



The Chip Pile



The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

September 17, 2013

Meeting

Simple Turning Projects for the Shop

Tool handles - Drew Shelton

Carvers Mall - David Dick

Tapers and Hot Melt - Jim Spano

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)

October 1st Sat.

Oct. 5 9-12

Craig Timmerman

13124 Madrone Trail South

Austin, TX 78737

512-288-3598

President's Shop

The latest edition of the SouthWest Association of Turners Woodturning Symposium is now in the books. Twenty-two years after 80, or so, Texas woodturners gathered on the banks of the Brazos river near Columbus, on Columbus Day weekend in 1992, more than 925 woodturners showed up this year in Waco. The four or five Texas AAW chapters that existed at

the time and organized the first event have now grown to 27 chapters from five states. We had a large contingent of CTWA members at this year's event and I think most found it a worthwhile adventure.

One thing that has not changed from the inception is that this is an all volunteer operation. That is what keeps the costs down. As always, our club again contributed a large number of hard working volunteers. I know that

I cannot name all the people from our club who contributed to the effort, but I will name a few who performed in a high profile way.

Thanks to the folks who hosted the demonstrations in Brazos North: **Blair Feller, Darrell White, Clyde and Pat Little, Drew Shelton, Hilda Carpenter, Greg Stowers, Sandy Peck, Len Brissette, and Suzi Parker.** Thanks, also, to the folks who ran the cameras and recorded the action. That includes **Greg Vest**, of course, who provided the professional quality equipment that made our presentation the best there. For the last several years, we have had students from the Texas State Technical Institute to run the cameras for the demonstrations. That program has been discontinued, so we had to scramble to find folks to handle the equipment so that Greg and his able assistant, **Jim Spano**, could get away to see the demonstrations they wanted to see. Thanks to **Len Brissette, Drew Shelton, and Clyde and Pat Little** for jumping in to help on short notice.

Arriving a day early these folks assisted the Tolly's in setting up on Thursday and tearing down and storing all of the SWAT equipment on Sunday afternoon: **Betty & Stacey Hager, Drew Shelton, Steve Green, Hilda Carpenter, Greg Vest, Len Brissette, Jim Spano, Pat & Clyde Little, Charlie Kay, Larry Robinson, Jim Rogers, Jim Patterson, Sandy Peck, Roger Gardner, John & Suzi Parker, Bob Duncan, Jim Brinkman, Fred Zimwalt, and Tom Miller.** We even had some volunteers

to help from other clubs. My sincerest thanks go to all of them.

Two other comments on the Symposium. We had good participation in the Instant Gallery and, thanks to **Johnny and Marcia Tolly's** leadership, our club had the biggest showing in the Beads of Courage challenge, the majority of the pieces due to the efforts of **Johnny, Marcia, and Jimmy Tolly.** We didn't do as well in the Raffle drawings as we have in recent years, but our folks took home quite a few pieces. On the eve of leaving for her freshman year at Austin College, **Kimberly Shelton** attended most of the Symposium, but headed home on Saturday evening. Naturally she won an Elbotool at the drawing on Sunday. We will be expecting to see a nice hollow vessel from Kimberly at the Christmas Party.

Just a reminder to you that you need to be getting a piece done to donate to **American YouthWorks** for their fall fund raising auction. Those pieces will be our October President's Challenge.

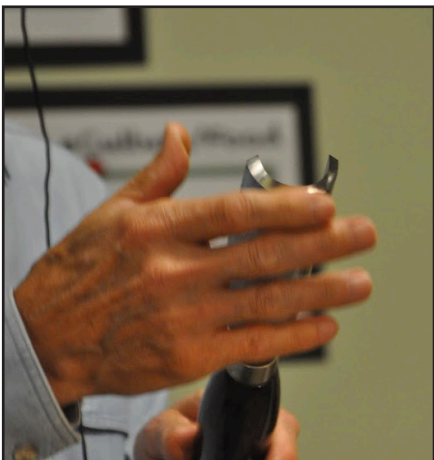
Keep on turning,

Charlie Kay

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 August 2013
**Golden Proportion,
Fair Curves, and
Turning Pleasing
Shapes**
Stacey Hager

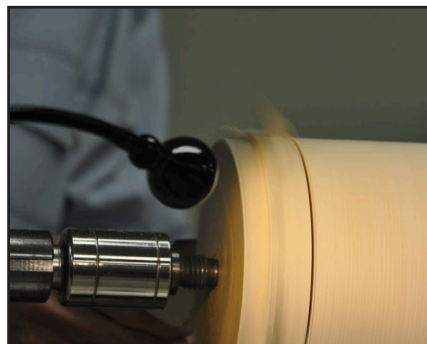
CTWA enjoyed a demo by **Stacey Hager** about proportion and fair curves. After rounding a large cylinder-



der, Jim measures the diameter of the cylinder. Then he uses a Fibonacci calculation by multiplying the diameter by 1.618 to determine the length of



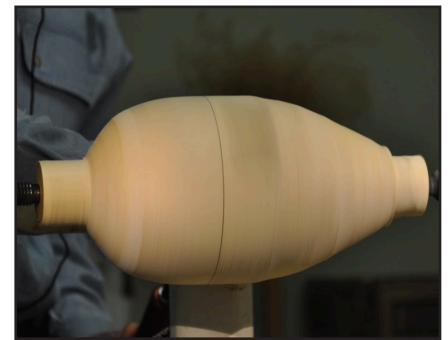
the vase. He then marks the base and lip by multiplying .382 (the inverse



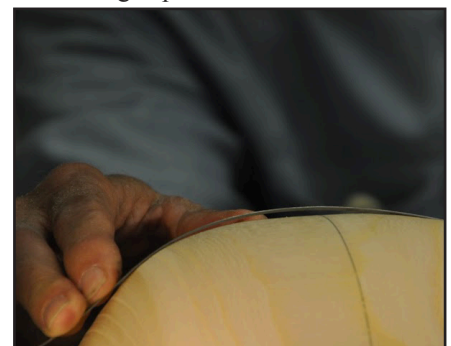
of 1.618). He marks the high spot by calculating the point by multiplying by .618 He does not take off wood at this high point since this will be the peak of the vase.



Jim begins to turn the base and lip to the appropriate diameter.



Then, using a fairing curve made from the metal of a windshield wiper he can see his high spots in his vase.



Jim reminds us that he can take off the high points, but not the low points, so the fairing curve indicates the high spots. The result is a beautifully proportioned vase that has the characteristics that Leonardo DaVinci used and Phidias established over 2,000 years ago. CTWA appreciates Stacey's amazing talents. Stacey also presented this program for SWAT.

Upcoming Demo's

Sept 17th:

Simple Turning Projects for the Shop

Tool handles – **Drew Shelton**
Carvers Maul – **David Dick**
Tapers & Hot Melt – **Jim Spano**

Oct 15th:

CTWA 25th Anniversary Celebration

Program to be announced.

Nov. 19th:

Last Minute Turned Gifts: Topics and presenters to be announced.

Members In the News

November date TBD, Cindy Drozda's class and demonstration

Thursday, September 12th

Johnny Tolly and Charlie Kay,

along with other members of CTWA, will present our Bowls of Courage to the Dell Children's Hospital. Thanks to all of you who contributed the 36 bowls for this wonderful project.

Photos

Photographs for this month's **Chip Pile** were provided by **Drew Shelton, Jim Spano, Johnny Tolly and Charlie Kay**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at hildac@mac.com.

Business Meeting

Charles Kay began the meeting by recognizing and welcoming **Frank and Jane Miller** (previous members of CTWA). He also welcomed **Jeffrey Cox** as a visitor at the meeting. **Johnny Tolly** passed out SWAT instant gallery forms for those members wanting to enter their projects for the other members' enjoyment. Johnny also had a sign-up sheet for volunteers to set up and break down at SWAT. **Greg Vest** asked for 3 thank-you gifts for the vendors that were loaning a/v equipment at SWAT. If you would like to give a gift, please contact Greg. **Charlie Kay** asked for three additional members to volunteer for hosting our room at SWAT. All the slots were filled by volunteers except these 3. Ed Roberts provided a financial update: July we had \$116 income from dues and instant gallery tickets. \$61 was spent on newsletters leaving a \$9,100 balance. The expenses are reserved for demonstrators and classes. **Johnnie Perales** and Charlie ask that any member who would like to contribute a turning for the "Help Clifford Kids" banquet in October to be sure to bring those to the next meeting. This will be considered a President's Challenge, so get your items ready and hopefully you will win a prize! This banquet is designed to raise funds for **American Youth Works** and is one of two events CTWA always participates with donations. Charlie has appointed **Pat Little** to head a nominating committee for next year's officers. She will select the committee and present a panel of members at the October meeting. If you are interested in serving the club, please be sure to let Pat know. October's meeting will be a special celebration of CTWA's 25th anniversary. Cindy Drozda will be

teaching a class in November. This will include a Saturday demonstration that is open to all CTWA members. The class sign-up will be forthcoming, space is limited.

Len Brissette announced that he is looking for 1st Saturday sponsors. Charlie turned the meeting over to **Pat Little** to review this month's instant gallery. Charlie then turned the meeting over to our demonstrator, **Stacey Hager**. We had 57 members in attendance.

Monthly Features

Bring Back Raffle, p. 8
Business Meeting, p. 3
Calendar, p. 9
Editor's "Turn", p. 4
Feature Presenter, p. 2
First Saturday, p. 4
Instant Gallery, p. 6-8
Map, p. 12
Membership Information, p. 10
Member's in the News, p. 3
Officers, p. 9
Photo Credits, p. 3
President's Shop, p. 1
Random Ruminations, p. 5
SWAT memories p. 10-11
Upcoming Demo's, p. 3
Volunteer your Shop, p. 10
Volunteer Instructors, p. 10

Editor's "Turn"

The attendance at SWAT was an all-time high of 925 folks! The food was good, the demonstrations spectacular, and the vendors, as always, had great deals.

My favorite demonstrations were by **Jimmy Clews** and **Dixie Biggs**. Jimmy is a wizard at the square oriental box, but is a master of simple objects and color treatment. One of the chuckles in the crowd was how very fast Jimmy sets his lathe speed. If he ever got a catch . . . it would be all over!

Dixie is a master carver and woodturner. She demonstrated techniques to carve woodturnings so they keep their aesthetic shape, yet look very realistic. Plus, she was extremely friendly and fielded all kinds of questions from her audience. Steve & I were so impressed, yes, we bought yet another carver!

Our room, thanks to **Greg Vest**, had the best audio-visual set-up by far. Other clubs were coming by to see what all tricks Greg had up his sleeve this year. The people who demonstrated in our room, like **Ashley Harwood** (by far the prettiest turner I've seen) were happy with the professional results.

However, I think my favorite part of the symposium is the fun I have with our own members and folks I've never met before. Woodturners are a jolly lot! I even won something in the raffle . . . three new tool rests from Robust!

The laughter and skill of the demonstrators make for a phenomenal combination. Our own **Stacey Hager** did a great job on his demonstration. He made us all proud!

Keeping Austin Turning Since 1988

I hope if you were not able to make it to Waco this year, you will the next.

Keep turnin' it on!

Hilda Carpenter
Editor

First Saturday

Our excellent large First Saturday turnouts continue. I counted at least 32 folks in **Jim McKinney's** shop on a warm and humid September 7. Some folks came and went over time, so that may be a short count. **Jim Spano** was in his usual teaching mode, working on goblets. **Johnny Tolly** was helping folks with sharpening and **Jim Brinkman** was teaching folks how to turn tops. **Randy Brewer** was turning a nice natural-edge piece out of a chunk of mesquite burl that visitor **Steve Munselle** had brought along to show off. Steve has a lot of this burl for sale. **Charlie Kay** eventually turned a quick wine stopper and coached a couple of folks on making their own.

When the turning dust had settled, seventeen of us repaired to Evangeline Cafe on Brodie Lane in South Austin for some good Cajun food. All in all, a good day.



Thanks to Jim for hosting us this month.



Random Ruminations:

“My Brown Thumb”

BY

Charles Kay

I figured this out more than sixty years ago, but I need to rediscover it from time to time. There is no way on earth that I was ever intended to be a farmer!

Both my parents descended from hundreds of years of small dry land farmers. These weren't the big farms of the American midwest. These were the yeoman farmers of the sort that Thomas Jefferson believed should make up the core citizens of the Republic. If you were lucky, you had forty or fifty acres and you were able to raise enough cotton in a good year, when the rains and the cotton prices were good, to generate enough cash to pay for the things that you couldn't grow for yourself. My maternal grandfather didn't do that well; he was a tenant farmer well into his forties.

Despite all that, farming was what my parents wanted to do more than anything. Having come of age at the dawn of the Great Depression, there was no way they would have been able to come up with enough capital to buy enough land, equipment, and animals to do that. Nonetheless, two and a half years after my father came home from service in the Pacific, they bought five acres of coastal prairie near Galveston Bay from a family friend. Well, they didn't buy it exactly. They paid rent for eight years or so until they had accumulated the twenty-five per cent down payment necessary for them to get a loan to buy it. This wasn't even a subsistence farm, but it let my parents get dirt under their fingernails. My father's work as a carpenter sustained us.

The old couple on the land next to us, also friends, had fifteen acres and allowed my father to run our seven or eight cows on his acreage as well as ours. They also allowed him to fence off an acre and a half for a garden, with the condition that they could plant stuff there and share in the bounty. While the area there is blessed with abundant rainfall and fertile soil, that soil isn't exactly user friendly. It is heavy black clay, known locally as black gumbo. When it is wet, it is so gooey that you have to scrape it off the shovel or posthole diggers and when it is dry, it could pass for black limestone. Nonetheless, with a great deal of toil, we managed a garden. We ate well in the summer and froze enough vegetables to last the winter and sold a little bit of stuff. I hated it all. Why would any sane person choose to do this unless there was no other alternative? I could list the things that I hated most, but I will just stop at hoeing weeds in the summer heat and humidity, and cutting okra. And, that is just the garden. Don't get me started on milking and tending to a sizable flock of chickens. I told my mother when I was about ten that when I grew up I wasn't even

going to have a lawn. I would have the yard paved. Homeowners associations don't allow this.

Despite all this, I like garden fresh tomatoes and periodically throughout my adult life I have decided to grow them. Usually, I get one or two good years, then it all goes to pot. Last year, I set out one Juliet tomato plant in the little front bed provided by the builder. Last summer was cool and relatively damp and I got an abundance of tomatoes, enough that I had to give a good many away. However, the vine took over my bed and my sidewalk. So this year, flush with my success and forgetting the lessons I had learned over the years about my ineptitude at horticulture, I decided to put in a tomato bed by my backyard shed. In my enthusiasm I put out two tomato plants and a serrano pepper plant.

The plants did well and I was excited about the fresh tomatoes to come. Then the challenges began. I noticed what looked like small mockingbirds around my backyard. Soon the parents showed up and I realized that they were fledglings. That's cute, I thought, until I discovered why they were there. I had three almost ripe tomatoes and the adults were feeding them to their offspring. So, off to Home Depot for bird netting. That worked for a day or two, but then the mockingbirds would wriggle there way under the netting and still pick the tomatoes to feed their young. They would be frantic when I caught them and they had to exit the netting much more quickly than they entered it. Not to be deterred, it was back to Home Depot for hardware cloth to cover the sides. That stopped the birds and I got a few of the most expensive tomatoes I have ever eaten before the weather got so hot that the plants quit bearing. That included two delicious Cherokee purples. Then the rest of the remaining tomatoes disappeared, including two more Cherokee purples just beginning to turn. Clearly some ground-bound varmint had taken over where the birds left off. The only good thing that come of my garden is an abundance of fresh serrano peppers. Birds and varmints don't seem to be interested in them.

So, I get the message -- again. Don't even think about farming! Now, I'd best take my brown thumb and go do some turning and get my stuff ready for First Saturday. Jim Spano has already informed me that I am expected to turn something there.

Do any of you need some slightly used hardware cloth?

—Charlie Kay

August Gallery

???



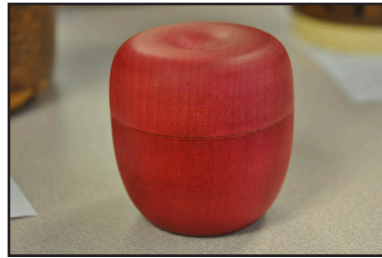
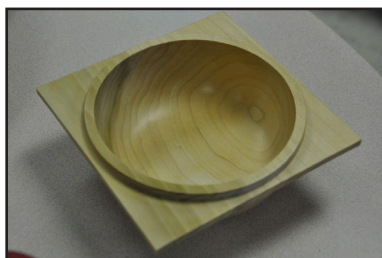
Jim Brinkman



Jimmy Tolly (2)



Bob Duncan (2)



Mack Peterson (4)



Frank Miller



Frank & Jane Miller

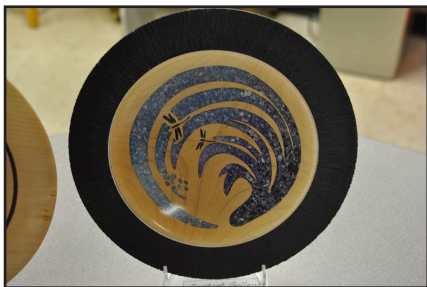


Johnny Tolly (3)



August Gallery

Steve Green (2)



Charles Kay (4)



Mac Peterson



Jim Spano (2)



Ed Roberts (5)



Randy Brewer (2)



August Gallery

Johnny Tolly (2)



Bob Tucek



Rick Greenfield



???



Bring Back Raffle

Charlie Kay: Greg Vest



Darrell Miller: Rick Greenfield



Sandy Peck: Jim Brinkman



?: Greg Vest



Hilda Carpenter: Alan Loibl



Jim Spano: Bob Duncan (box shown in gallery)

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!

2013 Officers

President

Charles Kay
512-636-3492
ckayda@gmail.com

President Elect

Pat Little
512-423-0508
Patlittle46@yahoo.com

Program Chairman

Stacey Hager
512-282-1036
StaceyHager@hotmail.com

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Hilda Carpenter
512.395-7782
hildac@mac.com

Treasurer

Ed Roberts
512.255.3294
eroberts6@juno.com

Membership Chairman

Chris Van Peski
512-303-1590
chrisvanpeski@gmail.com

Webmaster

Aleta Wallace
aleta.wallace@gmail.com
512-589-8949

Audio/Visual Coordinator

Greg Vest
512-736-2715
artwoodworker@verizon.net

First Saturday Coordinator

Len Brissette
512-423-3625
mesquite@austin.rr.com

Librarian

Stephen Van Gee
svangee@austin.rr.com

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

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.

All 1st Saturdays are from 9 am-noon. All meetings are 7 PM to 9 PM

Events & Dates subject to change, watch for emails or website notifications!

Sept 17 CTWA Meeting

P r e s e n t e r :
SimpleTurning
Projects for the
Shop

Tool handles – Drew
Shelton

Carvers Mall – David Dick
Tapers and Hot Melt –
Jim Spano

Oct 5 1st Saturday

Place: Craig Timmerman

Oct 15 CTWA Meeting

**CTWA 25th Anniversary
Celebration**

Program to be announced.

Nov 2 1st Saturday

**Place: Cindy Drozda
demonstration CTWA**

Nov 19 CTWA Meeting

**Presenter: TBD
Last Minute Turned
Gifts**

December Christmas Party

**Dec 14
No 1st Saturday**

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.

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 \$43 online membership only, \$53.00 for individuals and \$58 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 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** ckayda@gmail.com
boxes & bottle stoppers
512.636.3492
- 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

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.

