

Alabama Woodturners Association



Newsletter

November 2018

A member of the American Association of Woodturners
Meeting location: Homewood Senior Center, 816 Oak Grove Rd., Homewood, AL 35209
Meeting time: The second Saturday of each month at 9 am
www.alabamawoodturners.com

November Demo ~ Terry Thurmond

From Carl: I am pleased to announce that Terry Thurmond will be our guest demonstrator at our November meeting. Many of you know Terry from Woodcraft. He will demonstrate proficient use of carbide tools including turning between centers and facegrain/bowl turning. Unfortunately I don't have photos to include here, but we should have some in our next newsletter. He provided this statement:

My name is Terry Thurmond, and I deeply appreciate the opportunity to be with you all. I spent my career life in the furniture industry, as first, a store owner and then the majority of years as a road rep. for four different companies - Ethan Allen, Pennsylvania House, La-Z-Boy and Bassett. Around the later 1980s, I was seeking a simple Shaker style table for the breakfast area in our home; being in the business, I didn't think this should have been too difficult, but the mission was thwarted at every step.

Having been exposed to good furniture, I knew construction principles, so I set out to build one. I completed a table in about a month with a solid maple top, solid aprons, Shaker tapered legs with mortise and tenon joinery. I am still proud of that table. And you know what happened from there...woodworking became a hobby for the rest of my life.

I didn't get into turning during those years until starting at Woodcraft in 2010. At that time, Jay (manager) instructed the two most junior staff members to make a sample of each pen we carried in the Woodcraft line. I began turning somewhat under duress, but very quickly fell in love with it. Pens, bowls, candlesticks, ice cream scoops, and everything else became my passion; I don't think I made anything square for at least a year and a half.

I've never considered myself a "master" turner, but I have made things of which I am proud, and everybody I had on my Christmas list has gotten a pen, a bowl, whatever I was making that year.

My purpose in being here is to make you all familiar with the carbide turning tools. They can't do every task, but they're probably perfect for 90 to 95% of turning work. Importantly, they place in your hands high quality tools which don't require the use of a complete set of lathe sharpening tools - usually around \$250 to \$300 - and allow a new turner to begin work immediately without the challenges of many traditional turning tools. One simply replaces the cutters after 20 hours of exposure in turning for an average cost of \$16.

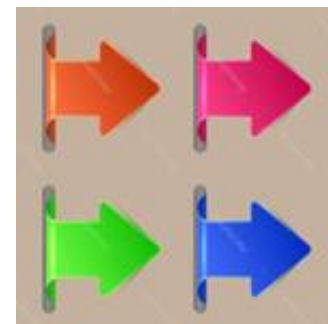
The carbide tools are somewhat like soldiers. The infantry can perform many tasks; it's nice to have around the air force, the artillery, the tanks, the submarines, and so on, but each of these areas has a specific purpose unlike the poor infantry soldier who is expected to do everything. Carbide tools are the infantry.

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Turn
The
Page
Here!

October Meeting Revisited

by Carl Cummins

At the October meeting our attendance was lower than usual. Someone explained to me that there were some regional sporting events that day. You probably know more about that than me. ;) Those not in attendance missed an excellent presentation by John Jackman demonstrating a natural edge bowl with a clear explanation of the process and helpful tips for dealing with typical trouble spots. He also led the afternoon class where participants turned a natural edge bowl for themselves.



We concluded Turn For Troops 2018. Johnny Carpenter displayed all the pens he had received. (see photo). Together we turned and donated 165 pens. These will go to US armed services men and women on active duty or in recovery.



We received an additional 44 ornaments, but we are still well short of the goal of 300. There is still time for you to turn more and bring them to the next meeting. Our Christmas tree at Children's Hospital will be decorated November 4th.

The theme for the President's Challenge was "Something Old, Something New." Dwight Hostetter showed his first segmented vase which he made in 1983! Of course his new pieces are even more impressive.

My first pieces are obvious beginner attempts, and although not great, at least my new pieces show some improvement. Other first pieces, such as those by Bill Calderwood and Ron Herbster (new members this year) were much nicer than mine, so those guys are off to a running start.



The Karl Harper Challenge prize was provided by Buddy Finch. It was a pen and letter opener made from wood from a church pew that was in a 16th century mission church. I won the challenge so I will provide the challenge prize next month.



Our November meeting is moving to Nov 3rd due to planned construction on Nov 10th at the Homewood Senior Center parking lot. Please update your calendar.

Hey! Wanna learn more about turning? Or help someone else learn more about turning?

Mentoring is available Saturday afternoons in the Craft Room at the Homewood Senior Center. Sessions start one hour after the demonstration ends or 1 pm.

AWA owns lathes, chucks and tools to use in class, but you may also bring your own.

If you are interested in participating either as a student or a mentor, Phil would love to talk to you and sign you up!

Phil Fortmeyer - (205) 612-7496

REMINDER: Lathe Demo Cleanup Volunteers for September, October and November:

Lynn Baswell

David Fancher (October and November)

Please plan accordingly!

Election Time 2018 by Carl Cummins

We will hold our annual election to fill offices for 2019 at our December meeting. I hope you are planning to attend. Of course that is the same time as our holiday party, a highlight of the year.

Jean Cline and Amy Benefield will conclude their multi-year services as Secretary and also Newsletter Editor as of December. It is essential that we fill these positions. Note these are two separate positions so we need at least one person for each. Jean and Amy have offered to help train those new to the roles, so no reason to be afraid to try.

I will offer my name for re-election as President. Similarly Gary Hales is in for Vice President and Jennifer Smith for Treasurer. However any member is welcome to nominate another candidate including himself/herself for these offices.

