

Woodworkers Club of Houston

Quotable quotes...

*The only easy wood project is a fire!
There is no such thing as scrap wood.
Good enough is rarely either.
Never pass up the opportunity to make a
mistake look like you planned it that way.
I cut it twice and it's still too short.*

Volume 27 Issue 7

July 2011

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Even though I'm not a native Texan, like the majority of adult Houstonians I wasn't born here. Through the years one cousin or another has lived in Houston for a while, but after 40 years, I find myself living in a city with no blood relatives. The wonderful out of town travel to family weddings and bar mitzvahs unfortunately means I end up missing things, like the last two meetings. So I'm all the more looking forward to the July meeting so I can catch up with my WWCH family.

...Roslyn Hager, President

WANTED: A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

Lon Kelley has agreed to chair the **nominating committee** for our election for next year's officers. Please contact Lon if you'd like to be on the committee, to hold office, or to serve on any committee. Let any one of the Board members know if there's any project you'd like the club to pursue, especially if you'd be interested in helping with it! You can contact any of us at the club's address wwch@wwch.org.

Backup Coffee person. Our Club is in need of volunteers for two different positions. We need one person to keep the spare coffee supply kit at home and to bring it in to make coffee in the event that Dave Kissinger (primary coffee volunteer) is unavailable.

We also need a second volunteer to serve as **Club Secretary** for the remainder of this year. The Secretary attends the Board meetings (immediately following the regular club meetings), takes notes, and distributes draft meeting minutes to Board members for their approval. If you are interested in either volunteer opportunity, please contact Steve Wavro at (281) 834-0027 or (281) 614-9517.

Need Toy Makers. The WWCH toy making program is about to become history. Without new, fresh volunteers the number of toys donated by members on behalf of our club will be drastically reduced from a few thousand to maybe a few dozen or so. There are many ways that you can volunteer. Make the toys from cutting thru finishing: cut out toys on your bandsaw, or another club member's bandsaw, assemble wheels (wheels are furnished by the club), sand, and finish the toys. Work on as many toys as you want - no minimum number.

The children of Houston are always so appreciative of these toys, and I know you woodworkers get such a warm and fuzzy feeling from using your talents for this charitable work. Step up and light the smile in some child's eyes.

Welcome New Members

Dennis April
Steve Rogers
Dave Wright
Doug Peck

Thought for the Day

*Excellence is the result of caring
more than others think is wise,
risking more than others think is
safe, dreaming more than others
think is practical and expecting more
than others think is possible.*

,,,Mac Anderson

JULY SPEAKER – BOB COLTHARP

Puzzled by puzzles? This month's speaker, **Bob Coltharp**, takes the mystery out of and shows the tips and tricks of making jigsaw puzzles. Just in time to make some wonderful Christmas gifts for those kids or kin who love puzzles!

American Woodworking and Furniture Show in Las Vegas July 20 through July 23

Gentlemen—get ready to “start your engines!” Get your car’s oil changed, fill your coolers with ice (and other things), mark up the road maps to those exciting side trips Andy Anderson and Denis Muras have planned on the way to VEGAS!!! They plan to arrive early in Vegas to visit with a toy-making group that goes into production with their toys! Caravan or convoy—it’s gonna be fun!

At the **American Woodworking and Furniture Show**, meet celebrities and manufactures representatives from Grizzly, Dewalt, Bosch, Jet, Powermatic, etc. See their latest products demonstrated. Dewalt encourages your critiques with a goodie bag of their products. Last year we talked with Norm Abrams. He is just like he is on his show, down to earth and interested. Scott Philips was also wandering around and welcomed your introduction.

No wooden nickels allowed, but here’s to wishing you bring home a wealth of information!

SHOP CRAWL

The WWCH shop crawl is tentatively set for the afternoon following our regular club meeting on **November 12** when the weather should be comfortably cool for you to visit any shops that may not be air conditioned. Presently, we have three shops confirmed and one “maybe” and we could definitely use more. The shops confirmed are all in the Southwest section of the city, so if you want a crawl in another part of town how about opening yours and doing a little bragging about how great a shop you have. If you are interested in having your shop on the crawl please contact either Mark Sweigart or Bill Cole both of whom are listed in your club directory. ...Bill Cole

Tell us a little about your shop for the newsletter so members can start building up the anticipation!!!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

RESCHEDULED FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER

Jim Thompson, will tell us about his organization: **The Society of American Period Furniture Makers**, and the fine furniture they create.

To see the extent of his affinity for old tools and other areas of expertise check out this link.

<http://www.wkfinetools.com/contrib/jThompson/jThompson-index.asp>



Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 9 – Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Bob Coltharp – Making Jigsaw Puzzles

August 13 – Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Rick Spacek – Woodburning Presentation

July 20-23 – Woodworking Show in Las Vegas

For more information: www.awfsfair.org

LAST CALL to join the Denis Muras and Andy Anderson caravan to Las Vegas.

October 22 - Annual WWCH Picnic – Prizes, Food, Fun, etc...

November 12 – Shop Crawl

Steve Wavro welcomes suggestions and ideas for speakers or topics for the WWCH monthly meetings.

SPEAKER COMING IN AUGUST

WWCH Member, **Rick Spacek**, will speak on pyrography. “Pyrography” means writing with fire and is the traditional art of using a heated tip or wire to burn or scorch designs onto natural materials such as wood or leather. Below are two photos of Rick’s projects.



COMING IN OCTOBER

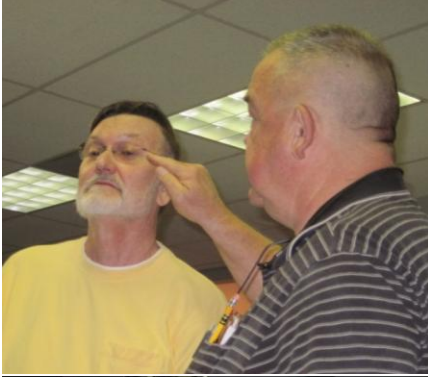
The WWCH annual picnic is coming, October 22.

The contest for the 2011 WWCH annual picnic is called **“Woodworker’s Choice.”** The rules are very simple. You can enter any woodworking project you want as long as it can fit within a box that measures 1ft L x 1ft W x 1ft H.

Plaques will be awarded for the First, Second, and Third Place entries. In an effort to help rejuvenate the making of toys for disadvantaged and/or hospitalized kids, we will also award a nice gift of appreciation to the person that brings the most wooden toys to the picnic for donation by the WWCH to other non-profit organizations. If the toys you make require wheels, the club will provide them. The wheels do not have to be already attached for the toys to count towards your total.

So get cuttin’ !! Get revved up!! And get psyched up for a fun day with friends and barbeque!

JUNE SPEAKER RECAP – MIKE TURNER, WOODWORKING SAFETY



ATTENTION!

AND I DO MEAN ATTENTION

barks former Marine, Mike Turner, who uses all that training and volume to instill in the members of his woodworking classes (14 to 17 year olds) the fear of the almighty – the almighty damage that can happen when you don't FOLLOW THE RULES.

Mike uses a book "Working with Wood" as his reference text.

Members called out to Mike "Let me see your fingers!" as he began his talk. And he sported a few battle scars. No one is immune to accidents.

Mike's credo is that the most dangerous tool in the shop is YOU! Following closely: dull and defective tools, inattention, distractions, carelessness, and that ego-puffing feeling of invincibility. When you find your mind is making "odds" whether you can "get away with it," then odds are you won't. Injury isn't worth the risk.

A few cardinal rules: plan ahead, know how to use your tools, never cross your arms in front of a radial arm saw, control your reflexes. For a table saw use a push tool and, when making a cut, train yourself to bring your hand down and around to the right - never straight back which takes your hand over the saw blade. Another caution is to never straddle a wood lathe."

Don't believe every technique you see on tv!

Nail guns ARE guns. If they have air, they ARE loaded. Guns have bullets...er, nails that can jam



then double fire, nail your hand to the ceiling, or take out an eye. And NEVER impede the safety guard. Handle a nail gun like a rifle: stay out of the line of fire, never point it at anyone. Torque from a drill press can break your fingers all the way back, and the kick from a chain saw can cut across your neck.

Always use safety glasses—good ones, not your eyeglasses—OSHA tested with side protection.

Mike closed with "Remember, the safest tool you have can almost kill you." Work in a Safety Frame of Mind.

Enjoy the craft of woodworking—safely!

TOOLS AND TOOL COLLECTING

The lovable little Stanley No. 1



Stanley tools represent a major category of collectible tools, and can form the basis for a rewarding and stimulating hobby. One of the most desirable of Stanley tools for the collector is the diminutive Stanley No.1 bench plane. This tiny, 5 1/2" long plane poses some interesting mysteries for the collector. First, what was it used for? It's so small that even a craftsman with a small hand finds it uncomfortable to use. And second, for a tool that was manufactured in abundance over a 73-year period (1870-1943). Why should it be so scarce?

As to the first mystery – its size – the explanation is relatively straightforward. These planes were designed for use by elementary school woodworking classes, and were used in the introduction to the proper care and use of woodworking planes.

The second mystery requires a more hypothetical explanation. With the advent of U.S. involvement in W.W. II came the need for scarce raw materials by factories involved in the rapidly increasing war production industries. Those with memories reaching back that far remember that not only were civilians in general involved in paper- and fat-saving drives, among others, but schools and other institutions also were called on to collect and donate large amounts of scrap material.

The widespread draft also was a factor. Shop teachers, especially at the elementary school level came into short supply overnight, thus freeing up the tools and materials formerly used in their courses as vital scrap. Since the majority of No. 1 planes produced were to be found in schools, a large number of these planes were absorbed by the wartime scrap drives.

In case you're thinking of purchasing a Stanley No.1, be prepared to pay between \$400 and \$650 for an example in good or better condition. Also be sure to buy from a reputable dealer who will guarantee the plane is genuine.

WOOD MAGAZINE SEPT/OCT. 1984 (The price listed was in 1984. Recent prices start at \$900)

JUNE SHOW AND TELL

PRESENTERS

1. Mark Behring – Step stool and crayon holder.
2. Bryan Honey – Paddle Strop
3. Lon Kelly – Bench and Patio table
4. Steve LeGrue – Variety of turned bowls
5. Ron Kuenning- Cherry Clock
6. Mike Turner – Desk lamp
7. Bob Wink - Tramp Art made from White Oak and sculpture.
8. Charles Volek – Kinetic Sculpture



Charles Volek presented the "Planets", a kinetic sculpture or mobile which was designed by Clayton Boyer. Boyer's work and plans can be found at www.lisaboyer.com.

The mobile is made of different thicknesses of Baltic birch plywood with a maple frame and various brass rods, bushings, springs, and weights.



Ron Kuenning proudly holds this award-winning, chiming clock he made of cherry. Finished with 6 to 7 coats of tung oil. Trickiest part was the steeples which he turned on a lathe.

Lon Kelley presented a small, folding patio table and a curved-seat bench made from Spanish Cedar (the same wood used in Flamenco guitars). The wood is light, sands out easily, has no grain, and has a nice brown-red color.



JUNE SHOW AND TELL

Bob Wink's Arts and Crafts lamp of quarter sawn oak in a seaweed design with elements of Tramp Art and translucent shells as lamp shades is sure to be a conversation piece in any room.



Mark Behring showed off a crayon holder that was easily and quickly made as soon as he found the right bit size to fit the crayons (11/32).

This unique step stool or chair with elongated back is made of lightweight pine but can support 200lbs.



Steve LeGrue proudly showed club members his collection of turnings and carvings. Steve has been experimenting with color, texture and metal foils in his bowl designs. Techniques include patenizing, burning for color with 40 gauge nikron wire, fill with color, brush and clean with ethanol. The green bowl is hackberry.

Mike Turner explains how he turned a high-intensity track light into a desk lamp of pine. It sports a coffee holder, and handy switches and can telescope as tall as you need.



Bryan Honey found the perfect wood to make this paddle used to smooth his work. Finished with a 60° angle on one edge and wrapped with "the hardest leather you can get". He notes that his wife's Coach purses have really great leather!
(Yeah, right. R.I.P, Bryan.)



CLUB AND MEMBER INFORMATION – NEWS YOU CAN USE

Please send inquiries to wwch@wwch.org. All comments will be forwarded to the appropriate person for response.

Newman's Castle *One Man's Dream Come True*



Newman's Castle, a one-of-a-kind custom creation outside of Bellville, Texas. It is Mike's home that he built himself. The castle features its own moat, complete with gators, a massive working 3000 lb. drawbridge with an accompanying portcullis, a chapel, five round corner turrets, a courtyard, and a central keep with a dramatic view of the surrounding countryside. A perimeter wall encompasses the castle, ensuring you will be safe from oncoming marauders during your visit.

Mike Newman is the creative force behind both his bakery and the castle bearing his name. Since exploring Europe in his early 20's, he dreamed of building his own castle, and has made that a reality. Exhibiting the same hard work and determination that built his successful bakery of nearly three decades, Mike broke ground on his mighty fortress in 1998.

"In the beginning...people thought I was crazy," Mike revealed in a recent interview with [Texas Live Magazine](#). Ten years later, Mike truly can say that he is king of his own castle. "It makes people happy. They leave with restored faith that they can do anything."

The castle is open for tours by appointment.

For more information: <http://newmanscastle.com>

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Free Woodworking Plans, www.workinggroups.com – many free patterns and plans for a variety of projects

Historic Houston, www.historichouston.org – a resource for flooring, lumber, hardware, doors, windows, shutters, fireplace mantles.etc.

Wood Marvels, www.woodmarvels.com – -- Plans for various toys. Mostly for CNC machines.

Fine Scroll Saw Works, www.finescrollsaw.com – Plans for sale of some intricate fretwork

D&M Woodcraft, <http://d-mwoodcraft.itgo.com> – Toys and other interesting works

M&G Sawmill, <http://mgsawmill.com> – Raw and rough cut woods (cedar, red oak, walnut, mesquite etc.), fireplace mantels, bar tops, wide slabs, peeled cedar posts and T&G flooring

GROUPS: Hand Plane Splinter group – Mark Bolinger – Art of working with Hand Planes

Friday Night Toy Group – Jim Robertson – the original toy group

AVAILABLE AT THE JULY MEETING

2011 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES

For mailing contact Gary Rowen at 281-486-2013

or email wwch@wwch.org

Please note: Andy Anderson's email in the directory should be "anmdersn", not "anmdersen" at hal-pc.org

CLUB NAME BADGES

When you join the WWCH, you are entitled to a name badge. **This initial badge is provided at no cost to you.** Lorraine brings many badges that have not been picked up to the monthly meetings at the sign-in table. So come to the July meeting, see your old sawdust buddies, and pick up your badge. We want to make sure that everyone gets a badge, so anyone who has joined within the last few months and has NOT received the initial badge, we need to hear from you so we can get your badge ordered. Please contact Norm Nichols via email at scrollsaw@comcast.net so that he can include you in the order for July.

If members want or need to replace a badge, there will be a charge of \$6.00 plus S&H. Please let Norm know if you want to buy a replacement badge. You can pay for it when you pick it up.



LIBRARY: VIDEOS – BOOKS – DVDS

The WWCH lending library of books, videos, and DVDs are all available to members free of charge. To arrange pick up at one of the WWCH meetings, just contact John Gay for books and magazines or Blaine Stokes for videos and DVDs.

Just one more benefit of WWCH membership.



KUDOS TO NORM NICHOLS

In the latest issue of Scroll Saw Woodworking & Crafts you will see this box scrolled by **Norm Nichols** from a Sue Mey pattern. On Norm's website are examples of more patterns in the same vein where fretwork is incorporated in the side panels as well as the lid.

He uses 1/4" (6mm) hardwood or plywood. The patterns show construction with butt joints. If preferred, the ends of the side pieces may be cut on a compound miter saw to make miter butt joints instead. All the edges of the box may be rounded over for a softer appearance. The corners are mitered for a better appearance.

This is Norm's second cutting for Mey and the magazine has more Mey/Nichols projects that hopefully will appear in later issues.

To see a variety of box patterns for various uses visit the **Boxes** section: <http://www.scrollsawartist.com/scrollsawpatterns>



TR087 Victorian box fret lid and sides 7" square \$6.50



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Woodcraft Is Located...

Cypress Station Square
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281-880-0045

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281-988-9449



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NEXT MEETING

JULY 9, 2011

9AM TO 11:30AM

BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
6400 Bissonnet

JULY PRESENTER BOB COLTHARP

Making Jigsaw Puzzles

CONTACT US AT

wwch@wwch.org

We're on the web!

www.wwch.org

WWCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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Vice President	Steve Wavro
Secretary	Dan Smith
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Publications Director	Gary Rowen
Immediate Past President/Director	John Gay



DIRECTORS

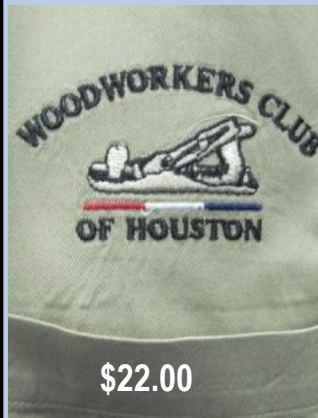
Bill Cole Denis Muras Linzie Rogers

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND CLUB SERVICE PROVIDERS

Book Library	John Gay
Donuts	Bill Cole
Historian	VACANT
Members/Name Tags	Lorraine Lewis
Membership Book	Gary Rowen
Newsletter	Joyce Saylan
Photographer	Gary Rowen
Raffle	Don Singer
Refreshments	Dave Kissinger
Technology	Denis Muras
Video Library	Blaine Stokes
Web Master	Gary Rowen

Guests are always welcome at WWCH.

WWCH SHIRTS AND CAPS GET YOURS TODAY!



Place your shirt order with Bill Cole at any regular club meeting. Pick up a cap at the meeting, too. Want your name on your shirt? Bill will arrange the custom embroidery! Be WWCH proud!



Newsletter Publication

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

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!