



# North Texas Woodworkers Association

See us at: [www.ntwa.org](http://www.ntwa.org)

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Newsletter

March 2016

## Welcome

**President John Loftis** welcomed a great turnout for the March meeting including seven guests.



## Guests

*Paul Cozby* from Irving found NTWA through a Google search. Paul has been doing lawn art and wants to expand his woodworking skills.

*Tom Muscle* came in from Aubrey and was told about NTWA by Dan Chenault at Rockler.

*Bob and Jane Bass* are from Owasso, OK. Bob is a wood turner visiting the area. Jane found NTWA online surprised Bob with the visit.

*Doug* is an experienced woodworker checking the club out.

*Bob Bagley* from Frisco recently retired and is getting into woodworking. He found us on Facebook.

*Jasmine and Richard DeVore* were told about NTWA by Stan at Rockler. Richard is a knife maker and Jasmine wants to carve handles for his knives.

*Larry Polich* from Lakewood, CO is visiting his brother Joe. Larry is just getting into pen turning so Joe brought him along for the meeting.

## Announcements

Club member Ron Giordano entered one of his boxes into the project contest at the Houston Woodworking Show and won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Educator's Choice category. His award included a 2.3HP Bosch router. Congratulations Ron!!

Bill Jacobs announced that Woods of Mission in Sanger is selling the business and is closing out all his wood.

## Elections

The following slate of candidates was elected by the members at the March meeting:

*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

## Name Badges

A vote was taken to increase the 2016 dues to \$40 to cover the cost of laser engraved wood badges for all members.

## Shop Questions

Richard Kanyon asked about moisture meters. He works with 8/4 lumber and is wondering if one is needed and if so, what type. Only two people said they have one and only one uses his, mostly for green lumber he uses in turnings. Lynn Floyd says if you buy your lumber from local sources there are few problems with moisture which should average 8-10% in the DFW area. It was recommended that the pin type is the best type and that if you're using air dried lumber, you definitely want to use a moisture meter.

Dan Chenault has been asked to repair a chair leg that appears to be plaster. Dale Smith recommended Hydrocal. USG Hydrocal® White Gypsum Cement is a great utility gypsum cement offering higher strengths than typical plaster products.

Manny Soomro asked about cutting board grain – end vs. edge. The consensus is that either will work, but if you are engraving it, edge grain will work best.

## Show & Tell



Manny Soomro made these coasters using his engraver. He used stabilized wood that he put in his compost pile to get worm holes for accent.



Isabel Nieves made this whirligig of a wood chopper.



Mike Blazier made this 12' bookcase out of quarter sawn white oak and plywood. He finished it with Varathane stains and wiping varnish.



Bill Moore made this nightstand in the Stickley style out of quarter sawn white oak and using a WAM design off YouTube.



Dale Smith made cabinets for his son's home in Breckenridge as well as the carvings from Lodge Pole pine on his son's property.



Keith Johnson used a redwood slab and redwood trunks to make this beautiful desk. It's approximately 4' x 5'.



Dan Nilius made this garden bench using ½ through dovetails.

**Congratulations** to Manny Soomro and Keith Johnson for winning the \$10 Show & Tell drawings.

## **Raffle**

Vic Gutenkunst: Beall Wood Buff kit

Don Eason: Shiva sliding bevel

Steve Litherland: 8 pc. Deluxe Plug Cutting kit

D. Francis: 4 Spring Edge Banding Clamps

## **Program**

The March program was presented by Dan Chenault of Rockler covering finishes.

To start off Dan mentioned that Rockler now offers new turning kits

for knobs and pulls; Non-slip sanding paper by 3M in grits from 60-180; and that they are participating in the Austin Disaster Fund again with a guitar auction. Check the Rockler website for details.



Dan started his discussion on finishing by saying he personally doesn't like Minwax because it has too much oil and sealers. Zar is a good product, but he says it doesn't work well with other manufacturer's products. As long as you use Zar with Zar, you'll be alright. His preference is General finishes.

Dan says you should spend as much time with your finishing as you do with your building. Go through all the grits sanding without skipping any. Stop at 220 and then wet the wood to raise the grain, then resand with 220.

Water based stains penetrate the deepest and are hardest to use. Slop it on and quickly wipe it off. Look closely at the surface before the stain

completely dries then fix wherever necessary with water. Let the stain dry for a minimum of 2-3 hours, but preferably overnight.

Dan also reminded everyone that rags can in fact spontaneously combust. Lay rags flat to completely dry before disposing.



Other hints provided by Dan include:

Gel stains are best for pine and other blotchy woods.

Glue spots should be scrapped with a razor blade, sanded, then restained.

Use a rag to quickly stain a large area and a brush to stain a small area.

A second coat of stain will only darken your project slightly, but will add depth. Let oil finishes dry 8 hours between coats and 4 hours for water based finishes. Dan prefers to start with a darker color rather than using more than two coats.

You won't see the true color of the stain until you add the topcoat.

If stripping and refinishing, use a glaze rather than a stain.

Although not a big fan of pre-stain conditioner, Dan says you should seal any wood that has been stripped. You should match your pre-stain with your stain – oil on oil, water on water. Dewaxed shellac is a good sealer/preconditioner, but don't exceed a 2# cut.

Test old finishes to be sure they will still dry. Dispose of old finishes by mixing with sawdust and letting it dry. It then becomes a solid waste and can be disposed in a landfill with your regular trash.

Dan likes to use the same type of finish from bottom to top: water to water; oil to oil.

Did I say Dan likes General Finishes? He particularly likes Armor Seal.

The shinier the finish, the harder it is, but it shows more wear.

Scotch Brite pads are better than steel wool, especially for water based finishes. They don't rust.

General Finish's water based High Performance is milky in the can, but dries hard and clear and doesn't yellow. It can be applied over oils, but let the oils dry for 3 days first.



GF's Endurovar can go over old finishes and is good in high moisture conditions.

Use GF Exterior 450 for exterior clear coats.

You can use an extender to slow drying and to flow brush marks better.

Don't use film finishes for cutting surfaces. Once you cut through the finish you're in raw, untreated wood.

And finally, wood bowls for food can be treated with Mahoney's Oil, mineral oil, salad bowl oil or butcher block oil. All are food safe when completely dry; usually 6 weeks.

**Next club meeting:  
April 19th, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
The Party Barn**

**Marc Spagnuola  
The Wood Whisperer**

This month's presentation will be online with Marc Spagnuolo who is one of the leading educators in woodworking. You won't want to miss this presentation!

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich  
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