



# The Chip Pile



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

CTWA Meetings

**January Meeting**  
Tuesday, January 18, 2011  
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)  
**January Meeting Tue 18th**

**February 5th—1st Saturday**  
9 am-noon  
Site TBD  
**watch emails for updates**

## November's Most Unusual



**Ed Roberts**, rarely am I encouraged to turn oak. Indeed I have 3 acres of it. Nor do I hear, "Oh yes, go turn some live oak." However, we got a real treat to see a 700 year old Live Oak burle turned by you, I consider a truly gifted turner. Although I don't get to see your turnings too often.

As an artist what are some of the things we turners can learn from this piece: The curve is absolutely, devastatingly impor-

tant to an artist's eye. It could have been dark yellow, red, green, or other minerals, other than light blue, but the light blue is lovely, isn't it?

The ebony atop and bottom the oak highlights the darkness in the oak burle.

The towel prevents a vision of the piece in total; however I snuck a peek. Curve, pinnacle, foot, base, color, finish, inlay.

To this artist's eye, absolutely this month's most unusual. Thank you **Ed**

**Roberts** for bringing this beauty to us and challenging all of us to work a little harder on our techniques! Now, where did you find that burle, and can I turn live oak? Oh better wait til it's dead!

tant to an artist's eye. It can make it or break a piece. In turning, pottery, glassworks, drawing, etc. the eye needs to see the appropriate portions of foot, base, body, and finial. I can spot a Cindi Drozda a mile away. She has her style of art form perfectly, or at least 96% of the time (even for herself).

The colors of the wood combinations, the mastery of the completion of the turn—now that takes mastery in woodturning. The stroke of color by adding the blue? Well it

The President's Shop

Welcome to 2011, as I sit here and ponder the new year, I feel overwhelmed. However, I know that other Presidents have felt the same way, indeed I served in this role previously and felt this before. I know the officers will support me, and the club will support them. The 2011 officers are listed in this newsletter, and you may want to introduce yourself to them. I'll introduce them at the business meeting. So in advance, I thank you for your support. This year, I plan for 3 President's challenges. These will be a little different this year and will hopefully set up the club to help Curtis Turner next year for the Club's involvement

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## President's Shop Con't

in American Association of Woodturners (AAW) collaborative. I know Gene really wanted this to happen, so let's work toward building our individual skills to all pitch in for Curtis to make another run! The **First President's Challenge** is to build a toothpick holder. You can use your imagination on this one, but the end result must have at least two parts that work together. For example the toothpick holder and perhaps toothpicks that go into it, around it, lay on it, etc. Go wild, it doesn't matter. The idea is to be creative! The **Second President's Challenge: 2 part Bridge** is to construct a bridge turning a spindle and using it in some form of the bridge. Again, this must use at least 2 or more turned parts. For example you might turn the bridge on top of the spindles like a traditional bridge . . . or heck you might hang the bridge like the Golden Gate Bridge . . . or it might suspend within another bridge . . . Be creative! The **Third President's Challenge is to turn a 3 part Serving tray**. For example the tray might be atop another turning, atop another turning. Yes, that makes 3 pieces that are turned and constructed together. My suggestion is that you collaborate with others for this final piece. Be creative & let your imagination go wild.

We have new members, experienced, mid-level and advanced members. I expect to see the gallery full of all levels! Our membership is fun and a privilege. Please be sure to pay your dues and also join AAW. It will help us tremendously to have the due collection out of the way early!

Now let's go have a great turning year!

Turn & Learn,  
David

## BLOW UP'S

Have you ever used a **bedan** as a parting tool? You see **Tim White** here using his. Shortly after he gets a catch—the downside of a bedan. Jim Spano was quote relieved to claim that he was “no where around”



when it happened! It seems like the right

## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

tool to use. However it can be trickier than you think. On first Saturday in January in Tim White's shop, we saw how a bedan stirred a HUGE discussion on which side of the bedan was the top side? Stacy seemed to be the Judge in the discussion, since Tim claimed that he was his teacher. I sided with Tim that the small side of the Bedan was the cutting side for what he was doing, and the large side was for scraping, such as what Craig Timmerman does on the inside of a square box. Others differed with our opinions. Finally, Stacy agreed with our memories and sided with us that the correct side of the bedan for Tim to use WAS the larger side, placing the smaller side on top, cutting coves to create room for the parting off.

Confused? If you do not have a bedan tool, you can order it from Packard Supplies, that's where Craig Timmerman helped me get mine. OR, you can look at these pictures I took of mine. Thanks to Craig's tutelege, I use both sides, depending on what I am doing.

If you want to see what a bedan looks like, go to the “Interesting tools” section of this newsletter on page 8 of this newsletter. I go over all the pictures I took of my bedan as held it and turned it:

What one side was saying to Tim was he got the catch because he needed to put the larger side on the cutting side of the wood. This is how **Craig Timmerman** might use the bedan to hollow out a square box.

On the other hand, Tim White and I were proponents of the argument that the smaller side of the bedan (the top)—which is what he was using was the correct cutting angle for the bedan. This allows the bedan to form coves and open the cutting angle. This keeps the bedan from pushing into the wood and scraping, and rather cuts the wood, like a skew.

The most fun was the discussion about bedans, and the loss of the big chunk of wood at the end while Stacey showed us Cindy Drosda techniques that he taught her. That got Jim Spano interested and all of who were standing around lost interest in the bedan.

Meanwhile, Tim White, nursed his bedan-sore chest. Thank heavens he'd been holding the bedan in the “correct” position, or that bugger would have hit the ceiling!

BTW: I would NOT consider this a beginner tool WOW! I've advanced from beginner just to be able to say that!

First Saturday's have become a real learning community, much less a lot of fun for old and young, let's see by my coung 80 to 10 years old. There are usually at least 4 turning lathes and 5 or more master woodturners. Many spectators asking questions that don't get ridiculed. Wood in the

driveway that someone wants to give away (this last time there were 3 trucks and 1 car load). I myself got mesquite and silver maple. Thanks **Craig Timmerman**, again! I learned about 16” electric chain saws (I do not have enough upper body strenth to start our big gas chain saw—I can carry it, but not start it . . . what's that about?). I make it even when it is in the North Austin area. OK, I'm usually late, but I try to make it.

At first Saturday, as Gene Stokes mentioned in his last President's Shop message, everyone made jar tops, or icicles. Many failed . . . including the masters. Some used masking tape to keep the darned things on when they reverse chucked it. Some used spindle gouges, others used bowl gouges, some used . . . etc. Not all the tops fit. All the tops looked different—allowing for artistic interpretation.

All of it was fun, failures and all. Jim Spano (Mr. Masking Tape) said, “I haven't had this much fun in years.”

**If you have a technique how to prevent a OR A GOOD Shop tale you'd like to share? Got a new Lathe? Maybe it's a story you'd rather not have your name attached to? Maybe you had a piece**

**“blow up” we'd like you to share that! This is a column we are testing for interest. Please send all ideas and pictures to hildac@mac.com**

**We'll get them into the CHIP PILE. For Beginning Turners!**

Demonstration November:  
**Charles Kay**  
CTWA  
**Turning a Salt Box**

Our own **Charlie Kay** is a successful turner and production manufacturer of bottlestop-



pers, boxes and these unique saltboxes that he demonstrated for us on November's meeting. Charlie first discussed the importance of distinguishing the top and bottom



wood patterns by passing around examples of his bottlestoppers and his inlaid salt boxes. He chooses either complementary or



contrasting woods to entertain the eye.

Charles notes that the contrasting concept

fits on other forms as well. The point of his presentation is, people are attracted to the



beauty of the different colors of the wood.

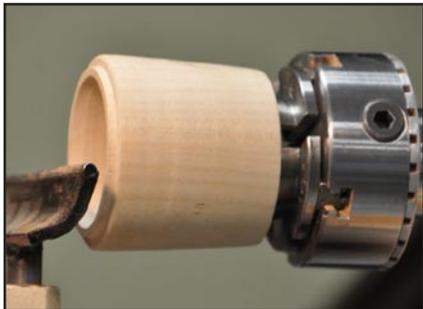
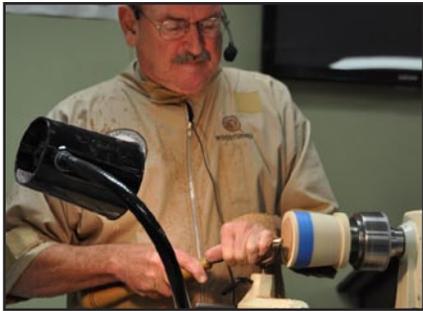


*Here are the pictures from the demonstration. What will follow is the actual text for the instructions to turn a Salt Box.*



Note that Charlie uses a 1/8" parting tool rather than a bedan or 3/8" parting tool, as in his 1996 instructions.

Nov. Demo: Charles Kay  
Turning a Salt Box  
(con't)



**TURNING A SALT BOX**

TURNING A SALT BOX  
Charles Kay

These are instructions for my interpretation of **Keith Gottschall's** Salturn, which I saw him demonstrate at the 2005 AAW Symposium in Kansas City. I don't feel too badly about stealing Keith's idea, as he admitted to stealing it from a potter. This is basically a lidded box, turned upside down.

- Start with a dry blank, approximately three inches square.
- Rough between centers and square up the ends; then turn tenons on each end to fit the dovetail jaws of your chuck.
- Chuck the round blank and eyeball about 1/3 of the piece and part it off, leaving the 2/3 end in the chuck.
- Begin to shape the top (what would be the bottom of an ordinary box), and cut a shallow dovetail to almost exactly fit your chuck, so that the chuck won't mar it. You can cut some beads or coves in the top to help disguise the tenon. Sand the top at this point, as it will be your last opportunity to do so.

- Reverse the box in the chuck and shape the outside. Decorate it as you see fit. The bottom of the box needs to feel visually heavier than the top. You can either taper it toward the bottom or use a bead or two at the base to give it weight.

- Now we are into conventional box making, and you can hollow by your favorite method, leaving 1/4" to 5/16" at the top. Keith recommends shaping the inside of the top with a round-nosed scraper, although I have found that this is not critical.

- When the hollowing is complete, cut a recess in the open end approximately 1/8" deep. You may want to relieve the interior of the box a bit above the tenon to prevent interference with the bottom when you try to fit it.

- Remove the top from the chuck and insert the piece that you parted off. Make a mark approximately 2/3 the depth of the box on your blank, and begin shaping the blank into a funnel, tapering to a 3/8" top that should be squared off.

- Using your bedan or 3/8" parting tool (or Cindy Drozda negative rake scraper) carefully fit the bottom to the recess in the top. When the tenon fits, part the "funnel" off.

- Re-chuck the top (box) and insert the funnel (bottom). Shape the outside of the box if you haven't already done so. Clean up the bottom with your spindle gouge and start making the "dip" into the funnel. You want a nice little bowl and a deep funnel for ease of filling. If the wood isn't very dry, you may find that the funnel loosens as it heats with turning, and that you need to put some paper under it to make it a snug fit. You need to be careful starting the curve of the funnel depression, or you may "free the funnel."

- When you are satisfied with the shape of the outside of the funnel, drill a 1/8" hole into the funnel. Then sand the funnel and the outside of the box. You can glue the funnel into the box now, if you haven't already done so. If you would like, you can disguise the glue joint with a tiny cove.

Just to be sure, I always put a little salt into the box just to make sure it really works.

Have fun!

04/17/2006

Thank you Charlie for presenting to the CTWA club this method for turning a Salt Box. We appreciate your service and gifts to the club.

## Demo Schedule

January meeting :  
**Gary Weiermiller**  
**Flora-Form**

**BIO:** Gary Weiermiller is sixty-six years old and lives in Cheboygan, Mi at the top of the lower peninsula. Long and very cold and snowy winters have brought me to Texas and Arizona for the first time in my life.



He started woodturning in 1991 and progressed very quickly to the point where he knew that he needed some instruction. In 1992 he studied with **David Ellsworth** and not only gained the skills needed but the direction that was lacking in his work.

By 1993 he was fully committed to making a living as a wood turner. Galleries and art fairs became venues to market the turned pieces. By 1997 he converted the marketing strategy from a regional to a national profile doing art fairs as far away from home as Florida and New York.

In 2000 He demonstrated at the AAW convention in Charlotte, NC. He has demonstrated at various local chapters in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Galleries from New Orleans , La to Jackson Hole, Wy. carry his work. Now, retired art fairs, he selects his galleries and continues to turn wood. I look forward to doing more instruction and demonstrations.

Over the years Mr. Weiermiller did close to two hundred art fairs with turners like **Mike Mahoney, Trent Bosch**, etc. That is an experience that stands alone. The hours of preparation often evolving turning 50-60 hours a week and the travel made it a very difficult way to make a living.

The most important element in his turnings has always been the challenge. He never rested on a style or niche; opting always for some different, something he never did before.

Along that path several wood turners shaped his way via instruction or demonstrations. In the early years he joined the Northwest Michigan Woodturners and **Lyle Jameison** was an early technical influence. In addition **Stoney Lamar, Mark Lunquist, Todd Hoyer**, and **Frank Sudol** have had the most influence on my work. Standing above all is **David Ellsworth**.

Living in Northern Michigan presented an excellent opportunity to harvest a wealth of burl wood. Most of his early work is represented by burl, natural edged bowls vases and vessels. He also developed a body of sculptural work. His recent work is perhaps a little of both.

He moved away from burl wood to pieces made from white ash that may be carved, airbrushed, dyed, cut and reassembled, or all of the above.

He says, "Thru it all the most important element to me is a strong well executed form. That is the strength in every piece that we can do as wood turners."—Gary Weiermiller

His Austin CTWA Demonstration Floraform

"This is one of the pieces that I have made over and over again. It's a hollow form at an intermediate level that is cut and shaped with basic tools and little embellishment. The result is a stylized tulip form that is presented on a stand making it a sculptural work.

**NOTE!!:** Gary Weiermiller, our guest demonstrator for January, will have a stash coated burl wood turning blanks for sale. He has both Maple and Black Cherry burl. They range in size from 2"x2"x6" to 4"x4"x12". Price range is \$6.00 to \$87.00.

February meeting :  
**Steve Green**  
**Wood Mineral Inlays**

**Steve Green** began woodturning in the early 2000s as a release from the pressure of his job in the high-tech world. Upon retiring in 2007 and moving to Driftwood, TX, he began woodturning in earnest by upgrading his Jet Mini to a Powermatic 3620B. Having studied with **Al Stirt, Stephen Hatcher** and **Mark St. Leger**, Steve directed his interest in the application of surface enhancements to his turnings and now views his turnings as the "preparation of the canvas." Thus many of his works are textured, colored or inlaid.

February's presentation will not be a turning demo but will take you through the step-by-step process of adding mineral crystal inlays to your turnings. Tools, supplies and techniques reinforced with actual works in process will be presented.

March meeting :  
**TBD**

**Fear not! Tim White will be leading us into another great year of demonstration for 2011. If you have ideas or know of turners outside our area that you visited, let him know.**

April meeting :  
**TBD**

## 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. All regular 3rd Tuesday CTWA Meetings are at American Youthworks.

2011  
Happy  
New Year!

Events & Dates subject to change, watch for emails!

January 18th 7 PM to 9 PM  
CTWA Meeting Presenter  
Gary Weiermiller

February 5th 9 AM to Noon  
First Saturday - Site  
TBD— Watch Emails!!

February 15th 7 PM to 9 PM  
CTWA Meeting Presenter  
Steven Green  
Mineral Inlays in Wood

March 5th 9 AM to Noon  
First Saturday - Site  
Judy Williams  
1904 Quail Valley Dr.,  
Georgetown, TX  
78626

March 15th 7 PM to 9 PM  
CTWA Meeting  
Presenter TBD

April 2nd 9 AM to Noon  
First Saturday - Site  
TBD

April 19th 7 PM to 9 PM  
CTWA Meeting  
Presenter TBD

## Editor's "Turn"

Steve and I are always finding sawdust in the house. At first we tried to clean it up all the time. Now we sort of scoot it out of the way and clean it up once a week. We finally figured out, we're not bad people, we're woodturners that turn every day.

I have fallen in love with turning—someone in this group said I would. This collective is wise. Plus, every member seems to like sawdust. They need the solitude of being creative and forcing the discipline of attentiveness to a highly dangerous machine. I believe it is also a connection to nature—our sense of smell from our olfactory system. When we make wood chips that smell increases as the tree releases the resins and chips produced many years ago. Achoo. Still looking for an closed-air system (think I found it).

There is also something spiritual about a group of people coming together on a common forum. Why am I here? Why do I put up with wood chips on the floor of my home? Well, it sparks my memories, and it also sparks my intellectual interests.

Moreover, I just like the people in this group. I'm delighted to be serving the group another year—even if the few days it takes to put this newsletter takes away my turning & learning-turn time!

Lastly, now is the time if you want to make changes or have ideas for this newsletter let me know. I'm always looking for writers or articles, if you don't want to have an ongoing column, that's OK. However, if you've always thought you'd like to take a turn at writing a column for a newsletter, let's start now! Thanks in advance to Charles Kay for his ongoing Ruminations column, that are excellent documented reads. Judy Williams for her book reviews and Meet the Turners columns. You are wonderful contributors to the newsletter.

I am looking forward to new members, workshops and fun for 2011, hope you are too.

Let's go make sawdust for the house!

Hilda V. Carpenter  
Editor

## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

### Random Ruminations: American Vagabond

BY

Charles Kay

After several years of aimlessness and ennui, I am buying a house again. As the process goes forward, I find that I am excited about it and really looking forward to getting into the house and beginning to put together a shop again.

That has gotten me thinking about houses and homes and what they mean to us as Americans. I read stories about folks who have been laid off from work in some part of the northeast or the midwest and how they cannot bear to leave the area where they have lived their entire lives and where their families have lived for generations. That is bewildering and almost incomprehensible to me. Part of me is filled with wonder and envy of folks who are so rooted in one place that they can always call home. But another part can't imagine how one could live their whole life in one place and never experience life in other places.

Although I didn't do the hard work, I have at least one documented family line on both my mother's and my father's sides of the family; one goes back at least thirteen generations in this country and the other at least nine. The amazing thing to me is that in both cases, no two generations ever lived in the same place as their forebears.

That said, it shouldn't have surprised me when I count up the places I have personally lived. It is in the genes, I think. I have lived in at least twenty "permanent" locations in my life (there may have been more than one before I was two and a half years old). If you want to count the various dormitories and apartments I lived in while in college and graduate school, that would be at least another eight places. That calculates out to an average of 2.5 years per dwelling place! The longest I ever lived in one domicile was the thirteen years I lived in the house in Ruby Ranch, so the stay was very brief at many of the others.

All that moving did have a great bearing on my turning to woodworking, and eventually woodturning, as an avocation. Up until I entered the third grade, those abodes varied from the single room I shared with my mother and sister on the east side of Austin during World War II to various barely habitable rental places. Then my parents began to put together a tiny house on five acres on the coastal prairie about ten miles from Texas City. My father was a carpenter and acquired parts of WW II military buildings from a war time base in nearby Hitchcock and had them moved to the property and somehow positioned and then began to assemble them into a house, eventually

trimming it all out and building the cabinets and a built-in bookcase with some fancy coped trim. I "helped" or mostly watched, but was fascinated by what my father was able to accomplish. Nine years later, they were able to add a couple of bedrooms to the place and this time I did a lot of the work.

When I began to acquire houses of my own, they were always fixer-uppers and I spent many, many hours on the first five of those, remodeling and building cabinets and bookcases. The Buda house was the first new house I ever lived in, but still there was work to do. Yes, there were shelves and cabinets to build, but this time I could build a shop and begin to do some of this woodworking stuff just for my own enjoyment, and by then I was pretty experienced at it.

The house that I am buying is a tract house that was already under construction when I signed the contract. I looked at some used houses but decided that I am too old to tackle that kind of project again and really want to stick to doing stuff that is fun. I'm buying the bookcases and the cabinets are included. That doesn't mean there won't be work on the house of course. There is the matter of the "shop". It won't be the nice, big, dedicated space I had before, but converting half a double garage into a work space will include building shelves and benches and cabinets. I'll also need to build a shed in the tiny back yard to accommodate my lawn mower, string trimmer, chain saw, etc. -- and, yes, my stash of turning wood. Otherwise there won't be room for a shop in the garage!

The outside is done, the sheetrock is taped and floated and things are progressing. The projected closing date is the end of March, so I have begun sketching possible arrangements of tools. It is almost time to move again. After all, I have been in this place for eight months already.

Keep on turning!

Charlie Kay

**Book Reviews**  
by  
**Judy Williams**

**Ellsworth on Woodturning by David Ellsworth**, I was wandering around the Georgetown Public Library looking for reading material and I found this book in the stacks. Since I am primarily a spindle turner, I really don't like to make bowls. However, the loan of the book was free and since I didn't have to pay decided to go ahead and check it out.

Basically this is a book on how to turn bowls and vessels. Much like the Ditmar book, one can follow the instructions and create a credible bowl. However this is like the Ditmar book on massive steroids. David covers just about everything from cutting logs for blanks to exercises to keep turners limber and able to turn long hours. There is so much information and it seems like David's just talking with the reader over a cup of coffee. He has the knack of making complicated things such as how to grind his signature gouge easier.

David, like Richard Raffin, is primarily self taught and has been turning for many years. Today we have so many tools to choose from but back then things were quite limited. David's section on tool making and sharpening is in my opinion worth the price of the book. Not only does he illustrate and discuss how to make the tool, he also pays close attention to how that tool is going to cut in a particular way to produce the turned item. He uses cheap stuff such as allen wrenches and screwdrivers as well as using cobalt high speed steel cutting tips. Other writers make this process so much more complicated than it needs to be.

The section on design was really an insight at to David's creative view of the world. There are many examples of things that work as well as a couple of "instant design modifications" as well as things that inspire his work. The basic lesson here is trust yourself to come up with your own design. As part of the design process he also discusses various surface treatments and additions.

His explanations of the actual turning sequences for his various bowls and vessels again makes very clear what is done and why. The photographs are clear and detailed. Again I think you could turn a bowl just by looking at the pictures and making sure your tools are held and used as he describes.

**2011 1ST  
PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE  
2 PART  
TOOTHPICK  
HOLDER**

**Join the CTWA.ORG Website  
to get Mail updates!**

**Get an approved  
members password**

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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 512.395-7782, by E-mail at hildac@mac.com or mail them to:

**The Chip Pile**

C/o Hilda Carpenter  
560 Moss Rose Lane  
Driftwood, TX 78619

# Meet the Turners: Kimberley Shelton

by  
Judy Williams



**Kimberley Shelton**, daughter of **Drew Shelton**, is the youngest of our female turners and she has an excellent instructor in her Dad. She “caught” the turning bug by watching her Dad turning. You can usually find her at the Shop Crawls and although her Dad is her primary teacher, she has gained the confidence to work with other turners. Originally all she could turn were pens but she has branched out and attempted bowls. The thing Kimberley likes best about turning is being and doing something different and special because let’s face not everybody can look at a pen or a bowl and say “Oh yea, I can do that”.

She is truly a special addition to our club although, she does split her time among her teenage distractions of school, friends, facebook, vacations, her artwork especially her drawing, etc. On the other hand she knows she has a limited amount of time so can really focus on her turning when she can fit it in.

Her main ambition as a turner is to turn a piece that is a little different than anybody else’s using complex shapes and is from a beautiful wood that is appropriate to the project. She wants to bring the wonder of a touchable piece that makes the viewer try and figure out just how she turned it.

Kimberly is at a stage where the world is there for her to explore. She is quite talented and instead of focusing on one area, she wants to leave all her options open for her future.

## Business Meeting

Gene Stokes, President, opened the meeting with a call for visitors or new members to identify themselves. **Darold Striley** responded that he is a Watermark pen collector and now a pen turner. **Brenda & Larry Musselwhite** just started turning bowls and pens. **Roy Ramirez** works with a scroll saw. We welcome all our visitors to the meeting.

There will not be a first saturday or a regular meeting next month (December) but there will be a Christmas party that **Clyde and Pat Little** will be hosting on **December 11th**. Please arrive at 9 for the regular turning fun if you like. At **noon** with a dish to share and a **gift to share**. The gift should be something you turned at the level of your turning ability. There will be some turning in Clyde’s beautiful shop and a lot of fun!

**Charlie Kay and Jim Spano** were on the nominating committee for the officers next year. The Presiden position, carries from last year’s President-Elect and will be **David Dick**. The slate was voted and passed for the 2011 year.

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President</b>             | <b>David Dick</b>      |
| <b>President-Elect</b>       | <b>Curis Turner</b>    |
| <b>Treasurer</b>             | <b>Ed Roberts</b>      |
| <b>Secretary/ Newsletter</b> | <b>Hilda Carpenter</b> |
| <b>Membership</b>            | <b>Pat Little</b>      |
| <b>Audio/Video</b>           | <b>Frank Miller</b>    |
| <b>Coordinator</b>           | <b>David Wolter</b>    |
| <b>Librarian</b>             | <b>Larry Walrath</b>   |
| <b>Website</b>               |                        |

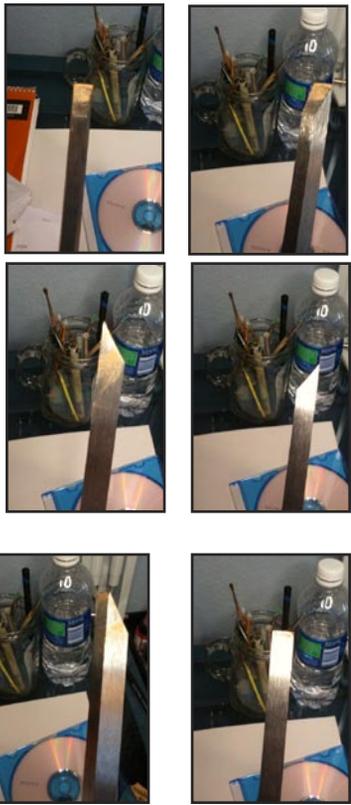
## Interesting Tools The Bedan

The Bedan, a tool from France, is one of the most versatile tools you can have in your toolbag. It can shear, tear, cut, make spheres, eggs, hollow and blow the living hell out of you all in one little tool. So why on Earth would anyone ever want one of these tools? Well, have YOU ever tried to make a sphere out of one tool and keep it in the chuck, I mean without removing the axle? Right. Or an egg? Or make coves that don’t need sanding? OK, Larry Walrath or Frank Miller excluded.

I mean the rest of the world that aren’t turning masters.

I decided after all the fall-der-all of the 1st saturday’s argument maybe some of you who haven’t ever seen a bedan might like

to. Here are the pictures I took of my own as I turned it around. The key here is you do not ever, ever catch on those very sharp sides. I think you can figure out why. However, like a skew, you can use that bottom line to roll coves, or hold it straight to smooth out ridges. The key is to know what it is you are cutting and why. Where is your cutting angle and where. And, most importantly, where is your tool to your line of center, tool rest, and cutting angle—and do not, do not!!! go to sleep with this tool.



I don’t know if you can tell, but the bedan is in a trapezoidal shape (see top row left and right). The center rows show the angles off the trapezoid to the bottom of the bedan. The bottom row shows the turning over to the bottom of the bedan, where you cannot see anything else but the flat part of the bedan.

Wicked tool, and sharp and does a great job. Youtube “Bedan”. It’s a great tool and you will learn a lot about it.

## Photos

Photographs for this month’s **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton, Charles Kay, Hilda Carpenter, David Dick, and Steven Green**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at [hildac@mac.com](mailto:hildac@mac.com).

# November Member Gallery

**Jack Besperka** started us out with a Southwest Style lamp he fashioned out of



mesquite he found in the bottom of Lake Travis. No finish except the beads & neck, Watco.

**Hilda Carpenter** was proud of her "Canyon



Sunset" platter (that she resisted airbrushing), the "wood was just too pretty on it's own." Spalted Maple and tung oil.

**Jim Spano** was this last month turning this



box with lid mad of "unknown and mesquite" finished with Deft & Buff. The offset candlestick is Pecan finished with Deft & Buff and this square box is Pecan finished



with Deft.

**Steve Green** brought one of his square bowls. Cherry finished with Poly.



**Jim Brinkman** turned (or should I also add almost turned through?) this plate he entitled "Eclipse" Ashe finished with Briwax. He



also brought a toothpick holder of mesquite finished with beall. He ebonized the top finial.



**Ben Warren** displayed some of his recent



pens for us. He also left one for January's bring back! Thanks Ben!

Does anyone recognize **Cindi Drozda's** influence? Well **Ed Robert's** executes it quite well in his lidded bowl. It sits atop this 700 year old Live Oak burle! finished with wipe on poly and his hands! He filled with



some turquoise. Beautiful job, Ed!! We have Cindi's video's in the library if you would like to rent them.

**Jim Brinkman** brought this ash plate finished in briwax



**Jimmy Tolly** brought a mesquite bowl turned by **Arnie** outside & returned, the inside was laquere the outside was mahoney's.



Jimmy also brought one of his infamous plates, IPAE wood, finished in Mahoney's. Lovely work, Jimmy.



## Nov. Member Gallery (cont)



If you will remember, **Frank Miller** brought tops that fit jars to the November 1st Saturday. An unknown turner brought these to the meeting, maybe to kick off Christmas!

**Eddy Butler** brought his special form of lidded boxes made of marble wood, lace-wood, rosewood with beal finish system.



Welcome new turner (to our club) **Bruce Van Wart** who brought this amazing mahogany bowl finished with waterlox. This was a very large bowl and the envy of



several of us turners who had a couple of year's experience. Come back Bruce!

## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

**Jimmy Tolly's** curved ash bowl almost made it into this month's most unusual. Except for space and time, his would have.



This is an ash bowl. He burned the outside then used white liming wax on the inside, finished with Mahoney's. The curves are perfect. Ash is a lovely wood, and Jimmy's use of various techniques make this turning interesting to look at vs. just another bowl. Great job, Jimmy.

## ORNAMENTS!

Responding to the **Johnny Tolly & the President's challenge** to create icicles and finial icicle holders to fit **Johnny Tolly's** ornament balls, here are the final results:



**Gene Stokes** starts us off with a maple & eucalyptus with rub-on poly finish (now that will last thru a lot of xmas'es!



**Jim Brinkman** showed off a long icicle with

mesquite and purpleheart finished in Beal.



Oh **Hilda Carpenter** . . . your "happy Christmas puzzle" . . . do any of them actually fit? Maybe 2011 will bring blessings of understanding a caliper.



This editor absolutely loves science fiction and **Jim Spano's** sense of humor . . . his "Take me to your leader" ornament delighted her

**Joe Kirk's** dual maple ornament



**Nov. Member Gallery (cont)**

**Kim Shelton**, our youngest female woodturner produced a marvelous ornament from African Blackwood finished with Deft.



**Drew Shelton** brought a beautiful walnut and maple finished with beal and shellawax



**Bob Duncan's** entry was African blackwood and Deft.



I had one picture left and two tags, one for **Stacey W. Hagar** of Mesquite & walter that noted the globe was finished in tung oil, and the finials were

finished in brown shoe polished. Thus, I'm accounting this picture to him.



**Dave Wolter** had a beautiful display that he called "Christmas tree & melting icicle. These are made with mes-



quite & ebony finished with lacquer. I'd say this is the best display I've seen (well, except for **Jim Spano's**).

There is one more tag without a picture, the tag (suprizingly) is **Kimberley Shelton**. It shows an afzella lay and cherry finished in beal and shellawax. The bring backs were a little light this month, so I'm hoping they are huge in January.

**Bring Back Raffle**

Bill Hammond brought a tern ware of soft maple finished in mineral oil that Bill Young took home.



Steve Green brought a small maple plater with mineral crystal gecko finished with shellawax. Marcia

Tolly took this home.

**Hilda Carpenter** has been busy turning bottle stoppers for Christmas gifts



and brought a couple of her non-traditional ones for the club's bring back. The small-hand padauk bottle stopper finished with shellawax was taken by **Ben Warren**, The Weed Pot Bottle Stopper of Infused Burl finished with Lacquer was taken by **Jimmy Tolly Jim Spano's** teensey Box with lid of Cherry, Walnut & Unk, finished with mahoney & beeswax was scooped up



by **Hilda Carpenter**

**Jimmy Tolly's** Plate of Anigre finished in Mahoneys is not shown and **Dave**



**Wolter** took it home.

*As is the custom, each of the winners including Mystery Person (you know who you are, even if the Editor doesn't) will bring back a turned item to the next meeting. This is not a Judging contest! Your turning should be representative of your turning skill. If you don't have a lathe, or don't feel you have the experience, contact one of our volunteer instructors to help you prepare a Bring Back piece. So buy a ticket, get involved and have fun.*

Members in the News  
by  
Hilda Carpenter

What Happens when a Gear Head  
needs a Gear Head?  
by  
Doug Green & Hilda Carpenter

**Doug Green:** (a known producer of gears) writes

“On one of my late night jaunts on the internet, I was searching to find something I could make with my new wood chain. What I found was a real treat, one that I think any wood worker would enjoy.

I first found a you tube video entitled, “Wooden combination lock.” My first thought when I watched it was this guy is way out there. The more of his videos I watched, the more intrigued I became by this young man. To date he has 78 YouTube videos to watch, many are amazing. Many have been viewed over 1,800,000 times. Some of my favorites are on his web page under Joinery and Jig and wooden machines. They show you the internal workings of an air machine that runs off of his shop vacuum.

He has made a working band saw of almost 100% wood. That s right, a wood band saw, all except for a few bearing and the motor, it is all wood.

He does have a few things for sale, mostly plans of the things that he had made. I found what I was looking for: a program for a Gear template generator. I was able to begin using the program that I bought for a measly \$26 within minutes of downloading it.

To make a long story short, after I made my all wood chain, I needed to make the sprockets for it. It took over two hours of drawing on the computer and many tries, before I had drawn a sprocket that would fix my chain. After I had the gear generator, I redrew that same sprocket, but improved, in 2 minutes. All I had to do was to input 3 measurements and bam it was done. With just a few clicks of the mouse I could add as many teeth as I needed without starting over.”

Now the story continues that David, our local gear head, went One Gear head to another Gear Head . . . Doug contacted the owner of the site [www.woodgears.ca](http://www.woodgears.ca) and discovered he wasn't a kid or just some “guy.” He was truly a fellow gearhead.

Here's what Doug has to say about that:

“I contacted this young man via e-mail and found out he is not all that young. His name is Matthias Swandel. He is 41 and lives Ottawa, Ontario. He started his col-

## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

lege degree in mechanical engineering but changed to something else before he finished. He claims that his schooling had very little to do with it.

Anyway his web site is “an engineer's approach to woodworking” and can be found at [www.woodgears.ca](http://www.woodgears.ca). Take some time and look around, maybe you will not be intrigued as I was but you still might enjoy. There is a new article each Monday not all, are truly amazing.”

Go check it out. Gearheads unite!

## Johnny Tolly's Articles by Hilda Carpenter

I know I have written about this before, but it bears repeating especially when this past November, **Johnny Tolly's** contribution to the Gallery was not one of his very cool pieces of turning, or new tools. It was one of his articles that he writes for national magazines. In this case it was an ongoing part of how to finish the icicles that we had in our club as a President's challenge.

How many of us go to National, Regional or pay for lessons, subscriptions to find out what is in this man's mind? Not to mention the combined information of him and his brother. Add his wife Marcia and you have a triple effect.

Johnny's articles are a source of deep enrichment. We search all over the internet, and yet, here he is often knowing an answer of how to turn or fix, or find the right path to our solution. Oh I still search other places, or he'd ban me as a stalker!

He is the Woodturner Whisperer for dummies. I go to him or Jimmy first.

Will my stupid questions and their answers come out in an article that Johnny writes in the future? Probably not, Johnny's gift, as is his brothers', is down-dumming the complex into tangible language. He knows his audience. I probably would have had more success on the President's challenge & Johnny's icicles & balls if: 1) I had not dropped the 1st ball multiple times on the concrete & cracked the hell(0) out of it; 2) I knew how to read calipers (who knew there were two sides to them?).

Now, I'm going to take all of the parts I have and the one remaining ball, take some pen blanks my caliper that I know how to use (thank you **David Wolter** for showing me the visual, still haven't quite mastered it, but **Charlie Kay** is helping me).

I just don't think Johnny ever imagined anyone this right-brained would be reading his articles, much less turning. But I read

them over-and-over. I'll get them yet (I am not stupid and I do know how to read). I'm an artist, but can concentrate like heck.

Thank you Johnny for your contribution to the written word. I believe in words, or I would never read, or have gotten an education. This tribute is to my admiration to you and your ability to write well.

Now, anyone want to help me learn more about calipers, applying measuring—eventually I'll tire Charlie out.

**First Saturday Nov. 6, 2010**  
by  
**Charles Kay**

A chilly November 6 saw a large turnout of wood turners at **President Gene Stokes** small and tidy shop in Round Rock. Gene has put together a well-planned shop in a twelve by eighteen foot space. All you need to turn is in there, with well thought out storage. We had Gene's Jet going in the shop and a couple of mini-lathes on the sidewalk outside and the back porch of the house.

**Frank Miller** brought empty jars and chunks of wood to make wooden tops to go over the jar lids. A number of folks tried



their hand at it. **Jim Spano** took the prize for the thinnest top, once he located his disappearing chuck key. **Kimberly Shelton**



was turning an icicle and **Hilda Carpenter** was trying to figure out how to salvage her "lady's leg" icicle that had a tenon too small for the hole in the **Johnny Tolly** ornament. There was also an inquiry about how to



check runout on the outside of a spindle. In both cases, as always, there were more opinions than participants. Some of those opinions might even be useful.



**Judy Williams** teaches **Kimberley Shelton** how to create lace.

When the turning and lying were done, a lucky thirteen of us headed to Mesa Rosa for lunch. The food was good, but the getting there was tortuous. Access is challenging.

**Volunteer Instructors**

**SOUTH**

- Bill Hammack** 512.282.0832  
tops tiny turnings
- Stacey Hager** 512.282.1036  
basics, spindles, sharpening, hollow vessels
- Johnny Tolly** 512.858.4471  
basics, open segmented
- Jimmy Tolly** 512.894.0686  
basics, platters
- Craig Timmerman** 512.288.3598  
basics, square turning, hollow vessels
- Charlie Kay** 512.295.2144  
boxes & bottle stoppers
- H. O. Evans** 512.282.2830  
segmented turnings
- Jack Besperka** 512.261.4682  
decoration & finishing

**NORTH**

- Rusty Myers** 512.218.1606  
basics, boxes, kitchenware
- Frank Miller** 512.335.4768  
basics, spindles, skew tops
- Judy Williams** 512.293.7479  
spindles
- Jim Spano** 512.835.5023  
novelty items, tops, shop gadgets
- Len Brissette** 512.258.4004  
bowls, platters, sharpening

**ROUND ROCK**

- Larry Walrath** 512.255.5379  
big vessels, bowls, platters
- Ed Roberts** 512.255.3294  
basics platters

**LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS**

- David Dick** 512.357.6517  
basics, spindles, architectural

**Jan. 8th 1st Saturday  
(blue moon 1st sat)**

FIRST SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2011  
January 8 found between 25 and 30 folks  
gathering in **Tim White's** new shop in Ruby



Ranch in Buda for our first First Saturday  
of 2011. **Frank Miller** was tutoring folks  
on his Jet mini, now known as the tower of



power with the addition of its new custom



speed controller.

**Travis White** was working on roughing out  
a box on his own mini-lathe between time  
out for video games and after presenting  
**Hilda Carpenter** with a custom pen he had  
made. **Tim White** had chucked a log on his  
big Oneway and several folks took a turn at  
transforming the log into chips. **Jim Spano**  
avoided turning this time, and wasn't even

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in the shop when someone got a big catch  
on the log, so we can't blame this one on  
Jim. **Kimberly Shelton** turned a nice little



goblet on her mini-lathe, although some  
picky folks told her that it was a little too



thin. **Steve Green** brought a couple of new  
pieces that were completely pierced then  
inlaid with stone for a real stained glass  
window effect.



All and all a nice morning with lots of turning,  
lots of good conversation and several  
visitors. When the session was done and



the chips swept up, eight of us went to  
**Evangeline Cafe** for some good Cajun  
food. Thanks to **Tim** for hosting us this



month.

## Membership in CTWA

We welcome NEW MEMBERS to join our band of merry turners anytime. An interest in woodturning is the only requirement. Dues are \$35.00 per year, prorated to \$3.00/month for new members. CTWA members are also encouraged to join the American Association of Woodturners, AAW. Those dues are \$38 online membership only, \$48.00 for individuals and \$50 for families. Your membership includes the AAW magazine, American Woodturner, a first-class quarterly magazine full of woodturning articles, tips and ideas with color illustration of the world's master turners' techniques. With our membership, whether you are experienced or a novice, we will teach you, or learn from you, and build long-lasting friendships based on a common kinship of matching wood, metal, machine and man, or woman as the case may be.

## Volunteer Your Shop for First Saturday!

1. It doesn't need to be fancy, or big.
2. We'll bring the lathes.
3. You make the coffee.
4. We'll bring the donuts.
5. Have enough room for at least 1-2 turners (easy in the summer).
6. Let Len Brissette know! Or email the editor.



## 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 Hilda Carpenter at hildac@mac.com or 512.395.7782. Ads will be run for two months, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED, and then dropped.

### FOR SALE:

- Parks 12" planer** with 12" jointer attachment.
- Delta 1" belt/ 5" disk sander** with stand.
- Meed telescope** (D=114mm, F=1000mm, f/8.8) with stand and Autostar Tracking.
- Coleman Angle Jig** for any radial arm saw.
- Skill Saw** 6 1/2", heavy duty, all ball bearing, all aluminum, model 552
- New Black & Decker saber saw** with dust collector, model JS 500
- 2 Weed eaters** (Echo GT 200 BE) (Bolens BL100 17")
- 2 Chain saws** (Echo 452 VL with 16" bar) (McCulloch CS38EM 38cc)
- 3 Tillers** ( Troy-built Horse 6 hp, Honda heavy duty 8hp FRC800
- Almost new, Mantis model 7222E cultivator)**
- Johnson 3hp Seahorse outboard motor**
- Antique collections** - fans, typewriters, bottles, toasters, radio, accounting machine, oil heater, and more.

Call Stacey Hager for details (512) 282-1036

## Classified Ads

**WANTED USED LATHE JET MINI**  
Contact Lily 512-618-3284

.....

Did you know we've sold PowerMatics, Novas, Jet Mini's, Planers, Power tools, and antique tools over the last year? All you have to do is write hildac@mac.com and let her know you want to sell something on the classified ads.



# 2010 CTWA CHRISTMAS PARTY

NEXT: there was food and lots of it, with



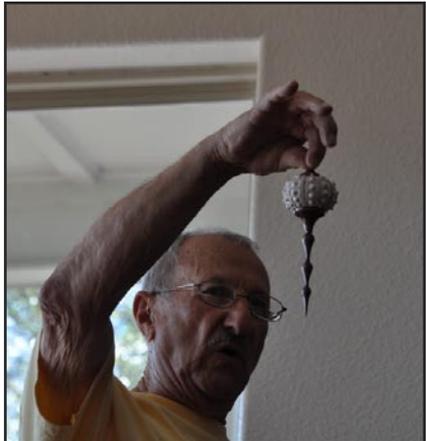
people standing in line to get at it! Yum. Thank heavens for good cooks is all I can say.



After eating it was time for the gift swapping. I'll just post some pictures and let you enjoy.

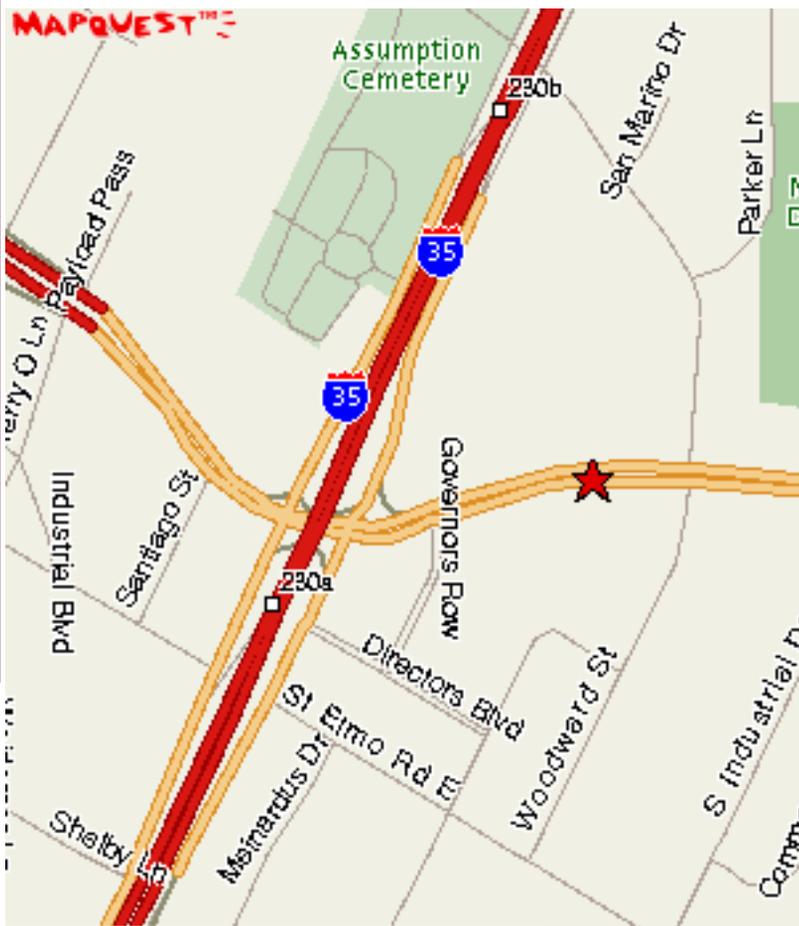


2010 CTWA  
CHRISTMAS PARTY



### 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

Hilda V. Carpenter  
560 Moss Rose Lane  
Driftwood, TX 78619

To: