

# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

## SPECIAL FALL ISSUE

Museum Day/Guilds  
Extreme Home Makeover  
Picnic in October  
Trip to Furniture Show

Volume 26 Issue 2

September 2010

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In accordance with our club's by-laws under section IV article 5 states Messages from the President and/or other Board of Directors shall be part of the club's newsletter. I am very happy that after a long search, we now have a newsletter editor for the club. This as you know, was not an easy task. We were a little spoiled because Bill White did such an outstanding job as editor for several years. So I would like to welcome Joyce Saylan as our Newsletter Editor.

However, the newsletter wants and needs your submissions to make it really informative. WWCH is a large and diversified group and our members are doing many things that the members would like to know about. Many of our members had had their work in art shows and competitive events and special happenings. Send us just a little note, some basic facts, and some photos will be great! You don't have to send them to the editor; you can send them to any board member.

Our little club has several splinter groups that want to know more about you. Let us not forget about these other clubs like the turning and carving clubs. Many of our members belong to more than one group. I'm a member of the Gulf Coast Wood Turners and they host a variety of events during the year.

That's about it for now. Let's give a warm welcome to Joyce and send in your news items.

...John L. Gay, President

## Welcome New Members

### February

Jerry Gooch  
Ron Matherly  
Ray Thompson  
Andy Urban

### June

Thomas Brower  
Prentiss Crowe  
James DuPuy  
David Gernand  
Alan Schofield  
Dana Whitney

### March

Keith Hebert  
Tonya Pierce  
Robert Segelke

### July

William Beazley  
Billy Havins  
Joe Jenkins  
Raymond Music  
Clifford Stanfield

### April

Kevin Cawood  
Earl Gorel  
Eddie Morales  
Bill Propst  
Mark Sweigart  
John Zengota

### August

Robert (Bob) Zellers

### May

D. L. Lackey  
Jeff Sechelski  
Fusheng Wang

## EXTREME MAKEOVER – ART FROM THE HEART

**WWCH members** volunteered their talents for **Extreme Makeover-Houston**. The family is the focus of the show. The house is the central object but Art World is where things happen. Everybody who is anybody shows up in Art World: guest stars, directors, special guests, mascots and the stars of the show. Those guys work hard and have to wear many hats. They poured out sweat but they did it with a smile in their face—hard to do in 100 degree heat, but it was fun.

**Watch the show on September 26, ABC at 700 pm!**



Art World Tent, a top for Big Ben with the travel trunks in the background and note the "special guest" king pin...helping out.

## **WWCH in Atlanta – IWF SHOW**

It was a fine sunny day in Atlanta on August 25 for the IWF show and many members from the Woodworkers Club of Houston were there. Although only 2/3 the size of prior shows, this year the IWF show still was huge with some huge machines on display.

Wednesday, August 25 was opening day for the vendors and their guests (*opened to the public on Thursday*). That day a group of us went to visit Osborne Wood Products just a mile or so from South Carolina. It was well worth the trip.

Osborne makes a wide selection of legs, corbels, on lays, columns, moldings and feet. All made in the U.S.A. It was a very good tour with a good lunch.

The next couple of days were spent at IWF. MARTA, the rail transit system in Atlanta. makes travel easy. It's a good system; the ride is smooth and fast; a great way to get around because the traffic is really bad and the roads twist and turn as well as go up and down. Unlike Houston (nice and flat), you just cannot see any landmarks. So if you expect to drive in Atlanta, having a GPS and a full tank of gas is a must. Perhaps it is only me, but I got lost a lot.

Getting back to the show, just about any company that has anything to do with woodworking was there, along with great discount pricing too. One of the types of very impressive machines was the computer controlled machines that use lasers and routers. They were very entertaining to watch. It looks like relief and chip carvers and those who like pyro-graphics are out of a job. These machines are not cheap but are really interesting.

There were tool reviews to attend, and we did. Some great, good looking, products are about to hit your local tool store. They are smaller, have more power, and longer life.

Over all it was a good experience and I will go to future shows. Next time I'm going take in more seminars and tool reviews. Although it was a lot of walking, I slept well those nights.

