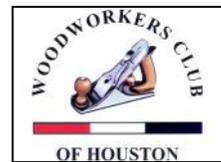


The Sawdust Sentinel

Monthly newsletter of Woodworkers Club of Houston



Volume 39 Issue 4

April 2022

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WWCH Calendar

Monthly Meeting	09 Apr
Scroll saw Meeting	23 Apr
Hand tool Meeting	24 Apr
Furniture Meeting	TBD

Splinter Groups

Scroll Saw Splinter group: Norm Nichols
(scrollsaw@comcast.net)

Furniture/Finishing Splinter group: Ron Kirchoff
(kirch76@gmail.com)

Handtool Splinter group: Mark Bolinger
(marksmbth@gmail.com)

CNC Splinter group: Bill Teague
(wateague@gmail.com)

2022 WWCH Board

President	Peter Doe
Vice President	Michael Siegel
Secretary	Chris Farquhar
Treasurer	David Janowitz
Publications Director	Sankar P

DIRECTORS

Chris Schwartz, Gael Golden, Tom Paulley, Dorsey Rushing

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had another very good turnout for the March meeting, which was great to see. In fact, we have had so much content in the past couple of meetings that we came dangerously close to running over our time. To be fair to those that use the room after us, I plan on trying to finish meetings by 11:30, so you may notice me trying to move things along a bit faster from now on. Of course, this will be an exercise in herding woodworkers, so success is not guaranteed.

We are still working on a speaker for the July all-day program, but we can announce that we already have a commitment from Mike Farrington for July of 2023. This is part of our intention to plan meetings further into the future. Especially for outside speakers, many of the most attractive candidates book up well ahead of time, so we feel we should be looking at least a year ahead to give ourselves the best options. It will also help new officers when they take over in January if the first few meetings are already well in hand.

BUT – you are a major part of this. Please volunteer to present a segment of a meeting sometime over the next twelve months. Think of it as an extended show and tell. If half of the members who were at the last meeting came up with a 15 minute demo of some kind, it would give us almost a year's worth of programs for the monthly meetings. I know there's more than enough expertise out there to make that a reality.

The board has decided to run a silent auction again at this year's October picnic. Gael Golden has volunteered to head this up. We expect to publish details of how it will work in next month's newsletter.

And one last plea for volunteers. We would really like to refresh the club website – more up to date content, more details of future programs, more exposure for splinter groups, and so on. It's potentially a pretty big job, though, so if you have any expertise around web design and would be interested in helping out with this, please contact me or one of the other board members. There's no strict timeline on this, so you can set your own pace.

And on to

Journey of a Woodworker, Part 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (Cont.)

By the time I got to my third major woodworking project, I was even more dangerous than before, because now I had bought a router. I figured it was time to branch out and not just build around straight lines, but add some curves. Surely, I thought, a router and some templates should make this workable.

The result is in the picture. It was built as a largely decorative bookcase/display piece with sliding doors in the base cabinet. Materials are walnut and walnut plywood.



The curved details I added consisted of the surround that covers the edges of the sliding doors – detail in the second picture – plus the curved front corners of the top and the finger pulls. The finger pulls were in some ways the most challenging part. I started by routing out a recess in the plywood doors, then gluing a piece of walnut veneer in to the bottom of the recess. I stained the edges of the recess to approximately match the color of the walnut and then made the top surround for the opening out of scrap walnut to hide the plywood edges. The edging pieces involved quite a bit of hand work, because they were too small and fragile to use the router.

This was the first piece I ever made using walnut. Walnut is a great wood to work with – trouble free in general with both power and hand tools, and really nice looking. Its only disadvantage for me is how it ages if exposed to bright sunlight – which this piece was, because of its location during its first few years of life. It tends to bleach out and lose some of its more purple overtones, and just doesn't look as good (to me) as it did when first finished. This is in contrast to woods like cherry or mahogany (two of my other favorites), which darken with exposure and always look better after a few years. Other walnut pieces, which have not had the sun exposure, still look much as they did when new.



I still like this piece, though. I also still remember the sticker shock of the price of walnut. I recall materials costing around \$500, which was a lot back in 1981. These days, if I get out of hardwood lumber with a bill smaller than that, I consider it a victory. More next month

Peter Doe

WWCH President

Monthly Toy Challenge

In 2021 the Club membership made nearly 2,000 toys donated to 20 organizations for distribution to underprivileged or challenged children and adults. This number seems to corollate with the past few years with the exception of 2020 when the members made almost 4,500 toys in the spare time that was likely driven by the outbreak of Covid-19.

All of the Toymakers deserve a well-deserved Thank You.

For 2022 I'd like for the Club Members to "Step Up" our game by creating a Toy Challenge.

Monthly Toy Challenge – You could win \$500 worth of stuff!

Monthly Toy Challenge (Cont..)

Upcoming monthly Challenges:

April – An item specifically for girls (historically they are "underserved" by our huge supply of cars)

May – A toothbrush holder. This should be painted or finished to withstand water. (New toothbrushes and a small tube of toothpaste will be provided for each copy at the Toy Sorting event in November).

A document covering how the Toy Challenge works and guidelines for the challenge is posted in the WWCH website ([WWCH Toy Challenge](#)). Stay tuned for updates and keep checking the website for updates and changes to the toy challenge.

Members suggestions for Monthly Challenges to fill in the blanks are welcome. Send your ideas to Andy Tofuri (andy.tofuri@comcast.net).

Toy of the Month

A link to the Toy of the Month file can be found on the WWCH Web Site

<http://www.wwch.org>

Program of the Month

During the March meeting, Peter Doe, President WWCH, gave an informative talk AND a demonstration of vacuum press veneering. Peter explained all the ins and outs of setting up the equipment and the little details to which you need to pay attention.

We have a three-part program for our April meeting:

The Safety Triangle

Presented by: Rod Griffith

Rod will present an approach to shop safety that fundamentally changed how he works in his shop.

Just Scraping By

Presented by: Fred Sandoval

Do you know how to sharpen your card scrapers to get those big, beautiful, wispy shavings? Uncle Fred does!

Community Workbench Update

Presented by: Jeff Larsen



Show and Tell

Trains of pecan and oak. — **Rick Spacek**



Two bowls. — **George Graves**



Kathy wise pattern of boxer dog of ebony, maple, poplar, walnut and Spanish cedar. — **Steve Wavro**



Coffee table of ash (unfinished so far). — **Tom Paulley**



Bowl and man with dog of various woods. — **Norm Nichols**



Bowl of Curly Maple. — **Dan Schmoker**



Show and Tell

Camp chair and workbench of natural pine . — **Mike Turner**



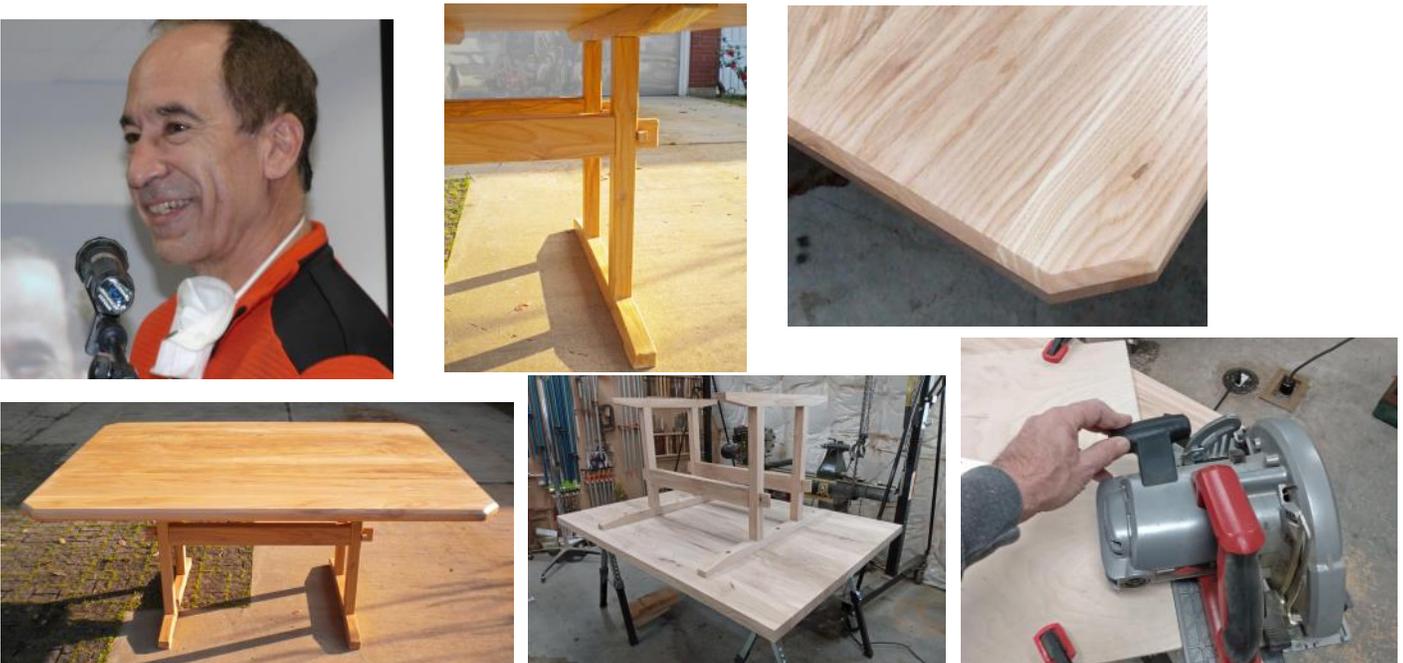
Texas bowls of various woods. — **Dave VanDewerker**



Stool, mini-workbench, urn, and knife. — **Mike Belovsky**



Trestle table of ash finished with water borne urethane. — **David Janowitz**





\$19⁹⁹

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- B ADIRONDACK CHAIR TEMPLATES WITH PLAN: \$19.99** SKU: 56771
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ROCKLER WESTPORT CHAIR TEMPLATES WITH PLAN

- Extra-wide armrests and a reclined backrest for comfort
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NATIONAL WOODWORKING MONTH SALE PRICING VALID 4/2 - 4/29/22
 3265 Southwest Fwy. • Houston, TX 77027 • (713) 622-656;
 21352 Kuykendahl Rd. • Spring, TX 77379 • (346) 331-408

WWCH General Information

WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Vice President Michael Siegel
- Secretary Chris Farquhar
- Treasurer David Janowitz
- Publications Director Sankar P

DIRECTORS

Chris Schwartz, Gael Golden, Tom Paulley, Dorsey Rushing

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- Membership Book Patti Page
- Newsletter Sankar Padhmanabhan
- Raffle Andy Tofuri
- Refreshments Steve Wavro
- Technology Denis Muras
- Web Master Gary Rowen

NEXT MEETING

Saturday April 9th (9am—12pm)

Bayland Community Center

6400 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX 77074

<http://www.wwch.org>

Newsletter Publication: Do you have an announcement or item for the newsletter? Send it to Sankar Padhmanabhan, WWCH Newsletter Editor, at sankarnkp@live.com. Please submit the item before 1st of each month to be included in the newsletter



www.wwch.org

**Join our FacebookGroup!
Woodworkers Club of Houston**

WWCH PURPOSE: The Woodworkers Club of Houston is a group of men and women of all ages and skill levels who promote, educate, and share the craft of woodworking. The club meets the second Saturday of every month from 9-11:30. Guests are always welcome at no charge. Membership dues are \$36 per year, or about the price of one good clamp!