

Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

Volume 31 Issue 1

January 2015

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2014 Toy Report

The Toy Splinter Group finished the 2014 year by meeting to distribute 4,577 toys. Some of these were carried over from 2013, but all were distributed to try and make a better holiday for many children.

In addition to these toys, many members made individual contributions throughout the year. While we don't have exact numbers, from discussions, it appears that approximately 750 additional toys were made and distributed by members of the Woodworkers Club of Houston.

The Splinter Group was able to document over 1,400 man (and women) hours in this endeavor. Over 30 recipient groups received toys, and each and every one of them relayed thanks to the Club and it's members.

New Members

Welcome to WWCH!

Jo L King & Gary Neus

Pick up your Membership Directory, and sign in at each meeting so you will be counted.

Happy to have you with us!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's time for a changing of the guard, or at least some of it. A big thanks to all who supported WWCH with their volunteer time throughout 2014 particularly the Officers and Board. Thank you to the outgoing board members Steve Procter, Ron Kuenning, Bob Wink, David Garcia, and Larry Page. And thanks for volunteering for board duties in 2015 to the new officers and board members.

In January WWCH presents two annual awards. The Woodworker of the Year Award is for woodworking craftsmanship demonstrated by 2014 Show and Tell projects. The 6 nominees were listed in the December newsletter, and secret ballot voting was conducted during the meeting. The Golden Hammer Award is recognition for outstanding service to WWCH during 2014. The nominees, Norm Nichols, Denis Muras, and Gary Rowen, were announced at the December meeting, and the finalist will be awarded in January. Be sure to attend the January meeting to see the award winners.

Last Thanksgiving, I visited family in southern Pennsylvania which gave us the opportunity to check out Hearne Hardwoods in Oxford, PA. You've probably seen their ads in several of the woodworking magazines. It's a family run business specializing in large slabs of flitch cut domestic and exotic hardwoods, book-matched woods, burls, and instrument grade woods.



(Continued on page 2)

Splinter Groups

Hand Tool Splinter Group will meet on Thursday, January 22nd at 7:00 PM. Members should be alert for email updates to the meeting date. See you at 7pm—9pm at Mark Bolinger's garage in Sugar Land near Hwy 6 and 90A. Email Mark at marksmithb@windstream.net for directions or details.

The CNC Router Group will meet on Thursday, January 15th, at 7:00pm at Patrick's house at 20734 Settlers Lake Circle North, Katy, TX 77449. We will continue producing locking joinery on the CNC router. For more information, contact Mike Turner at 281-633-1807.

The Scroll Saw Splinter Group meets quarterly, and it is time for our first quarterly meeting of 2015. For this meeting, we will be discussing patterns. Each person is asked to bring 4-6 of their favorite patterns and talk about why they are your favorite patterns. If they are open domain patterns, you may bring copies to share with the group. If they are copyrighted, there will be NO pattern exchanges. We honor the designer's right to sell his designs. Start going through those piles of patterns and pick out your favorites. Any level of patterns are welcome since we are all at different levels with our scrolling. See you with patterns in hand on January 24th, 9:30 AM, at Woodcraft South.

The Toy Splinter Group is taking a break during the first part of 2015 and is planning to return to the effort in March. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at Tim Shaunty's shop, 3614 Thistle St., Houston 77047. If you have not been involved in the past, please consider joining us as we continue to provide special toys to needy children.

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.

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

The operation is rather informal, so we were welcomed in to see the entire saw mill and offices. Mr. Hearne travels the world to select logs which they slab and stack in fitches for 1 – 2 years for air drying. He said 70% of their business is to individual craftsman and the rest is commercial sales. Their bandsaw is awesome, with a 10 inch wide blade and 63 inch capacity. The saw is stationary, and the logs are moved through the saw on a cart on steel rails. They have a 24 in jointer and a 48 in planer. Wow!



The entire office, flooring, stairs, and furniture are all made from exotic lumber, much of it in 'live edge' form.



This was a very worthwhile field trip with my family.

I'm looking forward to another good year.

Happy New Year to all.

Chuck Meeder, WWCH President

Upcoming Programs

January Program: Shop Safety

Mike Turner will present a program about shop safety for the January 10th meeting. Mike will include information about personal safety and using equipment safely. Please bring your safety tips to share with the group during the program!

