



The Chip Pile



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

November Meeting
MACK PETERSON Turning Bowls
from Limbs
November 15, 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)

Christmas Party
Dec. 10th Clyde & Pat
Little
14307 Geronimo, Volente, TX
 Check the Website &
WATCH FOR EMAILS

President's Shop

November is the month for election of our new officers. **Charlie Kay** was overwhelmingly recommended, seconded and pending November's election will become our President-elect for 2012. **Greg Vest** volunteered to take 1/2 of the **Chip Pile** as the layout artist with **Charlie Kay** acting as editor to replace **Hilda Carpenter's** resignation. All other officers volunteered to remain in place, unless someone else volunteered. *December* is our month for sharing friendships, turning and exchanging turning gifts. We always appreciate **Clyde and Pat Little's** beautiful home and Clyde's large shop.

I want to especially thank **Curtis Turner** for taking the extra step beyond President-elect to act in my place during my illness. He will make a good President for 2012.

Thank you all for the 2011 time to serve as your President.

Keep making chips,
David Dick

Both of this month's choices represent beauty and technical challenges for woodturning and art. Steve Green's Maple Labyrinth, textured with malachite and azurite sand, mineral inlay has a perfect curve since the labyrinth center is the same height as the outside ring. Craig Timmerman's lamp is centered with proportional mesquite balls inlaid with turquoise seemingly captured by sweeping with lamination legs.

Most Unusual



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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.

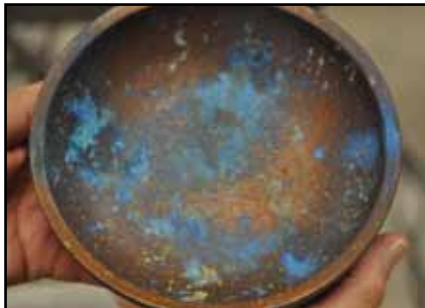
Demonstration October 2011:

Curtis Turner



Curtis Turner, our president-elect demonstrated various techniques of treating wood to give interesting embellishments. Using unusual tools that might be lying around your shop, without necessarily spending a lot of money, for instance nails, or used grout cleaners. However, most interesting was his treatments of patinas to turn the wood into what appeared to be metal. His make-shift paint bin was an old cardboard box, and the patina paints were not toxic to the observers. We were able to see the beginnings of his chemical reactions before our eyes. He had a gear like turning that he was turning into an old, rusted appearance. We wouldn't see the final version, since the patinas had to work their magic over night.

Thank you Curtis for an informative demonstration on chatter tools and patina paints.

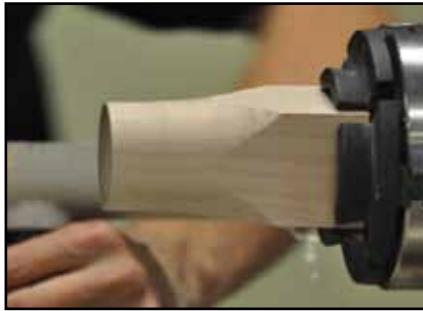


Photos

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton, Steve Green**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at hil-dac@mac.com.

Demonstration October 2011:

Curtis Turner



Random Ruminations:
"Are We Having Fun Yet?"

BY

Charles Kay

Wisdom sometimes comes from the most unlikely places. I have an old friend who lives in San Marcos, and when you are my age, old friend also means old. He and I graduated from high school together fifty-two years ago. We weren't close friends, but our class was very small and there were no real cliques, so we all knew each other well. As life will have it, we drifted our own ways and long lost contact with each other. He was a gifted athlete and got a degree in Physical Education with a long-time dream of being a successful high school coach. He would have been a good one, too, but marriage changed that. His wife didn't want to be married to a coach. He had worked his way through college working in a custom framing shop and so he and his wife decided to open their own shop in her hometown. In the meantime, I ended up with chemistry degrees and pursued a career with Texaco that moved me around this nation.

When I took early retirement, he found out from a mutual friend that I had located here and by then, they had returned to San Marcos, where they had met, and opened a frame shop there. He got in touch with me and we got together. We were both the sons of poor carpenters who eked out a living in Galveston County, and here we were both working in wood, at least after a fashion. As time and our renewed connection evolved, we found that we had always had a lot more in common than we would have ever presumed all those years ago. He and his wife have been a great support to me over these last few years.

As most of you know, over the last six or eight months, I have worked at getting a shop put together in my new house. The shop is quite functional now, but somehow I haven't been able to overcome my ennui and actually do much turning. The last visit I had with my friend, I was discussing the things I was trying to get turned for some upcoming shows. He looked me in the eye and said: "Quit doing what others are doing and do what you really want to do." What he said didn't sink in for several weeks, although it did stick with me.

Slowly, it dawned on me that the problem with my motivation did lie in what I felt obliged to turn. I had a list of things that I wanted to do, including many embellishments and decorations, but I felt obligated to turn things that I could sell at craft fairs, as I felt that I needed the things I turned to be "useful" and turn a little cash to assuage my guilt and justify all the money I have spent on my toys. I had forgotten that this is supposed to be fun -- the activity that takes my mind off other things and lets me get lost in one of the things I love. That has always been hard for me to do. My upbringing insisted that anything done just for fun was the devil's work and that has been a difficult thing for me to overcome.

Once I fully understood the implications, quite recently I must add, I felt a lot better about things and I have resolved to follow my friends advice. I will turn enough "useful" stuff to do BudaFest in December, but then I will follow my muse. I have also begun to write a series of essays, just for my own enjoyment, on things that are important to me. That is something else that gives me joy and is just "fun" and thus hard to defend to my inner nag.

It is hard to overcome the baggage that we carry with us through our lives. It is called baggage for a good reason. It weighs us down and keeps us from being our best self. We forget that we took up turning, for instance, because it brings us pleasure.

Ruminations (continued)

Sometimes, it takes a good friend to help us see the things that we cannot see for ourselves.

Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay



The Christmas Party is always fun, bring a side dish or dessert to share (meat is provided). We'll be turning in the morning. Arrive around 8:30-9 am. We'll eat around 11:30. Bring your best turning for a gift exchange after lunch. Kids are invited to join in the fun. Remember to bring your safety gear!

Pat and Clyde Little are hosting the event **14307 Geronimo, Volente, TX.**

Blow Ups by Hilda Carpenter

I learned a lot this past weekend from **Jimmy Tolly and Peter Hawkins**. I can turn the outside of the bowl and it looks quite lovely, and they did show me how to produce the ogee I want. Cool.

Here's where the trouble is. I have been having trouble with my bowls. I wanted to turn them very thin so I can pierce them with my NSK dental tool. However, I found that the thinner I turned them, one side would end up thicker than the other. Eventually, the bowl would become a plate, or worse, simply blow up. Yep, the queen of the blow ups, right here. Here's what I learned, that you probably already know.

Even if you round out the piece of wood . . . the tree doesn't stay round in the middle, or it may warp while you are turning it, or believe it or not, some trees are just not round . . . duh, you say. But the inside was eating my lunch.

So, the answer is to curve the top of the bowl, and to take it in small portions.

Of course I have to work on the **Chip Pile** this week, but as soon as this is over—I am out to the shop to work on a bowl, using the new techniques they explained. Oh, Jimmy also said not to worry about the big old stem in the tail stock, I could get rid of that later. To keep the

tail stock in as long as I could. Duh.

Book Reviews

Judy Williams has done a great service to CTWA sharing her knowledge and gifts by providing interesting reviews of various turning books. Thank you, Judy for your service. If anyone is interested in providing a review of a book, DVD, or conference they have experienced, we invite you to share a column on the **Chip Pile**.

New item!

Traveling Member Demo's

None at this time, I guess everyone is busy with Christmas.

If you or you know about a turner who is demonstrating, please contact the editor hildac@mac.com

**President's Challenge:
2 Winners**

David Dick announced two winners in the President's Challenge. This challenge was a collaborative turning between two members in the club. In the over 16" category collaborative among **Jimmy Tolly, H.O. Evans**



Jim Spano and Hilda Carpenter (a.k.a. DocHilda, her



pen name for airbrushing) also won the President's Challenge for under 6" for Jim's beautiful

Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

Peacock.

The winners took home a Craft Supplies gift certificate.

Collaborative turnings are fun. Do them all year!

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** ckayday@gmail.com
boxes & bottle stoppers
- H. O. Evans** 512.282.2830
segmented turnings
- Hilda Carpenter** 512-395-7782
Airbrushing, tool handles
- Jack Besperka** 512.261.4682
decoration & finishing

NORTH

- Rusty Myers** 512.218.1606
basics, boxes, kitchenware
- 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

2011 Officers

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thewoodwriter@yahoo.com

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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 512.395-7782, 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

Editor's "Turn"

Well you may as well know, I lose days these days. However, some days I'm sharp as a razor.

On one of my razor days, I ordered a Joyner Pendant Plate from Ruth Niles to try my hand at pendant making. I learned quite quickly that I needed to screw in the plate into the waste block for stability, rather than using two plates with double sided tape. Maybe the big boys can do this, but not me.

The second thing I learned was . . . "ho ho ho girl, yo ain't so big in your britches with that skew are you?"

Well, yeah, I actually thought I was pretty competent. It had been a long time since I'd really cut up a big chunk of wood, but as that song says, "Whump, there it is."

I tried using my skew again & no problem. Must have been one of those out-of-body times. Put the skew away, not a tool to mess with when you might not be all there.

So on to bowls. I have a huge amount of mesquite on 240 acres. My cousin Will Ed Winters cut a 10" limb by 7' that was blocking the road to the cattle tank. That is one of the

small trees that is on the property. They have cleaned out the tanks. Now to just go pick out the big trees, or the ones that look like they are good color, or colour, as Peter Hawkins might say.

My brother says you can be walking along among little mesquite and suddenly that there is a big 70-90 year old one.

That sounds about right. My family has owned that little piece of ground since 1908. Long before there were mesquite, but they did have cattle, and they did come from where there were mesquite.

Cycle of life. My grandmother's name was Hilda Carpenter, she had the same illness too. Cycle of life. The mesquite falls and the dna falls. Thank God I have children.

Now to sharpen that razor and that skew, learn how to use it on side grain. Never give up learning, and always "Shake up the turnin!"

Hilda Carpenter
Editor
30

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. Check Website for latest information.

Events & Dates subject to change, watch for emails!

Nov 15th 7 PM to 9 PM
CTWA Meeting
Presenter
Mack Peterson
Turning a Bowl from a Board

December Christmas Party
Dec 17 1st Saturday
Party! See Details
In the Chip Pile

January 7th 9 am noon
1st Saturday
place tbd

January 17th 7 PM to 9 PM
CTWA Meeting
Presenter TBD

Members In the News

Buda FineArts Festival October 23-24

Steven Green known under his business name as Steve Green Wood Art type “www.stevewoodart.blogspot.com” in your browser if this link does not work met many other artists and art lovers at the Buda FineArts Festival. Marcia Tolly stopped by, as well as Charles Kay. Charles was kind enough to help set up the tent in the blowing dust and wind before the show!

Steve was delighted to have his piece, Green Hollow Form chosen as “Best of Show.”

He met a couple who perused all the talented artists looking for a Texas memento to take with them as they returned to the East Coast. They selected the Green Hollow Form. There was one problem, his signature on the bottom didn't include Driftwood, Texas. They wanted it to be included. Thankfully, I had tools to engrave with me. It was a great lesson for me to carve his little hamlet Driftwood, TX heretofore on each piece. Steve says, “Driftwood is a long name! But the customer is always right.”

Wesley Gallery Fine Arts Festival November 5th

Peter Hawkins, a featured artist in Wesley Gallery, along with **Jimmy Tolly** and **Steve Green** attended the Wesley Gallery Fine Arts Festival on November 5th.

Business Meeting

Curtis Turner stood in for David Dick, while David judged the President's Challenge. He announced the Austin Bergstrom International Airport display and asked for a show of hands of people who would be interested in showing their work. Curtis went on to explain that the work would be in the Plexiglas cases and that an email was forthcoming.

Curtis then reminded everyone of the Christmas Party/First Saturday on December 10th at Clyde and Pat Little's house, arrive at 8:30-9, bring a side dish to share (meat and drinks are provided), then bring your best turning to trade as a gift. Kids are welcome.

We will probably repeat the class, or another one like it that we had in October for beginners or intermediate turners. There are old Woodturner Magazines available (many good articles and ideas) Newsletter software no decision, but probably will be OK since Charlie has a copy, and Greg has Illustrator.

Round Rock Chalk walk Oct 7

&8 Curtis will be demo'ing. Thanks to Jim and Clyde for developing and inspiring the class in October. Tonight is the call for 2012 officers. President Elect and Secretary Newsletter. Steve Green nominated Charlie Kay. Curtis asked for other nominations hearing none, closed nominations. He asked for a second and received a second (from someone in the back—actually there were many voices). Curtis called for a vote with an overwhelming “Aye” Charlie was nominated as President Elect.

Hilda Carpenter's replacement came up with a 2-part strategy with no rebuttal. Charlie Kay will edit and Greg Vest will do the layout for 2012. This closed the meeting and we moved to the gallery showing.

How the Old Timers Handled Wood & the Effect on Others

by
Hilda Carpenter

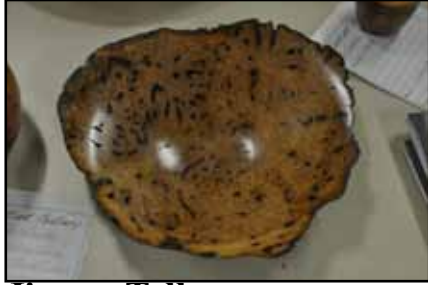
I grew up in West Texas, where there is a sparse number of planted trees, and loads of sand dunes. I overheard someone say, "I wonder how the pioneer women survived in the early days." Quick to answer, "They dug holes in the dirt, and lived in the ground." She looked at me as if I'd lost my mind. Yet this was true, at least until my Grandfather could negotiate a Studebaker wagon from his brother. Trading a milk cow. Then he could sell some of the meager items they were able to grow to the granaries get some wood for a barn. They managed to live in a silo along with the feed until they could take bent nails and scrap lumber for a house. My grandmother built her own kitchen later by herself.

What about the actual lumberjacks? Ben Warren sent along some pictures that I had not seen for quite some time. In fact the last time I saw them was from a tree-hugger talking about the deforestation of the planet. It is sad to see the old trees go. However, I am an anthropologist admirer from afar. I admire the tenacity and long term affect these pioneers had on my family. I go to my lathe and cannot imagine working like those men and women did. Enjoy the pictures and consider how this affected your world.



Inside a tree
was their
home

October Gallery



Jimmy Tolly



Steve Green



Jim Spano/DocHilda



Peter Hawkins



Steve Green



Jim Spano



Ed Roberts



Steve Green



Jim Patterson



Jim Spano



Steve Green/Doc Hilda



Charlie Kay



Steve Green



Charles Kay



Jim Patterson

October Gallery



Peter Hawkins



Jimmy Tolly



H.O. Evans



Peter Hawkins



Jimmy Tolly



Jimmy Tolly



Peter Hawkins



Jimmy Tolly

John Wolter



Charlie Kay

Johnny Tolly new tool (no picture provided)



Jimmy & Johnny Tolly

October Gallery (con't)



Craig Timmerman



David Wolter

Bring Back Raffle



Hilda Carpenter: John Wallace



Peter Hawkins: Hilda Carpenter



Steve Green: Greg Vest



Larry Walrath: Bill Hammock



Gene Stokes: Greg Vest



Gene Stokes: John Thompson



Charlie Kay: Jim Patterson (?)

Congratulations if you won a Bring Back. You need to bring back a turning to share next month.

Your turning should represent the level of your turning skill. If you do not have a lathe, or don't feel you have the experience, go to a first Saturday, contact one of our volunteer instructors to help you prepare a Bring Back piece. So buy a ticket, get involved and have fun.

It's the end of the year. Think back & if you still owe a bring back, it's a good time to turn it out, or ask one of the volunteers or officers to help your catch up.

You know who you are!

AUSTIN BERGSTROM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ART CALL
by
Curtis Turner

Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) has long supported local businesses, musicians and artists. ABIA maintains various stages for musicians and leases store space to Austin based businesses. They also maintain gallery quality displays that feature unique and interesting items created by local artists.

I recently contacted Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) about the possibility the club featuring our work in the display cases in the airport. I meet with the person that manages this process for ABIA. We walked through the various exhibits and discussed timelines and parameters.

I am excited to report that ABIA would like to host an exhibit of our club's work! ABIA has 10 glass Pylon displays. Each display can house 1 to 4 items depending on size of the item(s). ABIA prints all signage for each case. They will print artist information and item descriptions. The displays are in very visible locations in the airport. They rotate the exhibits quarterly. There would be no fee or charges to CTWA. Each case is secured by bolts. The pieces on loan to ABIA are covered by the City of Austin's Fine Arts Insurance Policy.

They also have 8 poster displays that could feature interesting photos of completed work, action shots of turning and more. They will collect the images and reproduce the posters. The first opportunity is February 1st through April 18th.

The board will collect photo submissions and depending on the volume of submissions select sampling that reflects highly on Central Texas Woodturners. We will then submit photos for final selection by ABIA. Rules

1. Submit jpg photos of two items you feel represent your best work.
2. Submit one photo of an interesting turning related image suitable for a poster (optional).
3. Photos should be of reasonable quality. You don't need professional photos.
4. Photos should be less than 1 meg.
5. Submissions must include your complete contact information (Full name and phone number).
6. Submissions must include a brief description of the item(s) .
7. Photos are due NO LATER than November 30th.
8. You must display your selected item(s) for the full duration of the exhibit. Items will not be sold during the exhibit. Prices will not be listed.
9. Email your photo to me at curtis_turner@sbcglobal.net. I will review submissions with the board.
10. If selected, you will need to supply artist information and additional item details in a timely manner.
11. If selected, you will be required by ABIA to sign a loan agreement for your work. This agreement spells out item(s) value for insurance purposes.
12. Items must fit into an area of about 10"w x 12"L the height is variable. A single shelf may or may not be added to a particular case.

Details

You will be notified by the CTWA board if your work was submitted to ABIA. You will be notified of acceptance by ABIA once ABIA notifies us. We will schedule a drop off day and pick day with ABIA. I am very excited about this unique opportunity for CTWA.

Thanks,

Curtis

No pictures from First Saturday provided.

First Saturday November 5, 2011
by
Charlie Kay

It was a cool, crisp fall morning as some 25 of us gathered at **Stacey Hager's** shop on the morning of November 5. We had at least four lathes going. **Jim Spano** was turning in one corner while **Kimberly Shelton** was working on a bowl. **Charlie Kay** was turning some votive candle holders and several folks were trying out various tools on Stacey's big Oneway. As always, **Drew Shelton's** Round Rock donuts were much appreciated, particularly on a chilly morning. It was good to see **Jack Besperka** turn up, after not seeing him at our get togethers for a while.

Jim Spano extended his catchless streak for another month. We're soon going to have to retire him from that demanding assignment. Instead, this month **Jim Brinkman** and **Charlie Kay** provided the drama. Jim got a spectacular catch on the Oneway, breaking the tool out of the handle and Charlie got a smaller catch on a candle holder that popped it out. Who is going to ascend to the top as our monthly provider of thrills?

When the turning and talking were done, the chips swept up and the lathes and tools loaded, ten of us headed to **Maudie's** for Mexican food and more unlikely tales. Thanks to Stacey for hosting us on short notice when **Len Brissett** had to have knee surgery. Our sympathies to Len for losing his father who suffered from an long-term illness.

VOLUNTEER
PRESENTERS NEEDED
for 2012
Contact Tim White

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 lbrissette@austin.rr.com know! Or email the editor.



Len Brissette

Demo Schedule

November Meeting
Presenter:
**Mack Peterson Bowl
from a Board**

Mack Peterson will be demonstrating how to turn a bowl from a board. This should be an interesting demonstration from one of our better turners.

FIRST SATURDAYS

Dec 10 December

Christmas Party & 1st Saturday combined Clyde & Pat Little's

Prepare to have fun! Arrive around 8:30-9am we'll do some turning. Then we'll have our Christmas feast

Bring something to share in the feast—meat will be provided. We'll have a sign up.

Bring something you have turned for a Christmas swap. If you don't feel you have anything that is worthy, don't let that keep you away!

Kids are welcome!

FIRST SATURDAY 2012
JANUARY 7, 2012
LOCATION TBD

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.

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: From PSI Woodworking Products, a Long Ranger 3 Remote Dust Collector Switch (LR220-3). Never used. Contact Steve Green @ 512-395-7776

FOR SALE: I have a collection of rare wood suitable for turning that I acquired 30+ years ago that I'm ready to part with.

<http://spiderjohnson.com/rosewood.5.html>

<http://spiderjohnson.com/Koa.html>

<http://spiderjohnson.com/buckeye.html>

<http://spiderjohnson.com/rosewood.1.html>

<http://spiderjohnson.com/rosewood.3.html>

<http://spiderjohnson.com/rosewood.4.html>

Spider Johnson
10093 Lower Willow Creek Rd.
Mason, TX 76856
325-347-6360
512-517-9744 c

.....

Did you know we've sold

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:

Meeting Location

The CTWA meets at American YouthWorks, 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.

