



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

MAY MEETING

Tuesday, May 20, 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 June will be at 9:00 AM on June 7, at Bill Hammack's shop, 908 Mockingbird Drive, Manchaca

Collings does no major resawing or planing of the lumber. Pretty much everything is shipped from their suppliers ready to be used. They have some incredible stock. Mahogany is the primary wood, as it is used for most of the necks and some of the bodies. The tops and bottoms are all rare or highly figured woods. I don't think I have seen quilted and birdseye maple with as much figure as the stuff they had. All of the wood is hand selected and matched.

As you go through the manufacturing steps, one thing that sticks out is the meticulous attention to detail. At every step you see people making little refinements, the kind of thing you would never see in a large production factory. Even when the guitar gets to the finish room, they are still making little tweaks. One person does not build an entire guitar. Each worker is very specialized in what they do, which allows them to have this great attention to detail. There is no definite timetable or delivery date for the guitar. The finished pieces truly are works of art.

I would encourage you to take the Collings tour. Collings is at 11210 W. Hwy 290. There's no company sign, just a sheet of plywood with 11210 painted on it. If you don't know it, the building is just a plain, white metal building. The tour at Collings is every Friday at 3:30 and lasts about an hour or so.

Craig

From the President's Shop

It's Not Always About Woodturning

I had the opportunity last month to play host to Michael Mocho. One of the things Michael wanted to do was tour the Collings Guitar factory. Michael's friend, Matt, works there (we owe Matt our thanks, as he provided Michael's lodging while he was here). I met Michael at the factory at 3:30. I didn't know what to expect, but I love manufacturing tours of any kind so I figured it would be interesting. Collings is well known for making some of the best acoustic guitars in the business. They have recently begun making electric guitars as well.

From there they take you through all of the manufacturing steps. While there is an assembly line of sorts, it is not high speed by any means. One of their guitars takes eight weeks or more to go through the entire process. Most of it is handwork, although they do have some nice CNC machines that do the rough shaping of the necks and do the shaping of the electric guitar bodies. Bill Collings is actually quite a machinist and has made many of the specialized tools they use in the manufacturing process.

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April Demo

The favorite Jolly Old Elf of the Woodturners of North Texas, **John Horn**, was our demonstrator at our April meeting. John is an experienced and entertaining turner who has demonstrated many times at SWAT and its predecessor, Texas Turn or Two. We were happy that John's wife Sue accompanied him on this venture.

John's project for the evening was to show us how to turn wooden toy cars four at a time out of common 2 X 4 construction lumber. Using his template, you can get 32 cars out of one eight foot 2 X 4 that costs you less than three dollars. A center line is drawn on a section of 2 X 4, then the outline of the car, bottom to bottom, at the center line.

The tour starts with viewing the raw material they have stacked and ready.

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

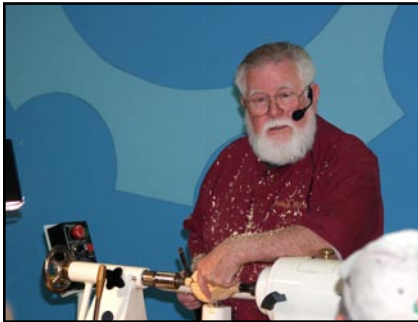
c/o Charles Kay
100 Matzig Cove
Buda TX 78610-3108

The piece is roughed to shape with a roughing gouge, then refined with a spindle gouge. The top surface can be



sanded on the lathe, sanding first with the lathe going forward, then with it reversed, or if you lathe won't reverse, by reversing and rechucking the piece.

When the turning and sanding are done, the waste is cut off each end and the cars split down the center line



with the band saw. The sides and body can then be sanded and the car painted as desired.



The wheels are then mounted. Drill 5/32" holes approximately 9/16" from each end of the car and 1/4" above the bottom. John gets his



wheels and axles from Woodworks (800.722.0311), Part No. TW-1003 for

the wheels and Part No. AP-1010 for the axle pegs. The axle pegs will have to be shortened about 1/4" to 1/2"



or they will be too long for the thickness of the 2 X 4. When you glue the wheels and axles in place, be sure to use something so that you don't glue the wheel to the side of the car. John uses an old credit card with a vee notch cut in it as a spacer.

Thanks to John for an entertaining and informative evening. Thanks, also, to John for donating a car to our Bring Back Raffle for the evening.

