

Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

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WWCH Calendar

Jun 7.....	Furniture Splinter Group
Jun 9.....	Monthly Meeting
Jun 21.....	CNC Splinter Group
Jun 24.....	Hand Tool Splinter Group
Jul 5.....	Furniture Splinter Group
Jul 14.....	Monthly Meeting
Jul 28.....	Scroll Saw Splinter Group

Monthly Raffle



**Get your ticket at
the June meeting!**

New Members

Welcome to WWCH

[TBD]

We are happy to have you

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I was impressed by our May speaker, Caroline Kostak of Re-Purpose Depot (www.RePurposeDepot.org), and it appeared that most of the club members were excited by her talk as well. The subject hits a sweet spot with me, because I do a lot of recycling, reusing, and upcycling. Let me take a moment to provide my definitions, in increasing order of value to me. Recycling is putting an item into the recycle bin for the city (or somebody) to harvest it for raw materials. Reusing is just what it sounds like, the item is used for the same objective two or more times (in contrast to using it once and then throwing it away). Upcycling is when I reuse a relatively worthless item in a new, higher value application.

Reusing is a great thing to do. A big example for us (and apparently for Caroline) is harvesting lumber from demolition materials that would otherwise be destined for the landfill. Yes, you add sweat equity when you pull nails, but most of the time you come out ahead because the starting material is free. The toy group gets a lot of free wood from the same source. Closer to home, the top of my workbench is made from bowling alley maple. It is a great workbench surface, and it cost me much less than buying equivalent material new.

And while we're talking about reusing lumber, I would be remiss if I didn't give a big acknowledgment to Bob Wink! Three cheers for Bob! Almost every project I've ever made has a least one piece of Winkwood in it.

Reusing is not limited to lumber. It can be hardware and even tools. Some of you may remember the presentation I made on restoring old woodworking machines. Here is a link to the presentation; <http://www.wwch.org/MonProj/YR17/Jun17Projects.htm#OWWM> . Probably 75% of apparently junk woodworking machines can be restored to near new condition, at a fraction of the cost of buying an equivalent new machine. Having a nice planer is valuable for a woodworker anyway, but I get an extra warm, fuzzy feeling every time I crank up my Parks Model 97 planer and start running boards through it. Frankly, the only difficulty for reusing/restoring old machines is finding them, at least in the Houston area. But when you do find one, please rescue it before it gets sent to the landfill.

As much as I love to reuse something, upcycling is the ultimate in personal satisfaction. A few months ago, I was about to throw away (actually, recycle) an aluminum stepladder. Why?

[Continued on page 2]

Splinter Groups

CNC Router Splinter Group: The CNC group is taking the summer off. We will not be meeting in June, July, or August. We will have our next meeting in September. Contact Mike Turner for further info at 281-633-1807 or mktturner49@gmail.com.

Hand Tool Splinter Group: The Hand Tool Splinter Group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month at Mark Bolinger's garage in Sugar Land near Hwy 6 and 90A. Email is the primary tool for schedule announcements; it will be used to communicate any changes or cancellations. Email Mark for directions or details at marksmithb@windstream.net

Toy Splinter Group: The toy group has a new coordinator, thanks John Lastrapes, Watch this column for more news soon.

Scroll Saw Splinter Group: The next meeting is Sat July 28, 2018 at Woodcraft South Beltway 8, 9:30 AM. After the success of Steve Good's program in April we are working on getting another guest speaker for this meeting. More details to follow. Bring your items for Show N Tell and questions for Problems N Solutions.

For more information please contact Norm Nichols at 281-491-3220 or Denis Muris.

Furniture Splinter Group: The furniture splinter group meets the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be on Apr 5th. All are welcome. We are continuing work on our Maloof inspired rocking chair projects. For more information on the furniture splinter group, Lmcummings@hotmail.com

Sawmill Splinter Group is for those who are cutting and milling their own lumber or are interested in doing so. We discuss sawmills and lumber.

Anyone with logs to mill or an interest in the sawmill can contact Bill Lindsey at bill_lindsey@comcast.net.

President's Message (cont)

I was using it to install new lights in my shop, when it buckled and deposited me on top of the table saw (not running, fortunately). At that point, I concluded, decisively, that I had squeezed every last penny of utility out of it. As an editorial aside, I was happy to land on the table saw. Had I descended another 3 feet to the garage floor, I probably would have broken something. So there I was, cutting it up into sufficiently small chunks to put into the recycling bin, when it occurred to me that it would be perfect for attaching to the pier so that it would be easier to get into and out of a boat. So there you have it; one totally useless object upgraded in value by being put to a new use.

I invite members of the club to share examples of upcycling in the Show and Tell section. I have a feeling, based on the reaction to Caroline's presentation, that many of us would find it inspirational.

Mark Bolinger—WWCH President

March Program Recap



A chemical engineer and former NASA flight controller, Caroline Kostak talked to club members about RePurpose Depot, a company that specializes in the recovery of previously used material. Caroline is a Green Building Consultant, a TRP Houston Area Representative, and Vice Chair of US Green Building Council, Texas Gulf Coast.

Caroline's talk was about why we should reclaim building materials and defined waste as a resource in the wrong place at the wrong time. Showing numerous statistical charts of what and how much goes into landfills Caroline then showed club members how building materials from construction and remodeling scrap to toilets and tubs can be recycled, reclaimed and repurposed into somewhat very much useable.

Caroline spoke of the challenges involved in repurposing material, for example, the time required to de-nail wood vs the selling price or price the public is willing to pay. Storage is an issue as well as having precisely what the public wants.

RePurpose Depot is located at 305 McFarland St, Houston, TX, 77011, (only 2.1 miles from the Original Ninfas on Navigation), phone 832-215-3885 and email, Caroline.kostak@gmail.com.

Odds and Ends

Please Pick-up Your 2018 Membership Cards and Directories at the Next Meeting: The new WWCH membership cards and directories are available for all members who's dues are current. Please see Patti Page for your copy. Also remember to show your member card at Woodcraft and Rockler to let them know that the club is supporting them. In return, they donate items to the club from time to time. Additionally, Rockler will give you a discount on most items.

Save The Date: Our annual all day seminar will take place in July. Our special guest speaker will be Frank Strazza. See more details on page 6.

Show and Tell

PRESENTERS

Lon Kelley Star Box
John Lastrapes Walnut End Table
Bill Lindsey Cedar Chest
Singa Katari Plaque
Rich Bajenski Carving Bench
Dave VanDewerker Rocking Horse
Ben Tillison Wedding Box
Ron Taylor Toys
Sam Grice Turnings/Swing
Lynn Cummings Game Boxes
Bob Wink Statue of Liberty Folk Art
Norm Nichols Cross
George Graves Toys
Peter Doe Bookcase
Show and Tell photos & write-up submitted by Gary Rowen.

A walnut end table hand crafted by **John Lastrapes** became a gift for his wife. John's wife gifted him a class at the Lonnie Bird Woodworking School in Tennessee that was five rigorous days of classes in woodworking with hand tools.



Influenced by Japanese style and craftsmanship, cutting everything on a table saw, **Lon Kelley** crafted this star box of padauk, maple, mahogany and walnut. Lon prefers a table saw vs a bandsaw so that he doesn't have to plane or sand. Lon discovered that using Minwax Neutral he lost some contrast because of the prevalence of end grain. He found that drying then waxing helped. Lon recorded a video demonstrating his technique and narrated it as he showed it to club members. Download Lon's [Star Box Video](#).



A couple of felled cedar trees provided contrasting cedar heart and sap wood for **Bill Lindsey's** two cedar chests finished with tung oil and a coat of wax. Bill designed his own lid mechanism so that the lid sits just behind the chest and won't fall down on your fingers.



Show and Tell



After attending Steve Good's talk about using vinyl sheets **Singa Katari** cut nine pieces of vinyl



with 8mm ply for support. He was able to transfer the designs onto boxes to decorate and jazz them.



Using repurposed fir from a church renovation, **Ron Taylor** crafted toys that he finished with AFM Safecoat wood sealer.



Wanting to learn carving, **Rich Bajenski**, after researching the Internet for ideas, realized he need something more substantial. So Rich crafted a benchtop platform replete with devices to mount clamps and hold-downs.



Out of scrap bodark Sam Grice turned some cups. Also, Sam ran some cedar and treated pine board pickets through a planer, ripped to width and made a porch swing. Because of the moisture in the wood Sam disabled his Sawstop sensor – yup – the light was blinking – he didn't want a \$50 swing to turn into a \$250 swing.



Show and Tell



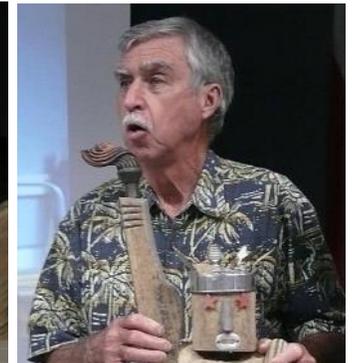
This rocking horse of mahogany and maple was crafted by **Dave VanDewerker** then finished with a sealant coat of shellac topped with lacquer.



Our Lady of the Harbor shines her torch in various forms from **Bob Wink's** story boxes and folk art depictions of the Statue of Liberty.



A beautiful wedding box of white oak and walnut was crafted by **Ben Tillison** for his daughter's wedding: the theme – out of two cut one. Club member Lynn Cummings laser engraved the lid. Ben finished with tung oil and coated with bowling alley wax.



Norm Nichols crafted a cross of aromatic cedar infused with turquoise and epoxy. Norm elicited comments from members who suggested to keep adding extra solids until you get a paste. If prime ingredients are expensive you can use "invisible" glass beads for additional solid material.

Show and Tell



George Graves showed club members examples of puzzles that he made to give away. The six piece shape puzzle in particular was made for a child who had his arm removed because of cancer. One scroll sawed pattern came from a [Steve Good](#) design. George is up to about 550 toy cars so far.



In **Peter Doe's** office there is a painting of a live oak tree. Peter wanted to mimic the picture for his bookcase so he took various species of wood and crafted them into veneers. Peter used a vacuum veneer press and veneer glue to affix the pieces to the substrate.

July Meeting Featured Guest

Frank Strazza All-Day Seminar

Frank will build an end table with a drawer. He will discuss several ways of building different pieces of the table and will talk about utilizing both hand and power tools in the shop. He will demonstrate, mortise and tenon joinery, tapering legs, solid drawer construction, and half blind dovetails. Frank will also talk about his approach to finishing and will discuss ways to fix mistakes. These design and construction techniques can be applied to building a coffee table or dining room table as well. Don't miss this one-day seminar; you are sure to gain something from this table build. Even if you are an all power tool user, Frank may convince you to break out at least a chisel in your shop!

Field Trip



On Saturday, May 19th, a group of 18 club members made the drive to the Berdoll Saw Mill in Cedar Creek, TX. The owner, Brandon Berdoll, provided an outstanding tour of the facility explaining their process from the time trees enter the yard until the slabs and dimensional lumber they yield are displayed in their showroom. It was obvious that a great deal of care is taken throughout the process resulting in an extremely high quality product. If your next project would benefit from a quality live edge slab or mantel of native Texas hardwood pay Brandon and his team a visit.

Contact information: *Berdoll Sawmill, 4754 FM 535, Cedar Creek, TX 78612, (512) 629-3625*

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. <https://berdollsawmill.com/>

(Thanks to George Alderete for coordinating the trip.)

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NEXT MEETING

Saturday June 9th, 2018

9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonet

Presentation: TBD

Newsletter Publication: Do you have an announcement or item for the newsletter? Send it to Ron Kirchoff, WWCH Newsletter Editor, at kirchko@gmail.com.

We're on the web!

www.wwch.org

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

Guests are always welcome at WWCH meetings!

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 at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet at Hillcroft. Guests are always welcome at no charge. Membership dues are \$36 per year, or about the price of one good clamp!