

Woodworkers Club of Houston

January 2004 • Volumn 20, No. 1 • www.wwch.org

A message from our new president.



Hi, my name is Jim Robertson. I have been a member of Woodworkers Club of Houston for three years. My wood working experience is mostly in home construction and repair. One of My first jobs was working for a

hardwood floor installation and finishing company. I was exposed to woods like pecan, oak, walnut, pine and some really old mesquite. I believe that this exposure was what my road to woodworking. I am setting up a 30' x 30' shop with everything you could possibly want (thanks to my wife). I enjoy going to the club meetings and being around all of the members. Every member has something to teach you or for you to teach them. All you have to do is look at our show and tell to know of the vast and varied skills of the members in the club.

I am looking forward to next year. I would like to see this club grow and have the members become closer to each other.

I think that additional splinter groups is one way we can achieve this and I will be looking for members to lead these groups. I would like see as many of the old members as we can find coming to the meetings.

Our outgoing officers and board have done an exceptional job with very little, and sometime, no help. Each and every one of the club members needs to personally go up to the officers and board members and thank them for a job well done.

There is one more subject I would like to bring up and that is the special raffle tickets. This issue presents the results of the drawing on page 3. Congratulations to the winners. Over \$8000.00 was presented to the recipient. This is what the Christmas spirit really means.

I am looking forward to a great year with many new faces and a lot of the old ones as well.

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING

January Program

freud®

Freud Tool representatives will conduct a program and answer questions. Must see!

Freud Saw Blade promotion from The Cutting Edge: 10% off January 10th only. Come by the store after the WWCH meeting.

Dust In The Wind

by Sally H. White, COTA

No matter what your level of woodworking experience, a concern every member of WWCH shares are health issues associated with sawdust. This month, we will examine the hazards associated with wood dust. Subsequent articles will address management/collection, and recommended methods of limiting vulnerability to the inherent risks.

Exposure to wood dust has long been associated with numerous adverse health issues: allergic respiratory reactions, mucosal reactions, dermatological reactions, and certain cancers.

Respiratory reactions can include asthma, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, and chronic bronchitis. Sanding is by far the most dangerous of all woodworking processes as the resulting particles are so fine that many inexpensive masks currently on the market do not entirely filter the particles. As a result, these particles can migrate to our nasal cavities, sinuses, and lungs. OSHA and the American Cancer Society confirm a link between repeated exposure to wood dust and nasal and sino-nasal cancers. In addition, contact with irritant compounds inherent in wood sap can produce contact dermatitis and other allergic reactions.

Hardwoods such as beech, oak, and mahogany and MDF produce fine particles of dust and are in general more hazardous to human health than softwoods. The Vermont Lung Association, a national center for lung diseases, conducted a pulmonary function (i.e. breathing) survey among workers exposed to hardwood dust. The study concluded that the prevalence of impaired breathing among woodworkers who were exposed to medium and high amounts of hardwood dust were 2 -3 times higher than among persons who were not exposed.

Western red cedar, a softwood, is a particular exception due to the hazards related to the concentration of tannins and other similar compounds in the wood.

The good news is that there are numerous methods available to limit the risks of exposure in working with wood.

First line of defense.....

While there are a great many types of equipment available to deal with a wide variety of contaminants, all breathing protection falls into one of these categories:

1. Supplied air respirators
2. Air-purifying respirators
3. Dust masks
4. Particulate removing respirators

We will investigate these options further in next month's newsletter. Until then The National Institute For Occupational Safety And Health (NIOSH) is an excellent resource for information about respirators. Find them at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/respirators>

A member of WWCH, Sally White is an Occupational Therapist employed by the Harris County Hospital District.

What Do You Do With Sawdust?

Sawdust is the common denominator of all woodworking activities. Whether turning, scrolling, or furniture making, along with our actual project, sawdust is the inevitable outcome.

We would like to feature some ideas of what woodworkers do with sawdust (other than throw it away). Send the editor an e-mail or see me at the next meeting and I'll run your suggestion in a future newsletter.

Uses For Sawdust

1. Sawdust Clay
Make sawdust clay by adding wallpaper paste and water to fine sawdust. Form project as with clay. Air dry. Then sand, stain and finish as with wood.
2. Mulch
Spread around plant beds.
3. Fire Starters
For barbeque pits, camp fires and fireplaces. Put sawdust in a small paper cup (muffin cups work best) then melt leftover candle wax in a double boiler. Pour wax over sawdust and stir together. Light edges of cup.

Best Ever Raffle results

Thanks to all that participated in the Best Ever Raffle to benefit a fellow woodworker here in Houston. This was truly a "spirit of the season" event. Results are posted below.

Grand Prize:

Delta X-5 UNISAW

Donated by The Woodworkers Club of Houston:

WWCH #1424

14.4 Portable Drill:

Donated by Bosch Tools:

Morgan Bradford #1804

4 Hours Woodturning Instruction:

Donated by Boyce Gahagan:

Pat Smith #4697

14 Inch Lathe:

Donated by Delta Tools:

Ken Kooser #2419

Bessy Strap Clamp:

J. McInnis #3650

Bessy Power Clamp:

Vic Vucinovich #4544

Oscillating Drill Press:

Rick Nash #1901

6-piece HSS Lathe tool set:

Jon Holt #3224

(2) 25-piece brad point drill sets:

Ronan Gregg #3188 and Wile Wingfield #3354

(2) shop aprons:

Donated by Woodstock:

Ronda Douglas #4625 and Charlie Sylvester #006

Jet DC650 Dust Collector:

Joan Loggins #164

Jet 10 14 Mini Lathe:

WWCH #1402

Jet Mortising Machine:

Lon Kelley #205

Jasper circle cutting jig:

Jerry Woodman # 4700

Jasper Router Base Plate:

Donated by Regency Sales, Ltd:

John Reagan #1056

Hand-Crafted items Donated by local clubs total number to be determined:

Paul Gorrell #903

Tom Paulley #176

Rory Gottsman #911

WWCH #1500

WWCH #1436

John Dean #4331

WWCH #1461

Esther Stokes #228

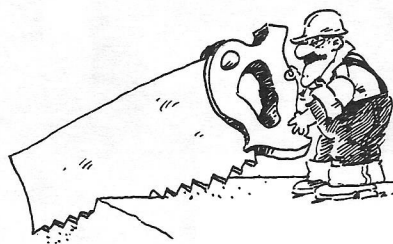
Randall Hassig #3391

Denis Muras #2301

A note from the immediate past president, Ken Kooser:

Change is the only constant in life! There are the "enlightened ones" who claim to embrace change and the majority who hate it. Even those who claim to be on the embracing side have trepidations. I'm glad that a full slate of officers has stepped up and will continue the club operation. I will continue to be part of the board this next year and am very proud to have served you for the past three. The editor has asked me to write a message to tell you how I feel about the past two years as your president. What I'm proudest of and what direction I think the club should take. In the past eleven or so Prez Sez messages I've attempted to share my philosophy about where the club should and should not go. You see, in my opinion it's a big wheel--what goes around comes around. The Bible says it best: "As you sow so shall you reap". Don't plant onions and expect peaches.

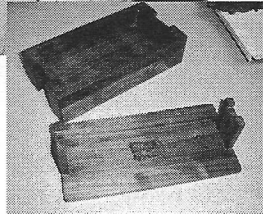
The surest definition of insanity that I know is to keep doing the same things while expecting different results. We've made some real gains in the past two years, that's not because of me, but because of your devoted volunteers who helped me. We have a new constitution and by laws, continue to have good meetings, had a much better turnout at our picnic, have a board that participated in the planning and execution of the club. We didn't take many field trips, we didn't pay an expert to come in and give a program. We have been very stable financially. The club treasury is as strong now as when I started. New president James and I are both troubled by membership numbers. Why is it that for the 4th largest city in the US our woodworking club has never had more than 209 members? Thanks so much for the opportunity to be your president.



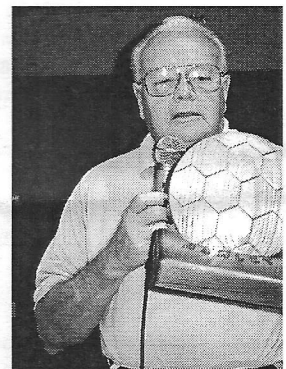
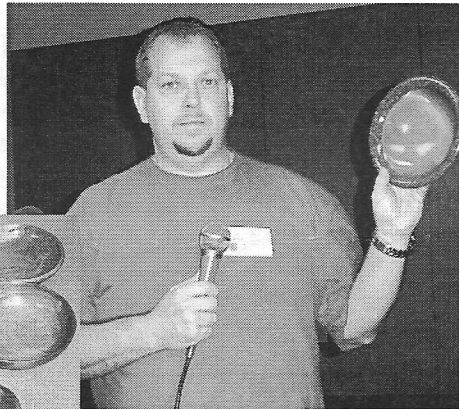
December's projects



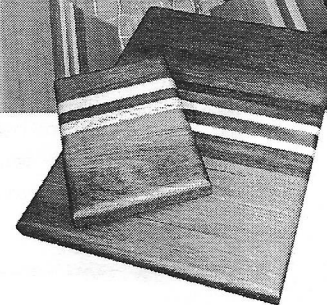
Jack Hutchison explained to club members how he fashioned his puzzle box using a router-mortise jig and a bottom cutter spiral plunge router bit .



Joe Rice proudly displays the bowls he crafted from a log. A couple of the bowls have Corian attached to the wood using Gorilla glue.



Fred Sandoval showed off two pine push-up assistants and his storage box made with hand-made dovetails. The push-up assistants allow him to do pushups from the floor without his palms lying flat.





John Gay described his first clock as an easy project. Drill a hole in a piece of wood and stick a clock in it. Takes no "time" at all..heh..heh.. The wrist watch, though "easy", took a little longer. He made it of red oak and maple. John claims he made the wrist watch for his "big" brother.

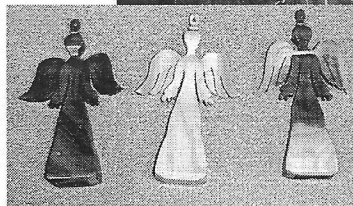
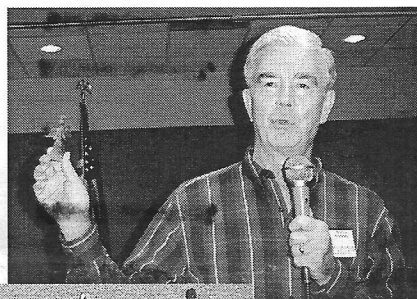


Ken Fisher talks about how he crafted this almost adult sized rocking horse. Carpeting lines the rockers because the floor on which it will sit is hard wood.

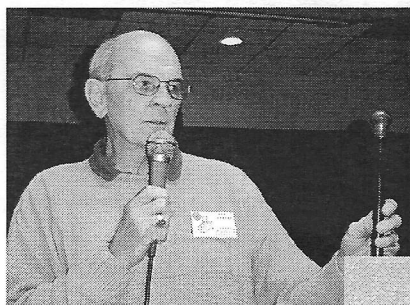


Glen Edwards crafted this soccer clock for his Granddaughter, Ashley, who, guess what, plays soccer. The base is cedar red wood and the ball was carved from a two inch thick piece of pine.

Monte Richard explained to club members how he scroll sawed these cedar Christmas ornaments to sell at a church fair. He used a #5 or #7 scroll saw blade on the wings.



Bob Brayton smiles as he shows off his cutting boards of teak, purple heart, birch, mahogany and wenge. They were first coated with Danish oil then followed up by coatings of vegetable oil.



Gene Volentine made this walking stick of ash for his wife. The knob is rosewood. He fashioned a piece of copper pipe for the foot tip. The finish is Minwax tung oil.



Club Contacts

Jim Robertson, <i>President</i>	713. 729. 6099
Walter Mason, <i>Vice-President</i>	281. 313. 9772
Gary Rowen, <i>Secretary</i>	281. 486. 2093
Al Morrow, <i>Treasurer</i>	281. 492. 6093
Ken Kooser, <i>Director</i>	936. 890. 4094
Paul Koury, <i>Director</i>	281. 347. 6309
Tom Matkin, <i>Director</i>	281. 492. 6093
Mike Kelly, <i>Director</i>	281. 357. 0177
Gary Rowen, <i>Webmaster</i>	281. 486. 2093
Joe Edelen, <i>Name Tags</i>	281. 492. 6093
John Gay, <i>Book Library</i>	713. 729. 6099
Blaine Stokes, <i>Video Library</i>	281. 492. 6093
Loretta Buckley, Bill Hochmuth, <i>Coffee Committee</i>	
Bill White, <i>Communications Director and Newsletter Editor</i>	281. 492. 6093

Resources

This column is devoted to woodworking stuff and where to get it. The Woodworkers Club encourages its members to patronize the businesses that support the club. The newsletter advertisers are noted in bold. Please note the club makes no guarantee or warranty of satisfaction from these vendors and this column is not intended as an endorsement.

Fine Woodworking Tools and Supplies:

The Cutting Edge 11760 S. Sam Houston Pkwy Houston, TX 77031	713. 981. 9228
Woodcraft 13155 Northwest Frwy Houston, TX	713. 690. 8508
Woodwright 1407 Spring-Cypress Road Spring, TX 77373	281. 651. 9663

Exotic Lumber:

Houston Hardwoods 4910 W. 34th Street Houston, TX	713. 686. 6176
Clark's Hardwood Lumber 700 E. 5 1/2 Street Houston Heights	713. 862. 6628

Speciality Tools and Equipment:

Jointech 11811 Warfield Drive San Antonio, TX 78216	800. 619. 1288
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Hardware:

Southland Hardware 1822 Westheimer Houston, TX	713. 529. 4743
Buffaloe Hardware 2614 Westheimer Houston, TX	713. 524. 1011
Brink's Hardware 3017 N. Durham Houston, TX	862. 6609
Cox Hardware & Lumber 1923 Wayside Houston, TX	713. 923. 9458

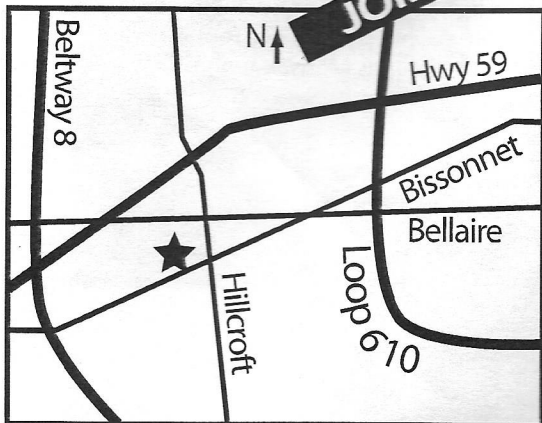
Power Tools:

Circle Saw Builders Supply 2510 Ella Blvd. Houston, TX	713. 864. 8444
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Note: The WWCH Newsletter will expand this column in the future with members' suggestions.

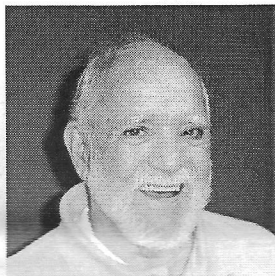
WWCH Monthly Meeting

Second Saturday of every month
We open the doors at 8:30am and wind up
by 11:30am
Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet
Houston, TX 77074

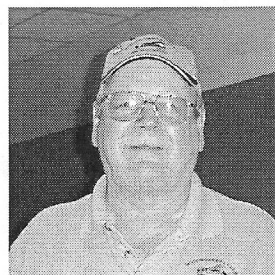


New officers elected.

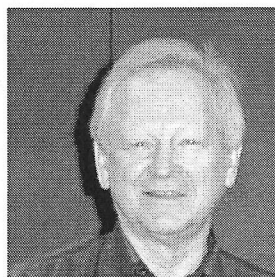
The WWCH has elected a new president and officers at the December meeting. These are the guys that will help to steer your club in a direction that will most benefit the members. They volunteer their time and talents because they believe the WWCH is a great organization filled with talented individuals that want to promote woodworking and woodworking education. They meet every month after the general membership meeting to discuss and decide upon the issues that affect club members. Club members are encouraged to attend these meetings and speak about issues that are of concern.



