

Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

WWCH Santas in their workshops crafting Christmas toys. Makin' dreams come true for little girls and boys!



Volume 26 Issue 4

December 2010

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Welcome New Members

William Dotschkal
Walter Hansen
Scott Holmes
Julie McClung
Ragnar Rasmussen
Robert H. Wilder

DECEMBER ELECTIONS

**COME TO THE MEETING
AND VOTE FOR THE
NEW OFFICERS WHO
WILL LEAD WWCH FOR
2011**

**VOTE FOR
WOODWORKER
OF THE YEAR
2010**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been an interesting year for me as your president—a learning experience you might say. One thing I have learned is that I am not an administrator or manager. So, I would like to thank everyone for their help. This is not a one-person job like the library. Of course, there have been some failures and successes.

This year, we have a little storage room for toy parts, show supplies, raffle items and more. This way, our stuff is in one location. The format of the meetings has changed. Now show and tell is in the second half and the speaker is in the first half.

Our club was well represented throughout the Houston area.

Several members helped with the Extreme Home Makeover. We had so many visitors at the Houston Center for Commentary Crafts for the annual open museum day that we ran out of flyers and cards. The woodworking show in Katy was also a big success. In addition, we had a fantastic toy build this year – over 5,000 toys made.

On a personal level, I represented our club at a home-shop safety lecture for a safety engineering group (160+ people) along with Michael Breland last February in Beaumont. I also spent a day at Poe Elementary talking about woodworking for grades K through 5 for career week. That was a lot of fun.

One achievement has been getting the newsletter back into publication. Not having a newsletter for about 9 months was almost like making cabinets without a table saw. A newsletter is one of the most important tools that our club has. It will keep our members informed about upcoming events, promote special projects and remind everyone about things. A really important function is to keep our members informed about what other members are doing. However, a club newsletter cannot be done by just one person. A successful newsletter needs and wants input from the members. So when you are involved with something, know about woodworking events, help out with the Scouts, schools, neighborhoods or whatever, please, please, please let our club know about these activities.

However, not having a newsletter led to some failures. We were not able to have a shop crawl this year, a competition, or field trips. Also, the club was going to help PBS with a fund drive and I was hoping that it would have been on a weekend afternoon during the station's airing of home craft shows. However, the only slots that were open were from 8 to 11 PM during the week, and that was too late for me.

I would have liked to have more members on stage. Having someone as an emcee would have been nice, and getting committee heads on stage to remind and promote upcoming events would have been a great help.

Overall, things went pretty darn good. We will be getting a new set of officers in January. I had a good time as the president.

Next year, I will be back doing the library. So with that thought in mind, if there are books on our site that would help you, please send me an e-mail or call. I can bring them to the next meeting.

...John L. Gay, President

CANDIDATES FOR 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December is election time again for club officers and directors for 2011. We have a fine group of candidates so be sure to attend the December meeting and cast your vote for those you feel will give you the 2011 Club activities and programs that you want. The nominees are as follows:

President	Roslyn Hager
Vice President	Steve Wavro
Secretary	Dan Smith
Treasurer	Norm Nichols
Publications Director	Gary Rowen
Director & Immediate Past President	John Gay

Directors-at-large:

We have four nominees for three positions:

Bill Cole	Jerry Harmsen
Denis Muras	Linzie Rogers

NOMINEES FOR WOODWORKER OF THE YEAR— 2010

Finalists for Woodworker of the Year were selected based on various criteria:

- Show and Tell
- Educational Proration of the Meeting
- Promotion of the Club via Activities

Ballots will be available at the December meeting to vote on your choice for Woodworker of the Year.

The nominees in no particular order:

Lon Kelly	Jeremy Grubb	John Gay
Bob Wink	Norm Nichols	Steve Wavro

It takes special efforts and special people to keep an organization organized, interesting, educational, lively, and growing. Thank you to every member who lent a hand and their talents toward those goals during the year. Each one of you are what keeps the club thriving and inspiring.

So, do vote for that one member from the above nominees who consistently contributed his various efforts and talents for the betterment of the club.

Lon Kelley accepts his award trophy for winning the Box Contest at the October picnic from Andy Anderson. *Congrats, Lon!*



2011 WWCH DUES

Begin the new year PAID IN FULL!

Annual dues for 2011 is still only \$24— one of the best deals in town for expert advice, breaking product news, the newsletter, networking, and showcasing your work.

You can pay your dues at the December meeting or mail your check to Roslyn Hager, 5530 Caversham Dr., Houston, TX 77096.

You can abbreviate the club name on your check to WWCH rather than writing out the full club name.



Randy Abramson was commissioned to restore the badly damaged finish on this art piece.

It's a very special family heirloom that was carved by Irving Waddler, First Chair Violinist for the Houston Symphony for over 45 years.

Can't wait to see the restored piece.

