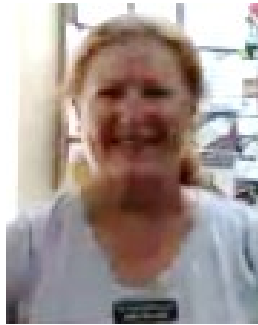


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Ed Eich, Manager



Karin Williams, Assistant Mgr.

Stained Glass

A little late, but certainly worthy of our admiration and praise:

The Rolling Acres Stained Glass Group made this lovely Christmas Nativity that was auctioned off at the 2022 Woodshop Christmas Party. A wonderful job was done by the many students who constructed the glass figures, Gary Wright who built the manger, and Dottie Soufy who designed and managed the project. I know the lucky recipient will treasure this one-of-a-kind masterpiece!



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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!

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. We are averaging between 9 – 11 students per session at Brownwood, and 10-12 students per session at Rolling Acres.

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.

Watch for our next Department report, where we will feature some of our students work.



Website

Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

There have been some reports that the **Safari** web browser operating on mobile devices reports that there are “Too Many Redirects” and thus, cannot display our home page. This is the result of our having many links on each of our pages, including the Home page. However that condition can *normally* be corrected by clearing the Safari history and cookies. This can be done by selecting Settings application, navigating to the Safari application and then navigating to a selection that clears stored browser information *and* closing all tabs. If this does not work, my suggestion is to switch to a more modern browser application such as *Microsoft Edge* or *Firefox*.

I strongly suggest that our members *not* register an alternate user name to your email address (which is the VWC default standard). This “alternate” login will provide access to members-only information; but has the unintended effect that this new account will *not* transfer your other privileges, such as access to one of the various scheduling applications on the website.

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.

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Administration – Front Office

Kathy Villani, Manager

We are making great progress getting through our Waiting List. There are approximately 80 Villagers left on the list who have not yet been invited to join the VWC (out of a total of 2300 who were on the list at some point during the 4+ years that we have had a Waiting List). Those remaining Villagers will get an invitation to join before the end of February. After that, Villagers who wish to join can do so immediately without being placed on the Waiting List.

Thanks to Richard Masterson, Dick Besler, Kay Watkins, and their team of instructors at Rolling Acres and at Brownwood for making it possible to certify hundreds of new members over the past several years. As of the time this report was written, we have 1475 members who have paid 2023 dues and more will be joining us.

VWC Ladies, if you would like to join a new group called The VWC Sisterhood (led by Valerie Pfundstein, Patty Cooke, and Nancy King), please contact Valerie at valeriepfundstein@gmail.com if you have any questions. The kick-off meeting for the group will be held at the Captiva Rec Center (658 Pinellas Pl, Village of Sanibel) on Thursday, March 9, at 6 pm. Come and join us!

A training class for new front desk staff will be held at Brownwood on April 10, 12, and 14. If you are interested in working at the front desk, please contact Kathy Villani at kathleen.villani@gmail.com or stop by either front desk to let us know of your interest. If you don't feel that you can devote the required time to work at the desk but would like to help out with administrative tasks, please let Kathy know. There are many tasks that don't take a long time but are very helpful to managing the front desk, monitors, scheduling, etc.

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Steve Eikenberry

No report this month

Steve Eikenberry
Merchandise Manager

Mike Gilman
Asst Manager (Brownwood)

Member Merchandise



Deb Larouere

Education

Education has 2 hot topics this month:

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

But it happens all too frequently. 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**' in any of a dozen ways.

- **Education Team** needs additional **Instructors** (even single topic, few hours), **Coaches** (provide guidance for practice, including Turning) and **Mentors** Woodworking 101/Shelf or few spare hours here and there).
- **Certification** needs additional Instructors to provide new incoming Members the best start possible for the skill level.

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- Additional attentive **Safety team** members would add more chances of active friendly watching to pre-catch those 'Oops!'"
- **Maintenance Team** is already stepping up their game. Every "Oops" they pre-catch saves grief, time and sometimes cash.

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.

2. **How would you like to get first notice about new and added classes?**

Before they are announced to the Membership? Sounds good!

Just be on the team who does the announcing! Here are a few ways to participate on the team:

- Generate the announcement (maybe one every other month) similar to the ones that come to you via VWC email, but more often.
- Make sure that the latest Education news update gets posted at both Shops, maybe weekly.
- 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.

If you have any of the skills above and wish to help a new team figure out how to keep Members informed, email your skill and contact information to Education@thevwc.net



Brian Landis

IT (Information Technology)

Along with maintain our computers, the IT Department is working to improve the WiFi coverage at RA.

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Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager

Santa Claus delivered another gift to the VWC membership via the lumber department in February.

The lumber department recently acquired over 1,400 board feet of hard maple at a very low price. It was delivered Friday, February 9 at 3:30 PM by one of Santa's elves driving an 18 wheeler Hood distribution green sleigh and split between the Rolling Acres and Brownwood locations.

The hard maple shorts are S3S , 4 to 8 inches wide and 6 to 7 feet long. The selling price is \$4.50 a board foot.



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

The Elves and Painters continue their work to meet our client needs, supported by the return of two elves from long term medical absences.

On the production side we have made 1,129 Toys so far this year.

We are experiencing production problems with the Rolling Acres Laser and the Rolling Acres CNC. We are working both of these issues with the Woodworking Technology and the Lumber departments. We are also anxious to see if the new Laser at Rolling Acres will help with our puzzle production issues.

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On the shipping side we have made four shipments totaling 1,022 toys with a donation value of \$3,920. We are currently working on one additional shipment containing 329 toys with a donation value of \$3,280.

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 also looking woodworkers who are interested in

Mentoring new Elves as they learn to make toys.

Participating in the Toys on the Square Project.

Participating in the Lumber program with Ro-mac Lumber and Supply.

Please contact Conway Williams at cswillijr@cvn.net or leave a message on 717-319 6952.



John Herega

Turners

The next turners meeting will be held on February 21, 2023 at Brownwood in the meeting room.

No other report this month.

APPAREL

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

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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!



Bill McGinnis

Carvers

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.

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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.



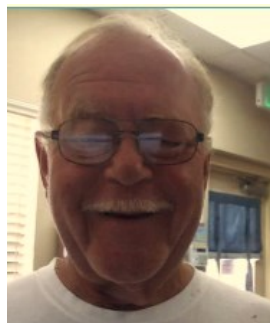
Dick Besler

Certification & Monitor Training

Any questions contact Dick Besler 352-751-4745



Alvin Corenblum



Scott Herlick

Urn Project

Department Reports for February 2023

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.



Shop

Administration/Maintenance

Brad Primeau

Dave Adamovich

WHAT'S THE SKINNY MINNIE?

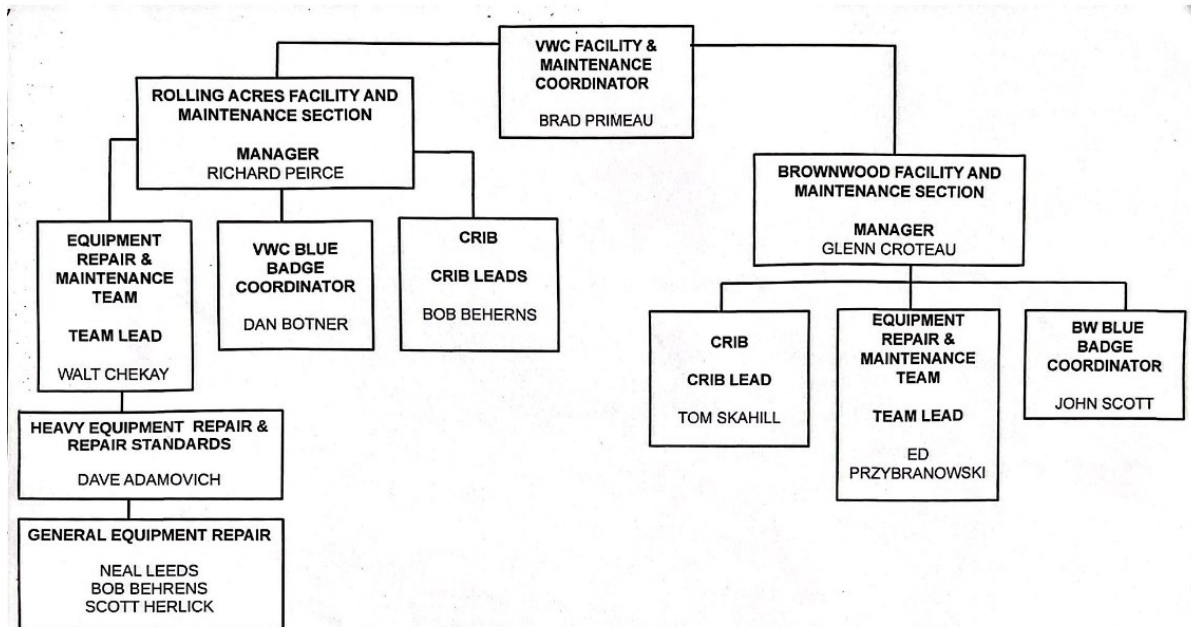
Reorg, reorg., what is going on? The Maintenance Department is changing. The challenge of trying to provide maintenance support for two shops, organize Blue and Yellow volunteers, keep supplies coming and equipment running mandated a change of how the department was organized and conducted its business. Supporting two facilities requires standardizing how work is performed and organized. The least efficient

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approach would be to have each maintenance shop work independently but each one would still require its own budgeting, parts ordering, scheduling and record keeping and maintaining repair histories etc.

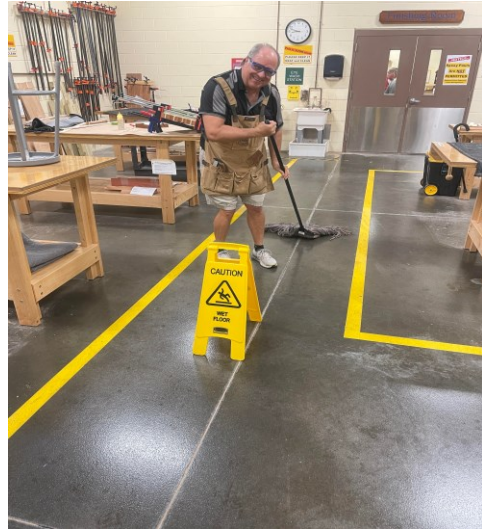
More importantly, there are only so many volunteers. The club has many functions that need volunteers but the maintenance department needs someone with mechanical ability and willingness to, as they say, 'do the time'. There are only so many that have these characteristics and who want to volunteer. Standardizing the department's functions, procedures, duties and business activities maximizes the productivity and ability of those who volunteer to 'getter done'.

The organizational chart displays how the department is going to be structured starting March 1st. You will notice Rolling Acres (RA) is broken out functionally in greater detail. That's because the Club is fortunate enough to have more individuals with in-depth experience at RA to lead these areas. As Brownwood operations continue to mature and volunteer staff increases, the same RA breakout will be established there. Bottom line, it's a work in progress BUT the club is lucky to have the individuals designated in the org chart that want to take on the task and challenge. They stood up and said "I'll give it a try" so help them and the Club to be even more successful in the future!



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BROWNWOOD MWH SIGHTING!!!



No it wasn't a white balloon drifting over the building. It was a sighting of a **Member Who Helped** without be asked sighting! Details are: the assembly room floor was covered with fine sawdust (as usual) and someone with a wet rag dripped water all over the floor. Other individuals walked throughout the drips creating footprints on most of the floor in front of the finishing room and halfway up the center isle creating a large mess. The MWH was captured in a photographed and identified. Gary Deutsch was caught mopping the assembly room and cleaning the mop! If other sightings occur they will be posted in future department reports.

WHAT THE @#*&!

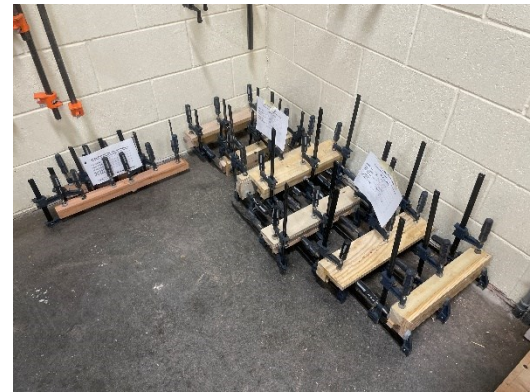


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The orange towel in the picture was sucked up the vacuum collection hopper behind the flapper/inflatable drum sander by the sanding downdraft table. How can that happen without someone noticing it or REPORTING what happened to a Monitor or a maintenance person? YCFS!

YOU CAN'T HAVE ENOUGH CLAMPS

The picture says it all! There are videos manufactures have on their website Bessey for example, explaining clamping pressure, pounds of pressure a clamp applies and others



showing how clamping cauls can be used to eliminate using a large number of clamps. Woodworking is a craft and developing skill and knowledge about it is part of mastering the craft. It's not just cutting and gluing up a few boards and moving on to another project you've seen in a magazine. Learning and understanding the techniques you used and why you they are used is part of what woodworking is all about.



Voytek Kulesza

Special Projects

January Report

New Year started very well for Special Projects.

We have completed 56 projects in January and received donation of \$2,155.59

47 Slant Wedges was sold for \$705.00 and

232 Samba Card Holders for a donation of \$2,320.00

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Total donation for December closed at \$5,180.59

Thanks for your support



Lowell Sundermann

Woodworking Technology

Things are humming along. The attendance at the User Group meeting has picked up, with some worthwhile topics and members volunteering to help work the issues. Just exactly what we like to see.

The new Laser, a GlowForge Pro, installation is in process at RA. It will also include moving the RA Epilog Laser. Both Lasers will go in a space behind the RA tool crib making good use of that space and freeing up some space in the assembly room. Classes will be provided and announced soon for the GlowForge Laser.

Paul has been very active/busy certifying members on the BW Maverick CNC. Jef Geagan is back, at least for a while, and is offering a short class on the fundamentals of V-carve inlay. Stay tuned for details.

Tom Buzz Bernard, our Laser guru, is scheduled to do a special show and tell at the April Membership meeting, April 11th. Keep that on your calendar.

We continue to see new members joining the club with woodworking technology experience. I am sure this will continue and it has been interesting to see the skills they bring to the club.

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President

John K. Scott

President's Feb 2023 Report

We are in the middle of the snowbird season and overall, both shops are doing well. Our shop database that does the checking in and checking out of folks as they enter/leave the shop has been showing on average about 10-15 more members in our BW shop than RA. This was expected as most of our new members are living in the newer sections of The Villages. As I have gone around and looking to see how things are it also appears both shops are quite comfortable with how many are in the shop at the same time.

As I have said before this year's budget was based on 1700 total paid members. We about 1500 members now and it appears we will hit the 1700 number in 2-3 months. Below is the membership numbers as of our Feb Membership meeting.

Members who have paid 2023 dues – 1459

New members in 2023 – 73

On Wait List who have not been contacted yet – 257

On Wait List who have been contacted – 560

On Wait List who have joined since we changed our procedure on 11/10/22 – 102

At our February Membership meeting Voytek from Special Projects gave us a 10 minute or so briefing on the Special Projects in regards to just what they do and how they contribute to the shop. It was a great briefing and I have below a couple of the points he made.

- We are supporting our club by helping the residents of The Villages through sharing of the talent, knowledge and experience in repairs and custom woodworking projects.
- We are helping other organizations inside and outside of Villages by fulfilling their charitable requests.
- We are helping other departments of our club by building custom projects per their needs.
- Helping club members by "building upon learning".

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In addition, here are the numbers from 2022 showing their total contribution etc.

• Samba boards	2115	\$ 21,150
• Slant boards	239	\$ 3,585
• Custom orders	604	\$ 21,021
• Total	2961	\$ 45,791

So as one can see Voytek and his team accomplish a lot for this Club. I ask everyone next time they see a Special Projects person to thank them for their contribution.

I also want to mention that with the increased membership our need for more training classes etc has grown a lot. Our training folks are putting in a lot of time as well and we certainly appreciate what they do. But we sure could use more volunteers to assist in our training efforts. If you are interested, please see our Training Manager Deb Larouere.

Please note the Safety Note below. I sent out a separate email to all members addressing this issue but feel it needs to be highlighted again.

Safety Note:

Only members with safety glasses on are authorized on the shop floor. Non-members may tour but will have signed a waiver and have safety glasses on but still not allowed on the shop floor and unless a waiver has been obtained from the President of the Club.

Thanks
John Scott, President
The Villages Woodworkers Club