Blaine Stokes
Video Library



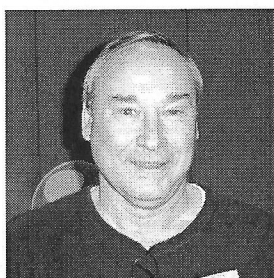
Ken Kooser
Director



Gary Rowen
Secretary & Webmaster



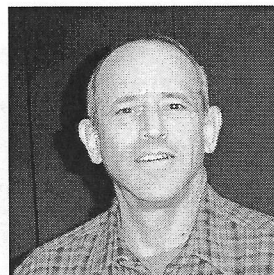
Jim Robertson
President



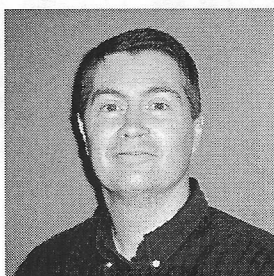
Walter Mason
Vice-President



John Gay
Book Library



Paul Koury
Director



Mike Kelly
Director

Photos not available: Al Morrow, Bill White, Tom Matkin.

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New Editor, new look.

I would like to introduce myself. I'm Bill White and I've been a member of the WWCH for about three years. I've worked with wood for a long time but have only recently had a shop with "serious" tools. The biggest obstacle I'm having to overcome is unlearning the bad habits I've acquired over the years. When I'm not moonlighting as your newsletter editor I'm a graphics professional producing advertising and marketing materials for my clients.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Justin Kelly for his dedicated service to the club the last three years. Justin has been the newsletter Editor and has done the job at the same time as being a full time student at Houston Baptist University. I'm sure I'll be calling upon him for advice in these coming months.

You will notice as you flip through this edition of the newsletter that more than the look has changed. These changes reflect a few of my goals as your newsletter editor. I would like for your newsletter to be a forum for issues that affect club members. If you have a concern or suggestion please let me know either in person at our monthly meetings or by e-mail. Also, I would like for the newsletter to present items that reflect issues concerning shop safety. This issue begins a series of articles about the hazards of sawdust. In coming editions we will present other issues as well. Do you have any ideas? Just let me know.

Also, I would like for the newsletter to be a recruitment tool for the club. I believe it could become a good way to attract new members. Therefore, this issue contains information about our monthly meetings and a map that provides directions to the Bayland Community Center. I would also like to give our advertisers some issues of the newsletter each month to hand out in their stores. If you know someone that's a candidate to join the club pass your issue along to him or her or let me know and I'll mail them one.

Speaking of advertisers, I would like to see more of them represented in the newsletter. As you may know we depend on them to help defray the production costs. They are, in effect, supporting your club so we hope you will support these busi-

nesses by considering them when you make a purchase.

Finally, as with any club undertaking, your newsletter is the product of the labor of several people. Long time member Saul Harris of Jointech is now handling the printing of the newsletter. A big improvement over our last printer. Thanks, Saul. My better half, Sally White, is writing the series of articles about sawdust in the shop. As a health care professional she'll bring a good perspective to these issues. Other members will contribute articles and their time as well. In the coming months I may ask you to contribute also. Please consider this an opportunity for you to do something positive for the club.

Letters to The Editor are encouraged. Either by e-mail (bwhite444@houston.rr.com) or by snail mail. Anything in the newsletter is fair game, of course, but also anything you think that may be relevant to the membership. Keep it brief and to the point but the editor would like to see more participation in the newsletter from the membership. We'll print your letters if you sign them. We will not print anonymous letters.

Change of Address notification should be given as early as possible. When you move we would like to see you get your newsletter without any interruption.

The newsletter is compiling a **Resources Guide** for club members. It will depend on your participation. It will list dependable suppliers for lumber, fine tools and supplies, machinery, hand tools, hardware, and hard-to-find materials for woodworkers. It will be published periodically in the newsletter.



Bill White, Editor
bwhite444@houston.rr.com

Woodworkers Club of Houston

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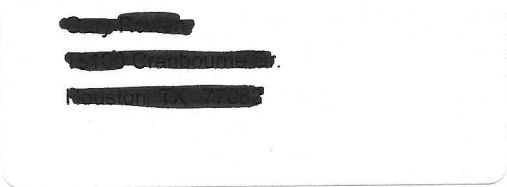
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



WWCH Monthly Meeting: Jan. 10
Program: Freud Tools

Woodworkers Show: Feb. 5 - 8
Reliant Hall

Next Monthly Meeting: Feb. 14



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