



# THE CHIP PILE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

CTWA Meetings

## Note: Change of Meeting Night!

### JUNE MEETING

Tuesday, June 13, 2006  
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 held on July 1, at 9:00 AM at a site to be announced. Check web site for details.

## CTWA Newsletter Honored

The **CHIP PILE** has been named winner of the 2006 AAW Chapter Newsletter competition! Second place went to the North Carolina Woodturner and third place to the North Coast Woodturners Newsletter.

quite, sycamore and pecan in the collection. I'm sure all of you has a project in mind to make use of the wood. Remember that part of our plan for this wood was that if you took more than one piece, you need to bring an extra piece to the Bring Back Raffle in the near future.

strations we have had at the monthly meetings have been great. However, a number of newer turners have commented that while they aspire to do similar projects, they need to work on and understand more basic techniques before they can do that. I have talked with Gene Stokes about setting up some "Back to Basics" demonstrations to help address some of that concern. Stacy Hager and I will put something together for the August meeting to kick this off. We will try to keep everyone engaged, but plan on talking about the principles of how and why tools cut wood, as well as how to improve tool control to make those principles work for us rather than against us. If you have other ideas about further "Back to Basics" demos, please contact Gene or me.

We still need a few more volunteers to host our First Saturday Shop Crawls over the next several months, most urgently for July. We have had the opportunity to see a number of interesting shops in the last several months, and I, personally, have picked up several good tips to help make my own shop more efficient and useful. Please take a look at the current schedule and see if you can help fill in the gaps.

I have several requests lately for help with basic techniques. The demon-

Our woodturning outreach efforts are in full swing. The American YouthWorks pen turning event was well attended. The students seemed to pick up on the principles pretty quickly, and the instructors all seemed to have a good time tutoring them. Many of the thirty students decided to be quite creative with their pens. This was a good group of kids, respectful, polite and interested in learning. It was great to see the look on their faces when they walked away with their very own creations as part of their graduation experience. Next on the agenda, Fred Stidman is again coordinating the summer workshop for the girls at the Settlement House. He has put together a schedule for June, but is still looking for volunteers for July. This should consist of one weekday morning during the month to help a number of girls through a project,

From the President's Shop

## A Full Plate

I was pleased with my first President's Challenge. We had great participation, a wide variety of entries and some very artistic tops. There were tiny tops, giant tops, a "Transformer" top from Bill Hammack and an aluminum top from Johnny Tolly. Thanks to all of you who participated.

Our SWAT centerpiece project is off to a good start. There is still plenty of wood available. If you need some mesquite blanks, get in touch with Clyde Little and he can see that you get them. Speaking of mesquite, from the number of pieces that walked away after the last meeting, I am sure we all appreciated the donation of wood by Bob Rubels. There was some well-seasoned mes-

## Monthly Features

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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 512.295.2144, by E-mail at [ckay@austin.rr.com](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com) or mail them to:

### THE CHIP PILE

c/o Charles Kay  
100 Matzig Cove  
Buda TX 78610-3108

such as pens, bangle bracelets, etc.

Finally, a brief reminder that the June meeting will be one week early so that we can accommodate the folks going to the AAW national symposium in Louisville this month. So, I hope to see you all on June 13.

Keep the chips flying,

Len

## May Demo

### Fly the Bowl, not the Carpet!

Our May meeting saw talented and prolific CTWA turner **Craig Timmerman** teaching us how to make bowls fly, or at least look like they do. Fortunately, none flew off the lathe during the demonstration. Craig began with a discussion of the shapes and styles of winged bowls, including squares, rectangles, rhombuses, rhomboids and natural edges. He

discussed two methods for turning non-round shapes, the waste wood method (where waste blocks are glued on to fill out the square, so that you don't turn air) and the method he prefers, starting with a non-round shape from the beginning.

In preparing the stock for your non-

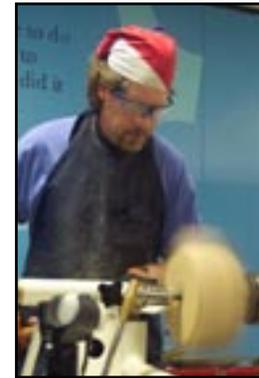


round bowl, you need to determine the shape (a square is the easiest for your first try), then decide on the wing shape and location. The first step is



to cut one straight side on the blank, then place that side against the miter fence to cut the next side, proceeding until the blank is complete.

For his demonstration, Craig chose to make a bowl from a parallelogram. The blank is mounted between centers with the top of the bowl facing the tailstock. Flatten the top, taking light cuts from the outside to the



center. Rub the bevel, but don't push the tool into the wood. When the top is flat, cut a tenon on what will be the top of the bowl.

Now reverse the piece and chuck by the tenon on the top, bringing

the tailstock up for support. Begin by wasting away the wing area, making cuts from the outside area to the solid area of the blank, getting rid of waste material down to the desired wing thickness. Then rough shape the outside of the bowl and cut a tenon on the bottom.



Since the piece should now be running balanced, you can remove the tailstock and begin the refining cuts. Start forming the wings, working from the outside in, then from the inside out. You may need to re-cut the bowl all the way from the bottom to the wing to get a smooth blending of curves.

When the shaping is complete, you can sand the bottom. For beginners, the entire piece can be hand sanded



with the lathe off. Do NOT hand sand with the lathe on, and be aware of the wings at all times. You can power

sand with the lathe on or off. If you power sand with the lathe on, make sure that you reverse the lathe on every grit so that you wear the sides of the wings evenly.

Reverse the piece again and chuck using the bottom tenon. Again, bring the tailstock up for support. Work on the wings first, matching the curve on the bottom of the bowl. It may help to draw the curves on the wings with a black felt tip marker. Once the wings are done, you can start hollowing the bowl, removing the tailstock when it begins to be in the way. When you



are done, sand the inside, using the same techniques you used on the outside.

Now you are ready to turn the tenon off the bottom. This can be done using a vacuum chuck, a jam chuck or by reversing the piece onto a waste block with tailstock support. Reverse chucking is simple and cheap. Turn a waste block disc, roughly the size of your bowl, with a curved edge and concave center. Using the tailstock, mount the bowl using a piece of leather between the waste block and the bowl. Do any last refinements to the outside shape, and any finish sanding as necessary. Form the foot of the piece and turn the tenon down to about 1/2 inch diameter. Remove the piece, cut the tenon with a backsaw and carve off the tenon stub. Sand the foot and apply the finish. You are done.

In the interests of space, this is an abbreviated description of Craig's approach. If you didn't get a copy of his comprehensive write-up at the meeting, I am sure that he will provide you with one if you ask. Thanks to Craig for another outstanding demonstration. A lot of folks are going to come away from the AAW Symposium in Louisville with the confidence to tackle making what looks like a scary bowl that looks like it can fly.

## Bring Back Raffle

**Clyde Little** was the winner of a nice Southwestern pot, turned from mesquite by **Len Brissette** and finished with Minwax tung oil finish and wax. **Bob Duncan**



took home an IOU from **Ed Roberts**. **Bill Hammack** had the lucky ticket for a beautiful cherry platter turned by **Someone** (who turned out to be **Jack Besperka**) finished with wax.

As usual, the winners of the turned items 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 have a lathe or feel like 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.

## Show and Tell

**H. O. Evans** brought an elaborate segmented piece he called "Sky Lab," of beech and walnut veneer.

**Bob Duncan** showed off three pieces: a Cindy Drozda style box of maple and mesquite finished with Deft, a cherry box finished with Minwax 209 and a salt box



of walnut, blackwood and maple.

**Jimmy Tolly** displayed a mesquite bowl finished with Mahoney's bowl finish.

**Johnny Tolly** showed a pair of gavels, one of



honey locust and one of mesquite, finished with walnut oil and wax.



**Stacey Hager** brought along a fine detail half-round tool with an ebony handle finished with wax and a twisted, three sided box turned from sycamore and finished with tung oil.

**Bob Elfant** shared a bowl turned from a piece of flake laminated construction beam.



**Mack Peterson** brought a mesquite pot with a big void in the side as well as a fish

Continued on page 4...

### More Show & Tell...

wood platter. (We aren't sure just exactly what fish wood is.)



say that all the members of the CTWA participated in furnishing these centerpieces. Now it's up to you!

Clyde Little

### President's Challenge

We had a good turn out of tops for our May President's challenge. Participants included **Jim Spano, Stacey Hager, Fred Stidman, Gene Stokes, Bill Hammack, Charlie Kay, Johnny Tolly, Marcia Tolly, David Pugh, Larry Walrath** and **Jimmy Tolly**.

Despite promises, *el Presidente* failed to pick winners in various categories. Your scribe thought the most unusual were the "uno - dos - tres" trans-former top turned by **Bill Hammack** and the "Tippy Top" turned by **Jim Spano**.

**Gene Stokes** may have had the best



### June Program

### What's Cookin'?

Our program for June will be **Rusty Myers** previewing the demonstration that he will be giving at SWAT in the fall. He will be turning kitchen utensils. He will show us how to make two simple and functional cooking accessories. The first item will be a spurtle (stirring stick). This project

will help develop both gouge and skew turning skills. The second item will be a spatula, which will be an introduction to turning "air" and will expand gouge skills or provide a real challenge with the skew. We always look forward to Rusty's informative and well-organized demonstrations.

in June and July, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

**John Cole's** health problems continue. **Drew Shelton** has volunteered to handle membership duties in the interim. We wish John well as he continues to recover.

**Betty Hager** asked for a show of hands on beginning to migrate the library from VHS tapes to DVD. The response was overwhelmingly favorable, so that change will be made.

**Gene Stokes** asked for volunteers to serve as demonstrators as the year progresses.

### Business Meeting

We had 43 attendees at our May 16 meeting, including one visitor.

**Len** announced that there was donated wood available for pickup after the meeting. The only cost is bring an extra item for the Raffle.

**Clyde Little** asked that all turned centerpieces be done and turned in by the August meeting.

**Len** made an appeal for additional volunteers for the May 26 pen turning event for American YouthWorks graduating seniors.

**Fred Stidman** asked for additional volunteers for turning events for the girls at the Settlement House. These sessions will take place on Thursdays

### SWAT Centerpieces

As you know, we are the host club for the SWAT Symposium in Temple next fall. In what has now become a SWAT tradition, we need 50-60 turned items for centerpieces for the tables at the banquet. They can be either BOWLS or WEED POTS. The bowls are to be no bigger than 6 to 8 inches in diameter and about 4 inches tall. The weed pots are to be no bigger than 3.837 diameter and approximately 10 inches tall. The bottoms should be unsigned and large enough to have information burned onto them.

Bowl blanks and weed pot blanks will be available at the May meeting. If you will not be at that meeting contact me at [clyde2044@yahoo.com](mailto:clyde2044@yahoo.com) or 512.413.6931 to make arrangements to get as many blanks as you are willing to turn into award winning centerpieces (or just "good ol'" centerpieces). We would like to be able to

tiny top. Certainly **Larry Walrath's** floor models were the largest tops, if not the most elegant. Decorated tops included **Marcia Tolly's** "May Day Fun," with burned counter-rotating spirals on the stem and tops decorated



with emu egg shell inlay and turquoise InLace turned by **Charlie Kay**.

Thanks to all who participated.

Continued on page 5...

## More President's Challenge...



industry of McCurtain County, where each year some 60 million cubic feet of timber is harvested. The Center runs a museum in the park. Part of that museum features some great woodturnings from Oklahoma artists. As part of that gallery, the local woodturning club often demonstrates on the weekends. Between the gallery and the demos, there was some interest generated for woodturning. In conjunction with the local high school, a four-week program was established to teach woodturning to the students. Along with the class, two nights a week the shop would be opened up to the public for demonstrations and to give the adults a chance to do some turning. They started with two lathes the first year. Now in its third year, they are up to ten lathes and roughly 50 students each day divided into three or four classes.



and day out. Throughout all four runs of my demo there were some great examples of attention deficit. I also soon discovered that while passing example pieces around is great for an adult audience, it isn't always a good idea for those who might not understand or appreciate the time and effort that went into creating the pieces they were handling. Yes, a piece was dropped, others played with and still others handled with sticky fingers. Hey, at least they weren't eating Cheetos! However, in the end, the pieces survived the four classes.

Once the demo was done, it was time for hands-on work at the lathe. Every student had to complete at least one project to get a grade for the class. Needless to say, this being the last week of the class, it was finally sinking in that time was short to get something done. I suddenly didn't feel like much of an expert. Most of the students were doing some kind of a spindle project. These ranged from simple ring holders to goblets. Boy, was I wishing I had

Craig Timmerman

## Adventure in Broken Bow

It all started with a phone call back in December. "Craig, this is Doug Zook from the Forest Heritage Center in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. We run a four week woodturning class here and your name was recommended as a possible instructor." Immediately, I wondered, "Who is Doug Zook, what is the Forest Heritage Center and who

would have recommended me as an instructor?" In gathering more details it was revealed that the class would be for the local high school. I would need to do a demo for the students and then help them with their projects.

Well, as I have only done demonstrations and never any actual teaching, I was a bit leery at agreeing to help out. However, it did seem like a way to get a taste of teaching in a possibly more "forgiving" environment. Besides, there would be at least four other instructors there to help. So I agreed.

Now for a little historical perspective. The Forest Heritage Center and Museum is located in Beavers Bend Resort Park, just outside Broken Bow, Oklahoma, in the SE corner of Oklahoma. The Center is dedicated to preserving the history of the timber

My instruction time would be in the fourth week of the four-week class. I planned to do my Design Opportunities demo, complete with computer slides and two big bins of examples. I drove up on a Sunday. The drive is pretty non-descript until you get close to the Texas/Oklahoma border. Then you start to get into the timber country. Once in Broken Bow, I checked into the hotel and found the high school and shop building. The next day the fun would begin.



On Monday, I got to the

school early - too early I found out. The "seasoned" instructors don't bother showing up until right before class time. I was nervous about getting everything set up and ready for the first of four classes that day. Setup went without a hitch and the kids began showing up for class. It has been a while since my high school days, but I do believe there have been quite a few changes in the last 25+ years. I suddenly had great empathy for the teachers who have to do this day in



there helping. Most of them had been there for the three previous years the program has been run. I watched them and followed their lead on how they were helping.



Some students were very amenable to help. Others seemed more interested in creative ways to waste time. Needless to say, I would try to focus on the ones that really wanted to get a project done. It was still pretty stressful and I wasn't certain I was being that helpful. When I felt I wasn't able to help I tried to contribute by keeping tools sharp. I certainly am not an expert at tool sharpening, but someone had to do it. We did have

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## More Broken Bow...

a couple of design opportunities with some of the students' work so that seemed useful. That night I called my wife and told her I felt completely out of my element. I was having major-league second thoughts about agreeing to do this.

On day two, there were no demos, just lathe time. I felt a little more (not a lot) at ease. A big help was the fact that there were some students doing bowls. Hey, something a bit more in my area of expertise! Although I have to admit that while helping one student, I did manage to create a design opportunity in his bowl while using a scraper. Too bad I didn't know about all of Cindy Drozda's negative rake scrapers! We managed to work around the problem and the bowl still turned out alright. Okay, it was a little shorter. Four class periods and the day was done. It actually goes by much faster than you would expect.

That night I demonstrated to the adults who attend the twice-a-week evening classes. I ended up doing two demos. The first was a "Cliff Notes" version of my Design Opportunities demo and the second was a shortened multi-axis vase demo. Both seemed to go over well and resulted in many questions. Finally, at about 10:00 PM, after all the tools and samples were packed away, my two days at Broken Bow had come to a close.

Overall, the projects the kids turned out were pretty darned good, considering that they get maybe one good hour each day during the four week session. There were some nice goblets, bowls, ring holders and other spindle projects. Following the class, all of the students' work would be put on display at the Forest Heritage Center Museum for public viewing. This is a great way to give the class and the students even more visibility.

I've already been asked back for next year. Will I do it? I haven't decided yet. There certainly are many reasons not to, but when you think about how few programs like this there are anywhere in the country it does seem a worthwhile effort. As a result of my experiences I have decided to throw my hat into the ring of CTWA volunteer instructors. So if you would like some help with hollow forms, vases, non-round turnings, general design help, or even bowls, give me a call. With luck, we will both be able to learn something!

Craig Timmerman

## AAW Symposium

If you haven't already registered for the annual AAW Symposium, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, June 22 - 24, you'll just have to register at the door. It might be worth the effort. For door prizes, how about FIVE Oneway 2436 lathes free, thanks to special pricing from Oneway Manufacturing, or FIFTY \$100 gift certificates donated by Packard Woodworks?

You can also go to the AAW web site to check out



details on the many outstanding demonstrators (including CTWA member **Craig Timmerman**) scheduled to wow us with their techniques as well as a list of vendors and what's to do in Louisville.

Hope to see you there!

## E-mail

It is your responsibility to see that Membership Chairman **John Cole** has your correct E-mail address. You can contact him at [john.cole@sematech.org](mailto:john.cole@sematech.org). We regularly use E-mail to advise members of important announcements on short notice. If John doesn't have your current E-mail address, we can't contact you.

## 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 Larry Walrath** at [larry@larrywalrath.com](mailto:larry@larrywalrath.com).

## CTWA Supporters

We don't recognize often enough those businesses that support our club. If you don't already do so, be sure to support those folks that support us, either through discounts or gift certificates.

Hogan Hardwoods  
Woodcraft  
Craft Supplies USA  
The Cutting Edge

## Photos

Photographs for this month's **CHIP PILE** were provided by **Drew Shelton, Charlie Kay** and **Jimmy Tolly**. If you have digital photos that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter. Send them to the Editor at [ckay@austin.rr.com](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com).

## 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.

### NOTE CHANGE IN DATE FOR JUNE MEETING ONLY!!

**June 13 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

**July 1, 2006 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
First Saturday - To Be Announced

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

**August 5 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
First Saturday - Craig Timmerman's Shop

**August 15 - 7:00 to 9:00 PM**  
CTWA Meeting - American YouthWorks

**Sept 2 - 9:00 AM to Noon**  
First Saturday - To Be Announced

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

A somewhat smaller crowd than usual showed up at **Stacey Hager's** shop on June 3. We are happy to report that Stacey's shop actually does have a floor, and that there is really a paved drive in front of it. **Betty** said he hadn't slept in three days, getting everything in shape for the Shop Crawl. Stacey was at his Oneway coaching beginners. **Frank Miller** was over in a corner turning lids for jelly jars. **Jerry Whiteaker** was turning a mesquite bowl for SWAT and **Charlie Kay** was showing folks how to turn bangles, in preparation for the upcoming first session at the Settlement House. **Drew Shelton** provided Round Rock donuts, as usual, to go with the goodies that Betty had provided. When all the chips were swept up, a number of the folks headed to Galaxy Cafe for lunch.



## Upcoming Woodturning Symposiums

### Utah Woodturning Symposium

Provo, Utah  
June 15 - 17, 2006  
[www.utahwoodturning.com](http://www.utahwoodturning.com)

### AAW Symposium

Louisville, Kentucky  
June 22 - 24, 2006  
<http://www.woodturner.org>

### Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium

Loveland, Colorado  
September 16 - 17  
[www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com)

### SouthWest Association of Turners

Temple, Texas  
September 29 & 30, October 1  
[www.swaturners.org](http://www.swaturners.org)

## AAW Scam Alert

When is a scam not a scam? Maybe when it's an oops! Last month, we published a bulletin from the AAW alerting you to unauthorized phone solicitations for membership.

The AAW has completed an investigation, and it turns out that individual AAW memberships have in fact been procured through Amazon.com.

The AAW uses the EBSCO service to provide libraries and schools with a subscription to our magazine. All fine and good...that system has been in place for over 15 years. However, in 2002, EBSCO expanded their coverage to include Amazon.com. The AAW was not aware of this change. The Amazon coverage provided a different route for membership. In essence they used the Amazon.com web site as a AAW membership access point, and for this service, an additional \$10 was charged. EBSCO also does phone solicitations.

The AAW Board has reviewed the situation and adopted the following policy:

- keep the EBSCO service for libraries and schools
- drop the Amazon.com portion of the contract
- request EBSCO to stop phone solicitations to individuals

## Pen Turning

On Friday, May 26, **Lynn Kramer, Jim Spano, Charlie Kay, Ed Roberts, Len Brissette, Larry Walrath, Dave Dick** and **Tom Howard** joined **Johnnie Perales** at American YouthWorks to coach thirty-plus graduating seniors in turning their own Slimline pens. Thanks also to **Drew**

**Shelton** for cutting blanks for pens.

The kids got creative, so not all of the pens were so slim. There were lots of beads and coves, or bumps as the seniors called them.

We all enjoyed working with the kids and they each went away proud of a very special pen that they had created



## First Saturday

Our July 1, 2006, First Saturday Shop Crawl still doesn't have a home. If you would like to volunteer your shop, get in touch with Len Brissette.

The details of plans for the July get together will be posted on the web site as soon as they are available.

### 2006 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

July 1  
August 5  
September 2  
October 7  
November 4  
December 9 (Christmas Party)

**Volunteer Needed**  
Craig Timmerman  
**Volunteer Needed**  
**Volunteer Needed**  
**Volunteer Needed**  
Charlie & Janie Kay

To volunteer to host a First Saturday Shop Crawl, get in touch with President Len Brissette.

## Membership in CTWA

New members are welcome to join CTWA at any time. All you need is an interest in woodturning. CTWA membership also requires membership in the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Local dues are \$25.00 per year, or \$2.10 per month, prorated for new members joining during the year. AAW dues are \$40.00 per year for individuals and \$45.00 for families. For that, you get a first class quarterly magazine, **American Woodturner**, with excellent articles on woodturning and woodturners, amply illustrated with color photographs.

If you are interested in learning more about membership or want to join CTWA, contact our Membership Chairman:

**John Cole**  
1333 Arena Drive - Apt 137  
Austin, TX 78741  
john.cole@sematech.org  
512.779.8599

## Volunteer Instructors

The following turners have generously offered to open their shops and give their time to any member who wants to learn how to sharpen their tools, sharpen their skills, learn how to make a bowl or "test" the newest tool. Check out the people who bring items to Show and Tell. One trait common to all woodturners is that we all like to share, so just ask!

### SOUTH

Odie Bull	512.442.2687
Bill Hammack	512.282.0832
Stacey Hager	512.282.1036
Johnny Tolly	512.858.4471
Jimmy Tolly	512.894.0686
Craig Timmerman	512.288.3598

**NOTE: The Tolly brothers work strange shifts, so they may be available on times other than weekends.**

H. O. Evans	512.282.2830
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**NOTE: Ho would like to confine his assistance to his specialty, segmented turnings.**

### NORTH

Rusty Myers	512.218.1606
Frank Miller	512.335.4768
Judy Williams	512.836.7897

### ROUND ROCK

Larry Walrath	512.255.5379
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### LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

David Dick	512.357.6517
Curtis Seebeck	512.738.0775

## From the Editor's Desk

If you haven't heard it already, you will: "If you want to be a better turner, stand in front of the lathe." Naturally, that doesn't mean exactly what it says, because you have to be turning while you are standing in front of the lathe. The best thing I ever did for my own turning development was to turn several hundred bottle stoppers. It didn't have to be bottle stoppers, of course, although the spindle turning skills involved will help you in all types of turning. It is the repetitions that count; doing it over and over again until the muscle memory is developed and you can do much of the stuff without consciously thinking about it. Doing all that repetitious work also lets you begin to understand all of the advice you have gotten from teachers and demonstrators and what it really means.

Repetition, or practice, is good advice whatever new skill you seek to develop. It helps to have natural talent in any pursuit, but lots of practice can make up for a lot of missing talent. That advice hasn't always been easy for me to follow. I've always been a bit of a dilettante. I get interested in something new, learn enough about it to understand it, but get tired of it when I'm not good at it from the beginning. Only occasionally do I have the patience to work at something long enough and hard enough to get good at it.

I got to thinking about all of this over the weekend, after I found out that the CTWA newsletter had been chosen as the winner of the AAW Chapter newsletter competition for 2006. I have been doing the CTWA newsletter for six and a half years now. I had done a primitive newsletter years ago for a Boy Scout troop in Southern California. When they were looking for someone to do the newsletter in late 1999 when Judy Williams was ready to turn it over to someone else, I took a deep breath and volunteered to take it on. I wanted to be involved in the workings of the club, but I was barely a beginning turner. I figured that I could do this for a year or two, and then let someone else take over.

Something happened along the way, though. First of all, I found out that I liked doing it, and as I continued to turn it out month after month, I found I was pretty good at it. I went through a couple of stages where I was ready to dump the job, but I'm glad that I decided to stick with it.

Winning this award means a lot to me, but it should mean a lot to the entire club as well. We could never have won without your support. Your encouraging comments every month and the willingness of the club to subsidize the purchase of new software to let us put the newsletter on line gave me the will to continue.

That isn't all that it takes to make this a winning effort, however. Without the help of many of you, this monthly publication wouldn't be half as good as it is. I have been lucky to have a series of Presidents who have diligently provided me with a column every month. The Program Chairmen have been timely in getting their input to me as well. In addition, I regularly get articles from many of you. Craig Timmerman, Gary Roberts and Johnny Tolly have been particularly helpful in that regard. The quality of the newsletter is also very dependent on the folks who provide me with photographs every month. I could take the photos myself, but reporting on the demonstration and the business meeting would suffer. I am especially grateful to Drew Shelton for keeping me supplied with photos, although lots of others contribute photos as well.

We are fortunate to have a very active club, with lots of good demonstrators and lots of folks who are willing to participate. It helps a great deal when you have a good, well thought out demonstration to report on. Finally, our outreach activities and our annual Big Name turner sessions provide another major source of news for the newsletter. So, thanks to all of you in the club for making this recognition possible.

Keep on turning,

Charlie

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## 2006 SWAT Symposium

The Regional Demonstrators have been named for this year's SWAT Symposium, scheduled for September 29 through October 1 in Temple, Texas. The following turners will be joining lead demonstrators **David Nittmann, Andi Wolfe, Dave Hout, Andre Martel** and **Clay Foster** in the Rotations in Temple:

**Bill Rubenstein** (making your own simple turning tools); **Bruce Hoover** (sanding secrets); **Andy Chen** (segmented vessel); **Bonnie MacDonald** (marbling on wood, paper and more); **Frank Penta** (multi-axis platter & multi-axis birdhouse); **John Horn** (turning your scraps into wearable art); **John Leonard** (twice-turned bowl, wet to dry); **Larry Zarra** (turning tops for fun and profit); **Paul Tiefel** all about boxes; **Rusty Myers** (kitchen utensils) **Craig Timmerman** (disc vases); **Anthony Harris** (hand-chased threaded boxes). **Alternates:** **Pleas McKee** (turning studs into dollars); **Bill Sullivan** (the nuts and bolts of turning - mechanical threading).



The new style SWAT brochures have been printed and should be in your mailbox soon. They contain details of this year's plans, as well as a registration form. As always, you can also find the latest information on the Symposium, including schedules, lodging information, the Spouses Program and a registration form on the SWAT web site, [www.swaturners.org](http://www.swaturners.org). So make your reservations now and plan to be in Temple in the fall for the greatest SWAT Symposium ever.

## Settlement House

We will again be working with the girls at the Settlement House this summer to let them experience some woodturning and make a special item that they can keep. These sessions will be held on Thursdays in June and July, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. I've opted to go for the mornings this year, in hopes that it will be a little cooler than the afternoons were last year.

We have volunteers lined up for the four Thursdays in June, and will be turning bangles, bird house necklaces, pens and ring holders. We still need volunteers for July. If you can help out but don't have a mini lathe, we can provide a lathe for you to use.

This is a great opportunity to hone your teaching skills. Give me a call if you can give us a hand.

Fred Stidman

## Clay Foster

I will be teaching a woodturning Masters Class at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, July 30 - August 5. The title of this course is "Go Figure! Figurative Art & the Turned Object."

From cave walls to teapots, the human figure and its components have been a recurring theme for centuries. This class will begin with a survey of figurative art. Then you design, plan and create a variety of turned objects with references to the human figure. You will begin by turning kitchen utensils or tool handles and graduate to more decorated objects such as lidded boxes, masks, sculptural objects, and vessels with mixed media adornment. The emphasis will be on design development and planning. This class will be for intermediate to advanced—students must be able to turn bowls, vessels and spindles without instructor supervision. There are still several openings in this class.

## 2006 Demonstration Schedule

**July 18 - Bill Hammack** will demonstrate his seven-piece top  
**August 15 - To Be Announced**  
**September 19 - To Be Announced**  
**October 17 - To Be Announced**  
**November 21 - To Be Announced**

If you are interested in taking this class with me, contact Arrowmont at <http://www.arrowmont.org/registration/commerce.pl> or call 865-436-5860.

Clay Foster

## 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 Charlie Kay at 512.295.2144 or via E-mail at [ckay@austin.rr.com](mailto:ckay@austin.rr.com). Ads will be run for two months and then dropped.*

**FOR SALE:** Sears air compressor, Model No. 919.156580. 1 HP 120/240 volt motor (wired for 120), 12 gal tank on wheels, 2 cyl compressor, 100 psi max pressure, 5.8 cfm @ 90psi, 7.0 cfm @ 40psi, pressure regulator. Only used in a home shop. \$30.

Call Jerry Whiteaker at 512.231.0288 or by E-mail at [wudturner@earthlink.net](mailto:wudturner@earthlink.net).

**FOR SALE:** Sears Compressor Model No. 919-176210, 1 HP, 110/220 volts (now wired for 110V) Doerr motor. Air/oil. Air delivery rate 70 scfm @ 40PSI, 5.8 scfm @ 90 PSI. Displacement 9.2 cfm, tank size 45.4 liter. \$50.00 OBO.

Call Bob Hrehor at 512.258.7692 or (cell) 512.740.0450, or E-mail at [bob@hrehor.net](mailto:bob@hrehor.net).

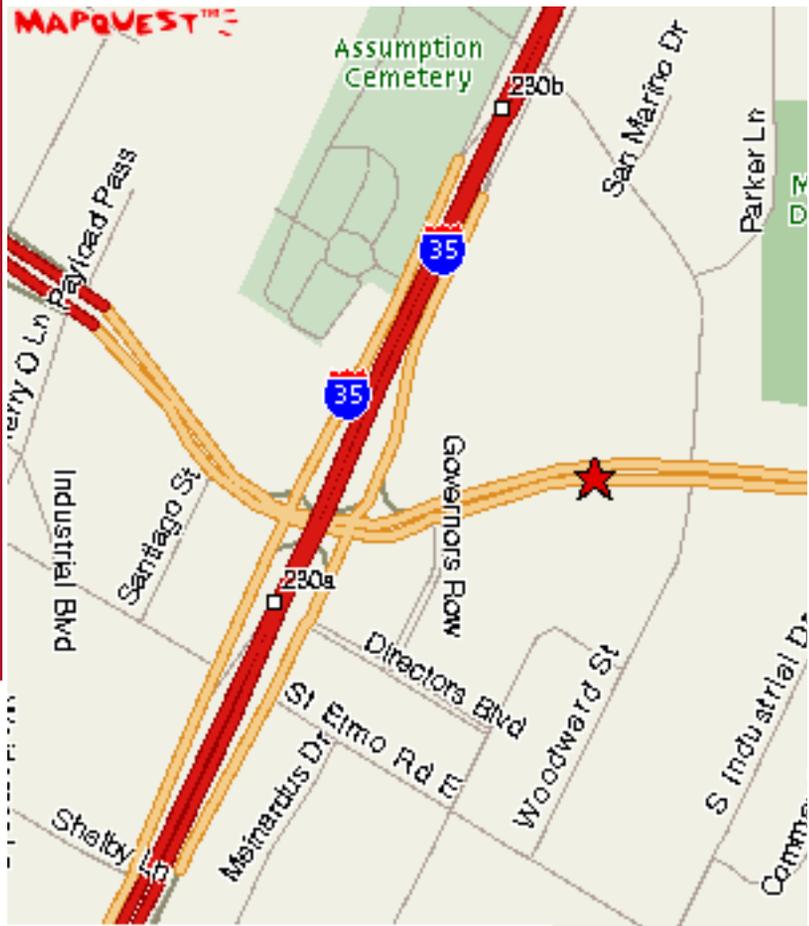
**FOR SALE:** TURN BIG STUFF! Tripod style outboard stand for Powermatic lathe. Really heavy duty, tool rest adjusts to work with most large lathes. (I have turned a 6-1/2 foot diameter table top with this stand.) Probably weighs 150 pounds. Like new. First \$250.00 at my shop.

Contact S. Gary Roberts at 512-345-1521 or by E-mail at [Sgicr71@cs.com](mailto:Sgicr71@cs.com).

**FOR SALE:** Harbor Freight 34706 lathe with all factory accessories. I will also include some Tolly MDF faceplates as well as an insert for a SuperNova 2 chuck. The lathe is six months old and in good condition. I upgraded to a Nova DVR, hence the sale. I am asking \$100. Contact Curtis Seebeck at 512.738.0775 or by E-mail at [Curtis@BuiltByDoc.com](mailto:Curtis@BuiltByDoc.com).

## Meeting Location

The CTWA meets at American Youth-Works, 1901 East Ben White Boulevard (Texas 71) in south Austin. The building is on the south side of Ben White, just east of Interstate 35. The best entry is off Woodward Street, just south of a little strip center. You enter an alleyway into a lighted parking lot. We will enter through the back door. As you drive in, you will see a truck dock in the back of the building with a big roll-up white door. The entryway is just to the right of the truck dock. Folks coming from the north may want to exit I-35 at Woodward and proceed south on Woodward across Ben White.



## THE CHIP PILE

CENTRAL TEXAS WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION  
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

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