

Woodworkers Club of Houston

Quotable quotes...

Have thy tools ready. God will find thee work.

...Charles Kingsley

Men have become the tools of their tools.

...Henry David Thoreau

Remember, a chip on the shoulder is a sure sign of wood higher up.

... Brigham Young

Volume 27 Issue 9

September 2011

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the benefits I receive as a hospital employee is the convenience of on-site flu shots every year. Couldn't get much easier than that.

So now WWCH is making you a similar offer. Bring your insurance card and any questions to our September meeting and sign up to receive this year's flu shot immediately following the October meeting.

I'm quick to point out to people that I work in the computer department at Texas Children's and am not at all medical. But since I'm writing about flu shots I figure it's a good time to remind everyone to ask your doctors if there are any other immunizations you should consider. Shingles is very painful and there's a vaccination for it now. The one-time shot is recommended for anyone over 60 and yes, I am. But most of the people I've known had shingles at much earlier ages, so you might check on the guidelines and benefits of getting immunized when you're much younger.

Stay well.

...Roslyn Hager, President

Welcome New Member

Terry Hennessey

SEPTEMBER 18 – LAST DAY FOR BORDER'S

The wonderful bookstore, Border's will shut its doors on September 18th.

There is still time to take advantage of their liquidation sale of books and fixtures (shelves, book cases, etc.). Inventory will be consolidated from store to store, so new items may become available at a location near you.

So sorry to see them close.

FLU SHOTS AT WWCH

As another benefit of your WWCH membership, we have made arrangements with the CVS Pharmacy to provide **flu shots** to our members and their family members after the **October meeting**.

At our **SEPTEMBER** meeting the Pharmacist from CVS will offer a brief explanation of how to take advantage of this offer and will distribute the necessary paperwork for you to complete and turn in during the break.

Immediately after the **OCTOBER** meeting, the **shots will be given at the Bayland Community Center**.

The required **paperwork must be completed at the SEPTEMBER meeting, so bring your Medicare or other insurance cards.** cont...

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER – JIM THOMPSON

JIM THOMPSON from the Lone Star Chapter of the Society of American Period Furniture Makers will tell us about his organization and the fine furniture they create.

He's been a woodworker for over 30 years and confesses to an addiction to old tools and makes most of his own.

To see the extent of his affinity for old tools and other areas of expertise, check out this link. Get yourself a big cup of coffee, there's a lot to read!!!

<http://www.wkfinetools.com/contrib/jThompson/jThompson-index.asp>



For those of you who may not have insurance the normal fee of \$29.19 will be reduced to \$22.00. You will also receive a \$5.00 discount coupon good at the CVS Pharmacy.

As a matter of Corporate policy, **CVS will not provide shots to children** under 14 years old, so please do not plan to have your little children participate.

GATHERING OF THE GUILDS AT HCCC

**MUSEUM DAY IN HOUSTON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

**PROMOTE THE CLUB – SHOW OFF YOUR WORK
AMAZE THE PUBLIC**

Members, bring your items to the September meeting. We'll arrange to display them at the WWCH booth at the **Houston Center for Contemporary Craft's** Gathering of the Guilds. We **need volunteers** to man the booth between 10-5 and/or to help set up between 8:30-10 AM. Sign up at the September meeting.

Come volunteer an hour or two of your time then hop the shuttle buses to visit some of Houston's many fine museums. Make a day of it! For more information see the website: <http://www.houstonmuseumdistrict.org/schedule/calendar.asp?Module=CalendarViewDetails&ID=1783&Category=crafthouston>

SPEAKER COMING IN OCTOBER

At the October WWCH meeting, we will have a speaker from a local chapter of **SCORE— "Counselors to America's Small Business"** who will discuss **converting a woodworking hobby into a small business.**

SCORE is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and helping small businesses start, grow, and succeed nationwide. SCORE is a **resource partner** with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) that has been mentoring small business owners for more than forty years. It is a valuable network of 13,000+ volunteers who offer small business entrepreneurs confidential business counseling services at no charge. SCORE volunteers represent over 270,000 years of experience across 62 industries.

They provide **local workshops and events** throughout the country to connect small business owners with the people and information needed to start, grow, and maintain their businesses, as well as **online workshops available 24/7.** SCORE also provides resources, templates and tools to assist entrepreneurs in developing tools and plans needed to navigate your way to small business success.

BEFORE YOU START YOUR BUSINESS...KNOW THE SCORE!

OCTOBER PICNIC

WWCH's Annual Picnic is getting closer! Excitement is pickin' up! Raffle items are coming in. Start conjuring up your luck!

Ryobi Trim Router Kit with 3 bases
Bad Dog Tool's complete Router Bit set
Kreg Jig K4 System

DVDs
David Marks
Fine Woodworking Magazine Archive
Mark Spagnolo (The Woodwhisperer)

See more items and details in the October newsletter.

Buy lots of tickets at the Picnic and eat lots of barbeque!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 10 – Monthly Meeting
Speaker: Jim Thompson – American Period Furniture Makers

September 17 – Museum Day/Gathering of Guilds
Sign up at the September meeting

September 18 – Last day for Border's Liquidation

Sept 30 & Oct 1 – David Marks Meet and Greet

Oct. 21 & 22 - Lie-Neilson at Kellogg Furniture Design

October 22 - Annual WWCH Picnic – Prizes, Food, Contests, Fun, etc...

November 12 – Shop Crawl
Open YOUR shop for visitors or join the crawl!

LIE-NEILSON TOOLWORKS

The Lie-Neilson Hand Tool Showcase will be held at **Kellogg Furniture Design on October 21-22, 2011.**

Lie-Nielson Toolworks produces a hands-on type of showcase for their tools. They go to various locations in cities to allow customers to try out their tools. The last 2 years they have come to BC Woodworks.

See their list of upcoming shows or their newsletter for further information on their website: <http://www.lie-nielsen.com>

DAVID MARKS – MEET & GREET & PHOTO OP

HELPING THE HOMELESS

September 30, 4pm – 6 pm **Circle Saw**, 2510 Ella Blvd.
October 1, 10am – Noon **Rockler Woodworking**,
3265 Southwest Fwy

October 1, 3pm – 5 pm **Woodcraft**,
11707 W Sam Houston Pkwy S

David will be accepting donations for its **Sponsor-a-Bed Program.** Bring a camera to have your picture taken with David and help support a great cause. Checks preferred.

For more information see the website: djmarks.com

NOVEMBER SHOP CRAWL

The **CRAWL** is coming. After the WWCH **November 12** meeting, we'll set out to visit the shops on the tour. **SHOW OFF YOUR SHOP! LET US SEE WHERE YOUR MIRACLES HAPPEN!** November weather should be cool, so be cool too, open your doors to WWCH members or come join the crawl! Inspiration and amazement will abound!

To **sign up your shop** contact either Mark Sweigart or Bill Cole both of whom are listed in your club directory.

AUGUST SPEAKER RECAP – RICK SPACEK, WOODBURNING

WWCH Member, **Rick Spacek** brought in several examples of his "Pyrography" which means writing with fire. We've know it as woodburning.

Subjects for his pieces are everywhere, he just transfers the image to the wood and then plugs in the burn tip. Asked about what equipment he uses (we all have see some rather expensive burning tools), he said he gets the best results from the kit he bought at one of the hobby stores for \$15.00. High heat and how long the tip holds the heat is what is important.

He uses a variety of tip sizes and shapes for feathers, fish scales, and other special effects.

The harder the wood the longer it takes to burn the design in as does burning across the grain. Go slow and steady--the tip can jump over grain.



Transfers are made with carbon paper!

He uses colored pencils to apply color and rubs it with a "personal wetting solution" to shade and smooth the lines.

To finish, Rick starts with 004 grit sandpaper, then steel wool—or a paper bag. He applies a clear glaze to protect it from fading over time. Table tops get several coats of shellac..

St. Paul's Cathedral was the most complex of his works. It took over a week to finish.

To distinguish the transfer from the burns, he drew the transfer in red pen.

The white piece above is a rounded chest he found and painted white. All color on the chest is burned in. That piece took 80 hours to complete.

His pieces have been burned into a variety of woods: basswood, cypress, cedar, oak, and even plywood.



Rick has produced portraits too: Kenny Rogers, Tiger Woods, Johnny Cash and others.

He is just beginning to show his work at art shows and craft shows. Rick displayed several of his tables at the Woodworking show in Katy in April.

Thank you, Rick. Nice work!

AUGUST SHOW AND TELL

PRESENTERS

1. **Dennis April**--Zebra-wood Peppermill
2. **Andy Anderson**--Gears, Game board, and Chair
3. **Andy Anderson**--Car Toys from 2x4s
4. **Mark Behring**--Car Toy Patterns
5. **John Gay**--Stubby Drivers
6. **Jeremy Grubb**--Wall hanging
7. **Lon Kelley**--Primitive Olmec Indian Mask
8. **Jeff Madzel**--"Simplicity" Clock
9. **Denis Muras**--Toy Cars
10. **Mike Turner**--Jigsaw Table
11. **Charles Volak**--Chapel Bird House
12. **Steve Wavro**--Fall Intarsia
13. **Bob Wink**--Tramp Art Lamps

Jeff Madzel said this was his first ever project! His "Simplicity" Clock has wooden hand-made clock gears of Baltic birch plywood - plywood doesn't expand/contract much. Brass tubing and rods were used for the axles.



Steve Wavro has his fall intarsia pumpkin finished already. Steve used 11 different woods such as yellowheart, bloodwood, aspen, walnut and spruce.

He lets it rest a while, then asks for a second set of eyes (his wife's) to look it over. And there it was—a fence that blended right into the pumpkin.

A little "sprucing" up fixed that right handsomely.



Jeremy Grubb

poses beneath his finely crafted rose wall hanging. It consists of 37 petals made of white mahogany finished with a whitewash. The center stamens are left natural for a contrasting focal point. The plywood frame is a tiered structure like a wedding cake. Each petal is carved and attached separately to the frame.

The curved bench is another of Jeremy's art pieces.

Jeremy Grubb also designed an artful handle to hold this sharp sculpting blade.



ADD YOUR SHOP TO THE SHOP CRAWL

AUGUST SHOW AND TELL



Lon Kelley carved this mask of Spanish Cedar from an ancient design from the Olmec Indians in Mexico.



John Gay turned these walnut handles for steel drill bits. These Stubby Screw Drivers are quicker to use than inserting each new bit into a full-sized driver every time you have to twist!



Kudos to **John Gay** for winning the Kid's Choice Award for the dog house seen in last month's newsletter. Lovely trophy, John!

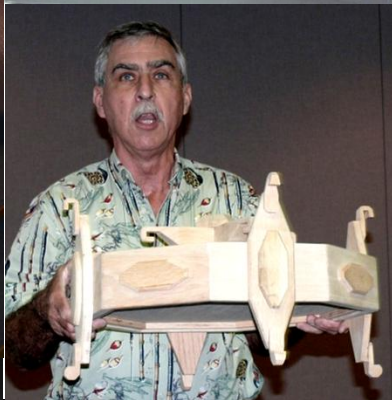


OPPORTUNITY

Long-time WWCH member **Charlie Sylvester** is liquidating his excellent shop.

His tools are all in great shape, well catalogued, and priced to sell.

Photos are posted on the WWCH web site at: <http://wwch.org/TradPost/TradingPost.htm>



Bob Wink constructed these two lamps of quarter sawn oak in Tramp Art fashion. One lamp (holding) is designed to hang from a chain, and the other is a table lamp with shade frames waiting for the stained glass inserts.



Suggestions? Ideas? Add them to our suggestion box on the name tag table.



Dennis April's Zebra wood peppermill is fully functional. Dennis was careful to match the grain on the grinder top piece that turns.

MEMBERS. SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE GATHERING OF THE GUILDS ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT THE HOUSTON CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY CRAFT. BRING ANY PIECES YOU WANT TO DISPLAY TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AND WE'LL MAKE SURE THEY GET THERE AND THEY GET BACK TO YOU. SHOW OFF YOUR WORK AND TALK UP WWCH.

AUGUST SHOW AND TELL



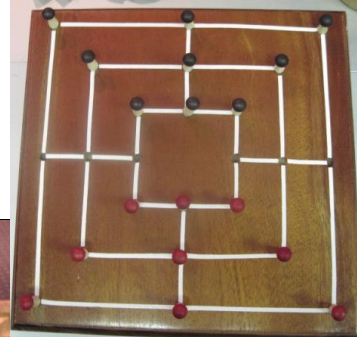
CAR TOYS FROM THE WWCH BOYS

Andy Anderson made these car toys from 2x4s certain to please even the tiniest wide-eyed recipient

Denis Muras makes a variety of colorful Toy Cars from poplar provided by Bob Wink.

Mark Behring found patters for the buses and tractor trailer trucks. He has an easy trick to get clean cut window holes, He just drills the holes in one long board, enough for at least three buses, until the drill bit tip just barely punches through. Then he surface planes the board to reveal perfectly clean holes.

We asked **Andy Anderson** what are they? *Gears.* What do they do? *Turn.* Why did you make them? *Because.* Well, okay. Very mesmerizing, actually. The game board is really nice, Andy.



Help us find a shop, or the use of a shop where we can continue to make the toys for our Christmas Donation program. We need a new home!

Let us hear your suggestions!



Charles Volak's Chapel Bird House features a removable roof for ease of cleaning, roof and sides sculpted to resemble the real thing shingles and slats Ready for move in?



October Picnic is coming soon!

Join in the competitions and raffles. Come have a great day in the ...cool!

Practice! Enter! WIN!

Mike Turner made a portable jig saw table. His convenient, "hands-free" jig saw will make many projects much easier! Next step: an outside switch.



TOY MAKING CLUB IN WWCH's FUTURE

On the trip to Las Vegas for AWFS, we visited **Toys 4 Smiles** (<http://toys4smileslasvegas.org>) that has created and donated almost 90,000 toys over the past 5 years. They are a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization focusing on making toys for children—any child, the child does not need to be in need. At the opening of the latest Cars movie, Cars 2, they were at the theaters distributing toy race cars to all the children in line. Talking with the people who made the toys, you get a sense of why they are so excited about what they do, not just making and distributing the toys, but having a school for the blind visit and help oil the toys, and they were training a young lady the day we visited. Toys 4 Smiles has reached out to various organizations in the Las Vegas area for assistance—and those organizations responded.

With that said, it is time for the Woodworker's Club of Houston to **start our own toy making company**. If there is a concern for space, material, machinery, rest easy. Once Rex Doty of Toys 4 Smiles set out to make a difference, **nothing was insurmountable**. Various businesses stepped forward to make donations. Equipment manufacturers donated machinery. Supplies also were donated. When word spread, even shop space became available at no charge for one year. The same could happen here in Houston. We have just as many companies and organizations that would be willing to assist, either directly or indirectly.

The club is currently investigating 501(c)3 status, both for the club and for a separate organization focusing on the toys.

Now for the challenge to the membership: Does anyone have any information, pictures, recipients, etc, from past years? Would someone be willing to take this information and create a public service announcement /news release that could be sent to the various media to make what we do known? Does anyone know of a shop that could be used temporarily until our new organization is up and running and can make an impact based on its new identity?

This is a lot to ask. The club needs people to volunteer their time and expertise for these various needs. If you can help in any way, please contact Denis Muras or Andy Anderson for more details. It would be great to have the club make toys for every child in Houston. It CAN happen. **We need you to make it happen.**

See Denis Muras' article about a toy making organization in Houston:

<http://blog.woodcraft.com/2011/08/the-happy-factory-toys-4-smiles-foundations/>.

Another link for information on toy making for charity see: The Happy Factory at <http://www.happyfactory.org/index.php>

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Woodcraft Is Located...

Cypress Station Square
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Houston, TX 77090
281-880-0045

11707 W Sam Houston Parkway S
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281-988-9449



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NEXT MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

9AM TO 11:30AM

BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
6400 Bissonnet

SEPTEMBER PRESENTER

Jim Thompson

Lone Star Chapter of the Society of
American Period Furniture Makers

CONTACT US AT

wwch@wwch.org

We're on the web!

www.wwch.org

WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Roslyn Hager
Vice President	Steve Wavro
Secretary	Dan Smith
Treasurer	Norm Nichols
Publications Director	Gary Rowen
Immediate Past President/Director	John Gay



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IT'S BUST 'YER BUTTONS TIME IN HOUSTON!
GET YOUR WWCH SHIRTS AND CAPS AND
WEAR THEM AT THE FALL FESTIVALS,
SEMINARS, AND BARBEQUES!
PROMOTE YOUR CLUB!



Place your shirt order with Bill Cole at any regular club meeting. Pick up a cap at the meeting, too. To get your name custom embroidered on your shirt, see Bill Cole at the meeting and he'll get it done for you.

SHIRTS: \$22.00 CAPS: \$6.00

CORRECTION: Scott Holmes' articles on finishing are being published in the American Woodworker magazine. The series **WILL BEGIN** in the December /January 2012 issue

Newsletter Publication --This newsletter is edited and distributed by Joyce Saylan, who may be contacted by email at sayjoyce@hotmail.com.

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 \$24 per year, or about the price of one good clamp!*

Guests are always welcome at WWCH.