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Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia, Inc.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March Club Meeting

The next meeting of The Valley Woodworkers will be on March 12, 2015, 6:30 pm at the Club Headquarters, 300 12th St, Dunbar

The following companies offer discounts to club members:

Klingspor Woodworking Shop - 10% - They receive our member list.

Hartville Tool - 15% - They receive our member list.

Ed's Sharpening Service, 304.807.1015 - 15% on sharpening services.

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From the President - Ron Jones

Everyone has something to contribute

Whenever I am around members of our club, at regular club meeting or project workshops, I am amazed at the wide variety of interests we have.

From master turners, furniture makers and remodeling craftsmen, to intermediate hobbyist, to those just starting out in woodworking, we have it all.

It is equally amazing to watch how club members representing all skill and experience levels work together and learn from each other. Members who attend our monthly meetings and work on projects know what I am talking about.

At every meeting and on every project we hear from and work with people who do different things in different ways. We see woodworking projects at Show & Tell from beginners which can be just as interesting as the examples of fine furniture from our experienced craftsmen.

Why? Woodworkers all realize that none of us just suddenly or independently acquired all the skills we want or need. Woodworking skills take years or decades to evolve. Along with practice, refining skills requires absorbing the knowledge of others who may have different talents, interests and experience. We all share a similar journey.

Like all hobbies and crafts where steady improvement over time means better and better results, learning is part of the fun in woodworking. Everyone has something to contribute to the learning process.

So once again I encourage all club members to jump into a home and/or club project and experience the fun of sharing their work and learning from each other!

FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING

Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia held its monthly meeting on Feb. 12. Present at the meeting were 32 active members and five guests. Guests visiting the club were: **Ray Witmer, Tim Fitzwater, Rick Alker, Bill Michael and Joshua Zimmerman.** Hope our guests will come again!

The meeting featured a number of interesting talks, a great Show & Tell and an in-depth demonstration on how to repair knots in wood using epoxy. Read all the details in this edition of the Monthly Newsletter.

Officers' Reports, February 12, 2015

Treasurer's Report:
Peter Howell reported that the club currently has approximately $5,500 in its account, including 2015 dues receipts. The club account will also be adding grant funds from Toyota. If anyone has not already paid their dues for 2015, please do so as soon as possible.

Toy Committee:
Andy Sheetz announced that the 2015 Salvation Army Toy projects have been kicked off. Several members have collected wood and templates for cars. Andy said he will start holding toy workshops, beginning on Monday February 16, for those interested in helping make toys this year.

Andy also reported that Toyota will give the club an additional $1,000 for toolboxes the club made for Toyota's tech student / apprentices.

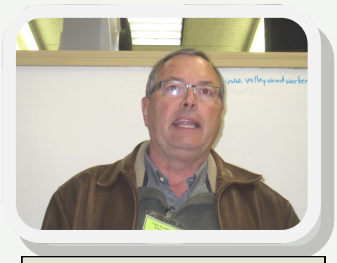
Library / Tool Boxes:
Jerill Vance reported on the status of the toolboxes he and his crew are in the process of making. The project to build a total of 14-15 toolboxes, 9 for Toyota plus 5-6 more, is progressing, with most of the wood milled to final dimensions. Assembly on the multi-drawer tool boxes will begin as soon as the wood is dimensioned. Jerill's workshop is meeting every Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

Jerill also announced that members of his workshop crew had built a new clamp rack which holds 30 of the club's new Bessey parallel clamps.

General Announcements & Discussion

- **Books and Personal Items for Veterans Nursing Home, Barboursville: Maureen Helvey** asked that books and other reading materials be donated to male veterans at the nursing home. The veterans are additionally in need of new underwear and socks. If you would like to donate, please contact Maureen at 304 744 7564. You may drop off donated items at Maureen's shop located at 45 MacCorkle Ave. (next to AT&T) in South Charleston.
- **Need for Volunteers to Sew Blankets and Pillows for Salvation Army Doll Cradles: Maureen Helvey** asked for volunteers to help sew the blankets and accessories she provides each year for the Salvation Army Doll Cradles. If you or someone you know is interested in helping, please contact Maureen at 304 744 7564 or email her at: **rlhelvey@gmail.com**
- **Embroidered Club Caps: Ron Jones** announced that the club caps were not yet ready but would be delivered at the next meeting in March. Anyone interested in purchasing a ***Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia*** embroidered cap for $20 should contact Peter Howell.
- **Happy 39th Birthday to Dan Pleska: Ron Jones** led a rousing, if slightly off-key, rendition of *Happy Birthday* to Dan. All The Best and many more 39ths!
- **New Sawdust Makers: Peter Howell** announced that all four members who took the training class on Jan. 3 had successfully passed and are now eligible for "Sawdust Maker" status. In addition to **Parry Johnson & Bob Jones** who successfully passed the final exam last month, **Jason Mitchell & Kyle Paries** are now added to the list. Congratulations on this achievement!

Shop Safety - Protecting Hands and Fingers



Bob Aronson

Bob Aronson led an informative discussion on the importance of protecting hands and fingers from serious injury when using woodworking tools and machinery. Bob observed that, according to OSHA statistics, injuries to hands and fingers are the #1 type of injury incurred by workers on the job or at home. More than 125K serious injuries to hands and fingers are reported each year. Bob's talk centered on a list of preventive measures:

- Do not assume that experience or thinking you already know how to protect yourself are enough to prevent injuries. Never be complacent.
- Beware of pinch points in machinery and when lifting heavy objects, even lumber, doors, file cabinet drawers, etc. Pinch points can occur whether machinery is operating or stationary.
- Maintain the "3-inch" rule when operating equipment. Never place hands or fingers closer than 3 inches to blades or other moving parts. Use push sticks and safety guards whenever possible.
- Always look and think first before placing hands and fingers close to the path of moving blades, drill and router bits, chisels, knife blades, hammers - anything that can hit, catch or cut you.
- Always be alert. Don't multi-task or allow distractions to divert your full attention. Don't work when you are tired or while your mind is wandering.
- Never reach into moving equipment. Make sure that equipment and blades are fully stopped before reaching into them to remove work pieces.
- Properly maintain equipment and use tool guards provided with equipment.
- When changing blades or performing maintenance, be sure that equipment is turned off and unplugged or locked out and tagged out before beginning the task.
- Gloves and loose clothing can be caught in moving blades and equipment.
- Always think through operations and get help any time you feel that two heads and sets of hands are better than one.

Bob Shingleton added that you should always make sure wood is flat on the work surface when using a band saw to prevent fingers from becoming jammed under work pieces.

Maureen Helvey suggested that it is a good idea to let someone know when you are going to be using equipment in case of emergency.

Andy Sheetz advised that it can be easy to get your fingers caught under a board when it enters a planer if your fingers are not clear and the board is not flat on the work surface

Ron Jones cautioned that table saw blades are especially dangerous; you should never pull boards back when the blade is turning. He recommended that all members take the safety training course.

Bob concluded his talk by reminding us how irreplaceable our hands and fingers are. We need to always work smart and be safety-conscious to make sure we protect them.

Thanks to **Bob Aronson** for presenting this talk on an important safety topic.

WOODWORKING FUNDAMENTALS, SHOP TIPS

Wayne Pugh (photo right) presented some handy shop tips:

1. A Lazy Susan can be helpful when spraying paint or finish. Placing the object to be sprayed on the turntable and turning it as you apply the material helps to ensure even coatings and helps control overspray.
2. Use of commercial nozzle actuators with handles is very helpful when using canned spray materials. Devices are now also available to direct the spray vertically or horizontally.
3. When fine-tuning tenons, Wayne suggests the use of a small block with the sandpaper attached to the bottom to sand the tenon to final size.

These useful shop tips may help us do a better job next time the need arises. Thanks to **Wayne Pugh** for presenting this month's shop tips!

If you have a pocketful of personal shop or safety tips that would be of interest to the club, please let us know and plan to share them at a future club meeting.

Important Notice

In order to participate in shop projects which require operation of shop equipment, members must achieve "Sawdust Maker" status. Shop Safety and Operations training sessions prior to testing are given periodically by Shop Director, **Peter Howell**. See Peter for more information.

February Raffle:

The February raffle, conducted by **George Six,** netted $69 for the club. Raffle winners were: **Kirk Rector** who won a plane donated by **George Six**, **Jerry Armstrong** who won an angle grinder donated by **Dan Pleska**, and **Dan Pleska** who won an American flag also donated by **George Six**.

If you have new or slightly used (but useful!) surplus items you would like to donate to the raffle, please bring them to the next meeting.

Show & Tell for February 2015 Meeting

Wayne Pugh shared some snowmen he turned out of Sassafras. It was the first time he tried turning while attending Joe Smith's turning class. Wayne used the Lazy Susan from his Shop Tips segment to apply the finish. Congratulations on your successful journey to the "Dark Side" Wayne!

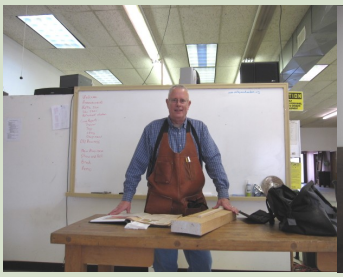
Kirk Rector once again showed off his wood turning talents, now using his new and bigger lathe (size matters, right Kirk?). This time out Kirk shared a large bowl made from Cherry. The Cherry was not quite dry when he started the bowl so he had to stash it away to dry using paper bags as a desiccant until he could finish it. Great job Kirk!

Dan Dooley showed us a beautiful rocking horse he made for his 1-year-old grandson. Dan used Walnut 2 x 6 boards to make the parts for the horse which is finished with Watco medium walnut oil. The mane and tail are made of single strands of cotton each inserted and glued one at a time. Dan's wife helped! Wonderful work Dan!

Ken Wines once again showcased his considerable turning talents, this time with a set of rolling pins. Ken described some of his clever techniques for creating through-holes and inserting the bearings. The rolling pins are for embossing dough and for cutting out dough in different sizes. Once again we are impressed by your art and technology Ken!

Ron Jones showed another one of six beautiful boxes he made recently for gifts, this one for Valentine's Day. The featured box is made of Cherry and has an insert for jewelry. The box is typical of the fine craftsmanship Ron puts into all his projects and is sure to please a favorite Valentine. Thanks Ron!

Glen Gibbs showed a "prototype" toy car he made from scrap oak, mahogany and walnut. The new model is a (sort of) "57 Chevy" and features "Mag Wheels". Glen said he is getting started on making cars for the Salvation Army and urged everyone who may be interested to pick up some wood & templates and join in!



FEBRUARY 12 DEMONSTRATION - JERILL VANCE

Jerill Vance gave a talk and demonstration on *"Repairing Knots in Boards Using Epoxy"* based on his impressive knowledge of and experience in the selection and use of epoxy for this application. Jerill recommended a reference book, "The Encyclopedia of Furniture Making" by Ernest Joyce, along with various MSDS, TDS and manufacturer's specifications for those unfamiliar with using 2-part epoxies.

Jerill's talk began with the description of 5 different kinds of knots in wood: Pin, Spike, Branched, Encased and Open. He then proceeded to discuss how to use the 3 types of hardeners supplied by "Systems 3" under different temperature conditions, the proper way to mix the hardener and resin, how to set appearance objectives when filling holes, the many different ways to add color to epoxies to achieve final appearance and the different viscosities at which epoxies may be poured or applied.

The talk also touched on various safety measures to be observed when handling epoxies. Jerill fielded many questions from club members during his talk and finished up by discussing and demonstrating several ways to smooth the filled hole after the epoxy hardens. Jerill videoed his talk and plans to post it on the club web site soon. All we can say is Wow!, and thanks to Jerill for this demonstration!

The following companies have provided materials or grants for Salvation Army toy projects. Please give them special consideration for your projects: **West Virginia Forestry Association, Blue Ridge Machinery & Tool, J.C. Hamer Lumber Company, Home Depot of Teays Valley, West Virginia Hobby and Craft, Teays Valley Hardware, West Virginia Marine, Toyota Manufacturing of WV, Inc., Wurth Baer Supply, Woodcraft Supply.**

Club and Shop Address:

300 12th Street
Dunbar, WV

Mailing Address:

Attn: Ron Jones
PO Box 122
Elkview, WV 25313

Phone: 304 965 0500
Email: ronbarberjones@yahoo.com

visit our club web site

www.valleywoodworkers.org

Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia, Inc. is a 501 C3 non-profit organization formed in 1991 for individuals interested in woodworking and for the purpose of serving the community through woodworking. Membership is open to everyone interested in woodworking as a hobby, regardless of skill level .

Contact club officers for information or becoming a member:

Ron Jones, President	**304 965 0500**
Rick Chandler, 1st Vice President	**304 548 7633**
George Six, Vice Pres./Membership	**304 562 1922**
Andy Sheetz, Vice Pres./Toy Comm.	**304 549 4929**
Glen Gibbs, Secretary/Newsletter Editor	**304 776 6549**
Peter Howell, Treasurer/Shop Director	**304 757 3997**
Jerill Vance, Librarian	**304 743 7264**

Meeting Agenda

The Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia meet at 6:30 to 9:00 pm, the second Thursday of each month, at the club headquarters & shop located at 300 12th St., Dunbar, WV 25064. Each meeting will feature different topics and speakers following a similar agenda:

Welcome & Announcements

- Welcome New Members and Guests
- General Announcements
- Raffle Item
- Sale Items
- Refreshments for Next Meeting

Committee & Officers' Reports

- Treasurer
- Toys
- Library
- Shop News

Old Business

New Business

Show & Tell

Woodworking Fundamentals, Shop & Safety Tips

Break

Demonstration

Adjournment

Next Club Meeting
March 12, 2015, 6:30 pm
See You There!

The Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia Monthly Newsletter is published by The Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia, Inc. for the purpose keeping its members and affiliates informed of club activities and news. If you have a suggestion for an article, an idea for a future talk or demonstration, have an item for sale, a comment or correction for the Monthly Newsletter, please email them to Glen Gibbs, Secretary and Newsletter Editor at: **cabowabogrg@hotmail.com**