

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

JULY 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

JULY AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I want to thank Rocky Kimble for an excellent demo last month. We are so fortunate to have turners in our club who are willing to offer demos for us.

I hope each of you had a good 4th of July with your families. We are looking forward to Ron Herbster's demonstration this month. If I understand him, this will be a hand's on, participation type demo. Ron will be exploring ways to embellish pieces using a variety of techniques. There will not be a class in the afternoon at the Red Mountain Maker's class area. Air brushing cannot be done in RMM class area, so if you would like to stay after our meeting, and spend some time with Ron learning more about what he did in our meeting, that will be fine, as long as you are willing to help put up the lathe and other equipment, and the meeting area is not reserved by another group.

Next month is our summer cookout at Oak Mountain State Park. The pavilion we have reserved is located by the lake and the beach. It has been a few years since I have been there, but I always enjoyed fishing in the lake and hiking the trails! This is a great opportunity to meet our family members who don't attend our meetings. I am going to suggest that everyone provide the food for your own gang. In addition, maybe some of us can make some homemade ice cream and bring it. Jodean and I are going to make strawberry ice cream. I suggest we bring ice chests with ice to keep our ice cream from melting. There is a grill in the pavilion that we have reserved. And I'm sure it is ok if we bring our own grills. I'll have a sign-up sheet on the front table, if you would like to offer to bring paper goods, or drinks, plasticware, etc. We will be close to the beach area, so this would be a great time to bring your whole family for fun and games. There is a small entrance fee: Adults \$5.00, Seniors 65+ \$2.00, children 4-11 yrs old \$2.00, under 4 yrs old are free. All military, active or retired, and veterans are free.

On Saturday, September 6th the Tinglewood Festival will be held in Orr Park. Last year, Chris Henley represented the Alabama Woodturners Association by turning tops for hours. In the past, several of us were there to help do the demos but were unable to be there last year. I do plan to be there this year, and hope we have a booth representing our club, and folks who will join us and do demonstrations to help promote our club. If you do a demo, you will not have to stay all day. If you do come to do demonstrations, you will be welcome to bring some of your own items to sell. This used to be held on the second Saturday, so we are fortunate that it is being held on the first Saturday again this year. Even if you don't come to work at the booth, this is a fun event for the whole family.

I hope you are continuing to make pens for the troops, tops for Dr. Killian's kids, and Christmas ornaments for our fundraising tree at Children's Hospital. Those will need to be turned in by the end of October. As usual, we will meet this Friday to get set up for the meeting.

Terry

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RON HERBSTER WILL BE DOING OUR JULY DEMO

Ron Herbster will be doing the demo for July on embellishing with texturing tools, alcohol ink pens, and if time allows airbrushing and flocking. He has a variety of larger pieces that are already turned and ready to play with. Ron is planning to start with Christmas ornament bodies or tops. He will also have the two people he gave the texturing tools to show their techniques. If there is time after that he will let the group decide what to try next.



Examples of embellishments Ron has done.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

BRIAN LARSON	7/1
SCOTT ARNOLD	7/4
BRYCE HUNT	7/7
JIM GORRIE	7/12
BILL CALDERWOOD	7/15
GARY GARRIS	7/22

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 JUNE DEMO WITH ROCKY KIMBLE



HOMEMADE FINISH RECIPES FROM ROCKY

Hard Wax

1 part Linseed oil, 1 part beeswax
Very hard, like dry soap
Good as a final finish applied on the lathe
It's NOT easy to apply off the lathe, NEEDS heat to help melt

Paste Wax

2 parts Mineral oil, 1 part beeswax, 1 part turpentine
Recommended: add scented oils to mask to the turpentine smell
Very thin, like Vaseline
Similar to Howard's Feed N' Wax
Highly versatile and can easily be applied off the lathe

Abrasive Wax

2 parts Mineral oil, 1 part beeswax, a little Tripoli power
About 5 grams of Tripoli per 30 grams of beeswax (0.2 oz Tripoli: 1 oz beeswax)
Not too much Tripoli, the end wax shouldn't be too sandy and muddy
Used on the lathe at medium to high speed, provides a smooth surface, similar to 1000-2000 grit
Best used on hardwoods already sanded to 400-600 using sandpaper



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



Children's
of Alabama®

Every year AWA needs individuals to volunteer to make the topper for the current year's tree. You might just be the right person to take on that task for 2025. We receive very specific requirements from Children's, and we have a number of past topper makers who can offer advice. Below are photos of toppers from past years. **If you are interested in volunteering and want more information, please let us know ASAP.**



2015 AWA Tree Topper



2016 AWA Tree Topper



2017 AWA Tree Topper



2023 AWA Tree Topper



2019 AWA Tree Topper



2022 AWA
Tree Topper



2024 AWA Tree Topper

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

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



CHRIS HENLEY



BILL CALDERWOOD
Ikenana Vase



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



RANDY TYNER



MARTY COGEN




Pens for Troops
Sponsored by Woodcraft
Pen turned by member of Alabama Woodturners
M. Cogen

MARTY COGEN



SANDRA MCMILLAN

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



LEE FERGUSON
2 Views of the same bowl



TOM CROMER
2 Views of the same piece

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.

