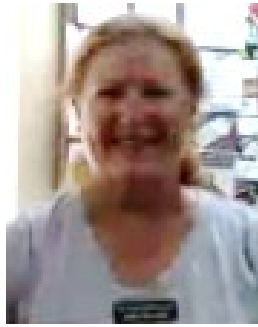


Department Reports for March 2023



Ed Eich, Manager



Karin Williams, Assistant Mgr.

Stained Glass

Classes are open in both shops – Brownwood on Monday mornings from 9 – 11 a.m., and Rolling Acres on Friday mornings from 9 – 11 a.m.

The Rolling Acres instructors (Ed and Gary) will be on summer break starting in the next several weeks. RA Students may continue working on their own until courses resume in the fall. Brownwood will announce a summer schedule for instruction at a later date.

Our courses are designed so you can work at your own pace and level of skill to develop your expertise and confidence levels so you can make various types of beautiful projects. We start with sun-catchers, then a beveled Iris window panel, leaded panel, lamps, and much, much more.

As promised – here are a couple of photos of our students' creations at the Brownwood shop since it opened for classes in January 2022. These are the first sun-catchers completed in February 2022 by Tim R. and Nancy G.



Department Reports for March 2023

There is always room for new artists to learn this craft, so stop in and see what we are making, and join us in the fun! Watch for future reports as we share the progress of our glass enthusiasts as they learn new skills.



Website

Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

To alleviate some issues regarding the assignment and maintenance of member permissions to access various sections/pages on our website, we are no longer accepting applications to register a secondary user name. In the future, we will only be using member's current email address as user names. Note that you can always change your password by accessing the Membership Data tab within the Members Lounge.

Also, just a reminder that all email messages generated by and sent out from our website are in the HTML format. In some cases, when the email contains a graphic or picture, the picture will not be sized correctly if your email is not configured to receive HTML emails.

I encourage each member to "click around" our website as it is not possible to describe all of the features currently available. As with anything on the website, please send any suggestions for new features and/or improvements to the website to the webmaster as woodshop@thevwc.org.



Administration – Front Office

Kathy Villani, Manager

FRONT OFFICE

Good news!!! We no longer have a Waiting List for new members to join the VWC. Everyone who was on the Waiting List has been contacted and invited to join. We began

Department Reports for March 2023

contacting those on the Waiting List on November 10, 2022, and completed the contacts on February 28, 2023. As a result, 179 new members have joined so far and more are joining each week. If you are asked about how long our Waiting List is or hear anyone talking about how long it takes to become a VWC member, please tell them that there is no more Waiting List. Any Villager who desires to become a VWC member should come to either of our shops with their Villages ID card and the new member fee of \$275 and they can join on the spot.

New members now choose their Certification training dates on our website. Thank you to Hans Zassenhaus for putting the scheduling programs together for us. Certification training is split into two days, both of which take place at Brownwood on Tuesdays. The first day is Classroom training which covers information about the club, membership requirements, shop safety, educational opportunities, lumber information, and a tour of the Brownwood shop. The second day (a week or two after Classroom training) is Shop training. This is training in the shop on the safe and proper use of our equipment. Upon completion of Shop training, new members are certified to work in the Brownwood shop. New members are also encouraged to get certified at Rolling Acres so they can take classes and/or monitor there. Certification training is held at Rolling Acres every Thursday at 11:30 am, 12:45 pm, or 2 pm. Lastly, the new members must take monitor training at the shop at which they are scheduled to monitor.

I would like to thank all the members of the Front Desk Staff for the time and effort they put into processing so many new members in such a short time while continuing to handle all their other tasks. Thanks goes, too, to Richard Masterson's Certification team for their dedication to training so many new members.

At Brownwood, we have been looking for ways to reduce wait time and congestion in the front office. We have added an auxiliary computer monitor so that we can multi-task to work on two transactions at the front desk (thank you, John Sullivan, for setting this up for us). Please bear with us as staff members learn how to make the best use of that new capability. We are also exploring other options to better handle the workload.

Our IT team is working on automatically feeding data for new member, dues, and classes payments from the Front Desk app to Lightspeed (our financial system). This will reduce the time we currently need to process our new members into the club as well as reduce the time required for class enrollments and dues payments while increasing accuracy. Thanks to our IT team (Dick Hartley and Steve Tarpley), improvements like this are being made. Dick, Steve, and Bill Hecht are also working on improving the quality of the member pictures we have on file and storing them more efficiently. We may need to ask some members to have their pictures re-taken due to poor quality of the original photograph. Please cooperate with the Front Desk Staff if you are asked to take a new photograph.

You can see that it takes MANY members working together just to handle administrative and IT work for the club. In addition, we have functions such as education support,

Department Reports for March 2023

instructors, shop management, maintenance personnel (Blue Badge and Yellow Badge), safety, toy making and management, special projects – all of these groups are in need of more volunteers. If you can devote some time (even a few hours a month will help) to any of these groups, please contact the group manager. If you don't know who that is, ask around or come to the front desk – we can tell you.



Member Merchandise

Steve Eikenberry

No report this month

Steve Eikenberry
Merchandise Manager

Mike Gilman
Asst Manager (Brownwood)



Education

Deb Larouere

Education Department

Took a class? Thank your teacher!

Stood next to a safer Member who took a class? Thank a teacher!

Think we'd all be safer if newer woodworkers took a class? Be a teacher!

New classes and additional seats are added frequently.

Department Reports for March 2023

Look online for the nightly update.

Check time stamp! To get the latest, click "refresh"  Use the search bar or CTRL F

- **Course Catalog** Course Descriptions and lots of details from all classes this year
- **Open Classes** page – Quick details of all openings at last update.
- **How to Sign-up?** Front Desk only; See Class Planner for more
- **Video Master List** – Wide variety - "Free" Refresher classes!

No one plans to be the day's "Oops!" or "Ahh s@wdust #\$\$&!"

What's the best way to keep both Members and equipment happy and safe from each other? Put a bit of knowledge and focus between the operator and the equipment.

You can be the 'Oops Prevention'

- **Education Team** needs additional **Instructors, Mentors and Coaches** for classes, Skill Clinics, demonstrations, and guided practice. Includes ALL Shop topics, Woodworking 101/Shelf, other projects, Turning practice or just a few spare hours here and there. No long-term commitment.
- **Certification** - Instructors to provide new Members the best start possible for the skill level.
- **Safety team** members add more chances of active friendly attention to pre-catch those 'Oops!'
- **Maintenance Team** – upping their game to pre-catch "Oops!," saves grief, time, and cash.
- **Special thanks – and applause – to all the "Oops Preventers"!**

Get first notice about new and added classes

Better than waiting for those emails. **Just be on the team** who does the announcing!

Here are a few ways to participate on the team:

- Generate the update page like the ones in VWC email, but more often if we had help.
- Make sure that the latest Education news update gets posted at both Shops, periodically.
- Manage the bulletin boards at both Shops, keeping them neat and up to date.
- Assist Instructors in getting new sections, classes and other opportunities added.

Ready to jump in? Even a few random hours could make the difference! You could be the difference. Send email to Education@thevwc.net and let us know where you might fit or contact the person in charge of the individual department directly. **We have a spot for you!**

Looking for a lost, missing or unreadable VWC email? Find most of them in the Members' Lounge under the Email Register option - last entry in the left (blue column). Especially good for phone or tablet users who have difficulty reading them on those devices.

Department Reports for March 2023



IT (Information Technology)

Brian Landis

Added a WiFi range extender to RA and upgraded the RA Makerspace and Development computers.



Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager

The Lumber Department has a full stock of over twenty species of hardwoods plus a wide selection of turning blanks and plywood. Stop by the woodshed, our professional staff would be glad to help in your lumber selection.



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

The Elves and Painters continue their work to meet our client needs.

On the production side we have made 1,915 Toys through the end of February.

Department Reports for March 2023

We continue to work with Woodworking Technology on issues with Rolling Acres CNC. We making progress on correcting the issues that are creating assembly issues for us. They have also been very helpful in programing and running a new project for us. The Rolling Acres Laser is working well now and the Lumber Department has come up with a replacement for Baltic Birch plywood that appears to resolve the cutting problem we were having for several months.

We are also anxious to see if the new Laser at Rolling Acres will help with our puzzle production issues.

On the shipping side we have made six shipments totaling 1,231 toys with a donation value of \$7.458 at the end of February. We have made one shipment containing 400 toys with a donation value of \$1.200 in March.

I want to thank Joe Stone and his Wednesday Euchre Group their continued support of our Toy Project. They provided us with a cash donation of \$712.00 and a check for toy sales of \$35.00. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Our Toys on the Square Project continues at Spanish Springs with our next outing coming on Tuesday March 7th from 5 – 8:30 pm. Please come out and support the Toy Team.

The Toy Team is looking woodworkers who are interested in getting involved in our Toy Project to:

- Mentor new Elves as they learn to safely make toys.
- Participate in the Toys on the Square Project.
- Participate in the Lumber program with Ro-Mac Lumber and Supply.
- Become involved in the planning and running of the Department.

Please contact Conway Williams at cswillijr@cvn.net or leave a message on 717-319 6952 if you are interested helping.



John Herega

Turners

The next turners meeting will be held on April 18, 2023 at Brownwood in the meeting room.

Department Reports for March 2023

No other report this month.

APPAREL

VWC apparel, (shirts and caps) are available at Custom Apparel 3451 Wedgewood Lane, Buffalo Ridge Plaza, Rt. 466.



Steve Eikenberry

Safety

We are always looking for interested members who wish to help keep out shops safe. You do not need a background in safety...we will train you. Safety members work 4-hour shifts, and can attain exemption from monitor duty if enough shifts are worked. Interested? Contact Steve Eikenberry at 260.437.9560 (voice or text) or John Herega [732.546.6946](tel:732.546.6946) (voice or text).

We meet monthly on the second Monday of each month at 1 PM in the Brownwood classroom. Please join us!



Carvers

Department Reports for March 2023

Bill McGinnis

We are looking for additional experienced and new carvers in Rolling Acres and Brownwood. Come and see our facility and visit with us.

To begin you will learn how to use the knife and techniques that make it easier on your hands and body. Also, how to keep the knife sharp.

No tools are necessary. Loaners are available. Do not buy tools before the visit. We have beginning projects to start your adventure.

Some of the classes can be found on the website under "classes available "
Examples are

- Softball carving by Steve
- Gnome with a heart by Dennis
- Egret by Ron
- Comfort bird, cowboy boot, or Santa face by Bill
- Wood burning by Bill
- A library is available with ideas of things to carve and instructions.
- Patterns of many things you may want to carve
- Rough-outs (partly carved items) available to purchase.
- Individual coaching when help is desired.

You do not have to be creative- just have a desire to learn new ways of Wood-working.

C O M E. S E E. U S.

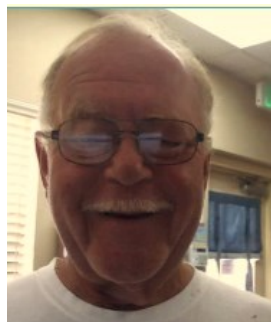


Dick Besler

Certification & Monitor Training

Any questions contact Dick Besler 352-751-4745

Department Reports for March 2023



Urn Project

Alvin Corenblum

Scott Herlick

Nothing new to report this month.



Vice President

Bill Pappas

Pen Making

Watch the email notices for the next pen making events. Thank you, all those members, for turning at meetings and at home.

Looking for donations of spare pen parts for any style of pen are welcome.

Department Reports for March 2023



Shop

Administration/Maintenance

Brad Primeau

Dave Adamovich

ALL IS QUIET AT THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SHOP

With our seasonal member slowly leaving it's been relatively quiet. The Yellow badgers have been busy supporting both shops like the Blue badgers have been doing all along. Our master scheduler Glenn Croteau somehow keeps everyone scheduled without going crazy. A BIG THANKS goes to Glenn.

THE DUST IS NOT SETTLING

The response to the Club's request for someone to help clean Rolling Acres dust collection filters was great. Brian Leininger the team lead, has contacted those who responded and now has a list of volunteers to draw from for help. Thanks to all who volunteered.

It's the volunteers that keep the club going whether it's cleaning filters, working at the front desk, lumber room, making and painting toys, producing urns and pens for troops, educating and instructing new and old members, fixings things brought in by Villagers and the surrounding community, starting, installing or fixing the almost million dollars worth of equipment all the volunteer work adds up to the same thing, the VWC is the best deal in the Villages.

AND FINALLY, A MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FORSTNER BIT ?

1. A shorter bit was needed for the drill press

Department Reports for March 2023

2. A router starting up snapped it
 3. It broke using a hand drill making a small hole bigger
 4. It was cracked to begin with
 5. There wasn't a 1/2" shaft bit to use
 6. A bad forging caused it to break
 7. It was cutting slow and the speed was increased to make it cut better
 8. It was found that way
 9. No one knows why or how it broke so another one needs to be ordered
- 8.YCFS



Voytek Kulesza

Special Projects

We have completed 51 projects in February and received donation of \$2,155.59
49 Slant Wedges was sold for \$735.00 and
243 Samba Card Holders for a donation of \$2,430.00
Total donation for February closed at \$5,320.59
Year to date: \$10,501.81

We are looking for a skilled individual that would be willing to help building Therapy Slant Wedges. Please step forward and see Voytek in Special Projects shop if you would like to volunteer.

Thanks for your support

Department Reports for March 2023



Lowell Sundermann

Woodworking Technology

No report this month.



President

John K. Scott

Our Pens for Troops team turned their 4000th pen with the assistance of the Club's first President Ron Gammon. The Daily Sun and John Rohan were there to witness this achievement.

We recently standardized both shops to the same end of workday procedure. At 3:30 the Front Desk will be making the following announcement. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

Attention Members in the Shop! It is now 3:30 pm and the shop will close at 4 pm. It's time for you to wrap up your work for the day. The vacuum system will be shut down at 3:45 pm so please complete your work, clean up your work area, return borrowed tools to the Tool Crib, and if you have any business for the Front Desk, please come to the desk as quickly as possible since the register closes promptly at 4 pm. Monitors, please check for classes and ask the instructors what should be left running for their classes. Thank you!

Department Reports for March 2023

Our membership numbers up to March 14.

2023 Members as of 3/14 – 1538

2023 New Members YTD – 151

Scheduled for Classroom training – on 3/21 – 50; on 4/11 – 11; on 5/9 - 1

Members Needing Certification – at BW – 286; at RA – 254

2023 Inactive Members – 5 (2 deceased, 3 moved or resigned)

Wait List – 0 – there is no more Wait List

Monitor Shifts Still Open – at BW – 0; at RA – 84

Please recall that this year's budget was planned on having 1700 members, which right now appears we will obtain this by this summer. So, with that in mind and thanks to the many donations we have received the budget is doing quite well. More budget details will be covered next month when we have ended the 1st quarter of this year.

Our Toy Department has and is doing a tremendous job. At the recent, March, meeting Conway, head of the Toy effort, gave us a briefing of their accomplishments, expectations and upcoming needs. I have included a presentation at the end of this report which has the highlights of his briefing. Please take some time and look it over, it gives us a good understanding of what they do etc.

Our new member training has been working quite hard to train our new members and they have been quite successful. The head of this effort has been Richard Masterson. Richard has announced that he intends to step down from this position and as such we are looking for his replacement. If interested please contact me or our Vice President Bill Pappas.

The club has received a donation of a Glowforge PRO 3D Laser Printer from Barbara Matson. Thank you Barbara for your generous donation! The Laser Printer will be setup at the Rolling Acres shop. It has been decided to install the new laser in the NW corner of the shop across from the Urn work area. We will also relocate the existing Rolling Acres laser to this same area putting all of the woodworking technology in the same area in the shop.

Thanks

John Scott

President, The Villages Woodworkers Club

Villages Woodworkers Club

Toy Department

2022

What are we doing ?

- We are helping organizations within the Tri -County area by providing quality wooden toys for needy children.
- We are helping our club maintain it's 501-c3 status as a charitable organization through our charitable toy donations.
- We are helping the club's financial position by actively soliciting cash donations and materials used in the production of our toys.
- Helping club members by “building upon learning”.

We are helping organizations within the Tri - County area by providing quality wooden toys for needy children.

- In 2022 we donated 10,703 wooden toys
- These donations were spread across 25 organizations
- Our largest recipients were:
 - The Children's' Home Society of Florida , Healthy Families
 - Operation Shoebox
 - Sozo Kids Help Agency

We are helping our club maintain it's 501-c3 status as a charitable organization through our toy donations

- In 2022 we donated **\$76,433** worth of toys.
- Since 2013 we have donated **\$618,572** worth of toys.

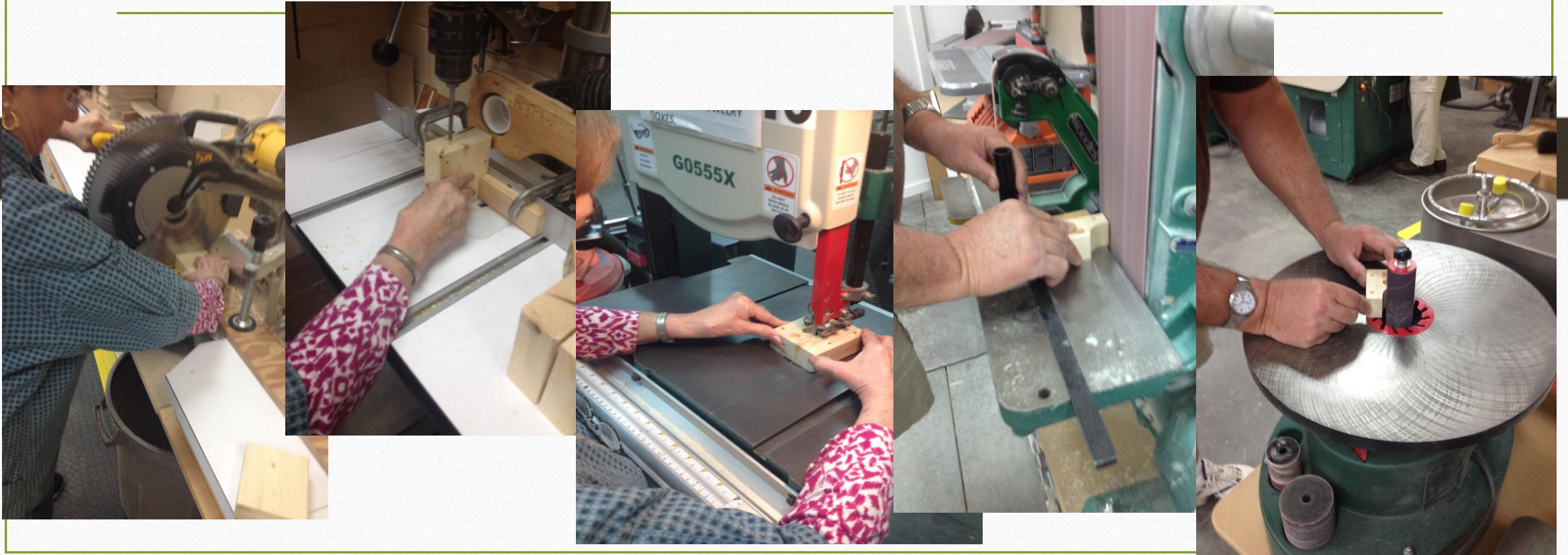
We are helping the club's financial position by actively soliciting cash donations and materials used in the production of our toys.

- In 2022 we received wood valued at \$10,600.
- Since 2019 we have received wood valued at \$34,800.
- In 2022 we sold toys valued at \$ 3,862.
- We continue to work on maintaining and expanding these relationships.

Examples of what we do



Helping club members by “building upon learning”.



Our Toy Catalog

Village Woodworkers Club



February 13, 2023

- 65 Toys & Games
- 24 Puzzles
- 17 Special Items

What have we accomplished ?

- Between our beginning in 2001 when we made 142 toys, to the end of 2022 we have made a total of **115,679** toys with a donation value of over \$ **618,572**
- We have trained 100's of our members to safely make these toys while improving the quality and reducing the cost.

Where do we go from here?

- Continue to satisfy our clients' need for toys while looking for innovative ways to continuously improve our quality and reduce costs.
- We need your help and involvement to:
 - Mentor new Elves as they learn to safely make toys.
 - Become involved in the Toys on the Square Project.
 - Become involved in our Lumber Program.
 - Become involved in the planning and operation of the Department.

QUESTIONS ?