



# The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Tuesday, February 20, 2007

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 TURNOUT

The First Saturday Turnout for March will be held on March 3, at Len Brissette's Shop, 10901 Cady Circle, Austin.

## Aah! Texas Weather

I had to cancel the January meeting due to the ice storm. I sent out emails, called some people on the phone, and asked Larry Walrath to put a notice on the web site. I haven't heard if anyone braved the ice and showed up expecting to have a meeting, but I apologize if anyone did.

January's meeting was to have been the first to use the new audio/video setup that Frank Miller has put together for us. Several people showed up on the previous Saturday morning to learn how to operate the new system and to work out the bugs. It was then that we found out that we were

going to have to make it work without

him at the meeting since he was already booked for that night. Frank had taught us well, but all the same, I can't deny the sense of relief when the ice storm showed up - at least as far as running the video cameras was concerned.

February's First Saturday at Stacey Hager's shop was a success. Stacey had multiple heaters going, including one assigned to warm the propane tank of a larger heater. With everything nice and toasty,

Professor Hager gave lessons on skew usage, beads and coves and sharpening. I've seen him demonstrate these before, but I always pick up something that didn't stick previously, I'll be standing next to the lathe again the next time Stacey conducts his tutorial.

When Stacey was done, I attached my Elbo hollowing rig to his lathe and several people tried it. I continue to be pleased with the reactions I get from those who try it, especially since it makes me feel better about the

money I spent on it. Meanwhile, Craig Timmerman demonstrated how to turn a simple lidded box on his mini-lathe.

My current project is a set of pine bowls for a friend I used to work with. She had a pine tree taken down on her property and gave me four pieces to turn some bowls that she can give as gifts. She requested no specific shape and they don't have to match. One blank has been feasted on by worms for quite a while, so I've been experimenting with how to fill the worm holes. I haven't done much of that before, so I'm enjoying the opportunity to learn.

Drew

## Turned Jewelry

I turned my first pair of earrings about a year ago and the ladies in my life - and I have quite a few - gushed over that miserable pair of earrings and wanted more. Well, I'm not one to disappoint my ladies so I embarked upon a program to make beautiful wearable art. Nowadays I often find myself at the costume jewelry display at Wal-Mart, getting ideas on what designs are popular and collecting baubles that have interesting elements that

can be cannibalized for my turnings. I do get more than a few quizzical stares from other guys as they make their way to the tool and automotive sections.

From point of view of technique, making jewelry on the lathe is not really difficult. When you examine the procedure closely, it consists of simple spindle work and face plate techniques. The creativity aspect is in the

see Demo, page 2

February Program

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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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## 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 512.295.2144, 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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## February Demo

combination of simple turned shapes and other elements to create a pleasing piece of jewelry that is unique - a creative process for me.

My demonstration will introduce some of my design concepts as I create a simple earring and pendant set in mesquite and sterling silver. The completed set will be donated to the club as a door prize.

Joel

## 2007 CTWA Dues

We are now actively collecting dues for 2007. Since the AAW is having a drawing for a Powermatic lathe as an incentive to renew online, we're focusing on collecting just the \$25 local dues for 2007. Anyone who doesn't want to renew their AAW membership online can still pay us the additional \$40 AAW dues (\$45 for family) and we will pass it along as we always have in the past.

You can either pay at the meeting or mail a check to:

**Drew Shelton**  
112 Oakland Drive  
Georgetown, TX 78628

## Web Site

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).

## Photos

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton** and **Frank Miller**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at [ckay@austin.rr.com](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com).

## Cindy Drozda Box Raffle

Someone who shall remain nameless forgot to bring the Cindy Drozda boxes to the November meeting. As you will recall, during her workshops in the spring, Cindy kindly donated three of her demo pieces to the club to be used as a fund raiser. At our August meeting, we began selling special raffle tickets for these items. Therefore the drawing to see who the lucky winners are has been postponed until the February meeting.

These boxes are superbly executed, and signed by Cindy. Although they are well sanded, they are not finished to Cindy's usual gallery standards.



## E-mail

It is your responsibility to see that acting Membership Chairman **Drew Shelton** has your correct E-mail address. You can contact him at [dcshelton@gmail.com](mailto:dcshelton@gmail.com). We regularly use E-mail to advise members of important announcements on short notice. If Drew doesn't have your current E-mail address, we can't contact you.

## CTWA Supporters

We don't recognize often enough those businesses that support our club. If you don't already do so, be sure to support those folks that support us, either through discounts or gift certificates.

**Hogan Hardwoods**  
**Woodcraft**  
**Craft Supplies USA**  
**The Cutting Edge**

First Saturday - March



On a cold, gray and dreary February 3, some 15 of us gathered in **Stacey Hager's** cozy shop. Most impressive was his esoteric collection of heaters to warm up the normally unheated shop. Stacey was conducting tutorials in the use of the skew his Oneway 2436, followed by a second session on sharpening. A large group was paying close attention to both discussions.

When Stacey was done with the skew session, **Drew Shelton** set up his ElboTool on the 2436 and let various folks try it out. **Craig Timmerman**, meanwhile, was demonstrating turning small boxes on his mini-lathe on the other side of the shop. **Frank Miller** had set up his vacuum gouge on Stacey's Delta mini-lathe, and several folks tried that device.



Meanwhile, in the solarium, the ladies were exploring the complexities of pyrography.



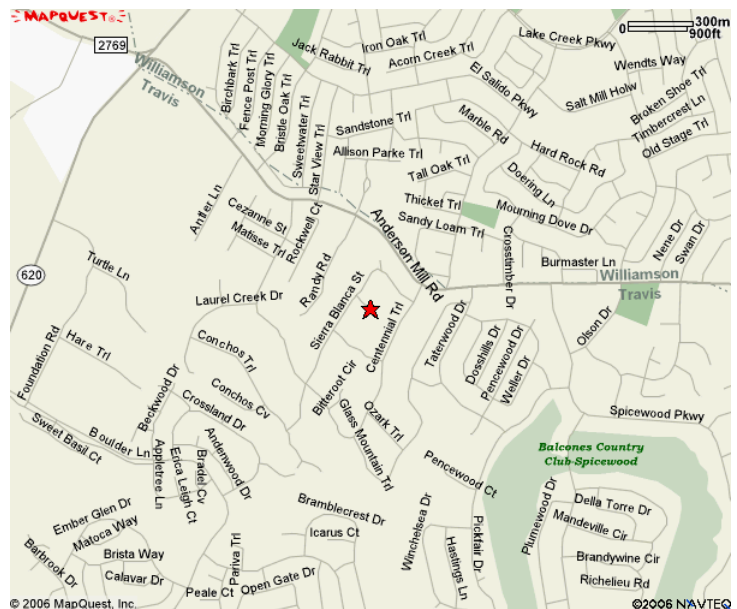
First Saturday

Our March 3, 2006, First Saturday Shop Crawl will be held at President **Len Brissette's** shop in North Austin. After several events to the south and west, the north Austinites won't have an excuse to miss this event.

This is a good chance to see Len's nice shop and to ponder what a challenge it must have been to get all the materials back in there to build it. Then there was the challenge of getting the Oneway 2436 down that narrow track as well.

To get to Len's house, take Anderson Mill Road, either from RR 620 or US 183. Turn south on Centennial Trail, go a short block and turn right on Sierra Blanca, go another short block and left on Cade Circle. Len's house is at the end of the cul de sac, number 10901. A short walk down the driveway and by the pool will take you to the shop.

If you get lost, give Len a call at 512.258.4004.



## Tolly Travels

As 2007 gets underway, **Johnny** and **Marcia Tolly** are on the road again. This is the eighth consecutive year that Johnny has demonstrated for the Alamo Woodturners Club. This year, at their January meeting, he showed them how to make wind chimes. The wood used was Texas mesquite and the tubes were made from copper tubing. The demonstration first showed how to tune the copper tubes for the correct tones, called the Node. Following this, Johnny turned the top, clapper and sail. After all the parts were turned, the chime set was assembled and donated to the club to raffle off at their next meeting. There were more than 30 people in attendance. The crowd seemed to enjoy Johnny's demonstration and several indicated they would try their hand at making wind chimes.

On February 9, Johnny and Marcia traveled over to Kerrville where Johnny demonstrated to more than 40 members of the Hill Country Wood Turners. Again, he demonstrated how to make wind chimes using copper tubes and mesquite parts. Though there was some problem with the lathe, Johnny was able to complete his demonstration.

## SWAT Demonstrators Needed

I am the Demonstration Committee Chairman for SWAT this year. As such, I would like for all you demonstrators to consider applying to demonstrate at the SWAT Symposium in Wichita Falls in October. I know we have some great demonstrators in our club and I want to encourage you all to apply. If you are interested, you can get the application form from me at the club meetings, send me an E-mail at ([swat@armadillowood-works.com](mailto:swat@armadillowood-works.com)) or, soon, the application form will be on the SWAT web site ([www.swatuners.com](http://www.swatuners.com)).

You will have to submit a description of what you plan to turn, a list of your demonstrating experience, a biography and at least two pictures - one of what you will be demonstrating and one other example of your work. If you have any questions about the application process or need

## 2007 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

March 3  
April 7  
May 5  
June 2  
July 7  
August 4  
September 1  
October 6  
November 3  
December 8 (Christmas Party)

**Len Brissette**  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*

To volunteer to host a First Saturday Shop Crawl, get in touch with Len Brissette.

any help filling out the application, just let me know.

Craig Timmerman

## SWAT 2006 Plans

Planning is well underway for another great SWAT Symposium this fall in Wichita Falls. SWAT Board Members and Committee Chairs met at the Convention Center in Waco on January 27 to get the process started.

The 2007 Symposium will take place from October 5 through 7 at the MultiPurpose Event Center in Wichita Falls. Lead demonstrators will be **Stuart Mortimer, David Marks, Alan Stirt, Cindy Drozda** and **J. Paul Fennel**. The Regional Lead will be

CTWA's own **Stacey Hager**.

Registration will begin on Friday morning, and demonstration rotations will start at 1:30 PM. The Symposium will end at 3:00 PM on Sunday.

This year's Board meeting saw the Board wrestling with SWAT's growing pains. As those of you who attended last year's Symposium in Temple are aware, SWAT has grown too large for that venue. While the facility in Wichita Falls is first rate and large enough, it is located far from the demographic center of the organization's members. There is no simple solution to resolving those problems. With those thoughts in mind, the Board directed the Executive Committee to proceed to enter negotiations with the Convention Center in Waco for using that facility long-term, beginning in 2008.

The SWAT Registration fee for 2007 will rise to \$125 for an individual.

Included in this will be another half-day of demonstrations, an additional lunch on Friday, a fifth lead turner and the packet of demonstration handouts that we had to purchase separately last year. In addition, part of the increased fee goes toward the increased cost of renting the facilities in Waco beginning in 2008.

Expect the first SWAT 2007 newsletter to appear on the newly revised SWAT website, [www.swaturner.org](http://www.swaturner.org), early in March. That issue will give considerably more details on plans for the Symposium.

## Calendar

The calendar listings are an attempt to keep you up to date on upcoming CTWA events, as well as other events of particular interest to woodturners.

**Feb 20, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

**March 3, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
First Saturday - Len Brissette's Shop

**March 20 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

**April 7, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
First Saturday - to be announced

**April 17, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

## 2007 Demonstration Schedule

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| February 20 | Joel Crabbe - Jewelry Design |
| March 20    | To be announced              |
| April 17    | To be announced              |
| May 15      | Johnny Tolly                 |
| June 19     | To be announced              |

If you are interested in being a Demonstrator at one of our meetings, or want to suggest a demonstrator, get in touch with Program Chairman Gene Stokes.

### From the Editor's Desk

When you don't have a meeting, you don't have a lot of material to turn into a newsletter. The quirky weather in mid-January certainly made things interesting.

Things got off to an exciting start on Saturday, January 13. I had plans to drive in to see the demonstration of Frank Miller's new video system at YouthWorks. About 8:00, the bottom fell out here, eventually giving us 5.8 inches of rain in an hour and 45 minutes. I drove through several patches of six to eight inches of swift flowing water, just trying to get out of my subdivision, and eventually found that I couldn't get into Austin at all. All of

the roads out of here were blocked at some point.

Then on Monday, the ice arrived. Although it was never as bad as the forecasters anticipated, it just kept coming, and our wam weather highway crews just weren't able to cope with it, effectively shutting down the whole region for several days. That included our January meeting.

The gray, raw dreary weather has put a damper on my enthusiasm to do much of anything. I have been out turning some boxes, as I have some requests for them, and I need to get some more bottle stoppers turned as well. As I write this, another cold front is on the way. While it will be chilly it promises not to be anything like the one of a month ago. Soon all of this will be behind us and we will be carping about the summer heat again. We humans are never satisfied.

Keep on turning,

Charlie

## 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 \$45.00 for families. For that, you get a first class quarterly magazine, *American Woodturner*, with excellent articles on woodturning and woodturners, amply illustrated with color photographs.

To learn more about membership or want to join CTWA, contact our Membership Chairman:

Drew Shelton  
112 Oakland Drive  
Georgetown, TX 78628  
dcshelton@gmail.com  
512.863.4651

## 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

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Bill Hammack    | 512.282.0832 |
| Stacey Hager    | 512.282.1036 |
| Johnny Tolly    | 512.858.4471 |
| Jimmy Tolly     | 512.894.0686 |
| Craig Timmerman | 512.288.3598 |
| 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 |

### ROUND ROCK

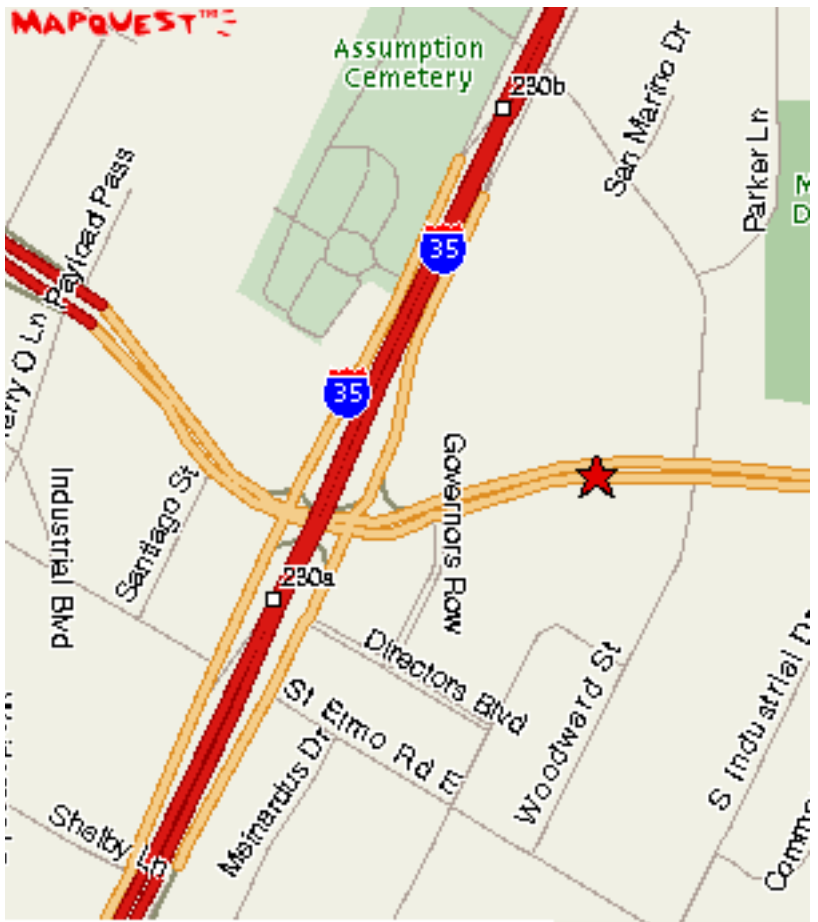
|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Larry Walrath | 512.255.5379 |
|---------------|--------------|

### LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| David Dick     | 512.357.6517 |
| Curtis Seebeck | 512.738.0775 |

### 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. Folks coming from the north may want to exit I-35 at Woodward and proceed south on Woodward across Ben White.



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To: