

# THE CHIP PILE

the newsletter of the central texas woodturners association

*"to give every turner the opportunity to become a better turner"*

## OCTOBER MEETING

Tuesday, October 19, 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)

## FIRST SATURDAY TURN OUT

Don't forget the First Saturday Turn Out at Charlie Collin's shop, 1603 Hydro Drive, Austin, the first Saturday of every month, from 9 - 12 AM. Turn east on Howard Lane off I-35, take the third right on Thermal Drive and the first left on Hydro Drive.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHOP...

### Confessions of a novice wood turner

Thomas Jefferson once said, "Though I be an old man, I am but a young gardener."

Confession Number One: Though I be an old man, I am but a young wood turner!!! When I first started coming to CTWA, two or three years ago, I thought sandpaper was a tool. You could shape with it (30 grit), take out your mistakes (80 grit) and smooth with it (120 grit). After a while, I had heard the motto, mantra and slogan of demonstrators: "Use sandpaper like it belonged to someone else." I was totally confused. They would also allude to the fact, "I usually start with 220 or 320 grit on my pieces;" i.e., you can gauge your abilities as a turner by what grit you start finishing the project with. AH-HA, a gauge by which to measure progress. I fell in love with this idea, but I was still confused by what this OPSP (Other People's Sand Paper) was all about. So in the summer of 2004, I went in search of OPSP. It had to be different than my sand paper. I would feign reasons to visit another shop for instruction or to observe. Was that ever enlightening. They showed me how to turn wood with a lighter cut, shear cutting.

I couldn't believe it. The reason they depended on such a fine cut finish was the OPSP they used. I didn't even know you could use it in that shape. When I grumbled about its ability, they would beat it

on the tool rest, while some pulled out a wire brush and tried to clean it. All proudly said, "Lots of life left in this puppy." I worried. On trash day, do I have people going through it looking for something they can convert to OPSP? So now I am thinking of selling it on E-bay as OPSP.

While at the SWAT Conference in Temple, I nosed around the demonstrators supplies looking for OPSP and found only Klingspor cloth backed paper never used. Most had torn it into 1" strips and stapled it into books. One demonstrator tore 1" postage stamp size pieces off and sanded with these small portions. I think they pocketed it, because I could never find the postage size pieces after the demo. I swept the floor and kept a close eye out. I thought I might have them sign it.

Confession Number Two: The other thing I learned was how not to burn my fingers while sanding. That question brought smiles from all. There were two answers they all gave me: A - sand at slower speeds and B - put the paper on the end of your electric drill and power sand.

Pretty easy. Here all this time I had been putting 4-5 coats of Thick Hot Stuff on my finger tips to protect them. Well it worked when you practice the guitar.

My confessor told me to stop inhaling dust while turning and to stop cussing when I ruined projects with the skew. I think some one has already written that vignette, "The Taming of the Skew."

Fred Stidman

*(Lynn Kramer has had to stand down as President to fulfill a personal commitment. As President-Elect, Fred has stepped in to fill the remainder of Lynn's term, and will serve a full term next year. This is his first column.)*



## See inside for ...

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### CTWA Web Site

[www.ctwa.org](http://www.ctwa.org)

### 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](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com) or mail them to:

**THE CHIP PILE**  
c/o Charles Kay  
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## Takes on Orlando

Instead of a demonstration, our program for September consisted of three of our members discussing their memories and impressions of the national AAW Symposium held in Orlando, Florida, in July. Fortunately for them and the other attendees, the weather gods had not yet begun to frown on Florida.

**Rusty Myers** began the program discussing his experiences as a first time demonstrator in a nationwide event. He came away impressed by how well he was treated as an equal by the other demonstrators, including those with national and international demonstrations. He was also pleased with the interest and questions that his demonstrations evoked from those in attendance. Sounds like Rusty would do this again.

Next on the agenda was **Drew Shelton**, who showed photographs he had taken, both at the Instant Gallery and the accompanying AAW exhibit, "From Sea to Odyssey," as well as from demos he attended.

The discussion was completed by **Charlie Kay**, who shared photos that he had taken at the Instant Gallery and discussed some of the demonstrations that he found most interesting.

Thanks to all three for sharing their experience with us.

The debut of the new DVD player that **Frank Miller** had purchased for the club was a mixed success. It worked well for Charlie's photos, but didn't like the formatting Drew used. Drew had to make do with holding his laptop computer up and moving it around so folks could see. Since then, Frank has purchased a new box that will connect any PC or notebook to our VCR and monitors. That should solve the problem nicely the next time. Despite the glitch this time, we need to thank Frank again for his great work with our audio-visual systems.

\*\*\*



*Explaining the picture*

*(Drew Shelton photo)*

## Bring Back Raffle

**Emily Griffin** took home a key ring turned by **Jim Brinkman**. **Fred Stidman** was the winner of a \$15 gift certificate from Craft Supplies from **Robin Matthews**. Robin is a new member and not yet turning. **Charlie Kay** was the lucky winner of a three-legged "milking stool" turned by **David Dick**. **Frank Miller** and **Drew Shelton** were winners of \$15 gift certificates donated by Craft Supplies.



**Jim's key ring**

(CBK photo)



**Dave's stool**

(CBK photo)

Each of the three winners of the turned pieces will bring a turning to the next meeting. This item should be representative of that person's best work. While Fred has to bring a turning back, Frank and Drew are off the hook and do not have to bring anything back.



## Show and Tell

- **Johnny Tolly** brought two solo pieces, an aluminum hand turned pen finished with wax and an earring holder turned from mes-



**Aluminum pen**

(CBK photo)



**Earring tree**

(CBK photo)

quite and finished with lacquer and wax. In addition, Johnny brought a bowl that he turned from sycamore, which was decorated with burned in sycamore leaves by wife **Marcia**.

- **Stacey Hager** showed off three pieces, a Chinaberry bowl that has been used as a salad bowl



**Sycamore bowl**

(CBK photo)

see Show and Tell, page 4



**Show and Tell, cont'd**

for a year or more, three gavels, two of rosewood and one of mesquite, and sounding block. One of the rosewood gavels was turned by Stacey's father 40 or more years ago. Stacey's third piece was a large vase turned from a piece of wormy Arizona ash. He brought along a contrasting neck ring and base that he had not yet glued in place, so that he could show how they improved the piece



**Chinaberry bowl**

(CBK photo)



**Gavels**

(CBK photo)



**Stacey's vase**

- **Bob Elfant** shared two bowls, one turned from maple and one turned from walnut and both finished with Deft.
- **HO Evans** wowed us with an unusual piece he called redwood corn,



**Bob's bowl**

(Drew Shelton photo)



**HO's redwood corn**

(CBK photo)

which was turned from redwood burl and cedar and finished with Deft.

- New turner **Emily Griffin** brought two pieces, her first pen, turned from rosewood earlier in the day and finished with Shellawax, and a nostepinne (a spinning tool) turned from poplar and finished with Shellawax.



**Emily's nostepinne**

(CBK photo)

see Show and Tell, page 4

- **Jimmy Tolly** showed off a small bowl turned from huisache and finished with spray lacquer.



Huisache bowl

(CBK photo)



Frank's pens

(CBK photo)

- **Frank Miller** brought three desk pens, but left no information on materials or finish.
- **Johnny Perales**, our host at YouthWorks, has been teaching basic turning to some folks in his shop. Fellow YouthWorks staff member, **Debbie Eden** showed off a piece she had turned in Johnny's class.



Debbie's turned piece

(CBK photo)

### October Program

## "You can have my girl, but don't touch my Hat" (with apologies to Lyle Lovett)

As I look back over this year, I am gratified by the volunteers who have stepped forward to demonstrate. Some have been first timers and I really appreciate them for going out on a limb and giving it a try. I expect to see them again in the future.

Now to thinking about programs for next year (is this an election speech?), I hope you all will continue this trend. I need both suggestions about who you want to see, as well as who you don't. I've received a couple of comments on the latter, as well. Some of the folks I have in mind outside our local club are James Johnson, Steve LeGrue, James Poppel, Uel Clanton, Raul Pena and Ernie Showalter. I'd like to see a demo comparing three different approaches to bird houses - say coopered, logs and ornamental - or maybe a similar approach on boxes. There is so much out there, and only once a month to explore things. What about expanding First Saturday to include a theme each month? On and on. Being Program Chairman is a great job, but it takes input of some kind from many people. Keep it up!

Now we come to this month. I have waited for someone to show this to me for a long time. Several years ago, I saw James Johnson wearing a wooden hat in the rain at Texas Turn or Two at Maricopa. This month, **Len Brissette** will show us the steps to make one of our own. I can't wait!

David Dick



## Business Meeting

There were only 33 attendees at our September meeting, thanks largely to the woodcarvers being in Kerrville at their statewide get together.

### SWAT update

Steve Gottlieb brought us up to date on last minute planning for SWAT. All of the things that our club is responsible for seem to be under control.

### Demonstrators for 2005 AAW Symposium

If you want to be considered as a demonstrator at the 2005 AAW Symposium in Kansas City, you need to get your application in by the end of October.

### CTWA and AAW dues for 2005

Now is the time to get your dues paid for 2005. You will pay both in one check to Membership Chairman Drew Shelton. The total is \$60, \$25 for CTWA and \$35 for AAW.

### Election of 2005 Officers

A slate of nominees will be introduced at the October meeting, and voting will take place at the November meeting. If you plan to nominate someone from the floor, you must have their permission in advance.

### President Lynn Kramer steps down

Lynn Kramer announced that he would be stepping down as President after this meeting so that he and his wife can fulfill a mission they have been called to. President-Elect Fred Stidman will finish out the year and then begin his own term. We thank Lynn for his service.



## Thanks to CTWA SWAT Volunteers

It is with considerable trepidation that we single out anyone to thank for their help in preparing for and helping make the SWAT Symposium in Temple a success. But, as always, there are a few who went above and beyond the call and whose participation needs to be acknowledged.

- Let's start with **Marcia Tolly** and her butterflies, **Kay Hammack** and her cloths
- **Charlie Kay** for being in charge of the SWAT trailer, getting it there, packing and unpacking and getting it home
- **Frank** and **Jane Miller** for "ramrodding" the audio and video for the entire weekend
- **Lynn** and **LouRae Kramer**, **Bill** and **Kay Hammack**, **HO Evans** and **David Dick** for

helping **Carolyn Gottlieb**, **Betty Hager** and **Marcia Tolly** at all the meals

- **Len Brissette** and **Larry Walrath** for picking up and caring for two of our lead demonstrators
- **Drew Shelton** for his assistance with the video set-up and the trailer packing
- **Johnny** and **Jimmy Tolly** for having one of everything we needed to keep gear working
- **Bill Stowe** for being there anytime we needed something
- **James Norton** for building the TV stands
- **Fred Stidman** and **Ed Roberts** for staying late and helping to clean up what other clubs left behind
- Both the **Tolly's** and **Gary Roberts** for going beyond the call in making the turned centerpieces for the banquet tables

And finally to all the rest of you who helped make this the most successful SWAT ever, THANK YOU.

Steve Gottlieb & Betty Hager



## First Saturday - November 6

There was no First Saturday gathering in October, due to the conflict with SWAT. The next First Saturday will be November 6 at Charlie Collins' shop, 1603 Hydro Drive, Austin. The event runs from 9:00 to 12:00, so plan to be there. Bring yourself, your questions, your lathe and tools if you want to.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Adirondack Woodturners Association Symposium, October 30 and 31, Albany, New York**

[www.totallyturning.com](http://www.totallyturning.com)

**4th Annual Florida Woodturning Symposium, January 14 through January 16, 2005**

[www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com)



## Lyle Jamieson to Demonstrate at CTWA in March, 2005

Stacey Hager has contacted Lyle Jamieson and arranged for him to conduct demonstrations and hands-on sessions here in Austin in March, 2005. Lyle is a world renowned turner of hollow form sculpted pieces. Stacey says he is one of the best teachers of turning he has ever studied with, on the same level as Stuart Batty. Details of both the two days of demonstrations and the two-day hands-on session can be seen in detail at [www.lylejamieson.com/instruction-classes/index.asp](http://www.lylejamieson.com/instruction-classes/index.asp).

There will two days of demonstrations, March 12 and 13, at American YouthWorks, our regular meeting site. These will run from 8:30 to 4:30 and will cost \$30 per day. We need at least twenty people each day to break even for the event. This will be followed on Monday, March 14, by one (or two, depending on the preference of the people participating) day(s) of hands-on instruction for five or six people. These sessions will be held in Charlie Kay's shop (bring your own lathe) and will cost \$100 per day per participant. The topic(s) for the hands-on sessions are yet to be determined, but probably the first day will be on basic skills (see website, above) and the second day, if there is enough interest, would probably be on hollow form turning. In addition, Lyle is available on March 15 and 16 for detailed individual instruction for one or two turners at a special rate of \$250 per day.

HO Evans has again graciously consented to handle registration and arrangements for the sessions. The prices above are set to cover the basic costs of the events. If we get more participants, we are suggesting that any funds received over costs should go to the lathe fund.

Mark your calendars (I know, you don't have your 2005 calendar yet) and get in touch with HO and get your name on the list. We will be publicizing this to other clubs in the area and inviting their turners to join us for these events. This should be a real chance to learn from another master turner.

We would appreciate those of you who are interested in participating seeing HO and getting your money in early.



## Dues are Due for 2005

You should soon be hearing from Drew Shelton about paying your dues for 2005. As usual, he will be collecting both your CTWA dues and your AAW dues, as we are a 100 per cent AAW affiliate. You should have received your AAW election ballot and dues statement with your last copy of *American Woodturner*. By all means, send in your ballot, but DO NOT PAY

YOUR AAW DUES TO AAW! You need to get a check to Drew for \$60. This covers your CTWA dues (\$25) and your AAW dues (\$35). You need to get your information in before the end of the year to be in the 2005 AAW directory and be eligible for the drawing for the Powermatic lathe. If you have had any change in your address or E-mail address, you need to advise Drew of that as well.



## Election of Officers for 2005

We will be nominating a new slate of officers for 2005 at the October meeting. A slate will be nominated, but you are free to make a nomination from the floor. However, if you do nominate from the floor, you must have talked to the person nominated and gotten their permission. If you are interested in serving as an officer (or in any other capacity) let Fred Stidman or one of the other current officers know.



## Check Out Our Web Site

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



## Calendar

October 15, 2004 -- 10:00 AM

CTWA Board Meeting - Johnny Tolly's house.

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

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

November 6, 2004 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

November 16, 2004 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

December ?, 2004 -- CTWA Christmas Party

Date, time and place to be determined

January 8, 2005 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

January 18, 2005 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks



## SWAT 2004 is a Big Success

At times, the SWAT gathering looked like a regular CTWA meeting with a lot of visitors, thanks to the large number of our members who attended. Thanks to all for their attendance and particular thanks to those who pitched in and helped with all of the chores our club was charged with as the host club.

Those of you who didn't attend missed a great event, with lots of great demos, including those by our own **Jimmy Tolly**, **Rusty Myers** and **Craig Timmerman**. They also missed the best video work ever, as **Frank Miller's** set-ups and **Steve Gottlieb's** big screen TVs made it easy for everyone to see what the demonstrator was doing. The Instant Gallery continues to grow and the quality of the work displayed continues to amaze. A smattering of the items shown are included in this issue.

### 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
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**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
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#### LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

David Dick	512.357.6517
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The **Gottliebs** and **Hagers** had arranged for some good caterers, and we had good food and enough for everyone. The Spouses Tour and the Spouses Instant Gallery were both successes, and the latter is likely to be much larger next year.

Our club members managed to pick up a few items in the Two-for-One Raffles, although none of our own won the big Powermatic lathe. **Gary Roberts** and **Dave Dick** took away pieces from the turnings raffled at the banquet. Dave walked away with some lace bobbins turned by our own **Judy Williams**. In the equipment and wood raffle at the Sunday lunch, **Johnny Tolly** took home a book and **Al Gaskell** won some wood. Better luck next time folks.

As always, it was a great chance to renew acquaintances with our fellow turners from all over the state and meet new friends from adjacent states and as far away as Wisconsin.

Start making your plans to go to Wichita Falls next year.



### SWAT Instant Gallery - 2004







## From the Editor's Desk

If you didn't make it up to Temple for SWAT on the first weekend in October, you really missed a great event. It was really good to see how so many people from our club who pitched in to do a lot of hard work to help make things a success. The organizers and SWAT Board Members, including Steve Gottlieb, are to be congratulated for the outstanding job they did.

Thanks to Lynn Kramer for serving as our President for most of this year. We wish him and LouRae well as they begin their missionary adventure, and hope to see him back at the club meetings in a

## 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.shelton@sematech.org



year. Meanwhile, Fred Stidman has stepped into the breach and has already begun planning for next year. Thanks to all of the officers who have done their part to make this year a success. Thanks also to the demonstrators, most from our own club and several who demonstrated for the first time. Without them, our meetings would not be successful.

As we wend our way through October, my favorite month in Texas, we enjoy the milder weather and consider the things we need to get done before the end of the year. For those of us with holiday craft shows coming up, that means getting out in the shop and turning out some stuff. It also means thinking about and doing the turnings or other woodcraft that we want to give as gifts. Deadlines help all of us get things done that we've put off.

I've been turning stuff out of that big sycamore that I got hold of near the end of last year. I spent Monday out cutting blanks out of some of the Chinaberry and cedar elm that Stacey and I went and cut up the day before the last meeting. When I get done with the newsletter, I'll be heading out to the shop to try to get something turned for the next meeting. At the least, I have to get my Bring Back item done. I know a lot of you took some of that Chinaberry off the trailer, so we're looking forward to seeing some of it at this meeting.

Charlie



## Update your E-mail address!

It is your responsibility to see that Membership Chairman **Drew Shelton** has your correct E-mail address. You can contact him at **drew.shelton@sematech.org**.



## 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:** Craftsman 14.4V battery p/n 977406-000, Craftsman charger p/n 977405-000, output 16 vdc, 2.5 A, class 2 for battery above. plus carry case, all brand new. \$35.00. Someone stole my drill. Call Bob Hrehor at 512.258.7692 (home) or 512,587.1282 (cell) or E-mail **Bob@hrehor.net**.



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## THE CHIP PILE

the newsletter of the central texas woodturners association

a chapter of the american association of woodturners

To:

### Meeting Location

The CTWA meets at American Youth-Works, 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.

