

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

APRIL 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

APRIL AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

So far this year, Carl Cummins and Lee Ferguson have provided us with some very interesting demos. This month, Michael Anderson will be demonstrating a box with a spinning top lid. Michael will be coming to us from Chattanooga. We are fortunate that he is willing to travel that far to provide a demo for us. Part of what enables us to pay for our outside demonstrators is our membership dues. I think \$30.00 is cheap. Really cheap considering the benefits that our club provides, not to mention the fellowship we enjoy with each other.

Speaking of fellowship, our August meeting will be a cookout at Oak Mountain. We have reserved a pavilion that is close to the beach/swimming area, and close to the restrooms, and close to the fishing areas too. This will be fun for the whole family. Details will be coming as soon as we finalize them.

As usual, we will be setting up for our meeting this Friday at 2:00 at Hardware Park. If you can, please come and help us get ready for Saturday. Thanks to all who help set up, and help us run our meetings.

Just want to let everyone know that our vice president Harold Deason's barn/ workshop burned down last Friday night. He lost all his equipment and wood. He was there and had gone out to get some wood. When he went back in, the fire was already to big for him to put out. We are just thankful that Harold was not injured!

Terry

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MICHAEL ANDERSON WILL BE DOING OUR APRIL DEMO

Updated biography from Michael: I live in Chattanooga, TN, and teach biology at a local community college. While the lathe is my principal tool, I also devote considerable additional time to refining my pieces post-turning via hand and power carving, pyrography, and painting. My favorite pieces tell a story, and I draw heavily upon personal experiences and emotions to write that story. I primarily focus on turning (and often embellishing) traditional calabash bowls and sculptural pieces. That said, there are a lot of in-betweens there, and many of my sculpture pieces incorporate bowls and other traditional shapes. I've become pretty involved with the woodturning community recently. I'm an administrator on the AAW forum, and I also manage the online forum World of Woodturners. I've been a featured artist in American Woodturner, have published projects articles in American Woodturner and Woodturning magazine, and have had work accepted in several exhibitions. Recently, I received Best of Show at the Tennessee Craft Best of Tennessee Biennial Exhibition. Most importantly, I love woodturning and sharing my knowledge with folks around the country.

Spin top box with coin bearing - Let it spin! Boxes are fun pieces of functional art, made even better when the top is more than just a lid. Michael will demonstrate creating a turned box with a lid that also functions as a spin top. As a fun surprise, the spin top will utilize a coin (penny or dime) as a spin bearing. This demo involves turning a classical form box, methods for hollowing with thin walls, using a doming block to shape a piece of metal, as well as turning a finial/stem with fine details.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

WAYNE BAGWELL	4-4
ROCKY KIMBLE	4-8
LINDA SIMCIK	4-10
STEVE BURGESS	4-17
GARY GARRIS	4-19
CHRIS HENLEY	4-23

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 MARCH DEMO WITH LEE FERGUSON



Like new Bauer (Harbor Freight) 12 inch planer with extra set of blades.
\$150
Call Jim Rabey
(205)319-7108





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



Children's
of Alabama®

The Alabama Woodturners Association has a long history of decorating trees for Children's Hospital Christmas Tree fundraiser.



2005 AWA Tree



2009 AWA Tree



2012 AWA Tree



2015 AWA Tree



AWA tree with the lights off

AWA has been able to carry forward the Children's Hospital Christmas Tree Project for so many years because of the dedication of our membership. Thanks to anyone who has given in prior years and a special thank you to everyone who has turned in ornaments for the 2025 tree.

Please remember to bring your ornaments to our next meeting on April 12th. We need to start ticking off ornaments received toward our 2025 ornament goal of 300 ornaments!

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING
Mahogany



HOWARD KING
Vase with finial



MARK HARRIS
Maple



CHRIS HENLEY
Baby Rattle

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



LEE BEADLES

25 pens I turned for the Troops.
Total so far is 50 for the year.



LEE BEADLES

6 hammer pins I made for my wife
for her Christmas gifts



MARTY COGEN

Trying to keep up my
monthly quota



RANDY TYNER

Lasered tool handles

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



CARL CUMMINS
Lidded bowl 7" in Cherry Burl



CARL CUMMINS
Beaded bowl 5" in Koa from Hawaii



CARL CUMMINS
Lidded box 6" in Buckeye Burl



LEE FERGUSON
Holding up the bowl he made



RANDY TYNER

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



ROCKY KIMBLE
Homemade finish



ROCKY KIMBLE



TERRY TINGLE & JACK WEBB



JACK WEBB

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



LEE FERGUSON



MARK HARRIS
Cherry — Ants

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



MARK HARRIS
Cherry Burl



HOWARD KING



TERRY TIMGLE
Cherry Bowl

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



Finished fountain pens from Terry's March class.



Another pen from Terry's March class.



TIM TINGLE



TIM TINGLE

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



CARL CUMMINS



LYNN BASWELL



TERRY TINGLE all except top left which was done by **JACK WEBB**



JACK WEBB

Holding up a goblet his son made.

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!'

John Sowell turned a bowl for the March challenge, won by Lynn Baswell for April-2025 .



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 is off to a great start. We have turned in 127 pens. Please support this long-time project of our club. Pen kits and tubed blanks are available at every meeting.



LEADERSHIP

President: Terry Tingle
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