Bring Back Raffle

Craig Timmerman was the lucky winner of a natural edge mesquite platter, turned by **Ed Roberts**, and finished with wipe on polyurethane. **Gene Stokes** took home an ash bowl turned by **Dave Dick**, and finished with Waterlox. **Dave Wolter** was the winner of a scoochiegouge with a fancy beech handle, brought by **Dave Dick** and finished with Waterlox. **Hal Sanders** had the ticket for a cocobolo bowl turned by **Gene Stokes**, finished with thinned lacquer and Beall



buffed. Finally, **Dave Dick** had the winning number for **John Horn's** toy car.

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. Dave Dick is off the hook, as the winner of the car.

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.



several items, some hollow forms of spalted pecan and blackwood as well as a piece he turned out of cardboard to perfect his technique.

Joe Kirk brought along a couple of items, a letter opener of cocobolo finished with Hut wax and a square bowl turned on three axes out of redwood burl and blackwood and finished with Old Masters clear satin gel varnish.



Stacey Hager showed off a piece he called "Kerplunk," turned from mimosa and finished with Waterlox.



Gary Roberts brought a pump jack music box of ebony and mesquite as well as his book *The Art of Fine Woodturning*.

Jack Besperka displayed a spalted pecan bowl finished with lacquer.

Ed Roberts showed a natural edge platter of mesquite finished with wipe on polyurethane.

Larry Walrath brought a large spalted hackberry vase started by several folks at the April First Saturday at his shop.

Finally, **Bill Kingsbury**, our visitor from Wisconsin, showed off four of his pieces, a hollow form of black ash finished with antique oil, a maple bowl

Richard Porter showed off a maple rolling pin.

Bill Hammack brought along a bowl turned from a cherry tree felled in 1973. It was a collaborative piece, as various folks helped him straighten out, finish and turn the bottom on the warped rough turned piece.

Mack Peterson is getting into segmented work. He showed a hollow form of mesquite, lyptus and bloodwood; a vase of pine and walnut; another vase of pine and walnut and a vase of yellowheart, walnut and purpleheart.

Jim Spano brought along several "turbo tops" (mesquite and walnut, finished with Master Gel) and a very unusual piece he called a Tree Some, out of walnut, finished with Master Gel.

Gary Beers showed off a pair of nice bowls turned from Australian burls (species unknown) and finished with Mylands and Johnson's Paste Wax.

Curtis Turner brought

Show and Tell



finished with his "special formula" finish, a box of cherry finished with Shellawax and a cherry burl bowl fin-



ished with oil and wax. It was nice having Bill at our April First Saturday as well as our April meeting. Thanks to Bill also for bringing some northern woods to trade with us.



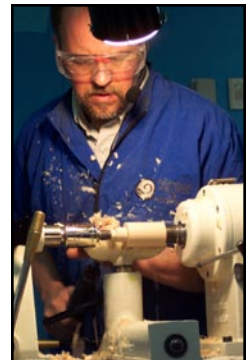
Demos

Michael Mocho

Michael Mocho, from Albuquerque, New Mexico, treated us to an outstanding set of demonstrations on April 19 and 20. There were 26 attendees on Saturday and 20 on Sunday.

Michael began his first session with a statement worth remembering: "Turning is carving. The lathe is nothing but an elaborate rotating vise." We were all impressed with the speed at which he turns and his skill with tools. He clearly is a master of the skew.

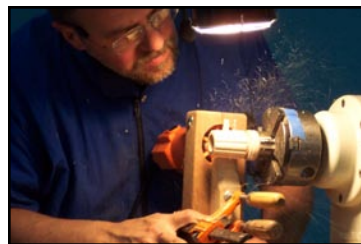
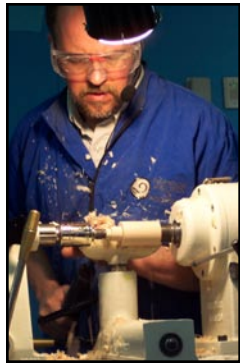
We were treated to his methods for texturing his pieces, including using the skew as a chatter tool, a texturing tool and a spiral tool. This included texturing a disk, parting it off and gluing it to the inside of the bottom of a box. Michael also did some hand threading for us.



Equally as impressive as his demonstrations were his innovative solutions to various problems. We were all impressed with his tool rack and articulated tool server, complete with variable speed fan. Equally intriguing were his texturing jig and his fluting jig. We were also inspired by his

"sketch book" of shapes and texturing. Thanks to Michael for an extremely interesting and informative weekend. Everyone who attended should have walked away with a number of great ideas.

Here are a few photos.



Hands-on Classes

After the demos on Saturday and Sunday, a group of eight descended on **Clyde Little's** shop for some hands-on work with Michael. Attending the class were **Stacey Hager, Jim Spano, Clyde Little, Keith Powell, Fred Stidman, Ed Roberts, Drew Shelton,** and **Robert Waltz.** I was there as an assistant/gopher, but Michael made sure that I also took part in many of the class exercises.

We started off with exercises with the skew. Michael is a wizard with this tool and was able to help us refine our use of it. We played with many exercises, not really producing any-

thing, but just working on technique. However, some nice eggs and goblets were produced. Day two was focused primarily on texture. The shop was pretty noisy with the sound of chatter work of all kinds. We were all seeing how far off the tool rest we could hang the tools to produce the chatter. We then passed around the Sorby texturing and spiraling tool. I really liked the overall cooperation of this group. Michael would show one of us how to use the tools and then as we passed the tools around we also passed around the knowledge of how to use the tools, so everyone had a chance to play instructor.

Day three was spent on bowls and hand-chased threads. Michael drew out various bowl profiles and you had

to turn a bowl to match the profile. It sounds easier than it was. Michael drew some fairly complex shapes and it was interesting to see how these were translated to the wood. Hand-chasing threads was a new experience for almost everyone, but it was great to get a chance to try it.

All in all, everyone was energized by what they learned. We all agreed that Michael was a great instructor and demonstrator. If you missed his demos, Michael has been selected to be a lead demonstrator at the 2009 SWAT Symposium. Michael was highly complimentary of our club and especially of the students in the class. He said he rarely has a group so willing to try everything he throws at them.

I want to thank Clyde and his wife for hosting the class, especially for hosting a great steak dinner one of the nights. I would also like to thank Clyde for helping out with lunches on Saturday and Sunday. Thanks also to **Frank Miller** and **Jim Spano** for handling all of the A/V activities during the demos. Thanks to **Johnny Perales** and American YouthWorks for providing the facility for the demos.

Craig Timmerman



May Program

Our demonstrator for May is CTWA woodturner and newsletter editor **Charlie Kay**. Charlie will be walking us through the steps of turning wine bottle stoppers. This is an easily mastered project, and if you do 40 or 50 of them in quick succession, you will find yourself a much better turner. With practice, the stoppers can be done in a short period of time and can be a fine money maker for you if you do trade shows.

Charlie will discuss selection of wood,



preparation of blanks, shapes, turning and finishing the stoppers and display of the finished products

SWAT 2008

Register Now for SWAT 2008

It is time for us all to begin making our plans for this coming October. Among dedicated woodturners throughout the Southwest, October means the annual gathering called the SWATurners Symposium. This year's 17th Annual Symposium will be held from October 17 through 19 at the Waco

Convention Center in Waco, Texas. Waco has a nice, large facility and is centrally located for most of our supporting member clubs. There will be



two headquarters hotels this year, the Waco Hilton and the Marriott Courtyard. Both are immediately adjacent to the Convention Center. In

addition, there are numerous other hotels in Waco, as well as RV facilities. More details on accommodations will be available on the web site soon. In the meantime, if you are in a hurry, you can call the Hilton or the Marriott Courtyard directly. Just be sure to tell them that you are registering for the Southwest Association of Turners Symposium.

Registration and detailed information on this year's Symposium are now available at the SWATurners web site, www.swaturners.org. You may either print out the PDF form and mail it with a check as indicated or register on line. You will note that the Individual and Spouse Registration rates are the same as last year. You can register any time you want, but pre-registration will only be accepted through September 15. We expect to have the mail-out brochure in the mail by mid-June, and it will have a registration form in it as well.

Once again, we have an outstanding slate of Lead Demonstrators signed up for the Symposium. You won't want to miss demonstration rotations by:

Trent Bosch
Donald Derry

**Matthew Hill
Art Liestman
Binh D Pho
Mark St. Leger
Betty Scarpino**

You can read more about these fine turners and view examples of their work on the web site.

Instant Gallery

As always, one of the highlights of this year's Symposium in Waco will be the Instant Gallery. This is the event that can only be successful if we get lots of cooperation from the attendees. Once again, the Instant Gallery will be under the able guidance of Ken Terrell and the East Texas Woodturners Association. All attendees are encouraged to bring items to display. The gallery is open to both new and experienced turners, and a special invitation is extended to those who have been reluctant to bring items in the past to join our long-time exhibitors in bringing items for the gallery.

Two-for-One Raffle

One of the favorite traditions of the annual SWATurners Symposium is the Two-for-One Raffle. In this popular event the raffle tickets are first drawn at the banquet on Saturday for turned wood art pieces donated in response to invitations extended to some of the finest turners in the region. Then those winning tickets are returned to the bin for the second drawing at the luncheon on Sunday. That drawing is for a number of tools and other items donated by vendors, as well as for a full-sized lathe. Raffle tickets will continue at \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00.

This year, the Executive Committee has elected to add a second Raffle to the mix. This raffle, which will be called the Gallery Raffle, will be for at least five of the most outstanding donated raffle pieces as selected by a panel. Raffle tickets for this drawing will be separate from the regular Two-for-One Raffle. They will cost \$2.00 each or 12 for \$20.00. There will be a separate bin for each of these pieces and you can put all your tickets into only one of the containers or distribute them among the containers for all the selected pieces as you see fit. The winning tickets in the Gallery Raffle will not go into the bin for the Sunday drawing.

Spouse's Program

We will have a Ladies Gallery at the Symposium again this year. Spouses are urged to bring samples of the art

and crafts that they make during the year and share their skills with others. We have not scheduled organized tours this year. You can check the Waco Convention Center Website (www.wacocvb.com) for ideas on great places to visit in Waco. There will be fliers for attractions that you might want to visit in the area (no buses provided this year) available at the registration desk on October 17.

No couples entertainment or group dinner has been scheduled for Friday evening. Instead, there will be a slide show by the lead Demonstrators and you will be on your own for dinner.

Business Meeting

We had 54 attendees at our April 15 meeting, including three visitors.

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

It was reported that **Lynn Kramer** is suffering from a blood clot, first in his leg, then in his lung. He was in the hospital, but doing better.

Craig reminded us that plans are proceeding for this SWATurners Symposium in Waco in mid-October. Registration is now available on line at www.swaturners.org.

Craig reminded us that of the presidents lidded box challenge coming up next month.

Craig reported that there had been a board meeting before tonight's club meeting. Minutes will be in the May newsletter.

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.

T TSA Show

CTWA members **Clyde Little, Gene Stokes, Ed Roberts, Judy Williams, Jimmy Tolly** and **Marcia** and **Johnny Tolly** served as judges at the 2008 Texas Technology Student Association contest in Waco. This annual event is open to both junior and high school students from all across Texas who bring their very best work to Waco to be

judged at the state level. The top award is Best In State, is the goal of every student. There were a lot of Best In State items presented followed by presentation of first and second place awards. Thank to the CTWA members who took the time to assist with judging.

Johnny Tolly

E-mail

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.

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

July 5 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Charlie Kay's shop

July 15 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

August 2 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Lynn Brissette's shop

June First Saturday

Our June 7 First Saturday Shop Crawl will be held at **Bill Hammack's** shop, 908 Mockingbird Drive in Manchaca (512.282.0832).

To get to Bill's place, find your way to FM 1626. Turn west on Bliss Spillar Rd. Continue straight onto Chaparral Rd. when Bliss Spillar takes a hard right. You will turn left onto Mockingbird Lane and the house will be on the right.

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, Frank Miller** 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

June 7
July 5
August 2
September 6

Bill Hammack
Charlie Kay
Len Brissette
To be announced

We can always use volunteer hosts. 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.



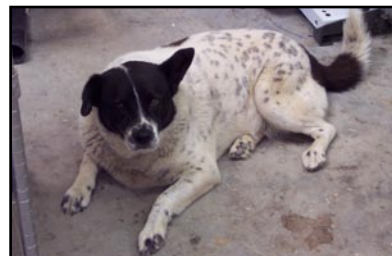
2008 Demonstration Schedule

May 20	Charlie Kay
June 17	Jim Spano
July 15	To be announced
August 19	To be announced
September 16	James Johnson
October 21	20th Anniversary Celebration

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**.

May First Saturday

Between 25 and 30 folks showed up at **Clyde Little's** shop on May 3 to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and **Clyde** and **Pat's** nearly complete new home on Lake Travis. This has been a long, tedious process to rebuild after the fire, and Clyde is doing the cabinet work. This was a good session for the many inexperienced turners that showed up. **Jim Spano**, **Drew Shelton** and **Charlie Kay** were making boxes and explaining their techniques to encourage participation in this month's President's Challenge. **Ed Roberts**, **Craig Timmerman**, **Frank Miller** and **Dave Dick** were tutoring other new turners on various techniques. **Jack Besperka** pitched in to show a new turner some tips on turning a bowl. There was, of course, the usual swapping of lies over coffee and the Round Rock donuts Drew provided. When we were done and the chips swept up, and after much indecision, fifteen or so folks repaired to the Boathouse for catfish.



Pen Turning

On Thursday, May 8 CTWA members **David Dick, Clyde Little, Johnnie Perales, Ed Roberts, Jim Spano, Gene Stokes, Johnny Tolly** and **Larry Walrath** combined efforts and turned approximately 60 slimline mesquite pens for graduating seniors and staff members at American YouthWorks. This group of woodturners was busily engaged for approximately four hours as they assisted the students in creating their very own ballpoint pens as graduation presents from CTWA.

American YouthWorks provides their facility for our monthly meetings and each year and, in return, our members assist senior students in this project. The students were extremely appreciative of their new pen and our members were equally thrilled to introduce these students to wood turning. CTWA member **Johnnie Perales**, who is a staff member at American YouthWorks, deserves a great deal of appreciation for helping with this project and for opening the doors to CTWA for our meetings each month.

Gene Stokes

President's Challenge - I

This is a last minute reminder of the President's Challenge scheduled for our May meeting. For you newer members, the President's Challenge is a turning project suggested by the club president that the members then produce and bring to a meeting. The May President's Challenge is a lidded box. I think everyone can participate in this one. We have several videos on the subject and there are several members in the group that can help you if you need it. We will award certificates of merit in several categories plus a "best in show". All entrants will be eligible for a drawing for Craft Supplies gift certificates. The rules for the boxes are simple. Any lidded box may be submitted, but you are limited to a maximum size (excluding any finial) of 3" diameter and 5" high.

Award certificates will be given in the following categories (other certificate may be given at the discretion of the president):

Best basic box (no finial, single

- wood)**
- Best finial box**
- Best use of multiple woods (must contain at least two different woods)**
- Best use of non-wood inlay (inlay can be any non-wood material, stone, glass, etc)**
- Most original design**
- Smallest box**
- Best box by a new turner (less than two years turning)**

Craig Timmerman

President's Challenge - II

We are just getting done with a President's Challenge and I'm going to issue the next one. This one will be a two-part challenge. It will also be the first ever collaborative president's challenge. The challenge is to turn and embellish a bowl or platter. This challenge is more complex, so I am giving extra time to each part.

Part 1 - July

For July the challenge is to turn a bowl or platter. There will be two size categories so that members with big and small lathes can participate:

- Category 1: 6 to 10 inches
- Category 2: 10+ to 16 inches

Please bring nothing larger than 16 inches. Any shape will be accepted, but remember, the piece will be modified after turning, so you may want to keep the design fairly simple. There is only one requirement. You must leave a tenon on the bowl or platter or some other way to re-chuck the piece.

Part 2 - October

The challenge for October is to embellish a bowl or platter. However, the twist is that you will be doing the embellishment on someone else's turning. At the July meeting we will have a drawing among all submitted pieces and will randomly assign a piece to everyone that brought a piece. The piece you draw will be the piece you get to embellish. What kind of embellishment you might ask? Well, anything and everything of course, including woodburning, color-

ing (dyes, paints, bleaches), inlay, texture, carving and shape modification. Use your imagination. The person doing the embellishment is responsible for removing the tenon on the piece and submitting the work in its final form.

Some guidelines:

1. Don't use highly figured wood for the turning. We want to feature the embellishment.
2. Use lighter colored woods if possible. The lighter colors give many more options for the type of embellishment that can be done.
3. Don't use green wood for the turnings. We need these to be done in a few months, not a year.
4. Keep the turning simple. Again, we want to feature the embellishment.
5. Don't turn the thinnest piece you can. Sometimes a little more bulk is useful, especially if the embellishment includes carving.
6. Again, keep the tenon or chucking point on the turning. The person doing the embellishment may need to hold the piece or do some further turning (e.g., put beads around a decorated area).
7. The embellishment doesn't have to cover the entire piece. Sometimes subtle highlights are the best.

To help out with this project, we have several videos in our library that cover platter or bowl turning for surface treatments. **Betty Hager** will have a special list of which videos cover which topics. At the October meeting we will have some awards and drawings for Craft Supplies gift certificates for all that participate.

There is one final point. By participating in this challenge, you are agreeing that the final pieces are donations to the club. Since this is a collaborative challenge it would be hard to assign ownership anyway. The top pieces will then be donated to the annual American YouthWorks auction at the end of the year. The other pieces we will use for other raffles.

Craig Timmerman

Board Meeting

The CTWA Board met on April 15, just prior to our regular meeting.

Present were: **Craig Timmerman, Clyde Little, Charlie Kay, Frank Miller, Drew Shelton, Gene Stokes, Jim Spano** and **Frank Miller**.

The meeting began with a review of our financial

status. We have a balance of about \$4,200. Projected revenue for the year is about \$2,330 and projected expenses are about \$1,690, exclusive of the spring outside demonstrator which essentially pays for itself with registration fees and class tuition.

After this review, it was VOTED to reduce the class fee for the Michael Mocho class to \$250 per participant. It was further agreed that we would add a \$5.00 per day surcharge at the 2009 national demonstrator session for non-members.

After some discussion, it was agreed that we should ask Frank Miller to look into acquiring two flat screen monitors at a cost of up to \$1,500.

There was discussion of the 20th Anniversary celebration meeting and Craig made several suggestions. It was agreed that we would solicit retrospective pieces from members as well as Bring Back collections that several members hold. Craig will come up with other suggestions as well.

Craig reported on a meeting that he and Stacey Hager had with officials at American YouthWorks. They had requested that we teach a one hour class once a month, a proposal all agreed was unworkable. Instead, Craig and Stacey agreed to holding four one hour demonstration on various subjects such as spindles, bowls, hollow forms, etc.

There was some discussion of raising club dues, but no decision was made.

Charles Kay
Secretary

The club meetings for months of September and October will be special CTWA 20th anniversary celebrations. In September, **James Johnson** will be our demonstrator. James is one of the founding members of the club and was it's first Vice-president and second President.

For October, we are planning a special gathering, which will include desserts and drinks. The night will feature woodturnings and several contests. To make this evening successful, we need the help of all members. What we want you to do is find your FIRST or OLDEST turned piece (you can bring two items) and bring them to the October meeting. We are giving you plenty of notice on this one so if you have to dig it out of a box

somewhere you can do that. At the meeting we will display these turnings and have a contest to see if you can correctly guess who turned each piece. We also plan to have on display some Bring Back Raffle collections and will have some fun with those too. Another thing we need for this meeting is old photographs. If you have photos (digital or otherwise) from the early years of the club, please see me as soon as possible. We would like to have a display of these photos at the meeting. Other details about this meeting are still in the planning stages, but it should be a fun evening.

Finally, we want as many past CTWA members at both of these meetings as possible. If you know someone that used to be a member of the club, invite them to come to both the September and October meetings.

Craig Timmerman

From the Editor's Desk

It's funny, the twists and turns that our lives take. I used to think of myself as a billiard ball as I worked my way through life without much of a plan, when suddenly I would bump into something that would totally change my direction. I am sure there are some folks who plan their entire life and stick to the plan, but I think most of us more closely follow the billiard ball model.

I got to thinking about that as I began to start working on boxes again for the May President's Challenge. In the years leading up to my early retirement some twelve years ago, I fantasized about a woodshop where I would build furniture and work on the woodcarving hobby I had dabbled in for years. Oh, and I thought I wanted to get a lathe and try to learn how to turn. Two years after we moved into our house, I had finally built my dream shop and moved in and got started.

I built some furniture and carved a lot of hand mirrors and wall mirror frames and slowly started to try to learn how to turn. Progress was slow, but between club demonstrations, Texas Turn or Two and AAW Symposia and classes with our spring visitors, I slowly got better at it. I thought that my real interest was in big platters and bowls and dreamed about big hollow vessels.

Finally, I thought I was good enough

to buy my dream lathe to go in my dream shop. After much thought and study of catalogues (as well as lots of contradictory advice from my woodturning buddies), I finally decided on a Oneway 2436 with the three horsepower motor.

Then, a funny thing happened. I do a craft show or two every year, mostly to get rid of stuff I have made and make a little money to buy more toys without feeling guilty about it. One thing you quickly learn if you do that, is that you must have some items that you can sell cheaply to pay the booth rent. I had done a number of things over the years, and then decided to try some wine bottle stoppers.

That was a turning point. I turned a bunch of them that first fall and found that was the best thing I had ever done in terms of developing my skills as a turner. I had to have good tool control and light cuts and the repetitive turning made me a much better turner. I discovered that I really loved turning these little things. I could be as creative as I wanted to be and I could do them quickly enough and sell them for enough that I could actually pay myself reasonably for what I did.

One thing led to another and I discovered that I also loved making boxes. They were almost as much fun as stoppers and took me in an entirely different direction. So much for that big powerful lathe!

As the rest of you who are hooked on turning have guessed, the rest of my dream shop largely goes unused. My cabinet saw, jointer and planer are largely used to stack woodturning stuff on, unless one of my sons comes out to work on a project of some sort.

I'm not complaining. Life is truly a journey, and you only get to what you truly love by exploring lots of different directions.

Meanwhile, I think I'll keep my eye open for that cue ball. I'm pretty happy with what I am doing right now.

Keep on turning,

Charlie

20th Anniversary

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**

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
Charlie Kay 512.295.2144
(boxes & bottle stoppers)
H. O. Evans 512.282.2830
(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: Jet 1236, eight years old. Mechanical speed control sticks occasionally and bearings are noisy; works well otherwise. \$100 OBO
Contact Drew Shelton
at 512.635.3884 or
dcshelton@gmail.com

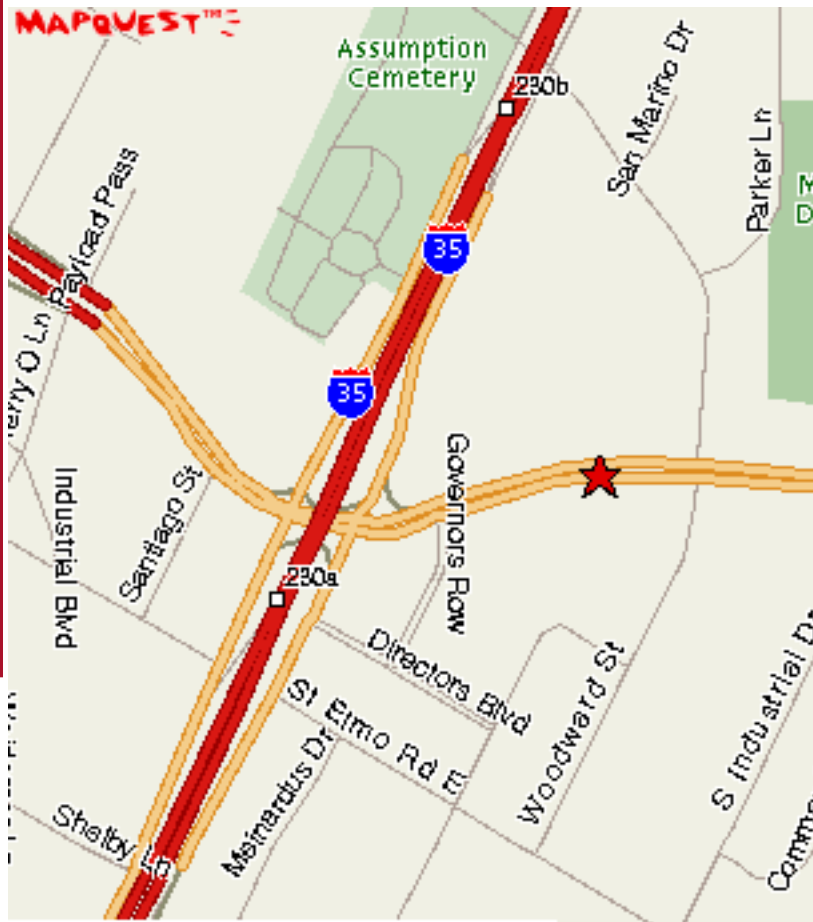
FOR SALE: 16 inch Delta steel bed lathe, approximately four years old, 1.5 HP reversible motor. Excellent condition. Asking \$800. Various tools, chucks, etc. priced individually. Poor health has prevented me using the lathe in last three years. Contact Doug White at 512.350.8168 or 512.218.1945 or see at 16406 Paralee Cove, Austin, TX 78717. Please call to see if I am at home before visiting.

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.

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.



The Chip Pile

Central Texas Woodturners Association
A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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

To: