

THE WOODWORKERS CLUB OF HOUSTON

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2003

WWW.WWCH.ORG

THE BLUE TAG POLICY

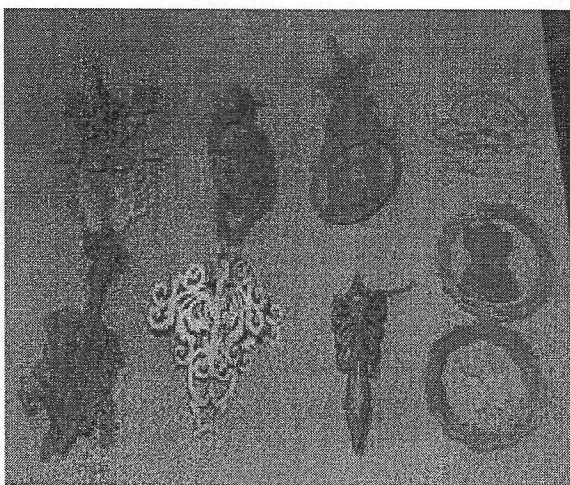
BY CHARLIE SYLVESTER

A long suffering husband finally confronted his wife. "Honey, I have been hesitant to mention this subject to you, but don't you think that after two years it's time for your uncle to go home? He's overstayed his welcome as a guest."

"My uncle? Good heavens, I thought he was your uncle." While our situation regarding guests to club meetings is not comparable, we do have a situation which we would like to bring to your attention. We would like to emphasize the fact that we are pleased to welcome guests and sincerely wish that they find our organization worthy of their membership. The open door policy to visitors promotes growth and creates a means of guaranteeing continuity for our group since a large percentage of interested guests ultimately become members. As such, they are entitled to free access to our libraries of videos and publications, regular programs that are highly educational and entertaining, and a variety of other benefits. From time to time we have field trips, an annual picnic, mentoring programs through splinter groups, and the opportunity to tap into pools of information provided by helpful members with hundreds of years of collective experience in a broad range of woodworking specialties. Unfortunately, we have a few persons who avail themselves of these benefits but neglect to pay their dues.

In order to encourage everyone subscribe to the rules of fairness we are instituting a new policy. Effective March 1, 2003, a blue tag will be issued to each member at the time his or her dues are paid. Only with this tag will an individual be entitled to access to the valuable benefits offered dues paying members.

We would deeply appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Thank you



Above: Paul Koury got into the Christmas spirit by making these detailed Christmas ornaments. Paul finished the ornaments with Depthane.

New members:

The following people joined our club in December. Please extend a warm welcome to:

Frank Patout

Kenneth Fisher

Pat Richerson

Morris Reinisch

Mark Bolinger

DECEMBER PROGRAM ---

RUSTY BYRLEY

To close out 2002 for the WWCH, Rusty Byrley of Nachodogches was our speaker. Rusty was recommended by long-time WWCH member Ken Wallis. Rusty demonstrated several jigs and fixtures, as well as speaking on techniques for cutting ovals, additional ellipticals, and many other things. Thanks a lot Rusty for your program!!



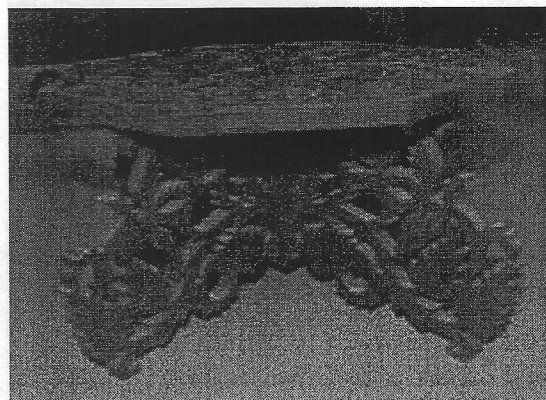
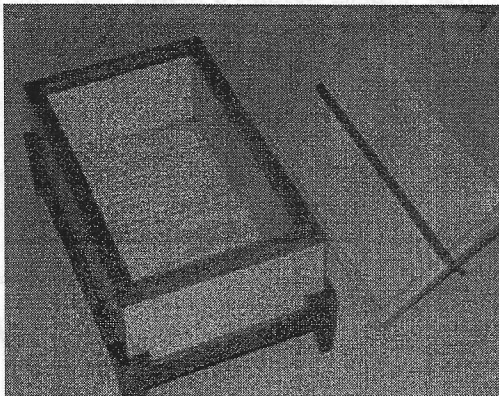
Above: This toy pull frog was made by Hank Merry. Hank used cedar in the frog's construction.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the February issue will be Monday, January 27. If you have anything that you would like to submit to the newsletter, please do so by that day. If you have any questions, please call Justin Kelly.

Note: Submissions for the newsletter must be in computer format (no hard copies, please).

Below: This small jewelry box was crafted by Norm Stewart. Norm's box is made out of maple and bloodwood.



Above: This complex candlestand was scroll-sawn by Robert Sandlin.

AT YOUR SERVICE

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Vice-President:

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Gary Rowen - 281-486-2013

Treasurer:

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Loretta Buckley &

Bill Hochmuth

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Newsletter Editor:

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justinkelly@swbell.net

REMINDER!!

Dues are \$24 per year.

Dues are prorated for
new members ONLY.

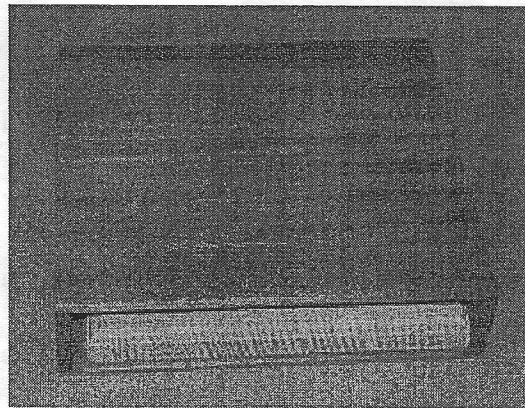
Renewing members in
January: \$24.

New members in
January: \$24.



Upcoming Programs

It seems that Steve LeGrue of the Cutting Edge traditionally kicks off the New Year for the WWCH programs. Well, this year is not going to be any different, so be sure to attend January's program as Steve will be showing us how to lay out and hand cut dovetails.



Above: One of two mahogany slide boxes made by Marcus Brun to hold his tic-tac-toe games (see December issue for description and picture of games.)

BRANDLE'S SAWMILL

ROUGH SAWN
PINE AND
HARDWOODS

CUSTOM SAWING
AVAILABLE

LOGS UP TO 36"
DIA X 24'

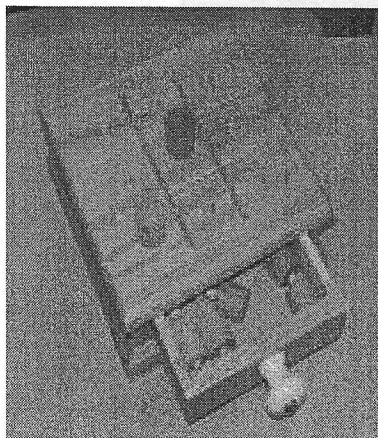
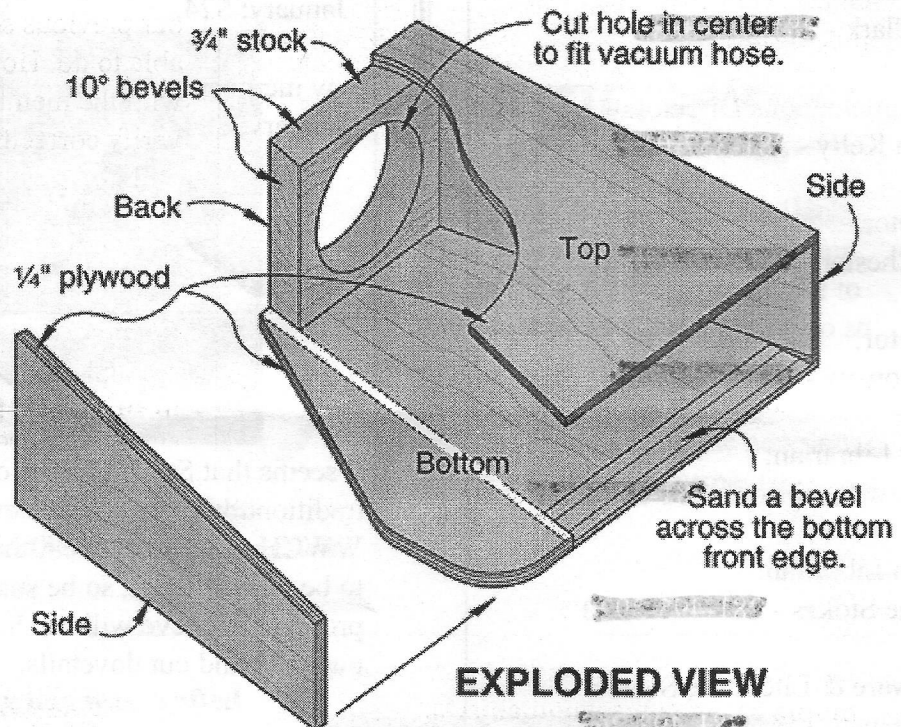
13868
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PROJECT OF THE MONTH --

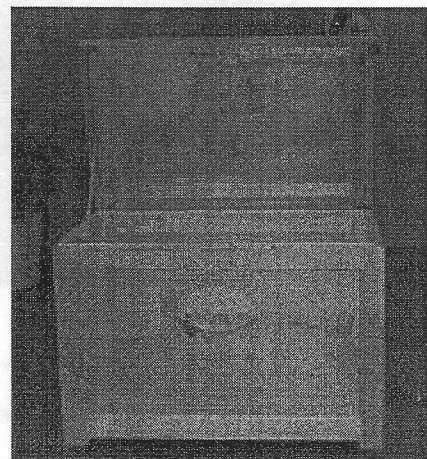
DRILL-PRESS DUST COLLECTOR

Wood chips and sawdust don't stay around long when you hook up this clamp-down collector to your shop vacuum or dust-collection system. You'll breathe a lot easier and cut down cleanup time, too. Use the Exploded View and Parts View drawings to construct the collector from 1/4" plywood and 3/4" stock. Cut or sand 10° bevels across the top and sides of the 3/4"-thick back, where shown below. To reduce sawdust buildup at table level, sand a bevel across the front edge of the bottom piece.

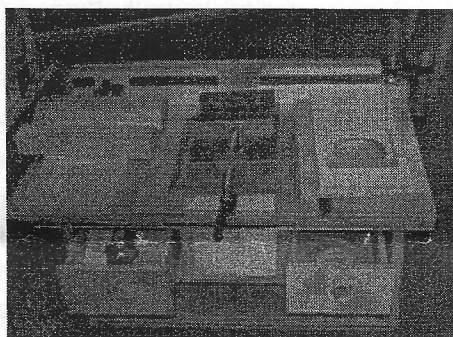
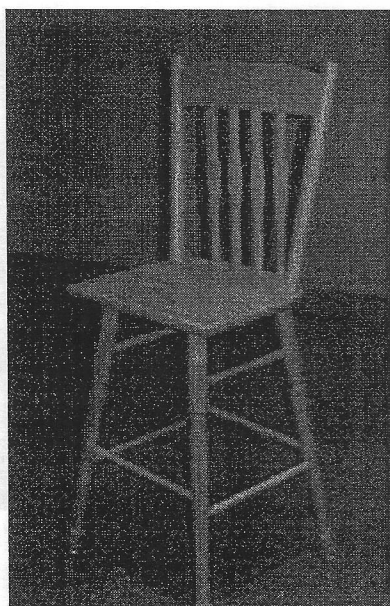


Left: This tic-tac-toe game was constructed by Dan Shaklovitz. Dan used dowels for the pegs.

Right: Lon Kelley continued his outstanding craftsmanship with this maple and maple plywood toy chest.

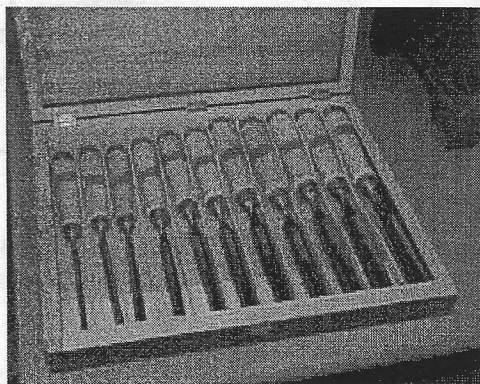


Right: This youth-sized chair stool was built by Hank Merry. Hank gives credit to Jack Hutchison for the angled pieces on the back of the chair. Very nice job, Hank!



Above: This drill press table was built with birch plywood by Bill White.

Below: Paul Rubas made this walnut and maple case for his wood chisels.



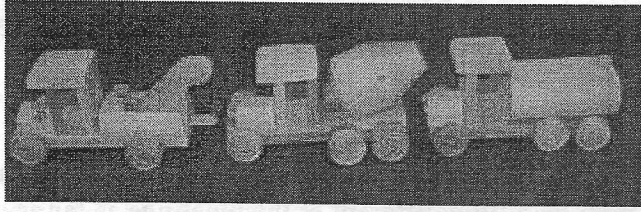
Right: This is the second in the continuing series of scrollsawn faces by Adolph Morales. This face of The Duke (John Wayne), is made of pine and the frame from red oak. Excellent work, Adolph!



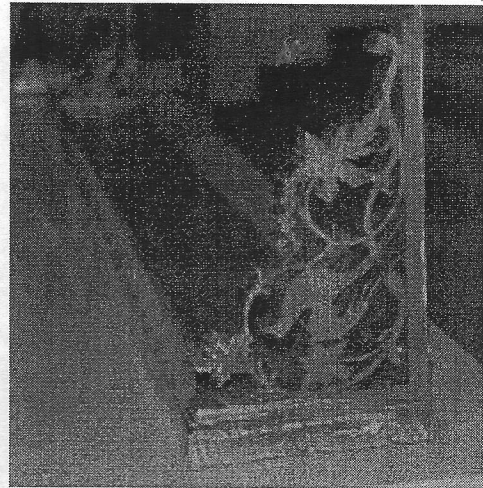
NEW MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURES BY GARY ROWEN

Now that the club secretary position has been expanded into two positions, Secretary and Treasurer, you will find things a little different at the meetings as far as membership renewal and sign up is concerned. Since I am still performing webmaster duties and will be taking photos of projects for show and tell as they roll in, I, as the new WWCH secretary, will not be able to give you the personal attention that our previous secretary, Joan Loggins, was able to do. However, I will set up a table with the membership list there for you to verify correctness of personal information. I will also pass it around during the meeting for you to verify.

Renewing your membership is simple. Just write a check to the Woodworker's Club of Houston in the amount of \$24.00 and give it to me or give it to Jim Clark, your new Treasurer. Just make sure your check has your name on it so I'll know whose membership is being renewed. If you are paying cash please give it directly to Jim Clark so he can give you a receipt. See you at the meeting!



Above: These ready-to-go work trucks were created by Ken Fisher.



Right: This beautiful wall shelf was constructed out of pine by Robert Sandlin. Robert used a spiral blade on his scroll saw to make the inside cuts on the long shelf piece. Very nice, Robert!

PREZ SEZ BY KEN KOOSER

Well, as we start the 2003 year I hope you all had a great holiday season. With the new year comes change. Welcome to your new officers who are in place to serve the membership. Every organization can be improved by communications and I urge you to communicate with your elected leaders. The January meeting is the Official Annual Club Meeting. At this meeting we will present last years awards; Woodworker of the year, The Golden Hammer Award and this year we will bestow a lifetime award for excellence to one of our members. The votes are in and only I know the winners. I want to give a hearty thanks to the members who served the club last year. Our Vice President; Arthur M. Chester, provided us with 12 excellent meetings and has served the club as an officer/board member for many years. Ms. Joan Loggins, our last Secretary/Treasurer (after this year it is two offices) has done a great job of providing notes for board meetings as well as detailed financial records. Additionally Joan has put up with the antics of the board. Believe me in some of the meetings language was used that would have made sailors blush. With only two carry over board member we elected two new guys - Jack Hutchison and Blake Present - who both contributed a great deal. Early in the year a board vacancy occurred and Mike Turner stepped in to fill our needs as he has in past years. Between Mike, Art and myself there are ten years of service to the club. That's nothing in comparison to the committee chair persons who have been making coffee, preparing badges, lugging books and videos to the meetings. Please keep the fine show and tell projects coming and remember - dues are due.

GUIDELINES FOR VIDEO CHECKOUT

I want to personally welcome Blaine Stokes to the position of video librarian.. To make the transition for Blaine easy, I would appreciate it if all members would please observe the following posted guidelines for video checkout:

- Available for members only
- To check out video/s, sign name on clipboard in proper box
- No limit to amount of videos checked out
- Videos are supposed to be returned at the next meeting
- Late fee is \$2 (doesn't matter how many months/videos)
- When videos are returned, sign out on return sheet

6 *** If your name is not on return sheet, your video/s is overdue

THE HISTORY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SPICE BOX

BY JACK HUTCHISON

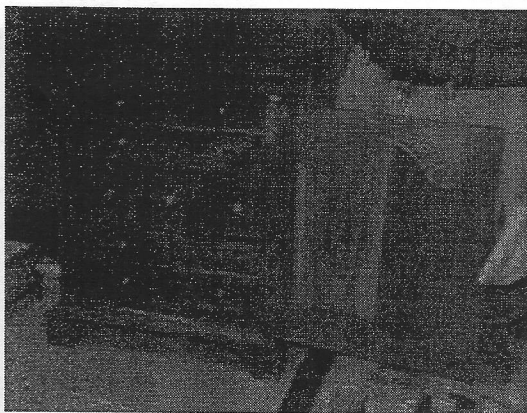
The Pennsylvania spice box, sometimes called a livery chest, is a wonderful example 18th century fine craftsmanship. These small chests originally may have been used for storing spices, which were so rare in Colonial America that they were kept under lock and key. Spice boxes have a heritage that goes back several centuries. Although they originally stored spices, they were usually filled with valuables such as money, jewelry and documents. There were practical reasons for this as banks were few and far between, and even if they were convenient, the valuables were neither secure nor insured. It therefore made sense to keep valuables hidden at home. So, constructing fine furniture with secret hiding places became common. Many spice boxes were known to contain hidden compartments.

While spice boxes were first produced in England and later in the American Colonies, they became unfashionable towards the end of the William and Mary period in England and in parts of the American Colonies. However, they continued to be made in Pennsylvania until the close of the 18th century. While they were popular in the Delaware Valley Area, the most notable were made in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The contents of the "spice box" may have changed over the years but it was always intended to hold objects that were of value. The spice box was considered a luxury item and was generally owned by the upper middle class. In fact, the box itself was considered an object of value, and occupied a position of prominence within the household.

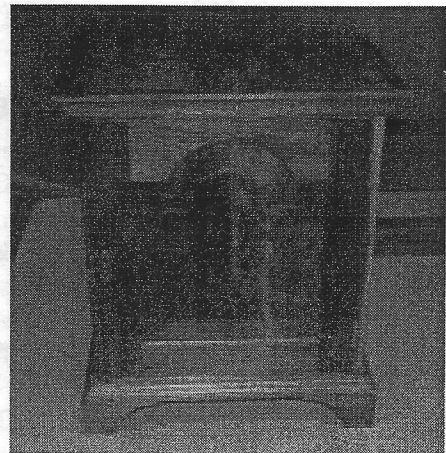
Many examples of spice boxes are found in various museums around the country including the DuPont Winterthur museum near Chad's Ford, PA, and the Ima Hogg collection in Houston, TX. Some rare examples of fine craftsmanship in the form of the spice box are known to have sold at auction for over \$2 million attesting to their enduring value.

The spice box is characterized by highly figured wood, fine brass hardware, and hand-cut joinery that makes this chest a showpiece of craftsmanship.

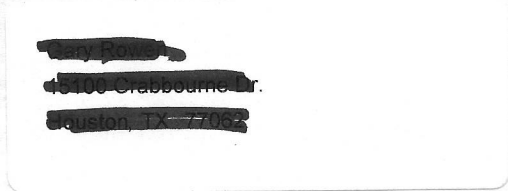
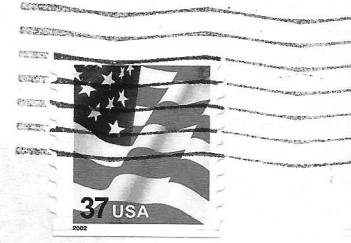


Above: The spice box, made of walnut was finished with a quart of Watch. Jack said that there are no hidden compartments in this box, but how can we be sure????

Below: A look at the beautiful Queen Anne style Pennsylvania Spice Box constructed by Jack Hutchison.



**WOODWORKERS CLUB OF HOUSTON
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TOMBALL, TEXAS 77375**



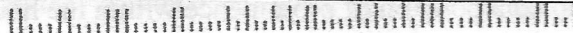
CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY:

1/11/03 - Meeting at the Bayland
Community Center - 9:00 A.M.
(Presentation of 2002 Awards)

WARNING! IMPORTANT!

This is the first newsletter of 2003. Dues for 2003 should be paid for immediately or at the next meeting. If you have not paid by the February meeting, your membership and newsletter will be cancelled. Next month is your last newsletter unless you pay your dues. Please pay your dues for 2003 as soon as possible!

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