



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

AUGUST MEETING

Tuesday, August 21, 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 September will be held on September 1, at 9:00 AM at Bill Hammack's shop, 908 Mockingbird Drive, Manchaca

From the President's Shop

Where is That Gouge?

I have been making a rack for my turning tools. It's something I've wanted to do for a few years, but there have always been more interesting projects to work on. Until now, my tools have been in a pile on an old, small table next to my lathe, with the tool I want always at the bottom. I bought tools from Michael Hosaluk back in April. This caused the tool pile to achieve critical mass. It no longer wanted to remain on the table, so I knew I had to do something.

Thus I have been taking advantage of the First Saturday meetings to pay attention to the tool racks our members have. I've

seen lots of different designs, all with advantages and disadvantages. I settled on PVC pipes tilted at 45° suspended between pieces of wood. The tools fit inside the pipes with the handles facing up. I even made it so that it can stand on the same table as my mini-lathe when I attend a class. When it's next to my big lathe, it will stand on a wooden cart - as soon as I make the cart. In the meantime, it's on the table that used to hold my tool pile.

I decided to test the functionality of my new rack by making some dogwood Christmas ornaments that I owe a friend in return for the free dogwood. I was nice not having to dig for the right tools. I didn't even mind putting them back right where I had gotten them. However, I need to let my friend know that the dogwood is still too green, since both of the ornaments I tried split while still on the lathe.

Drew

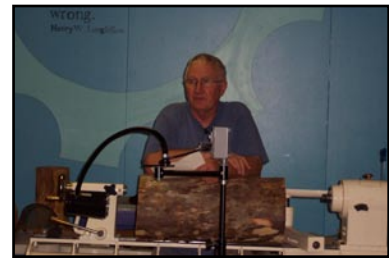
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July Demo

Bigger is Always Better

Our own Larry Walrath is well known for his large hollow form turnings and large sets of nested bowls, so he set out in his July demonstration to tell us how to handle and turn large pieces successfully. How large? As our club Oneway 1640 is small by Larry's standards,



he checked first to find out the maximum size piece he would be able to mount on the lathe.

Larry began his session with a nice slide talk on big wood. When we talk about big wood, we're talking



about whole tree trunks, a heavy duty tandem trailer, an oversized diesel pickup and a Bobcat to get the logs off the trailer and onto his bandsaw mill, all of which were shown in his slides. Additional slides showed how

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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 512.295.2144, 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

he handles the large blanks, as well as how he cores the large blanks for the nested bowls and how he mounts and turns the large blanks.

After the slide talk, Larry mounted a large log section between centers on the lathe. Yes, it fit, but with almost



no room to spare. He then turned the blank round and showed how he squares off the end and mounts the blank on a face plate so that he can



shape and hollow it. He then mounted a prepared blank on the headstock and proceed to show us his hollowing technique. Although he didn't use it



in his demonstration, Larry showed us his custom large steady rest, complete with wheels from a garage sale roller-blade.

Thanks to Larry for a well-organized and thorough presentation. It was informative and helpful for all of us.



Bring Back Raffle

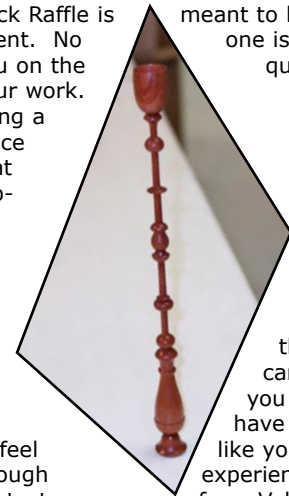
Charlie Kay was the winner of a desk pen/letter opener turned from mesquite by **Frank Miller**. **Jack Besperka** took home a 16 inch high goblet turned from mahogany and finished with Waterlox by **Dave Dick**. **Dave Dick**, in turn, was the lucky winner of a "Koi Platter," turned and burned from pecan and finished with lacquer by **Joel Crabbe**.

As is the custom, the each of winners will 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 your work. Just bring a piece that rep-



resents the best that YOU can do. If you don't have a lathe like you have experience, or feel enough of our Volunteer 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

Curtis Turner brought a pair of boxes of hackberry and ash, as well as a walnut box.



Bob Elfant shared a pair of off-center bowls, one of cherry and one of mahogany, both finished with Danish oil.



together. Drew will be demonstrating femispheres at SWAT.

Stacey Hager sat on his piece, a stool turned from figured hackberry and finished with Waterlox. The stool featured steam bent turned legs.



Jake Ivey showed off a Sinjapor spiked ball of pine and oak.

H. O. Evans brought a piece he called



"Outside the Box," turned from walnut and finished with Deft.

John Huber brought a segmented table lamp of black palm and holly, finished with Watco wipe-on polyurethane.



Jim Spano went quackers, with a turned duck of hackberry finished with Behlen's Master Gel and a duck box of sycamore and mystery wood and finished with shellac and wax.

Jack Besperka showed off candle or plant holder turned from mesquite finished with lacquer as well as a carved live oak bowl finished with wax.



Drew Shelton showed off a beautiful lidded bowl of afzelia burl and ebony, finished with Danish oil and Renaissance wax. He also brought a



Joel Crabbe shared a earring and pendant set of mesquite and copper and a mesquite burl vase, both finished with lacquer.



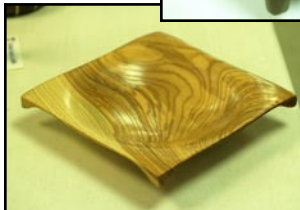
pair of femispheres, one of Corian and one turned from 16 pen blanks glued

see Show & Tell, page 4

Show & Tell



Mack Peterson brought along a number of pieces of various descriptions.



Dave Dick showed off a tall slender goblet of bubinga.



July Program

Lay an Egg

Curtis Turner is our demonstrator this month, and here is what he has planned.

Turned eggs are the kind of project that kids and adults never hesitate to pick up and admire. Eggs are a great way to "collect" samples of different species of wood. Despite its simple form, an egg presents numerous turning challenges. Fortunately, eggs have a range of acceptable forms and sizes that feel right. Egg turning makes for great practice. Turning a simple egg helps to train the eye, hand and mind. The flowing lines of the egg can find their way into many other turned projects, such as the curves of spindles of all types, ranging from finials, goblets, balls and even bowling pins.

This project requires a minimum of turning tools, simple chucking options and some scrap wood. The finish can be as simple as a quick spin through a buffing system.

Business Meeting

We had 44 attendees at our July 17 meeting, including seven visitors.

There were no significant action items at the June Business Meeting.

Johnny Tolly reminded us that the SWAT Symposium is scheduled for the first weekend in October in Wichita Falls.



Joel Crabbe thanked folks who have turned in their basswood canes for the carved eagle heads for injured soldiers to pick up their blanks before heading home. He reminded those who still have blanks to get them turned and to him.

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

E-mail

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.

Photos

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton**, **Craig Timmerman** 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.

July First Saturday

Len Brissette hosted our August 4 First Saturday at his air conditioned shop. Len may be the organizer of the First Saturday events, but this last meeting showed who is really indispensable to the monthly get together. Without **Drew Shelton**, there were a dozen folks wandering around with a glazed (sorry!) look in their eyes, looking for their donut fix. Also, we have become so used to Drew snapping photos, that no one else thought to bring along a camera, so you'll just have to imagine it.

No one could be talked into firing up Len's big Oneway, but **Jim Spano** held court on his mini-lathe, turning refrigerator magnets. Naturally, there was lots of "helpful" advice from the rest of the crew. **Bob Elfant** and **Jim Brinkman** tried their hand at the lathe as well.

Len used the occasion to try to off-load wood on one and all, with only limited success, until one of our newest members agreed to take a number of pieces. You still can't pass on the sidewalk in front of the shop, however, due to the wood stacked there.

When we wound up at Len's place, most of the group headed over to Hoover's for too much food for lunch.

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.

2007 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

September 1
October 6
November 3
December 8 (Christmas Party)

Bill Hammack
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed
Frank & Jane Miller

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

West Coast Roundup

September 7 - 9, Vancouver, BC
www.gvwg.ca

Turning Southern Style

September 14 - 16, Helen, GA
him1951@bellsouth.net

Rocky Mount Woodturning Symposium

September 15 - 16, Loveland, CA
www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com

North Carolina Woodturning Symposium

October 5 - 7, Greensboro, NC
www.northcarolinawoodturning.com

SouthWest Association of Turners

October 5 - 7, Wichita Falls, TX
www.swaturners.org

Totally Turning 2007

October 13 - 14, Albany, NY
capebud@aol.com

Tolly Travels

Johnny and Marcia Tolly traveled over to Houston on Saturday, July 21, where Johnny demonstrated how he makes his musical wind chimes using Texas mesquite and copper tubing. There were over 70 members of the Gulf Coast Woodturners present at a local community college campus. The folks seemed to enjoy the demonstration, asking questions and stating that they would be making some wind chimes soon.

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.

Woodcraft
Craft Supplies USA
The Cutting Edge

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.

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

Sept 1, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Bill Hammack's Shop

Sept 18, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

Oct 6, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - to be announced

October 16, 2007 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

Nov 3, 2007 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - to be announced

Register Now for SWAT!

If you haven't already registered for this year's SWAT Symposium in Wichita Falls, time is running out for the reduced cost advanced registration. You need to register before September 1 to take advantage of the lower price. You can register with the blank included on the brochure you received in the mail from SWAT. If you have misplaced that, you can register using the SWAT web site, www.swaturners.org, where you have two options. You can either register electronically using the web site, or download and print a registration form and register by mail. Either way, it is time to look for the check book and get it done. You won't want to miss the outstanding program planned for this year.



