

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

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
www.alabamawoodturners.com

SEPTEMBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I trust we are looking forward to gathering at Oak Mountain this coming weekend! We are in the Cedar Pavilion this year. It is located on the far end of Double Oak Lake, well past the beach area. We have some items already accounted for, but don't worry, there's still plenty that is needed. So far, we have hamburgers, hotdogs buns, baked beans, paper goods and ice. This leaves your options wide open to bring anything. Things we'll need are:

Condiments

Drinks

Chips

Any other side item

Desert of any kind

We suggest you bring enough of your family, this way we ensure plenty of food and not just a lot of potato salad.

We'll start gathering around 10am and start to grill about 11am, but you can get there at your leisure. There are picnic tables with the standard bench seating but you're welcome to bring your favorite chair for more comfort.

Cooper will be joining me and you can bring anyone you wish. I hope to see you all there!

Lee F

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IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Note - Page 1

This months information - Page 2

This months Birthday's - Page 2

Last months recap - Page 3

Children's Hospital Christmas Tree - Page 4

What People Are Doing - Pages 5 - 11

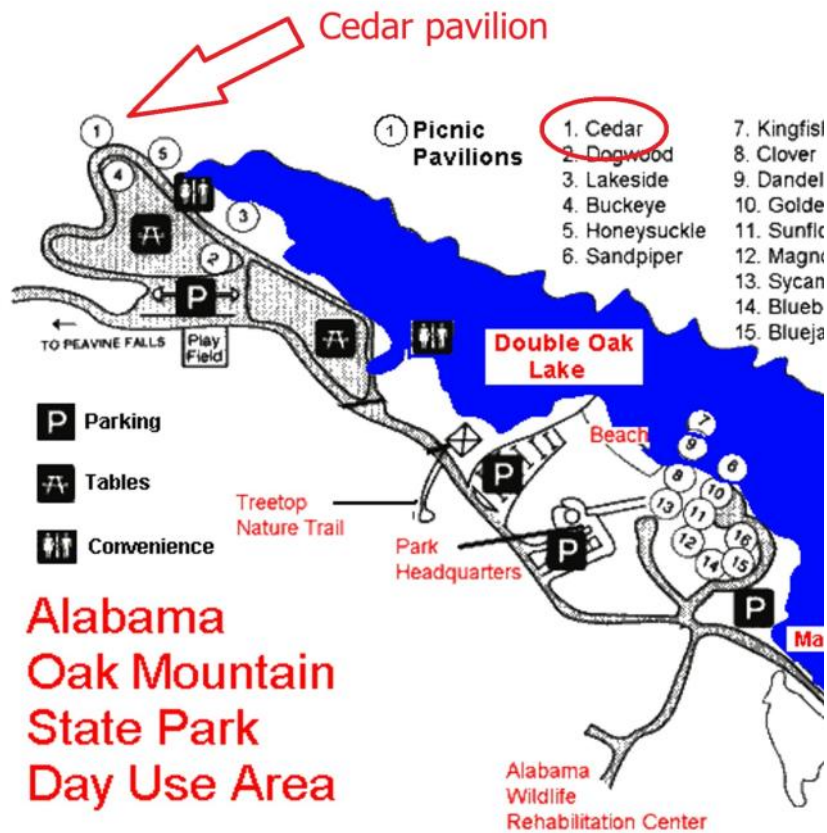
Karl Harper Challenge - Page 13

Special Articles

Library Information
Page 12

Turn for the Toops
Page 13

SEPTEMBER COOK-OUT



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

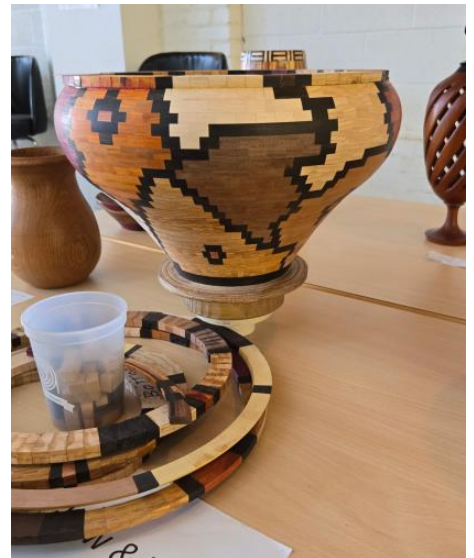
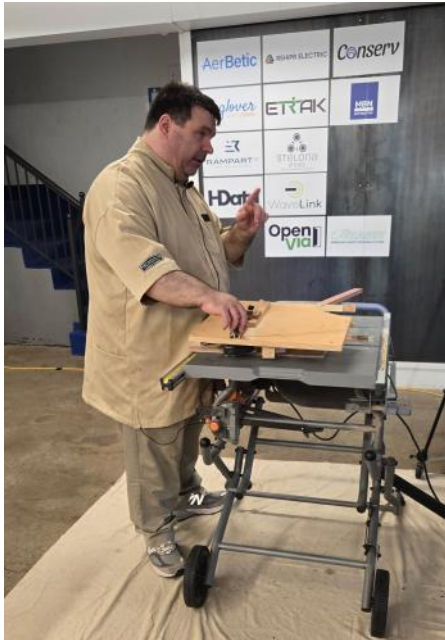
JERRY HANCHEY	9/1
RANDY TYNER	9/7
