



AWA Newsletter



A member of the American Association of Woodturners

Location: Homewood Senior Center at 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL 35209
 Web Site: www.alabamawoodturners.com

Coming Events

- Feb 9 – Lawrence Thomas
- Mar 8 – Maurice Clabaugh
- Apr 12 – Worth Barham
- May 10 – Open
- Jun 14 – Tony Rae (Ireland)

President's Message

We had a very good meeting in January to start off the New Year. We had two new members join the AWA: Robert Fondren and Terry Harris. We had several visitors as well. Total attendance was over 70, a good turnout. Membership renewals were heavy and AWA treasurer Norris Jackman was busy keeping score.



The program for January was Andy Woodard who showed how he makes platters. He is a dentist from the Atlanta area who can fill teeth or turn a bowl! Andy did a great job with the program and did a hands-on workshop in the afternoon after the morning program. Thanks to Andy and to Bruce Gibson for lining up the program.

The February program will be our own Larry Thomas talking about finishing wood. Larry is an excellent woodturner and his finishes are fantastic! Larry is kinda handicapped with his turning these days since his wife Shirley dislocated his shoulder. She told him to shut up and he thought she said stand up! He claims he fell from a tree but I know he has better sense than to fall out of a tree. (?) Larry always gives an entertaining and informative program and I am looking forward to it.

I think its raffle time again. Barron Bartlett is our raffle master and will be announcing a raffle starting this month. Since Jerry and Judy Osmundson win most of the drawings around here we need to ask them what they want to win this time. Barron will fill us in at the meeting.

As we announced at the January meeting, we will be buying a drum of Anchor Seal wax sealer to protect your stored wood from cracking or rotting. We will sell it for what it costs the club to the even dollar to make the money changing easier. Kevin Felderhoff will coordinate the sale and Pat Connell will take receipt of the drum when it is shipped to us. The sale is planned for the April meeting so save a jug or two for your wax sealer. Last year the cost was \$7.00 per gallon compared to about \$20 retail.

We held the first board meeting of 2008 after the January AWA meeting. The first item was a brief financial review. We had over \$5,000 in the bank at year's end, about what we had this time a year ago. Annual dues will build that back up but we will be watching the "budget" to try to preserve resources for other expenses like demonstrators and workshops. Generally the training and workshops pay for themselves. We also agreed to add the training director (Will Pate) as a board position.

Officers of AWA

- President** – Dave Chanslor
- Vice President** – Bruce Gibson
- Secretary** – Richard Serviss
- Treasurer** – Norris Jackman
- Directors:** Don Blankenship, Kevin Fielderhoff, Phillip Fortmeyer, Bill Hubbard, Jerry Osmundson, Judy Osmundson, Will Pate and Lee Taylor
- Web Master** – Robert Scheitlin
- Training** – Will Pate
- Newsletter Editor** – Jerry Hanchev

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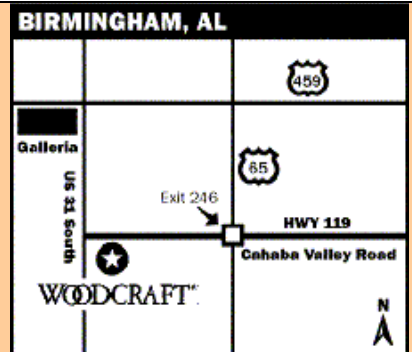
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 Thursday: 9 am – 9 pm
 Saturday: 9 am – 6 pm
 Sunday: noon – 5 pm



Go by and see Tom and the guys!!

LOTS OF ENTRIES FOR JAN COMPETITION

Our in-house competition drew a lot of entries this month. As usual, there were the three categories for beginner, intermediate and advanced entries. Bill Hubbard did announce there will be a new category beginning next month for segmented or enhanced turnings (meaning carved, textured, pierced or burned.) I'm sure there will be some further refinements on the rules as the year progresses. The following turners were awarded first, second or third place ribbons in each category.

In the ADVANCED category;

1st place – Nevin Newton with a segmented piece named “You Got Your Ears On?” Over nine hundred pieces in this work. See the illustration.

2nd place – Mark Couto with a square winged bowl

3rd place – Bill Hubbard with a hollow vessel topped with a very well done finial (Move over Cindy Drozda)

In the INTERMEDIATE category;

1st place – Tom Irby with a cherry bowl using inlaid.

2nd place – Also Tom Irby with a large poplar bowl again with inlaid

3rd place – Brian Simmons with a unique design of a bowl in a log.

The objective was to show where a bowl comes from.

In the BEGINNER category

1st place – Earl Robinson with a spalted hackberry toothpick holder.

2nd place – Jerry Hanchey with a spalted maple hollow vessel with a threaded finial shaped lid.

3rd place – Sherri Simpson with a walnut pen.



JOHN C. CAMPBELL FOLK SCHOOL CLASS

November 4-10, 2007 by **Troy Stroud**

I was fortunate to win the Gift Certificate and cash at the Alabama Woodturners Association raffle to attend the John C. Campbell Folk School (JCCFS). Naturally, I took a woodturning course which was taught by Robert C. (Bobby) Clemons with Charles Watson as Assistant Instructor. It was a great class and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Bobby Clemons said to tell all his friends in Alabama hello. (*editors note: Bobby is from Pikeville TN and has served as President and Board Member of the AAW*)

The JCCFS has a sprawling, rustic campus in Brasstown, N.C. and offers numerous classes on a wide variety of subjects. There were approximately twelve classes in session the week I was there ranging from basketry to woodturning. Each day began with a thirty-minute morning walk at 7:15 followed by morningsong. Morningsong was an interesting event featuring story tellers and musicians. Breakfast was promptly at 8:15 with classes beginning at 9:00, breaking at 12:15 for lunch. All meals were served family style and the food was very good. Class resumed until 4:30 with supper served at 6:00. Woodturners returned to class around 7:00 for another couple of hours of work. There were also various demonstrations and events each evening at 7:00 if we chose not to return for extra instruction.

The woodturning studio is a fairly new building and is well-equipped with about a dozen Powermatic 3520B lathes. The lathes are sold each year and replaced with new ones. The class I took was entitled “Firewood to Fine Art” and was limited to bowl turning. Instruction started with a tool sharpening session that concluded with everyone sharpening their bowl gouges, etc. The remainder of that day and most of the next was spent turning shallow bowls from poplar. Each session during the week was preceded by a detailed demonstration of bowl turning with the type of wood we planned to use. We then moved into green wood bowl turning for a couple of days. Bobby Clemons had us take the green wood bowls to completion so we would know how to finish them. We then turned a natural edge bowl from a half section of a small log.



John C Campbell turning studio



One side of studio

Toward the end of the week everyone was given a dry bowl that Bobby Clemons had rough-turned from green wood so we could take them to completion and see how the finished result would look. Unfortunately, I got mine too thin near the bottom and wound up with a two-part bowl!

There was also a session on sanding and finishing bowls as well as on reading the grain and cutting bowl blanks from green wood with a chain saw. On Friday evening a joint closing ceremony was held with each class demonstrating examples of their work.

I had roughed out a few bowls before attending the class and had the enlightening experience of learning all the things I had done wrong. Fortunately, most of them are not of bowl-ending significance. Bobby Clemons "stayed on my case" big time about pushing the turning tool too hard into the wood. I now know how it is supposed to be

done, even though I still need a lot of practice. Bobby Clemons is an excellent instructor. Overall, the week at JCCFS was a very good experience and one I would highly recommend.

Editor's comment – Thanks to Troy for sharing his week at Campbell. It sounds as if he benefited from his class as we all can do given the right instruction. Maybe this year I'll be the lucky winner (if it's not Jerry or Judy Osmundson.)

TRAINING REPORT – Will Pate

The Hands-on workshops kicked off with Andy Woodard (our demonstrator) doing the Jan class. Platters were made from dry 5/4 hard maple. Buddy Finch surprised us all by volunteering his platter to receive additional edge decorations. The edge of platter was first painted with black gesso and allowed to dry. A small high speed ball end mill was used to carve dots in a random pattern in the painted area to complete the decoration. (It turned out great.)

The new classes are filling up fast. Sign-up sheets will be available at each club meeting for the classes listed, or you can call me at (205) 907-0638, 8am to 8pm, to check class availability. Even if the sign-up sheets are full, I call the week before the class to see if there are going to be any no-shows. Not everyone who signs up can attend, so if you are interested please put your name on the list, you still could make the class...

☞ NOTE: Some class dates may change when we get out of town demonstrators and they are asked to have a hands-on class. ☞

2008 HANDS-ON CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Subject	Instructor	Cost
9 Feb	Goblet – limit 6	Phil Duffy	\$25.00
8 Mar	Natural Edge Bowl – limit 6	Maurice Clabaugh	\$25.00
12 Apr	How to Sharpen Your Tools – limit 8	Pat Johnson	\$25.00
12 Apr	Basic Segmented Construction – limit 4	Nevin Newton	\$25.00
10 May	Hollow vessels – limit 6	Will Pate	\$25.00

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In 2008, we plan to have a couple of hands-on workshops with pros as we did in 2007. Our initial contacts have not been successful but we will keep looking for the quality we had in our workshops in 2007. We will keep you posted as training is a high priority for AWA. Will and Phil plan to continue training sessions every month in 2008. Thanks for all the hard work guys!

A reminder: The eighth annual Southern States Symposium will be held April 25-27 at Georgia Mountains Center, Gainesville, GA and we are a sponsor. The headline turners for this event are John Mascoll (Florida), Graeme Priddle (New Zealand), Avelino Samuel (St. John VI) and Betty Scarpino (Indianapolis). One of the guest turners will be our own Wilford Bickel. Plan to go! Don Blankenship and others will coordinate our support team again this year to see that we provide support for the demo room that we sponsor.