

# Alabama Woodturners Association



# Newsletter

NOVEMBER 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

## NOVEMBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of 2025. Carl presented an excellent demo on the push cut last month, and it was good to hear about his experience at the symposium.

This month, Chris Henley is offering a demo on how to make a chalice, and how to make a jam chuck jig similar to the rubber chunky. Next month, we will celebrate our annual Christmas/holiday party in our usual location, Gardendale Presbyterian Church.

Remember this is the last opportunity to turn in your Christmas ornaments for Children's Hospital.

We will meet at Hardware Park this Friday at 10:00 am to set up for Saturday's meeting. November is a good time to invite a friend to the club. Thanks to all the folks who head up our community projects. Those projects are important to keep up our non-profit status. Thanks to David Fancher for bringing donuts and taking care of our "Pen for Troops" project.

Terry

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# NOVEMBER DEMONSTRATOR WILL BE CHRIS HENLEY

Goblets, chalices, and various stemware can be a fun project for any turner. With a variety of sizes and shapes, these projects can serve as an introduction to turning all the way up to a complex display of skill, talent and beautiful wood.

This month's presenter, Chris Henley, fresh off the September demo, will be turning a chalice featuring his version of a supporting jig. Stemware is typically turning by hollowing the cup followed by crafting the stem. To stabilize the cup, some form of non-marring jig is typically attached to the tail-stock. This can be anything from a jam chuck to a tennis ball. Chris took the inspiration from another product and made his own – a cast silicon rubber cone.

The main difference between goblets and chalices is the level of detail. With proper support, a turner can add all manner of beads, coves, flats, and other details to the project to make a chalice stand out. One option Chris plans to incorporate into this demonstration is a captured ring. Also popular in stemware turning is to fuse wood and epoxy to create unique designs. With effort and an eye for embellishment, even a simple goblet can become a showpiece for any collection.



**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

BRUCE GIBSON	11-4
KEN WARR	11-22
DAVID HAUSEMAN	11-28
GREGG OLIVER	11-29
JOHN YEILDING	11-29

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

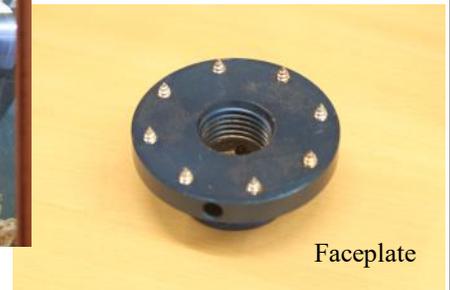
## Birthday Door Prize News

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 OCTOBER DEMO BY CARL CUMMINS



Faceplate



Trent Bosch Calipers



Demonstrating the push cut.



David Elsworth sharpening tool



Using the Ashley Harwood platform angle gauge.



Blue tape marks the wing angle for the 40-40 grind.



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



Children's  
of Alabama®

**Decorating Day:            11/9/2025**

**# of Members Contributing Ornaments:**  
**10**

**Ornaments Contributed by AWA Members:**  
**228/300**

Currently, ten AWA members have contributed 228 ornaments for the 2025 AWA Children's Christmas Tree. We have 30 ornaments contributed by the members of North Alabama Woodturners for a collective total of 258 ornaments.

A Children's donor will purchase the AWA tree to benefit Children's unrestricted income fund. Unrestricted income allows Children's to served children whose families are medically indigent.

If you have ornaments to contribute for 2025, our upcoming meeting on **November 8, 2025** is the last opportunity to contribute your ornaments.



**Please remember to bring your ornaments to our next meeting on November 8th.. We need about 42 more ornaments toward our 2025 ornament goal of 300 ornaments!**

Feburary	40
March	0
April	31
May	6
June	3
July	108
August	0
Sept	36
October	4
November	0
	<hr/>
	<b>228</b>
North Alabama	30

<b>Participants</b>	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**  
Rolling Pin



**CHRIS HENLEY**  
Wenge Bowl



**KEN WARR**  
Privet & Padauk

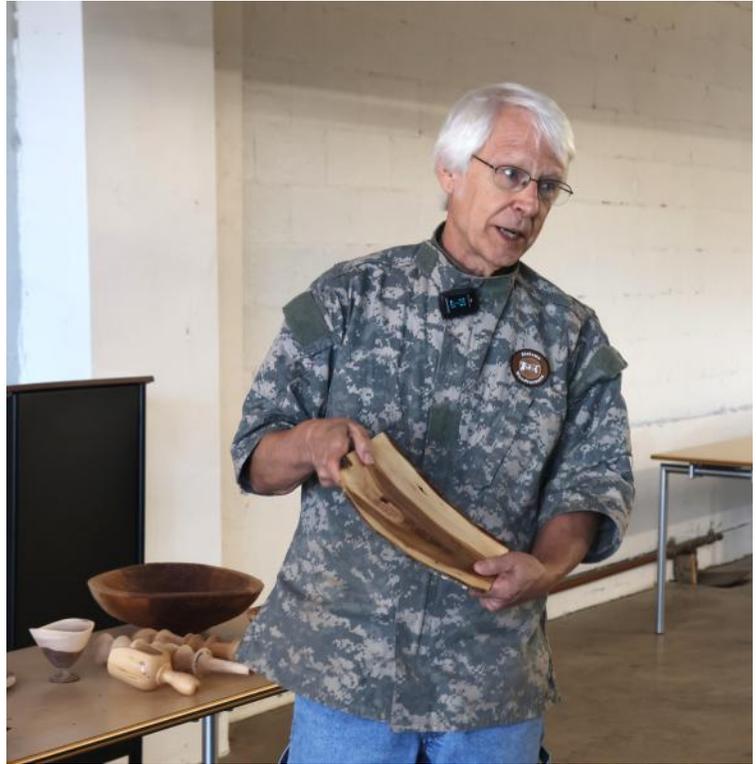


**KEN WARR**  
With his screw lid box

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**CARL CUMMINS**  
Yard art



**CARL CUMMINS**  
A piece he tried to duplicate from the symposium



**CARL CUMMINS**



**CARL CUMMINS**  
Antique style salt & pepper server

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



**CARL CUMMINS**  
Mesquite



**HOWARD KING**



**HOWARD KING**



**TIM NAGY**  
Oak

# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



TIM NAGY  
Elm



MARTY COGEN  
Pens, Pens and more pens



# WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



## RANDY TYNER

Finished this child's 3-legged stool 11in Diameter 11in high walnut and sycamore.  
Lasered name weight and birthday on bottom.



## RANDY TYNER

large natural edge spalted oak bowl

# 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](mailto: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!'



If you want to watch the video of Karl Harper turning here is the link!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_XGRjlvMDk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_XGRjlvMDk)

COPY & PASTE  
Also on the AWA website.



Terry Tingle turned a bowl for the October challenge, won by Rocky Kimble for November-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