

# Woodworkers Club of Houston

February 2004 • Volume 20, No. 2 • [www.wwch.org](http://www.wwch.org)

## News Flash: Dues are due!

The hot topic at the last Board of Directors meeting was how to get members to pay their dues. The board decided that unless dues were paid by February the WWCH Newsletter will no longer be mailed to non-paying members. As of publication date only about 60% of last years members will be receiving the newsletter in March.

We have decided to try a new strategy this year. On many of the newsletters this month there is a label on the cover announcing that unless you've paid your dues your newsletters will discontinue. If your newsletter carries this notice, our records indicate your dues have not been paid. This is our "tough love" tactic to try and motivate you to get you to reprioritize your commitment to the WWCH and pay your dues now. We certainly don't want to lose anyone as a member. But... you must pay your dues on time.

Past years have seen dues dribbling in well into the summer, if at all. Those members are still come to meetings, take part in club activities and derive enjoyment (and education) from their association with the Club. Deadbeats? Probably not. As one board member pointed out "it just isn't a priority" with most of us. But most of us manage to get that \$24.00 into the hands of the treasurer on time. A clear conscience is a wonderful thing.

And, a clear conscience is not the only benefit. Each meeting is a tool box full of information. Some of it will be relevant to each member part of the time. There will rarely be a time when a member attends that some benefit is not realized. "Show and Tell", "Problems and Solutions" and the educational program after the break all give us plenty of opportunities to learn about woodworking and grow our skills.

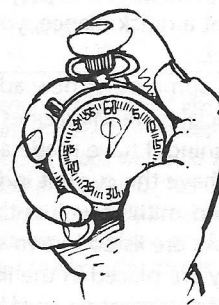
The benefits of membership don't stop there,

however. Our book and video library will offer many hours of instruction, entertainment and insight into many aspects of woodworking. Surely, any member that checks out even a single book or video during the year has received benefits in excess of the dues paid.

Add the annual barbeque, field trips and occasional discount tool orders and the membership advantages are clear.

So, here's what it comes down to. Your friends in the Woodworking Club would like to keep you as a member. You're a great guy (or gal). We don't want to lose your good company at our monthly meetings. And we sure don't want

you to miss any of these outstanding newsletters. On page 6 you will find a membership application. Fill it out and send in your dues before you forget (again). Of course, you can always pay at the next meeting if you don't forget your checkbook (again). No excuses, now. It's time.



## February Program

### Creative Woodworking

The program will present ways to look at a photo of a project you've seen in a book or catalog and analyze it in order make it yourself. Also, the evolution of a project's design and design by a project's function will also be discussed.

## Book Report:

At our December meeting, Ron Schmidt gave us a lot of magazines. Included in this donation are 60 issues of Shop Notes.

They are now in our library in 10 blue binders. Also on the cover of these binders, I scanned the contents page of each one, cropped them and then printed them so each of the 10 binders has an easy to read contents page of all of the issues in that volume. This process took some time for each binder, but the results are well worth the effort. That worked so well that I did the same thing to our Woodsmith collection. For some odd reason, Woodsmith did not have a contents page until Volume 12 so there may be some creative thinking in order to clearly show the contents of the earlier issues. I think that you will like the results.

I did have some help with this project. We have a new kitty at the house and she just loves to help and she is a natural with the computer. She has discovered several programs just by walking on the keyboard while I was trying to do something else. Also since I've been in a spring-cleaning mood, I have made some other positive changes with the library.

Among other things, we now have a Member Plans section. These are plans for individual projects as well as drawings that our club members have donated. There are pictures of the project for that binder on the cover. So at a quick glance, you can see the plans that we have.

Some other new additions are Vendor Catalogs and Special Issue Magazines. Just to finish off this holiday cleaning, I have made an Index Binder. In this binder, we have the current indexes for Shop Notes and Woodsmith as well as the latest listing of our books. Our books are listed in two ways. The first is in the order as they are placed in the library, the other is in a grouping. So if you want to quickly see the publications that we have on furniture, you can look up furniture. There are several groupings like this.

We now have a lot of magazines and some repeats of both Shop Notes and Woodsmith. So at the February meeting, our library will be having a fund drive for these publications as well as a lot of very clean white binders. I will have a listing of the stuff that we have at the February meeting. There will be several copies of this list at the meeting. What I was thinking of doing is just to have a box on top of our bookcases and what

ever you think that your selection is worth, just drop it in the box. The other way would to have an auction.

The Club's library had a lot of growth in 2003, thanks to you guys. We have a greater selection than ever, as well as two new larger and lighter rolling bookcases. Thank you for your donations and support.

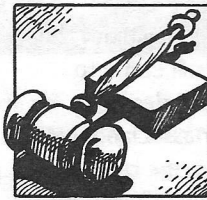
This year started out great thanks to Eddie Thomas. He gave us several good books on furniture. They are; *Space-Saving Furniture*, *Country Furniture*, *2 x 4 Furniture*, *Traditional and Modern Furniture Projects*, as well as *Backyard Builders*, *Kids Play Yard* and *Weekend Woodworker*. There are some fun projects in these books. Also, somebody dropped off a book for making dining tables.

At the upcoming woodworking show, we will be able to buy some more books. I have kept a mental list of some woodworking subjects that our members have asked about. If you have any suggestions, send me an e-mail and I will try to find them at the Woodworking Show. I will be able to add to the Vendor Catalogs selection too.

That is about it for now; I hope that you enjoy the upgrading of the library. See you at the Show.

John Gay  
Book Library

## SEALED BID NOTICE



The Board has voted to accept SEALED bids at the February meeting for the Delta lathe and the Unisaw the Club won in the raffle. The highest bid over \$800.00 will win the lathe. The highest bid over

\$1500.00 will win the Delta Unisaw. Write your name on a piece of paper, identify what you are bidding on then place it in an envelope and give it to Jim Robertson, club president, at the February meeting. This will not be a silent auction nor will it be live. Decide what you are willing to pay and place your bid. Good luck.

**To the members of the Woodworker's Club of Houston and the Gulf Coast Woodturners Association:**

You live and work in a community. My closest friends are members of two very select communities: the woodworkers and woodturners in Houston. Teri and I decided to throw our lot in with folks such as you to make our living, and to foster a love of woodworking amongst other enthusiasts. It has been a joy to work with you over the past 10 years.

Life can sometimes deal you a bad hand. Among all the joys of our business and plans for a new building, Teri was diagnosed with liver disease. As with thousands of Texans, we were left to struggle with a dire illness without health insurance. You deal with these emergencies as best you can, liquidating assets and tightening your belt. Then, to our astonishment, we discovered that some of you had taken it upon yourselves to aid Teri and me in this difficult hour. It is at times like these that you see the character of your friends, and we were deeply touched by the efforts of the clubs to help Teri with her hospital bills. We offer our sincerest thanks to the leadership who organized the Best Ever Raffle, the manufacturers and reps who donated tools, and to all of you who participated in this fund-raising. I hope I can continue to be associated with fine people such as you.

When Steve told me of your generosity, I was overwhelmed. I still am. Throughout this period I have focused on trying to heal my body. It wasn't until I learned of your gift that I allowed myself to begin to hope that there might be some relief to the financial nightmare. Steve has told me how many of you have asked about me, and sent your thoughts and prayers. Thank you so very much.

Steve and Teri LeGrue

**Mail:**

Congratulations on a stunning newsletter! I think it looks great—the text and photos are clear, the map and other graphics are a big help. I have a great deal of empathy for you—I was newsletter editor for about 3 years back in the middle 1980's. That was in the beginning of the electronic era—word processing was still a rarity, and there were incompatible formats. I have written a few articles in the years since, but not recently. Perhaps you'll inspire me to write something again.

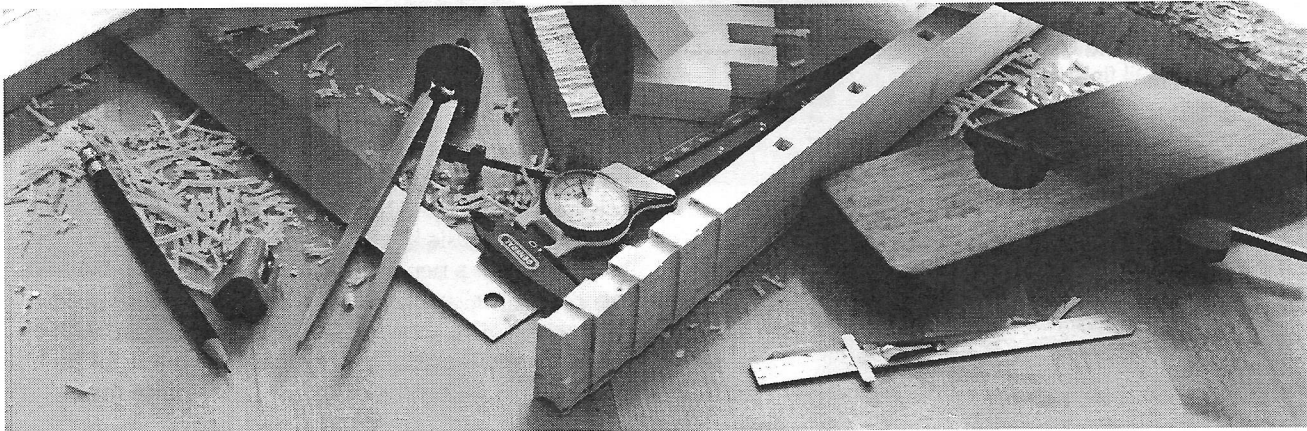
One suggestion is to have more member profiles. I enjoy reading/hearing about people—what drew them to woodworking, what they produce, details about their shop etc. I would also like to see shop tours—we did some a few years ago. I love seeing other people's shops. I always get ideas for improvements to mine.

Steve Proctor

The January news letter on page two states you can add sawdust to the garden. This is not recommended by any fertilizer publications. To quote one from Texas A & M by B. L. Harris, "the addition of sawdust to the garden or lawn will require a like amount of nitrogen to offset the sawdust carbon". The bottom line that it's not worth it and can do harm by leaching the nitrogen from the soil if you apply sawdust in large amounts. You would also need to test the soil often to keep the correct balance.

Arthur Chester,  
Master Gardner

*Member Steve Proctor (above) mentioned he would like to see the Club do some shop tours again. Is there any interest from other club members for this activity? Perhaps we could visit 2 or 3 member shops on an afternoon and call it a "Shop Crawl." If there is enough interest in this activity the editor will bring it up to the board for their reaction. Call me at 713. 524. 8768 or e-mail me at bwhite444@houston.rr.com.*

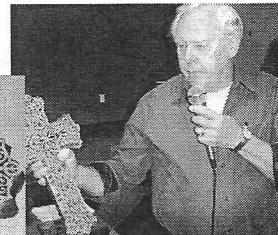
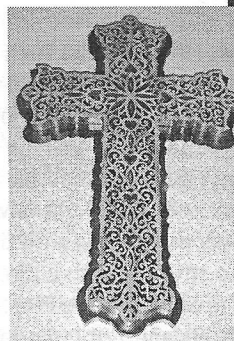


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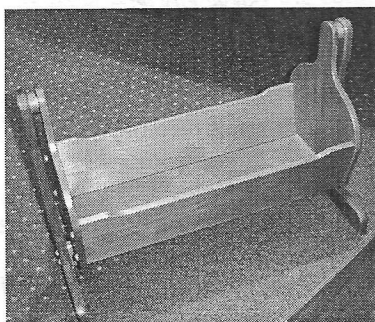
## January's projects



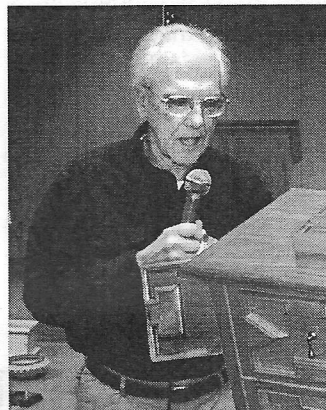
**Lowell Holmes** proudly talked about his Shaker style candle box for ten inch tapers. In keeping with the spirit of the Shakers, Lowell used only hand tools to build the box.



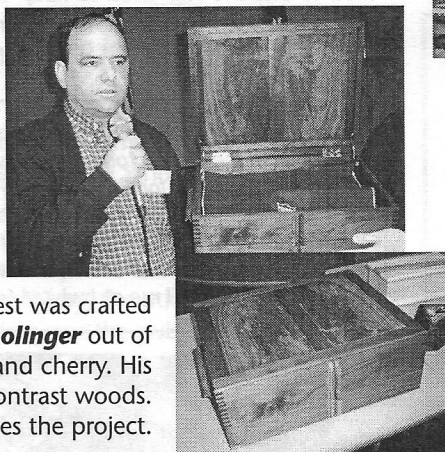
This elegant cross of red oak on walnut was beautifully scrollsawed by **Gerald Blalock**.



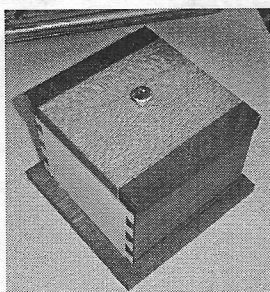
**Bill Cole** showed us this doll cradle he made for his grandchild. It is made of alder with a cherry wood stain.



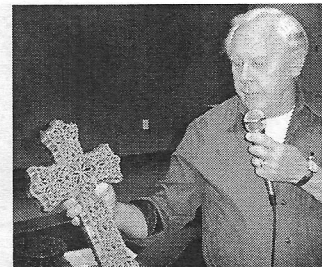
**Lon Kelley** did a wonderful job making fancy drawer fronts to accent this chest of drawers.



This silverware chest was crafted by **Mark Bolinger** out of mesquite, walnut and cherry. His objective was to contrast woods. Danish Oil finishes the project.



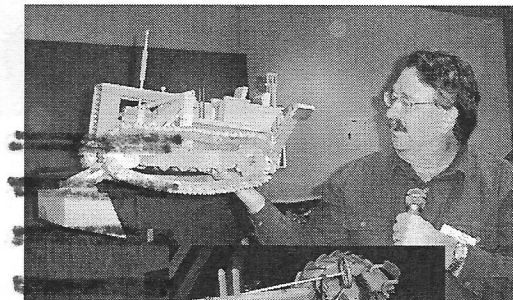
**Ken Kooser** showed us his "little box" of bloodwood, lacewood and walnut that he put together using a JoinTech machine.



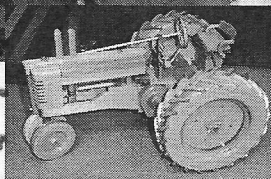
**Gary Rowen** made good on his promise to make a music box for his boss. The mahogany music box is topped with a pen and pencil set. The smaller pen/pencil set is made of solid rosewood. The larger pen set of poplar stained with Rosewood is one of twenty that Gary made for his office mates.



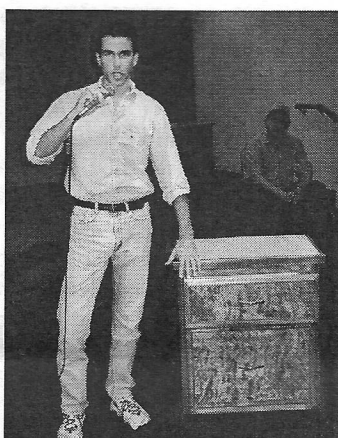
**Rich Thomas** shows this handsome travel chest (built for medicinal purposes only). Looks like it's ready for action.



**Denis Muras** brought his John Deere Model B tractor and his Massey-Ferguson bulldozer to show to club members.



**Frank Dorr** made this cabinet on wheels to handle a microwave oven.

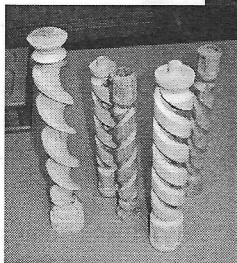


**Jean Loggins** made this handsome valet box of mahogany that would look good on any man's dresser.

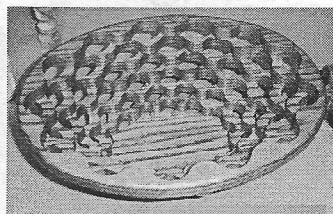
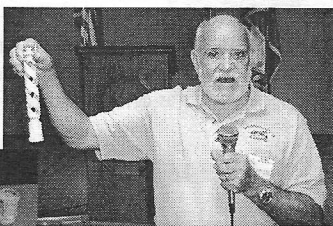


**Mike Turner** showed the club how he built a diploma frame for his A&M graduate daughter. To keep with the spirit of recycling and conservation, Mike cut down cabinet doors and used the pieces for the frame.

This bowl of one eighth inch baltic birch plywood was finely crafted by **Lee Knekow**.



These fancy candle sticks were crafted by **Blaine Stokes** using his new Legacy machine. Blaine keeps learning this machine and finds duplicating is very challenging.



**Norm Nichols** displayed his craftsmanship with a basket of box elder and a scrollsawed elk that was a prize winner.



## Club Contacts

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Jim Robertson, <i>President</i> . . . . .                                  | 713-729-1840 |
| Walter Mason, <i>Vice-President</i> . . . . .                              | 281-312-4746 |
| Gary Rowen, <i>Secretary</i> . . . . .                                     | 281-486-2018 |
| Al Morrow, <i>Treasurer</i> . . . . .                                      | 713-863-7826 |
| Ken Kooser, <i>Director</i> . . . . .                                      | 936-890-4090 |
| Paul Koury, <i>Director</i> . . . . .                                      | 281-247-6309 |
| Tom Matkin, <i>Director</i> . . . . .                                      | 281-492-8058 |
| Mike Kelly, <i>Director</i> . . . . .                                      | 281-257-0127 |
| Gary Rowen, <i>Webmaster</i> . . . . .                                     | 281-486-2018 |
| Joe Edelen, <i>Name Tags</i> . . . . .                                     | 281-437-5937 |
| John Gay, <i>Book Library</i> . . . . .                                    | 713-723-7599 |
| Blaine Stokes, <i>Video Library</i> . . . . .                              | 281-633-2829 |
| Loretta Buckley, Bill Hochmuth, <i>Coffee Committee</i>                    |              |
| Bill White, <i>Communications Director and Newsletter Editor</i> . . . . . | 713-621-6788 |

**"...sometimes funny, often entertaining and always educational.."**

The Woodworkers Club of Houston meets every month on the second Saturday. We're a diverse group that enjoys a good joke, encourages woodworking and is dedicated to the premise that the best way to learn about woodworking is from other woodworkers.

Sure there are plenty of good woodworking schools around the country. And several of our members have attended them. But not everyone can afford either the time or expense of these courses. For most of us the WWCH is a good alternative.

Every meeting has a "Problems and Solutions" section where members are encouraged to ask a question or two about a woodworking problem that may have them stumped. Other members will then contribute their insights and experiences.

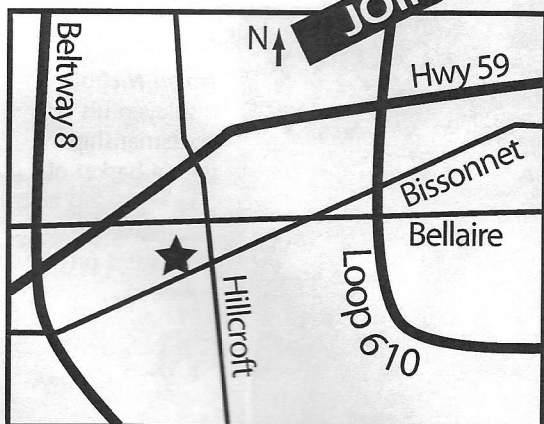
We also have a "Show and Tell" period as well. Members that are working on or have completed a project show us and explain how it was made and finished. Sometimes the unfinished work is more instructive than the completed work.

We will also have a fairly formal monthly program presentation. This can consist of tool manufacturer's presentations, finishing demonstrations, joint making demonstrations, tool use discussions and much more. The Woodworkers Club of Houston is a great woodworking value. Try us. You'll like us.

### WWCH Monthly Meeting

Second Saturday of every month  
We open the doors at 8:30am, program starts at 9:00 and winds up by 11:30am.

Bayland Community Center  
6400 Bissonnet  
Houston, TX 77074



### Woodworkers Club of Houston Membership Application

A WWCH Membership is a chance to learn about woodworking, visit with other woodworkers and see some fabulous projects. Your membership includes a monthly newsletter, access to our video and book library, invitation to field trips and occasionally we collectively buy tools at discounted prices. Considering the cost it's a genuine bargain. So, cut out this application, include a check for \$24.00 yearly membership and mail it to the address below. And join us once a month for a good time.

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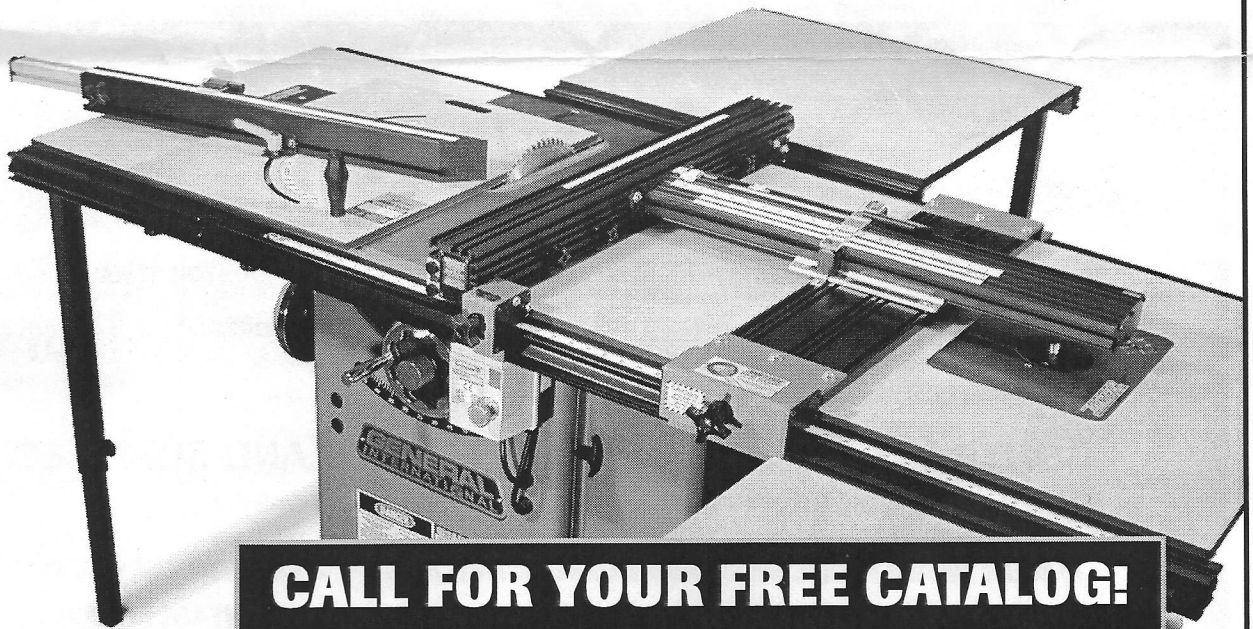
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## The Air We Breathe

This is the second in a series of three articles. By Sally H. White, COTA

In last month's article, Dust in the Wind, several types of breathing protection were mentioned. For wood dust, particularly the type generated by working with hardwoods, MDF, or the process of sanding any type of wood, respirators are the best option for wood workers.

There are several classes of respirators, each with a specific indication for use. The most appropriate for protection from the health hazards of wood dust are particulate removing respirators (PRR). A particulate removing respirator uses a filtration method to remove a single type of particulate matter (such as dust) or a combination of two or more types (such as dust, mist, fume or smoke) from the air, depending upon the type of filtration. Filtration can range from simple straining, which occurs when the particle size is larger than the size of pore in the filter, or a multi-layer filtration process, which uses a number of different mechanisms to capture fine particulate

matter. Interestingly, PRRs become more effective as particles accumulate on the filter and plug spaces between the fibers. Of course, if the accumulation of particles causes difficulty with breathing, it's time for disposal.

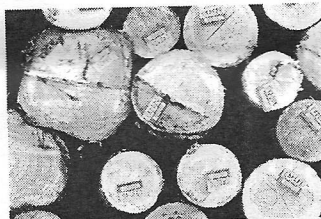
There are two types of PRRs:

- A simple filtering mask (as commonly seen in the medical arena) uses molded filtering material which fits over the nose and mouth. This type has one or two straps to ensure a proper fit and may or may not be

adjustable. Some have an adjustable metal nose clip, which helps to customize the fit. Some fancier models have exhalation valves, which make breathing easier and reduce heat and moisture buildup inside the facepiece. They have no replaceable parts and must be disposed of once the filter becomes clogged. Although this is a popular choice for woodworkers in terms of its economy and because it's lightweight, it provides minimal protection from the health hazards associated with wood dust.

- An air purifying respirator with an elastomeric molded facepiece and disposable filters/cartridges offers better protection from wood dust. And today's woodworker has several varieties from which to choose. Available are: a half facepiece that fits over the nose, mouth and chin; a full facepiece which covers the nose, mouth and eyes and offers the added benefit of eye protection; a quarter facepiece design fits over the nose and mouth but does not cover the chin. All elastomeric facepieces have one or two attachments that hold replaceable filters/cartridges and feature inhalation and exhalation valves. This type respirator offers better protection from finer airborne dust due to fit and better filtration. For this type of mask facial hair, corrective glasses, goggles or other personal protective equipment can break the seal with the face and allow dust to enter.

The health problems from wood dust come not only from the wood itself as examined in last month's article, but from other sources inherent in the wood. Biological organisms (mold, fungi) or chemicals (formaldehyde, copper, pentachlorophenol) used in the processing of some woods remain in the dust generated in woodworking. NIOSH and OSHA, experts on occupational safety and health, recommend using a fitted molded facepiece type respirator with replaceable cartridges/filters for maximum breathing protection while working with wood.



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# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



**WWCH Monthly Meeting: Feb. 14**

**Program: Creative Woodworking**

**Next Monthly Meeting: Mar. 13**

[REDACTED]

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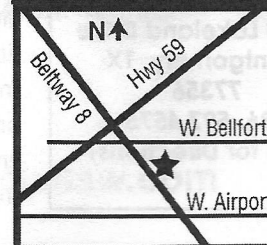
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