



The Chip Pile

The Newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association

Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

CTWA Meetings

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, September 19, 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 October will be held on October 7, at 9:00 AM at Jerry Whiteaker's shop, 4412 Walhill Lane, Austin

board members with your nominations and suggestions.

Last month we announced a raffle of the Cindy Drozda demonstration pieces which Cindy graciously donated to the club during her workshops here last spring. We will continue to sell raffle tickets for a November drawing. I'm sure a number of you would be proud to own any one of these pieces and to support the club at the same time.

time. I also asked for your suggestions last month. If you could get those to me by September 15, I will be sure to include them in a survey I am putting together. We are working on coming up with an approach which pleases the largest number of members. So, this is your chance to submit your ideas.

Many of you have become aware of a proposal for online AAW registration. The current approach is for everyone to register online. Those who do register online will be eligible for a drawing for a Powermatic 3520B lathe. Unfortunately, there are a few details to be worked out at this point. Both Gary Roberts and I have been in contact with AAW, trying to iron out the specific issue of how clubs, like ours, who have a policy of 100% AAW membership should go about handling this new registration approach. Standby for additional details on this ongoing discussion.

Len

Suggestions needed...

September is upon us. For many of us this means cooler weather, kids back in school and time to start working on outdoor projects. In the midst of all this, it's also time to start thinking about new officers for your club. A couple of names have been submitted, but we are definitely looking for new names to put into the ring. All positions, save president, are open for candidates. So, here's your chance to get more involved in the running of your club. We traditionally hold elections in November and new officers assume their duties at the Christmas party in

SWAT is rapidly approaching, and preparations are being finalized. Betty Hager is coordinating the volunteer list. I know she can use more help. So please contact Betty if you have not had a chance to sign up for time slots during the event.

I hope that all of you have been thinking about how you would like to see the club meetings change. I suggested that we might want to have Saturday meetings, combining our usual meeting with some hands-on

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August Demo

Turning fundamentals

Our August meeting saw President **Len Brissette** and former President **Stacey Hager** holding forth on tool usage and explanations of why and how tools cut.

Armed with oversize models of tools, turning "stock" and tool rest, they clearly showed why a tool cuts well when it is positioned correctly. The visual aids clearly reflected the experience of former teacher Stacey. Everyone should have come away with a better sense of what it takes to make turning go easily.

See Demo, page 2

December. Please contact one of the

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CTWA Web Site

www.ctwa.org

Editorial Information

This newsletter is by and for members. The Editor welcomes any written materials and will provide assistance with getting your information into publishable form if you want. **DEADLINE IS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.** Contact me with your ideas and drafts by phone at 512.295.2144, by E-mail at ckay@austin.rr.com or mail them to:

The Chip Pile

c/o Charles Kay
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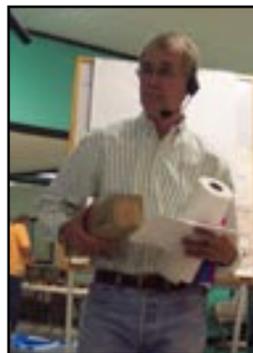
August Demo

In addition to discussing the physics behind why and when tools cut, they demonstrated the use of the various tools. This clearly helped drive home the points they had made with their larger models.

To liven up their presentation, Len and Stacy resorted to using some other edged tools to illustrate that any sharpened edge, held against



the spinning blank at the appropriate angle will also result in smooth cutting action and great flying of chips. Although these demonstrations were dramatic, as the old TV show used to say, do not try this at home kids.



Stacey and Len are very experienced turners, but the beginners in the audience should be encouraged to stick to using their turning tools and not try to impress the neighbors with the use of some other edged tool, regardless of how dramatic the action if successful. Remember that safety is your number one concern in the shop.

Thanks to Len and Stacey for an informative and entertaining evening. For those of you just starting out in this fine hobby, and who want further

guidance on the fine points, check out our list of Volunteer Instructors on page 7 of this newsletter. You can also get lots of advice and hands-on instruction at our First Saturday Shop Crawl sessions. Ask any of our experienced members and you can probably arrange for some shop time with them.

Bring Back Raffle

Gary Roberts was the winner of a bangle bracelet turned from found wood from a level manufacturer by **Stan Spell**. The piece was finished with lacquer. **Jim Brinkman** took home a bottle stopper turned from Texas ebony by **John Thompson**. **Johnnie Perales** picked up a maple platter with a pyrographic scene of a lighthouse brought by **Marcia Tolly**. **Kay Hammack** had the lucky ticket for the mesquite Santo Domingo box embellished with copper work



turned by **Joel Crabbe** and finished with lacquer and wax.

As usual, 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



see Raffle, page 3

Raffle

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

Stan Spell brought three bangle bracelets, one of zebrawood and two of found wood from a level manufacturer.

Larry Walrath showed off a commissioned lamp base turned from mesquite and finished with oil.

Marcia and Johnny Tolly displayed a collaborative platter titled "Illusions" that they will be showing at SWAT. It was turned from

cottonwood by Johnny and featured Marcia's pyrography.

Robert Waltz showed a piece turned from bur oak and maple and finished with tung oil.

Joel Crabbe brought along several items: a piece he called "Anasazi Sunrise" of mesquite and copper, pendants of Texas ebony and copper and mesquite and copper and jewelry sets of Texas ebony and silver and mesquite and copper. All were finished with lacquer and wax.

Johnny Tolly showed a Weeble Wobble eccentric vacuum chuck he made from MDF.

John Thompson shared a top and a bottle stopper, both turned from maple.

Jim Spano brought a box of zir-cote and Chinaberry and a "whatzit" (double-ended funnel?) of Chinaberry. Both were finished with wax.

Charlie Kay showed six bangle turned from various woods and finished with

Behlens Master Gel and buffed and waxed. He also displayed the turned platter plaque presented by the AAW for winning the newsletter competition.

Jerry Whiteaker brought a salt and pepper shaker set turned from maple and mesquite respectively and finished with walnut oil. He also brought a pair of nice vases turned from cherry and finished with Deft.

Mack Peterson shared six pieces turned from Texas ebony, red mallee burl, mesquite, box elder and eucalyptus.

Stacey Hager displayed a ginger jar turned from mimosa and finished with tung oil.



see Show, page 4

Show and Tell



September Program

Turning a Disc Vase

September will feature talented **Craig Timmerman** again. This time he will be doing a trial run of his second demonstration for this year's SWAT Symposium.

This demonstration will show how to make a disc-shaped vase/weed pot. The vase is turned on two different axes and uses a



simple jig to help in turning off the final tenon.

The demo illustrates making the vase from blank to finished product, except

for sanding, including the following key steps:

- Layout
- Putting tenon on end
- Drilling hole for glass insert
- Forming the top (using simple jig to judge curve)
- Putting tenon on side
- Turning one side of vase
- Reverse chucking with and without a vacuum chuck
- Turning second side
- Using simple jig to help turn off bottom tenon
- Design options

Business Meeting

We had 53 attendees at our August 15 meeting, including six visitors.

Librarian **Betty Hager** reviewed the new videos she has purchased for the club.

Betty is also chairing the Host Club Committee for the SWAT Symposium, and asked for volunteers to sign up for tasks.

Ed Roberts reported that our Oneway 1640 lathe has now been completely paid for and belongs to the club.

Donne Griffiths showed off a bunch of mesquite burl blanks he is now selling.

Visitor **Barry Thornton** pitched an business that he and wife **Rona** are starting to sell original Texas art and artifacts on line. The business is



see Business, page 3

Business Meeting

called Texas Quartermasters, and will feature unique art, product art and custom art. If you are interested, you can find out more from Barry or Rona at www.tqm.com or 512.266.7142.

SWAT Centerpieces

SWAT Centerpiece Committee Chairman Clyde Little reported that we have our centerpieces for SWAT. He laid them all out on a display table at the meeting, put numbers



on each and invited club members to go by and choose their favorite bowl



and favorite weed pot. At the end of the meeting, the chosen pieces were **Jerry Whiteaker's** bowl and **Drew Shelton's** weed pot.



Although these were selected best of show by the members, there were many other very nice pieces that SWAT attendees will be happy to take home. Most important,

there was wide participation by our members at all skill levels, turning out the best work they can. Thanks to all who participated and contributed pieces for this effort.

Cindy Drozda Box Raffle

During her workshops in the spring, Cindy Drozda kindly donated three of her demo pieces to the club to be used as a fund raiser. At our August meeting, we began selling special raffle tickets for these items. These five-dollar raffle tickets will continue to be sold at the September, October and November meetings, with a drawing to be held at the November meeting.

These boxes are superbly executed, and signed by Cindy. Although they are well sanded, they are not finished to Cindy's usual gallery standards.

These three items were displayed at the August



meeting and will be available for viewing again at the next three meetings. So, get your tickets for these valuable, finely done boxes and help raise money for our club.

First Saturday - September

On September 2, 20 or so members and visitors headed to far northeast Round Rock and **Ed Roberts'** shop. The consensus view was that Ed wins the prize for the most number of lathes. Including his ShopSmith, he has five wood lathes and a metal lathe.

Stacey Hager made the biggest mess, turning a hollow vessel. **Drew Shelton** spent some time near the end, working on a ball and cup toy, and **Frank Miller** worked on a towel rack for his kitchen. The rest of us just stood around and kibitzed and exercised our jaw muscles.

When the time in the shop was done, a dozen or so of us went for catfish. For some of us, the meal came after an extensive tour or greater east Round Rock.

Apologies for the lack of photos this month. Drew's new photo web site doesn't want to share his photos with the Editor, who has again waited until the last minute to put this issue together. We'll plan to include photos from this month's First Saturday in the October issue.

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.

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

Oct 7, 2006 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Jerry Whiteaker's shop

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

Nov 4, 2006 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - Lynn Kramer's shop

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

Dec 9, 2006 - 9:00 AM to Noon
Christmas Party - The Kays

January 6 - 9:00 AM to Noon
First Saturday - To Be Announced

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

First Saturday

Our October 7, 2006, First Saturday Shop Crawl will be held at **Jerry Whiteaker's** shop, 4412 Walhill Lane, Austin.

Jerry's advice on finding his house: From Mopac, go west on Steck Ave until it ends, then right on Adirondack, turn left after three blocks on Walhill Lane. I'm at the end of the street, with more than enough parking for the usual group. There are routes from Loop

360, but a map may be helpful. I only have one lathe, but there is room for about 4 mini lathes in the shop and several on stands in the garage for those who want to bring them. If you get lost, call 512.231.0288.

Web Site

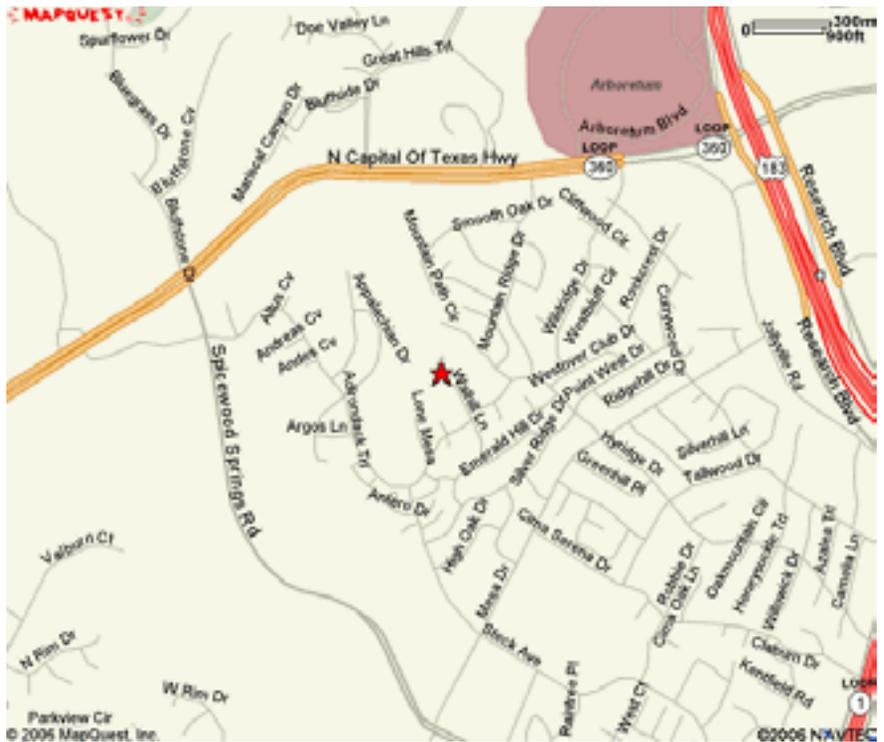
Check out the CTWA Web Site at www.CTWA.org. If you have comments, suggestions or something for the gallery, get in touch with **Webmaster Larry Walrath** at larry@larrywalrath.com.

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:

Drew Shelton
112 Oakland Drive
Georgetown, TX 78628
dcshelton@gmail.com
512.863.4651



2006 First Saturday Shop Crawl Schedule

October 7
November 4
December 9 (Christmas Party)

Jerry Whiteaker
Lynn Kramer
Charlie & Janie Kay

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

E-mail

It is your responsibility to see that acting Membership Chairman **Drew Shelton** has your correct E-mail address. You can contact him at dcshelton@gmail.com. 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.

Photos

Photographs for this month's **CHIP PILE** were provided by **Drew Shelton** 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 ckay@austin.rr.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

Finally, the hot dry summer begins to pass, just when you thought you would never be cool again. The trees are all so stressed from the extended drought that they are all losing leaves to minimize transpiration of moisture. The cedar elms are dropping their leaves, and they drift down in the gentle breezes. Along with the slightly cooler temperatures, you can almost imagine that fall may eventually arrive in central Texas. Not the kind of falls I remember from New England, of course, but fall nonetheless.

I had an interesting experience last week. Sitting on the back porch reading the papers, out of the corner of my eye I spotted a deer running full speed from east to west. It was a young white tail, and it leaped a big patch of prickly pear. As I continued to watch it run, about five yards behind came a coyote, trotting along in pursuit. He was easily keeping up without expending much energy. I didn't think coyotes went after anything larger than rabbits, but maybe he was hungry.

I've been doing a little reorganizing in the shop. I've relocated my lathe for about the sixth time, and think I'm going to like it this way. As part of my effort to single handedly keep the vendors at the AAW Symposium solvent (and myself insolvent) I picked up a swing-away extension for my Oneway bed. This is a cool device that lets you slip the tail stock onto the extension, lock it in place and swing it out of the way so that you install your boring bar. Works great, with no heavy lifting.

I see the folks who have installed hardware cloth (my old west Texas Grandma, called it hail screen, as it was placed over the windows to prevent them being broken in a hail storm) over the dust collectors at their lathes and wondered why anyone would do that. Now I know. I was cleaning up the bottom on a Cindy Drozda style box, using a jam chuck. It started vibrating and before I could get the lathe stopped, it had disappeared into the bowels of my dust collection system. I haven't located it yet, but so far it hasn't caused any problems. I think I'll get some hail screen!

Despite that misadventure, I have been enjoying experimenting with boxes. I had only turned a half-dozen

or so before Cindy was here last spring. That inspired me to try my hand at them.

Meanwhile, I got sidetracked on bangles and pens, and never got back to boxes until the last couple of weeks. Looks like this may be my latest pre-occupation. Who knows, I may even learn how to do it well, eventually.

Keep on turning,

Charlie

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

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

LOCKHART/SAN MARCOS

David Dick	512.357.6517
Curtis Seebeck	512.738.0775

Upcoming Woodturning Symposiums

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium

Loveland, Colorado
September 16 - 17
www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com

SouthWest Association of Turners

Temple, Texas
September 29 & 30, October 1
www.swaturners.org

It is time to take care of your last minute planning for this year's SWAT Symposium. If you haven't registered or arranged for your lodging, you still have time to do so. Go to www.swaturner.org for details on both.

Guys, if your wife is coming along and she isn't a turner and wants to participate in the Ladies Program, get to the last issue of the SWAT newsletter on www.swaturner.org, and find the Ladies Program. You will also find prices and contact information there. You need to make these arrangements before you get to Temple on September 29. So get your check off to Joanie

Genender right away.



As outlined earlier, we are the host club for this year's Symposium, which means that we have a lot of tasks to take care of, including making the meals go smoothly. Betty Hager is managing our efforts, and has a sign-up list for all of the jobs that need to be filled. There are plenty of things that need to be done, and if we all do a little, no one has to do a lot.

Once again, it is time for us to be electing the folks who will lead our club over the next year. Our procedure is to nominate folks at our October meeting, then to elect them at our November meeting, as we have no meeting in December.

President Elect Drew Shelton will automatically move up to become President. Offices to be filled include President Elect, Program Chairman, Membership Chairman,

Treasurer, Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, Audio/Visual Coordinator and Librarian.

2006 Demonstration Schedule

September 19 - Craig Timmerman

October 17 - Jack Besperka - The Design Process

November 21 - Hager & Brissette - Tool Sharpening

December 9 - Christmas Party

If past experience is any indicator, it is likely that several of the current officers will continue to serve if asked, but we don't yet know which ones will. For sure, we will need a candidate for President Elect and for Membership Chairman.

If you are under the mistaken impression that this is a highly competitive series of races for these offices, you can disabuse yourself of that notion now. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, you need to let Len Brissette or one of the other officers know as soon as possible. Serving in one of these leadership positions is a great way to get to know other members of the club and learn a lot more about woodturning. With the great spirit of cooperation that characterizes the group, none of these jobs is a great deal of work. There are lots of folks who will pitch in and help you get the job done.

If you don't want to volunteer for a job yourself, but want to suggest someone else for one or more of the jobs, you need to get that information to Len as well. While it will be in order to nominate people at the October meeting, you should have talked to anyone that you propose to nominate to be sure that they are agreeable to being nominated.

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. Ads will be run for two months and then dropped.

FOR SALE: Partially assembled workbench made from 3/4" plywood and 2x4's. Top is assembled as well as two cabinets for drawers. Drawers are cut but not assembled. Could be used with a bench lathe or as a center for other woodworking. Almost FREE. You have to pick it up in North Austin. Contact Judy Williams at 512.836.7897 or by E-mail at Judy@lace-bobbins.com.

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.

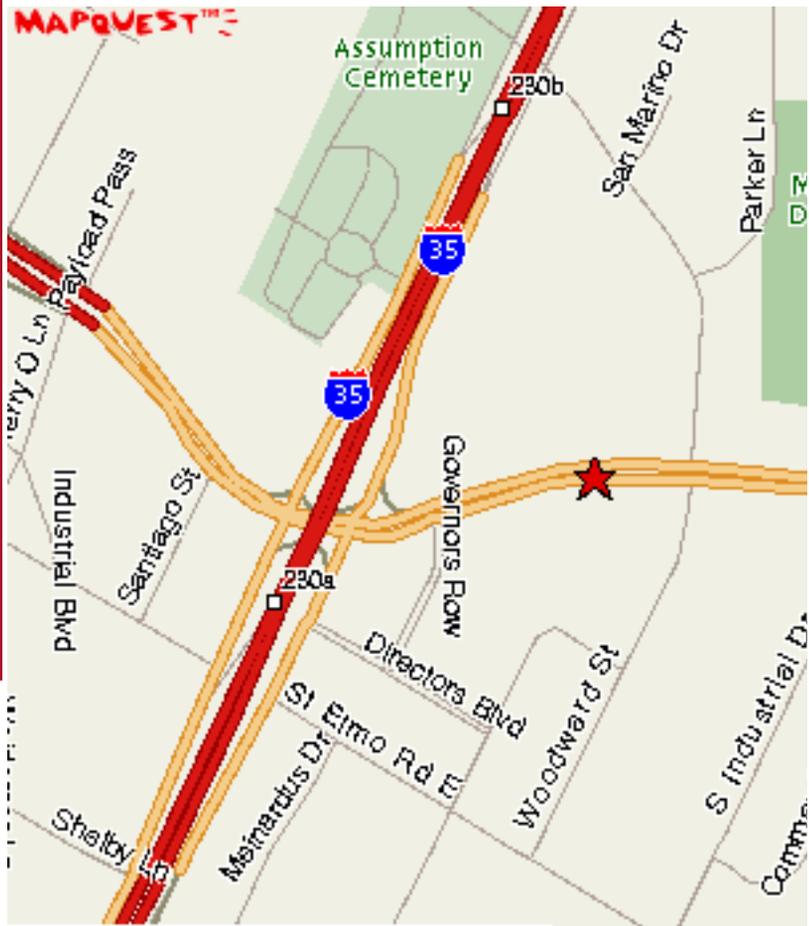
Call Jerry Whiteaker at 512.231.0288 or by E-mail at wudturner@earthlink.net.

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.

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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