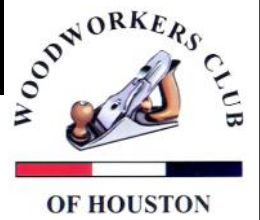


The Sawdust Sentinel



Monthly newsletter of Woodworkers Club of Houston

Volume 40 Issue 6

June 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hearing Protection in the Shop

I consider myself a safety-oriented woodworker. In my years as a hobbyist woodworker, I have managed to avoid any significant injuries. One area where I am trying to improve my game is hearing protection, but I haven't found the perfect solution just yet. Like many woodworkers, I tried the foam ear plugs. The plugs are cheap and effective, but putting them in, taking them out, putting them back in, etc. gets to be a pain after a while. Not to mention trying to remember where you left them, and then finding them on the floor, with a light coat of sawdust.

My next try was a set of over-the-ear muffs. The muffs work well and are easy to put on/take off. However, they get hot and crush my eyeglass frames into my head after long periods. And I can't wear the muffs and my Peke Safety Cap which provides both eye and lung protection.

My third iteration was noise isolating earbuds with blue tooth capability. This seemed really promising, hearing protection while adding in music or a podcast when working. The reality is less promising. The earbuds are harder to insert than foam earplugs as you have to manage the cord while trying to get a proper fit to maximize noise reduction. The noise reduction isn't as good as I hoped. I tried wearing both the earbuds and the muffs to get better noise reduction while retaining the music, but the problems with the muffs made that solution impractical.

My current test case is wireless earbuds with active noise cancellation. This sounded like a sure-fire winner, good sound quality, noise cancellation, wireless, and integration with my phone. The jury is still out on this option. The earbuds are much easier to put in/take out, the sound quality is very good, but the noise cancellation isn't as dramatic as I was hoping.

(Cont. on Page 2)

WWCH Calendar

Monthly Meeting.....	06/10
Hand Tool Meeting.....	06/15
CNC Router Meeting.....	TBD
Furniture Meeting.....	07/06
Scroll Saw Meeting.....	07/22
WWCH Picnic.....	10/14
Woodworking Expo.....	December

Toy of the Month Preview

WWCH June 2023 Toy of the Month



Horse v2 Puzzle

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (cont. from Page 1)

I still have some variables to tweak, and I hope these are my long-term solution.

What is/are your go-to solutions for hearing protection?

WWCH President
Tom Paulley



Girl Scout Troop 152043

Something to "Tweet" About !

On Sunday May 21st, a workshop was hosted by Tim Shaunty for Girl Scout Troop 152043. Guys – step aside! Six enthusiastic and impressively talented teenagers along with their troop leader and a couple of supportive Moms took over Tim's workshop for 2 hours to learn about safety tips in the workshop and fundamental woodworking skills. Their goal – a woodworking badge and building their personalized birdhouse. Alongside Tim, Bob Wink, Larry and Patti Page assisted with the laughter, chatter, and sawdust. From the satisfied smiles on their faces – goals accomplished!



Splinter Group Information

CNC Router Group: Date and location; TBD. For more information please Contact Bill Teague; wateague@gmail.com

Scroll Saw Group: Next meeting is July 22nd; meetings are held at the Bayland Community Center at 9:00AM. For more information please contact: Norm Nichols; scrollsaw@comcast.net or Denis Muras; denis_muras@yahoo.com.

Furniture Group: Next meeting is July 6th. For more information on location, and / or to be added to their email list please contact: Ron Kirchoff; kirch76@gmail.com or George Alderete; brodie1200@gmail.com

Hand Tool Group: Next meeting is June 15th. For more information on location, and / or to be added to their email list please contact: George Alderete; brodie1200@gmail.com or Henry Majoue; hjmajoue@gmail.com

Sawmill Group: For more information please Contact Bill Lindsey: bill_lindsey@comcast.net

Toy Group: Toys are independently produced, if you are interested in building toys for the toy program, please contact: Chris Schwartz; christopher7schwartz@gmail.com or Andy Tofuri; andy.tofuri@comcast.net . You can also preview the Toy of the Month on the web site.

Toy of the Month

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

“Horse Puzzle” [Plans and Drawings \(wwch.org\)](http://wwch.org)

Program of the Month

Join WWCH member and professional musician, Mike Hardy, for an informative club meeting on the Alexander Technique for Woodworkers. Discover how this study of the body in motion can help us replace harmful habits with new ones that align with our body's natural functioning. Learn how to identify and correct misuse, understand skeletal and muscular structures, and experience the benefits of proper body alignment through interactive activities. We will also explore Tai Chi concepts to release tension and enhance easeful movement. Don't miss this opportunity to improve your wood-working experience and reduce pain and injury.

Club Announcements

- ◇ It has been a few months, so it is time again at the June 10 Woodworkers Club of Houston meeting for another tool and wood "swap." Please bring your spare tools and wood for sale or trade to the meeting, and we will set up some tables. Label your stuff in some way, with name or initials, and preferably a price if applicable. There is usually plenty of free stuff too.
- ◇ Make sure you pick up the new 2023 Membership Directory. Patti Page will have them ready at the next Club Meeting.
- ◇ All-day meeting has been changed from July 8th to August 12th. Mike Farrington will be the guest speaker - **NOTE:** You can pay your \$10 (per lunch) at the June or July meetings. Jack & Michael will collect and take your sandwich order(s) then. Cash is preferred but checks and credit will be acceptable too.
- ◇ Woodworking Expo coming to the Houston area. Pending dates are December 8th thru December 10th. For more information go to: www.wwexpos.com
- ◇ Our current 2023 WWCH (**Orange**) Membership Cards will no longer be recognized as a discount card at Rockler. New Rockler Guild Affiliation Discount Cards will be distributed starting at the May WWCH meeting. Only 1 card per paid member and can be used as many times until the January 31, 2024 expiration date. See Patti to get yours.

Hardwood Derby

Thanks to everyone that helped out with set up and running of the Hardwood Derby. And also, of course, to those who entered cars in the race.

We learned a few things from the experience. Number one - cars have to be a maximum of 4.5 inches high to fit under the finish gate. Number two - weight matters. The winners were all heavy cars, including the first place car, which actually had a piece cut off before the race so that it would fit under the gate. Stock up on your exotic woods for the next time we do this!

And that brings us to number three - should we do this again, and, if so, when. Also, how about the idea of dividing cars into weight classes to even out the playing field a little bit. Be thinking about that, because we are likely to ask for your input at the June meeting.

Peter Doe & Tom Paulley

Greg Solberg / 1st



Peter Doe / 2nd & 3rd Place



Gary Rowen / Ugliest Car



Bill Byrne / Best Looking Car



Hardwood Derby

Volunteers assembling the Track



Hardwood Derby (cont.)

Race Time!

Officials Timing / Charting



Staging



The Trophies



Everyone Having Fun & Enjoying the Races



New Members

We are pleased to welcome 4 new members: Steven Chang, April Koury, Paul Koury, Gabriel Toledo & Sayed Kazi

Meet the Members



Rick Spacek

Member Since 2010; Woodworker of the Year 2017, 2021

Rick started off doing wood burnings, but soon learned to do Scroll Sawing after meeting Norm Nichols. Rick's passion now is he Loves making fret work, Pictures working on large pictures. Rick never disappoints in his creations.



Hugh Parker

Member Since 2003ish

Hugh worked with his father who was a carpenter and decided this was not the kind of woodworking he wanted to do. He has built a desk and chest of draws for his grandson using wood from his dad's bed and from walnut from his great grandfather. Now he works only on small projects like boxes. Has done repairs on furniture for friends and neighbors. Hugh lead a group of volunteers from St. Lukes U.M.C. woodshop in making toys and repairing / making furniture for the church. Some of the projects he has done are Desks, Tables, Pulpits, and Book Stands.



Christopher Tan

Member Since 2022

Chris first got interested in woodworking thanks to his brother who was making small pieces of furniture for his house. With the help of the internet and YouTube he started building rustic stools for the patio and yard using mostly hand tools and scrap 2x4s. Since then Chris branched into wood turning and trying to improve his skills with traditional hand tools and joinery. Woodworking has served as an outlet for creativity as well as a way of meeting new people who share similar interests.



Keith Van Tassel

Member Since 2021

Keith started in woodworking 30 years ago when he decided to make a cradle for his third child. At the time he only had a inexpensive table saw, router, and a few clamps. Finished weeks before she was born & that's all it took for Keith to get hooked. Few years later he got a hold of an old Sears Craftsman lathe and I started making pens. Spends most of his woodworking time making boxes, turning bowls, and turning pens. He has joined the Hand Tool Splinter group and has learned how to make hand cut dovetails. Currently working on a Chess Set for his youngest son for a Birthday present.

FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL
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that causes snipe

Reg. \$779.00 SKU: 37386

**SAVE
35%**

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SEEN THIS?**



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ONE-HANDED BAR CLAMP**

Just squeeze the trigger and the spring
closes the jaws!

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THE MONTH
SPECIAL BUYS!**

IN STORE ONLY • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

\$2⁹⁹ BD. FT.

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SKU: 80399



\$7⁹⁹ BD. FT.

SAPELE S2S 15/16"

SKU: 57259



SIZZLING SUMMER SAVINGS PRICING VALID 6/2-6/29/2023

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21352 Kuykendahl Rd. • Spring, TX 77379 • (346) 331-4081

WWCH General Information

**WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OFFICERS**

President	Tom Paulley
Vice President	Michael Siegel
Secretary	Mike Hardy
Treasurer	Jack Bailie
Publication Director	Chris Farquhar
Past President	Peter Doe

DIRECTORS

Gael Golden, Dorsey Rushing
Sam Grice

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND
CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Donuts	Roslyn Hager
Club Logo Items	Norm Nichols
Membership Book	Patti Page
Newsletter	Chris Farquhar
Raffle	Andy Tofuri
Refreshments	Steve Wavro
Technology	Denis Muras
Web Master	Gary Rowen

NEXT MEETING

**Saturday June 10th
(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 Chris Farquhar, WWCH Newsletter Editor, at wwchnewsletter@gmail.com. Please submit the item before the 1st of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

*We're on the
Web*
www.wwch.org

**Join our Facebook Group!
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!