



# 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 20, 2012

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 14, at Drew Shelton's shop, 112 Oakland Drive, Georgetown

pated. Of course, a special thanks to ABIA and staff for all their support.

I want to encourage everyone to sign up to receive club emails. This is a very important mechanism for the club to communicate with members. Members receive notices about wood harvesting, estate sales, newsletter publications, group buys and other important matters. So, please take a

few seconds and add yourself to the club distribution list. Webmaster Aleta Wallace has provided details on how to do that elsewhere in the newsletter.

Thanks,

Curtis

CTWA Tour members were **H. O. Evans, Judy Williams, Curtis Turner, Marcia and Johnny Tolly, Steve Green and Bob Duncan.**



## Hand Chasing Threads

Our demonstration for February was and Alphonse and Gaston production courtesy of **Stacey Hager** and **Jim Spano**. They showed numerous examples of hand threaded boxes, discussed the contemporary master hand chasers and conducted an extensive tutorial on making your own threading tools.

When the examples, tool making and basics were done, Stacey proceeded to demonstrate turning male and female threads in a small box. It was an entertaining demonstration and we

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## ABIA Gallery

Recently a small group of club members took advantage of a unique opportunity to take a special tour of the CTWA exhibit at Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Our ABIA guide signed us in as visitors and whisked the group through the VIP line. However, we still were required to pass through TSA security just like all travelers at ABIA. One member, who shall remain nameless, received a special screening and pat down!

We all had a fun time observing each display. We were taking a lot of photos

and really enjoying the experience. The group received a few strange looks from others. The turnings all looked fantastic with proper lighting and behind glass. I think all participants were very proud to see their work on display.

Thanks again to all those that partici-

The American Association of Woodturners is "Dedicated to Providing Education, Information and Organization to Those Interested in Woodturning." In keeping with the standards of our National Organization, the Central Texas Woodturners Association hereby gives permission for all other woodturning chapters, organizations, magazines and newspapers to use any materials contained herein for the benefit of all woodturners everywhere. We ask that credit be given for the source of the material.

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### CTWA Web Site

[www.ctwa.org](http://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 512.636.3492, by E-mail at [ckay@austin.rr.com](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com) or mail them to:

### The Chip Pile

c/o Charles Kay  
828 Middle Creek Drive  
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## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988



April. We hope he makes it back this year.



**Kelly Parkinson** won a hand threaded box turned from Plexiglas by **Jim Spano** and finished by sanding with 400 grit sandpaper, as well as a chunk of walnut. Unfortunately, no photos.

**Greg Vest** picked up two bottle stoppers and **Charlie Kay** won one, all turned by **Jim Patterson** and Beall buffed. They apparently arrived after the photographer was done, so again no photos. Sorry.

As is the custom, each of the winners will bring back a turned item to the next meeting. The Bring Back items should be representative of each person's best work. It should be noted that the Bring Back Raffle is meant to be a fun event. No one is grading you on the quality of your work. Just bring a piece that represents the best that YOU can do. If you don't 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.

thank Jim and Stacey for sharing their skills in this arcane art with us.

If you missed getting a copy of Stacey's handout, I am sure that he can be persuaded to get you one.

## Bring Back

**Jim Patterson** was the lucky winner of a claro walnut box turned by **Greg Vest** and finished with oil and wax. Visitor **Sandy Peck** took home a walnut bowl turned by **Greg Vest** and finished with oil and wax.

**Jim Spano** had the lucky ticket for a hollow form vessel turned from spalted sugar maple by our friend from Wisconsin, **Bill**

**Kingsbury**, who frequently visits us in

## Show and Tell

**Blair Feller** brought along a box elder bowl finished with Waterlox and Beall buffed.

**Jack Besperka** showed off a footed bowl turned from spalted live oak. Jack also brought three colored turn-

ing he called "Facebook Friends," that he donated to the Bring Back Raffle, but that got overlooked in the confusion at the end of the meeting. The will go to the Bring Back table next month



**Gene Stokes** brought a box elder bowl finished with wipe-on polyurethane.



**H. O. Evans** showed off a segmented Lazy Susan he called "Steps to or From", assembled from yellow heart and other woods and finished with Deft and polished.



**Jimmy Tolly** brought along a biscuit bowl turned from pecan and finished with Mahoney's oil.

**Chris Van Peski** showed a platter turned from a cedar elm burl and finished with wax.



**Dave Dick** brought a small vase turned from sipe and finished with Danish oil.



**Mack Peterson** showed off four pieces, a segmented bowl of Dymondwood, two open segmented bowls of bamboo and a small hollow form turned a South African tree root.



**Jim Spano** showed three hand threaded boxes, one of purple heart and one of maple and purple heart, both waxed and buffed. The third was the Plexiglas box he donated to the Bring Back Raffle.



I think **Steve Green** showed this maple platter with crushed stone inlay. If someone else deserves the credit, let me know. There was no card.



Finally, **Lynn Kramer** showed a child's rocking chair constructed from cedar elm and finished with lacquer. Sorry, but it escaped the photographer.

*Business Meeting*

We had 68 attendees at our February 21 meeting, including four visitors. Those visitors were:

- Stuart Kuehl**
- Bob Guerin**
- Sandy Peck**
- Steve Van Horn**
- Ibzik Daniho**

President Curtis Turner opened the meeting with a slide show covering the installation of works by CTWA members at the Austin Bergstrom International Airport.

Webmaster Aleta Wallace updated us on the outstanding new web site she has put together for us. Curtis presented Aleta with a Craft Supplies Gift Certificate for her efforts.

Craig Timmerman discussed the agreement he has negotiated with Austin Parks and Recreation for wood from downed trees. In order for this to work, Craig will coordinate our contact with the City.

Curtis reminded folks that they need to sign up for the Alan Lacer demonstration and hands-on sessions April 21 through 23.

Charlie Kay reported briefly on the SouthWestern Association of Turners Board meeting held in January in Waco. A detailed report is in the February 2012 issue of *The Chip Pile*.

## Turning a Three-Sided Bowl

March Program

I recently rediscovered a type of bowl I played around with several years ago. It is inspired by Virginia woodturner, Tom Crabb, who calls this type of turning "bias turning". I will be showing you how you can take a cube blank, mount it on the lathe between opposite points of



the cube, and turn it into a three-sided bowl that has three legs. It's one of those projects that make people wonder how you did that. The steps are pretty straight forward and, if you are willing to turn a little air, one that most turners can do on any size lathe. I'll go through all the steps for a basic three-sided bowl and bring along examples of different variations.

Craig Timmerman

## CTWA Mail List

E-mail

Joining our CTWA Yahoo Mailing List is easy. It is open to members and special guests only.

Every member with an E-mail address was sent a Yahoo invitation from "Rusty Wallace". Search for "CTWA" in your email to find the invite.

You may use any E-mail address you want. Those with a Yahoo address will have full group access which may come in handy if we decide to post files or copies of instructions on Yahoo. However, the mailing list will work for anybody. Once you click on the link in the email, got to the bottom of the invite and you'll see a small link for

"email list only". Please use that if you want non-Yahoo E-mail access. That is all you have to do.

And, for those who may have deleted the E-mail, call Aleta ("Rusty") at (512) 585-8949. If you are a member and give your permission, she will add you to the E-mail list using her moderator authority. Please leave a message giving your name, E-mail address, and a phone number.

After joining the E-mail list, the next step is to post your questions or information. To start a topic, just address an E-mail to [ctwa\\_all@yahoo.com](mailto:ctwa_all@yahoo.com) and everybody on the list will receive your E-mail. Having a good subject line is always helpful. A subject like "Trouble using CA" tells people quickly what's going on.

It is just that easy.

Aleta Wallace

Show Time

**Steve Green** has lined up a busy year of Art Shows for 2012. You can catch him at the following:

**The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Art and Artisan Festival** on March 17 and 18 from 10 - 5. [www.wildflower.org/artisans](http://www.wildflower.org/artisans)

**The Spring Show of the Wimberley Valley Art League** on April 28th from 10 - 5. [www.wimberleyartsfest.com](http://www.wimberleyartsfest.com)

As the **"Featured Artist"** at the **Buda Fine Arts Festival** to be held this October 27 - 28, 10 - 6 on Saturday and 10 - 4 on Sunday. [www.budafineartsfestival.com](http://www.budafineartsfestival.com)

*This will be a feature from time to time, outlining where our members are selling their wares. Send me your information and I will include you.*

Charlie Kay

On the Road

**Craig Timmerman** has two road gigs coming up shortly:

An all-day demo for the **Des Moines, Iowa**, woodturners on March 31, followed by three days of hands-on classes

An all day demo session for the **Kansas City** chapter on the April 7

*This will be an occasional feature letting you know when our members will be demonstrating for other clubs. Send me your information and I will include you.*

Charlie Kay

Photos

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at [ckayda@gmail.com](mailto:ckayda@gmail.com).

Web Site

Check out the CTWA Web Site at [www.CTWA.org](http://www.CTWA.org). If you have comments, suggestions or something for the Gallery, get in touch with **Webmaster Aleta Wallace** at [aleta.wallace@gmail.com](mailto:aleta.wallace@gmail.com).

CTWA Supporters

We need to recognize those whose support help to make for a better Central Texas Woodturners Association.

Thanks to:

**Craft Supplies USA**

for providing gift certificates to the club, and to:

**American Youth Works**

for providing us with a meeting facility.

## 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 20 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

*CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks*

**April 7 - 9:00 AM to Noon**

*First Saturday - Curtis Turner's shop*

**April 17 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

*CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks*

**April 21 - all day**

*Alan Lacer Demos - American YouthWorks*

**April 22 & 23 - all day**

*Alan Lacer Hands-on Sessions*

**May 5 - 9:00 AM to Noon**

*First Saturday - Drew Shelton's shop*

**May 15 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

*CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks*

**June 2 - 9:00 AM to Noon**

*First Saturday - Charlie Kay's shop*

**June 19 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**

*CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks*

**July 7 - 9:00 AM to Noon**

*First Saturday - Chris Van Peski's shop*

### American Association of Woodturners Symposium June 8 through 10 San Jose, California

This annual event moves around the country every year. It is the largest gathering of woodturners in the world and has a huge and amazing Instant Gallery. The trade show is also amazing. If it has to do with woodturning, you can find it here. The Registration cost is \$250 for members before May 15, \$300 before May 28 and \$350 at the door. You can get more details at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org).

### SouthWest Association of Turners Symposium August 24 through 26 Waco, Texas

Affectionately know as SWAT, this annual symposium is second in size only to the AAW Symposium. There were 821 woodturners at last year's Symposium. It also has a great Instant Gallery and trade show. Best of all, it is by far the least expensive. Advance registration is \$130 and registration at the door is \$160. Plus, it is only 100 miles up the road. If you are a new turner and are looking for inspiration and three days of great demonstrations, you really should plan to attend this. You can get more details at [www.swaturners.org](http://www.swaturners.org).

## 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, (\$40 per family) 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](http://www.woodturner.org).

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

**Pat Little**  
14307 Geronimo  
Volente, TX 78641  
[patlittle46@yahoo.com](mailto:patlittle46@yahoo.com)  
512.423.0508

*Symposia*

There are three major woodturning symposia coming up in the next five months. If you have been to one or more of these events in the past, you already know how inspiring and educational they are. There is also the opportunity to buy more toys -- sorry, tools. Here is the list:

### Utah Woodturning Symposium May 16 through May 19 Provo, Utah

This annual event is sponsored by Craft Supplies and the cost is \$275. You can get more details at

## 2012 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

**April 7**  
**May 5**  
**June 2**  
**July 7**  
**August 4**  
**September 1**

**Drew Shelton**  
**to be announced**  
**Charlie Kay**  
**Chris Van Peski**  
**Orlando Banos**  
**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**.

First Saturday for April will actually be on April 14, the second Saturday, because of a conflict with the Easter weekend. It will be at **Drew Shelton's** shop, 112 Oakland Drive, Georgetown. Drew says to just look for the PODS container in the driveway.

As a follow up to the demonstration at the February meeting, **Jim Spano**

brought along his threading tools to First Saturday and talked a number of us into trying them out. As a starter, he only had folks working on cutting the male threads. However, he is planning to continue the tutorial at the April First Saturday, this time working on the female threads. If you are interested in trying to get a feel for this technique, this will be an outstanding opportunity. Eventually, even Kimberly Shelton and I were convinced to try our hand, and it wasn't as intimidating as I had expected it to be.

Charlie Kay

## Iron Bound

As we have had no blow-ups reported in the last couple of months, I am going to report on a mishap in my own shop. During the first few months after I moved, when I had everything shop and wood related as well as miscellaneous junk, stashed in my garage shop to be, I would move stuff around enough to do some turning on my mini-lathe. When I did, I precariously stashed everything I was using (tools, sandpaper, CA glue, my coffee cup, ...) on any nearby more or less horizontal surface.

In one instance, I put a new bottle of thick CA glue down on the table of my disk sander. A week or two later, it occurred to me that had been a mistake, when I again uncovered the sander. The glue bottle had turned over and there was a big glob of hardened CA glue covering nearly half of the table, about 1/8 inch thick. I had other things to do, so I set it aside and got on with trying to get things organized and a workable shop put in place. It was six or eight months later before I thought about it again.

Once I got the dust collection system set up, the last hook-up I needed to make was to the sander. Oops! Slopping some acetone onto the glob curdled it enough that I could scrape

## Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

if off with a putty knife. However, the miter gauge was securely glued into its slot. To complicate matters further, it was a tee slot. The photo shows it after I got the mess off the top; I wasn't thinking far enough ahead to take a picture of the big mess.

Contemplating matters, I decided that I could probably best remove it by gently heating it with a torch. However, knowing that First Saturday attendees are always looking for entertainment, I decided to take it along and see what other solutions might be suggested. Clyde Little allowed as how using a heat gun would heat it more slowly and uniformly and thus be less likely to warp the cast iron table. Al Gaskell suggested slowly heating it up in the oven until the glue softened sufficiently to slide the miter gauge out. He also proposed wiring the miter gauge to a spring with enough tension to pull it out when the necessary temperature was reached. Both approaches sounded better than using a torch. Since Al's suggestion involved less work (i. e., I didn't have to stand and wave a heat gun around for hours) I decided to go that way, although I decided to forego the spring.

I started the oven cold and slowly raised the temperature every 15 or 20 minutes while I was working in the shop. Somewhere between 280 and 300 F, the glue softened enough that I could slide the miter gauge out of its slot. I turned the oven off and let the pieces in there to cool slowly over night. The next day, I was easily able to scrape the remains of the now deteriorated glue from the table and the slot with a putty knife and brass brush. I sanded the table, oiled it and reinstalled it on the sander. Everything is aligned and the miter gauge works great.

Oh, and the dust collector gets all the dust as well.

Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay

## 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 turnings, hollow vessels)
- Charlie Kay** 512.636.3492  
(boxes, lidded bowls, bottle stoppers)
- H. O. Evans** 512.282.2830  
(segmented turnings)
- Hilda Carpenter** 512.395.7782  
(air brushing, tool handles)
- Jack Besperka** 512.261.4682  
(finishing, decorating)

### NORTH

- 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)

### LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

- David Dick** 512.357.6517  
(basics, spindles, architectural)

## 2012 Demonstration Schedule

**March 20**  
**April 17**  
**May 15**  
**June 19**  
**July 17**

**Craig Timmerman**  
**to be announced**  
**to be announced**  
**to be announced**  
**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**.

On March 3, some 25 or thirty folks showed up at **Orlando Banos'** big shop off US 290 for First Saturday. There was plenty of fellowship to go along with coffee and the Round Rock donuts reliably provided as always by Drew Shelton.

**Jim Spano** was working on hand threading and got several folks to try their hand at it. **Clyde Little** had brought along his captive ring tools and Jim took a detour to show folks how to use those tools and let folks try their hand with it. We teased **Kimberly Shelton** until she tried the tool and successfully turned a captive ring. Then it was back to the threading tools. He will continue the threading effort at the April First Saturday.

**Craig Timmerman** turned a couple of the three-sided bowls he will be demonstrating at the March meeting. As if that wasn't enough, he then went outside and cranked up his chainsaw to cut up and distribute the black walnut he had gotten from Austin Parks and Recreation. Yeoman job, Craig.

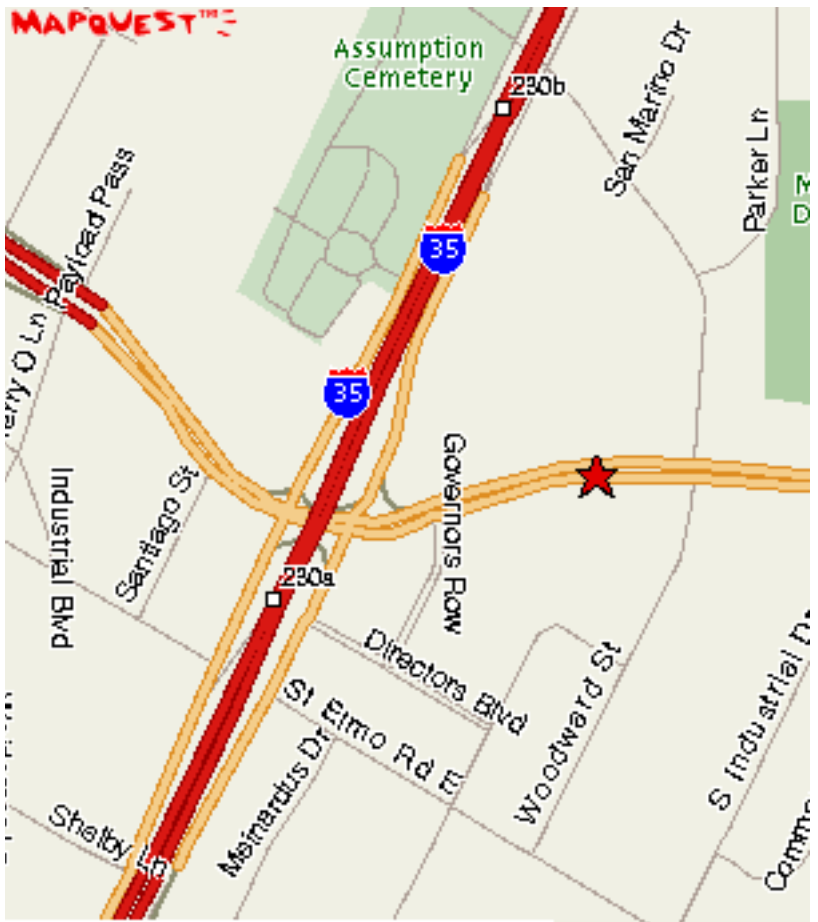
When the coffee and donuts were gone and the shop cleaned and straightened, fifteen or so of us headed to Nutty Brown Cafe for a nice lunch. Thanks to Orlando for hosting us again.

Charlie Kay



### 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**

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A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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To: