

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

OCTOBER 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

OCTOBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Last month, Chris Henley provided an excellent demonstration of his angle tree topper. I think for most of our members, turning this would be a challenge. The jig which Chris made to create the flutes in the angel's robe was very creative and worked very well. I commend Chris for the courage it took for him to do his very first demo in front of the whole group. Many thanks to Rocky Kimble who "stood-in" for John Rhymes who was out of town.

This month, Carl Cummins will be providing our demo. telling us about the symposium he just returned from. And he will be demonstrating the "push cut". I look forward to his demo as well as seeing what everyone has turned this month.

We have secured our regular meeting for December at Gardendale Presbyterian Church, for our December Christmas meeting. Thanks to all who make our regular meetings run so smoothly. Big thanks to David Fancher who takes care of our "Pen for Troops" project, and for providing fresh donuts at every meeting. We don't mention it often, but keep in mind that we do have a library if you are interested in increasing your skill on a particular subject. Thanks for all who have been turning Christmas ornaments for our Children's Hospital fundraiser tree. Please keep up the good work!

The end of the year is approaching, and we will be having elections for new officers. So, please think about who you want for your officers and board members for next year. If you would be interested in serving as an officer (president, vice-president.....), or as a board member, please let us know.

We will be setting up on Friday at 10:00 a.m. That time seems to work the best for us. Terry

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OCTOBER DEMONSTRATOR WILL BE CARL CUMMINS

Highlights of the RMWS

by Carl Cummins

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to the Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium. This was my first time there, and I was impressed by the well-run event, fun activities, new demonstrators and demo topics. Trent Bosch is the primary organizer, and he started the events with an open house at his home/business where he teaches and makes tools in his impressive machine shop. Similar to other symposiums there were amazing works in the instant gallery plus vendors showing new tools and interesting woods. The concluding event of the weekend was the Long Shaving Contest, great fun! I will describe some of my experiences and discoveries.

Two turners who are featured at many symposiums are Stuart Batty and Ashley Harwood who are known for "The Push Cut" and the "40/40 Grind". I will demonstrate both of these. Also, I will offer a hands-on workshop that afternoon where you can try both the Push Cut and 40/40 Grind. Sign up at the Red Mountain Makers website (see link in email).



STUART BATTY
Push Cut



RMWS Demonstrators



TRENT BOSCH
Turning a sweet potato



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

TAMMY DENNY	10-2
MARTY COGEN	10-6
BILL CASH	10-10
PAM BURGESS	10-12
RON GRIFFIN	10-12
MICHELLE MARKEN	10-20
RON HERBSTER	10-23
HOWARD KING	10-26
MARK HARRIS	10-29
SANDRA MCMILLAN	10-31

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.

??CLUB PROJECT IDEA??

RC3

by Carl Cummins

The Riverchase Career Connection Academy (RC3) is a state-of-the-art career training facility for high-school students in the Hoover school system. It offers instruction leading to professional-level certification in seven fields including Construction, Automotive, Health Science, Culinary, and more. See https://hoover10.smartsiteshost.com/84046_2 Recently a member of the faculty at RC3 contacted AWA requesting help with a project. They are working to refurbish the carriage for an old cannon for display at The American Village in Montevallo. They are well equipped to do most of the work but don't have a lathe needed to make a round-wheel-hub. Dwight Hostetter has agreed to look at this project.

While visiting RC3 I also met the Director of the Construction Science Academy who asked me if we would be willing to give demonstrations in woodturning. The idea is that these would be short (approximately 30-minute) demonstrations simply to show a little of what woodturning is. There would be four demos for four groups in one day. A date has not been chosen, but early December is a possible time frame. I would like to do this, and I'm looking for other members of AWA who would like to help either give demos or move equipment. I figure we could take one of our Jet midi lathes for this, but I can't move it by myself. If you can help, please let me know.

PHOTO RECAP OF SEPTEMBER DEMO BY CHRIS HENLEY



Jig for the large angel wings



Jig for the large angel wings ready to use.



Base for the jig for the large angel wings



ROCKY KIMBLE, LEE FERGUSON, CHRIS HENLEY



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



**Children's
of Alabama®**

As of our July meeting we have 224 ornaments collected from ten members (no collections were made at our August picnic). To achieve our final goal of 300 ornaments we need:

- More members participating
- All participants producing as many ornaments as possible

Please bring all your ornaments. It seems that when everyone makes what they enjoy turning we have amazing variety.



Please remember to bring your ornaments to our next meeting on October 11th.. We need about 75 more ornaments toward our 2025 ornament goal of 300 ornaments!

February	40
March	0
April	31
May	6
June	3
July	108
August	0
Sept	36
October	0
November	0
	224

Participants	
Ron Herbster	
Chris Henley	
Bill Calderwood	
Carl Cummins	
Dwight Hostetter	
John Killion	
Mike Briscoe	
Gary Garris	
Sandra McMillan	
Jim Black	

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING

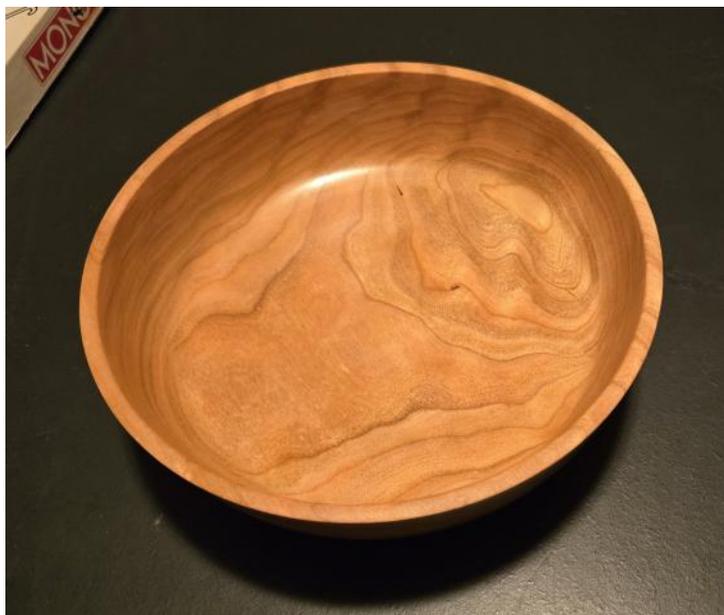


ROCKY KIMBLE



TERRY TINGLE

This blank is one Terry got from Ronnie Perkins



TERRY TINGLE

Cherry bowl for a friend



CHRIS HENLEY
ANGEL TREE TOPPER

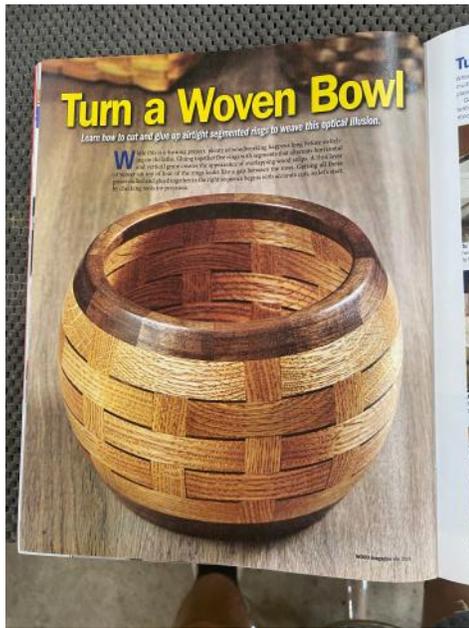
WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



DWIGHT HOSTETTER
Gonk ornament



DWIGHT HOSTETTER



DWIGHT HOSTETTER



CARL CUMMINS
Elm

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



CARL CUMMINS
Mesquite



CARL CUMMINS
Scoops

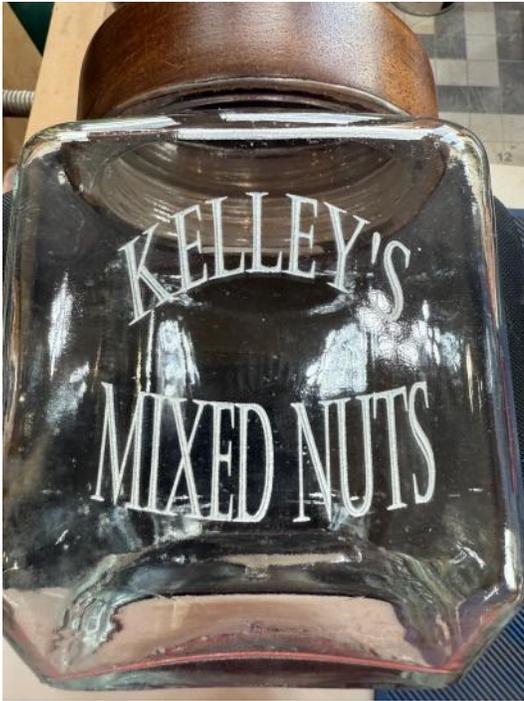


LEE FERGUSON
Silver maple bowl



LEE FERGUSON
Dyed Ash bowls

WHAT RANDY TYNER HAS BEEN DOING



Made this for my old college roommate. Inlaid the threaded lid into mahogany and katalox. Lasered the top. Etched the jar and highlighted etching with white acrylic paint



Cherry Burl with walnut and maple



This vase is huge. 15in High 12in diameter. It is made with wenge maple yellow heart and bloodwood. It will eventually become a wireless lamp (Rechargeable Remote controlled). It took me 52 hours and has 560 pieces

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



RANDY TYNER
Walnut Crotch Platter 15 inches
5 views of the platter



HOWARD KING

WHAT MAURICE CLABAUGH HAS BEEN DOING



Red Mountains Spalted Maple 17.5' W X 5,5" H



**Streaks 16.5" W x 4.875H
Spalted Maple**



Pink Streak Spalted Box Elder 17.5" W X 3.5" H

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!'

Mike Briscoe turned a bowl for the September challenge, won by Terry Tingle for October-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 pen total so far is 258. The number of pens turned in has slowed in the last few months. If you have a pen kit, please try to finish it and turn it in at our next meeting. If you're interested in supporting our troops with this program, pen kits and blanks already tubed 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