



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

JUNE MEETING

Tuesday, June 19, 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 June will be held on July 7, at 9:00 AM at a location to be announced

the slabs to have enough pieces to give some to everyone who wanted it. Needless to say, I wasn't burdened with unloading any after I got back home.

I've been practicing making femispheres. I am going to demonstrate turning a femisphere at the Brazos Valley club's meeting in July. I'll be giving that same demonstration at SWAT this year for my first ever SWAT demo. Many thanks to Jim Spano for showing me how to make one.

I hope to be able to come up with a suitable challenge by the July meeting. Speaking of meetings, I won't be at the June meeting because I'll be on vacation.

I recently bought some of those linked drive belts that are supposed to reduce vibration in power tools. I'm here to tell you that they work very well. My table saw used to vibrate enough to make items fall off of it. Simply replacing the belt made it run much smoother and quieter. I've now replaced the belt on my band saw and next will be my drill press. I want to put one on my lathe since it vibrates quite a bit. However, it uses a 3/8" belt and my linked belts are all 1/2".

See you in July.

Drew

From the President's Shop

Spalting and Vibration

Stacy Hager called me a couple of weeks ago after someone contacted him about a dead pecan tree that had been taken down.

I contacted the property owner, who said he had eight sections about two feet in diameter. He apologized for the dark lines that were in it, so I told him that it was called "spalting" and is actually a very desirable feature. Due to the weight of the pecan log sections, it took me two trips to haul all of it home. I shared (most of) it with the guys who came to First Saturday at Craig Timmerman's. I have tried giving wood away before, with not much success, but this was the

first time for pecan. I had to split

I will be one of several members playing guinea pig for Craig Timmerman next weekend as he develops a class for his "flying bowls". I really like the bowls and am looking forward to learning how to make one, even though I don't (yet) have a power carver.

I was reminded recently that I haven't issued a President's Challenge. I don't have anything in mind yet. So if anyone has any ideas, I'm listening.

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May Demo

Music of the Pipes

Our May meeting featured **Johnny Tolly** showing us how to make a set of windchimes out of copper pipe and mesquite and miscellaneous bits. As you might suspect, there was not a lot of turning involved and lots of other stuff. As you might also suspect, Johnny

had arrived at a number of innovative solutions to difficulties that have long plagued windchime makers.

Johnny turned the hanging disc and the clapper out of mesquite, which was a straightforward turning project. He also explained how to tune the lengths of pipe to get the exact pitch you are looking for in the chord. He admitted that tuning the pipe was **Marcia's** specialty. He then showed

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2007 Officers

President

Drew Shelton
512.863.4651
dcshelton@gmail.com

President Elect

Craig Timmerman
512-288-3598
craig@heartoftexaschorus.org

Program Chairman

Gene Stokes
512.288.3598
gstokes1@austin.rr.com

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Charlie Kay
512.295.2144
ckay@austin.rr.com

Treasurer

Ed Roberts
512.255.3294
eroberts6@juno.com

Membership Chairman

Clyde Little
512.413.6931
clyde2044@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Larry Walrath
512.255.5379
larry@larrywalrath.com

Audio/Visual Coordinator

Frank Miller
512.335.4768
millerstexas@msn.com

Librarian

Betty Hager
512.282.1036
staceyhager@hotmail.com

CTWA Web Site

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 or mail them to:

The Chip Pile
c/o Charles Kay
100 Matzig Cove
Buda TX 78610-3108

May Demo



us how to find the "nodes" for each pipe, the places where the two sine waves cross 22.4 per cent of the distance from each end.



Drilling the holes to hang the pipe at one of these nodes will result in the most resonant tone for the pipe.

Now for the innovations. Most windchime pipes are hung with monofilament

nylon string. That means that you have to protect the string from the rough edges of the hole you drilled



through the copper pipe. You also face the likelihood that eventually the string will fail as it is exposed to ultra-violet light.



