

THE CHIP PILE

the newsletter of the central texas woodturners association

to give every turner the opportunity to become a better turner

JUNE MEETING

Tuesday, June 15, 2004
7:00 - 9:00 PM

American Youthworks - Austin, Texas
1901 East SH 71

(about 1/4 mile east of I-35 on south side of SH 71)

NOTICE !!!

The CTWA Meeting Place has changed! Please see the directions and map to the new location on page 8.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHOP..

Now that Lynn is Back in town...

I'm happy to say I'll see you in the new meeting place on the 15th of June. On Wednesday, several members helped Jimmy Tolly wire in the 220 volt plugs we'll need to run our equipment. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH. In all the times we've moved in the past five years, we have had to find the easiest way to the meeting place. Same with this place. Hope all of you are successful and the trip to meetings becomes routine.

All of the bowls and weed pots should be coming in by now so that we know what we'll be short, if any. We'll need a host of volunteers to help out at the convention so don't be bashful about volunteering. Let's help make this one of the best SWATs ever.

We just got the results of the club newsletter competition and we didn't make the top three. When they talked about the things they judged on, my thought was we have that. I think our newsletter is top notch and we have a top notch editor.

In line with our aim to educate and expand woodturning, we have an opportunity to do some community demonstrating on the 16th of June. If anyone would like to participate, let me or Jimmy Tolly know. We can always use anyone who would like to help.

Keep the chips flying!

Lynn



Turning a Twisty Box

Skilled turner and former CTWA President **Stacey Hager** did not disappoint us with his demonstration at our May meeting. Inspired by an unusual box that he saw at a national symposium, Stacey decided to figure out how to make a three-sided twisted box. As one would expect from Stacey, this requires math and a compass and a white board (at least for the demo!).

Stacey started by chucking a piece of dry Chinaberry log between centers and turning it to a 3.5 to 4" cylinder, after using his parting tool and calipers to set



Professor Hager at work

(CBK photo)

the diameter on each end. He decides on the height of the box by relying on the Golden Mean, multiplying the diameter by 1.618, then adding about 1 1/4" for three parting cuts, plus the box tenon, plus two chuck tenons. Now is the time to make the box in the usual fashion, before moving to the off-center turning.

To lay out the points that will serve as centers for the off-center turning, the finished (still round) box is put together. The first step is to draw a circle with a

see Stacey Hager, page 2

See inside for ...

This Month's Program, page 5
Calendar, page 6
Volunteer Instructors, page 7
Membership Information, page 7
Classified Ads, page 7
Upcoming Events, page 4

The American Association of Woodturners is "dedicated to Providing Education, Information and Organization to Those Interested in Woodturning." In keeping with the standards of our National Organization, the Central Texas Woodturners Association hereby gives permission for all other woodturning chapters, organizations, magazines and newspapers to use any materials contained herein for the benefit of all woodturners everywhere. We ask that credit be given for the source of the material.

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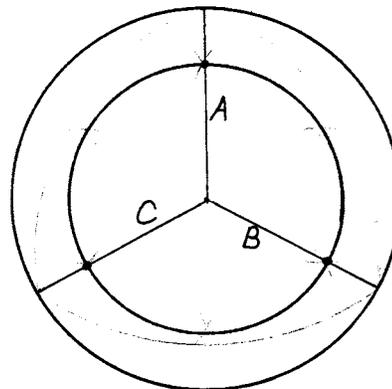
Editorial Information

This newsletter is by and for members. The Editor welcomes any written materials and will provide assistance with getting your information into publishable form if you want. **DEADLINE IS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.** Contact me with your ideas and drafts by phone at 512.312.2042, by E-Mail at ckay@austin.rr.com or mail them to:

CTWA Newsletter
c/o Charles Kay
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Stacey Hager, cont'd

radius about 1/2" smaller than the diameter on each end of the box. The 1/2" clearance should allow enough clearance that you don't turn through to the interior of your box! This circle is then divided into thirds by laying out the radius six times around the circumference. Using every other mark, draw a line



from the center to the edge of the cylinder. Index one radial line to the opposite end and repeat the process. Label the three points on one end A, B and C. On the opposite end, rotate one mark (120 degrees) and label those points a, b and c.

Now begins the scary (or fun?) part. Place the drive center at point A and the live center at point a. Start the lathe at a very slow speed and slowly bring the speed up until it starts to look scary (about 600 RPM). Set the tool rest parallel to the lathe bed. Using your



Scary turning

(CBK photo)

fingers as a depth gauge, cut (don't scrape) as if you were turning a uniform cylinder. Cut until the new surface just reaches the index marks at both ends of the cylinder. Move the drive center to point B and the live center to point b and repeat the process. Repeat the process again for points C and c. At this point, the "ridge" will be sharp at the ends and wide in the middle. You must now free-hand an arc on each of the three sides such the "ridge" is sharp all the way. Hand sand, taking care to keep the ridges and edges sharp.

see Stacey Hager, page 3

If you wish, at this point you can turn a top ornament and bottom pedestal. You may have to make a jam chuck in order to finish the top and bottom.



