

This is the April 2025 edition of the Atlanta Woodturners Guild Newsletter. To submit an article or provide feedback for the newsletter, send to Tom Biehl at htbiehl@att.net. I am back as Newsletter Editor. Angela Sun did a spectacular job of bringing you all the AWG News. Thank you, Angela.

The Guild

The Atlanta Woodturners Guild (AWG) was established to foster a supportive and collaborative community for woodturners across the metro Atlanta area.

Our Guild meets monthly, providing members with an opportunity to showcase their craftsmanship through the instant gallery and to engage with others in solving challenges and sharing insights. Whether you're a seasoned woodturner or just starting out, these gatherings are a valuable space to ask questions, exchange ideas, and build connections.

Each meeting features a demonstration led by either internationally renowned professional turners or talented members of our own Guild. These sessions offer a unique chance to observe expert techniques, gain practical knowledge, and interact with skilled practitioners.

Additionally, the AWG maintains a comprehensive library filled with woodturning DVDs and books, available for members to rent at a nominal fee. Stay updated on Guild activities and upcoming events through our newsletter and website.

Anyone with an interest in woodturning is encouraged to join us at our monthly meetings and explore what the Guild has to offer.

Our meeting location is Woodcraft Atlanta, 8560 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Suite 115, Alpharetta, GA 30022 on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 6:30 - 8:45 PM.

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



Greetings Club Members! As I am writing this, rain has begun to fall and thankfully the record high pollen is washing off my deck. One less chore for me to do and more time to spend in the shop. Honestly, I have been spending a lot less time in my shop than I would like. Appears there are a million things to do and not enough time to get them all done. Or is my time management lacking? Do I spend too much time on things that do not matter and not enough helping someone in need or doing what I'm passionate about while I still can? I would like to

hear from you and find out how you who are successful balancing the things that are important to you with what needs to be done do it (katiepnavarro@gmail.com).

TO EVERYTHING TURN, TURN, TURN!

Katie Navarro

Katie's Quote of the Month *Don't wait until you're confident to show up. Show up until you're confident. (Tom adds – and stay)*

And now the Second Quarter Vice President' Challenge from Larry Nelms:

The vice president's challenge for this quarter will be to turn a rolling pin. It can be either a French or Traditional Rolling Pin. One entry per person and all entries must be unsigned and in a paper bag. Prizes are 1st place \$75, 2nd place \$50, and 3rd place \$25. Once again, the impartial staff at Woodcraft will be judging the competition. We had really great participation in the last challenge, and I hope to increase our numbers in this one. All entries are due at the June meeting. Happy Turning,

Larry



SCHEDULE

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 16, 2025. Hope to see y'all there

Join us for dinner before our meetings! Some members go to Hooligans Restaurant (behind the CVS) 8440 Holcomb Bridge Rd, Roswell 5:00pm. Recently, due to the size of the crowd and slower service, some members are enjoying the Mexican restaurant in the strip mall across the street from Woodcraft. Wherever you decide: enjoy a good meal and most importantly, the fellowship with other members.



8465 Holcomb Bridge Rd, Alpharetta, GA

Hooligan's is a neighborhood sports bar located in the Alpharetta/Roswell suburbs of Atlanta. We have a great food menu and an extensive beer lineup

hooligansroswell.com

8440 Holcomb Bridge Rd, Roswell, GA

MEETING AGENDA

6:00 PM Arrival begins at Woodcraft.

6:30 – 7:00 PM Business meeting and show and tell

7:00 – 8:30 PM Demonstration

8:30 – 8:45 PM - Raffle is called by Dan Douthart using the random generator – watch closely for your number. You could be a winner!

8:45 - 9:00 PM. Clean Up All “hands on deck” for the cleanup please. Our agreement with Woodcraft dictates that we **MUST** leave by 9:00PM. All of us.

UPCOMING DEMOS April 16 - Leslie Ballard Peach with pewter inlay Pepper mill
May 21 - Jaramiah Severns

HOT CLASSES

Email Marcus Jones (w2marcus@bellsouth.net) for HOT I and Charlie Levan (charlie.levan@gmail.com) for HOT II class if interested. Schedule is at the end of the Newsletter

HOT II – March 19 “Gonks by Steve Pritchard”

1. Steve presented us with his method to create those adorable Gonks suitable for display in any home and make a great conversation piece. (Gonk on wood!) The day was filled with learning how to design with many options. Everyone in attendance was able to walk away with their own version of a Gonk. You can see it was a good time. You too could participate in a future HOT Class.



Why did
Johnny fail as a
carpenter? He
was always
cutting corners.



HOT I – April 2– Stackable Pizza Plates with Wayne Johnson

Wayne led the class through the process of designing and creating stackable pizza plates. He provided the instructions and the materials (sorry, no pizza).



I told my friend I'm building a staircase, but he said it's a step in the wrong direction.



HOT News: We have decided to no longer charge for HOT sessions that are conducted for community service. This includes Beads of Courage; Wig Stands and our newest effort, to make ornaments for the Festival of Trees. You will see more about this in the near future but hear is a heads up, start making ornaments to donate to the Festival of Trees. (More information below in "About YOUR Club".

Need help with ornaments. We are here for you. The August 20 HOT I session will not be hands on but will be a day of demos, Harvey Meyer, Steve Mellott and one other turner will demonstrate turned ornaments. Hans Meier will be demonstrating scroll saw ornaments. This will be free and will be open to a larger group than normal HOT Sessions.

Editor's Note - More pictures of the HOT classes and Show & Tell will be posted on the AWG Facebook page and on the AWG website. Please take a look:



Our April Demo

April Presentation & Demo Featuring Leslie Ballard

We're excited to welcome our own Leslie Ballard for this month's presentation and demonstration! Leslie will share her unique approach to crafting a pepper mill, showcasing her expertise in woodturning.

Leslie specializes in combining wood and urethane resin to create stunning works of art. Her portfolio includes bowls, vessels, and functional pieces such as pepper mills and urns.

With over five years of experience in woodturning and more than a decade working with resin, Leslie has mastered the art of integrating resin to add movement and visual intrigue to her designs.

Beyond the workshop, Leslie enjoys spending time on the golf course, flyfishing in western rivers, and capturing breathtaking wildlife photography around the world.



This is nothing in particular. I just liked the design I found on the internet while surfing.

Editorial Page

All About YOUR Club

Tom Biehl

Club Activities and Opportunities to Participate

Our club is brimming with events and activities that offer countless opportunities to connect with fellow woodturners, enhance your skills, and make meaningful contributions. This club is all about **you**, so stay involved and enjoy everything it has to offer! Here's a glimpse of what's happening:

Community Service

1. **Wig Stand HOT Class:** Create beautiful wig stands to donate to individuals in need. Your craftsmanship can make a difference! We will meet at HOT to create wig stands to be donated to people who are in need due to suffering from cancer and treatment for cancer.
2. **Beads of Courage HOT Class:** Create bowls that bring joy to children facing medical challenges by holding their Beads of Courage. Glen Withrow passionately leads our club's Beads of Courage initiative, but he cannot do it alone—he needs our support. We encourage each member to contribute by turning two lidded bowls per year.
For details on the bowl specifications, reach out to Glen. He'll be happy to provide all the guidance you need to get started. Glen will provide you with a segmented bowl blank to get you started.
3. **Church Turning:** A chance to give back through woodturning projects. From Katie Navarro – Mountain Park First Baptist Church - After facing initial setbacks, my Pastor proposed an inspiring idea—to start a community woodturning program at our Church campus located in the Mountain Park area of Lilburn/Stone Mountain. Recognizing that I couldn't achieve this without support, I presented the concept to our Club's Board of Directors. Happily, they agreed to assist—what a blessing!

Currently, we have two small lathes generously donated to the Church, along with a bandsaw. However, to get this program up and running we will need additional tools and equipment. Specifically, we are looking for chucks compatible with 1" spindles, a grinder, live and drive centers, face shields, and essential turning tools, including spindle roughing gouges, 3/8" spindle gouges, 3/8" bowl gouges, parting tools, and skewers.

Additionally, we are seeking volunteers to serve as instructors for this program. For insurance purposes, all teaching volunteers must be members of the American Association of Woodturners. The program will be open to students aged twelve and older.

If you can contribute in any way, be it tools, time, or expertise—please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or donations. Your support would mean the world to us, and we're truly grateful for your consideration!

4. Georgia Festival of Trees

The Atlanta Woodturners Guild (AWG) is Excited to Participate in the 2025 Georgia Festival of Trees!

The festival will be held at the Gas South Convention Center, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, GA, from November 21-30, 2025. As part of this event, AWG will proudly donate a fully decorated tree.

The Georgia Festival of Trees is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to fighting the commercial sexual exploitation of women and children in Georgia. Proceeds from the festival support organizations focused on prevention efforts and restorative services for survivors. Their mission is to raise awareness and critical funds for those on the front lines battling human trafficking.

How You Can Help

AWG plans to donate a full-sized, fully decorated tree (6–9 feet tall). Here's how members can contribute:

- **Donate Ornaments:** Provide wood-turned ornaments or wood that members can use to craft ornaments.
- **Volunteer:** Help set up and decorate the tree for the festival.
- **Contribute:** Assist with the cost of the tree and decorations.
-

The trees will be auctioned to the highest bidders, with all proceeds going to this meaningful cause. The AWG's name will be prominently displayed with our tree.

Act Now—November is Closer Than You Think!

Let's start making ornaments today. Bring your creations to our monthly meetings—they can be showcased during Show & Tell before being stored for the festival.

A Special HOT Class is Planned in August - This will be a session with woodturning and scrolling demonstrations covering how to create ornaments for the tree – and yours. Will be fun, interesting and enlightening. See the schedule below for details.

For more information, visit gafestivaloftrees.org.

For questions, contact:

❖ *Katie Navarro at (404) 557-4799*

❖ *Larry Nelms at (678) 378-6378*

Thank you in advance for your support and participation!

Learning Opportunities

1. **HOT I Monthly Class:** Perfect for beginners or those looking to refine their skills! Led by club members, these classes allow you to develop your woodturning expertise while creating a project to proudly share with your loved ones. Take what you learn and create even more on your own.
2. **HOT II Monthly Class:** Advanced sessions, taught by either our talented members or professional demonstrators, focus on honing your abilities while working on a take-home project. These workshops inspire continued practice and exploration.
3. **Mentorship with Experienced Woodturners:** Gain insights and hands-on experience by working alongside seasoned woodturners. Whether it's through discussions or visiting their workshops, their expertise is invaluable.
4. **Private Lessons with Mark Sillay:** Learn from one of the best in the field! Mark Sillay is not only an accomplished wood turner but also an exceptional teacher dedicated to helping you succeed.
5. **Monthly Demonstrations:** Watch and learn as expert demonstrators showcase unique woodturning techniques. Take notes, go home, and try it out yourself—create something special!

Woodturning Product Discounts and Vendor Support for Members of the Atlanta Woodturners Guild

Please check the members only section on the Atlanta Woodturners Guild webpage [Club Discounts – AWG](#) for a description of all discounts and programs available to all of our current members. Password is required but if you have forgotten it, use the Contact AWG tab to request it or ask at the next meeting.

1. Woodcraft Store
2. Woodturners Wonders –
3. Kingspor's Woodworking Shop
4. Penn State Industries
5. Rockler Woodworking and Hardwood Store
6. CAG Specialty Wood
7. Carter and Son Toolworks
8. Craft Supply USA
9. WoodTurningZ

Fellowship

HOT Classes and Monthly Meetings: These gatherings are a fantastic way to share experiences, mostly related to woodturning, with fellow members. Our club is made up of remarkable individuals who are worth getting to know!

Show off your work -

You have worked hard at creating your projects. No matter what level you are at, be proud of it. Show it. Answer questions about it. Receive feedback about it. We have some opportunities to present our work to others described below

Show and Tell: Showcase your work during our meetings and gain valuable feedback. Whether you're asking for tips or sharing your process, this interactive session fosters camaraderie and growth among our members.

Perry National Fair Entries: Wayne Johnson leads this effort for us. More information is coming in the not too distant future. In will be an opportunity for you to display your creations at the Perry Fair

Our club thrives on participation and shared passion for woodturning. Let's continue to grow, learn, and support each other in this incredible journey!

Many of the items above are covered with email distribution. Occasionally check your spam folder if you are not receiving emails from AWG sources.

DID YOU KNOW?

A Little Kite History



The first kites were believed to have been created in China, although there is evidence that kites also made their first appearances in Malaysia, Indonesia, and the South Pacific. While some were used for recreational purposes, they were also crafted from natural materials like leaves and reeds to be used as fishing instruments. The first recorded account was in China around 200 BC. Legend holds that General Han Hsin of the Han Dynasty flew a kite over the walls of a city he was attacking to measure how far his army would have to tunnel to reach past the defenses. By the 13th century, Chinese traders had spread the kite craze to Korea, India, and the Middle East. In 1295, Marco Polo described kites in his writings about his travels, and by the 14th and 15th centuries, kite flying hit the skies over Europe.

While it proved to be a common curiosity among children from the start, kite flying also had several scientific applications. In 1749, Alexander Wilson & Thomas Melville of the University of Glasgow in Scotland made the first recorded weather experiments using kites. Marking perhaps one of the most famous historic kite-flying events, Benjamin Franklin conducted electrical experiments using a kite in a lightning storm in 1752. By the late 1800s, kites were used regularly for meteorological observation. Avid kite flyers – Orville and Wilbur Wright – gleaned inspiration from flying box kites for the world's first successful airplane.

OOPS!

**I accidentally rubbed
ketchup in my eyes.**

**Now I have
Heinzsight.**



AWG Membership – We are growing in membership.

+ We are currently at 92 Members

+ Seven new members in 2025 – Welcome!

CLASSIFIEDS

If you're looking for something or have items you're looking to sell, let us know and we will post a listing here for the community to see.

CONSIDER JOINING AAW



As an AAW member, you'll get access to online videos, articles, and tutorials.

- 150+ issues of American Woodturner are online with a searchable index.
- 12,000+ images of member work are in AAW's Forum gallery online.
- 38+ issues of Woodturning FUNdamentals publication and the Woodturning FUNdamentals online learning portal offer one-stop basics

A NOTE FROM MARK SILLAY

For the members that are interested in coming to my warehouse liquidation sale where all the wood is "Pennies on the dollar" please call me and arrange a time

VISIT HANS AT LAKEWOOD

"I sell my work and teach. I have a number of booths at Lakewood 400 Antique Mall. The Mall is open the first weekend of every month; Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I am in Hall H on the back wall."

MIKE PEACE



Mike Peace has more than 700 woodturning videos on his YouTube channel www.youtube.com/MikePeaceWoodturning

Mike also offers one-on-one lessons in his shop in Suwanee. Copies of his published articles and project handouts are available for download on his website www.mikepeacewoodturning.com

EST 1928

WOODCRAFT®

Woodcraft has been gracious enough to allow us to host our meetings in its facility. When looking to purchase tools and materials, please consider purchasing them from Woodcraft.

On meeting nights and HOT class days, Woodcraft offers a 10% discount on non-sale items excluding mechanical items.

BEADS OF COURAGE

Glen Withrow set a goal for each member to create two Beads of Courage bowls by the end of 2024. Unfortunately, we didn't reach that target. Now, Beads of Courage needs our support more than ever. Let's come together and commit to crafting at least one Beads of Courage Bowl by the end of 2025.

NEED TIPS?

Need a hand with your wood turning? Wayne is here to help! Just call, text, or email him, and he'll do his best to connect you with someone who can assist. This could involve visiting a member's shop—or even having them visit yours. And the best part? It's completely free. Don't hesitate, just ask!"

EDITOR'S NOTE

Are you seeking a meaningful way to share your time and talents? Our mission is to support Veterans in need, and we warmly invite you to join us in making a difference.

The Gwinnett Woodworkers meet every other Tuesday at Rob's Daycare for Adults to craft sturdy wooden canes. These canes are donated to "The Atlanta VA" and distributed to Veterans who can benefit from them.

By participating, you'll not only contribute to a valuable cause but also leave with a strong sense of pride and accomplishment. For more information, feel free to contact Glen, Hans, Katie, Marcus Jones, or me, Tom Biehl.

Together, we can make a lasting impact in the lives of our Veterans.

AWG LIBRARY

We may not have a fancy library, but the knowledge that is within our selection is invaluable. Each month Jim Hardy, our librarian, will have our extensive Library available at the meeting. Each item is available for checkout - \$2/item/month. A list of books and DVDs is available on our website:

www.atlantawoodturnersguild.org

STAY IN TOUCH

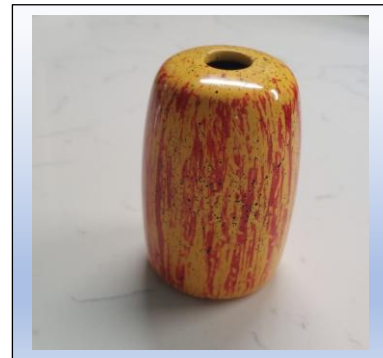
Don't forget to check out our Facebook page for any updates and member discussions! And, of course, our Web page.

I tried to make a joke about a piece of wood. It didn't work because it was too plane.

MEET THE WOODTURNER

This month's celebrity woodturner is Bruce Fairchild

- **How long have you been turning?** Since 2015, so about ten years.
- **How did you get into woodturning?** In 9th grade shop and turning was part of it along with sheet metal and basic electricity. What drew you in? I made a bowl I still have. Kind of ugly. Have thought about putting it back on the lathe and making it thinner. But then I decided you have to remember where you came from.
- **What is your favorite thing that you've made?** I did a hollow form and spattered paint on it and covered with lacquer, so it does not look like wood.
- **What is your dream turning project?** Nothing specific. When I see a good demonstrator, I am on that kick for a month or two. And go home and make several. Now I am on a cake/cookie stand kick. (below)
- **What's your favorite wood to work with and why?** I like Bradford pear because it is so easy to work with not a lot of knots. I am learning now that maple is much the same way.
- **What do you think your wood turning strengths are?** I love shear scraping. I have not perfected it yet. Using scrapers to bring the wood to its final shape before applying the finish is satisfying.
- **What do you think you need to improve in wood turning?** I need to discover a suitable finish that I am happy with. Still looking and experimenting with various finishes.
- **What is your favorite finish so far?** Wipe on poly. But it takes so long and requires multiple coats. Sanding between coats if you are not careful and go too deep you have to start all over again.
- What other hobbies do you participate in?
 - I play Senior Softball at all levels. I was inducted into the Senior Softball Hall of Fame in 2011.
 - I also do custom picture framing
 - I collect baseball cards.



2025 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 16	HOT II	Ken Rizza & Tim Robertson	Sharpening
April 16	Demonstration	Leslie Ballard	
May 7	HOT I	Katie Navarro	Wig Stands
May 21	HOT II	Marcus Jones	Bowl in a Bowl
May 21	Demonstration	Jaramiah Severns	TBD
June 4	HOT I	TBD	TBD
June 18	HOT II	Emma Cook	TBD
June 18	Demonstration	Emma Cook	TBD
July 2	HOT I	No Class	Independence Day
July 16	HOT II	Glen Withrow	Beads of Courage
July 16	Demonstration		
August 6	HOT I	TBD	TBD
August 20	HOT II	Harvey Meyer, Steve Mellott, Hans Meier (one turner to be named)	Festival of Trees Demo * Please see note below this chart.
August 20	Demonstration	Dan Douthart	
Sept 3	HOT I		
Sept 17	HOT II	Steve Mellott	Epoxy Painted ornament with finials and ICE cycles.
September 17	Demonstration	Vince Lacovelli	
October 1	HOT I		
October 15	HOT II		
October 15	Demonstration		
November 5	HOT I		
November 19	HOT II		
November 19	Demonstration		
❖ This will be a demo day with 3 turners and one scroll saw ornament demos to support the festival of trees. Harvey will demo a hollow globe, Steve Mellott will turn a TBD ornament plus we will have one more turner and Hans Meier will demonstrate scroll saw ornaments.			

Schedule is subject to change as required. Schedule will be updated with each month's newsletter.

This newsletter is published monthly by the Atlanta Woodturners Guild, (AWG). All opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Officers, or the AWG. Your AWG questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact any officer through the contact information published on our website's contact page.

And Finally – Your Board Members

<i>President</i>	<i>Katie Navarro</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Larry Nelms</i>
<i>Treasurer/Musical Director</i>	<i>Harvey Meyer</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Charlie Levan</i>
<i>Past President</i>	<i>Wayne Johnson</i>
<i>Board Member at Large</i>	<i>Marcus Jones</i>
<i>Board Member at Large</i>	<i>Dave Roselius</i>
<i>Audio/Video</i>	<i>Harvey Meyer</i>
<i>Beads of Courage</i>	<i>Glen Withrow</i>
<i>HOT 1</i>	<i>Marcus Jones</i>
<i>HOT 2</i>	<i>Charlie Levan</i>
<i>Library</i>	<i>Jim Hardy</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>Tom Biehl</i>
<i>Photographer</i>	<i>Blake Cherington</i>
<i>Programs</i>	<i>Kurt Sands</i>
<i>Raffle Master</i>	<i>Dan Douthart</i>
<i>Web Master</i>	<i>Harvey Meyer/Dave Roselius</i>

See us on Facebook at “Atlanta Woodturners Guild”

See us on the web at “<https://atlantawoodturnersguild.org>”