Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

NOVEMBER 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

NOVEMBER AWA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

It's turkey time! It's that time of the year when we can look forward to three things: family and friends, good food, and trying to finish up last-minute holiday projects. If it feels like it's been a long time since we've seen each other, it's because it has been. A lot has taken place since we last met in September. The hurricane was minimally impactful for us here in Birmingham, but it's always better to err on the side of caution.

Chris Suhre has agreed to reschedule his pole lathe demo, so we'll still get to see how our craft has evolved over its long history. Did y'all know that it was the development of the metal lathe in the 1700s that helped drive the Industrial Revolution through precise, repeatable machining? All that history, and I still can't make two things match!

Our demonstrator this month certainly can. Get ready for Annie Ogg's demonstration of a reproduction lidded vessel based on an American antique, complete with an intricate twist... in miniature! She will focus on 18th- and 19th-century tobacco jars and tea caddies, highlighting what was valued by early Americans. She will also cover tool selection, fine tool control, and the specialized gear she uses to turn at that scale.

Lee F

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NOVEMBER DEMO IS WITH ANNIE OGG

Annies bio:

"An Artisan in the International Guild of Miniature Artisans and a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, I am a woodturner specializing in miniatures, specifically 18th and 19th century replicas in a scale of one inch to one foot.

I teach woodturning at UNC Asheville in SkillSet, a community outreach program that began in 2018 as a shop class for girls and now expands its reach to all members of the community. I also teach classes at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC and several Woodcraft stores. I have demonstrated all over the United States including the annual symposium hosted by the Southwest Association of Woodturners (SWAT), and online for the International Guild of Miniature Artisans."







To see more photos of Annie's work you may visit her website at ...https://www.annieswoodturning.com/

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NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DAVID	HAUSEMAN	11-28
GREG	OLIVER	11-29
JOHN	YEILDING	11-29

NEW MEMBERS

BRAD RICHARDS

SEPTEMBER CLUB OUTING AT OAK MOUNTIAN STATE PARK

There was no meeting in October due to predicted weather.

If anyone has pictures that were taken at the cook out please send them in and I will update the newsletter.

MORE PICTURES OF THE TREE AT CHILDREN'S OF ALABAMA









Karl Harper 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
October - Ornaments
November - Cup/Goblet

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

Children's Hospital AWA Christmas Ornament Project



2026 AWA Tree with more than 325 ornaments

MANY THANKS FOR THE ORNAMENTS

RON HERBSTER,

DWIGHT HOSTETTER,

BRIAN LARSON,

SANDRA McMILLAN,

JERRY HANCHEY,

CHRIS HENLEY,

MAURICE CLABOUGH,

CARL CUMMINS

MIKE BRISCOE,

JOE PATRANKA
JIM BLACK



Bill West Family for decorating the AWA Children's Christmas Tree again this year. (West Family with Sandra in front of tree)

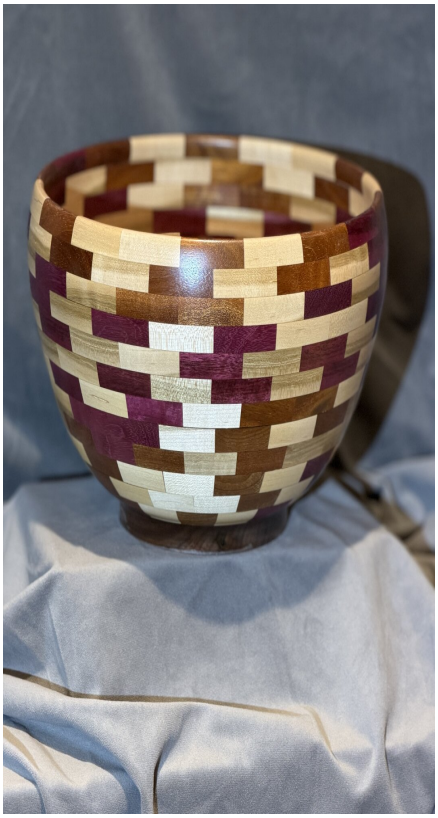


Thank you Noah Lohan for the tree topper.

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING



CARL CUMMINS
at Alabama Craft Guild show



JOE PETRANKA
First 18 segment bowl
"Confusion"



TERRY TINGLE
These are all out of Bacote

WHAT EVERYONE IS DOING




BRIAN LARSON
Here is a small urchin box I recently made





TERRENCE JAMES
Segmented olive wood kitchen utensil canister

WHAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING



TERRY TINGLE

Small bowl



RANDY TYNER





RANDY TYNER

WHAT MARK HARRIS HAS BEEN DOING



Carolina Cherry Laurel 4



Monkey Puzzle 1



Cherry Laurel 1

Just a few of the pieces I've done since last submission. Really loving the Monkey Puzzle.



Embers Within



Peruvian Pepper Burl 1



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.

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.

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

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;

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.





LEADERSHIP

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

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