

Department Reports for March 2022



Ed Eich, Manager



Assistant Mgr.

Stained Glass

Wow! Both shops are busy creating!

The Rolling Acres Friday Glassers and the Brownwood Monday Glassers have had full studios this month – but there is always room for more students to learn this craft!

Classes in each location run from 9 to 11 a.m.

Please stop in and see what we are making, and join us in the fun!



Website

Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

As part of the email issue, we have instituted an email register on our website. Each time we send out an email for general distribution to our members, a copy of the email be added to this register. You can view the e-mail register at [Email Register \(thevwc.org\)](http://thevwc.org) , which can be found in the Members Lounge tab.

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.

Department Reports for March 2022



Administration – Front Office

Kathy Villani, Manager

More new faces will be at the front desk this month. Please welcome Elena Prince at Rolling Acres, Marty Roewer at Brownwood, and (President) John Scott at both shops. They have completed their computer system training and will be working under the direction of experienced staff members for the next month or so. Please be patient as they learn the procedures and processes at the front desk. It's a lot more complex than you might imagine and does take some time to master.

You will also see Susana Esposito at the Rolling Acres front desk and Lynne Barta and Virg Murphy at the Brownwood front desk. They have completed their training and are ready to assist you at the front desk. Welcome to all our new staff members – we're so happy to have you join the team!

At the Rolling Acres shop, we have moved the keys that were hanging in the back office to a new key box at the front desk (to the left of the closet door, next to the Toy display). All of the keys that were in the front desk drawer have also been moved into the key box. The keys from the back office are on the left side of the box; the keys from the front desk are on the right side of the box. All keys are tagged. Please see the staff at the front desk for assistance with the key box and finding the key you need.

The A010 – Take Home Lathe Introduction class is now on the website. There are no more DVDs and printed material packets for the class – everything is on the website. If you wish to take this class, you may sign up at either shop. The cost is \$10. The day after you enroll, you will receive an email from the Woodshop with instructions on how to access the A010 course material on the website. Please log into the website (using your email address that you have provided to the VWC and your Villages ID) and follow the instructions in the email. There are several videos to view as well as instruction manuals that you may read online or print at home if you wish. You will need to print the A010 quiz and course evaluation. **Both are to be completed and returned to the Rolling Acres shop.** Please DO NOT bring the quiz and evaluation to Brownwood as they are not able to process them there. Make sure your name, Villages ID, and phone number are at the top of the quiz when you bring it to Rolling Acres. We will log the return of the quiz and notify John Herega who will evaluate your quiz and contact you to set up a review meeting. Upon successful completion of the quiz review, your course

Department Reports for March 2022

history will be updated to reflect that completion and you will have the prerequisite to enroll in the basic turning classes. Thank you to John Herega, Debbie Larouere, Tony Villani, and especially Hans Zassenhaus for making possible the web-based A010 class.



Steve Eikenberry

No Report this month

Member Merchandise



Deb Larouere

Education

Kudos to all of the Mentors and Instructors who are making both Shops safer and more fun! Their efforts to help students use the equipment properly is making YOU better off too. Less personal and property damage is better for all Club Members for sure.

And kudos to all students and Members who asked for help! Your efforts are getting you better results and resulting in less frustration and downtime for you and everyone behind you. Good job!

Ok, so here's the 'ask' . . .

1. Ask for help when you even might need it. You may learn something else!
2. Take (or teach or even just help) a class.
3. Host a Lunch Bunch – an informal Brown Bag session with a conversation topic
4. Be a Mentor or a Helper–
 - a. for a project, like the Woodworking 101 Wall Shelf or a gift bowl or . . .
 - b. for a skill practice session, like cutting dados or other joinery, or beads and coves
 - c. for Certification/other classes, including organizing/paper management, set up/clean up . . .

Department Reports for March 2022

d. for managing a 'Connection Board' for opportunities at RA or BW to help to get the latest info out

New and additional classes open frequently. Check the 'Available Classes' page online. Remember to click the 'Refresh' button to get updated info. **T462 – Turning Acrylic Pens might still have spots!** By the time you get this, there might be something even newer online.

If you have benefitted from another Member who taught you something that helps you, remember to say, "Thank you!"



IT (Information Technology)

Bill Pappas

Thank you Ham McLean for volunteering to help with IT support at Rolling Acres site. At this point the IT group is primarily in a maintenance mode.



Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager and Chairman of the Board

Species of the month Snakewood / leopard-wood

Characteristics ... Color: Snakewood owes its name to its appearance: it has markings resembling snake skin, though sometimes it can be more leopard-like and spotty. The heartwood is dark red to reddish-brown, and has irregular black markings or vertical black stripes, which can appear alone or in juxtaposition with speckles.

The very thick sapwood is yellowish white and has an irregular border with the heartwood. Snakewood has a moderately fine uniform straight grain with a medium to high luster.

Department Reports for March 2022

Properties... The wood is extremely hard, heavy and extremely strong in all categories, but it is not stable for steam bending because of gum exudation.

On account of its hardness it is very difficult to work, and has a severe blunting effect on cutting edges. Gluing can be tricky because of the resin contact. Snakewood finishes smoothly straight from the tool, turns very well and can be polished to a splendid high finish.

Seasoning... Drying can be difficult, with some warping and degradation. The wood exhibits medium movement in use.

Durability... The heartwood is highly durable, immune to insect attack and is highly resistant to preservative treatment.

Typical uses... Inlay, violin bows, walking sticks, decorative turnery, fishing-rod butts, drumsticks, jewelry, cutlery handles and archery bows. Snakewood is also sliced into decorative veneers for cabinet work and marquetry.

Origin... Central and tropical South America, typical height is 80 feet with a trunk diameter of 1 to 3 feet.

Availability... we have about four board feet of snakewood / leopard-wood at Brownwood. It's pricey at about \$20 a board foot.



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

Since our last report, the Elves and Painters are still working hard to produce the toys to support our client's 2022 requirements.

On the shipping side, in February we made two shipments of 581 toys with a donation value of \$3,322. This brings our 2022 shipping totals to 1,363 toys with a donation value of \$8,380.

Department Reports for March 2022

As we look at the production side of the ledger, we struggled with equipment issues in February. Two of our sanders were down for most of the month and our drill press is currently down. The sanders were determined to be unrepairable, thankfully we now have replacements on order! Our drill press appears to be repairable and we are waiting for the necessary parts to arrive. We appreciate being allowed to use alternate equipment in the shop until ours' is back up and running. We were still able to produce 857 toys for the month bringing our total produced so far this year to 2,478 toys.

The Toy Team will be returning to Spanish Springs Town Square on Tuesday March 15th, We will be located at Spanish Spring for the next two months. In addition to the toy sales and donations, we always have an opportunity to talk with folks about the Club and answer questions about the thing we do, courses we provide, and the other community services that the we provide. I encourage members to come out and support the Toy Team. We will be setup from 5-8:30 PM. During our February Toys on the Square we collected \$100.00 in donations and \$255.00 in sales.

We would like to recognize Joe Stone's Paradise Recreation Center Wednesday Night Euchre Group for their Annual February donation to the Toy Project. This year they provided a record \$712.00 donation, Many Thanks for you continued support!

We continue to be very happy to see our seasonal residents returning and contributing to our year.



Safety, Turners

TURNERS GROUP

Turners Group Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month except the months of June, July and August.

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday March 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM sharp at the Brownwood shop in the meeting room. Please bring show and tell item(s) to share with the group

Department Reports for March 2022

We enjoy socializing after the meeting there will be light snacks available, bring your beverage of choice. This is a good opportunity to meet fellow turners and share stories techniques.

Please remove from the lathe(s) and return to their proper storage area any and all accessories before leaving.

If any tools or lathes are damaged or malfunctioning notify John Herega, Steve Eikenberry, maintenance or ask the front desk person to leave a note for John Herega

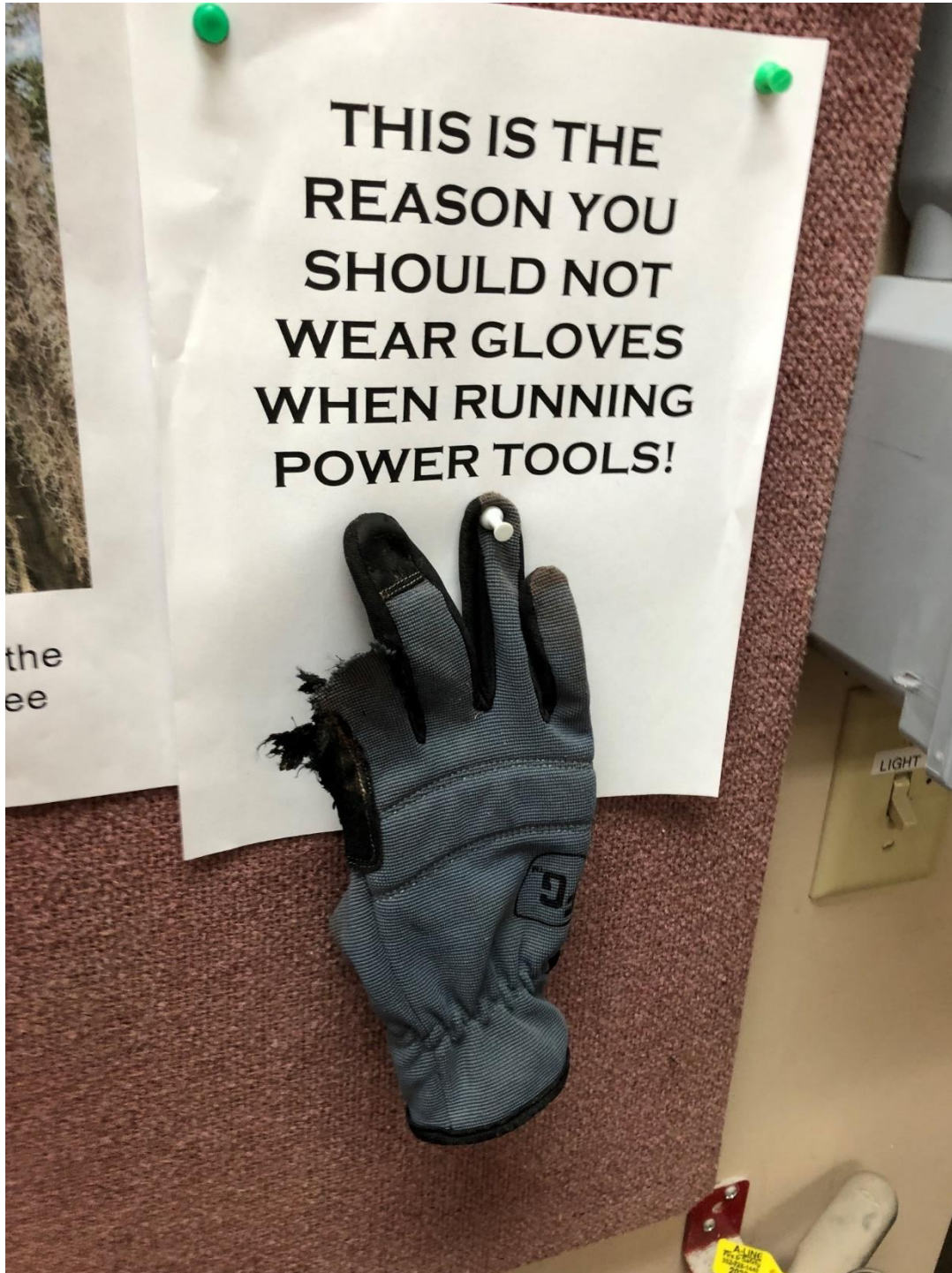
APPARELL

We recently received a new shipments of aprons and smocks, currently they are available only at the Rolling Acres shop.

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

SAFETY

Department Reports for March 2022



This picture was not staged. This glove belongs to a member working on a router table, luckily he was not injured and now understands why, -

NEVER WEAR GLOVES WHILE OPERATING ANY POWER TOOLS.

Recently there have been two accidents in the lathe area, both injuries could have been avoided, simply by wearing a face shield. Face shields should be worn whenever turning. And thoroughly cleaned before being returned to the storage areas/boxes. Be sure you know the proper use of each and every tool and/or the equipment you are using as well as the proper techniques this includes the proper sharpening of the cutting/scraping tools. If you are not sure or have the slightest doubt seek help of one of the turning instructors before proceeding.

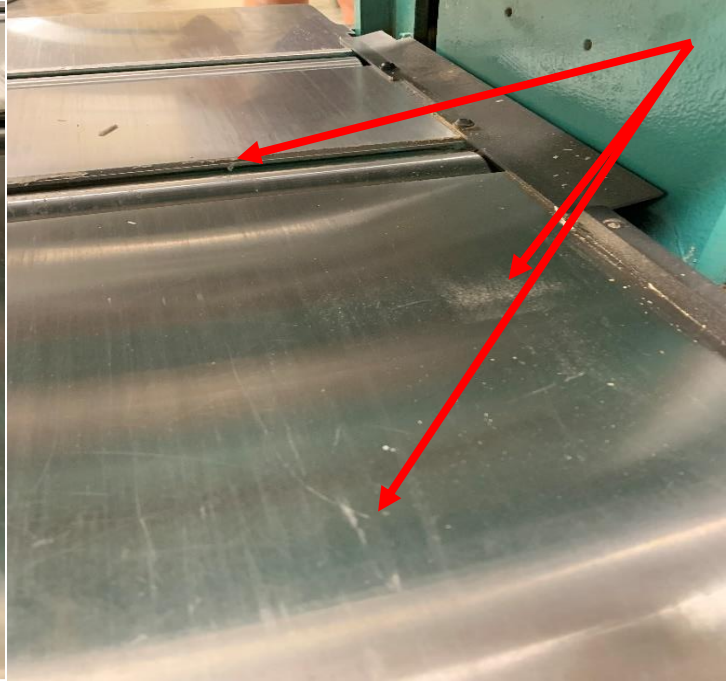
MISUSE OF SHOP EQUIPMENT!!

The following are pictures of the lower table in the planer in the Brownwood shop. This was discovered Tuesday morning while demonstrating the proper use of the planer. Apparently the last person to use the planer the previous day ran glued up boards thru the planer before the glue had not properly cured!!

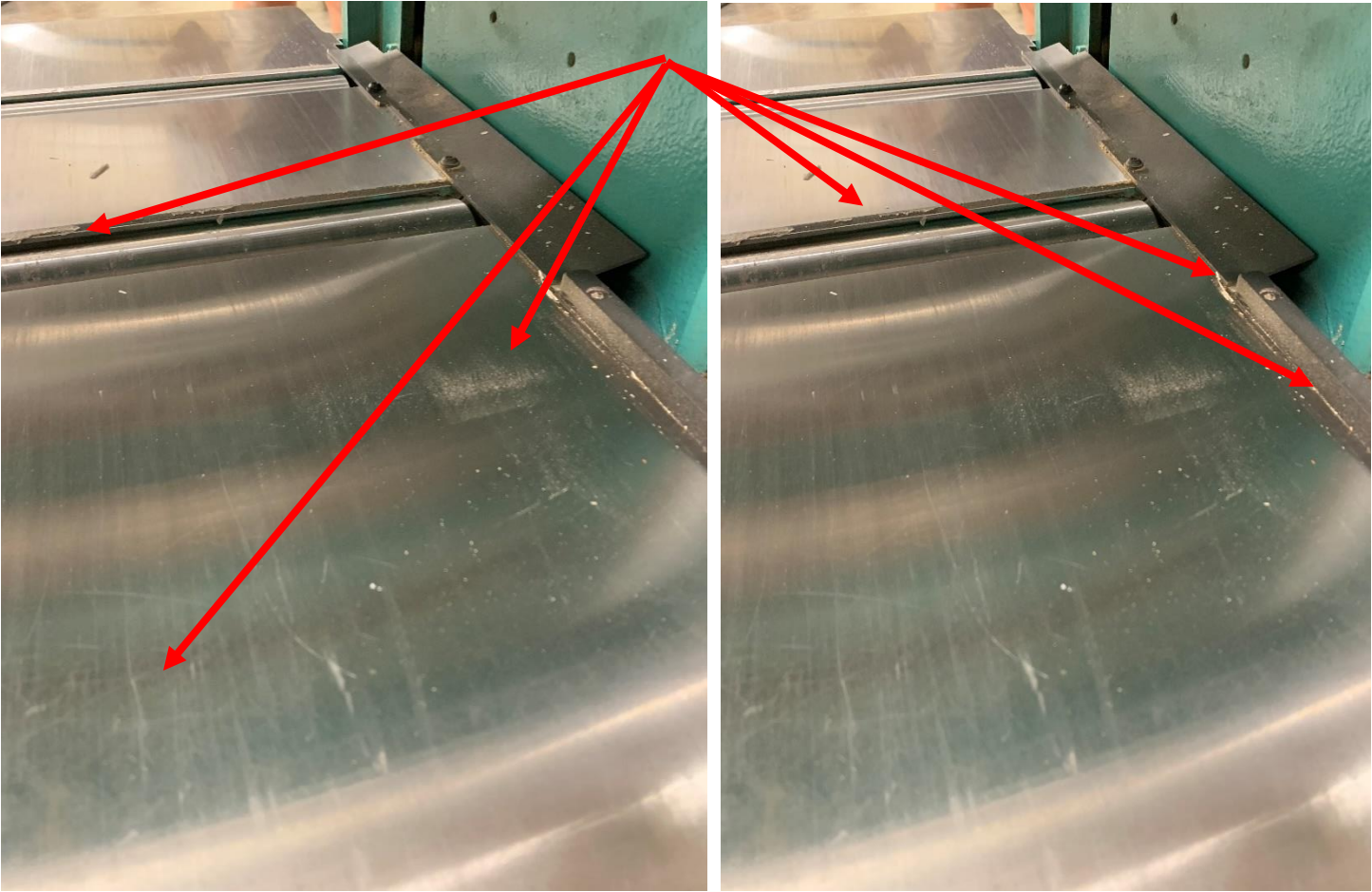
ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN GLUED MUST BE CURED FOR A MINIMUM OF TWENTYFOUR (24) HOURS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO BE CUT PLANNED OR MILLED OR SANDED

Department Reports for March 2022

**UTILIZING WITH ANY
STATIONARY EQUIPMENT IN EITHER SHOP**



Department Reports for March 2022



FINISHING TIPS

Many finishes, both clear and colored, are available in aerosol cans. For small jobs, you may find it easier to use an aerosol can instead of a spray gun.

CLEANING AND STORING SPRAY GUNS:

Cleaning your spray gun thoroughly is very important. If you leave finish to harden in the gun, the gun will become unusable, and it may be difficult to get it clean again. Follow these steps:

1. Spray solvent through the gun after each use, or anytime you won't be using it for several hours. This is especially critical with water base and varnish, which are difficult to remove once cured. The best solvent to use for all finishes is lacquer thinner.

Department Reports for March 2022

2. Remove the air nozzle and needle-valve stem after each day of use. Store them in lacquer thinner solvent or clean them and put them back in the gun.
3. Some finishers like to the fluid nozzle and clean it. This step is especially important when you finish a project and won't be using your gun for a while.
4. If you are using a cup with the spray gun, clean the cup thoroughly, including the gasket. Be sure to keep the air inlet hole at the top of the cup clean and open at all times. The spray gun will sputter if this hole gets clogged with finish. If you are spraying through a pressure pot, clean it and the hose thoroughly.

WHERE TO SPRAY:

You can spray in a garage with the doors open, or outdoors preferably in the shade when there's a very slight breeze. Or you can spray indoors with an exhaust system to remove the fumes and overspray. The best setup for indoors is a spray booth, which exhausts the air through a filter that catches all of the solid finish particles. Don't use a fan in a window unless it is an explosion proof fan, which has a shielded motor. Otherwise, sparks from the motor might ignite lacquer and varnish fumes; also the solid particles from your overspray will build up on the fan's electrical components, increasing the fire hazard.

OIL FINISHES.

In the past few decades, oil finishes have become among the most popular finishes used by woodworkers. This is partly due to the pleasing look that oil finishes produce. But it is primarily due to how easily they are to apply. In most cases all you have to do is wipe on a couple of coats.

In spite of the ease of application there is a great deal of confusion about oil finishes. Here are some of the most commonly asked questions about oil finishes:

- Does oil protect as well from the inside as well as other finishes do on the surface of the wood?
- Is it better to rub the oil into the wood?

Department Reports for March 2022

- Do more coats produce more gloss?
- Is boiled linseed oil made from boiling linseed oil?
- What is Danish oil or teak oil? Moreover what is antique oil or Val-Oil?
- What is the best way to maintain an oil finish?

To answer these questions – to know what to expect from oil finishes and how to choose between them – you need to overcome three prevalent myths. These three myths are perpetuated in books, articles and manufacturers advertising. Even if you are new to woodworking and are not familiar with these myths, you will no doubt encounter them. They need to be debunked.

MYTH #1 Oil finishes were favored wood finish used by our eighteenth and nineteenth century predecessors.

FACT: There's no evidence at all that oil was a well - regarded finish until the rapid growth of the consumer market beginning in the 1960s.

MYTH #2: Oil finishes penetrate into the wood and protect the wood from the inside.

FACT: The penetrating qualities of oil finishes are of very little significances in protecting wood.

MYTH #3: All finishes sold as “oil” are some type of oil.

FACT: There are four significantly different types of finishes that are sold as “oil.” Not all are oil.

OUR ANCESTORS AND LINSEED OIL

One of the primary rationalizations for using linseed oil as a finish is that eighteenth and nineteenth century craftspeople used and valued oil for finishing, **specifically linseed oil. If you've done much woodworking, you've surely developed a respect for our ancestors' woodworking skills. It's not a big jump to assume that if these craftspeople were so good at woodworking, they must**

Department Reports for March 2022

also have been good finishers. And if they used linseed oil they must have chosen to do so because linseed oil made a good finish.

The idea that our forebears were skilled finishers pops up now and then in woodworking books and articles. It's often bolstered by the suggestion that if you follow their practice of rubbing coats of linseed oil into the wood once a day for a week, once a week for a month, once a month for a year, then once a year thereafter, you will produce one of the most beautiful and durable finishes possible maybe even better than anything that has been invented since.

THIS IS ALL MYTH:

- It's myth that our ancestors thought linseed oil was a great finish. They used linseed oil, of course. It was cheap, compared to other finishes, and it was available. But there is no evidence from surviving records, such as cabinetmakers' account books that linseed oil was well thought of as a finish. On the contrary most of the finer, eighteenth century city-made furniture and most all factory made furniture, was finished with varnish or shellac.
- It's myth that our predecessors expended much effort applying linseed oil when they used it. Rubbing linseed oil into the wood does absolutely no good. There is some mention in cabinetmakers' account books of rubbing linseed oil, in combination with brick dust or pumice, to fill the pores of wood. But you have to get into the twentieth century before you find written reference to anyone in the eighteenth century rubbing oil alone into wood.
- It's a myth that linseed oil finish applied any manner is a durable finish. A linseed oil is too thin and soft to protect well against heat, stains or wear. And linseed oil, no matter how you apply it, or how many coats you apply, is quickly and easily penetrated by water and water vapor.
- It's even myth that eighteenth and nineteenth century woodworkers were skilled finishers by today's standards.

Surviving cabinetmakers' account books indicate that only minimal attention was given to finishing wood. Finishing is a twentieth-century craft.

So the fact that our predecessors used oil now and then as a finish is no reason for us to use oil-especially linseed oil. They used linseed oil when they had nothing better. We have an entire array of finishes that are better in almost every way.

Department Reports for March 2022

Continued next month.



Carvers

Pete Bankowski

Dennis has completed training two people on "the gnome with a heart". He is ready to start two or three more people. It is six sessions to build and includes painting. Tuesday and Thursday at BW

BW is completely set up for carving. We are looking for people who carve or want to learn to carve. We have classes and are willing to work one on one to learn carving. At BW it is Tuesday and Thursday. Yes, Tuesday even if the shop is closed to woodworking. To get in on Tuesday you need to call Bill McGinnis at 352-433-3429 when you get to the shop.

Carving training will show you how to:

- Use a knife and keep it sharp
- sharpening your knife and gouges
- the appropriate equipment to buy and where to get it (Amazon and other internet locations often to not have quality items)
- how to design and cut out patterns - safety -band sawing your rough out -wood burning -buying wood carving wood
- how to carve things that look very difficult (ie. faces) -we have many patterns of popular Items to carve

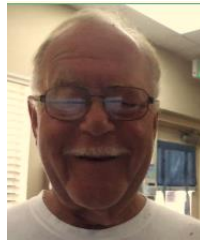


Certification & Monitor Training

Department Reports for March 2022

Dick Besler

Monitor training had 10 attendees for March 2nd . Rolling Acres orientation for new members since it's inception February 3rd we have added 16 new members qualified at Rolling Acres.



Urn Project

Alvin Corenblum

Scott Herlick

Nothing new to report this month.



Vice President

Rik Peirce

Vice President - Update Items for EOC meeting 3-04-2022

Brownwood Building Design Committee

The Villages Property Management has elected to supply an additional compressor to supplement the existing one. That unit has been ordered and is scheduled to arrive in the next 6-8 weeks.

The canopy extensions have been approved and the contractor awarded the contract for installation sometime in April – May time frame.

Rolling Acres Building Design Committee

- No update, the February meeting did not take place.

Next meeting March 17th 3:30 pm, at Rolling Acres library

Department Reports for March 2022

Procurement

New credit cards will be distributed to 6 members who will be responsible for the use of the credit card. Existing credit cards must be turned into Ed Deitch as soon as possible. These cards are owned by Mike Borfitz and she is going to close this account as soon as possible.

The new credit card account is an American Express – Amazon account and we receive a 3% cash back for the use of this card on Amazon purchases and 1 – 2% cash back on other purchases. Members assigned to this account are at RA: Ed Deitch, Steve Eikenberry, Jim Spallone, Conway Williams. At BW member assigned are Glenn Croteau, and Rik Peirce. When members need to make purchases and want to use the club credit card please contact one of these members who will make arrangements for its use.

We continue to centralize the purchasing of most things using the Lightspeed purchase order system and the ability to make purchases and receive them in an efficient manner. Please email or text purchase requests to either Jim or me we will act on them usually within the same day.

We continue to have Jim Spallone purchasing for Rolling Acres and I will continue at Brownwood. Any purchasing, as much as practical, should be directed through either of us. We have established discounts from many vendors and have tax exemption certificates on file with them to take advantage of the lower costs available to the club.

Pen Making

Pens for Troops met at Brownwood 2/2 and made 26 pens, at Rolling Acres Feb. 2/16 and made 30 pens

Total YTD 155

Next dates are:

Mar 16 @ R/A starting at 3:00 PM

Apr 6th @ BW starting at 3:00 PM

Thank you, all those members, for turning up at meetings and at home.
Looking for donations of spare pen parts for any style of pen are welcome.

Department Reports for March 2022



Shop

Administration/Maintenance

Brad Primeau

Dave Adamovich

Nothing New to add this month.



Special Projects

Voytek Kulesza

No report this month



Woodworking Technology

Lowell Sundermann

Jill Bulmash continues to run, demonstrate, and encourage members to learn to use the Laser machine. Thank you, Jill. Join the fun, sign up for E601.

Sign up and attendance to the introductory level (E500) for the Laser and the CNC classes remains high.

Issues with CorelDraw licenses have been resolved. If you received an email from Kathy to uninstall, reinstall CorelDraw, please do so. We need to get everyone onto the latest license number.

Department Reports for March 2022

In the world of the CNC class (E511) some exciting things have happened with proven results.

The classes are students more IT knowledgeable and of the social class of teaming together to reach achievements together vs. the dog eat dog world of a generation ago. Such a nice improvement. Classes are coming together to learn together and help each other achieve certification. Even an older member expressed his enjoyment being involved in the process.

I see the process working because of the reduced time it takes me to make the final certification.

Thanks to all involved in this process. Please help me to move it forward.



President

John K. Scott

I am happy to report the club is continuing to do overall quite well. The overcrowding at the RA shop has been eliminated thanks to the BW shop, and the BW shop isn't seeing any crowding either. However, we are experiencing some growing pains with the new shop.

A few years back we had one Shop and our membership was somewhere around 850 members. The organization, run **solely** by volunteers, was doing well. Now we have 2 shops, and our workload has doubled. Our membership is growing but due to COVID our membership hasn't grown as much as we would like to have seen to increase our volunteer participation. As a result, we are in need of more volunteers in all our Departments now. We need help especially in the Certification/Safety training areas. If you don't feel qualified to help in a certain area where you would like to help let us know. We can train etc. to bring folks up to speed. Volunteers would be able to shadow current instructors until they are comfortable that they can teach on their own.

Concerning the bad publicity our Club has received from certain news sources. I have mentioned before that we, the vice president and I, did answer/explain the list of

Department Reports for March 2022

questions that was given to us by the Villages District Gov. Also, our past President, Mike, wrote a superb article for release to the news organizations. The question-and-answer list has been posted to The Villages District Government website.

<https://www.districtgov.org/PdfUpload/BW%20WoodShop%20Fact%20Sheet%20formatted.pdf>

But let me say the criticism of our wait list is a total misunderstanding of the reason of our wait list and our process of adding new members. Since the first of 2022 we have added 69 new members. Since March of 2020, we have added 420 members and this was while we suffered the COVID closures. Unlike most other clubs in The Villages®, our club must ensure that every new member is provided with training on both the operation of our specific equipment and general safety rules of our shops *prior* to being granted full use of the shops. This process takes both additional volunteers and time. And we continue to train 32 new members each month. Therefore, the Club is doing quite well training and gaining new members.

Since the announcement and opening of the Brownwood shop interest in joining the club has increased considerable and thus the wait list has grown. But despite the large wait list our primary concern is to properly introduce our new members to the safe and proper procedures on the use of our equipment.

In summary I appreciate everyone's hard work and effort. Growing pains? Yes but overall, we are making good progress and our Club will continue to be a great example of a Woodworkers Club.