



Keeping Austin turning since 1988

The Chip Pile

The newsletter of the Central Texas Woodturners Association
Austin, Texas

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

April Meeting 4/15, 7 PM

At American Youthworks

Demo: Kirk DeHeer

May 3 First Saturday
Alan Lacer demos
At American Youth Works.

May 4 Skew class by Alan

May 5 Lidded Box by Alan

At 1st Friday Austin Trevino Park wood reclaim JD Murphy found us a few interesting pieces for the wood depot provided by Gary Roberts.

Bill Stuewe had us all out at his incredible shop for 1st Saturday where he demoed several tools and gave everyone a tour of his facilities, all while Johnny Tolly demoed the oneway coring system for several onlookers.

Jim Brinkman and Drew both brought fresh wood supplies for us to turn to the wood depot.

Mike Josephs organized and has worked diligently to host workshops our guest from Utah, Kirk DeHeer is giving out at the Little's graciously provided woodshop . Mike even took a trip back out to Bill Stuewe's Sawmill where they both volunteered their labor to cut all the wood blanks needed for the workshops.

Phil Sherburne has interviewed several of our members and you will get to see their stories each month in the newsletter, as well as on our website that Clint Hoyle is working on for us.

Don Doan has really raised the bar when it comes to the raffle

as well as volunteering for 1st Thursday.

I am sure I'm leaving a few things out but as you can probably tell - with the dedication of all of the above mentioned volunteers, Central Texas Woodturners has something for everyone!

Kelly

Mar 2025 Meeting Minutes By Beth Watkins

President Kelly Shaw called to order the March meeting of the Central Texas Woodturners Association (CTWA) at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at the American YouthWorks facility.

Members approved the minutes of the February 2025 meeting as written.

Kelly recognized visitors David Green, Mike Russ, Carson Goldsmith, Robert Szabo, and John. Kelly noted that there were 11 people watching the meeting on Zoom and 53 people in the room.

President's Note By Kelly Shaw

April Showers?

Not really. The lakes are all the way down and CTWA is on fire!

This month has already been action packed and it's hardly even over. If you missed 1st Thursday Learn and Turn hosted by Roy Martz and Don Doan - it was packed with spectators as three of our finest turners, Drew Shelton, Jim Spano and Len Brissette simultaneously demoed their interpretation of a winged lidded box. We had the most amazing surprise visit from former CTWA President Saleem!

Roy Martz announced that the next Learn & Turn gathering would be on April 3 at Rockler. Drew Shelton, David Duke, Jim Spano, and Len Brissette are scheduled to turn lidded winged boxes.

Phil Sherburne discussed his plans to post member profiles on the club website and rejuvenate the library.

Zack Rubin presented the Instant Gallery turnings.

Mike Josephs introduced our demonstrator, Nick Brand from Denton. Nick's topic was "Small Items that Sell at Market."

These items included tippy tops, Kururin sticks, spatulas, wooden spoons, pig and mouse magnets, and train whistles.

Bill Stuewe invited members to his sawmill near Georgetown for First Saturday in April.

The meeting concluded with the Bring Back Raffle.

CTWA Outreach John Chatelain

We always can use your donated turnings for our outreach programs. These donated turned items are sold at our outreach events to help fund our club. I will have a cardboard box near the front door at every meeting. Please place your donated turned items in the box. I know that all the turnings that our members create cannot all fit in your living rooms, so any extra turnings that your spouse

says is taking up too much room would greatly benefit our club. So please bring them to the next meeting.

Upcoming events:

1. Pflugerville Arbor Day event, November 8, 2025

2. Pioneer Days event... will not be happening this year

3. Pens for Vets... I have an email out, but have not heard back yet

4. Texas Woodworking Festival... September 13th & 14th... We may or may not be at this event. Depending on the availability of unsold booths to commercial vendors. We may be at this event if there is extra unsold space. We have budgeted \$250 for a booth, but booths cost a lot more than this. Hopefully there will be extra space for us. I will let you know as the time gets closer.

5. American Youth Works pens for Graduates event... I do not have a date for this yet.

John Chatelain

Program Chair Mike Josephs

I hope everyone enjoyed the demonstration put on last month by Neal Brand. I thought it was a great demo and learned a ton. On the topic of learning, we will have just completed our first set of hands on workshops with Kirk DeHeer at the time of this newsletter publication. The

workshops were a big hit and everyone learned a lot from Kirk.

I would welcome him back any time, he is a great instructor. His demonstration to our club Tuesday evening will be on thread chasing and will prove to be most informative and entertaining, I hope we have a big crowd. To prepare for the classes, Bill Stuewe was kind enough to have me out at his business to select and help cut a nice cedar elm log, a beautiful maple slab and some black walnut blanks for the classes. I had a great time with Bill and I thank him for all of his hard work, he saved me a massive amount of time.

As mentioned in the past, Alan Lacer will be our demonstrator and workshop instructor in the first weekend of May. His workshops are filled, but if you feel left out, there will be an additional weekend of classes on bowl coring in the middle of May, taught by Noah Peters. I'll make a formal announcement soon via email so be on alert.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to Pat and Clyde Little, who so kindly offered their shop for our use for the workshops. Time and time again the Littles prove to be incredible hosts, even when they are not themselves present at their home. We are so fortunate to be recipients of their generosity and I simply cannot

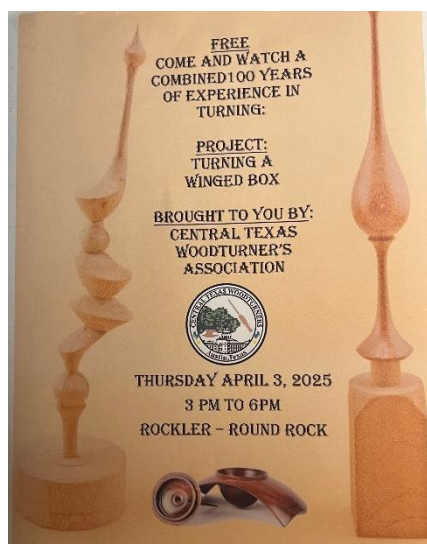
thank them enough, they're the best!

And finally, I want to again thank all of the club members who helped me put on the workshops. Members loaned equipment for classes, participated in workshops, cleaned up the shop and shared their tools, and even transported our demonstrator to and from Waco. We have a very special group of folks in CTWA, and I'm proud to be a part of it.

Mike Josephs

Learn & Turn Roy Martz

April's Learn and Turn was so much fun. About 25 CTWA members attended the class including a few Rockler customers who stopped in courtesy of this cool advertisement created by Don Doan. We even had a surprise visit from our past President, Saleem Shafi.



Jim Spano, Len Brissette, and Drew Shelton each turned their version of a Winged Lidded Box. As anticipated, each of these talented Woodturners created a unique and beautiful piece of artwork.

Jim chose to mount his box by the corner of a cube and proceeded from there.



My favorite part was watching him measure the lid's place inside of the box by indenting it with his chuck mounted on a live center. Very clever, and turned out beautifully.



Len chose a 10 inch log to turn his box. He started without any hesitation and within 2 hours, skillfully turned this lovely creation. A true master of his work.



Drew agreed to volunteer with the caveat that he had never turned a winged lidded box before. After practicing a little in his shop, he was ready and got to work on a piece of cantankerous Canary wood. Two broken tenons later, he created a gorgeous box. Persevering without any frustration that I could detect, he calmly remounted the blank, recut tenons, and continued turning a beautiful piece of art. Both he and the winged box

were totally “unflappable”.



Thank you to everyone who made this event possible including:

Rockler’s Joseph Marquez for providing us the space;

Drew, Jim, and Len for volunteering to turn the boxes despite not knowing what they would be turning until a week prior; our President, Kelly Shaw, who suggested the event and randomly picked the object to be turned; David Dick who was willing but stopped from participating by a medical problem; Don Doan, for all that he did including videoing the class and posting it on YouTube, making the flyer, supporting the instructors, and even cleaning the room afterwards. And a final thanks to all the CTWA members who came to see the show.



Roy Martz.

Bring Back By Don Doan

What is it? A chance to donate to the CTWA, all monies collected go back to the CTWA to continue to support our organization. This is not gambling, it is a donation, you do not have to accept the item – you can donate it to another member or guest if it is not a bring back. You can also just donate without getting a ticket. [If it is a Bring Back item, then we’ll accept your monies as a gift and pull another ticket.]

It's been decided that during the raffle if participant is picked for more than one Bring Back item, they are obliged to turn only one item. So, if you get a bowl, box, finial, and/or other creation, then you only bring back one turning. We respectfully ask that you bring your turning to the next regularly scheduled 3rd Tuesday meeting.

If there is a special donation to the Bring Back Raffle, the ticket will be blind picked during the first drawing.

Not everything is a Bring Back... the coordinator with discussion with members determines what is a Bring Back item, our goal is to only have turnings (except for the “special donation”) be in the Bring Back category.

Money collected 1st Quarter

Jan. \$120

Feb. \$136

Mar. \$147

SWAT News By Drew Shelton

This year's Southwest Area Turners (SWAT) event will be held on August 22-24 in Waco. Registration opened March 3rd, and hotel reservations opened on February 10th. The two symposium hotels are the Hilton and the Marriott Courtyard. They tend to fill up quickly, so get your room ASAP if you want to be within walking distance. There are also other hotels in the area as well.

If you've never been to SWAT, you really should give it a try. Lead demonstrators from all over the country and regional demonstrators from the SWAT area will be doing demonstrations on topics you might not have tried before. And if any of those topics require tools you don't have, lots of vendors will be ready to sell them to you. You'll find woods you might never have seen before and tools you suddenly realize you can't live without. The Instant Gallery

will both amaze and inspire with hundreds of beautiful turnings. There is also a 2-for-1 raffle where you have chances to win donated gallery items, tools, and even lathes.

As CTWA's SWAT rep for this year, I attended the Board of Directors meeting on January 25th. I brought up that the concrete floor in our demonstration room causes reverberation with our audio. SWAT might be able to get us some floor pads to help. We'll see if that actually happens or if it even helps.

Another topic at the meeting was the Texas Woodworking Festival. Festival producer Austin Waldo contacted SWAT president Pam Thompson about merging that event with SWAT at a single venue beginning in 2026, perhaps even with a single event registration. This would have the potential to introduce many new people to woodturning. While I don't have a final count of SWAT attendees for last year, the pre-registered total was 661. Last year's Festival had over 2000 attendees. The SWAT vendors would likely benefit from so many new potential customers, though the rest of us might feel seriously outnumbered. Nothing was decided at the board meeting, but I came away with the feeling that this merger is unlikely to happen. For one thing, we'd have to find a much larger venue in a larger city. My personal opinion is while I like the idea of bringing in new people, I greatly prefer keeping SWAT as it is.

Drew Shelton

CTWA Board News

The Central Texas Woodturners bylaws state "Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors of the corporation shall be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term." Members Vaden Mohrmann, Len Brissette, Drew Shelton and Pat Jenkins unanimously voted to appoint Orlando Banos to fill the position vacated by Gary Roberts through 2027. Please thank Orlando for his willingness to serve.

Pat Jenkins
Board Secretary

CTWA Club Benefits

Rockler, Round Rock gives CTWA members a 10% discount if you wear your CTWA badge.

We receive 10% off on abrasives and finishes at Craft Supply online.

Group orders at Craft Supply of anything over \$1000 gets 13% off.

The Wood Depot

Gary Roberts, a CTWA founding member, donates his RV parking spot at his home to serve as a Wood Depot for our club.

Club members please be considerate of other members and don't take all, or almost

all, of one species. Give other members a chance at some wood too.

Members who have, or find, extra wood can bring it to the wood depot so other members have access to free wood. Tools and material are available to seal the ends and mark its species. It is visible and accessible 24/7. Gary has a hydraulic lift table and a heavy duty 2-wheel dolly in his garage which are available if Gary is home.

Gary's Address:
8613 Honeysuckle Trail
Austin, TX 78759
(Near 183 & Mopac)
Cell: 512-345-1521

CTWA Membership

We welcome NEW MEMBERS to join our band of merry turners anytime. An interest in woodturning is the only requirement. Dues are \$60/year, prorated \$5/month plus \$10 badge fee for new members. \$85/ year for a family membership.

<http://ctwa.org/pay-dues/> Is a link to the CTWA website page where you can join the club, pay your annual dues online, and subscribe to the CTWA.org email group. Members need to subscribe to this email group to keep up with what is going on in the club.

A \$1 fee is charged for membership or renewal done online.

With your membership, whether you are experienced or a novice, we will teach you, or learn from you. You will build long-lasting friendships based on a common kinship of matching wood, metal, machine, and man or woman as the case may be.

CTWA members are also encouraged to join the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). AAW provides an extensive resource for articles, tips, and videos for all areas related to woodturning. AAW has several types of memberships. Please visit the following link to review membership types and pay for your membership. Link to AAW

membership page

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Woodturner/Landing-Pages/Membership-Landing-Page.aspx?hkey=fa7a8cba-7884-4b5a-a5a2-ba3a39675e05>

Hints & Tips

This space is provided for members to share tips and tricks they learn or read about. Please email your tips and tricks to Dan Gillen at dcgillen@gmail.com

e.

2025 Calendar

This calendar listing is an attempt to keep you informed on upcoming CTWA events and other events of interest to wood turners.

Apr 5 First Saturday

Host: Bill Stuewe

Apr 15 Club Meeting

Program: Kirk Deheer, Provo, Utah

May 1 Learn & Turn

Rockler, Round Rock

Sat May 3 American Youth Works

Alan Lacer Demos, Skew in Morning

Lidded Box in afternoon

Sun May 4 – At Clyde & Pat Little's

Alan Lacer Workshop – Skew Chisel

Mon May 5 – At Clyde & Pat Little's

Alan Lacer Workshop – Lidded Box

Volunteer your Shop

The first Saturday of every month a member of the club opens their shop to host a club get together

For First Saturday

- 1. It doesn't need to be big or fancy.**
- 2. We'll bring the lathes.**
- 3. You make the coffee.**
- 4. Drew Shelton brings Round Rock donuts and asks for donations from all who attend to help offset his costs.**
- 5. Have at least enough room for 1-2 turners (easy in the summer).**
- 6. Contact Jim Brinkman to volunteer**

March 2025 Instant Gallery – Photo credits – Drew Shelton

TURNER	DESCRIPTION	WOOD AND FINISH
Herb Ingram	13.5" Bowl	Spalted Pecan, Walnut Oil
Herb Ingram	5" Train Whistle	Mesquite, Mylands Sanding Sealer
Herb Ingram	5.5 Bowl	Cherry, Myland's Sanding Sealer & Wax
Herb Ingram	4" medium toned whistle	Mesquite, Myland's Sanding Sealer & Wax
Herb Ingram	9.5" bowl with footed profile	Mesquite, Myland's Sanding Sealer & Wax
Herb Ingram	Small Whistles	Mesquite, Beeswax
Herb Ingram	13" footed bowl with quilted grain and birds' eyes	Pecan, Walnut Oil
Dave Wolter	Clock	Mesquite with Turquoise inlay, Danish Oil
Paul Butcher	Segmented Bowl	Mesquite, Walnut, Maple, Paduk Shellac finish
Pete Giulietti	Bottle Stoppers	Resin, 3 Spectra Ply
Roy Martz	Lidded Bowl	American Elm, Mesquite Lid, Coyote Paste
John Chatelain	4 Similar Segmented Vases	Maple, same background pattern & different color enhancements
Zach Rubin	Live Edge Bowl	Unfinished
Jimmy Tolly	5" Bowl	Sanded with Vincent Welch Blue Flex 60-320 grit, Coyote Paste & Polish
Beth Watkins	Pear shaped hollow form 7.25" tall, 5" wide	Pear, 4 coats minwax tung oil, then Beall Buffed with white diamond & Carnuba
David Dick	Winged Box	Mesquite, Hemp Oil
Johnny Tolly	Kintsagi 18" x 7"	Mesquite
Jimmy Tolly	Bowl 10.38" x 3"	Pecan, Coyote Abrasive & Polishing Cream
Jimmy Tolly	Bowl 8.75" x 2.5"	Pecan Coyote Abrasive & Polishing Cream
Dan Upchurch	Platter	Maple, Wipe on Poly
John Chatelain	Coasters & Holders	Cherry
Clint Hoyle	Bottle Opener	Olive, Beeswax
Pat Jenkins	Lidded Box	Pecan, Wax
J.D. Murphy	Bottle Stopper	Sycamore, Beeswax
Jason Tunnell	Bowl	Sycamore, Wax
Jason Tunnell	Kaleidoscope	Cherry, Angalic, Maple, Wax

March 18 Bring Back Raffle Results

Turning From	Item	Bring Back Raffle winner	Bring Back Request
Clint Hoyle	Bottle Opener	Len Brissette	1 – turning
J.D. Murphy	Bottle Stopper	Len Brissette	
Pat Jenkins	Lidded Box	Kelly Shaw	1 – turning
Jason Turnell	Tear drop Box	John Chatelain	1 – turning
Dan Upchurch	Maple platter	Clint Hoyte	1 – turning
John Chatelain	Coasters & Holder	Susie Parker	1 – turning
Hap Parkinson	Box with inlay	Susie Parker	
Jim Moyle	Spalted Magnolia Weed Pot	??	1 – turning

2025 First Saturday Schedule

MONTH	HOST	ADDRESS	City
January 4th	Rockler	2701-A Parker Road	Round Rock
February 1st	The Littles	14307 Geronimo St.	Volente
March 1st	Hap Parkinson	7002 Treasure Cove	Austin
April 5th	Bill Stuewe	1901 County Road 153	Georgetown
May 3rd	Alan Lacer	American Youth Works	Austin
June 7th	Matthew Wright	4312 Dos Cabezas	Austin
July 5th?	Chris Van Peski	364 Colorado Dr.	Cedar Creek
August 2nd	David Crabb twice Turned	708 Wagon Wheel Trail	Pflugerville
Sept 6th	Betty Hager	9215 Chisholm Lane	Austin
October 4th	Drew Shelton	112 Oakland Dr.	Georgetown
November 1st	David Wolter	11504 Kempwood Dr.	Austin
December 13th	The Littles, we hope!	14307 Geronimo St.	Volente

Jim Brinkman needs volunteer demonstrators for all first Saturday event. Please contact Jim at jsbrink21@sbcglobal.net or text at 940.231.8325 if you can demonstrate at a first Saturday.

CTWA 2025 Demonstrations and Workshop Schedule		
Month	Turner	Demonstration
January	Jim Brinkman, Austin, TX	Beads the EASY way
February	Club Members	Tips, Tricks, Jigs, Fixtures & Cool Tools
March	Neal Brand, North Texas	Small Turnings that sell
April	Kirk DeHeer, Provo, Utah	
Sat May 3	Alan Lacer, River Falls, WI	Skew Chisel Morning, Lidded Box Afternoon
Sun May 4	Alan Lacer, River Falls, WI	Hands-on workshop-Skew Chisel
Mon May 5	Alan Lacer, River Falls, WI	Hands-on Workshop, Lidded Box
May	Noah Peters, Bixby, OK	Bowl coring, classes available weekend preceding demo
June	Herb Ingram, Austin, TX	Twice Turned Scalloped Edge Bowl
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		

CTWA Member Profiles

By Phil Sherburne

Jim Brinkman

Jim's story with woodturning actually began with woodcarving. He was quite active in the woodcarving as was Gary Roberts. Back about 1990, Gary encouraged Jim to give turning a try which Jim did – like many of us starting with turning pens. Jim joined CTWA about that time and lucky for us he has been active ever since.



When it comes to CTWA, Jim enjoys the demos (having given a number over the years himself) but most appreciates meeting with the other turners and the camaraderie that has become a key part of the CTWA culture.

Jim began attending SWAT back when it was *Texas Turn or Two* and meeting at the Maricopa Ranch. When asked about “the year it rained” Jim – like others who were there – responds with a wry smile and a slow shake of the head. Even with the enormous rainstorm and water everywhere he assures anyone who asks it was a great time!

For several years now Jim has been a representative and doing demos for Easy Wood tools. This has taken Jim all over Texas to store openings and shows where Easy Wood has a presence giving demos and advice.

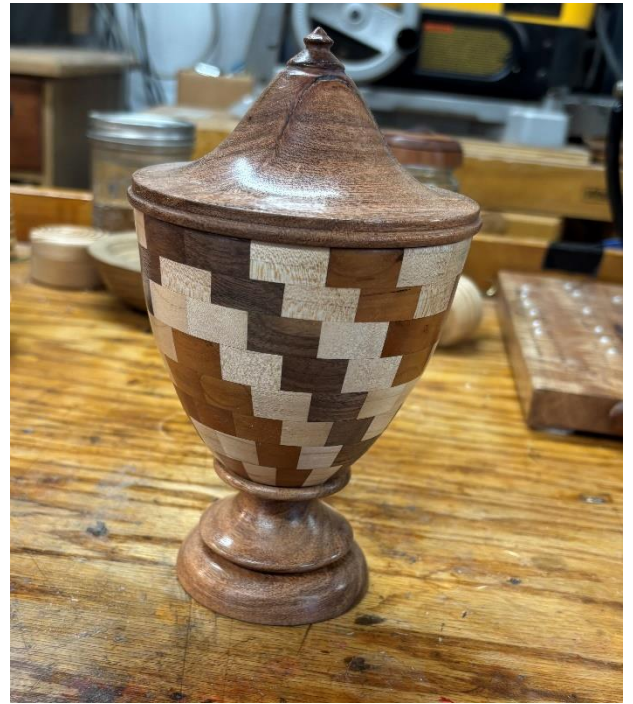
Jim has had a number of lathes over the years but for several years has been turning on a Powermatic 2014.

When asked about what type of pieces he is turning these days Jim is turning lots of small pieces. Lidded boxes are a favorite. He has turned all but one of the pieces in the book *Turned Boxes – 50 Designs* by Chris Stoot. Additionally, Jim thoroughly enjoys working on segmented pieces. He enjoys the challenge that the accuracy and precision of segmented pieces requires. Photos of both his work on lidded boxes and segmented pieces can be seen below.

Jim's advice to new turners – First, don't break the bank but don't go cheap on either lathes or tools. It's far more fun and satisfying when using good equipment and tools. He readily admits his bias but starting with say a set of 3 Easy Wood tools will serve the new turner well. Second, keep your tools sharp. It doesn't have to be complicated but sharp tools are important. Lastly, find and work with an experienced mentor.

Photos of a few of Jim's pieces follow including a couple of his woodcarving.







Jim Spano



Jim is a long time member of CTWA having joined in 2001/2002. Like many turners, Jim started with a few pens and 2-3 bowls. However, early on he found himself focused on turning boxes. Much of what he learned early on in his turning journey took place at our CTWA First Saturday events. Over the intervening years, Jim has turned all kinds of different pieces as you can observe in a few photos below.

Jim, with a twinkle in his eye, likes to share that he finds two common characteristics of turners who have been at it for some time. First, when we make a mistake, we typically spend an inordinate amount of trying to fix the mistake rather than simply chalking it up to a lesson learned and starting over. Second, turners tend to become “hoarders”. By that he means we are always looking around and collecting wood. We may not use the wood we collect

right away but by goodness we have it!!

Regarding CTWA, he finds the camaraderie at the club meetings, First Saturday events and including the SWAT show each August to be maybe his most favorite part of CTWA.

These days, you can find Jim turning on his old Oneway 12/24 for 3-4 hours almost every Saturday/Sunday at Jim Moyle’s shop.

For new turners please feel free to connect with Jim as he loves to teach and pass on his knowledge. And he reminds everyone “Always, always, always turn with sharp tools!”

These are just a few of Jim’s pieces. The first one – a lamp – deserves special note as Jim turned this on a ring master – with a lot of sanding!





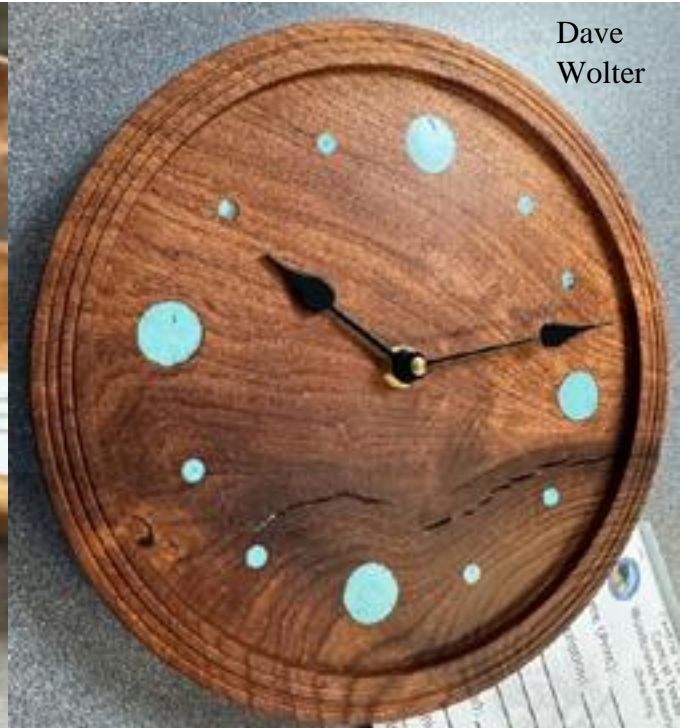


March 2025 Instant Gallery

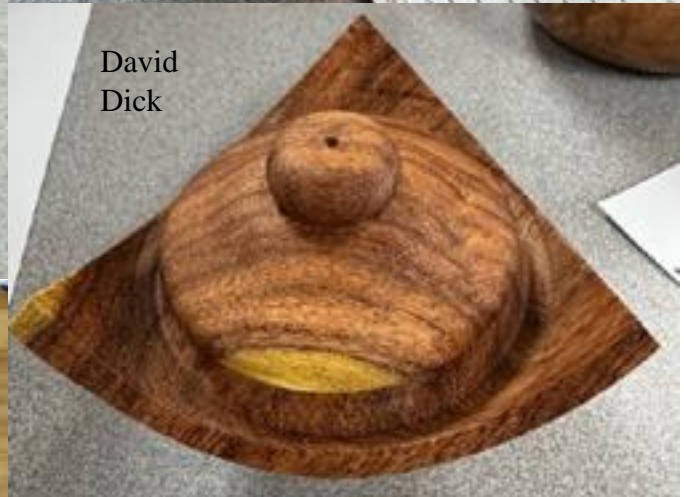
Photo Credits – Drew Shelton



Beth
Watkins



Dave
Wolter



David
Dick



Dan
Upchurch



Herb
Ingram



Herb Ingram



Jimmy
Tolly



Herb



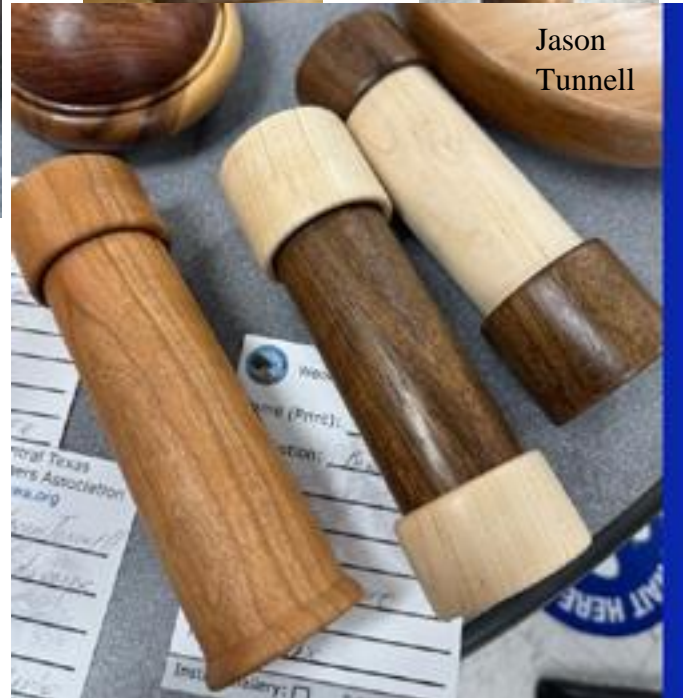
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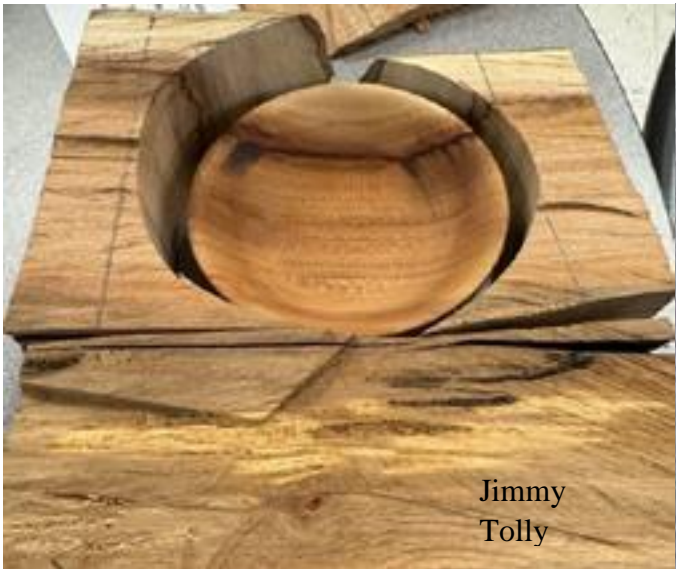
Herb
Ingram



Jason
Tunnel



Jason
Tunnell



Jimmy
Tolly



Jimmy
Tolly



John
Chatelain



Johnny
Tolly



Pat
Jenkins



Paul Butcher



John
Chatelain Page





Pete Giuliatti



Pete
Giuliatti



Zack
Rubin



Roy
Martz

March 2025 Bring Back Photos

Photo credits to Drew Shelton



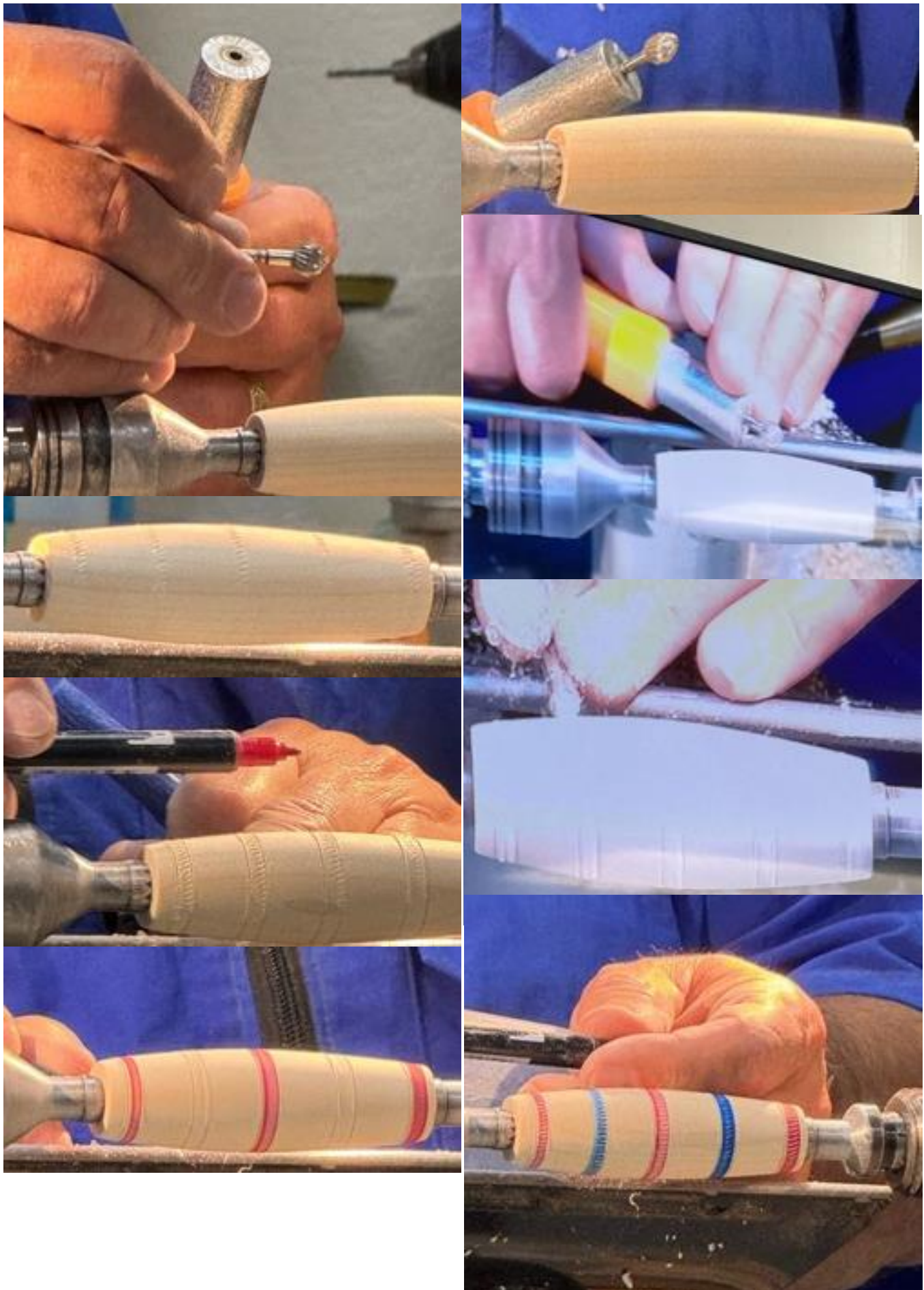


Neal Brand Demonstrations - Turnings that Sell

Photo Credits to Drew Shelton













April 5, 2025 First Saturday

Hosted by Bill Stuewe

Thanks for hosting Bill!

Photo credits to Jim Moyle & Dave Wolter









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Johnny Tolly 512.858.4471

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Jimmy Tolly 512.694.0321

basics, platters

Southwest

Orlando Banos

512-773-1099

Metal Working Projects, Light
Machining, sheet metal work,
Welding, etc.

North

Len Brissette

512.258.4004

bowls, platters, sharpening

Gary Roberts

512.345.1521

Wood Turning Projects

Jim Brinkman

940.231.8325

Lidded boxes, spindles, finials

Northwest

John Chatelain

281.798.8025

Beginner Segmenting