

Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

Volume 32 Issue 1

January 2016

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January Meeting

Steve Procter will present the program for the January meeting, which will be about woodworking fastener selection and applications.

New Members

Welcome to WWCH

Tom Coleman
Arthur Thompson
Will Henderson

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

Happy to have you with us!

Time to Renew!



WWCH 2016 Dues

\$36

Cash or Check

Checks made payable
to: WWCH

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'm looking forward to 2016. On a personal note, having gotten married on Leap Day in 2004, my husband and I will get to celebrate our anniversary for only the 4th time on the actual date. I have a couple of projects around the house that I've absolutely promised myself would get done in the next year. And I've heard about some of the 2016 plans for WWCH that I think members will find pretty exciting.

Once upon a time (isn't that how great stories are supposed to begin?) I read a newspaper article describing a group of woodworkers who met weekly to build toys to give children at Christmas. I was very impressed. I love wood. I love wood toys. I love tools. And I absolutely loved the idea of giving wood toys to kids who might otherwise have a pretty bleak Christmas.

I can be timid, and it took me a while to finally attend a WWCH meeting by myself. It helped that I discovered a co-worker was an active member, so there would be one familiar face in the crowd. Once I attended my first monthly meeting I became active in the toy-making group that in those times met on Friday nights. As a result I had the pleasure of taking part in a very special program and got to know some really terrific people. All thanks to that one newspaper article.

So my hope for 2016 is that if there's any activity you want to take part in, both within WWCH and out, you'll overcome any reluctance you have that's keeping you from that pleasure. If there's a WWCH program that you think you'd enjoy, please speak up so we make sure you're included. And if you'd like to become just a little more involved and get to hang out with some of your fellow WWCH members, there are lots of opportunities! Please just let me know.

Roslyn Hager, President

Splinter Groups

The CNC Router Splinter Group will meet Thursday, January 14th, at 7:00pm at Patrick's place, 20734 Settlers Lake Circle North, Katy, TX, 77449. For further assistance contact Mike Turner at 281-633-1807.

Hand Tool Splinter Group: Per group member requests, the meetings will be moved to Sunday evenings until further notice. The January meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 24th, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at Mark Bolinger's garage in Sugar Land near Hwy 6 and 90A. Please watch your email for any changes or cancellations. Email Mark for directions or details at marksmithb@windstream.net.

The Scroll Saw Splinter Group: The Scroll Saw Splinter Group has had a very successful year. We will keep the pace going on January 23, 2016 at Woodcraft South on Beltway 8 at 9:30 AM. The topic of discussion will be Questions and Answers. You provide the questions, and hopefully we will provide the answers. We call it Stump the Chumps! Get your questions ready and lets have some fun. Don't forget your latest items for Show N Tell. Also share with the group those nice new toys that Santa Claus brought you this year. Let's see what you got! Group contacts: Norm at scrollsaw@comcast.net or Denis at denis_muras@yahoo.com.

The Toy Splinter Group In the December newsletter, I expressed appreciation for the support of the club and the distribution of over 3,000 toys during 2015. I'm pleased to amend this number to 4,777 toys made and distributed during 2015. What an exceptional effort!

As we prepare for the 2016 effort, there will be a few changes made in the times for the meetings at my shop. In order to accommodate everyone who has contacted me, we will change the times for the 2nd Wednesday of the month to be from 12 noon to 3:00pm. Many of our retirees have stated they didn't like driving after dark and this should offer them a chance to participate. The thought is that anyone who wants to can show up at 11:00 and we will go to a local establishment for lunch and then return to the shop to work. Since the shop is a long way for some, we though the 3 hour timeframe would be more appropriate. Of course, volunteers can make the sched-

ule fit their own - so long as it is between 12 noon and 3pm. We will continue to meet on the 4th Wednesday from 7 - 9 pm for those who choose that time. This allows for individuals who still work to join the group in our efforts.

Again, almost 5,000 needy children will have benefited from the club's activities this year, and we will plan to start back in March 2016. Hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season.

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.

WWCH Calendar

January 9Monthly Meeting
January 14 CNC Router Splinter Group
January 23 Scroll Saw Splinter Group
January 24 Hand Tool Splinter Group
February 13.....Monthly Meeting

WWCH Collecting Toys

WWCH is collecting **STUFFED ANIMALS** to distribute to the police. They carry these stuffed animals in their squad cars to give to children when they answer domestic disturbance calls. These soft and cuddly toys are so helpful to a traumatized and tearful child when their world is turned upside down.

If you have access to stuffed animals that could comfort a child, bring them to a meeting and we'll take it from there. Thank you, from the children!



DVD Library

WWCH has a great DVD library, and DVDs can be checked out by WWCH members for one month. You can see list of our DVD library on the WWCH website here: <http://wwch.org/Library/Videos.htm>.

If you would like to check one out, please email the video librarian Lisa Sessions at lases-sions@earthlink.net.

Woodworker of the Year



During the December meeting, members voted to select the 2015 Woodworker of the Year. The nominees were Norm Nichols, David Janowitz, Lon Kelley, Lynn Cummings, Charles Volek, and Bill Hoffmeister. While it was a tough choice, as all of the nominees have shown wonderful work throughout the year, Lon Kelley won the vote. Congratulations, Lon!

Woodworking Show Date Change

As you probably know by now, the Woodworking Show for the Houston area has been rescheduled to the last weekend in February of 2016 at the Pasadena Convention Center. As a club, we have requested a booth which we will staff with as many members as possible. As of 12/15/15, we don't know how many free passes the Show will provide us. We will start the sign-up at the January meeting.

Denis Muras and Norm Nichols will be demonstrating scroll saw techniques and Fred Sandoval has offered to demonstrate hand-dove tail joinery. I will be beating the bushes for volunteers to demo other skills.

We will be looking for members to bring examples of their work to exhibit in our booth. For those of you with not-so-easily-transportable pieces, you are welcome to provide photos.

In the past, the Show has always provided us with new members so it is important that we make a good showing by staffing with our members as well as our Show n Tell projects.

Submitted by Gary Rowen

Welcome New Board Members!

During the December meeting, attendees voted for a new slate of board members. Here are the results:

2016 WWCH Board of Directors

President: Roslyn Hager

Vice President: Mike Turner

Secretary: John Lastrapes

Treasurer: David Janowitz

Publications Director: Lisa Sessions

Directors: Bill Harris, Gary Rowen, Joe Cook, Lynn Cummings

A big thank you to all of the 2015 board members, committee members, club service providers, and the many volunteers that made 2015 a wonderful year!

Interesting Woodworking Video Podcasts

During a recent internet search, I stumbled across a great article on Woodworkweb.com entitled, "8 Great Free Woodworking Podcasts and Videos." While several of the sites listed are no longer active, the following sites are still going strong and have some great content:

- ◇ Woodworkingonline.com, a content rich site operated by the folks from Woodsmith Magazine.
- ◇ Renaissancewoodworker.com, run by Shannon Rogers, with lots of detailed information and videos that feature the use of hand tools.
- ◇ Mattsbasementworkshop.com, a site run by Matt Vanderlist. Another content rich site that includes videos focused on tool reviews, projects, and interviews of other woodworkers.
- ◇ Garagewoodworkers.com, operated by Brian Grella. I haven't spent time exploring this site yet, but it looks interesting and has a lot of content to explore.

Submitted by Lisa Sessions

Show and Tell

Show and tell photos submitted by Gary Rowen and write-up submitted by Lisa Sessions

PRESENTERS

Bob Wink..... Big Wheel & King Kong
Lisa Sessions..... Toy Dog & Christmas Ornaments
Ron Kuennig Jewelry Box & Christmas Tree
Mike Turner Push Blocks
Mark Bolinger..... Toolbox
Andy Anderson..... Knives
Brandon Rathke Block Planes
Lynn Cummings..... Lazy Susan & Coasters
Denis Muras Noah's Ark
Lon Kelley Ornaments
Chuck Meeder Santa's Sleigh & Ornament
Peter Doe..... Eagle Scout Board
Charles Volek..... Ornaments & Shepherd
Jenny Joseph..... Fish
Chuck Graham End Table



Lisa Sessions showed a dog toy and a two Christmas ornaments. The dog toy is a gift for a friend's granddaughter, and it wags its tail when you pull it. It's made from walnut and red oak and finished with the beeswax and mineral oil finish used by the toy group. The tree ornament is made from red oak and finished with natural Watco Danish Oil, and the snowflake is ash and stained with Minwax stain.



Bob Wink showed two tramp art pieces he recently completed, King Kong and Big Wheel. King Kong has an airplane that circles around the building. Bob claimed that he used Pam Kelley as a model for the character that King Kong kidnaps, eliciting a chuckle from the audience. Bob was inspired to make the Big Wheel piece by the big metal wheel which he found at a salvage yard. Bob was speechless for several minutes when asked if he used himself for the model for this project!



Woodsmith magazine had a pattern for a Christmas tree that **Ron Kuennig** decided to build out of Wink wood. Ron noted that he installed the ornament balls after assembling the tree, and it was difficult to work in the interior ones.

The keepsake box is from a pattern in Wood magazine. Ron used a variety of woods, including mahogany, black walnut, cedar, and bodark. The bottom is made out Wink wood.

Mike Turner

showed the group some push blocks that were made on the CNC router during the last splinter group meeting. Mike noted that using this type of push block with your table saw is very important. If you are using a stick type pusher to feed your wood through your saw, it is not safe and you should throw it away.



Show and Tell



The hand tool splinter group has been working on building tool boxes, and **Mark Bolinger** presented this beautiful tool box he made for that group project. The box is made from quarter sawn sycamore and walnut for the trim, and the lid folds down over the saws to reveal a removable tray with an open compartment beneath it. Mark salvaged magnets from old speaker and installed them in the box to hold the saws in place.



Lynn Cummings presented a lazy susan that he has made as a Christmas gift. It's made of cherry and finished with mineral oil. Lynn had the engraving done by a company with a laser engraving machine.



Lynn also showed coasters he made from various types of scrap wood pieces. The inspiration for this project was a video on You Tube. Lynn glued the scraps together in a block of wood and added a cherry border as an accent. He then cut the block into coasters and finished with lacquer.

Denis Muras showed the group a Noah's Ark he made from various woods including maple, mahogany, walnut, mesquite, and pecan. The ark is filled with animals Denis cut on the scroll saw. Denis used additional types of wood for the animals, including zebra wood, wenge, and other woods. The ark and animals are finished with a mixture of beeswax and mineral oil that it is child safe.



Andy Anderson showed the group these knives. He picked up the blades for free at a garage sale several years ago, and decided to make handles for them recently. The handles are made from oak and black walnut, and Andy used steel rods as pins in the handle assembly.



Brandon Rathke decided to make his own block planes. Brandon is active in the hand tool splinter group, so in the spirit of the group he made the planes all by hand with the exception of grinding the steel for the blades. The block planes are made from mahogany.



Lon Kelley presented two Christmas ornaments he made from salvaged wood from a laminated beam. He sawed the ornaments together and then swapped the cutouts and glued the ornaments together.

Show and Tell

Chuck Meeder found the pattern for this Santa's Sleigh on toymaking-plans.com. The sleigh is made from various woods, including cherry, walnut, maple, holly, and oak. Chuck used Watco natural Danish oil to finish the project except for Santa's coat, which he finished with Watco red mahogany Danish oil.



Chuck also showed this penguin ornament that he carved and then painted. Chuck noted that he rough cut the shape on his scroll saw first to save time on the actual carving. The ornament is made from basswood.



Charles Volek presented an intarsia shepherd with his sheep and several intarsia bird ornaments. Both the shepherd and the ornaments are from Kathy Wise patterns and are made from various woods including cherry, aspen, maple, oak, walnut, and others. The shepherd and sheep are three dimensional intarsia, which means they are fitted together like puzzles so that the intarsia shows on the back as well as the front. Charles noted that fitting all of the pieces together was quite challenging!



Several years ago, **Peter Doe** made a plaque to recognize Eagle scouts for his local Boy Scouts Troup. That plaque has been filled, and the troop asked Peter if he could make another one. Peter made this new plaque from cherry wood and finished it with wipe on polyurethane. The plaque is 36 inches high by 30 inches wide and has space for 100 names. Peter hand carved all of the details on the plaque, including the lettering, eagle, and flag.



Jenny Joseph was welcomed as a guest to the meeting, and she brought show and tell. The fish is made from an offcut of sycamore from the sawmill splinter group. Jenny painted the fish with acrylic paints.

Chuck Graham took a welding class and made a metal end table. He didn't think the table was very attractive, so he made a wooden top to dress it up. The top is walnut with maple string inlay. It's finished with polyurethane, and will be a gift for his great granddaughter.





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	Roslyn Hager
Vice President	Mike Turner
Secretary	John Lastrapes
Treasurer	David Janowitz
Publications Director	Lisa Sessions

DIRECTORS

Bill Harris, Gary Rowen, Joe Cook,
Lynn Cummings

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS

Book Library	John Gay
Donuts	Roslyn Hager
Club Logo Items	Norm Nichols
Membership Book	Patti Page
Members/Name Tags	Roslyn Hager
Newsletter	Lisa Sessions
Raffle	Lynn Cummings
Refreshments	Steve Wavro
Technology	Denis Muras
Video Library	Lisa Sessions
Web Master	Gary Rowen

NEXT MEETING

January 9, 2016

9:00AM TO 11:30AM

BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER, 6400 Bissonnet

**Steve Procter: Woodworking Fastener Selection
and Applications**

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!*