



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association
Austin, Texas
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

APRIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 15, 2008
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 May
will be at 9:00 AM on May 3, at Clyde
Little's shop, 14307 Geronimo, Volente

From the President's Shop

Spring Fever

It's been a busy spring this year. Unfortunately I've had to take down more live oak trees that have succumbed to oak wilt and now I have a large brush pile that is waiting for a calm day. I've got the garden planted along with various other yard activities and now I can get back to getting some turning done. I've got some of my flying bowls to finish that were roughed out last year as well as some new projects.

Earlier this week I spent a great afternoon at Stacey Hager's shop. Stacey was helping me with a couple of projects I've got in the works. I was having some difficulty in getting the calculations right for cutting some spirals on both a cylinder and a cone. After a small refresher

course in geom-

etry from Stacey, I think I have the calculations down. Now I just need to finish the pieces. We then bounced some more ideas around on a new series I'm working on. Sometimes I get bogged down on a piece and don't know exactly how to get the result I'm looking for. I can see it in my mind, but somewhere between the brain and the hands something gets lost, so it is great to be able to knock the idea around with someone else. This

is what our mentoring program is all about. We have some great volunteer instructors in the club and I encourage you to take advantage of them to do some turning or to just bounce some ideas around. The first Saturday sessions are also good for this.

If you haven't yet signed up for the Michael Mocho demonstrations, please do so by contacting Jim Spano. You can still sign up at this month's meeting. If you are really a last-minute person, you can just come to the demos and pay at the door. However,

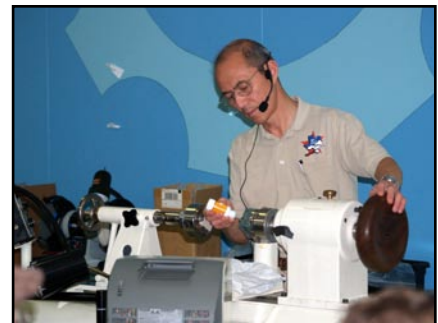
lunch will only be provided if you have signed up ahead of time. Michael is an excellent teacher and will have something for turners of all skill levels, so don't miss this opportunity.

Craig

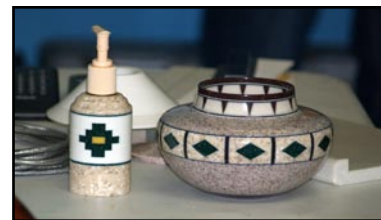
March Demo

Talented Texas turner **Andy Chen** was our demonstrator at our March meeting. He showed us how he designs, cuts, assembles and turns his segmented Corian pieces.

Andy began by pointing out that even when you are working all in one color Corian, the piece will be segmented by necessity, not by choice, due to the limited thickness of the material.



Using computer slides, Andy showed us how he uses a computer program to design his pieces, as well as how he cuts the segments. He then glued up



Monthly Features

- Calendar, page 4
- Classified Ads, page 7
- Demo Schedule, page 5
- First Saturday, page 6
- Membership Information, page 7
- Shop Crawl Schedule, page 5
- This Month's Program, page 4
- Volunteer Instructors, page 7

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 512.295.2144, 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

Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

some pre-cut segments and began to assemble a vessel blank. He showed us how he glues the segments to a waste block and proceeded to demonstrate turning the Corian material.



Thanks to Andy for a highly detailed look at how he designs, assembles and turns his beautiful segmented Corian pieces.

There was considerably more detail to this demonstration. I thought I had a handout for the demo, but somehow got home without it. There should be a DVD of Andy demonstrating this same subject at last fall's SWATurners Symposium in our library, however.

Bring Back Raffle

Gene Stokes was the lucky winner of peach lidded box, turned by **Keith Powell**, his first attempt at a box.

Ed Roberts took home a mini-goblet with a spintop for a lid,

turned from rosewood by **Frank Miller**.

Included inside the goblet was a "micro-mini top".

Dave Dick

was the winner of a Christmas ornament turned by **Jim Roby** and finished with wax.

Finally, **Dave Dick** had the winning number for a unique double-ended goblet of walnut and beech (finished with Waterlox) turned by **Dave Dick!** Dave turned around and gave the goblet to **Joe Kirk**, saying that the he owed Joe a piece. It isn't clear who is responsible for the Bring Back in April.



As is the custom, each of the 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 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 don't 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

Len Kramer brought along a couple of items, a winged bowl of ash and mahogany and a cane of highly figured cocobolo and walnut.



Rich Anderson showed off a shallow bowl turned from box elder.



Jim Brinkman brought two items, a custom centering cone turned from ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene and a set of coasters turned from ambrosia maple and finished with Waterlox and Beall buffed.



Stacey Hager brought a piece of turned and carved folk art that he



picked up in the Alps as well as an antique tool handle that he has been commissioned to turn a new threaded top for.

Gary Beers brought along a natural-edge bowl turned from black morrel burl and finished with Mylands friction polish and Johnson's paste wax. This was Gary's first attempt at turning a burl and a natural edge. Nice job.



Tim White showed a nice ash bowl, his first bowl over five inches in diameter to come off in one piece.



Doug Green brought along a number of items, including bottle stoppers and a segmented bowl, as well as a copy of **Wood** magazine that had his "Tip of the Month" highlighted. Both the bowl and the bottle stoppers showed off Doug's newest toy, a laser engraver.



Charlie Kay showed off a Lazy Susan filled with 28 bottle stopper of various woods and designs.



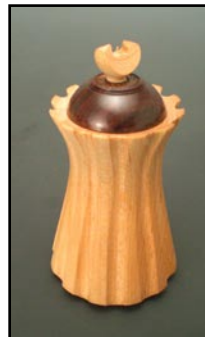
Spring Demos, Classes Set

Michael Mocho

Just another reminder that **Michael Mocho**, from Albuquerque, New Mexico, will be here on April 19th and 20th for two full days of demonstrations. Following that, Michael will be teaching a three-day hands-on class.

The hands-on workshops will address as many of the topics as can be fit into the time allotment. There will be

plenty of one-on-one instruction, and students are encouraged to try a variety of small projects designed to help develop tool handling skills, a greater understanding of wood, sharpening, and cutting dynamics; and the possibilities that these techniques can add to your work.



The demonstration sessions will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on both Saturday and Sunday, April 19 and 20 and will be held at our regular

American YouthWorks meeting site. The cost for the demonstrations will be \$25 per day per person. Lunch will be served each day for an additional cost of \$5 per day per person. The hands-on classes will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Monday, April 21 through Wednesday, April 23. You will need to supply your own lathe, which can be a mini-lathe. The club mini lathe will be



available if you don't have one of your own. A location for the class has not yet been determined. It is preferred that you sign up for all three days of the class. If you cannot attend for all three days, we will put your name on a waiting list as those who can attend all three days will get priority. Cost for the class is \$350 per person.

To sign up for the demos and/or classes see **Jim Spano**. If you haven't already paid, try to remember to bring your checkbook to the meeting.

For more information on Michael and the events, check the February issue of **The Chip Pile** on our web site, www.ctwa.org.

Quick and Easy Turned Toys

April Program

Our demonstrator for April is **John Horn** of the Woodturners of North Texas. Since one of John's activities is playing Santa Claus each year and woodturning is a major part of his life now that he has retired, it seems only natural that making toys and improving woodturning technique at the same time would be a desirable goal.

There is a lot of information available about making "flat" toys but little about "turned" toys. The few books that feature turned toys



show rather complex ones that take a lot of time to complete. Since some woodworking groups are interested in producing a volume of toys for underprivileged children, several people in the Woodturners of North Texas came up with designs and techniques for producing turned toys quickly that could be turned on any size lathe. One of the projects is toy cars, which offers an opportunity to develop and refine your skills with interrupted cuts while producing a worthwhile project for the community. What better way

to develop proficiency than a lot of practice using materials that are cheap and easy to turn?

John joined the Woodturners of North Texas in 1990 and actually started turning in 1996. Since then he has demonstrated at Texas Turn or Two, now called the SouthWest Association of Turners Symposium, for the last nine years and has also demonstrated at a number of woodturning clubs in Texas and Oklahoma. He has won several awards including First Place at the State Fair of Texas several times for his turnings and Christmas ornaments. John's primary focus at this time is teaching classes for the beginning turner at the Woodcraft stores in Dallas and in his shop in North Richland Hills. He has developed a series of projects which the beginner can produce in a few hours to get a flying start at successful woodturning. In addition, he does custom woodturning contracts for businesses and individuals. John is a past-president of the Woodturners of North Texas and a member of the American Association of Woodturners.

We had 48 attendees at our March 18 meeting, including three visitors.

Craig Timmerman reminded us of the upcoming Michael Mocho demonstrations and hands-on workshops coming up in April.

Craig also advised us that former AAW President Phil Brennon is having very serious health problems.

Craig reminded us that plans are proceeding for this SWATurners Symposium in Waco in mid-October.

Stacey Hager announced that he is putting together another group order for diamond grinding wheels. Get in touch with Stacey if you want to be included.

It was announced that **Bill Hammack** was in Seton Hospital with health problems.

Johnny Tolly made a pitch for folks to assist in judging projects at the Texas Technology Students Association show in Waco in May. Contact Johnny if you are interested in participating.

The Texas Technology Students Association (TTSA) contest will take place May 8-10, 2008. Please consider being a judge on Friday May 9. This is a great opportunity for our club to assist in judging works at all levels entered by students from throughout the state of Texas. The TTSA will provide a hotel room for the night and a meal on Friday evening before the judging.

Contact Johnny Tolly at, 512.858.4471 (home) or 512.922.1241 (cell) if you can help with this important activity.

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

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.

- April 15 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks
- April 19/20 - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**
Michael Mocho Demos - American YouthWorks
- May 3 - 9:00 AM to Noon**
First Saturday - Clyde Little's shop
- May 20 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks
- June 7 - 9:00 AM to Noon**
First Saturday - Bill Hammack's shop
- June 17 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

May First Saturday

Our May 3 First Saturday Shop Crawl will be held at **Clyde Little's** shop, 14307 Geronimo in Volente (512.413.6931).

To get to Clyde's place, find your way to FM 620 and turn west onto FM 2769 to Geronimo. Take a left off FM 2769 on Geronimo and look for the house number.

A map is shown below and you can always call if you get lost.

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.

Photos

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.

2008 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

- April 5
- May 3
- June 7
- July 5

- Larry Walrath**
- Clyde Little**
- Bill Hammack**
- 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.



2008 Demonstration Schedule

- | | |
|----------|------------------------|
| April 15 | John Horn |
| May 20 | Charlie Kay |
| June 17 | To be announced |
| July 15 | 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**.

April First Saturday

Between 25 and 30 folks showed up at **Larry Walrath's** shop on April 5 to enjoy the beautiful spring weather. Larry had a big piece of spalted hackberry mounted on what we think was his Oneway 2436, though with all of the finish on it, it was hard to tell. A number of folks took a crack at shaping and hollowing it under the master's eye. **Frank Miller** was conducting his usual tutorial on his newly modified Delta midi, now complete with speed control and **Jim Brinkman** was working out on a Jet mini. **Charlie Kay** was helping **Bob Hrehor** tune up his gouges on the grinder. There were lots of admirers of Larry's big antique band saw, but no one wanted to try to fire it up. We had a visitor, **Bill**, from Rhinelander, Wisconsin, whose last name your Editor forgot to write down. He will be at our meeting on April 15, with some Wisconsin wood to trade for Texas woods. All of this was presided over by a big red dog named Ralph. First he stole **Drew Shelton's** Round Rock donut, then he trained Drew to throw the tennis ball for him. It was good to see **Bill Hammack** out of the hospital and able to attend the event. All in all, a fine morning.

When all was said and done, thirteen of us repaired to La Margarita for some Mexican food before calling it a day.



From the Editor's Desk

With the piddling amount of rain we have gotten in the last couple of weeks, Hays County finally lifted the burn ban that has been in effect for months. So, when I got back from First Saturday, I decided to burn the big brush pile from all of the spring trimming. As that went well, I spent the rest of Saturday afternoon and Sunday burning at least three pickup loads of wood that I have split and stacked, then allowed to spoil - pecan, sycamore, hackberry, live oak and Chinaberry. I renewed my vow not to bring home any more fresh cut wood.

That vow lasted about two days, until Stacey Hager called me to say he had some freshly cut black walnut on a trailer in his yard. I only took three pieces - and a piece of Chinaberry. And, I demurred on the big chunks of mimosa. However, my chain saw is on the fritz, so I have to figure out what is wrong and get it up and running so I can block this up before it is too checked to bother with. A couple of pieces look to have a lot of figure in

them if I can salvage them. However, I have to get done with this newsletter and a SWAT planning meeting on Saturday before I can get to work on the saw.

I sold another batch of bottle stoppers, so I have been turning a few more, including some out of the rose-bush wood and some of the mystery wood I got out of Stacey's bone pile at the March First Saturday. They're pretty nice. I have also cleaned up my back orders for pepper grinders and salt boxes. So, now I am ready to get back to boxes. Looks like my timing is right, as Craig has set boxes as his first President's Challenge in May. Boxes are my favorite things to turn, so I am looking forward to the challenge.

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 \$45.00 per year for individuals and \$50.00 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:

Jim Spano
11904 Glenda Court
Austin, TX 78753
jimjoy@austin.rr.com
512.835.5023

Volunteer Instructors

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

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: Oneway laser arm in excellent condition. It does not include the laser pointer, just the arm and instruction sheet.

Contact Steve Gottlieb at 512.266.7722 or sgottlieb@austin.rr.com.

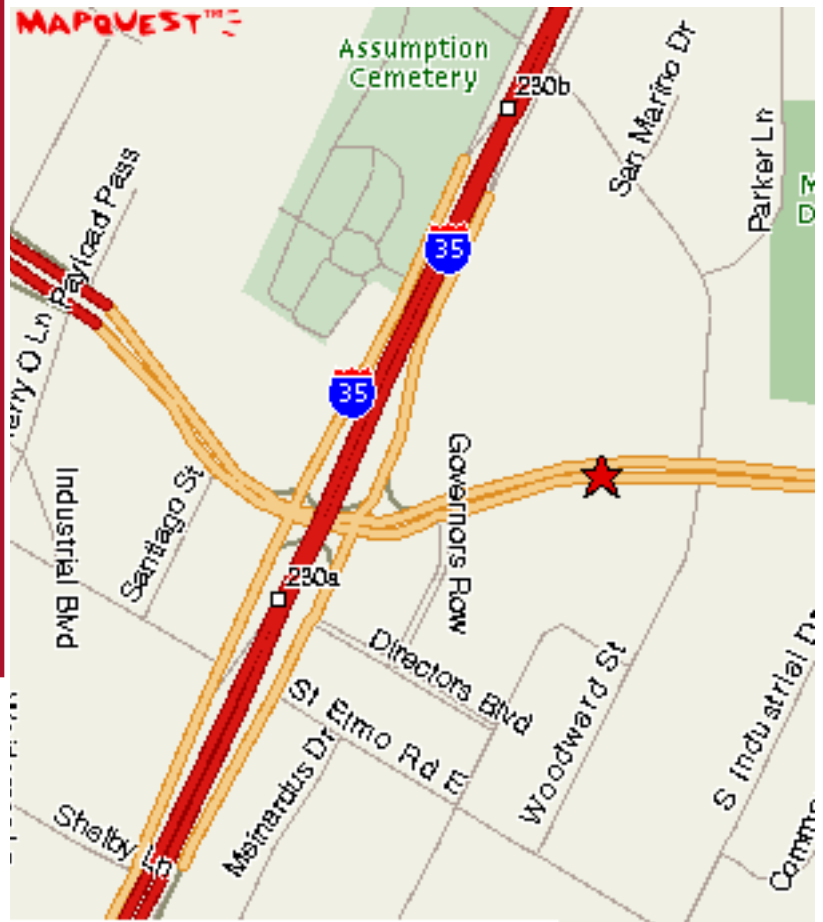
CTWA Supporters

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**

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: