



Chapter of the Association of American Woodturners

August 2025

Newsletter, Issue No. 8

Pauline Bayne, Editor

The Smoky Mountain Woodturners Chapter of AAW meets each month of the year on the 3rd Tuesday of the month starting at 6:00 pm. Our meetings are in-person and on ZOOM. To attend zoom, visitors should send their email to jevogelsang@charter.net. Guests are always welcome. Location: 8023 Kingston Pike in Knoxville. *Woodcraft Knoxville* (our sponsor) is near Trader Joe's and one block from West Town Mall.



President's Message – August 19, 2025

Wow, what a tremendous wood auction!. I thought we would be there until midnight getting rid of all the great wood. I underestimated our two auctioneers' ability to move things right along ,and we were done by 8:30. It was an outstanding job by both John K. Jordan and Jake Niedling and all there hard-working assistants. The Wood Auction of 2025 netted the club \$2,028. This was a little bit less than previous years but still an impressive amount for the club this year. I want to thank everyone for bringing some great looking wood-turning spindles and blanks, properly labeled, without major defects. If anyone did not get what they were looking for ,please let us know and we'll check Jordan's stash and see what we can come up with. In September, we have John K. Jordan doing his new and improved handbell demonstration. If you want to make Christmas ornaments, this is the demonstration you do not want to miss. We will resume our regular agenda, show and tell, raffles, etc..... Don't forget that our general meeting now **starts at 6:00 pm**, so try to get there early to do some socializing. New Board members will be voted on at our October Board meeting. If you are considering being a major part of the excitement that is generated, please let me or another Board member know that you would like to be placed on the ballot. A two-year commitment is expected if you are voted in. Thanks again to everyone for making our annual Wood Auction a successful event.

Keep those Chips Flying – *Gordon Sloane*

ANNUAL WOOD AUCTION
August 19, 2025
At least 39 Attendees
Auctioneers: John Jordan & Jake Niedling



THANKS...

To everyone who prepared & brought wood, everyone who purchased wood, and to our auctioneers—John K. Jordan & Jake Niedling—and their strong helpers.



Photos by Randy & Terry Fritchman

Club Calendar: General Meetings, 2nd Tuesday, 6 pm, Location: Woodcraft Knoxville
 Board of Directors, 3rd Wed., 6 pm, Location: Woodcraft Knoxville

January 8 - 1st Quarter Board of Directors meeting, 3rd Wed of Jan, April, July, Oct, 6 pm, Woodcraft
 January 21 - General Meeting - Richard Hoffman - Unusual Beads of Courage Boxes
 February 18 - General Meeting - Jake Niedling - Hollowing Made Easy
 March 18 - General Meeting - John Lucas, Cookeville turner - Inside / Outside Turning
 April 9 - 2nd Quarter Board of Directors meeting, 3rd Wed of Jan, April, July, Oct, 6 pm, Woodcraft
 April 15 - Gordon Fowler - Platter with a Crotch
 May 3-4 - Spring Woodturners Weekend - Nick Cook (demo & workshop, Sat & Sun, 9 am - 3 pm)
 May 20 - General Meeting - Ron Comtois - Baby Rattle
 June 17 - General Meeting - Roy Acuff - Stabilizing Wood
 July 9 - 3rd Quarter Board of Directors meeting, 3rd Wed of Jan, April, July, Oct, 6 pm, Woodcraft
 July 15 - General Meeting - Colin Chalmers - Exceptional Platter
 August 19 - General Meeting - Annual Wood Auction
September 16 - General Meeting - John Jordan - Handbell Ornaments
 October 8 - 4th Quarter Board of Directors meeting, 3rd Wed of Jan, April, July, Oct, 6 pm, Woodcraft
 October 21 - General Meeting - Michael Anderson - Covered Calabash Bowl
October 25-26 - Fall Woodturners Weekend - Mark Gardner
(demo & workshop, Sat & Sun, 9 am - 3 pm)
 November 18 - General Meeting - Ted Palfrey - Hollowings
 December 16 - Annual Christmas Party



Officers:

Gordon Sloane, *President*
 Randy Fritchman, *Vice President*
 Bill Thurman, *Secretary*
 Jack Harris, *Treasurer*
 Ron Comptois, *Past President*

Board of Directors:

Maria D'Elio, 2024-25
 Colin Chambers, 2024-25
 Jerry DeLaurentis, 2024-25
 Gordon Fowler, 2025-2026,
 Mike Johnston, 2025-2026
 Pauline Bayne, 2025-2026

Committees:

Beads of Courage / Wig Stands: Bill Thurman
Education/Wears Valley:
 Robert Law
Fantasy of Trees: Ron Comptois
Membership: Maria D'Elio & Jerry DeLaurentis
Mentoring: Ron Comtois
Newsletter: Pauline Bayne
Photographer: Randy Fritchman,
Assisted by Terry Fritchman
Pens for Troops: Randy Fritchman
Program: Gordon Sloane, Colin Chalmers, &
 Jake Niedling
Safety Officer: Gordon Fowler
Video/Internet: Jim Vogelsang & Andy Milligan,
Video Trainee
Website: Jim Vogelsang & Colin Chalmers



UPCOMING EVENTS!

****Fall Turning Weekend**
Mark Gardner (Oct. 25-26. 9am- 3pm)

What's Happening at the Ranch in August?

Our Summer Workshop Series has come to an end with the completion of our August sessions. Everyone is looking forward to the beginning of the 2025-2026 School Year & the Fall Semester. In August, we said “good Bye” to our on-campus mentor & instructor, Pat Brown. Pat retired in August and has moved his family to Maryville. Pat has been an indispensable member of our team since the beginning of our program. In order to keep our program moving forward, Tommy Upp, one of the house parents, will be supporting the students for “open shop” on Thursdays as the Ranch continues to look for a full time employee to fill Pat’s position.



Students finished up any incomplete projects from the past year and then turned Scottish Oatmeal Spurtles...