Johnny solved the first challenge by turning tiny axles and washers from Delrin, inserting the axles through the hole in the copper pipe and gluing the washers on either end to hold them in

place. The second, he eliminated altogether by replacing the nylon string with brass chain to hang the pipes. The result is a beautiful piece that is unique and will only look better as the copper patinates.

Thanks, Johnny, for an interesting and well done demonstration.

Bring Back Raffle

Bruce Laughlin was the winner of a cedar lidded box finished with Mylands, turned by **John Thompson**. **Sherry Spell** took home a combination wine stopper/corkscrew turned from bocote and finished with Mylands by **Doug Green**. **Len Brisette** was the lucky winner of **Johnny Tolly's** demo windchime set of mes-



quite and copper.

As is the custom, each of the winners bring back a turned item to the next meeting. The Bring Back items should be representative of each person's best work.



It should be noted that the Bring Back Raffle is meant to be a fun event. No one is grading you on the quality of your work. Just bring a piece that represents the best that YOU can do. If you don't have a lathe or feel like you have enough

experience, contact one of our Volunteer Instructors to help you prepare a Bring Back piece. So buy a ticket, get involved and have fun.



Show and Tell

Joe Kirk brought a pair of Michael Hosaluk style door stops turned of maple and finished with mineral oil and beeswax.



a "snail box" in progress, all turned in the Michael Hosaluk classes.



Ho Evans showed off a Genie bottle glued up from segments of shop scraps, using wedges, rings, staves and veneers of walnut, mahogany, canarywood, walnut, redheart and a bit of black enamel.



Larry Walrath

brought a beautiful bowl turned from spalted pecan and finished with tung oil.



Lynn Kramer shared the biggest sensation of the evening, a rose engine lathe he had built from plans in the Spring 2007 issue of *American Woodturner*. Quite an impressive piece, and we are looking forward to seeing what Lynn turns out on it.



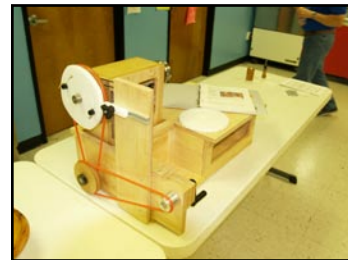
Jimmy Tolly

showed off a number and paper towel holder, typical of ones he had turned for a barbecue restaurant.

James Norton

brought a set of nested bowls turned from a maple burl and finished with tung oil. James

explained that he was one bowl short of a set, as he really needed a maple burl funnel that size.



Finally, several folks brought along items they had made in the Hosaluk classes. I have no names on any of them, but here are some random shots to give you an idea of the variety.

Stacey Hager showed off his "sun-fish," a sphere and "pre-baseball" and

Getting an Edge

Stacey Hager will be our demonstrator for June, undertaking a shortened version of the demonstration he plans for SWAT in October. He will begin with a brief discussion of tool steel alloys, including sources of tool steels, hardening and tempering.

Second will be a brief discussion of grinders and RPM, including wheels, balancing and turning, jig and hand grinding, honing and stropping and techniques for achieving the desired tool profile.

The bulk of the evening will be devoted to sharpening. Members are invited to bring tools they would like sharpened or analyzed. Stacey will get to as many of these as time allows.

Stacey intends to leave you with this parting challenge: Learn to sharpen so well that you look forward to it!

We had 42 attendees at our May 15 meeting, including three visitors.

President **Drew Shelton** recognized several folks for their contributions to the success of the Hosaluk demonstrations by giving them the demo pieces that Michael left for the club.

Betty and **Stacey Hager** received the autographed baseball for hosting Michael and catering the luncheons on the weekend. **Frank Miller** received the blackened pot for his outstanding camera work and **Bob**

Waltz received the fish for hosting the hands-on sessions in his shop.

Librarian **Betty Hager** reported on the new DVDs that have been added to the club library.

Johnny Tolly summarized the state shop students competition which a number of CTWA members helped to judge.

Joel Crabbe made a pitch for basswood spindles to be used for carvers to put eagle heads on to make canes for disabled veterans of the Iraqi war. A number of folks volunteered to assist with the project.

2007 Demonstration Schedule

June 19
July 17
August 21
September 18

To be announced
To be announced
To be announced
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.

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:

Clyde Little
14307 Geronimo
Volente, TX 78641
clyde2044@yahoo.com
512.413.6931

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.

Woodcraft
Craft Supplies USA
The Cutting Edge

If you haven't paid your CTWA dues for 2007, you are now officially in arrears. Remember that our dues are our primary source of funds, paying for such things as subsidizing our spring outside demonstrator weekend, the Christmas party and our new audio visual setup. Our primary focus is collecting 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:

Clyde Little
14307 Geronimo
Volente, TX 78641

It is your responsibility to see that Membership Chairman **Clyde Little** has your correct E-mail address. You can contact him at clyde2044@yahoo.com. We regularly use E-mail to advise members of important announcements on short notice. If Clyde doesn't have your current E-mail address, we can't contact you.

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton** and **Charlie Kay**. 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.

April First Saturday

The June 2 First Saturday saw eighteen or so folks show up at **Craig Timmerman's** shop. The turnout was undoubtedly increased by the opportunity to share some of **Drew Shelton's** spalted pecan. **Jim Spano** challenged all of the expert to turn a bead on an inside curve. There were varying degrees of success, but none that Jim considered totally acceptable. The next project found Jim winning the award for the biggest catch of the day. **Stacey Hager** spent a great deal of time tutoring new tuners on spindle turning and Craig demonstrated turning small boxes.



First Saturday

Len Brissette reports that we are suffering a shortage of hosts for First Saturday events. Len is planning to host the August event, but at this point we still have no host for July. Unless someone volunteers soon, we will have to cancel the First Saturday event for July.

You don't have to have a dream shop to host the event, although most who have hosted say the event has forced them to clean up their shop a bit. So if you are willing to share a corner of your garage, or even your shade trees for folks to do a little turning and a lot of visiting, you too can host a First Saturday event. You can get in touch with Len to volunteer, or if you are up to hosting the July event, you can announce it at the June 19 meeting.

Web Site

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.

From the Editor's Desk

Judging the 2007 AAW Newsletter competition proved to be an interesting and rewarding experience, although it did take a good deal of time. I drew up a score sheet and graded things from one to ten in four or five categories, but by the time I had read them all, I had begun to come up with a list of thirteen or so features that I felt belonged in a successful newsletter, so I went back through them all again against that check list.

While the newsletter entries ran the gamut from barely passable to outstanding, I found something good

in most all of them. Often the best example of a given feature appeared in a newsletter that was otherwise undistinguished. I was also struck by the really interesting things that some clubs are doing. As soon as I finish E-mailing critiques to the rest of the editors, I will try to share some of the things I learned with you in a future issue.

As I was finishing up the process, it occurred to me that some of the insights I had gained in the process might be helpful to other newsletter editors and maybe an article for the AAW journal was in order. Before I could get a proposal off, I received an E-mail from the Editor, proposing just such an article. I have sent an piece in for his consideration, so we will see how that goes.

We were tied up for four or five days this last weekend with a family wedding. One of Janie's great nieces was getting married, and lots of Janie's family were in town for the event. We hosted several and were visited by several others. This always gives me an opportunity to clear out some of my inventory, as most are anxious to go home with some hand made good-

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 512.295.2144 or via E-mail at ckay@austin.rr.com. Ads will be run for two months and then dropped.

FOR SALE: Shopsmith overarm router with all accessories plus an old Craftsman 1/4" router. \$75 OBO. I need to get rid of it.

Contact Charlie Kay at 512-295-2144 or by E-mail at ckay@austin.rr.com.

ies. Quite a number of wine stoppers, bangles and pens walked away from the shop.

That got me to thinking about why most of us do this stuff. In my case, it is mostly because I enjoy the process of making something beautiful that someone might value for its own sake. While I sell a little bit of stuff over the course of a year, what it really is all about it seeing someone happy to take it home. If I sell enough to buy some new toys from time to time, then that is a bonus.