KUDOS AND CONGRATULATIONS



The Monarch School honored the Woodworkers Club of Houston for their donation of and guidance in helping their children paint the gala's table centerpieces: 100 beautifully designed and colorfully painted butterflies!

THE 2010 TOY PROGRAM – A HUGE SUCCESS SPECIAL TOYS FOR SPECIAL KIDS BY SPECIAL PEOPLE

Once again the participants in the Club's Toy Program outdid themselves by producing over 5,000 toys and games to be distributed to a large number of charities for distribution at Christmas to those who might otherwise have a less than joyous holiday. Our heartfelt thanks go to those who participated in this program and to the Club for its financial support. The following is a list of those we have been able to identify as being a part of this effort. However, if you participated and you are not listed it is only because we could not identify you despite our best efforts.

Andy Anderson	Mark Behring	Bill Cole	Paul Bynum	Patricia Bynum
Steve Driver	Ramona Darden	Nick Darden	Glen Edwards	Martha Harper
Bill Harris	Jerry Harmsen	Lyn Harper	Roslyn Hager	Lon Kelley
Pam Kelley	Jere Kessler	Lee Knekow	Hugh Parker	Norm Nichols
Terry Roush	Jim Robertson	Charles Sembera		Dorothy Sembera
Don Singer	Alan Schofield	Norman Stutts		

Thanks one more time for your selfless efforts in making this program a huge success!
...Bill Cole

The Club members began building the toys in January 2010 and by October the toys were ready to be distributed to these agencies:

Star of Hope	Shriners Hospital-Galveston	Shriners Hospital-Houston
House of Amos	Mission Yahew	Christian Community Services
De Pelchin Children Home	Casa de Esperanza	Blue Santa HPD program
Fort Bend Constable Pct 3	Houston Fire Dept.	



Members of WWCH delivered a truck full of toys to the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children in Houston and to the Shriners Burn Hospital in Galveston.



Pictured left to right: Norm Nichols, Caitlin Pearch, Galveston PR specialist accepting on behalf of the hospital, Jerry Harmsen, and Andy Anderson.



A Shriners Hospitals for Children-Galveston patient and her mom enjoy putting the finishing touches on the donated toys.

NOVEMBER SHOW AND TELL

PRESENTERS

1. Doc Cotton—Carved Oak Box
2. John Gay—Hard Hat & Briefcase
3. Umberto Gherdovich—Inlaid Art Pieces
4. Ridg Gilmore—Deacon's Bench
5. Billy Havins—Setting Mitre Saws
6. Lon Kelley— Cabinet Redo
7. Clark Kellogg—Letter Plaques
8. Jere Kessler—Colorful Toys
9. Ron Matherly—Teak Dining Chairs
10. Hugh Parker—Brass Tools
11. Martin Sweigart—Saw Horses
12. Andy Urban—Marry Me Box
13. Steve Wavro—Scarecrow
14. Bob Wink—Quilt Rack

Only **John Gay's** creative, whimsical mind could conceive and create this artistically designed cow's head with moving eyelashes and eyes, inlaid with turquoise chips and metal filings salvaged from a key-making kiosk into a wearable and functional hard hat! Had a bit of a tussle carving those horns. Top that off with a gift for his ghost-hunting loving wife of a professional tombstone-shaped carrying case complete with briefcase interiors and a chalkboard backing for that "automatic or ghost writing" ...just in case the spirit moves someone, er something.



Ron Matherly won't be doing much sitting around if he undertakes building dining room chairs based on these prototypes that he crafted from teak. His challenge of making the groove to accommodate the decorative upholstery nails his wife requested were solved with a 3/4" router bit. Members eagerly comfort-tested the chairs.

Bob Wink made a little "honey do" Christmas gift for his wife: a quilt rack in solid oak with key and tenon joints. He demonstrates how versatile it is by exercising his bicep muscles. He'll graduate later to lifting it with quilts hanging -- he'll have to eat a lot of spinach, though.



Hugh Parker knows all the angles for his precision brass and rosewood measuring tools. His tip for sanding brass: start with 220, then to 320 and back to 220 for a perfectly smooth finish!

NOVEMBER SHOW AND TELL



Steve Wavro claims that this is not an intarsia scarecrow for a woodworker's garden. The design is from the website of Judy Gale Roberts. Steve points out how he used a Wonder Wheel to accent his work.

What a way to "pop" the question! **Andy Urban's** "Will You Marry Me" box worked beautifully! To Andy's delight, his girl friend accepted!



Mark Sweigart solved a storage problem with these two stackable saw horses made of southern pine. Bet he can ride 'em too! *Yippee tie yeahhh.*

Berto Gherdovich explained how he hand cuts with a knife pieces from 80 different kinds and colors of wood, into inlay design elements to craft his wood art. By the way, the ship is not the Titanic.



