



Ed Eich, Manager



**Kathy Villani
Assistant Manager**

Stained Glass

Stained Glass Group Update

We now sell glass to members so if you work on stained glass and would like to purchase glass from the Club, please see Kathy Villani, Ed Eich, Gary Wright or Karin Williams on Friday mornings at the shop. We'll be glad to show you the glass we have on hand.

Classes for the Winter, 2020, term began on Friday, January 10. Come and join us if you'd like to try your hand at stained glass. There is room in the classes and you may sign up at any time. In just a couple of lessons, you'll be able to make things like these:



Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

Special Projects, Website and CNC

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

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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.

Please use the Special Projects checklist available in the front of the green binder. This document provides you with many tips and hints when you are working on a special project. As always, we are looking for additional input to make this checklist more effective.

The following are statistics for period December 1, 2019 – January 11, 2020:

Special Projects Accepted:	62
Special Projects completed:	46
Hours Worked:	87.50
Total contributions to the VWC:	\$ 1205.39

Pre-Made Items managed by Bernie Harkins

Items Sold	255
Total Contributions:	\$ 2776.53

Thanks to all VWC members who contributed their time and talents in working on these Special Projects and Pre-Made items.

Website:

Special thanks to John Sullivan who has joined the website staff for his eagle eyes in spotting inconsistencies and typographical errors on the website. John will continue providing support to our website.

Education:

As you register for a class, this class will appear on your personal schedule of classes. Your Monitor assignments also show up in your personal Monitor Schedule. Both of these personal schedules appear under the Members Lounge tab when you sign onto the website, as <http://www.thevwc.org>.

To see a listing of all classes that are available for registration go to <http://www.thevwc.org/Education/Available-Classes>. Note that you must log onto our website before viewing this report.

Login Issues:

We have noticed that a number of our members are having difficulties in logging onto our website at <http://www.thevwc.org>. The following are reminders:

- ✚ We use your email address as the user name (which is case sensitive) thus you must enter your user name in the same format as your email address was entered onto our Front Desk database. In the past this has resulted in some email addresses containing capitalized letters. In the future this will not be the case. Also, we will be correcting this condition on the website in the near future. Be on the lookout for the email announcing this change.
- ✚ If your Villages ID has been changed, such as when you purchase a home, please notify the Front Desk of this change so that we can update your password on the website.

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- ✚ Several members have elected to use an alternate user name by registering this new name with the website. Please ensure that your alternate user name does not contain spaces. Also, when you register an alternate user name, we are unable to retrieve your password as we are encrypting passwords in a method call one-way encryption.

If you have an idea of how to improve the website please send your suggestions to woodshop@thevwc.org.

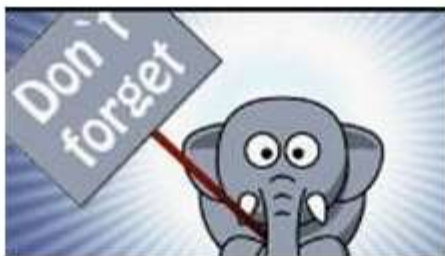


Administration – Front Office

Anne Bell, Manager

Our memberships are good for a calendar year basis – January 1 through December 31st of every year. As of the 1st of January, members are not allowed in the shop if their dues for the upcoming year have not been paid. However, members can continue their membership by paying in between January 1st and January 31st. All members who have not paid their dues by January 31st, 2020, will no longer be members.

<i>Dues Year Ended</i>	<i>Paid Until 12/31/xx</i>	<i>Not Paid as of 1/1/xx</i>	<i>Percent Not Paid</i>
12/31/2019	1105	164	14.8%
12/31/2018	944	204	21.6%
12/31/2017	987	177	17.9%



As of January 11, 117 members have not paid their 2020 dues. This is a very small number compared to prior years. Front desk workers are currently calling these people to remind them of their need to pay or to find out if they are planning to now renew.

🌀 **MOST IMPORTANT - READ YOUR EMAIL!**

With 1125 members, the **ONLY** way we can keep you informed is by **EMAIL**.

This is the BEST way to learn about all the important things going on.

Class signups and courses offered.

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Membership information.

Monitor Duty reminders – **YOU** are responsible for your monitor duty.

Shop calendars and your personal calendars for shop activities.

General information about what is happening at the shop.

☞ Keep your phone and email information up to date at the woodshop. The front desk can help you.

☞ We still only take **CASH** or a **CHECK**. If you don't want to donate your change carry a blank check.



Member Merchandise

Steve Eikenberry

Beginning of the year inventory has been taken, and we had sales of over \$4,000 and purchase expense of about \$2,000. Much of the 2019 disparity was from sales of items we've had for a number of years. Since I've been managing Merchandise one year now I have a good understanding of what sells well, what has had no sales, and which products need clearance prices. Soon I will conduct a merchandise clearance sale with markedly reduced prices on items that we need to clear out of inventory.



Library

Mark Corner

Just getting started in the library. We currently have no subscriptions to any woodworking periodicals. I will be sending out letters to various publishers inquiring as to whether online subscriptions and/or CDs are available for a club of our size and at a reasonable cost. I have made initial contact with Rick from RVScollections, the magazine indexing service. I am waiting to hear back regarding pricing. This service has been available on the library computer before but has expired. I am currently developing an indexing system for the books that we currently have in the library. This index will hopefully, provide a rapid searchable reference for our members to find pertinent books regarding a subject of interest.



Education

Deb Larouere

Put a little class in your Shop Life -

We started 2020 out of the gate with 92 classes offered and had a much larger than usual number of students sign up on the first day. Apologies to those who waited in line excessively. We have been working for a few years to improve the process within our current limitations, but were overwhelmed by a much larger than usual turnout. (Also slowing down the process were students who tried to sign up for classes to which they did not have pre-requisites.)

Regrets go out to students who didn't get a desired class because there weren't enough open spots. We are always looking for qualified Instructors to step forward. Please help us to find them! More classes are always added to the schedule and these will be announced through email as they come. Be sure the Shop has your correct email and that your device is set to receive it. If you don't get the monthly meeting reminders, you won't get any other VWC mail either.

Wow! Have you seen the updated VWC Website?!

Check it out! Course Descriptions/Details and Class Openings have always been accessible under the Education tab on the VWC website at theVWC.org. These are now scrollable listings, making them much easier to read. There are updated instructions for signing up for courses there too. Members must login to see this info. The listings are updated every night. Thanks to Hans Zassenhaus and John Sullivan for their work on this. We are also working on other improvements as well. We'll keep you posted.

What's this P Zero thing? New P000 and P100 now under development

This is the Mentoring course to help new woodworkers to develop Intro level skills. There's lots of detailed information about this on the Bulletin Board in the Front Breakroom at the Shop and on line. These skills can also be worked on during the 'Skill Builder' Classes. Check the Course Catalog – on the tables or on line – for more info. This is a work in progress and we need some Instructors who are interested in daytime Mentoring to help our new members out. Please send any messages to Debbie Larouere at Education@thevwc.net

Needed ASAP, please:

- Instructors who have a heart to help new woodworkers get started – daytime or evening hours
- Skilled woodworkers who might be interested in assisting or teaching a class
- An organized person who has good Microsoft Office skills

Please contact Debbie Larouere – Thanks!!

Lots going on in the Education Department!

Thanking all Members who help to 'Spread Joy 'around the Shop!



IT (Information Technology)

Bill Pappas

Current efforts revolve around daily support of existing IT systems such as the Front Desk and Electronic Doors. Development efforts continue to take place for the systems we will need when we have a second wood shop location. IT has added a few folks to the team to help with IT implementation and support of new shop. For all departments that use shop PCs to support their areas of responsibility please note we are going to implement some changes to the PCs. It is our intent to directly interface with as many of the users as possible to train them on the changes. We are making the changes to make it easier to manage the PC's we currently have and to prepare for the additional PC's when we get the new shop. John Scott and John Sullivan will be handling this project. Change is never easy; we greatly appreciate your support!



Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager

Lumber species of the month... **African Padauk**

Characteristics.... The heartwood is a vivid reddish-orange when freshly cut, but changes over time to bright red, red or coral pink with dark streaks. It can darken further to a reddish or purplish brown or black. The color fades with age. The grain can range from straight to interlocked, with a fine to medium texture and a natural sheen. When newly cut, the sapwood, which is clearly demarcated from the heartwood, is white, but turns to grey or brownish-yellow when exposed to light.

The heartwood is highly durable. It is resistant to termite attack and can last over 25 years in contact with the ground. The heartwood is quite restive to preservative treatment and the sapwood is moderately resistant.

Properties... A heavy and dense wood, it has high bending and crushing strengths, with medium stiffness, and resistance to shock loads, and high resistance to abrasion. It is not suitable for steam bending. African Padauk works well despite its density, with only a slight blunting effect on cutting edges. It planes, molds, turns, bores, sands and carves well.

Small stock is liable to split when nailing or screwing, so pre-boring is advisable. It glues very well and can be brought to an excellent finish. It also weathers very well.

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Origin ... Tropical West and Central Africa

Common uses.... The wood is used in quality furniture and joinery, cabinetmaking, office furniture, heavy duty and parquet flooring, tool and and knife handles, shuttles and sporting goods. It is also sliced for decorative veneers.

Possible health risk.... Sawdust can cause skin and respiratory problems, swelling of the eyelids, itching and vomiting.

Availability... about 100 board feet is in stock at \$11.00 per board foot, in 8" widths and in 4' lengths , 4/4 thickness



Conway Williams, Manager

Toys

The VWC Toy Department had our most successful year ever in 2019

I want to take this opportunity to again thank all of the members of the Toy Team, past and present who made this year possible. I also want to recognize the assistance provided by the Maintenance and Technology groups for their support.

The final numbers for 2019 are:

- Total toys produced – 10,782
- Total toys produced thru 2019 – 85,839
- Total toys shipped in 2019 (Donated to two dozen clients) - 10,152.
- Total donation value of the toys provided in 2019 - \$78,467.00.

Moving on to 2020, which is already shaping up to be an interesting and challenging year. Both the Elves and Painters are already hard at work after a short, but well deserved rest for the Holiday.

We have already thru the 10th of January 2020:

- Produced 392 toys.
- Shipped 529 toys to 4 clients with a Donation value of \$3621.00

We also completed our first Toys on the Square which netted us \$65.00 in sales and \$22.00 in Donations for \$87.00.

We will be back at Lake Sumter Landing on Wednesday February 12th.

Our next activity is Hoedown Days at the Polo Fields on Saturday January 25th. We hope you will come out and see children assemble their choice of a painted Pocket Car or an Old Fashioned Tool Box, which they then can take home.



Safety and Turners

John Herega, Manager of Safety and Turners

The turner's group monthly meeting will be held Tuesday January 21, 2020 promptly at 7:00PM in the shop. The demonstrator will be; AL HOCKENBERY, AAW Board member from Lakeland Florida. Please bring a "show and tell" item.

Following the meeting there will be a social period and demonstrator critique. Snacks will be provided; bring your choice of beverage.

Anyone interested in demonstrating a wood turning item or technique, contact John Herega at herega@hughes.net, leave a message at the front desk or call his cell phone number (732-546-6946).

We bring in various demonstrators from local clubs and surrounding areas. We are looking for demonstrators that are new to the group and we would love for our very talented members to share their talents with us. Any suggestions or ideas are welcome.

NEW LATHES:

We have purchased two new lathes:

POWERMATIC MODEL #4224B. (TOP OF THE LINE)

- ✓ Distance between centers – 42 inches
- ✓ Horsepower – 3
- ✓ Number of indexing positions – 98
- ✓ Spindle speed range – 40 – 3500
- ✓ Swing range bed – 24 inches.
- ✓ Swing range (Banjo) – 21 Inches.

FEATURES:

- Sliding headstock with electronic variable speed and digital RPM readout.
- Spindle lock and indexing on the headstock for drilling hole patterns, routing flutes, and other equally spaced features.
- Vacuum system.
- 15 amp quad receptacle for easy reach of powered accessories.
- Two 100 watt lamps.
- Set of dead centers which hold a spindle for visual comparison.
- Self-ejecting laser etched quill.
- Magnetic remote on/off switch

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JET MODEL #JWL – 1840 EVS

- ✓ Distance between centers – 40 inches.
- ✓ Swing over bed – 18-1/2 inches
- ✓ Swing over Banjo – 14-1/4 inches
- ✓ Quill Travel – 4-1/4 inches
- ✓ Spindle Speeds - High 120 – 3200 --- Low 40 – 1200
- ✓ Speed Range - 40 – 3200
- ✓ Number of indexing positions - 36

FEATURES

- Sliding Headstock with digital speed readout
- Improved tailstock quill locking mechanism incorporates an anti-rotation key.
- Banjo uses non-marring, positive locking wedge system to securely hold tool post.
- Single lock latch frees up both hands.
- Electronic infinitely variable speed from 40 – 3200 RPM
- 36 integrated indexing positions.
- Remote emergency stop button can be situated along the lathe bed.

TURNER SUPPLIES HALF PRICE SALE

Limited quantities still available.

MYLAND SANDING SEALER – 500 ml

ODIES OIL – 9oz

SANDING DETAILER – pkg. of 4

VARIOUS HSS CUTTERS

MARKING TOOL

BLOXYGEN

CORN ON THE COB HOLDERS

15/64" CARBIDE CUTTER

NOVA SOFT JAWS

APPAREL

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

The next Safety Committee meeting will be **MONDAY JANUARY 20, at 9:30am** in the library.

WOOD DUST TOXICITY (CONTINUED)

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

It is the individual's responsibility to be aware of airborne wood dust and take the appropriate action to minimize the exposure to and inhalation of the wood dust.

The most effective method to guard against inhaling airborne wood dust is to wear an appropriate respirator.

WHAT IS A RESPIRATOR?

A respirator is a device that protects you from inhaling dangerous substances, such as chemicals and infectious particles.

Respirators are among the most important pieces of protective equipment for working in hazardous environments.

HOW DO RESPIRATORS WORK?

Respirators work by either filtering particles from the air, chemical cleaning (purifying) the air, or supplying clean air from an outside source.

Particle respirators –

Particle respirators are the simplest, least expensive, and least protective of the respirator types available. Particle respirators filter out dust, fumes and mists. They are usually disposable masks or respirators with disposable filters.

They must be replaced when they become discolored, damaged or clogged.

The half mask and full face cartridge respirators are more efficient, but they are more cumbersome to wear, require the correct cartridge and can be uncomfortable to wear.

MORE ON RESPIRATORY PROTECTION NEXT MONTH

FINISHING: PREPARING THE WOOD SURFACE

A quality finish is impossible to obtain if you don't prepare the wood properly. You probably know this already. **Most woodworkers dread the preparation steps, skip through them, and get a poor finish as a result. Others spend more time and effort than they need to – scraping, sanding, patching, sanding steaming out dents, sanding and more sanding.** Both extremes are probably caused by lack of understanding of what needs to be achieved.

The usual cause for over-preparation is the belief that to 400 grit or finer produces better results. The wood looks better when sanded 400 grit, after all. Why shouldn't the finish?

When you have control of the project from beginning to end, you'll find that it pays to begin thinking of the finish from the start. In fact the old wisdom holds that a good finish begins with the selection of the lumber itself.

There are four stages in preparing wood for finishing:

- **Selecting, cutting out, and shaping the lumber:** Many potential finish problems can be avoided by proper attention here.
- **Sanding or smoothing the surface.** This is the most unpleasant operation for most woodworkers, so knowledge of the tools and some thought of what you are trying to achieve can go a long way toward reducing the drudgery and improving results.
- **Dealing with glue that gets on the surface of the wood.** Glue will show up as light splotches through the stain and finish.
- **Correcting surface imperfections in the wood,** such as dents, gouges and checks, and filling gaps in the joints left by less than- successful glue-up. This step could be called "the woodworker's eternal quest for a wood putty that takes stain."

PREPARING THE LUMBER

Wood varies greatly in color and figure - even woods of the same species and boards from the same tree. You need to pay attention to how boards look when putting them next to one another in a project. Otherwise, you may end up with color and figure differences that will detract from the appearance and be difficult to disguise with a finish

Whether you're choosing boards at a lumber yard or from your own inventory, look through the supply and imagine how different grains and figure patterns would look if placed in various parts of your project. Be conscious of knots, splits, checks and other defects and determine how you would either use them to advantage or work around them. If you are using veneered plywood or plan to veneer the wood yourself, think how the figure in the veneer can be used to best advantage. Above all, pay attention to color variations, unless you intend to paint the piece you are making.

For a table or a chest top, lay the boards out in different groupings, flipping and turning them, until you find the best arrangement. Then mark the boards so you won't mix them up as you prepare them. If you are making the top from veneered plywood, decide which part of the 4 X 8 sheet you can use most advantageously. On a chest of drawers, give the same attention to picking the drawer fronts. When people look at what you've built, they won't see the wonderful joints you've spent so much time and effort making. They'll see the design which includes your choice of boards and their positioning, and they'll see the finish. You won't regret the time you spent selecting and arranging your wood.

Before you begin working your lumber, make sure your tools are sharp and the machines are adjusted properly.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH



Carvers

Pete Bankowski

Nothing to report.



Certification & Monitor Training

Dick Besler

There will be no certification class in January. Classes for the next months are as follows: February 13th, March 12th, and April 16th.



Vice President

Jim Spallone

PENS FOR THE TROOPS: 2019 REPORT.

* Month of December. 66

* YTD. 753

* Total project. 1523

As always, turners meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month to turn pens for this project.

Contact Elliot Schantz, coordinator, for further details.



Dave Adamovich



Glen Croteau

Maintenance/Shop Administration

No report.



Woodworking Technology

Lowell Sundermann

Woodworking Technology Department classes are off and running. For review:

All our classes require the student to take a 4-6 hour class reviewing Windows 10 operating system, file management, graphics software, and installing Vcarve Pro and/or Corel Draw. The primary classes are intense enough without having to handle student's basic computer skills - therefore this class E500. Students that successfully complete this class (short test), are placed in E510Z. Once the student knows the front desk can check that she/he is registered in E510Z, the student will be allowed to sign up for E511 (CNC) and/or E601 (Laser). Students completing E511 may sign up for E513 (3D carving). Students that wish to be certified to operate the CNC or the Laser must be trained one-on-one with the respective instructor. Successful students will be registered in E509Z (CNC certification)

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and/or E609Z (Laser certification). I understand it sounds complicated and over managed, but it actually makes sense when you think it through, and realize the need to record the status of every member.

Instructors:

Bob LaVarnway has been our lead Laser instructor (E601); likely the most knowledgeable member of the club on the Laser. Unfortunately he has been diagnosed with a serious medical condition, one that requires him to find his new normal, but thankfully not necessarily life threatening. Our thoughts and prayers go with Bob.

Dave Makarewicz agreed to take Rik Peirces E500 class, is the backup for E511, and a critical member of the Maintenance Department as a licensed electrician. All this said, Dave was the most knowledgeable/qualified member to pick up Bob's E601 class. Believe it or not, Dave has agreed to do this. Obviously we need to find relief for Dave.

Arriving or returning just in time is Dennis Drazkowski, who he himself has been recovery from a medical event. Dennis is probably the second most knowledgeable member on the Laser, and is a critical resource for the toy department. We will be discussing how Dennis can fit into the Laser training.

So I (Lowell Sundermann) as primary instructor for the CNC (E511) have lost my backup, Dave Makarewicz.

Arriving just in time, as a new member, is Bob Thomas. A retired college professor, life long woodworker, and owning two CNC machines - small but functionally like ours. He has agreed to monitor my classes as his schedule allows in hopes that by fall 2020 he could fill-in if needed.

So we are open for business, and with the support of so many willing members we march on.

Lastly:

Both the Laser and CNC are busy. Wildfire Jill Bulmash is crushing it on the Laser, doing neat things - look her up. Garnet Robinson gave an enlightening presentation at the last user group meeting on masking techniques. Paul Porter has found one of his many niches in 2.5/3D CNC carving - producing some stunning plaques. Members and the community are asking for products which we try to accommodate on either the CNC or the Laser. So come join the fun. Sign up for classes - now is the time.



Chair, Board of Directors

Mike Cromwell

Are you a sports fan? If so, have you ever had to endure a rebuilding season where your team isn't so good, but you're told the future is bright because the young players are coming along and the expectation is they will be supplemented by draft or trade? Or if "sports" isn't your bag, maybe you've had a change of church leader and now you have to adjust to the new and somewhat unknown preacher in the pulpit. Or maybe there is major road

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construction on your frequently traveled route (think The Villages to Tampa on I-75 until recently) and you're forced to snail-pace through the inevitable backups. Those examples are the not so unusual circumstances of life.

I suggest to you that your woodworking club is going through a similar painful growth period. The outlook is a much broader membership and a new shop in a location that will appeal to many longer-term members as well as some new. And in the meantime, all of us see our woodshop experience as 'different'. And that is an accurate perception.

You've heard this before and, no doubt, will hear it again. Our club is a volunteer organization. Our dues and initiation fees are a pittance when juxtaposed to the club benefits. Unfortunately, the club has ridden on the shoulders of relatively few of its members. This period of transition will (and already 'does') require more member support to meet the expanded needs. This is not a time to withhold your services and feel disenfranchised; rather it is a time to join in with those that are already teaching, mentoring, maintaining and administering.

The message to each of us is to look for opportunities to contribute, put on an extra dose of patience when you come to shop, reach out to those that need assistance to work safely or more efficiently and, in general, do this frequently enough that when the dust settles and we are all enjoying two first-class locations, you can justifiably say "and I helped".



President

Mike Borfitz

A new year and a new list of challenges – Many, many eyes will be on the progress of the shop at Brownwood and much work will be needed to make our transitions as seamless as possible. Our last information from The Villages is that **all the permits are now in place and site work is scheduled to begin at the end of this month.** We are waiting the scheduling of a kick-off meeting with The Villages. Some of the things that we, at VWC, will be concentrating on are: 1) identifying and training the assistant managers for each department; 2) making sure that the facilities are ready from an IT standpoint to communicate as necessary, from the daily standpoint of ordering and conducting daily business, to the bigger arena of creating and monitoring the yearly budget; 3) defining and assuring that members are "qualified" to use either shop; 4) procuring the equipment and installing it in a timely manner; 5) building and locating all the furniture (both office and shop) needed in the new shop; and the list goes on. If you have expertise in these areas and are willing to help, please step forward, let me know and I will put you in contact with the person leading that effort.

Current situation: We are **crowded** (our original reason for beginning negotiations for a second shop). We have members with "tenure" who are unhappy. We have new members who aren't very happy with their inability to progress as fast as they'd like. Parking places are at a premium and tempers are a bit short. (I hope you have already read the comments by Mike Cromwell, chairman of the Board of Directors.) It is new territory and we really need for everyone to practice patience. There is an end in sight – one we've worked very, very hard to make happen. Please, please grit your teeth, slow down and have compassion for your fellow members.