

The Board of Directors of the Woodworkers Club of Houston Board welcomes you to our club. We feel that you have made a good decision by joining and we will strive to make your membership worthy of your time and dues.

Monthly Meetings

The club usually meets monthly on the second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to around 12 p.m. at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX, just west of Hillcroft St. Meeting times and dates may change to accommodate special events, seminars, or holidays. Changes will be published in the newsletter as well as announced on our website, www.wwch.org.

A personalized name tag and a membership card will be ordered for you and you will be notified when it arrives so you can pick them up at one of our meetings. We encourage you to wear your name tag so members can get to know you – and we don't have to tax our memories trying to remember your name.

When you arrive please sign in at the door – we need to provide an attendance count to Bayland Community Center to justify our room.

Coffee and donuts are provided free but donations are graciously accepted.

Our meetings start off with the pledge of allegiance to our flag which is followed by business items and reports from splinter groups and other announcements.

The President will also ask for new members and guests to introduce themselves and tell how you heard about WWCH and what kind of

woodworking you do. If you feel uncomfortable about this don't raise your hand.

Next the President will call for members or guests to present a problem or offer a solution to a problem. Members and guests respond with advice or answers. If you'd rather not speak to the audience just ask around during the break or before/after the meeting – you'll no doubt get loads of advice.

Then the guest speaker is introduced by our Vice President. These programs are anywhere from thirty minutes to an hour. After the guest speaker we take a break for about 15 minutes.

After the break members and guests return for Show n' Tell. Members and guests bring in their projects to showcase them to club members and talk about how they crafted them. Some projects are too large to bring in so presenters will provide digital photos to project onto a screen. All levels of skill are welcomed and appreciated. No one is required or obligated to present a project.

As a courtesy to members during the meeting we ask that you take your cell phone calls and personal conversations with other members out into the hallway – please not into the kitchen because there is no sound insulation from that area.

The Bayland Community Center is a no smoking facility so you must take your smokes outside.

Raffles of odds and ends are frequently held prior to the conclusion of the meeting and you can purchase tickets any time before the start of the raffle. At the conclusion of the meeting we may ask you to help return chairs to their storage units.

The Board of Directors typically meets after the meeting in another room at Bayland Community Center. Members are invited to attend.

Newsletter

A newsletter is published monthly about a week prior to a meeting and is posted on our website for download. You will receive a link for downloading the newsletter which is in Portable Document Format (pdf). You can also access the current as well as archived newsletters by visiting our website at www.wwch.org.

Club Library

We have an extensive book and video collection for members in good standing to borrow. Please bring them back at the following meeting. Because we have a large number of weighty books our book librarian does not tote them all to the meeting. Check our website for a list of books and videos, <http://www.wwch.org/Library/Library.htm>, then email or call our Librarian, John Gay, (address and phone number in the Member Directory) so that he can bring the book you want to the next meeting. Our video Librarian, Lisa Sessions, brings our collection of DVDs to the meeting – they weigh far less than books.

Splinter Groups

Splinter Groups allow members to get together outside of the regular club meetings, typically once a month, to work on specialized interests. These splinter groups are:

CNC Router, for learning and improving skills with computer numerical control for woodworking – meets monthly;

Hand Tools, for learning and improving skills with hand tools – meets monthly in Sugar Land;

Toy Group, where individual members make toys for distribution to needy children during the Christmas holiday;

Scroll Saw, for learning and improving skills with the scroll saw – meets quarterly at Woodcraft South;

Furniture, for learning and improving skills building furniture – meets monthly;

Sawmill, for those interested in cutting and milling their own lumber- does not have a defined meeting schedule but meets whenever members choose to gather.

Shop Crawls

Members open up their workshops for tours by members. See how other members build and arrange their shops. Typically these tours will either be in the spring or fall – hmmm...wonder why?

Annual Picnic

After the October meeting members gather at the Bayland Community Center outdoor pavilion for BBQ, raffles, and visitation opportunities among members.

Outside Activities

Summer Seminars – the club has started a tradition of hosting expert and experienced woodworkers to come to Houston to conduct seminars on wood working topics. We have hosted Jim Heavey of Wood Magazine, Matt Cremona of YouTube fame, and Frank Strazza, a Texas Hill Country maker of fine furniture;

Field Trips - typically once a year in the spring or fall members will journey out of town to visit a woodworking facility or a saw mill. If it's a saw mill this gives members an opportunity to "stock up" on lumber as well as enjoy the comradery of other members;

Woodworking Shows – members will staff a welcoming booth that helps promote our club and showcase our projects;

Missouri City First United Methodist Church Craft Show – the club rents a booth staffed by members to sell crafted items donated by club members. This raises money for the club and is held annually on the second Saturday in November;

Craft Community Day – sponsored by the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, and also referred to as the Annual Gathering of the Guilds. This event occurs in the spring and members will staff a booth and demonstrate various woodworking techniques.

Membership Directory

A directory is published annually listing contact information for our members and every member is entitled to a copy.

Dues

Dues are \$36 per year payable by the first of January for renewing members. New member dues are prorated based on month of joining.

Website

Our club website is www.wwch.org. This is where you can download current and archived newsletters and view our most recent Show n' Tell

projects and Show n' Tell projects from the past three years. Many members have written how-to articles and have posted technical and other useful information. There are links to helpful sites, member websites, woodworking resources, classes in woodworking, and downloadable woodworking plans.