



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

MARCH MEETING

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

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 April will be at 9:00 AM on April 4, at a location to be announced

ORNAMENTATION - Think of what sorts of ornate or unusual addition you can make to a simple design.

UNUSUAL APPROACHES - This may be the place for things that don't seem to fit anywhere else.

So stretch your minds and sharpen your pencils and lets see what you can come up with for this Challenge.



Challenge!

This will be a brief entry this month, as I am headed off on a rush trip to Arizona.

The important thing is to remind all of you that the President's Challenge for this month is to turn a bottle stopper or two and bring them along to the meeting. There are no real restrictions on what you do, but it may be time to exercise your creativity and see what new direction you can take things.

I have proposed some tentative categories for competition, but they are subject to change if I think of something new. For now,

I'll be looking for stoppers in the following areas:

CREATIVITY - Really let your imagination go wild on this one.

FORM & DESIGN - I'll be looking for classic lines and clean shapes

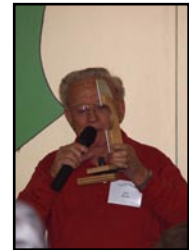
Clyde

February Demo

Our program for February took a somewhat different tack than usual. There was no demonstration. Instead, with **Len Brissette** moderating, a dozen or so CTWA members got up and showed off jigs, fixtures and gadgets that they have devised or copied to make life in the shop easier. Although they varied from the very simple to the overly complex and from the broadly applicable to the esoterically specialized, your scribe made no effort to make notes on them. You

just had to have been there. I will say that my own favorite was the ever creative **Jim Spano's** pencil suspender.

Enjoy the photos and try to figure out what the items folks are holding are really for!



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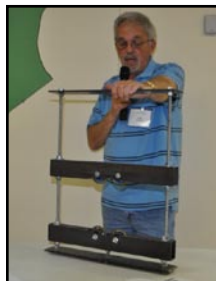
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CTWA Web Site
www.ctwa.org

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
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Bring Back

Joe Kirk was the lucky winner of a spalted lidded box turned by **Bob Duncan** and finished with



Waterlox. **Lynn Kramer** took home a segmented bamboo platter turned by **Mack Peterson**. **David Dick** held the



lucky ticket for pecan box with African blackwood finial turned by **Steve**



Green. **Jim Brinkman** won a pecan birdhouse turned by **David Dick**. **Tim**





White was the lucky winner of a **Dave Dick** pear birdhouse, carved and air-brushed by **Hilda Carpenter**. Both



Ed Roberts and **Dave Kearney** took home walnut sheathed coffee mugs turned by **Jim Patterson**. Finally,



David Dick took home a pair of wine glasses, one with an ebony stem and the other with a pink ivory stem from **Joe Kirk**.



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 YOU can do. If you don't yet have a lathe or don't feel that 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

Steve Green brought along a dyed pecan hollow form he called "Evicted," finished with wax.



Johnny Tolly showed off a Christmas ornament turned from synthetic decking wood.



Peter Hawkins brought three pieces, a thin walled pecan bowl, a natural edge Chinaberry bowl and a lidded



cedar elm pot, all finished with salad bowl finish and Beall buffed.

Charlie Kay brought along three sea salt boxes (of walnut, chestnut and mesquite) finished with tung oil and a pair of recovered "goofs," a small monkey pod platter and a Texas ebony ring box.



Doug Green showed a pair of pens, one of aluminum and one of steel.



Stan Spell brought a spalted hackberry bowl finished with Deft.



Jerry Whiteaker showed off a beautifully finished (polished Deft) shallow Indian rosewood bowl.



Jack Besperka showed a spalted hackberry bowl finished with lacquer.



Ed Roberts brought along an oak bowl and a mesquite vase, both finished with Wipe-on Poly.



Gene Stokes showed off a bowl of mystery wood from the Texas pan-handle.



Mack Peterson brought three pieces, a hollow form, a segmented bowl and a segmented vessel of maple and walnut.



woodturners. Would I be able to do one of my standard demonstrations? Would they get anything out of the presentation?

As it turned out, these questions turned out not to be a problem. The CLAG meets on the second Wednesday of every month at the GVTC Auditorium outside New Braunfels. The CLAG meets at noon and the meeting includes a simple lunch, which gave me time to meet many of the members. After their business meeting I did a modified version of my flying bowl demonstration. I modified it some by adding discussion of some of the basics about lathes, tools and general turning concepts. I had brought plenty of samples of my work to show and use as examples. Based on the questions and general feedback it was obvious that doing a demonstration for non-woodturners is a good thing. It gave everyone a chance to explore another medium and gave me a different perspective on my own work.

Craig Timmerman

Walrath to Fort Worth

On the Road

Larry Walrath traveled to Fort Worth on February 26, to demonstrate at the Woodturners of North Texas (WNT) meeting. The subject was bowl coring and nesting using the McNaughton Center Saver. Larry managed to core four or five bowl blanks out of a piece of spalted hackberry and then finish one of the bowls. WNT was trying out a new video camera with remote control (tilt, pan, zoom and focus) mounted on a tripod near the lathe.

When he was done with the demonstration, Larry continued on to Keller to visit his brother and his family.

Timmerman to Wimberley

I was bit skeptical when I first accepted an invitation to do a demonstration for the February meeting of the Canyon Lake Art Guild (CLAG). I have done a good many demonstrations for other woodturners, but this would be the first one that I would do for non-

Taking it to the Next Level

Class Review

One of my goals as a full-time woodturner is to talk or work with as many professional woodturners as I can. One of the professional woodturners on my list is Trent Bosch. Trent has experience in many areas that interest me. He has done production work, he does art pieces, he works with multiple media and he teaches. Trent now has a line of tools which has replaced his production work and he is also a Vicmarc distributor. Trent does workshops at his studio in Colorado. I was initially uncertain if a workshop would be the right method for me to get my questions answered, but Trent assured me that with his small class size (four students) I would be able to ask any question I had and he tries to tailor the class topics to each student. I did have a little luck in that there was only one other student in my class. He was a beginner, but the mixture in levels doesn't bother Trent.

The class actually starts the night before the first day when Trent gives a tour of his facilities. He has separate shops for his foundry work (e.g., bronze casting), his metal work (where he makes his tools) and, of course, woodturning. His finishing room is in part of his metal shop. In his woodturning shop, there are three short-

bed Vicmarc lathes, one Woodfast and a large VB lathe with a custom bed. All of the lathes are set-up for Trent's height, meaning that the center height is 54 inches. Trent measures all students for the proper turning height and then puts platforms in place to put you at your correct turning height.



The first day officially starts with breakfast, which Trent fixes. All meals are included in the class tuition and mealtime provides a great time to get to know the other students, meet Trent's family and ask lots of questions. After breakfast, the first topic was bowls. We start by going out to Trent's wood pile where you find logs from 2-4 feet in diameter. Trent cut a bunch of bowl blanks and we got



started. I wanted to work on some vibration and tear-out issues. Trent was able to show me some great techniques using one of his tools to get a very clean cut. Then Trent had me turn one of my flying bowls. Once done with the square bowl, Trent took it and started to draw on it. He wondered what it would look like with only two wings, so we cut two off and carved the remaining ones. This would set the trend for the next couple of days. Trent had a great way of "allowing" me to look at something in a different way. The great thing for the other student was that while I was exploring other concepts, Trent could spend a lot of time with him teaching the basics.

Day two was spent working on hollow forms. While I have done many hollow forms I have not used the tools that Trent makes for hollowing. I use a captured hollowing system with a laser and Trent's tools are more traditional hollowing tools. While they can

be used in a captured system, they are more likely to be used in tradition handles. I found his tools very easy to control, and very fast cutting. The main difficulty was getting used to judging wall thickness the old-fashioned way using calipers and sound. Once I had done a basic vessel, Trent suggested I try exploring one of my new ideas of turning wall sconces (turn a vase and cut it in half). Once the piece was turned, Trent suggested a different cutting angle. I had shown Trent an idea of using an overlay on the sconce and he suggested using copper. He had a big pile of old copper flashing that I raided to use for trying some different overlays. This was my first experimentation in using metal in my turnings. We then went to his metal shop and experimented with adding a patina to the copper. All of these things were just great ways expand the possibilities of work I already basically know how to do.

Day three was spend on various topics. Trent talked about selling wholesale, generating new ideas, drying wood, and many other topics. He also showed many examples of sculpting, coloring and texturing wood. As a student, I could try out any or all of these techniques. At lunch we looked at pictures of my work and Trent made some great suggestions on jury photos. In the shop Trent suggested revisiting a three-sided bowl and I then manipulated that into a form I had sketched, but had not tried before. Before leaving, we packed up all the turnings I did for shipping back along with a few new tools.

Trent's workshop was everything I wanted and more. This was a very laid-back class and he seems to know just the right way to guide you in the right new direction. I was very impressed with his ability to work with turners of different skill levels. I would highly recommend anyone looking for more instruction to take a trip to Fort Collins and work with Trent.

Craig Timmerman

Business Meeting

There were 58 people at our February 18 meeting, including seven visitors. **President Clyde Little** conducted the business meeting.

Craig Timmerman reported on the SWAT Board meeting held in January. Then he and **Steve Gottlieb** asked a couple of survey questions to aid in planning this year's SWATurners Symposium.

The Symposium will return to Wichita Falls and will take place on October 16, 17 and 18.

Clyde issued his first President's Challenge for the March meeting. The challenge is to make bottle stoppers. Bottle stopper blanks were made available to those who needed them.

Clyde also reminded folks of the need to pay their dues for 2009, which are now past due.

Lots of Little Pieces!

Our demonstrator for March will be the talented H. O. Evans. Ho will be holding forth on the Basics of Segmented Turnings, a subject which we all know he is expert in.

Ho will begin his presentation by discussing the various computer graphic programs he uses for to design his turnings, including several programs for video projection. He will

demonstrate and discuss the pros and cons of a one-piece ring, a two-piece ring and a four-piece ring, as well as an eight-piece ring from **American Woodturner**.

Ho will discuss multi-piece patterns and the criticality of measuring, including the cutting of precise wedges at five degrees (plus or minus 0.003 degrees). Also included will be a discussion of open versus segmented pattern designs. There will be a section on jigs for open segmented turnings as well as a demonstration of the use of a slitting saw to cut 0.095" wedges for an eight layer open segmented bowl with 40 wedges per layer to yield a 1.7" diameter by 0.8" tall bowl.

It should be an interesting night.

Photos

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

March First Saturday

Some 26 folks showed up at **Doug Green's** shop in the wilds west of Lago Vista for a fine day of turning and fellowship in his toy filled shop. Doug was using his laser to engrave names on pens. **Frank Miller** and others were turning on Doug's Woodfast, while **Jim Spano** was demonstrating that you don't need to use an expensive tool to blow something up on the lathe; your hand will do quite well. **Charlie Kay** was tutoring folks on bottle stoppers. Not content to host and engrave, Doug treated us to the barbecue feast he had prepared. We think he missed his calling. The barbecue was outstanding. As we set out for the return trek home, we came upon one of new member **David Kastner** and his wife, whose VW Beetle had broken down. With six or eight woodturners analyzing things, there were at least fifteen explanations for how to solve the problem. Eventually, we were able to get them running and on their way again. It's nice that life is never boring!



E-mail

Our way of contacting you to let you know of something on short notice is by E-mail, thus keeping us advised of your current E-mail address is important so that we can get in touch with you. We need that address in two places. It is kept in the roster that gives you the names, addresses and phone numbers of your fellow members. To

keep that list up to date, you need to let **Membership Chairman Jim Spano** know of any changes in your E-mail address. You can contact him at jimjoy@austin.rr.com. The second place we need that number is in the CTWA mass E-mail list maintained by **Webmaster Larry Walrath**. This list lets anyone in the club who has subscribed to the list send an E-mail to all of the members. To be sure that you are on that list and that your E-mail address is current, go to the web site, CTWA.org, and click on Links, then go to the bottom and click on get on the CTWA Mail List.

wanted an event that was more free flowing than our regular meetings, where there was time and opportunity for more turning and more fellowship. For the first year or two, we met regularly at **Charlie Collins'** shop in far north Austin, until Charlie had to close it down and move to North Texas with his daughter. When Charlie closed his shop, then President **Len Brissette** stepped up and began to coordinate turning the regular monthly First Saturday event into a monthly Shop Crawl, that has floated from shop to shop monthly. The event has been popular from the start, but has really taken off this year. We have had 25 to 50 people at each of our first three get togethers this year.

Certainly we need to thank Gary for getting these two events going and for keeping us on track when we begin to flag a bit in nurturing them. However, I think that we also need to thank the large number of new members who have joined us in the last year and a half or so. New blood is vital to any organization and these new folks have brought renewed zeal and vitality to our club. They have participated enthusiastically in the First Saturday events, which have turned into great hands-on sessions. They have also gotten on with their turning and eagerly participated in both Show and Tell and the Bring Back Raffle. Thanks to all of you.

Speaking of First Saturday, those of you who failed to make the long trek out to **Doug Green's** on March 7 really missed out. I know it's a long way - 65 miles for me - but Doug has as many neat toys in his clean and very well organized shop as **Orlando Banos**. They just aren't as large. Then there was the barbecue. Doug is a wholesale meat purveyor and pulled his big trailer mounted smoker up and went to work. The result was outstanding. The ribs and Kansas City hog wings (ask Doug) were amazingly good. Several folks brought potato

salad and Judy Williams brought a peach cobbler. When it was all done, we all managed to waddle out of there and leave Doug to clean up the chips.

There were two schools of thought regarding the meal. One held that we should do a meal at every First Saturday, and the second held that we should elect Doug as our club caterer. Thanks, Doug, for a fine day.

Now I have to get out and put together some knock-out bottle stoppers.

Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay

From the Editor's Desk

It is good to see the blossoming of founding member **Gary Roberts'** two favorite CTWA customs. Gary originated the Bring Back Raffle in the very early days of CTWA and has stepped in a couple of times to chastise us for not supporting and participating in it as we should. He even donated one of his turned baseballs to "get the ball rolling" one night when we didn't have a full quota of raffle items. It must do his heart good to see the large number of donations that have been raffled in the last several meetings.

Gary was also the originator of our First Saturday events several years ago. He

2009 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

April 4	To be announced
May 2	To be announced
June 6	To be announced
July 4	To be announced
August 1	To be announced
September 5	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**.

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
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LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

David Dick	512.357.6517
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April First Sat-
urday

As this issue of The Chip Pile goes to press, **Len Brissette** has not identified a place for our April First Saturday. He will let us know when everything is set up, either at the March 17 meeting or via an E-mail blast later in the month. Either way, make plans to attend.

Membership in CTWA

New members are welcome to join CTWA at any time. All you need is an interest in woodturning. Dues are \$35.00 per year, or \$3.00 per month, prorated for new members joining during the year. AAW dues are \$45.00 per year for individuals and \$50.00 for families. CTWA also strongly encourages all of our members to join the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). For that, you get a first class quarterly magazine, **American Woodturner**, with excellent articles on woodturning and woodturners, amply illustrated with color photographs. For more information, go to www.woodturner.org.

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

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

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.

March 17 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

April 4 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - TO BE ANNOUNCED

April 21 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

May 2 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - TO BE ANNOUNCED

May 19 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

June 6 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - TO BE ANNOUNCED

June 16 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

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.

Web Site

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:

Estate Tool Sale

Craftsman 1/4 HP bench grinder, \$35.
Grizzly 6" joiner (heavy duty) with base, \$450. (brand new)
Craftsman Radial arm saw with vacuum system, \$150. (old but in great shape)
De Walt plane dw733 with stand and roll around base, \$500. (brand new)
Ryobi electric hand plane, \$75.
Central Machinery mortising machine, \$80.
170 piece brad point set, \$20.
Many of these tools are brand new or hardly used.

many other tools, bits, etc.
several hand tools
wrenches
screw drivers
brad nailer
miscellaneous screws, nuts and bolts.
volt meters
electric drills

Call Bob Hrehor at 740-0450 for pre-sale appointment.

FOR SALE: Jet Model JTAS-10 3HP 10" cabinet saw, table extension, HTC fold-down run-out table, Excaliber overhead guard and dust duct, Biesemeyer anti-kickback & splitter, Incra Miter2000 miter gauge, mobile base, 8" Freud dado set and crosscut sled. Current new price for this set-up on Amazon is \$3,400. Will sell the complete set-up for \$2,500.

Delta Model DC33 13" 2HP heavy cast iron planer, extra blade set, roller infeed and out-feed tables, mobile base. \$500.

Atlas Model 6001 6" jointer, new 1HP Baldor motor, mobile base. \$250.

Contact **Charlie Kay** at 512.295.2144 or ckay@austin.rr.com.

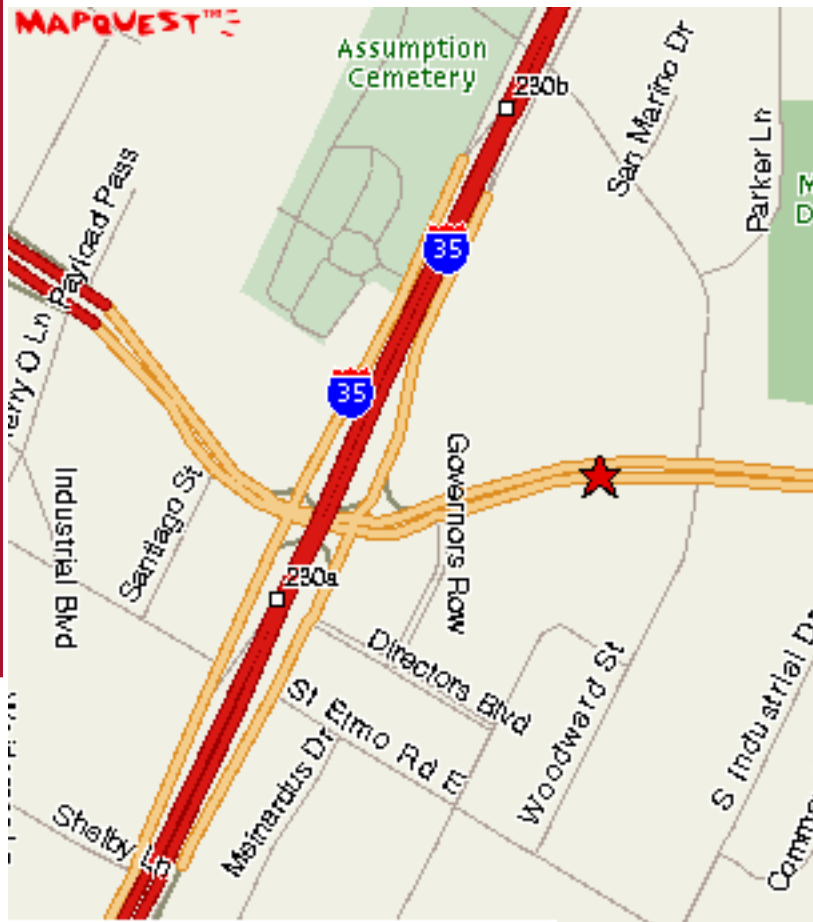
2009 Demonstration Schedule

March 17	H. O. Evans - Segmented Turning
April 21	Demystifying Finishes - Roundtable
May 19	To be announced
June 16	To be announced
July 21	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 Tim White**.

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

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To: