



The Chip Pile

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

CTWA Meetings

JUNE MEETING

Tuesday, June 19, 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 July will be at 9:00 AM on July 7, at Chris Van Peski's shop, 108 Palo Duro Drive, Cedar Creek 78612

From the President's Shop

Thanks, American YouthWorks!

As CTWA members, it is again time for us to remember our commitments to American YouthWorks. We need to show our appreciation to them for providing us with a wonderful meeting place, as well as secure place to store all of our equipment.

In return for their hospitality, we have agreed to do several things to support the school. Each June, we host a pen turning session for the graduating seniors at American YouthWorks.

This is a fun and creative activity that allows the students an opportunity to learn a new skill and to take home a unique pen that they helped to make. For this event to be successful, we need the help of as many member volunteers as we can muster. This year, the pen turning event will take place on Thursday, June 21, from 9:00

lathe or tools to the effort, it would be greatly appreciated.

Our second major commitment to American YouthWorks is to donate turned items for their annual charity auction, which takes place early in the fall. Every year, CTWA members donate numerous high quality turnings for this auction which earns money to support their school and its programs. We will be reminding you of this after Labor Day, but it isn't too soon to start thinking about what you might want to turn and donate.

Thanks to all of you for supporting both these worthy events.

Curtis

May Demo

Filling the Voids

Curtis Seebeck, our demonstrator for May, took us in an interesting new direction as he showed us how he stabilizes soft and punky wood by impregnating it with polyurethane resin under vacuum.

Curtis began his program by discussing the equipment



necessary for the process, including vacuum pumps, gauges, and vacuum chambers and how to choose the proper pieces for your own system.



He then demonstrated the process as he placed fourteen spalted pecan pen blanks in his vacuum chamber and poured the liquid resin over them, closed the chamber, connected the vacuum pump and pulled the necessary vacuum. The vacuum removes the air from the chamber and, at the same time, more slowly removes the air from the voids in the dry wood. A surprising amount of air is contained

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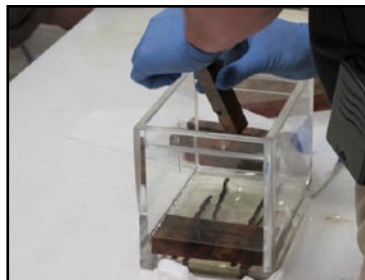
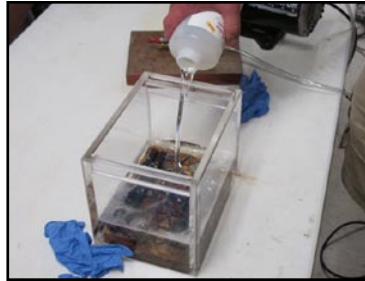
This newsletter is by and for members. The Editor welcomes any written materials and will provide assistance with getting your information into publishable form if you want. **DEADLINE IS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.** Contact me with your ideas and drafts by phone at 512.636.3492, by E-mail at ckay@austin.rr.com or mail them to:

The Chip Pile

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Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

in the wood, as evidenced by the large quantity of bubbles that emanate from the wood as the vacuum is increased.



When the bubbles stop and all of the air in the wood has been replaced by resin (normally, after an hour under vacuum), he releases the vacuum and, wearing protective gloves, removes the pieces from the resin bath, wiping the excess resin off into the chamber. (The remaining resin is recaptured and reused.) The impregnated pieces are then wrapped individually in aluminum foil and are then cured by holding them in a toaster oven for 24 hours at 200 degrees F.

For more information on the process, the necessary equipment and materials, check out Curtis's web site at www.turntex.com.

Thanks, Curtis, for an interesting and informative presentation.

Bring Back

Rick Greenfield was the lucky winner of a hand-forged awl with black palm turned handle made by **Greg Vest**.



Bob Duncan took home a box elder vase turned by **Jim Spano** and finished with Rust-Oleum stone spray paint.



Joe Kirk picked up another hand-forged awl with a black palm handle pen made by **Greg Vest**.



Johnny Tolly had the lucky ticket for a mystery salt shaker turned from walnut by **Charlie Kay** and finished with Formby's tung oil finish and buffed.



Charlie Kay won the last hand-forged awl made by **Greg Vest**, this one with a pecan burl handle.



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.



Jim Brinkman showed off a walnut hollow form vessel and a pair of three-cornered dishes of glued up of maple and purpleheart. All were finished with Deft and Beall buffed.



H. O. Evans brought along a small multi-layered piece, segmented of course, with more than 900 pieces that he called "Geode."



Stacey Hager showed two nice pieces, a Hori vase of wax-leaf ligustrum, unfinished and a cedar elm burl bowl finished with Waterlox.



Jimmy Tolly brought along a pair of biscuit bowls, one of hackberry and one of pecan, both finished with Mahoney's.



Orlando Banos showed off a tool handle of olive wood finished with Waterlox.



Johnny Tolly brought a turned bowl full of aromatic cedar spheres.



John Parker brought along three nice thin-wall walnut bowls turned from the wood got from the Austin Park system.

Jim Spano brought a vase of ash and a mortar and pestle of cedar elm, both finished with Rust-Oleum Stone spray paint.



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

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

Show and Tell

Show Time

Guest Column

The Bowl Skew by Frank Miller

The bowl skew was developed by Jerry Glaser and introduced in 1989. I was introduced to it at a regional symposium, Texas Turn or Two (now SWAT or SouthWest Association of Turners) ten years ago. It caught my eye because it was flat like a scraper, but had an edge that was ground at an angle of

around 120 degrees. Recently I was having problems getting a good cut on some tough, stringy green wood and ground a tool to the shape that I remembered. It worked very well, cutting both cleanly and easily.

These photos show the grind, which makes it easier to enter the cut cleanly.



The cut must be made well above center to avoid a catch. As with a bowl gouge the cut must always have on the cutting edge below the centerline of the tool. Anytime you try to cut above the centerline of the tool it will flip the tool down toward gouging a big groove in the wood, the dreaded catch.



This cut is just about to catch; the cut is almost at center.



This cut is now cutting above the center of the skew. This is a catch and will flip the skew.



In this overhead shot the bowl skew is on the bevel and is cutting cleanly. The cut is fully below the center of the skew.



Frank Miller was a long-time stalwart member of CTWA and set up all of our audio visual systems. After retiring, he moved to Nevada and is now a member of Carson Valley Woodturners.

Business Meeting

There were 45 persons in attendance at our April 17, 2012, meeting, including three visitors, **Terry Hall, Darrell White,** and **Richard Greenfield.** The meeting was presided over by **President Curtis Turner.**

Curtis presented twenty dollar Craft Supplies gift certificates to **Drew Shelton, Ed Roberts,** and **Jim Spano** for their efforts on the Alan Lacer demos and classes.

Webmaster **Aleta Wallace** updated folks again on the club web site and how to use the club E-mail list.

Curtis reminded us of two upcoming shows that members can apply to at Round Rock Art Space and the Texas Society of Sculpture. He also asked for a show of hands for those interested in having Graeme Priddle as a guest demonstrator. After discussion, it was agreed that in future hands-on events, the member hosting the classes in his or her shop would not have to pay for the classes.

SWAT is offering a scholarship for new turners at this year's symposium in Waco. It will cover registration only, not the banquet or lodging. New members who are interested should contact one of the officers.

The annual pen turning event for graduating American YouthWorks seniors is set for June 21. **Johnny Tolly** has agreed to manage the event. Please volunteer if you can.

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.

June Program

Banksia Pod Box

Len Brissette will be our demonstrator for June, and will show us how to make a box from a Banksia pod. There are a number of special techniques that allow you to take full advantage of this unique material and Len will be sharing those with us. He will also

be showing us how to make a long, thin finial for the box lid, of the sort favored by **Cindy Drozda**. It should be an informative program.

Symposia

There is still one major woodturning Symposium left on this year's schedule and you should make an effort to attend, particularly if you have never attend one of these events before. It will greatly expand your view of woodturning and what you can do with it and you will meet lots of interesting

new people.

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.

July First Saturday

The July First Saturday will be on June 7, at **Chris Van Peski's** beautiful and well equipped shop, at 108 Palo Duro Drive in Cedar Creek, off Texas 71 north of Bastrop.

It is always a treat to spend a Saturday morning in Chris's shop, so plan to be there.

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.

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

June 21 - 9:00 AM to Noon
 Pen Turning Event - American YouthWorks

July 7 - 9:00 AM to Noon
 First Saturday - Chris Van Peski's shop

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

August 4 - 9:00 AM to Noon
 First Saturday - Orlando Banos's shop

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

Sept 8 - 9:00 AM to Noon
 First Saturday - Greg Stowers's shop

Sept 18 - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
 CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

Oct 6 - 9:00 AM to Noon
 First Saturday - Stephen Van Gee's shop

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

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.

Web Site

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

Membership Information

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.

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
 512.423.0508

2012 Demonstration Schedule

June 19	Len Brissette	Banksia Pod Box
July 17	Ken Mayes	Basic Bowl Turning
August 21	Keeley Guntrie	Basics of Pyrography
September 18	to be announced	
October 15	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**.



Spouse's Events

As always, there will be programs for non-woodturning spouses at this year's Symposium. This year, there are some exciting new things to try.

Writing Short Memoirs: Treasure, Story and Truth Friday 2-4 pm

This workshop is inspired by writing down family stories that are too good to be forgotten. Participants are guided through short writing activities inspired by personal photos, family recipes, or small wood kitchen tools. Each person should bring 3 or 4 items (e.g., old photos, recipe cards, a wooden spoon, rolling pin, etc.) to describe an experience you can't wait to write about and share. The idea is to have some fun writing down the stories behind the objects we treasure. Bring your objects and your own pen or pencil. Paper will be provided. No cost. Limited to 12 participants.

Basket Making - Garlic Basket Saturday 10-12 noon

We had so much fun making baskets with Pat last year, that we have asked her to teach us another basket. This year she will teach us what is called a garlic basket, although it can be used for many purposes as it is a hanging basket. Previous experience is not needed. Cost of class is \$7. Limited to 12 participants.

Kool-Aid Dyeing a Silk Scarf Saturday 2-4 pm

This workshop will teach the basics of Kool-Aid dyeing. It is fun and easy to do. It is nontoxic, so its great for doing with kids. There will be a silk scarf (8"x54") supplied for the class and additional scarves will be available for purchase. You might want to wear old clothes or bring an apron or smock, as this can get a bit messy but is fun! Cost of class is \$15 Limited to 12 participants.

Book Club Sunday 9:30-11 am

We are exciting about starting a new tradition this year...book club. The discussion will be led by San Antonio readers Trudy Edwards, Diane Bertrand, and Betty Waldron who have chosen Faith Bass Darling's Last Garage Sale by Lynda Rutledge written by a Texas author and set in Texas. The book was released in April and one of our leaders actually met the

author and has some extra information to share with us. I have purchased my copy to read on vacation before showing up at SWAT in August. No participant limit on this event. The only requirement is that you purchase and read the book beforehand.

In addition, we have a bus tour scheduled on Saturday to the Mayborn Museum Complex and the East Terrace Mansion. Lunch will be at the Elite Cafe. I will let you know the cost of this tour as soon as arrangements are completed.

You can E-mail me directly to sign up for any of the classes and tour. We will also have a sign-up table in the registration area when you arrive, for those classes not already filled by then.

If there is enough interest, we can continue the tradition of the Spouses Gallery. You can bring items you have made, such as quilts, knitting, baskets, lace, paintings, jewelry, etc. In order to have this gallery, we need volunteers to make sure the room is always watched when it is open. If you are willing to volunteer for this job, please let me know. When there is no one available to sit in the room, it will have to be locked.

We also have a need for volunteers in the following areas: sign-in table on Friday afternoon and to help ferry turnings from the table to the photo booth and back in the instant gallery. If you would be willing to volunteer for either of these jobs it would be appreciated.

As you can see we have plenty of events to choose from and volunteer opportunities. I hope you will all be able to join us in Waco, August 27-29, 2012.

Regina Dale
817.319.6624
howlingwolfherbs@verizon.net

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 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

June 2
July 7
August 4
September 8
October 6
November 3

Charlie Kay
Chris Van Peski
Orlando Banos
Greg Stowers
Stephen Van Gee
Curtis Turner

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**.

On the Road Again ...

I am writing this while watching a beautiful Northern California day pass by my window, in the midst of my annual road trip and tour of the west. Somehow, a road trip, the solitude, the soft hum of the tires and the beauty of the American southwest do more to charge my batteries than anything I can think of. The reason for this destination is to spend time with my four year-old granddaughter (and her parents, of course) and the visit has been a delight.

She is now old enough to carry on interesting conversation. True, she can wander off into endlessly complicated stories and can drag you into her complicated games of make believe and I think I shall be happy to have a few days away from her constant chatter. Still, I am enjoying her immensely.

After First Saturday was done and our lunch was over, I spent the afternoon and evening bringing order back to my shop and finishing some turnings that I had started and trying to pull things together to be ready to leave on Sunday morning. By the time I had everything packed and in the car, it was 11:00 AM before I got away. As I was planning to spend the next weekend at the AAW Symposium, I opted for the quickest course to San Jose, rather than the most interesting. I wanted to spend at least a couple of days with Lydia before abandoning her for the weekend. I headed north and west for the Panhandle and spent Sunday night in Lubbock. There are all of those nice four lane divided highways out there with almost no cars on them while we struggle over ancient two-lanes in much of crowded central Texas. From there, I angled across northeastern New Mexico to pick up I-40 and spent the second night in Flagstaff. Tuesday was the longest day, as headed west and then north through Barstow, Tehachapi, and Bakersfield, arriving in San Jose a little after 9:00.

I hadn't attended an AAW Symposium in six or seven years, since the one in Louisville. Attendance seem smaller than I have seen in the past and there also appeared to a lot fewer pieces in the Instant Gallery. The real shocker was the trade show, which didn't seem to be as big as the last several SWAT trade shows. I didn't attend

demonstrations in every rotation, rather selecting the embellishment and texturing demonstrations by artists that inspired me and were doing the kinds of things I am considering doing myself. I hope to start applying what I learned soon, though not in time for the June Show and Tell.

Even as remote as this location was from Austin, I still saw several people I know, including several of the demonstrators we have had in our chapter hands-on sessions in the past. I also saw several folks I know from SWAT. More importantly, however, I ran into Frank Miller and had a nice time visiting with him and attending a couple of demonstrations together. I also ran into an old Texaco friend whom I have known for more than 45 years and last saw at the Symposium in Louisville. We had lunch together and visited about old friends and old times.

I will start my journey back east and south tomorrow morning and Frank and Jane have invited me to spend tomorrow night with them. I look forward to the visit and to seeing Frank's new shop. You will note that Frank has again contributed a tool article for our newsletter. I chided him for not giving me articles when he was here, but he pleaded that he had been too busy. When I leave Carson City, I will wend my way home on the most scenic routes I can find and hope to be home by Saturday night. That should give me time to get a piece turned for next Tuesday's Bring Back Raffle.

I need to get this off to Aleta for her to post on the website and get the printed copies done and in the mail. First, though, I need to go out and pitch the ball to Lydia so she can practice batting. You have to get your priorities right!

Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay

AAW 2012

A few photos from the 2012 AAW Symposium of things that inspired me:

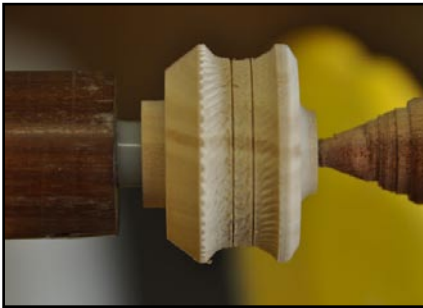
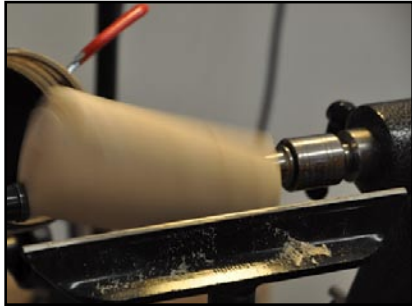


This one is for Ho!



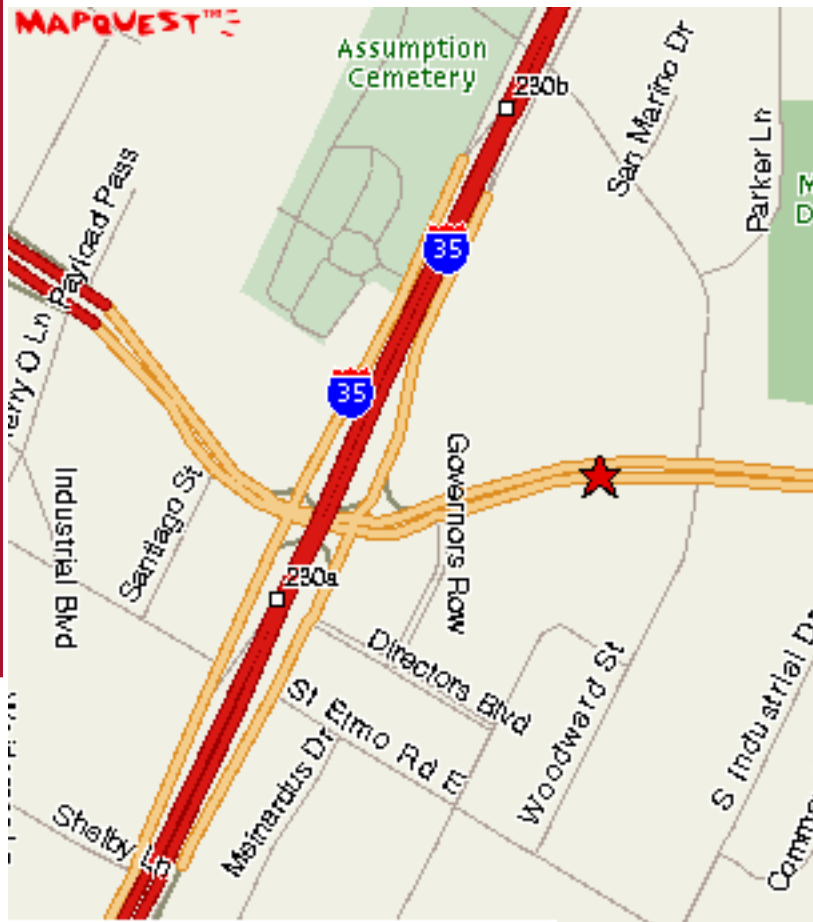
June First Saturday

June 2 saw some 25 people gathering at **Charlie Kay's** nearly completed shop in Buda for our First Saturday Turnout. We started with the air conditioning on, but soon opened the door and just lived with the heat. It wasn't too awfully hot for a Central Texas June Day. We never managed to get more than two lathes going, but **Jim Spano** held forth on his yellow mini-lathe turning a refrigerator magnet and decorating it with his latest invention, a shop made texturing tool. **Ho Evans** tried his hand at chopping a piece of geode down to size on the tile tub saw, then conned **Stacey Hager** into resawing some holly for him on the bandsaw. Jim Brinkman was the first to try out the Robust Liberty, turning out a nice little maple lidded box. Stacey tried it out later, turning a multi-axis box. When the coffee and donuts were gone, most of the talking done and the chips swept up, ten of us went for Mexican food at Chavelo's in downtown Buda before heading home. All in all a good morning for a bunch of woodturners.



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.



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To: