

Welcome

President John Loftis welcomed another great crowd to the March meeting.



Guests

Dan Nilius likes to do small projects such as boxes and tables.

Richard Davy just moved from Trinidad Tobago. He has been doing woodworking for 4-5 years, but left all his tools in Trinidad Tobago so he's starting over.

Greg Merrell likes to do cabinets, bowls and pens. Has been a woodworker for 10 years.

Glen Wilson of Plano likes to build furniture. His current project is a bed made of mesquite.

Arthur Allen found NTWA online and is just now getting back into woodworking.

Ken Williams also found NTWA online and has been building furniture for 2 years.

Tony Manasseri is from McKinney and is just a beginner. He found NTWA online.

Announcements

Dues Renewal: It's that time of year to renew your dues - \$36.00 annually. Bring a check to the April meeting or cash – cash is always good and it's welcome!

Election of officers: Bill Richardson made a motion to accept the slate of officers and directors as presented; seconded by Gary Bobenhausen. Motion passed.

President: John Loftis

Vice President: Steve Yauch

Secretary/Newsletter: Joe Polich

Treasurer: Gary Bobenhausen

Membership: Vic Gutenkust & Isabel Nieves

Raffles: Teresa Jones (TJ)

Webmaster: Johan Gustavsson

Librarian: Bob Moore

Shows: GT Robinson

Programs: Michael Minarzick

Photographer: Sidney Futrell

Bill Bush says a guy has 2 pallets of old barn oak. The pieces are 2-4' long and are 12/4, 8/4 & 6/4. Contact Bill Bush for more info at wfbush@verizon.net.

Lynn Floyd cautioned everyone about beetle infestation. Watch for pin holes and signs of sawdust around them. They can be easily treated and should be treated before using for any projects.

Bill Richardson cautioned about nails or other metal. Bill uses a lot of reclaimed/repurposed lumber and runs into this issue constantly.

Bill Jacobs brought in handouts of tools for sale from a widow friend who is trying to sell her husband's tools. Contact Bill for further details: wmmjacobs@yahoo.com.

WoodWorld is having their annual hand tool event April 10-11. Although Lie-Nielsen is the largest vendor, there will be many others. Lie-Nielsen brings in their entire tool line for you to test drive on the spot.

Shop Questions

Vic Gutenkust is looking for information on how to sharpen curved gouges. Walter Wharton will be addressing this during tonight's program.

John Loftis just bought a new rasp and is wondering what everyone is using it for. Most common use seems to be hand shaping before sanding.

Vic Gutenkust is looking for a piece of quarter sawn walnut 8" x 10' for a project he has run short on. John Loftis and Steve Jenkins said they may be able to help him out.

Lynn Floyd wanted to let everyone know that there seems to be a problem with powder post beetles in pecan. He and another shop have both had the problem.

Show & Tell



Jim Polanco made this small table for his wife out of ebonized maple and cedar.



Wayne Bower made this small workbench for his grandkids using maple and alder. It's complete with a 7" vise.



Dave Cassman used his steam bending skills to make this fish landing net. Says he put the picture of the fish on the handle so his Norwegian mother-in-law would know what it is to be used for.

New member Dan Nilius brought in four projects made from repurposed solid wood flooring he buys from Lumber Liquidators.



Exercise stool for steps. Used mortise & tenon joints locked with dowels.



Wall plaque with tiles from Alaska.



Folding table for sewing machine made from Cherry flooring.



Finger-joint recipe box made from Hickory.



Johan Gustavsson picked up this #50 Stanley beading plane at a swap meet. Came with 6 blades.



Ron Giordano designed this blast gate for his shop vac. The design uses a self-cleaning slot so the gate always fully closes. RV spigot flanges are used for the hose connections.



Joe Polich made this whimsical mail box out of cedar to resemble a table saw. The lights are battery powered which is recharged by a solar panel and controlled by a photo cell.

Raffle

Dan Nilius: Grr-Ripper 3D pushblock

Jim Polanco: Flexner on Finishing book

John Loftis: Woodcraft Rosewood block plane

Program

The speaker for tonight's program was Walter Wharton, a life-time carver. He is a past president of the Texas Woodcarver's Guild and the North Texas Woodcarver's Guild.



There are several facets of woodcarving and Walter decided to concentrate this program on "architectural" carving as opposed to "relief" carving since most woodworkers would be applying architectural elements to their projects instead of relief elements.

Walter referred the club to www.norahall.com as a great reference for learning more about carving. The website offers a lot of videos and other training aids as well as tools and books.

Carving, according to Walter, goes back centuries when it was primarily used on stone. Today, carvers mainly use basswood. It is fairly soft and supports good detail.



Walter Wharton holds the attention of NTWA club members.

Walter said the primary differences between architectural and relief carving is that architectural carving usually has no border and is fairly flat with the detail level with the surrounding wood. Relief, on the other hand, has enough depth to appear two-dimensional. With relief, the wood panel is used to create the frame. Walter does mostly relief carving. He typically takes a picture and turns it into a two-dimensional carving.

Although Walter uses 40-50 different carving tools, beginners can get by with seven. Many of Walter's are specialized to a single task.

The beginner tools suggested by Walter are: #7 fishtail; a small right angle blade knife; a 30° V tool (45° and 60° are also available); a #9 sweep gouge; a #11 sweep gouge; a detail knife; and a carving knife.

Because Rockler and Woodcraft carry limited lines of carving tools, Walter suggested checking with The Old

Texas Woodcarver's Shop who carries a complete line of carving tools and supplies.

Tools are expensive, but they last a lifetime. Good gouges cost \$35-40 and come with knobs or long handles. Walter prefers Swiss made carving tools, but that is only his preference.

Walter gave a demonstration of his carving skills carving the leaves and stem of a flower below. The flag next to him on the table is a good example of an architectural carving while the carving of Christ next to it is a fine example of relief carving.



Other hints and tips Walter provided were to keep the background of your carving as flat as possible. He used a straight edge to span the carving and a ruler to gauge a consistent depth of no more than 1/4".

And lastly, Walter suggested using *Semichrome Polishing Paste* on leather to keep a keen edge on your carving tools.



North Texas Woodworkers Association

See us at: www.ntwa.org

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Newsletter

March 2015

Next club meeting:
Apr. 21st, 2015
7:00 p.m.
The Party Barn

April Tool Swap Meet

Come early and stay late for the April meeting and bring in your unused or unwanted tools to sell, trade or whatever. The swap meet will go from 6:30 to 7:00 and will pick up again during the break and after the meeting.

April Program

For the April program, we're going to do an informal discussion on a variety of topics. Although each segment will start off with a presenter/speaker, all are invited to contribute and share their knowledge, likes, dislikes, etc. We'd specifically like to hear about tools you've come to love, what you couldn't live without and what tools you despise.

The more formal yet informal discussions and their leaders are:

- Measuring and marking (engineer square, 4" square, pencil sharpener, 12" square, wax pencil, etc. — John Loftis

- Router bits: here are the bits you really do need (upcut spiral bit, pattern bits, rabbeting bits, stile and rail bits, etc.) – Steve Jenkins
- Cutting/chiseling: Japanese style saw vs. gent's saw, which chisels work best – John Loftis & Michael Minarzick
- Hand planes: which ones do you really need (#4 or #4½, block plane, large shoulder plane, maybe a jointer plane) – Johan Gustavsson & Steve Yauch.

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich
Pictures by: Sidney Futrell*