

# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

Volume 31 Issue 6

June 2015

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## Stuffed Animals for the Kids

WWCH is collecting STUFFED ANIMALS to distribute to the police. They carry these stuffed animals in their squad cars to give to children when they answer domestic disturbance calls. These soft and cuddly toys are so helpful to a traumatized and tearful child when their world is turned upside down.



If you have access to stuffed animals that could comfort a child, bring them to a meeting and we'll take it from there.

Thank you, from the kids

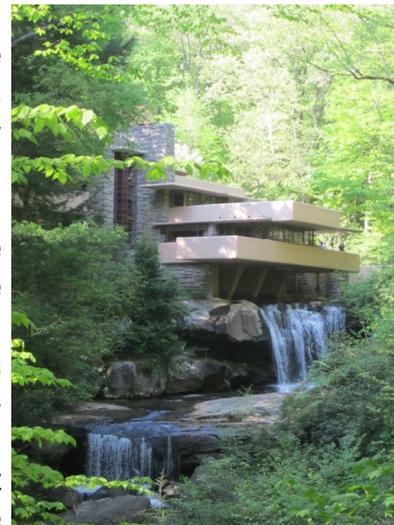
## June Program

### Woodturning with John Gay

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I missed last month's meeting in May because I visited my 95 year old mother in Pennsylvania whose new goal is to live to be 100. Wow! My professional society also participated in the high school International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburg by selecting and awarding cash prizes to leading geophysical projects. Fortunately, Bonnie and I had enough free time to tour both nearby J. Frank Lloyd Wright designed homes: Falling Water built in the 1930's and Kentuck Knob in the early 1950's. Photography is not permitted inside either home, which are like museums, so I can only share a few thoughts about the interior and some images of the exterior.

Many of you have no doubt seen photos of Falling Water, the more famous of the two homes. It is as dramatic as it appears. The exterior is local stone and stucco, with steel door and window frames painted 'Cherokee Red'. While much of the interior is made of the same stone and steel, wood was also used throughout, mostly South Carolina walnut and veneers. A unique aspect with the use of wood was to make many of the built-ins, cabinet doors, and drawer fronts with the wood grain horizontal rather than the usual vertical. This is certainly consistent since the structure, stone work, and all features of the house are dominated by horizontal features.



Kentuck Knob is only about 5 miles from Falling Water, and typical of Wright's style, this home is also made of local stone, has a dominant horizontal appearance, and is built into the landscape. It is a linear house parallel to a contour on the hillside near the top of the ridge. On this house wood was used more extensively with natural wood fascia, eaves, door and window frames, floors, ceilings, and cabinetry. All the wood is red cypress or red cypress

*Continued on page 2*

## Splinter Groups

**The CNC Router Group** is going to meet Thursday, June 11th at 7:00pm at Patrick's place at 20734 Settlers Lake Circle North, Katy, 77449. We will continue with the CNC router.

**The Scroll Saw Splinter Group:** The group will meet Saturday, July 25th, 9:30 AM, at Woodcraft South. The discussion for this quarterly meeting will be an explanation why Rick Spachek had gone over to the dark side. The "dark side" in this case being the use of spiral blades. We have not talked about spirals for some time and seems like Rick has mastered them. He will go through the different sizes and their uses, different manufacturers, and how he is using them. This promises to be a fun and information discussion so we hope to see you there.

Don't forget to bring your latest projects to show us what you have been doing and your questions.. Group contacts: Norm at [scrollsaw@comcast.net](mailto:scrollsaw@comcast.net) or Denis at [denis\\_muras@yahoo.com](mailto:denis_muras@yahoo.com).

**The Toy Splinter Group:** The toy makers continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at Tim Shaunty's shop - 3614 Thistle St., Houston - from 7 - 9pm. We welcome "new" participants. One of the things that we do is to take a break from the toy making and share with others what we each are working on. Our SHOW AND TELL is a great way to have a break and enjoy cookies and coffee and also gives each of us some new ideas.

If you cannot join us for the Wednesday night events, please consider making some toys in your shop and then contact Tim or Andy for pick up. These will be included in our distribution efforts in December. An easy way of doing that is taking advantage of the work Bill Hoffmeister does with the TOY OF THE MONTH at our meetings.

For more information or direction to the meetings, contact our Toy Coordinator Andy Anderson at 713-409-7030 or Tim Shaunty at 713-503-2284.

**The Sawmill Splinter Group** is for those who are cutting and milling their own lumber or are interested in doing so. We discuss sawmills and the projects possible with the lumber. Anyone with logs to mill or an interest in the sawmill can contact Bill Lindsey at [bill\\_lindsey@comcast.net](mailto:bill_lindsey@comcast.net).

**Hand Tool Splinter Group:** This splinter group is on hiatus and will not meet in June.

## President's Column

*Continued from page 1*

vener on plywood. The wood has a rich, beautiful, reddish-brown tone as can be seen on the overhanging eaves and great room window frames. The skylights over the patio are open without cover as they were intended to be.



The two-inch thick red cypress dining table is built into a stone wall which angles 120 degrees to the table. Under that end of the table are silverware and other drawers that slide parallel to the wall and are trapezoidal in shape. Both houses contain some interesting and unusual wood furniture including desks, tables, and chairs, designed by Wright that I could not adequately describe without photos.



If you are ever in the Pittsburg area, these homes are worth seeing.

Chuck Meeder, President

## WWCH Calendar

June 13 ..... Monthly Meeting  
July 11 ..... Monthly Meeting & Jim Heavey Event  
August 8 ..... Monthly Meeting  
September 12 ..... Monthly Meeting  
September 26 ..... Fall Shop Crawl

# Weekend with Wood

I had the opportunity to attend this year's Weekend with Wood presentation at Meredith Publications, May 15 – 17th. This event was similar to the seminars presented at The Woodworking Shows, only more of them. I had the opportunity to sit with George Vandriska of Woodworking Guild of America and Marc Adams. I also had sessions with some of the staff from Wood Magazine. There were sessions on machine setups and router joinery, with a brief history of the router and accessories to make a basic router more precise. There was a session on setting up your shop with John Olsen of Wood Magazine.



Marc Adams talking about router joinery.



The layout room for Wood Magazine, September 2015.

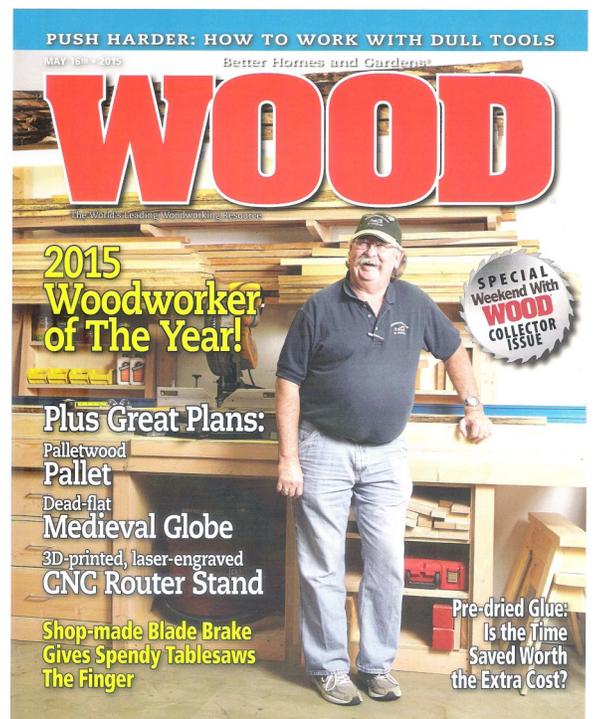
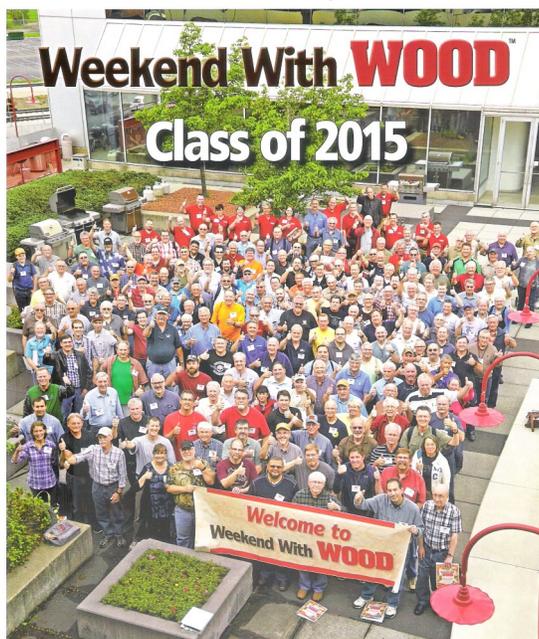


George Vandriska talking about setting up your machinery on the cheap.

About 25 door prizes given out on Friday and Saturday. Lunch was provided. Remember, Meredith Publications is the publisher of Better Homes and Gardens...good food. This was the first year that the staff had activities for spouses. I personally think they had as much fun, if not more. They toured the magazine facilities and the Better Homes and Gardens test kitchen and gardens. Meredith publishes a quilting magazine, and they saw the craft room for the quilting magazine.

All in all, it was a good event: talk with other woodworkers from around the country; talk with the various presenters; seeing how a magazine such as Wood is put together.

Denis Muras



Denis makes the cover of Wood Magazine!

## Jim Heavey Seminars on July 11th

The July meeting is fast approaching and we hope to have a special full day program for you that I hope you will enjoy. Jim Heavey with Wood Magazine will present five seminars, including table saw jigs and techniques; router workshop; shop tested jigs; wood secrets, tips and techniques; embellishment; and surface preparation and finishing.

Jim brings years of experience to his unique, entertaining, and informative presentations. He has excellent rapport with his audience because he responds to questions during his demonstrations.

Our July program will be at Crosspoint Church gym, 4601 Bellaire Blvd., at 9:00am. The ticket cost is \$10.00 and food and refreshments will be provided by Crosspoint Church at a reasonable cost to help with their youth related programs. Tickets will be sold at the June meeting and at the door on the day of the presentation.

I also would like to take this opportunity to thank our local vendors for their contributions to this program, Houston Hardwoods, Circle Saw Shop of Houston, and Woodcraft. A special thanks to Crosspoint Church for facilitating this program for WWCH. Looking forward to seeing you at the June meeting.

Mike Turner

## Shop Crawl Report

The spring shop crawl was a big success! A big "Thank you" to shop owners Steve, James, Lynn, and Sid for opening your shops for the tour. Thanks for a job well done. Thanks also the shop crawlers, as without you, it would not have been successful.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for the fall shop crawl: September 26th in Sealy and Bellville. Details to follow at next meeting.

Bill Harris

A portion of James May's shop



## Tribute to Veterans Ornament Project

A couple of months ago, we issued several veteran tribute ornament patterns to the club. We asked people to make a few of these to be given out especially on Memorial Day. These ornaments are given out all year long. This activity is being coordinated by Rick Spacek. So far this year Rick has collected and given out 230 ornaments! That is a wonderful number, and I am sure these ornaments have made many veterans feel good, but we need to do more for them. It would be so nice to reach 500 by the end of the year. If people would just make three or four stacks of these ornaments, we could do it. If you need the pattern, please contact Rick Spacek at [hoss7318@yahoo.com](mailto:hoss7318@yahoo.com) or Norm Nichols at [scrollsaw@comcast.net](mailto:scrollsaw@comcast.net).

## Christmas Ornament Contest

All woodworkers are invited to participate the 1st Annual Woodworkers of Texas Christmas Ornament contest. The contest is really simple - make an ornament that will hang on a tree and see how many votes it gets. There will be three categories: 1st place \$50, 2nd place \$25, and \$25 for 3rd place.

There is no entry fee, but the ornament will become the property of Woodworkers of Texas and will be sold after the contest. The proceeds will help with the costs of the toy making project. The categories are: Scroll Saw, Turned, and Other (this is a catch-all and will include carving, intarsia, and any other ornament). No CNC ornaments will be accepted, this is to focus on hand-crafted ornaments. The Ornaments must fit in a 5" x 5" box and cannot exceed 10" in length and must be able to be hung on a tree.

Voting will simply be "Peoples Choice," and voting will be done by anyone visiting Woodcraft South from October 1st - 31st and 3 Brothers Bakery from November 1st - December 3rd. Individuals can vote as many times as they visit the sites - only one vote per day. There will be a reception and auction/sale at 3 Brothers Bakery on December 3rd, and everyone is invited to come and vote for the last time and bid on an ornament.

*Continued on page 5*

# Christmas Ornament Contest, continued

*Continued from page 4*

Prizes are being furnished by Woodcraft and 3 Brothers Bakery and will be awarded based on total points earned in the voting. All ornaments must be received by September 15, 2015, to be entered and can be submitted to Woodcraft or Tim's Shop. You can enter as many ornaments as you wish - multiples in each or all categories will be accepted. Tim Shaunty, 713-503-2284, is the contest coordinator and can be contacted for more information. Join this fun contest!

## WWCH Member Recognized

Patrick Waters of Monarch Institute received the National Association of Private Special Education Center (NAPSEC) Educator of the Year. Patrick teaches special needs students in the Butterfly Program at The Monarch School. Woodworking is one of the activities he has implemented at his school to utilize in his teaching and support his students' development. Congratulations to Patrick!

## Assistance Needed with Merit Badge

Frances Trahan is looking for a woodworker to assist with her nephew in earning his Boy Scouts of America Woodworking badge. She is looking for someone in the southeast area near Deer Park or Pasadena. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Frances at 713-906-8554 or [frahan@mfah.org](mailto:frahan@mfah.org) for more information.

## May Meeting Wrap-Up

At the May meeting, Lon Kelley presented information about a method of joining different woods with the bandsaw that he has termed, "Bandsaw Intarsia." Lon developed this method after reading a book on joining different woods with a router. While he liked the effect, he didn't like the work involved in doing this with a router. He thought to himself, "Why can't I do this with a bandsaw?" and set out to explore doing just that.

Lon's steps in bandsaw joinery include layering the contrasting pieces of wood and then nailing the layers together with finish nails. He then attaches the pattern and cuts the pieces out on the bandsaw. He mostly uses a 10 tooth blade but sometimes uses a six tooth blade on the saw. Lon said that one of the most challenging aspects of cutting on the bandsaw is working with the changes in grain as the cut is made.

When Lon assembles the pieces, he sometimes needs to use a filler at the joints. He uses Minwax wood filler to fill any gaps. He prefers polyurethane glue when gluing the pieces together because it's slippery and allows for precise alignment. He typically finishes a piece with a couple of coats of spray polyurethane smoothed over with steel wool and then waxed.

Lon has used this technique to product many items, including boxes, a cherry table, bowls, mirrors, pictures, and other items. Here is just a small sampling of his work:



# May Favorite Tool & Show and Tell

## PRESENTERS

<b>Hugh Parker</b> .....	Square
<b>Fred Sandoval</b> .....	Scraper
<b>Norm Nichols</b> .....	Cross, Swan, and Jaguar
<b>Bob Wink</b> .....	Rat Wink
<b>David Garcia</b> .....	WWCH Plaque
<b>James May</b> .....	Workshop
<b>Ron Kuennig</b> .....	Graduation Plaque
<b>Tim Shaunty</b> .....	Router Bowls
<b>Brandon Rathke</b> .....	Portable Easel
<b>Don Lackey</b> .....	Router Plane
<b>Niklas Oberfeld</b> .....	Airplanes

**Norm Nichols** showed us three scroll saw pieces. The first was a mother and baby swan, and the second was a jaguar. The wood for both is 5/8" red oak. They are backed with black velour and then plywood. Norm stained both pieces with Golden Oak and then applied polyurethane. The jaguar was made from a Sue Mey pattern.



## Favorite Tool

**Hugh Parker** presented a square he made at Bridge City. He discussed the process of gluing up the wood piece with CA glue, cutting the brass strip and inserting two brass pins and two steel pins to make the square accurate.



Norm then presented a cross he had made from red oak and paduak. Norm does not know what the light wood on the top, but he said that it is very hard to work with as it rips and tears. The cross is finished with natural stain and polyurethane.



**Fred Sadoval** showed a Kunz #12 scraper and the custom tool he made for adjusting the set screw. Fred said that scrapers are a must for fine furniture finishing.



**Bob Wink** presented his rat rod, "Rat Wink." He started by educating the group about rat rods, which are custom made cars typically run around \$100,000 and up. Since he had a budget of \$100, he made his rat rod out of recycled materials, including a lawnmower, a wheel barrow, lamp shades, and Wink wood. Bob said his rat rod took 2nd place in the Contraption Category at the Art Car Parade! He also showed us his remote control rat rod that he runs during the Art Car Parade.

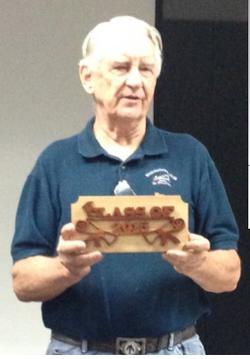
## Show and Tell

**David Garcia** presented the plaque that he made with his new Epilogue Laser Engraver. David has generously donated the plaque to the club! He noted that his laser engraver also engraves granite, marble, and aluminum.



Bob also showed us these items he had cut on his band saw from books. He said they make great gifts!

# May Show and Tell, continued



**Ron Kuennig** presented the graduation plaque he made from a Steve Good pattern. The plaque is made from cedar and ash, and the cedar was from a tree limb in Crockett. The ash is finished with lacquer and wax, and the cedar is finished with polyurethane. Ron noted that he had some challenges with the finish, and it is not his favorite activity!

**Don Lackey** showed a router plane he made. The router is made from soft maple with purchased hardware. The blade is made out of an allen wrench that Don shaped himself. The router plane cuts out the inside part of inlay, and can be used to make a tenon coplanar with the rest of a board.



**Tim Shaunty** showed two router bowls. One was made from spalted pecan from a tree that fell during Hurricane Ike, and one was from an unknown wood recovered from an old wooden railroad bridge. The bowls are finished with wax, and Tim likes to donate them for door prizes or give them as Christmas presents.



**Niklas Oberfeld** showed his most recent airplane creations. The largest airplane is a replica of a sail plane. The outline of the plane is to scale. Niklas noted that the propellers and wheels turn on all of the air planes



**Brandon Rathke** presented a portable easel he made for his mother for Mother's Day. The easel is made from cherry and scrap woods, with top assembled out of the different woods like a cutting board. The top lifts to form an easel rest for painting and drawing, and the box contains a drawer for supplies.



**James May** showed us pictures of his beautiful new workshop. He said that it all started after Hurricane Ike wiped out a big tree in his front yard. As part of refurbishing his shop, he had a Roubo style workbench made by Frank Strazza, an instructor at The Heritage School of Woodworking in Waco. James' shop was part of the shop tour that was held after the meeting. See an additional picture of James' shop on page 4.



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### NEXT MEETING

**June 13, 2015**

9:00AM TO 11:30AM  
BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER  
6400 Bissonnet

**Woodturning: John Gay**

*Guests are always welcome at WWCH meetings!*

**Newsletter Publication:** Do you have an announcement or item for the newsletter? Send it to Lisa Sessions, WWCH Newsletter Editor, at [lasessions@earthlink.net](mailto:lasessions@earthlink.net).

***We're on the web!***

[www.wwch.org](http://www.wwch.org)

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**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 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!*