...John Gay

## **PARTICIPANTS AT THE TOUR OF OSBOURNE WOOD PRODUCTS**

(Pictured left to right) Randy Abramson, Kylie, Steve Higgenbotham, Dennis (Production Manager), Denis Muras, Tim (Machine Operator), D.L. Dickey, Christian Smedberg (Director of Marketing), John Gay, Bob Ward (Director of Lean Management), and Andy Anderson (seated).

Osbourne website: <http://www.osbornewood.com>

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# SCROLL SAW SPLINTER GROUP UPDATE

...Norm Nichols

In January the Scroll Saw Splinter Group met for an organizational meeting. One of the things the group wanted to do was to perform some type of community service. Five months later our first community service project found us.

We are working with the Monarch School, an outstanding school for children with special needs. The school asked us to work with their students on a scroll saw project. Four of us, Jim Rader, Bill Harris, Andy Anderson, and I, met with the school people several times in preparation for the project.

The school's emblem is the Monarch butterfly. They wanted the students to cut out 125 butterflies to be used as center pieces at their annual breakfast benefit in November. The plan is to cut butterfly outlines in September, the arts and craft classes to paint them in October, and another group will assemble them to create table center pieces just in time for the benefit. We were off and running.

The school provided the wood and blades, but we needed to get four scroll saws together. I thought this might be an issue, but I should have known better. We had the saws in just two weeks thanks to Andy who located two Deltas and Jim Robertson and Denis Muras who both offered their Hegners. That sure was easy. What a great club we have!

The wood was delivered to Jim Rader's shop by the school. He cut all the wood to shape and prepared the bases for the butterflies. He also stepped up the last week of August to set up the shop at the school and to get our volunteers lined up for the first sessions while yours truly was keeping cool on an Alaskan cruise.

The sessions are two days a week, two and a half hours per session, with four students in a session. We have two to four of our volunteers at each session to work with the students and staff. As I write this, we had our first session today. All I can say, what a great experience we had with those students. I am sure I learned more than they did. They were so enthusiastic and eager to learn. The four students today completed 18 butterflies. I will admit that I never expected them to do that many.

Our group is looking forward to doing this project for the Monarch School. If today was indicative of this project, it is going to be very rewarding for all of us who work it.

Due to the schools regulations, I am not able to include pictures at this time. Hopefully, they will be able to release pictures to us very soon. If they do, I will get them posted on our website.

The Scroll Saw Splinter Group is doing very well. A mere eight months after its formation, we are well into our first community service project. By the end of the year we will have an out-of-town guest speaker at one of our meetings. Please feel free to come visit us the fourth Saturday of the month, 9:30 AM, at Woodcraft at 11707 S. Sam Houston Parkway (Beltway 8) between Airport and Bellfort.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 25 is **Museum Day in Houston**. All museums and the zoo are free to the public. WWCH will set up a table at **The Gathering of the Guilds** to show off some of the skills of our members. So bring examples of your work to the September meeting for display at **The Houston Center for Contemporary Craft** at 4848 Main Street. We also need help at the table from 9:30 to 5:00 to meet and greet folks and let them know about WWCH. This date is also the opening of Craft Texas 2010. You can sign up at the September meeting.

The very next day, September 26, sit back and watch **Extreme Home Makeover** on Channel 13 (ABC) at 7:00pm. This show was shot in Houston and several of our members were a part of the team helping out. Randy Abramson and the good folks at Woodcraft brought in some cool tools to use and worked on almost all of the theme rooms. Jeremy Grubb and Matt made a wonderful sitting bench, and other things, from the wood saved from the old house. John Gay made the Hot Air Balloon bookcase. Our members did a fine job—**be sure to watch!**

Next up is the **Fall Picnic on October 16** at Bayland Park, the same place as our meetings, from 11 to 4. Let us know if you are coming and how many will be in your party so we can get more than enough food. Sign in during the September or October meeting.

In November, we need 30 or more members for a charter bus ride to Kerrville to attend the **Texas Furniture Show**. The ride and tickets will be paid for by the club. This will stay in the planning stages until we have enough members signed up by the October meeting so we can contract the bus. If we cannot get enough folks to sign on, we will not be able to go. Who wants to head up this event?



## AUGUST SHOW AND TELL

**Jeremy Grubb** crafted the coffee table from a Rita-downed cedar tree. The legs are maple. The scalloped table top is African mahogany.



**Lon Kelley's** wax finished, band-sawed boxes from cedar are just about the right size for a couple of large Havanas. Yep, they're just "humidorable"!



**Norm Nichols** holds a turkey that he scroll-sawed into a piece of 3/4 inch sassafras. The piece is finished in Tung oil. *Hey, Norm, save a few sassafras shavings...the teapot's boilin'!*



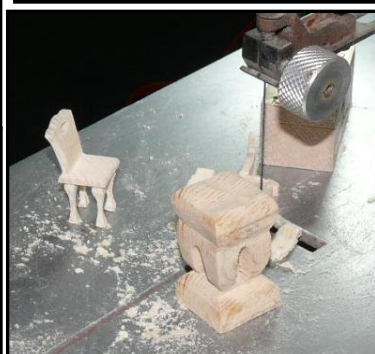
**Steve Willis**, manager of Rockler, with his antique plane and the blades that accompany it. Oldies but goodies!

**SIGN UP  
to show your  
projects and share  
your tips  
and tricks with club  
members at the  
October meeting.**



**Denis Muras** demonstrated scroll-sawing techniques. He showed how cutting the bottom at a 45 degree angle and slightly slanting the letters create the illusion of a floating letter. He advised not to cut the base off until you have completed all the other cuts.

A red pattern is easier to follow when using a black blade.



**Don't let the bus leave  
without you!  
SIGN UP, TODAY!  
See page three.**

## AUGUST SHOW AND TELL

### PRESENTERS

1. Jeff Sechelski -  
Mahogany and  
Beech  
Jewelry Box
2. Norm Nichols -  
Turkey and Sander
3. Bob Wink –  
Elvis Art Car
4. Andy Anderson -  
Plywood (see tips)
5. Lon Kelley – Cedar Boxes
6. Dan Smith –  
Mahogany and  
Bloodwood Trivets
7. Glenn Edwards - Cross
8. Steve LeGrue –  
Cherry Mirror and  
Pear Vase
9. Jeremy Grubb - Tables
10. Steve Willis –  
Antique Plane



Jeff Sechelski crafted this exquisite jewelry box from a Japanese print.

The marquee background is Sycamore with Beech accents. The box has a Sycamore veneer and Mahogany dyed green and red.

Jeff used hot sand to create the shading affect on the design.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**CLUB PICNIC**  
**OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**  
**See you there!**

**Steve LeGrue** recently turned a top of Bradford Pear for a vase. His wife cross-stitched the pear flower top.

The mirror is an old board of cherry with blotches that Steve feels adds to the beauty of the wood. The mirror frame is assembled with all pocket holes - no glue, then finished with oil and wax.

The back has French cleats for hanging.



**It's almost fall!**

**Get ready for  
Christmas and craft fairs,  
honey-dos,  
and midnight acquisitions.**

**Show off your talents  
- inspire others!**



*Each hand-wrought  
piece is a gift given  
from God to man  
whose talents  
transform it into a  
thing of beauty.*

*...Anonymous*



## AUGUST SHOW AND TELL

**Andy Anderson** explained how his cloverleaf, pipe clamp cushion protects the edge of a board being glued. It also holds the clamp up off the worktable while the clamp is tightened. A small magnet is inserted behind the cloverleaf to hold it against the face of the clamp while it's being closed. Andy has a dubious claim that this ranks up there with the invention of the micro chip, but in reality applesauce.



**Elvis may have left the building...**but his spirit lives on (he would have turned 75 this month). **Bob Wink** peeks out from the sound port of the guitar car he neatly crafted for the Houston Art Car parade.



The guitar is mounted on a go-cart engine as you can see in the photograph. Bob's first place trophy (equally crafty) that he won for his division rests against the frets.

Bob also won many hugs from admirers. It must have been that cool-looking Elvis hair style.

**Rock on, Elvis...  
er... Bob!! Wink...wink!!**

**Dan Smith** now has a place for his hot pots; these two trivets of bloodwood and mahogany.

He used a Flying Dutchman #5 blade.



**Glen Edwards** showed club members his cross of Canadian Pine, mahogany, Baltic Birch with the butterfly motifs in the center in red plastic.



## OPPORTUNITIES KNOCKING

Please send your replies to [wwch@wwch.org](mailto:wwch@wwch.org). All comments and suggestions will be forwarded to the requestors.

### Gentleman needs assistance.

I need someone to make me some of the sticks that are represented in the picture. They are exact. I will send an example if I can make a connection. The holes must be centered - they are 8 mm apart, and the stick/dowel can be found at Hobby Lobby (3 ft long, I cut the length to my needs). They are used in my hobby. The ones I am using are being done by someone who is a little too non-precise. I need to know what someone will charge to do this.

Thanks,  
David L. Preston Sr.



### Gentleman has a question.

I was hoping that you could give me some advice.

I am currently restoring an old barn and there are several oak beams that I have treated with pesticide chemical. The beams are very dry and grey looking, I was going to treat with boiled linseed oil mixed with white spirit but I was told that this is not a good product to use on them. Can you suggest any oils, etc. to bring them back to life!

Regards,  
Craig

### Gentleman has a question.

I am interested in finding out about wood working shops around Houston. I am relatively new to Houston, so have not been able to build of a set of tools to use and don't have space for a shop. Do you know of any shops where you can pay for a membership and have access to a shop?

Thanks,  
Mark Turnbaugh

## NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITION

The video library has recently acquired  
a copy of Barry Gross'  
**TURNING ACRYLIC MATERIAL.**  
It will be of interest to those members  
who like to turn pens.  
See Blain at the next meeting  
about checking it out.

## TIPS AND TRICKS AND KUDOS

**TIP:** How can you accurately cut a 4 ft by 8 ft sheet of plywood using only a hand-held circular saw, a saw sometimes referred to as a skill saw? WWCH member Billy Havins has written a set of instructions and has included photos. Those instructions and photos are now on our website. Please follow this link:  
<http://wwch.org/Technique/Plywood%20Soln/PlywoodSolutions.htm>

**KUDOS:** John Gay was asked to craft a memorial bench in honor of one of Houston's most prolific and beloved playwrights, Eddie Cope. The bench was dedicated and permanently installed in the courtyard at Stages Repertory Theatre on Allen Parkway.

**SITES FOR SURFING:** [www.woodcraftplans.com](http://www.woodcraftplans.com) [www.gamblehouse.org](http://www.gamblehouse.org) (Arts & Crafts House—great joinery!)  
[www.antiquetools.com](http://www.antiquetools.com) [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

782 Maler Rd.  
Sealy, TX 77474

## NEXT MEETING

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

**SEPTEMBER PRESENTER**  
**Steve Willis of Rockler**  
**Making a Band Saw Box**

## CONTACT

wwch@wwch.org

***We're on the web!***

**www.wwch.org**

## WWCH OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	<b>John Gay</b>
<b>V President</b>	<b>Randy Abramson</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Dan Smith</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Roslyn Hager</b>

## DIRECTORS

<b>Andy Anderson</b>	<b>Roy Gilbert</b>
<b>Denis Muras</b>	<b>Norm Nichols</b>
<b>Publications</b>	<b>Joyce Saylan</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Gary Rowen</b>

**Placing Trading Post Ads** are posted free for one month, subject to space availability, if received 14 days prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday monthly meeting. WTB or FOR SALE items are welcome to be posted to the board in the meeting room. Send ads to **Joyce Saylan** at [sayjoyce@hotmail.com](mailto:sayjoyce@hotmail.com), or if you want an ad to run again the following month.

***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**

Club shirts and caps are again going to be **available by special order**. As in the past, all orders must be prepaid by CASH ONLY. Prices for the shirts remain at \$20.00 with a \$1.00 additional charge if you want your name embroidered on the front of the shirt. I do not yet have samples of caps but hope to have them by our September meeting. Depending on the cap chosen, the price will be between \$6.00 and \$8.00 each. Custom embroidery will not be available on the caps.

For additional information or to place an order, please see Bill Cole at our next meeting.