Twisty box

(CBK photo)



Open box

(CBK photo)

This technique is adaptable to other non-round box styles as well. If you don't offset the off-center axes, you can wind up with a non-twisted three-sided box. Similarly, if you use two centers on each end, you wind with an oval box and six centers on each end produces a hexagonal box.

Thanks to Stacey for another fine demonstration. Surely some of our more adventurous turners will bring their version of the twisty box to the next meeting.



Bring Back Raffle

Visitor **Jim Moore** took home a letter opener turned from cocobolo by **Joe Kirk**. The piece was finished with HUT wax. **Jim Whited** was the winner of sycamore bowl, turned by **Charlie Kay** and finished with Minwax and the Beall System. **Joe Kirk** was the lucky winner of an elm bowl turned by **Dave Dick** and finished with Deft. **Beth Morton** picked up the \$15 Craft Supplies gift certificate.

Each of the three winners of turned pieces will bring a turning to the next meeting. This item should be representative of that person's best work. Beth does not have to bring anything back for the gift certificate.



Show and Tell

- **H. O. Evans** brought a segmented bowl turned from maple, padauk and a mystery wood and finished with Deft. Unfortunately, the Editor's photo was out of focus.
- **Jimmy Tolly** showed off a walnut bowl finished with spray lacquer.



Besperka bowl

(CBK photo)

- **Jack Besperka** shared a bowl turned from spalted walnut and finished with Deft.

see Show and Tell, page 4

Check Out Our Web Site

You may want to check out the CTWA Web Site at **www.CTWA.org**. If you have comments, suggestions or something for the gallery, get in touch with Webmaster Larry Walrath at larry@larrywalrath.com.

- **Larry Walrath** brought a very large (you were maybe expecting tiny?) pecan bowl finished with tung oil.



Larry's pecan bowl

(CBK photo)

- **David Dick** brought a twisted flute newel post. It was a practice piece turned from poplar before he starts on the big project out of the expensive wood.



David's newel post

(CBK photo)



Business Meeting

There were 43 attendees at our May meeting including two visitors.

Board Meeting

Lynn Kramer called a CTWA Board meeting for June 15, at Charlie Collins' shop at 9:00 AM.

New Meeting Place

Lynn and Stacey reviewed the proposed meeting facility at American Youthworks on Ben White Boulevard east of I-35. After discussion, it was VOTED to make the move, with two dissenting votes.

June 16 Demo at American Youthworks

The Club has been asked to give demonstrations of wood turning on June 16 at the new meeting facility. Lynn Kramer, Dave Dick and Jimmy Tolly all volunteered to demonstrate (see related article in this newsletter).

New Club Lathe

Stacey Hager presented the new lathe, a Oneway 1640. It was damaged in shipment and will be replaced by the manufacturer. The total price of the lathe, accessories and shipping was \$3,770.62. Of this, \$1,000 has been covered by the down payment and an additional \$1,200 will be paid from the sale of the old lathe. An anonymous donor has paid the remainder and will carry the balance for up to three years.

Some concerns were raised about the commitment for the lathe having been made by the Board without the vote of the membership.

Name Tags

Bob Littlepage raised the issues of members wearing name tags to the meeting, and requested that we begin to enforce that rule. One of our visitors, Bryant Mitol, from a club in Indiana said that their club fines anyone that doesn't have their name tag on a dollar. That encourages name tags and puts a little money in the kitty. No decision was made.



UPCOMING EVENTS

18th Annual AAW Woodturning Symposium, July 23 through 25, Orlando, Florida

www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2004

West Coast Roundup Woodturning Symposium, September 10 through 12, Vancouver, British Columbia

www.gvvg.ca/Symposium2004.htm

Southwest Association of Turners Symposium, October 1 through 3, Temple Texas

www.texasturnortwo.com

June Program

Turning a Rusty plate

There is a wide spectrum of interests among turners. Even turners who do the "same" thing approach things differently. This month's demonstration will be a familiar subject, but it will be different. I should quit here and let y'all come see, but I will continue. Rusty Myers will be demonstrating his method for designing and turning plates or platters.

David Dick

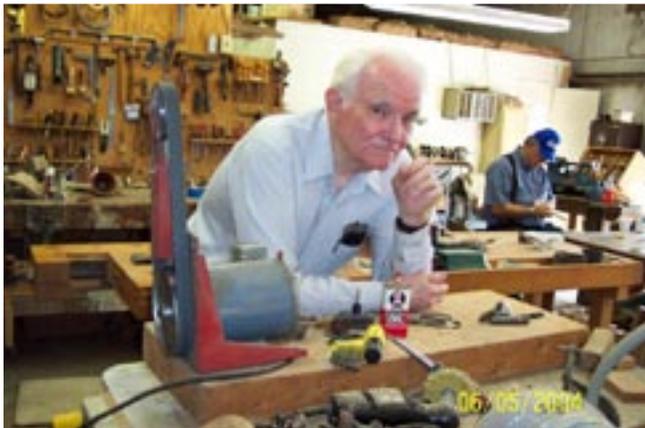
CTWA's first First Saturday is a success

We had a perfect day for the event with comfortable temperatures and enthusiastic turners. The crowd was a little light with about twenty turners attending.



Gary on sharpening (Drew Shelton photo)

Joe Evans was already chain sawing some free cottonwood chunks when I arrived at 8:30 AM. **Charlie Collins** opened his shop door and invited everyone to enjoy themselves. I made fresh coffee and brought donuts while Charlie iced down a couple of five gallon buckets of soft drinks in cans.



Charles in Charge

(Drew Shelton photo)

Bob Hrehor arrived with tools in hand wanting to get some tips on hand sharpening. There were demonstrations on sharpening of his chisels accompanied by numerous comments and suggestions, both solicited and unsolicited. Hands-on practice sessions followed, just to prove that a sharp tool is better than a dull one. **Stacey Hager** followed up with a great presentation of skew work. Everything from hands-on sharpening of the skew to making really delicate flowers out of some of the green cottonwood that Joe brought.

I brought my traveling Jet mini-lathe and accompanying folding tool box. Both lathes were being run regularly by someone all morning. **Drew Shelton** was busy taking photos of just about everything. (I hope he doesn't publish some that he took!)



Gary at the lathe

(Drew Shelton photo)

There were discussions about the possibility of some time this fall bringing a grill and cooking sausage wraps and burgers and just staying all day. I have to admit that I was a bit reluctant to quit and clean up the shop at noon.

If you missed this event, you really missed a fun meeting. Work on your schedule, mark your calendar and come attend this great "First Saturday Turnout," when it comes around again in July. Charlie's shop is a wonderful place to have available. We express our sincere appreciation for his generosity and hospitality.

FOOTNOTE: The first Saturday of July is July 3rd with it falling on the July Fourth Weekend. I would suggest that at the June meeting of the chapter a decision be made as to this dilemma.

Enjoy Turning!

S. Gary Roberts

Check out the Newsletter on our web site

Calendar

June 15, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American Youthworks

June 17, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Hands-On - Woodcraft

July 3, 2004 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' shop

July 20, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American Youthworks

July 22, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Hands-On - Woodcraft

August 7, 2004 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' shop

August 17, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American Youthworks

August 19, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Hands-On - Woodcraft

September 4, 2004 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

From the Editor's Desk

As I belatedly put this issue of the newsletter to bed, we are in the midst of a soggy, rainy day, just after last week's heat and humidity made it look as if the eternal summer had come to stay. I'm late because of a family wedding last Friday night, out of doors. It was a beautiful setting, but did I mention that it was hot? At least this week's rains have cooled things off and will bode well for the vegetation over the coming hot, dry summer.

You will note a few changes in the newsletter this month. First of all, I've decided to give it a name, **The Chip Pile**, and I'm trying some new fonts. The main text in the articles is now in Verdana, with the headlines and many of the specialty boxes in Helvetica Neue. I'm going to continue to make changes over the next few months, to try to make the newsletter more readable and visually interesting.

I finally bit the bullet and bought the new publishing program. After extensive searching on the web, I finally found a copy for \$580. I'm still learning it, so

you may see a glitch from time to time for awhile. Nevertheless, it does let us get the newsletter on the web site. I have converted the May issue and Larry has posted it, and when I get this one finished I'll forward a copy of it to be posted.

As it looks like publication on our web site is going to be successful, I'm going to propose at our next meeting that we mail copies of the newsletter only to those members who specifically request that they receive it that way. We can arrange to notify members by E-mail when the newsletter is posted for the month.

Note Dave Dick's column in this month's issue, asking everyone to consider how they can help out at SWAT. As he indicates, our club's duties are expanded considerably this year, as we are considered the host club, and there will be work enough for everybody.

See you on Tuesday.

Charlie

Update your E-mail address!