I have managed to get a little bit of turning done over the last several weeks, despite the yard chores that had accumulated during our rainy spring. There are a number of new boxes on my shelf, and I have had fun making handles for the new tools I bought from Michael Hosaluk. I know that is old hat to most of you, but these are the first tools I have put handles on.

Keep on turning,

Charlie

2007 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

July 7	Volunteer Needed
August 4	Len Brissette
September 1	Volunteer Needed
October 6	Volunteer Needed
November 3	Volunteer Needed
December 8 (Christmas Party)	Volunteer Needed

As you can see, we have a serious shortage of sites for this popular event for the rest of the year. You don't have to have a fancy shop to host it, just a place for folks to congregate and drink coffee, eat donuts, and maybe for one or two to turn. To volunteer to host a First Saturday Shop Crawl, get in touch with Len Brissette.

Upcoming Woodturning Symposiums

Utah Woodturning Symposium

June 21 - 23, Provo, UT
www.utahwoodturning.com

AAW National Symposium

June 29 - July 1, Portland, OR
www.woodturner.org

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.

June 19, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

July 7, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - To be announced

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

Aug 4, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - To be announced

Aug 21, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

Sept 1, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Craig Timmerman's

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

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

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

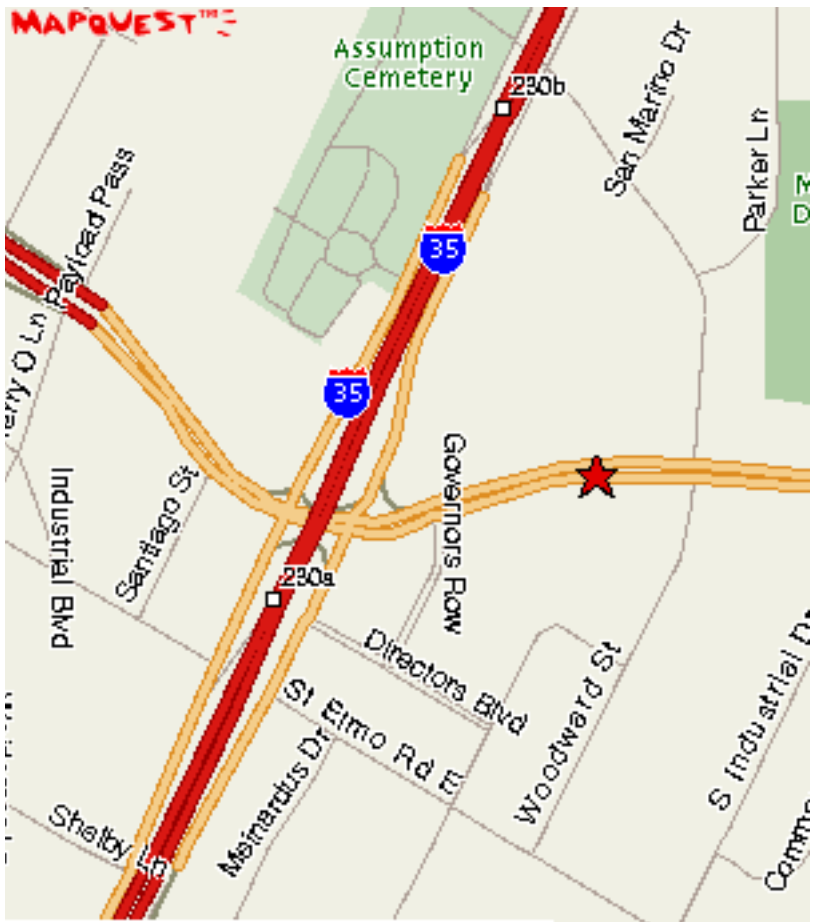
Larry Walrath 512.255.5379

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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Charles Kay, Editor
100 Matzig Cove
Buda, TX 78610-3108

To: