

# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### You Can Lead a Horse to Water...

... but you can't make it drink. This is one of my favorite sayings, because it applies to so many real life situations.

Right now you are saying to yourself, Hunh? Has Bolinger lost it? How is this woodworking? Do we need to initiate impeachment proceedings?

Bear with me. There is another part of this saying that is rarely articulated. Yes, sometimes the horse doesn't drink. But sometimes it does. Because it was thirsty and didn't realize that it was thirsty. And here's where I finally get to the woodworking part. At our last meeting, Charles Volek led a horse (his young guest) to water. Will he drink? We don't know. But the important part is that he was exposed to woodworking. The seed that was planted may germinate quickly, and we'll see Show and Tell projects from the lad soon. Or it may germinate 20 years from now, when he needs beds for his kids and is astounded by how much the furniture store wants to charge for simple twin beds that are ugly as sin. All we can do is provide the seed; the rest is up to the individual.

I remember how it was for me. It was, believe it or not, a commercial on TV. I don't even remember what product was being pitched. The theme of the ad was to pitch something as upscale, and it featured some ruggedly handsome actor who says "I build my own furniture and that's why I like to smoke Marlboros...". At the time, it was an epiphany: I never ever realized that you could actually make furniture yourself, instead of buying it at the store. I don't think anyone in my family had ever done more than rudimentary carpentry. Making furniture sounded neat. And for some odd reason, it stuck with me. It introduced me to the theoretical possibility that one could make one's own furniture. And yes, one of my first projects was to make beds for my kids.

I would like for the club to lead as many horses as possible to water. I challenge the club to come up with ideas.

It seems to me that the toy making splinter group is a natural vehicle for this. I know a lot of kids are focused on college applications, and volunteering is an important part of that. Is there some way we can attract college bound students to do toy making (application: delivered 4000 toys to the following charities, see attached photos). What about Eagle scouts? Eagle scouts have to do something "good for society" to earn

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## WWCH Calendar

Mar 3 .....	Community Craft Day
Mar 15 .....	CNC Splinter Group
Mar 10 .....	Monthly Meeting
Mar 24 .....	Hand Tool Splinter Group
Apr 5.....	Furniture Splinter Group
Apr 14.....	Monthly Meeting
Apr 28.....	Scroll Saw Splinter Group

## Monthly Raffle



**Happening at every meeting!**

## New Members

**Welcome to WWCH**

**Pamela Collum**

**Ali Faruqui**

**We are happy to have you**

## Splinter Groups

**CNC Router Splinter Group:** The CNC router group will be meeting at Lynn Cummings house on Thursday, Marc 15th at 7:00pm.

Contact Mike Turner for further information at 281-633-1807 or [mktturner49@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:marksmithb@windstream.net)

**Scroll Saw Splinter Group:** Our discussion group will meet April 28th at Woodcraft South Beltway 8, 9:30 AM. Discussion topic has not been set so check back to this column in an upcoming issue. Please contact us if you have something you would like to talk about. We will have Show N Tell and Problems N Solutions.

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

**Toy Splinter Group:** The toy group is currently looking for a new coordinator, If you are interested please contact a board member.

**Furniture Splinter Group:** The furniture splinter group meets the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be on March 1st. 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](mailto: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](mailto:bill_lindsey@comcast.net).

## President's Message (cont)

their Eagle rank. Why have we never had an Eagle scout candidate participate? We have a Facebook page now. Is there some way to attract more younger visitors to the site (I admit I'm not expert in the social media arena)? Can we make it more explicit that we welcome any and all visitors to the club meetings? Can we offer some token gift to attendees under the age of 16? How about a \$25-50 gift certificate to Rockler or Woodcraft?

I bet many of us have given wooden gifts to relatives. Have we invited said relatives to the meetings (implication: yes, you can do woodworking too)?

There are a lot of horses out there. Let's take Charles Volek's shining example and run with it.

**Mark Bolinger**

**WWCH President**

## February Program Recap



Members of WWCH spoke to the members about shop safety and provided numerous tips on developing habits that will prevent accidents or at least minimize an event impact. The speakers were Bill Harris (top left), Mark Bolinger (top right), Ben Tillison, John Gay (lower left), and Mike Turner (lower right).

## Odds and Ends

**Craft Community Day:** WWCH will be participating in this event on Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main St. This is a free event featuring local artist guilds and community groups. Visitors of all ages are invited to see craft demonstrations and visit the resident artists' studios, view current exhibitions, and find one-of-a-kind gifts in the Asher Gallery. Watch craft demonstrations by a variety of Houston-area artist guilds and community groups. Thanks to Lisa Sessions for coordinating the club's presence at this event.