Jere Kessler is some Santa! The children at Good Shepherd Mission are the lucky recipients of 384 of his hand crafted and brightly painted wooden toys. The crane (from a design in *Wood Magazine*) comes with a matching pick-up truck! This very colorful, barn toy box with a removable lid can store small toys or critters inside. Jere notes that if the paints used are manufactured according to the American Manufacturing standards, they are pre-certified. Check each manufacturers paint on the web, and for more info see <http://paintwoodentoy.com>.

NOVEMBER SHOW AND TELL



A carving of **Doc Cotton's** wife and daughter grace the lid of his finely crafted red oak box. It is made from left over flooring and fresh teak. Doc's picture is probably engraved on the bottom.



Ridg Gilmer vacation to colonial Williamsburg inspired his Deacons Bench in cypress with storage under the seat that he crafted for his daughter. The hinged seat lifts then closes with a slow-close mechanism to protect your fingers. He found the plans in the WWCH library.



Clark Kellog shows off his hand carved, lettered plaques made of pearwood and oak. Gilding really sets off the lettering. Isn't this what pre-Gutenberg monks did in the old days?



Billy Havins showed slides that explained how to accurately set your miter saw using the tic marks on the angle pointer. I guess Billy gave us some "pointers"? Maybe more to come at the next meeting!



Lon Kelley presented a slide show of the built-in cabinet work he did in his home.

He transformed a 40-year-old plywood cabinet in the bathroom with new Cherrywood facings and new doors. Then the "while-I-was-at-it-it-is" hit and mirrors got new cherry frames and the kitchen got renovated!



The Woodworking Show is coming!

Leonard E. Merrell Center Katy, Texas

April 1 – 3, 2011

For full information: <http://cms.thewoodworkingshows.com/cms/>

Demos • Prizes • Drawings
• Giveaways • Discounts



YOU ARE EACH SO SPECIAL!

Inspire someone:

Showcase your work at the monthly meetings.

Motivate someone:

Get members involved in community or charitable projects.

DECEMBER INFORMATION

Please send your replies to wwch@wwch.org. All comments and suggestions will be forwarded to the requestors.

SCOTT HOLMES

Speaker for December 11, 2010

Finishing – An Art and a Science

He brings over 51 years of woodworking experience and expertise in finishes to the December meeting. Bring your questions and quandaries. This is certainly going to be a lively and informative discussion!

LIBRARY CONTACTS

For over 400 titles of helpful CDs, DVDs, and videos, see our librarian **Blaine Stokes** at our December meeting. To borrow books and magazines from the library, contact **John Gay** prior to a meeting and he'll bring your selection for pickup at the meeting.

TIPS AND TRICKS

TIPS: Both Wellwood and Elmer's have Hide glues that are stainable. Suggested mantra: *Clean up your glue before it gets stuck on you!* This info generated a lot of comment about water-based glues, acrylic verses lacquer verses shellacs, and what types would raise grain, stay clear, and then what about waxes. This was a very good segue into suggesting everybody attend December's meeting with Scott Holmes – the guru on finishes! Take notes!!!

About 30 members stayed to hear Randy Johnson's 2-hour demonstration of the SketchUp CAD program ... and eat pizza!

A LITTLE LAGNIAPPE: Members attending the November meeting were treated to boxes of FREE VANEER donated by Bob Wink! Really cleared the room fast!

Randy Johnson brought free issues of American Woodworker Magazine with CD, distributed by Matt Adams.

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New Year's Day 9 am - 5 pm

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NEXT MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2010
9AM TO 11:30AM
BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
6400 Bissonnet

DECEMBER PRESENTER SCOTT HOLMES

Discusses the Art and Science of
Finishes

CONTACT

wwch@wwch.org

We're on the web!

www.wwch.org

WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	John Gay
Vice President	Randy Abramson
Secretary	Dan Smith
Treasurer	Roslyn Hager

DIRECTORS

Andy Anderson	Roy Gilbert
Denis Muras	Norm Nichols
Publications Director	Vacant
Webmaster	Gary Rowen

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND

CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS

Book Library	John Gay
Membership/Name Tags	
Membership Book	Lorraine Lewis
Newsletter	Roslyn Hager
Raffle	Joyce Saylan
Refreshments	Don Singer
Video Library	Dave Kissinger
Web Master	Blaine Stokes
	Gary Rowen

Newsletter Publication

This newsletter is edited and distributed by Joyce Saylan, who may be contacted by email at sajoyce@hotmail.com.

Guests are always welcome at WWCH.

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 \$24 per year, or about the price of one good clamp!

CLUB SHIRTS AND CAPS

Get your own club shirt and cap! Order a shirt sporting the custom embroidered Woodworkers Club of Houston logo. Bill Cole will gladly take your order at the regular club meeting. Caps are ready to go. Pick one up at the meeting.

Shirts: \$20.00 Caps: \$6.00