February Program: Special Combined Monthly Meeting and Field Trip

The February 14th WWCH meeting will be held at TXRX Labs at 205 Roberts Street, Houston. If you saw Patrick Waters' presentation earlier this year, you know something about the shop and 'maker space' available at TXRX. There are woodworking and other shops available to use as well as classes. We plan a regular meeting at the TXRX facility followed by a presentation and tour of the shops. Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this field trip meeting. Their website is www.txrslabs.org.

Welcome 2015 Board of Directors!

OFFICERS

President..... Chuck Meeder
Vice President..... Mike Turner
Secretary..... Steve Wavro
Treasurer David Janowitz
Publications Director..... Vacant

DIRECTORS

Bill Harris, Chuck Likwar, Joe Cook, Vacant

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS

Book Library John Gay
Members/Name Tags Roslyn Hager
Membership Book..... Patti Page
Newsletter Lisa Sessions
Refreshments..... Chuck Horton
Donuts Roslyn Hager
Technology..... Denis Muras
Video Library Lisa Sessions
Web Master..... Gary Rowen
Raffle Vacant
Club Logo Items Vacant
WW of Year Nomination Panel:..... John Gay, Steve Wavro,
Bob Wink
Officer and Board Nominations: John Gay, Roslyn Hager,
Norm Nichols

Volunteers Needed

WWCH needs you! The following positions are vacant and need to be filled:

Director
Publications Director
Raffle
Club Logo Items



If you would like more information or to volunteer for one of these positions, please contact Chuck Meeder at cmeeder69@gmail.com.

Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your WWCH membership. David will be accepting renewal checks at the January meetings.

Yearly membership dues are \$36. You can renew your membership at the meeting or you can mail your check to WWCH, 19806 Sable Stone Circle; Katy, TX 77450. Please make your check payable to WWCH.

Calendar of Events

January 10 Meeting Shop Safety
February 14 Meeting..... TXRX Labs

March 14 meeting Violin Construction, Fred Sandoval
April 11 Meeting Intarsia Woodworking, Steve Wavro

President's Award

Lorraine Lewis received the President's Award for her service to WWCH. Lorraine is moving to Louisiana to be with her family.



Lorraine, who is a wood carver, also received a Cajun Carver from Bob Wink, plus all of the necessary accessories for her move to Louisiana!



Thank you, Lorraine, for your service!

New Woodworking Website!

360 Woodworking:
Where Tech Meets Tradition

This website recently premiered on the web, and it is chock full of woodworking resources. The site includes both paid and free content and a bi-weekly podcast.

Check it out at 360woodworking.com!

December Meeting Recap

During the December meeting, we watched the last half of the movie, "Ben's Mill."

Ben's Mill is a water driven sawmill located in Barret, Vermont. The mill was completed in 1872 and operated from then until 1995. The last mill owner/operator was Ben Thresher, who operated the mill until his death in 1995.



Photo Credit: BensMill Website
www.bensmill.com

The portion of the movie we watched featured Ben making a horse drawn snow sled for hauling logs. It was fascinating to watch step by step process of Ben making the sled! This movie is available in the WWCH video library. If you would like to see the DVD, contact Lisa Sessions at lasessions@earthlink.net to check it out.

Ben's Mill is now owned by a non-profit trust. The mill is not currently operating due to a flood which damaged the dam on the river on which the mill is built. The goal of the trust is to return the mill to operations. For more information, visit the Ben's Mill website at www.bensmill.com.

After the movie, Vince D'Amico spoke about the Taylor Saw Mill located in New Hampshire. This mill is a 200 year old "up and down" sawmill. The up and down sawmills were mechanized versions of the pit sawmill system. In the pit sawmill system, one man stood above the log and one below, and they pulled the saw up and down to saw the planks from the logs. The up and down sawmill was in general use before 1865, and was replaced by the circular sawmill invented by the Society of Shakers.

The mill is currently owned and operated by the State of New Hampshire under the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Division of Forests and Lands and Community Forestry Bureau. Vince highly recommends visiting this mill to see it in action if you are in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire area.

Information about the Taylor Saw Mill, including the operating schedule, can be found here: Taylor Saw Mill Website.

Favorite Tools and Show and Tell

PRESENTERS

Sean O'Connor..... Biker Seat Stool
Norm Nichols ..Crosses, Ornaments, & Signs
John Gay Outdoor Chair and Table
Chuck Lickwar Weather Station & Ornaments
Fred Sandoval Wooden Thread Template
Vince D'Amico.....Bowls
Lon Kelley Table
Bob Wink... Art Tramp Frames & Duck House
Lynn Cummings..... Night Stand
David Janowitz.....Cutting Board
Glenn Edwards..... Cross & Service Sign
Sean O'Connor.....Porch Bracket Model
Steve Wavro Intarsia Nativity
Mike Turner CNC Locking Joint
Paul Carr Model T Truck & Rocking Moose



Norm Nichols found some old black walnut and maple plaques at a garage sale and used them to make crosses on the scroll saw.

Norm also showed some aromatic cedar swans, some Christmas ornaments that he stack cut three at a time, and two painted Merry Christmas signs. The signs were made from a Sue Mey pattern with poplar used for the backing and Baltic birch for the letters.



Favorite Tool

Sean O'Connor showed his modified stool from Harbor Freight. The stool has a biker seat, and Sean modified it to include a sturdy base and wheels. Sean says the seat is very comfortable!



Chuck Lickwar showed a weather station clock made of cedar and mahogany. This piece was awarded 4th place at the recent woodworking show. Chuck also showed some "inside-out" ornaments made from maple and walnut.

Fred Sandoval presented his workbench vise screw template made from German beech wood. Fred will use this template to make the vice screws for the wooden vices on his new workbench, which will be a Roubo style traditional workbench.



John Gay showed the table and one of the two chairs he made as a combination birthday and Christmas gift for his niece. John used treated pine for the chairs and table, including 1 inch and 3/4 inch deck boards.

Lynn Cummings brought his red oak night stand for show and tell. Unfortunately, Lynn had to leave before he could share the construction details of the nightstand.



November Show and Tell

Vince D'Amico showed his turned bowls that he made from northern pine. The northern pine was from the Robert Frost Farm, which is a state park and museum in Derry, New Hampshire.



Lon Kelley presented his folding table made from cherry. The table is finished with polyurethane and will be used as a computer table.



Bob Wink presented his tramp art style frames, which enhance a painted tin from Mexico, a vintage electrical sign, and folk art pieces.



David Janowitz showed his cutting board that he made during a class at TXRX Labs. The cutting board is made from cherry and oak.



Bob also showed the duck house template he made for Larry and Patti, complete with rubber ducky's!



Glenn Edwards presented his cross made from aromatic cedar and Baltic birch. He also showed the sign he made for his military service in Germany from 1953 to 1955.

Sean O'Connor is in the process of making a Redding Gypsy Wagon, and he showed the wagon porch bracket sample he created. The porch brackets provide support to the front of the wagon and stiffen the wagon and roof. Sean carved this bracket and painted it with acrylic paints.



These Intarsia Nativity figurines were made by **Steve Wavro**. Steve noted that the smaller figurines are more challenging to make than the larger ones!



Paul Carr showed his Model T Truck and Moose Rocker which was a gift to his grandkids. The Model T was for a customer, and the customer decided to he wanted a fire truck after Paul was almost finished with it, so Paul added ladders and a few other details to make it into a fire truck!



Mike Turner showed an interlocking joint made with the CNC Router Splinter group. The materials are MDO plywood, and the joint consists of one joint which is cut through the board and one which is partially cut into the board.





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	Chuck Meeder
Vice President	Mike Turner
Secretary	Steve Wavro
Treasurer	David Janowitz
Publications Director	Vacant

DIRECTORS

Bill Harris, Chuck Lickwar, Joe Cook,
 Vacant

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Members/Name Tags	Vacant
Newsletter	Lisa Sessions
Raffle	Vacant
Refreshments	Chuck Horton
Technology	Denis Muras
Video Library	Lisa Sessions
Web Master	Gary Rowen

NEXT MEETING

January 10, 2014

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

**Mike Turner:
 Shop Safety**

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.

We're on the web!

www.wwch.org

**Like us on Facebook!
 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!*