-
PLES LIKE BLACK LAVA SPILLING FROM THE CRATER.

THE INTERIOR OF "CRATER" IS POCKED WITH "BIRD
SHOT" DAMAGE DISTORTING THE BURL'S FIGURE SEEN IN
OTHER VESSELS IN THIS COLLECTION.



H.R. #5 "Splayed" bark edged red oak burl
12" w x 5.5" h x 3.75" t from Red Oak Burl

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 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.



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!'

Dwight Hostetter turned a hollow form for the December challenge, won by John Sowell for March-2025 .

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 is off to a great start. Last month we turned in 63 pens. Please support this long-time project of our club. Pen kits and tubed blanks are available at every meeting.



LEADERSHIP

President: Terry Tingle
Vice President: Harold Deason
Secretary: John Rhymes
Treasurer: Carl Cummins
Board: Scott Arnold
Board: Rocky Kimble

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