**Please Make Sure You Sign in at Each Meeting:** And when you do, please double check the information listed to ensure it is correct. Annotate any changes on the sign-in sheet and let Henry Majoué or Patti Page know. Thanks for your help.

## Show and Tell

### PRESENTERS

**Dave Ward** ..... Tray  
**Norm Nichols** ..... Nativity Scene  
**Chris Schwartz** ..... Sign/Car  
**Steve Wavro** ..... Eagle/Plaque  
**David Janowitz** ..... Water Oak Tables  
**Bob Wink** ..... Folk Art  
**Rick Spacek** ..... Spring Scene  
**Larry Barron** ..... Platters/Vessel  
**Chris Farquhar** ..... Scrolled Wolves  
**Bill Grimes** ..... Rattles  
**George Alderete** ..... Turnings  
**Lon Kelley** ..... Game Boxes  
**Henry Majoué** ..... Clock/Chest  
*Show and Tell photos & write-up submitted by Gary Rowen.*



It's his kitchen so it's his rules and **Chris Schwartz** says so in a sign he scroll sawed – his girlfriend better not be a chef. Chris

obtained a scroll saw pattern from Charles Volek to craft a simple toy.



**Dave Ward** explained how he used different hardwoods to make eight trays with molding for the edges. For some Dave finished with bar top epoxy but the rest with spray polyurethane.



Using laminated spruce panels and a Steve Good pattern **Norm Nichols** crafted this nativity set. Not an easy project but was fun.



**Steve Wavro** used a Sue Mey pattern for a wedding plaque for his daughter's friend. Steve used Inkscape to place the letters on the curve. The eagle is the school's mascot so Steve crafted one from 168 pieces in intarsia for sale at the Barber's Hill Pilot Club auction.



## Show and Tell



From water oak **David Janowitz** crafted three tables for a client. The finish is water borne polyurethane.



**Rick Spacek** showed a before and after version of his Spring Day scroll saw masterpiece. The after version is highlighted with coloring that draws out the features of his work.



**Bob Wink** showed his versions of folk art intarsia images of a riverboat in Europe, and two cityscapes.



Two beautiful platters from construction site scrap plus some mahogany and a bowl of spalted pecan were turned by **Larry Barron**. The "cosmic" dust look comes from a watered down blob of acrylic paint sprayed with a blast of 3 psi air from an air compressor.

# Show and Tell



With poster board for backing and finished with whitewash, **Chris Farquhar** crafted these wolves out of basswood. He probably won't hang them on his front door for who wants wolves "at the door"?



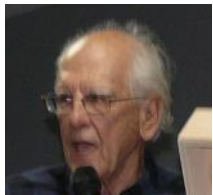
**Bill Grimes** made rattles of maple and cherry for his granddaughters that can also double as Christmas ornaments.



Cutting boards of walnut and hard maple and two with live edges were finished with a 50% mixture of salad bowl finish and mineral oil by **George Alderete**.



**Lon Kelley** showed how he produced six by six inch boxes for toys using lap joints that made it much easier to assemble. Axle wheels for toy cars form the pegs for Tic-Tac-Toe games. Lon's photo shows a clever way to drill several holes at one time with a long bit.



**Henry Majoué** showed what he did to restore a grandfather clock that was damaged in a flood. Henry also walked club members through how he made effective use of 45 degree locking miters for some joinery to craft a blanket chest from cherry wood. He finished with a mahogany finish. (See more pictures of Henry's and Lon's work on our website <http://www.wvch.org/MonProj/YR18/Feb18Projects.htm>)





Visit the Houston locations at:

60 FM 1960

Houston, TX 77090

281-880-0045

&

11707 W. Sam Houston Pkwy S.

Houston, TX 77031

281-988-9449

## WWCH General Information

### WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

President	Mark Bolinger
Vice President	Ben Tillison
Secretary	Mark Womack
Treasurer	Henry Majoue
Publications Director	Gary Rowen
Past-President	Mike Turner

#### DIRECTORS

George Alderete, Norm Nichols,  
Charles Volek

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND

### CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS

Book Library	John Gay
Donuts	Roslyn Hager
Club Logo Items	Norm Nichols
Media	B. Lenhart & M. Womack
Membership Book	Patti Page
Newsletter	Ron Kirchoff
Raffle	Lynn Cummings
Refreshments	S. Wavro & R. Kirchoff
Technology	Denis Muras
Video Library	Lisa Sessions
Web Master	Gary Rowen

### NEXT MEETING

**Saturday March 10th, 2018**

9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonet

**Presentation:** Ron Kirchoff will discuss building a Maloof-inspired Rocking Chair.

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

*We're on the web!*

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