

THE CHIP PILE

the newsletter of the central texas woodturners association

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

JANUARY MEETING

Tuesday, January 18, 2005
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 west 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...

Morse code, or where did the car go?

The end of each year brings a time to reflect on one's life and contemplate on where one goes from here. Tools have always come dear. I buy only what I will use and can justify. Psychologists say that rationalization is a fallacy of thinking. Not to worry, I have been on the slippery slope many times and I'm not talking skiing. When I was young, the cost of tools was balanced with family needs. Now they are balanced with a fixed income. My dad used to say, "Your tools are like your wife, if you love them you don't loan them." My gunny sergeant used to say, "If you take care of your equipment, it will take care of you." So this time of year I am up to oiling every thing because it does rust in Texas. And I thought the fall spider thing was bad.

I was reminiscing about the excitement of getting your first lathe. You know a new Jet mini is the cheap part. The cost of an adjustable chuck, *i.e.*, Mr. Talon, can rip as much out of your wallet as the new lathe. So what's a guy to do. If I had known Frick and Frack the Turning Brothers and called their show Stump the Chump, I could hear their Connecticut accent now saying, "Well, my friend, this is not the Flying Circus and you are not a Monty Python extra. So have you met my friend Morse. He is a 1-20 Taper kind of guy. You know he is self gripping and tapers 5/8" per foot. He is also cheap and available and comes in many disguises. Well Morse is another

form of the flying circus and can be a fun guy. There is Morse the glue block, Morse the tapered mandrel, Morse the Jam Block, Morse the fixed diameter spigot, Morse the collet Jig and, of course, Morse the Jacobs chuck.

Rumor has it, he has a girl friend Sally Face Plate. I like Sally better when she is hooked up with Freezeplug Sam. He's cheap at one to four bucks and is quite the gripper. Sally can also be jammed up, glued to and cradled to hold almost everything. She has a crush on MDF.

You can do a lot but sooner or later you have to pay the devil his due and break down and get that adjustable chuck. I will confess that I envy the guys who can actually, like alchemists, turn wood into gold and justify the purchase of the latest, got to have gadgets for their lathe. But you know I am lucky, because I can hang out with these dudes and learn from their mistakes. I only want to buy what I need and over the years I have learned that you don't have to have everything to be happy and better yet you don't want everything. In New Guinea the people call all these worldly things cargo. They were always mystified why Europeans always had so much cargo. Man I am envious of these cargo guys. But as you all know my shop is the garage and the car had to go. So in my own little way I am a car-go guy.

Fred Stidman



Where's Judy?

Those of us who braved the stormy weather to make it to the November meeting spent the time wondering what happened to **Judy Williams**, our scheduled demonstrator. Thankfully, she wasn't in an accident, but just lost. She'll be at our January meeting to give the same demonstration she had planned for December.

see *Where's Judy*, page 2

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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:

THE CHIP PILE
c/o Charles Kay
100 Matzig Cove
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Where's Judy?

(Drew Shelton photo)

Since no one had brought wood or turning chisels, none of the old pros at the meeting could step into the breach. So Fred Stidman and the Tolly twins moderated a Question and Answer session for the rest of the evening. Opinions aplenty were shared with the many visitors at the meeting.



Bring Back Raffle

Drew Shelton took home a mesquite bowl turned by **Fred Stidman**. **Larry Walrath** was the winner of a segmented piece turned by **H. O. Evans**. **Frank Miller** was the winner of an IOU from **Emily Griffin**. **Mike Heath** had the lucky ticket for a cherry block and a pecan block, both donated by **Fred Stidman**.



Fred's mesquite pot

(Drew Shelton 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.



Show and Tell

- **Johnny Tolly** brought two "birds in houses", turned from mixed woods and finished with spray lacquer.



Johnny's bird houses

(Drew Shelton photo)

- **Drew Shelton** showed off a tree full of Christmas ornaments.



Drew's ornaments

(Drew Shelton photo)

- **Len Brissette** shared a pot, turned from persimmon and finished with wipe on polyurethane.
- **Larry Walrath** wowed us with two hollow form pieces turned from spalted pecan and finished with wax.
- **Jimmy Tolly** showed off five bowls, all finished with spray lacquer. There were bowls of honey locust and Chinaberry, as well as two giant pecan bowls (18 1/4" and 20 1/4" apiece in diameter. Are these substitutes for his Christmas stocking?



Len's persimmon pot

(Drew Shelton photo)



Larry's hollow forms

(Drew Shelton photo)



Jimmy's persimmon bowl

(Drew Shelton photo)



Christmas Party 2004

Some 35 to 40 folks gathered at **Janie and Charlie Kay's** house on Saturday, December 11 for the annual CTWA Christmas party. The weather couldn't have been nicer, and there was plenty of food and fellowship. Thanks to the nice weather, many folks were able to dine *al fresco*. For those who couldn't attend,



here is a sampling of the good time had by all. Better put this event on your calendar for next year.

We had five or six lathes going and everyone who wanted to was making shavings. **Ho Evans** brought some wood to resaw, but thanks to a dull band saw



see Christmas party, page 5

Christmas party, cont'd



blade, we made lots of smoke sawing his bloodwood, though the hard maple went well. Thanks to **Jimmy Tolly** for the photographs.



January Program

Now, where do we meet?

Yes, I know that this write-up looks familiar. **Judy Williams** received a map and a compass for Christmas and has been assured of a guide and a driver, and will be our demonstrator for this month. Even though we have not seen her at a meeting for many months (plus one), Judy is a long-time CTWA member and past demonstrator. She has been following our activities and has been very anxious to rejoin us. Her demonstration will be a project, a real "how to do it" one. She's going to show us how to turn a hat rack to hang one of **Len Brissette's** hats on. Welcome back, Judy.



Business Meeting

Some 43 folks, including five visitors, braved the stormy weather to attend our November 16, 2004, meeting.

Christmas party

It was announced that the Christmas party would be held from 9:00 to whenever on Saturday, December 11. Members to bring a covered dish and a gift to exchange. The meat and drinks will be provided by the club.

First Saturday

It was announced that the Christmas party will take the place of the December First Saturday and the First Saturday for January 2005 would be held on January 8, rather than January 1.

Amendments to By-Laws

After discussion, it was VOTED to approve the amendments to the By-Laws as proposed in the November newsletter.

Article II - Offices

Change from: *The principle office of this Chapter will be located at 3907 South Industrial Drive, Austin, Texas 78760.*

Change to: *The principle office of this Chapter will be the address of the sitting President.*

Article VI - Meetings

Change from: *This Chapter will meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The meetings will be held at 3907 Industrial Drive, Austin, Texas 78760.*

Change to: *This Chapter will meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The meetings will be held at a place to be designated and listed in the monthly newsletter.*

The Secretary will type up the amended By-Laws and they will be posted on the CTWA web site.

Dues for 2005

Membership Chairman Drew Shelton called our attention to the fact that AAW dues for 2005 had been raised by five dollars, making the combined CTWA/AAW dues \$65. If you only paid \$60, you need to get another five dollars to Drew.

Lyle Jamieson Demos

H. O. Evans made a pitch for the Lyle Jamieson demos scheduled for March, 2005, and encouraged folks to get their registration in (*see related article, page 7*).

Club Tool Exchange

Al Gaskell proposed a periodic Tool Exchange for club members, in which they could bring woodworking tools and exchange them for other tools or for money. It was agreed that we could try it in January.

Board Meeting

Fred announced that there will be a CTWA Board meeting at his house on January 13, 2005.

Noted Author

Our attention was called to Johnny Tolly's article on making inside out Christmas ornaments that was featured in the Winter 2005 issue of **Woodturning Design**.



Dues are Past Due for 2005

If you have not already paid your 2005 dues, you are overdue. You need to get a check to Membership Chairman Drew Shelton for \$65. This covers your CTWA dues (\$25) and your AAW dues (\$40). If you have had any change in your address or E-mail address, you need to advise Drew of that as well.



Calendar

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

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

January 13, 2005 -- CTWA Board Meeting

Fred Stidman's house

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

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

February 5, 2005 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

February 15, 2005 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

March 5, 2005 -- 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

First Saturday - Charlie Collins' Shop

March 11 & 12, 2005 -- 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Jamieson Demos - American YouthWorks

March 14 & 15, 2005 -- 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Jamieson Hands-On Sessions

March 16, 2005 -- 7:00 to 9:00 PM

CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks



In Memoriam

David Hickey

1951 - 2004



We are sad to report that CTWA member **David Hickey** passed away on December 24, 2004. He was survived by wife Dorinda Ann and two sons. Our thoughts are with his family.



Craig Timmerman to Demonstrate in Kansas City

For the second year in a row, CTWA will be represented with a demonstrator at the National AAW Symposium. **Craig Timmerman** has been accepted as a demonstrator for the AAW symposium in Overland Park, Kansas, (*Kansas City*) July 22-24, 2005. He will be doing four rotations, two on his **Design Opportunities** that we have seen at our own meetings and SWAT and two on **Turning a Three-legged Display Stand**. Since we haven't seen the second demo, we're guessing that he will need to get that new demo put together and that David may have a volunteer to premier a new demonstration some time before July! Congratulations, Craig.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com

Register early for Lyle Jamieson sessions in March, 2005

Ho Evans reminds us that Lyle Jamieson will be here to conduct demonstrations and hands-on sessions in Austin in March, 2005. Lyle is a world renowned turner of hollow form sculpted pieces. Stacey Hager describes Lyle as 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.

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.

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. At this point, only six members have signed up for the March 12 demos and only seven for the March 13 sessions. We need a good many more than this to break even for the events, so bring your checkbook to the next meeting and sign up. We have four folks signed up for the Monday and Tuesday sessions at this point.

We will be publicizing this to other clubs in the area and inviting their turners to join us for these events. We would appreciate those of you who are interested in participating seeing Ho and getting your money in early.



First Saturday - February 5

The second First Saturday Turnout for 2005 will be held at Charlie Collin's Shop, 1603 Hydro Drive, Austin. The event runs from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, so plan to be there. Bring yourself, your questions and your lathe and tools if you want to. This is a great opportunity for neophyte turners to learn a lot from more experienced turners and enjoy the fellowship with fellow wood butchers and tool junkies.



Craig's Kerrville Road Trip

In November, I was asked by Raul Pena, of the Hill Country Turners, to do a demonstration for their club. So I packed up all of my mistakes and headed out to Kerrville on November 11th to give my "Design Opportunities" demo. The Hill Country Turners meet in the basement of the Kerr Arts & Cultural Center (KACC) in Kerrville. For those who have never been there, the KACC is the old Kerrville Post Office that has been transformed into a cultural center. They have various exhibits on the main floor and meeting space for several local art groups as well as classroom space in the basement.

All went fine with my demo, although it's hard to get a catch when you aren't turning! There were several questions and lots of discussion, which indicated no one fell asleep, which for a demonstrator is a good thing! It was good to get to a different club meeting; this was the first outside our own that I had attended. The Hill Country Turners are doing many of the same things we are. For example, they have a hands-on session much like our first Saturdays, except they hold it early on their meeting night. They felt they get a better turn out that way. On the night I was there, Uel Clanton was teaching how to make a tool handle. Uel was very generous to give me one of his mesquite handles as a way of saying thanks for demonstrating. They also have show and tell and a bring back raffle. One thing I also enjoyed was the cookies and soft drinks that one member provides each month.

If you are ever free on the second Thursday of the month you might give the Hill Country Turners a visit. They meet at 6:30 PM, but I believe the hands-on session starts around 4:00 PM.

Craig Timmerman



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.



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.



Shop Crawls to Start Again

At the request of our president, Fred Stidman, I am organizing another round of shop crawls. For those of you who are new or perhaps just have short memories, our shop crawls are a chance to visit the shops of other members. Each month a member's shop will be open for a half or full day. This will give you a chance to see different shop layouts, woodworking machines and tools. I'm sure the shop owners on the crawl will be more than happy to let you try out their lathes. Some demos may occur, but it's mainly a chance to see a new shop layout and perhaps take home some ideas for your shop.

What I need first is some volunteers to open up their shop. **Jerry Whiteaker** and Len **Brisette** have already volunteered to open up their shops and I will add in mine for those that didn't see it last year. Once I get a few more to sign up I'll work out a schedule and give you all the details about the shops. We will most likely start in March and will continue for as long as the shops hold out. We will hold the crawls on Saturdays, but we will leave the first Saturday open for our first Saturday turn outs. If you want to add your shop to the crawl list, give me a call at 288-3598 or E-mail me at armadilloww@yahoo.com.

Craig Timmerman



AAW Survey participants requested

In order to make the AAW and the **American Woodturner** more responsive to your ideas and input, you are asked to visit <http://www.woodturner.org/> and take the short AAW Winter 2004 online survey. This survey asks for your input and opinion on topics for articles or features that could appear regularly in the **American Woodturner**. We would like to determine your interest in Topics under consideration for feature articles (3 to 6 pages) and get your feed back as to your interest in the various articles in the recent winter issue of the journal. Most important of all, we want to know what the AAW can do to help you and your chapter. This survey is for professionals and amateurs alike.

This survey will be available from now through January 15th. Please take it and help the AAW Board understand what you really like and want.

Thanks,

Gary Lansinger
AAW Internet Committee Chairman
garland@ameritech.net



Hackberry anyone?

Master turner and wood scrounger **Stacey Hager** has just (January 6) cut down a big hackberry tree, with pieces up to 16 inches across. Those of you who made it to First Saturday on January 8 saw some of it. Stacey will be bring it to the January meeting to share, but if you want some sooner and fresher, just give him a call and drop by. Otherwise, come prepared to take some home on January 18.



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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Logo wanted

Do you have a flair for design and want to become almost famous? The Desert Woodturning Roundup, a national woodturning symposium to be held in Arizona in February, 2006, is looking for a new logo. The logo would need to be in JPEG format with a transparent background. The winning logo designer will receive two tickets to the symposium. Approximate value \$200.00. The logo will be used for the symposium web site, shirts, etc.

E-mail entries to Sean Troy at seantroy@cox.net as soon as possible.



CTWA Board Meeting

The CTWA Board will meet at Fred Stidman's home, 2713 Andrea Ridge Cove, Austin, at 10:00 AM, Thursday, January 13. Topics to be discussed include:

Sponsoring Brazos Valley Wood turners Chapter

Membership

Develop emergency plan - cell phone numbers, etc

Lyle Jamieson March Sessions



January First Saturday

Some twenty or more folks turned out at **Charlie Collins'** shop on January 8 for the first First Saturday Turnout of 2005. The weather was gray and raw and there were a lot of collars turned up and a lot of hands in pockets. The demand for coffee was pretty high as well. **Stacey Hager** brought a bunch of fresh hackberry and used several pieces of it on Charlie's Powermatic to demonstrate turning natural edge bowls to a rapt audience.



Class is in session

(CBK photo)



More coffee!

(CBK photo)



Tiny turning

(CBK photo)



The old pros

(CBK photo)

We had a couple of mini-lathes there and **Rusty Myers, Frank Miller, Bill Hammack, Drew Shelton** and **Charlie Kay** tried their hand and turning a few things.



From the Editor's Desk

I trust that the holidays were good to you and your family, and that you are all recovering from the overindulgence that goes with the season. We had a great Christmas, with our entire family here. Our eleven year old granddaughter spend the week before Christmas with us and helped Grandma get all of the goodies baked.

Janie and I greatly enjoyed having the CTWA folks over for the Christmas party. Thanks to all who brought food and pitched in to help make it a success. I'd particularly like to thank Stacey for coming out and helping me clean out my shop. Despite his best efforts, it still isn't as clean and well organized as his is. We are thankful for the wonderful weather we had, so that we could enjoy the outdoors.

If you haven't made the Christmas party or tried one of the First Saturday sessions, I would encourage you to try them out. They are much more informal than the monthly meetings. You get a chance to get to know your fellow members and it is much easier to ask questions and learn from those folks in the club who are much better turners than the rest of us will ever be.

A couple of you have asked me for drawings of my stand for my Jet mini-lathe. I have to confess that drawing and planning are not my long suit. I make a rough sketch of what I want to build, then start sawing and nailing. In the case of the stand, I sized it as I went to fit the lathe and the plywood scraps I had on hand. I will produce something resembling drawings and some photographs and put an article in next month's **CHIP PILE**. Plus, I will share with you

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 \$40.00 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



the modifications that I would make if I were doing it again. There will be no charge for the latter.

I hope that you are all looking forward, as I am, to a full and exciting year of activities with the CTWA. New president Fred Stidman is intent on organizing us and has a number of new ideas for us to pursue. Dave Dick continues to pull together our monthly demonstrations and more and more folks pitch in to help with making our club an even bigger success. I am planning on a redesign of the newsletter. I bought a book and a tutorial on Adobe InDesign and am working my way through the exercises. I didn't get far enough with it to be able to implement the changes this month, but I hope to have an upgraded look within the next month or two. Have I told you that putting this thing together every month is really fun, even if I do procrastinate.

Hope everyone has a good 2005 turning.

Charlie



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: Powermatic Model 45. Old, but in good working order. Variable speed, one hp, 12x36, heavy (about 400 lb.). Comes with faceplates, drive center, live center, etc. Will help you deliver. \$700.

Oneway tailstock live center system. MT2. \$50.

Call Len Brissette at 512.423.3625, or E-mail at mesquite@texas.net.

FOR SALE: Grizzly 12" surface planer. Runs great. Newly sharpened blades and extra set of blades included. Has 4" dust collector chute. \$125.00. Call Jim Brinkman at 512.258.4732 or E-mail at jsbrink@attglobal.net.

Charles Kay, Editor
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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.