David Marks has been a professional woodworker since the 1970s, and shifted his focus to woodturning and sculpture in the 90s. He is well known for his patinated finishes, which combine painting, gilding, chemical patinas and lacquering techniques. His finished pieces have an ancient petrified stone look about them. David is a resident of Santa Rosa, California.

Stuart Mortimer has been turning wood since 1969. He holds the world record for the largest bowl turned from one piece of wood. He is well known for his spiral turnings, and is the author of *Techniques of Spiral Work*. Stuart resides in Hampshire, England. He has taught and demonstrated throughout Britain, Europe and the US.

Alan Stirt considers himself a "bowl maker" more than a wood turner. While the turning process fascinates him, it is the resulting bowl that commands his interest. Alan uses patterns, whether created by grain structure, organic fluting and carving or repeated geometric shapes, to enhance his pieces. Al resides in Enosburg Falls, Vermont.

Stacey Hager grew up in a cabinet shop, did some turning in the 60s, but began turning seriously in the 80s. Stacey is well known for his knowledge of tools and tool making, and has written several articles on tool making for the AAW journal. His woodturning interests cover a broad range, from large bowls and hollow vessels to long, thin spindles.

In addition these outstanding lead turners will be supplemented by a great cast of Regional Demonstrators:

Andy Chen - *Corian® - an alternative turning material*
Bill Kloopping - *making laminated swirly blanks*
Bill Tilson - *Wrap Your Box - using veneers with turnings*
Dave Smith - *alcohol drying techniques with turnings*

Drew Shelton - *turning a Femisphere*
Joel Crabbe - *turning an earring and pendant set*
John Horn - *tools and techniques for end grain turning*
Tom Crosby - *fitting lids on boxes and bowls*
Anthony Harris - *Spheres Three Ways*

Delbert Dowdy - *quick, simple and accurate segmenting*
Bruce Hoover - *shop tips*
Bill Rubenstein - *topic to be announced*

ALTERNATES

Craig Timmerman - *Making Bowls Fly - square turning*
Dan Henry - *turning an inside out ornament*

Spouse's Program

This is your official reminder to prepare for the Annual Ladies Instant Gallery. Please bring your crafts, sewing, quilts, artwork (oils, pastels or whatever), jewelry, scrapbooking etc. We need your talent!

Friday, October 5 - 2:00 to 4:30 PM

Italian Cooking Class - \$15.00 each

6:00 PM - Barbeque buffet dinner followed by a musical "Night On Broadway" at 7:30 PM. \$24.00 per person for both dinner and theater

Saturday, October 6 - 9:00 AM - Visit The Finishing Touch, a gift and craft store, for refreshments and cookies!

10:30 AM - The Scrapbooking Store for instruction in the "art of scrapbooking"

12:00 Noon - Georgann's Tea Room and Craft Mall for lunch and shopping

2:30 PM - Tour of the Wichita Falls History Museum hosted by Jim Peddijohn.

Cost for all Saturday events - \$24.00 each

Sunday, October 7 - 9:30 AM - Making three elegant greeting cards. \$5.00 each

It would be appreciated if you would register in advance. You can do this by listing the things you intend to attend and then sending a check made out to SWAT LADIES PROGRAM for the total to:

Joan E. Genender
 11212 Shelterwood Lane
 Dallas, Texas 75229

If you have any questions, feel free to call Joanie at 214.363.1425 or E-mail her at: jgenender@aol.com.

2007 Demonstrators Finalized

National leads for 2007 are **Cindy Drozda, J. Paul Fennel, David Marks, Stuart Mortimer** and **Alan Stirt**. Our featured regional lead demonstrator is **Stacey Hager**.

Cindy Drozda is a full-time woodturning artist from Boulder, Colorado and has been turning since 1985. She has worked with wood since 1977. She is well known for her elegant burlwood boxes and containers topped by delicate finials. Cindy's trademarks are precise techniques, fine details, pleasing forms, and exploring the elements of successful design.

J. Paul Fennel has had an interest in turning wood dating back to the early 1970's. His work has been focused on the aesthetic of the hollow-form vessel, forms are derived from variations of simple, but pleasing classical shapes. Paul's recent focus has been on surface texture, carving and other treatments on these forms. He resides in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Our September 1, First Saturday Shop Crawl will be held at **Bill Hammack's** shop in Manchaca.

Bill is located at 908 Mockingbird Drive in Manchaca. To get there, get on FM 1626, either by exiting I-35 south of Austin or by taking Brodie to its south end where it tees into FM 1626. Turn right on FM 1626 and turn at the next stop light at Bliss Spillar Road. There will be a baseball complex at the southeast corner of the intersection and a Valero convenience store on the southwest corner. Continue on Bliss Spillar until it takes a hard turn to the right. At that point, continue straight onto Chaparral Road until you come to Mockingbird

Drive. Turn left on Mockingbird and the Hammack's house will be on the right. If you get lost, you can call Bill at 512.282.0832.

The Dog Days of August have hit Central Texas with a vengeance this year, after a wet and cool June and July. The heat of August kinda makes you sorry that you complained so much about the rain, doesn't it? I can't remember ever seeing it green this time of year around here, and just as things have begun to turn a little brown, we are getting the rain from tropical storm Erin has come along green things up for a little while longer. It has been an unusual summer, for sure.

And that summer is rapidly drawing to a close. Time is running out to get your registration in for the discounted price at this year's SWAT

Symposium in Wichita Falls. You need to be preparing your shopping list for the SWAT Vendors and marking your schedule for the demonstrations that you intend to attend. I know it is a bit of a haul to Wichita Falls, but the facilities there are first rate. If you haven't attended a Symposium before, this is your chance to experience one at modest cost (if you don't include all of the money you spend for tools and wood!), learn a lot of new techniques, be inspired by the things you see and meet a lot of new woodturning friends.

Speaking of Symposia, I should have credited **Craig Timmerman** last

month for the excellent article he wrote for **The Chip Pile** on the 2007 AAW Symposium in Portland, Oregon. Thanks, Craig, for an excellent article and for giving all of us a vicarious visit to the Symposium.

The coming fall also means that it is time to start thinking about Officers for 2008. We have a number of Officers who have been serving for several years now, and we need to have a new President-Elect. If you haven't been involved in the leadership of the club before, think about volunteering to serve in one of the officers jobs. You will have a lot of help from the membership and have a lot of fun in the process. If you want to volunteer or suggest someone else, let one of the present officers know.

I have not spent a lot of time turning this summer. Winning one of the Bring Back Raffle items last month means that has to change. So I had better wrap this issue up and get it to Larry to post on the web site and a copy into Kinko's for printing, then get out to the shop. As little turning as I have been doing lately, I may have to make more than one piece to get a good one!

See you on Tuesday.

Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay

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

2007 Demonstration Schedule

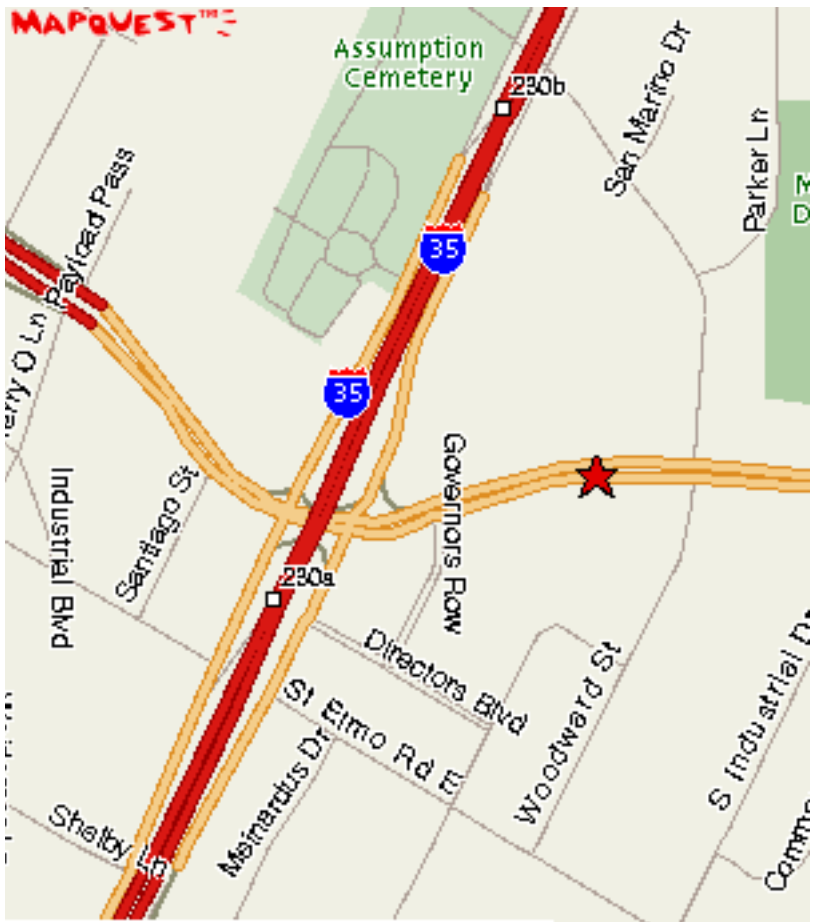
August 21
September 18
October 16
November 20

Curtis Turner
Jack Besperka
Gary Roberts
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**.

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: