

# Woodworkers Club *of Houston*

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December 2020

## Inside this Issue

WWCH Calendar .....	p. 1
President's Message.....	p. 1
Toy of the Month .....	p. 2
Toy Donation Drive.....	p. 2
Show and Tell .....	p. 3-5
Vendor Ad .....	p. 6
WWCH General Information .....	p. 6

## WWCH Calendar

Handtool Meeting (via Zoom) .....	TBD
Monthly Meeting (via Zoom) .....	12 Dec
Swap Meet at Bayland.....	TBD

## 2021 Dues Waived

Due to the COVID crisis's impact to club activities and the lack thereof, the WWCH Board has decided that all members currently in good standing at this time will have their dues waived for the coming year. That's right, if you are a current member you will continue to be a member through next year. Any new members who join after September 1, 2020 will get 15 month's of membership for the normal 12 month cost of \$36. In other words, they will not be charged the normal prorated amount for the last three month's of 2020.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is the Sunday after Thanksgiving as I am writing this, and I am tired, and once again, wondering if a couple of days fellowship is worth the effort. I guess it is Julie that really has the lioness' share of the work to do, what with baking, prepping, house preparation, entertaining three granddaughters for most of two nights and three days, and the list goes on. Heck, I'm tired just writing about it! We are lucky that Julie's sister and her kids all live in Houston, so Julie and her sister can at least share the tasks of preparing the Thanksgiving spread.

As for me, I just act in a support role while trying to get my Christmas presents made in a timely fashion. I'm actually hopeful that I will make everything I want to before the 20<sup>th</sup> or so of December. The lathe and I are turning, the table saw is (hopefully) done for now, and I am foolishly optimistic. At least the dust collector bag is getting full, so I must be doing something!

Just a reminder that our 2020 elections will be closing on the afternoon of December 14th. At this time, only 43% of the ballots have been returned so I encourage you to go ahead and vote. I really doubt there will be any legal challenges to the results and therefore THIS election shouldn't add anything to your stomach acid quotient.

Keep safe, and "keep on keepin' on" woodworking!

**Ben Tillison**

**WWCH President**

# Toy of the Month

A link to the Toy of the Month file can be found on the WWCH Web Site

<http://www.wwch.org>

## Toy Sorting and Distribution Drive



A big Holiday "thank you" goes out to all who have contributed to the toy program in the many ways throughout 2020. It's been a challenging time, but even in the midst of all the curve balls and chaos, WWCH still built over 2000 toys and will distribute to 18 different agencies in the Houston region! There's gonna be a lot of smiling faces when they get these amazing toys!

Here's a few pics from the "toy sorting and repackaging day" held Nov 18th at Bayland pavilion.

Happy Holidays! —**John Lastrapes**

Aishel House conveyed their gratitude for the donation and send the following message to John:

"Please convey our gratitude for the wonderful wood toys that were delivered to Aishel House. The children at Aishel House have been thoroughly enjoying them."

Aishel House provides 23 apartments for patients and their families while receiving treatment at one of the hospitals in the medical center. More than providing housing, we want to provide a warm, loving environment that feels like home. These wooden toys have already provided hours of healthy and creative entertainment and helps our children feel like at home."

# Show and Tell



"Polar Bear with Scarf" it's a Judy Gale design; wood used: Black Walnut, Cherry, Pine, African Wenge, White Oak & a Mystery Wood that I got from a scrap bin at Rockler. — **Chris Farquhar**

**Big Wheels:**  
These were made from plugs cut by plumbers in a nearby new house. I salvaged enough for about a dozen cars. — **Lon Kelley**



I needed to make a display case to show my items at a consignment shop. It is made of pine fence pickets with a couple of cedar pickets to add a little flair. 48" wide X 18" deep X 48" high. Now for some sales!. — **Norm Nichols**



Made an organizer for my daughter's pantry to hold Ziploc storage bags, etc. Constructed of 1/2" and 1/4" Baltic birch, with the inserts joined by a wine-box style mechanical joint. Four screws in the bottom attach the organizer to the shelf. — **Sonny Lawson**



My son Ben built this desk over the holidays. — **Earl Touchstone**



Built this Pikler triangle for a one year old. Rungs are 1.25" Birch dowels and the side is Red Oak. — **Sankar Padhmanabhan**



## Show and Tell



Is a workbench ever finished? I added a lower shelf to mine, of the same Water Oak, 3/4" thick slats, resting on and screwed to cleats on the ends. Like the rest of the bench, 4 coats of urethane. I still have to make an easily removeable attachment for the metal vise in the left rear.

—David Janowitz



I made six Ash salad bowls to go with the Big-Ash bowl, all with a couple of coats of Tung oil. 7 7/8"x2" —  
David Janowitz



Next an Osage Orange and Maple cutting board. Very simple strips, with handle grips routed in each end on top and bottom. "Finished" with plain mineral oil. 14"x16"x3/4". —

David Janowitz

I made a quick cutting board from my scrap bin. Found some cherry, maple and walnut, glued up edge grain and made the inlay. About 14x16 x 1-1/4. Inlay was made with a router using the freud 1/8 inch bit with bushing. — Dave VanDewerker



Keepsake boxes for each of my family members. Each will have something special inside. Various woods - Walnut, mahogany, bocate, birds eye maple, curly maple, and quarter sawn red oak - Some from my stash, some from Houston Hardwoods cut-off stack. Various techniques - box joints, mitered, and splined miter. Most are 4" x 6". One is 4" x 4". Finished with General Finishes Arm-R-Seal. — Jack Bailie

## Show and Tell

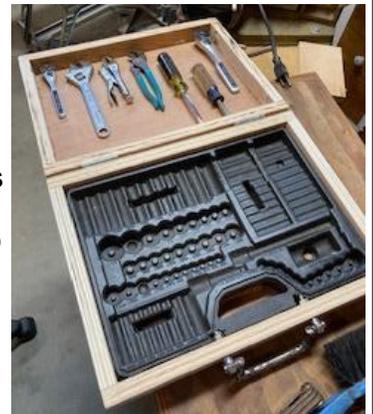


The three intarsia gnomes are Christmas gifts made from patterns by Worthington. I added the stand alone bases. Woods used are: Aspen, Oak, Purpleheart, Bloodwood, Walnut, Red Cedar, Maple, P Rosa, Blue Pine, Mesquite, and Mahogany. They are finished with Waterlox.— **Charles Volek**



My show and tell is a retrofit of a craftsman plastic ratchet set tool box that began to come apart on the hinges and latches. I salvaged the tray that holds all of the sockets

by cutting off the exterior back of the box and reinserted it into the new box. The upper part of the box will be fitted to hold the various tools shown in the photo. It was simple to make with "Wink Wood". Outer frame is 3/4" plywood and the top and bottom panels are 1/4" plywood. Frame assembly was with a Kreg jig, screws and glue. The finish will be light gray. —**Mike Turner.**



I made this box for a gentleman that reached out to the Woodworkers Club for some help. He's a ham radio operator and is building a replica World War II Tel-

egraph transmitter. He had plans drawn up by another ham radio operator. Made from Alder salvaged from the infamous dumpster. I used a little natural Minwax stain and two coats of spray semi gloss polyurethane. The real challenge was finding slotted brass screws, as Phillips head screws were not widely used at the start of World War II. Apparently they had been invented in the late thirties — **Andy Tofuri**





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**NEXT MEETING**

**Will be held via Zoom on Saturday 12 December**

*See Ben's email for instructions to attend.*

**Newsletter Publication:** Do you have an announcement or item for the newsletter? Send it to Sankar Padhmanabhan, WWCH Newsletter Editor, at [sankarnkp@live.com](mailto:sankarnkp@live.com).

**We're on the web!**

[www.wwch.org](http://www.wwch.org)

**Join our FacebookGroup! Woodworkers Club of Houston**

**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. Guests are always welcome at no charge. Membership dues are \$36 per year, or about the price of one good clamp!