



Ed Eich, Manager



**Kathy Villani
Assistant Manager**

Stained Glass

Stained Glass Group Update

Our classes continue to be offered on Friday mornings from 9 to 11 am so sign up and join us. We have plenty of glass, patterns, and tools for everyone who would like to learn the art of stained glass. We are in the process of selecting several patterns for students to make and donate to the shop's Christmas Party auction.

One of our instructors, Gary Wright, just completed a beautiful peacock in stained glass (see below). He plans to make a wooden frame for it and display it in a window. Betsy Abromaitis is working on a lamp shade and Eric Lundberg just completed an Iris panel. Pictures of both will be available next month. Our new students have completed sun catchers and will be moving up to making Iris panels.





Special Projects, Website and CNC

Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

Special Projects:

We are always in need of VWC Members to assist in working on Special Projects. Any member can select a Special Project from the **Green Binder** at the front Desk. Simply choose a project, ensure that you have entered your name on the sheet in the "Assigned To" space and then proceed to fulfill the requirements. When you have finished the project, put a piece of purple tape on the project, store it in the Special Projects Area of the Shop AND notify the Front Desk that you have finished the project. Many projects will require less than one-hour to complete.

The following are statistics for the period of March 10 through April 6

Special Projects Accepted:	60
Special Projects completed:	57
Total contributions to the VWC:	\$2488

Pre-Made Items managed by Bernie Harkins

Items Sold	197
Total Contributions:	\$1967

Website:

Our website monitor reports that the website was non-responsive for only one minute since January 1, 2018. As always, if you have an idea of how to improve the website please send your suggestions to woodshop@thevwc.org.



Administration – Front Office

Anne Bell, Manager

I want to welcome Julie Sullivan to the front desk crew. We are in the process of training Julie for this job. We are also looking for at least one more member willing to work the front desk. The position requires that you have computer skills; are willing to give 8 to 16 hours a month to the job; are a full-time resident; and enjoy interfacing with people. If interested, please call me at 352-350-2416.

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Member Merchandise

Bob Bell, Manager

Nothing to report.



Library

Mary Ann Main

The new computer and printer have been installed and are available for research as well as viewing DVD's.



Education

Deb Larouere

Most classes have wrapped up for the Fall 2017-2018 Spring season. Special thanks to all the teachers who gave their time and energy to assist fellow club members to acquire and hone woodworking skills.

Teachers are needed for the upcoming Fall session and woodworkers are encouraged to share their skills. If you're interested in teaching a new class contact Bob Matthews or Debbie Larouere. If you have a great idea for a new class and have a teacher in mind, please encourage that person to let us know.

Steve Eikenberry will teach a Segmented Bowl (T252) class on Mon., Weds., and Fri. for the first 2 weeks in August (6th to 17th). Watch your email for sign up information. **(IT'S UNUSUAL TO HAVE A CLASS IN AUGUST! TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY!)**

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Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager

Nothing new to report.



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

The Toy Department continues to make excellent progress toward our 2018 Goals.

We participated in one external community activity in April, Toys on the Square at Spanish Springs on April 11th, where we collected \$89 regular donations and \$292 in toy sales for a total of \$381. My thanks to all the Toy Team members, Ron, John, Dennis and Ken who donated their time and efforts to this activity.

Our Toy production activities continued at a brisk pace in April.

- We produced 749 toys for the month.
- This brings our year to date total production to 3284.
- Which means we are 948 toys ahead where we were at the end of April last year.
- We have produced another 143 toys so far in May.

Our shipments for April included the Children's Home Society of Florida and Operation Christmas Child.

- They contained 240 toys.
- Their donation value was \$2406.
- This brought our year to date shipments to 1495 toys with a donation value of \$10,965.
- We have come a long way from 2001 when there was no shop and the original members for the Toy Department produce 165 Toys in their various garages.
- Our total toys donated since then is currently 69,314 !

We will be back at Spanish Springs town square on Wednesday May 23rd from 5-8:30.

As has always been our practice we will suspend operations in the square for June, July and August, returning to Lake Sumter Landing on Thursday September 13th from 5-8:30.



Board of Directors, Safety and Turners

John Herega, Chairman of the Board and Manager of Safety and Turners

BOD: SOME GENERAL THOUGHTS/COMMENTS

Often we hear grumblings and are questioned on how and why decisions are made regarding the guidelines for the day to day operation of the shop and purchasing of replacement and new equipment.

These decisions are not made lightly or by one person. They are made by members that have been duly elected, as well as the various committees and departments that make up the operating and administration staff of this *ALL VOLUNTEER* club.

Many of these people give up their shop time to instruct, and aid all members. They spend countless hours manning the front desk; keeping the disposable and first aid supplies on hand; and attending the meetings necessary to keep the shop operating smoothly and safely - especially the maintenance department. They are in the shop daily, arriving an hour or more before the shop opens, performing maintenance duties and insuring the shop and equipment is ready for the members use - not to mention the after hours, and Sundays that they are in the shop cleaning, greasing and performing maintenance that cannot be done during the week. Additionally, they spend countless hours on the phone or chasing down repair parts and investigating the purchase of new and/or replacement equipment.

These people deserve our thanks and respect.

Sure we all make mistakes, and find that a piece of equipment or an operations change is not what we expected; but, I assure you all, the decision making members do their best to remedy any adverse situation that has occurred, or may occur.

And, who is best to know what equipment is well suited to our operation? Those who spend their time repairing as well as operating the equipment? Or those who, "don't want to be involved?" or take the shop and equipment for granted?

If any member wants to take a larger part in the decision making of the club, I strongly suggest that they volunteer for the various committees, and/or departments, if special skills are required to fulfill those duties, then put in the time, attend all meetings get the training, and contribute to the overall operation of the club.

I FEEL WE ARE THE BEST CLUB IN THE VILLAGES, THE BEST ORGANIZED, BEST VOLUNTEER STAFF, HAVE THE BEST AND MOST TALENTED MEMBERS

Let all of us do our best to keep it that way.

REMINDER: anyone interested in serving on the Board of Directors can contact the chairman of the nominating committee – Frank Giaccone, or Mike Borfitz, Jim Spallone, John Herega, any current board member or officer.

A member must be an active VWC member in good standing for a minimum of one year.

TURNERS GROUP:

The May turners meeting will be held next Tuesday May 15 at 7:00pm sharp in the shop.

Demonstrator to be determined.

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The June, July and August meetings will be suspended, however on Tuesday August 21 anyone interested in honing a particular skill, wants to learn a new technique, or would like to work one on one with an instructor. (Larnie myself, Steve Yovan, or Ray Roberts) can join us then at 4:00pm. Please contact me beforehand to insure we have the instructor and any materials that may be needed.

APPARELL

There is a limited supply of woodshop caps available, both carvers and general membership, see John Herega or front desk personnel.

VWC apparel, shirts and hats are available at Custom Apparel 3451 Wedgewood Lane, Buffalo Ridge Plaza, rt.466.

Aprons, smocks, respirators, dusk masks, safety glasses and side shields are available in the shop. Inquire at the front desk or contact John Herega.

SAFETY

TABLE SAW SAFETY

Your brain is the most influential tool in the woodshop.

TAKE TWO – Think the job and cuts thru before you power up the table saw and begin your cut(s).

Learn the tools application and limitations as well as specific hazards to it.

If you are not thoroughly familiar with the operation of table saws, obtain advice from an instructor or other qualified person.

KEEP GUARDS IN PLACE

KEEP WORK AREA CLEAN

Never leave the tool running unattended TURN THE POWER OFF.

Do not leave the tool until it comes to a complete stop.

STAY ALERT – Watch what you are doing. Use common sense when operating any power tool. Do not use a power tool when tired or under the influence of drugs (including medication) or alcohol.

DISTRACTION = DISASTER – Do not allow yourself to be distracted – an instant of inattention while operating a power tool may result in serious injury.

KEEP THE FLOOR AREA AROUND THE MACHINE CLEAN AND FREE OF SCRAP MATERIAL AND SAWDUST TO MINIMIZE THE DANGER OF TRIPPING AND SLIPPING

Be sure the saw table is free of all scrap, foreign material and tools before starting to cut

MORE ON TABLE SAW SAFETY NEXT MONTH.



Carvers

Pete Bankowski

Nothing to report.



Certification & Monitor Training

Dick Besler

Ten new members added in April. Ten more scheduled for May. Monitor training 5/16. New monitor training film started filming on 5/6.



Vice President

Jim Spallone

In conjunction with WoodCraft, our outreach program "Pens for the Troops" is off to a great start. Elliott Schantz is championing this endeavor. Thus far his group of turners has produced and sent 120 pens to our troops. We are currently in the process of producing another 120 pens for distribution. Our goal is at least 500 pens by year end (A lofty objective).

We can always use more pen turners.....this group meets the *4th Tuesday* of every month at the shop from *4pm-6pm*.

Hope you can find the time to participate.



Maintenance

Dave Adamovich

Nothing to report.

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President

Mike Borfitz

Please see the following message from our **IT department** (computer guys!)

To All Club Members,

As of May 7 the side doors to the club will be locked. An electronic door lock system has been developed and installed by the IT department. To access the shop using the side doors during normal shop hours you will need to enter your **Villages** ID number on the keypad by the doors. When you enter your number, the system checks the Woodshop Database to ensure you are a member of the club in good standing. If you are not a member in good standing the door won't unlock. This process also logs you into the shop. If you are already logged in, then it just allows you to enter the shop. **When you leave the shop for the day please go through the office and checkout; the side doors do not check you out.**

Signage is on each door explaining the three lights and what they each indicate. The following is what you can expect to happen....When you walk up to the side door during normal shop hours the Blue light should be on indicating the System is ready. Enter your six digit Villages ID number, the Green light should come on, the door will unlock and you can open the door. If the Red light comes on you either entered your valid number incorrectly or you are not a member in good standing. Assuming you are a valid member, press the CLR key (lower left key) and enter your ID number again. **If you get the Red light again go to the front desk and try to check in.**

The system logs you in to the shop at the side doors. TAILGATING (two people entering together) is not acceptable. Both members should enter their number at the door keypad.

The ONLY time it is acceptable to block the door open is when you are actually moving lumber and tools physically through the door. It should not be blocked open when you go out to your vehicle to pick up items. As soon as you bring your items through the door close the door.

Monitors will ensure doors remain locked and closed. Doors should not be blocked open when cleaning the vacuum system.

We need to keep the doors shut when we are not going through them to help the vacuum system work at peak efficiency.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Reminder – Approximately three weeks ago I sent out the following message to the membership. I want to repeat this announcement again for any who did not see it the first time around. This is a gentle reminder. Following reminders will not be so gentle!

IMPORTANT: It is time to take a step in the Shop that has been a long time in coming. The Shop is for the total membership's enjoyment and use. With the

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exception of the bins which members can sign out, tables, desks, and cupboards/cabinets are NOT for storage of **personal projects**. Not only does such use of the area take it out of commission for the general operation of the Club, it leads to disorder and accusations among the membership.

If a project is too big to store in a bin or easily take home, it must be properly tagged and placed in the assembly area for a short-identified duration.

As we struggle with incidents of misplacement, or at its worse suspected theft, leaving personal projects in places where they don't belong and are not properly marked just adds work and bad feelings for members, whether they have been involved or not..... and does NOT help us get to the bottom of actual theft.

Immediately, please remove all personal projects from the areas mentioned above (**tables, desks, and cupboards/cabinets**) and store them properly or take them home. Failure to comply may result in punitive action by the Board of Directors.

Thank you for your compliance.