We will also elect Board members. The role is to advise and assist officers in running the AWA.

Your participation is essential. Remember if no one steps up to do a job then it doesn't get done.

December Meeting Preview by Carl Cummins

On December 8th we will hold our traditional holiday party. The club will provide meats and drinks. Members are encouraged to bring side dishes or desserts. I will communicate via email to find out what everyone may bring.

As mentioned elsewhere this is the time for our annual election of officers and board members. The more participation the better.

We will continue another tradition: a gift exchange. Bring a gift (hopefully something you have made) and get a gift.

New for us this year we will hold an auction where you may bid on pieces donated by members and guest demonstrators. **All members are invited to donate pieces for this event. All proceeds will go toward bringing out-of-town demonstrators next year.** If you can bring your donations to the November meeting then I can include photos in the newsletter.

As you know we acquired a new Jet 1220VS lathe back in January for our classroom, replacing one of the Rikon lathes. Phil Fortmeyer has gone over the Rikon to ensure that it is in fine working order, and it will be offered in the auction.

We will award gift certificates according to participation in our Christmas tree ornament effort and to the winner of the President's Challenge.

Another highlight at this meeting will be drawings for the grand prizes of this year's raffle. Should be exciting!

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

The last topic for this year is "Newly turned gift." Here you may do any project you like with the stipulation that it be recently turned by you and intended as a gift, or at least nice enough to be a gift. If you don't have anyone in particular in mind to give it to, then you might consider giving it to the club. AWA will hold an auction in December featuring items donated by members and guest demonstrators.

This is the last chance to bring in make-up pieces on the topics from previous months. They will count toward the annual total as well. We will award a prize based on participation.

Have fun and stay safe!

- Carl

March - Platter, plate, etc.

April - Calabash bowl or other curved bottom no foot

May - Hollow form any size

June - Salad bowl, small or large

July - Art, non-functional piece

August - Scoop

September - Two or more ornaments in different styles

October - Something Old, Something New

November - Newly turned gift



Myra Harper - First Pepper Mill

Myra Harper



Carl Cummins - New-Cherry & Mahogany



Howard King



Bill Calderwood



Carl Cummins - Old-Dowels; New-Privet



Carl Cummins - Old-Poplar; New-Holly & Mahogany



Dwight Hostetter - Segmented Turning 1980-2018



October Turn and Tell Highlights



Bill Calderwood



Howard King



Maurice Clabaugh



Dwight Hostetter



Maurice Clabaugh



Myra Harper



Myra Harper



Ron Herbster



Ron Herbster



Brent Clayton



Howard King



Bill Calderwood



Howard King



John Sowell



Maurice Clabaugh



Myra Harper



James Files



Dwight Hostetter

AWA November Birthdays

IT'S MY
BIRTHDAY
MONTH!
I am now accepting
birthday
dinners, lunches and gifts.
ALL MONTH LONG

Roland Nelson - November 3 Bruce Gibson - November 4
Chuck Smith - November 6 Tom Palmer - November 7
Moody Davis - November 8 Lee Michaels - November 9
Mike Devers - November 12 John Johnson - November 19
Justin Miller - November 23 Sheila Porter - November 27
Gregg Oliver - November 29

Congratulations to **Ron Herbster** for winning the birthday door prize for the month of October!

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!

Congratulations to our raffle and door prize winners for the October meeting!
Maurice Clabaugh, Bruce Gibson, Myra Harper and Randall Lazenby

Raffle Ticket Prize News

Bring an item to donate and buy raffle tickets. We'll raffle the items donated and all of the tickets will go into the pot for a **BIG** prize to be given away at the Christmas party in December! The **BIG** prize for 2017 was a Scholarship to attend a class at Arrowmont! Smaller prizes were a set of tools and a chuck.

Soooo...what do you donate? How about a tool, jig, turned item, wood blank, etc. If you've been to the last several meetings, you probably saw some of the items that were donated for the raffle. That should give you a pretty good idea. Use your imagination ...within reason, of course! As a bonus, if you bring donations, you'll get one additional raffle ticket for each item!

The success of this raffle depends on your willingness to donate nice items and also to buy raffle tickets.

\$1 each~~~~~\$5 for 6 tickets~~~~~\$10 for 13 tickets

More money = more tickets!!! See Amy for details!

If you don't think you are an expert turner, look at any of the newsletters from other clubs. You will see that your turnings are equal to anything out there. Your turned items **ARE** 'good enough'.

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!'

At right is the piece brought by the October challenger, **Buddy Finch**. Our November challenger is **Carl Cummins**.



AWA Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand 10/1/2018: (checking account plus \$250.00 cash on hand with Jennifer)		\$9,187.05
Expenditures since 7/24/2018 report:		
Flip Chart	\$36.50	
August/September donuts	\$83.40	
Coffee Supplies	<u>\$29.88</u>	\$149.78
Income since 7/24/2018 report:		
August/September dues	\$125.00	
August coffee	\$28.00	
August raffle	\$151.00	
September Coffee	<u>\$28.00</u>	\$568.00



UPCOMING MEETINGS!

December-Christmas Party!

January-TBD

February-TBD

The following positions are coming available effective with the January 2019 meeting:

- Newsletter Editor
- Meeting Greeter
- Attendance Keeper
- Raffle Ticket Sellers/Handlers
- Membership List Coordinators
- Secretary
- Assistant Treasurer when Treasurer is not available
- Other tasks as requested to make AWA run smoothly

If one or more of these sound interesting to you, please talk to Carl or one of the other AWA Board Members.