JAMES ELDER	9/9
MARTY WATKINS	9/13

13: Dues MUST be CURRENT to be included in the birthday list.

NEW MEMBERS

Clint Thompson Weaver

AUGUST DEMO WITH RON HERBSTER AND CHRIS HENLEY



President's Challenge:

A challenge is given each month of an item to turn before the next meeting. At the next meeting, everyone brings their version of the item for a bit of show and tell.

- Jan -
- Feb - Carvers Mallet
- March - Finial
- April - Item assembled from multiple turned items
- May - Live Edge Anything
- June - Duplicate Item
- July - Hollow Form
- August - Rolling Pin
- September - Ornaments**
- November - Cup/Goblet



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



Children's
of Alabama®

**Please bring your ornaments to the meeting.
We will need about 300 ornaments for the 2026 tree at Children's Hospital.**

Children's Hospital AWA Christmas Ornament Project

Collecting turned Christmas Ornaments now!
Don't forget to bring your turned ornaments to the meeting.

Percent Ornaments Remaining to Collect

57%

300 Ornaments Needed

(last meeting to collect – October 2026)

Months Lapsed 8

Months Remaining 2

Percent of Time to Collect

20%

Note #1: Many thanks to Noah Lohan for volunteering to make the 2026 tree topper!

Note # 2: We **WILL** collect ornaments at our picnic at Oak Mountain State Park.

As we get closer to our last opportunity to gather ornaments, it is very important that we have a current count.



JERRY HANCHEY



AUGUST DONATIONS

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



RON HERBSTER



RON HERBSTER
Snake in the snake bowl



LYNN BASWELL



LYNN BASWELL

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



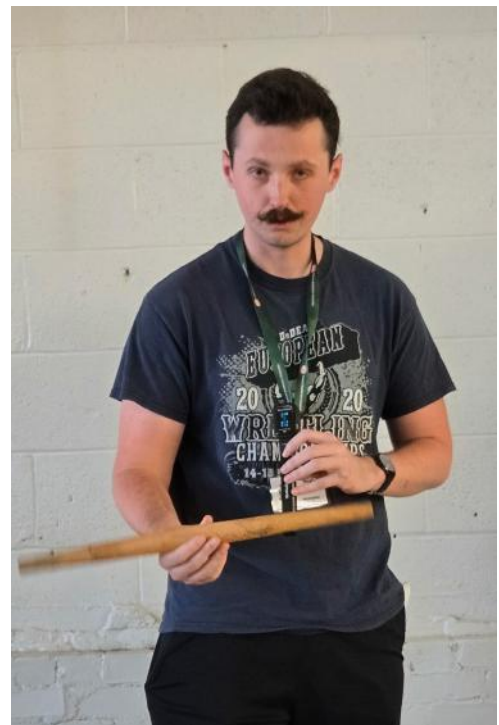
DWIGHT HOSTETTER
Segmented Rolling Pin
President's Challenge



HOWARD KING
Rolling Pin
President's Challenge



CARL CUMMINS
Rolling Pin
President's Challenge



NOAH LOHAN
Rolling Pin
President's Challenge

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



DWIGHT HOSTETTER
Segmented Bowl



HOWARD KING



HOWARD KING



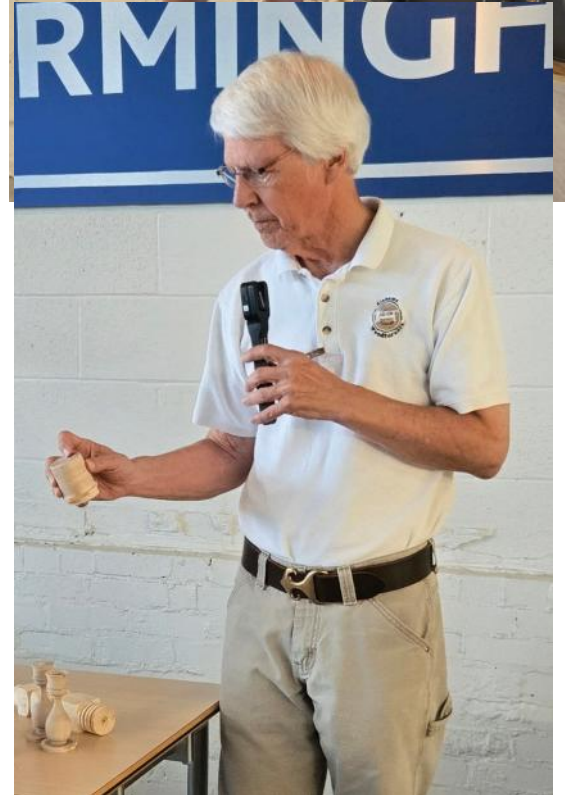
DWIGHT HOSTETTER

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



GARY CROSSON
Bowl from Board
Purpleheart, Walnut & Rosewood

GARY CROSSON



CARL CUMMINS

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



CARL CUMMINS
Lidded bowl from Honey Locust
provided by Ron Herbster



CARL CUMMINS
Ornaments made from construction 2x4s.
Those on the left are in the style of Mark
Silay and on the right in the
style of Hal Simmons.



CARL CUMMINS
Ornaments made from
Elm, Toona Sinensis, Padauk



GARY CROSSON
Purpleheart Platter

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



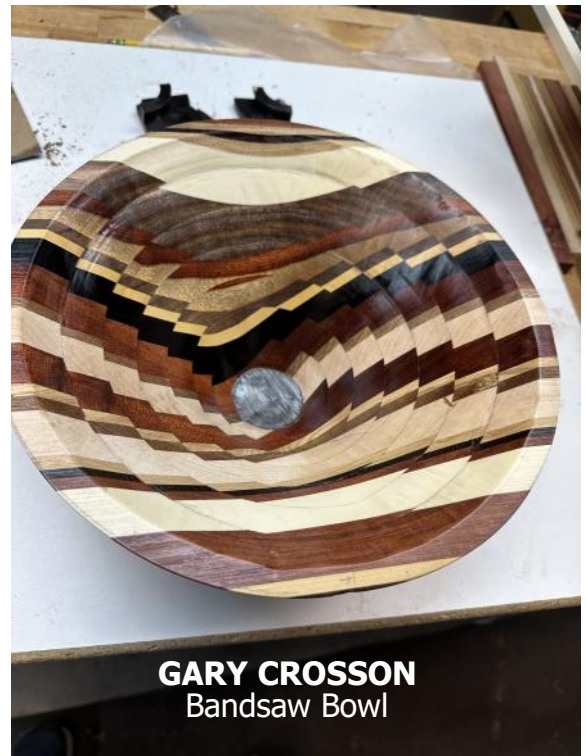
RANDY TYNER
Cherry burl vase with slanted spout



NORRIS JACKMAN
I finally stopped procrastinating last week and made the rings that my son wanted.



RANDY TYNER
Odd shaped natural edge bowl



GARY CROSSON
Bandsaw Bowl

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



HOWARD KING

This is my display of turned pieces in the gallery at the recent SWAT (Southwest Artist Turners) woodturner's symposium in Waco, TX.



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!'

Lee Ferguson turned a natural edge bowl.

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:

Pen for Troops is doing well. At the last meeting 30 pens were turned in. A new pen style that is becoming popular is a slime line pen with a 308 cartridge for the top. Hoover Tactical Firearms has been kind enough to supply us with these. If you're interested come by the table at the meeting to get some.

Lee Beadles, a longtime member of the club has literally made 1000 of pens for Pen for Troops. He and his wife recently moved to Kansas. I'm sorry to say that his wife has recently passed. I know your thoughts and prayers are with Lee and his family



LEADERSHIP

President: Lee Ferguson
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Secretary: John Rhymes
Treasurer: Carl Cummins
Board: Scott Arnold

Board: Rocky Kimble
Librarian: Jane Rabey
Training: Under Development
Newsletter: Michelle Marken
Webmaster: Carl Cummins