When we tried to send E-mail notices to the membership about the first First Saturday, we discovered that many of them bounced. So to be sure you are receiving important E-mail notices on club activities, be sure Drew Shelton has your correct E-mail address. If you aren't sure, send him your address anyway at drew@sematech.org. Drew is the Membership Chairman and has the E-mail master list.

SWAT Preparations - volunteer within

Everyone needs to continue getting ready to go to SWAT in October. The first thing on your to-do list should be to finish turning the bowls and weed pots for the banquet tables. It is also time to start thinking about demonstrations that you want to see, tools and woods to buy, seeing old friends and making new ones. While you're doing that thinking, you might be wise to get your room reserved in Temple. Rooms are expected to be tight for the SWAT weekend.

Something else we all need to think about is that volunteers are needed to put the show on. CTWA volunteer needs will be higher than usual this year, as we are the host club. Are you able to help? I don't know all that needs to be done, but Steve Gottlieb, Betty Hager and Lynn Kramer do. Get in touch with these folks and find out what you can do to help.

David Dick

Demonstrators needed for American Youthworks

We have agreed to supply demonstrators for a series of sessions at American Youthworks on Wednesday, June 16. We need people for the following times:

9:45 AM to 10:45 AM
11:00 AM to 12:00 NOON
1:15 PM to 2:15 PM

Jimmy Tolly has agreed to fill the 1:15 PM slot and **Dave Dick** may be able to take the 11:00 AM slot. If you can help out by taking a time, please give me a call as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Lynn Kramer
512.398.6981
lkramer@lockhart.net



Membership in CTWA

New members are welcome to join CTWA at any time. All you need is an interest in woodturning. CTWA membership also requires membership in the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Local dues are \$25.00 per year, or \$2.10 per month prorated for new members joining during the year. AAW dues are \$35.00 per year for individuals and \$40.00 for families. For that you get a first class quarterly magazine, *American Woodturner*, with excellent articles on woodturning and woodturners, amply illustrated with photographs.

If you are interested in learning more about membership or want to join CTWA, contact our Membership Chairman:

Drew Shelton
112 Oakland Drive
Georgetown, TX 78628
512.863.4651
drew@sematech.org



Volunteer Instructors

The following turners have generously offered to open their shops and give their time to any member who wants to learn how to sharpen their tools, sharpen their skills, learn how to make a bowl or "test" the newest tool. Check out the people who bring items to Show and Tell. One trait common to all woodturners is that we all like to share, so just ask!

SOUTH

Odie Bull 512.442.2687

Bill Hammack
512.282.0832

Stacey Hager 512.282.1036

Johnny Tolly 512.858.4472

Jimmy Tolly 512.894.0686

NOTE: The Tolly brothers work strange shifts, so they may be available on times other than week-ends.

H. O. Evans 512.282.2830

NOTE: Ho would like to confine his assistance to his specialty, segmented turnings.

NORTH

Rusty Myers 512.218.1606

Frank Miller 512.335.4768

Judy Williams 512.836.7897

SOUTHWEST

Donne Griffiths 512.264.2526 (home)

512.264.0991 (shop)

ROUND ROCK

Larry Walrath 512.255.5379

LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

David Dick 512.357.6517

Classified Ads

Free personal classified ads are available to all members of CTWA to sell, buy or trade woodworking related items. To place an ad, contact Charlie Kay at 512.312.2042 or via E-mail at ckay@austin.rr.com. Ads will be run for two months and then dropped.

FOR SALE: Delta 11" gap bed lathe in excellent condition. Has 3/4 HP motor with speed reducer for bowl turning. All American made. Comes with three face plates, two centers, three tool rests, tilting sanding table with miter gauge and a center steady rest for long turnings. A wonderful buy at \$250 cash.

Contact jack Besperka at 512.261.4682 or jbesperka@austin.rr.com.



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THE CHIP PILE

the newsletter of the central texas woodturners association
a chapter of the american association of woodturners

To:

New Meeting Place!!!

The CTWA Meeting Place has changed! Beginning with the June 15 meeting, the club will begin meeting at American Youthworks, 1901 East Ben White Boulevard (Texas 71) in south Austin. The building is on the south side of Ben White, just east of Interstate 35. The best entry is off Woodward Street, just south of a little strip center. You enter an alleyway into a lighted parking lot. We will enter through the back door. As you drive in, you will see a truck dock in the back of the building with a big roll-up white door. The entryway is just to the right of the truck dock. Because of the construction at Ben White and I-35, folks from the north may want to exit I-35 at Woodward and proceed south on Woodward across Ben White. Folks from the south might do better to go east on St. Elmo, then north on Woodward. Those coming from the west on Ben White will just have to fight their way through until the construction is finished. See you at the meeting.

