

Department Reports April 10, 2018



Ed Eich, Manager



**Kathy Villani
Assistant Manager**

Stained Glass

We have added 3 more students to our classes in the past month. We have room for more so come and join us on Friday mornings in the shop! Several of us are working on wooden coin banks with glass inserts, some are working on panels that will be framed in wood, and others are working on sun-catchers, lampshades, and boxes. We have glass of all colors, patterns and textures to make beautiful creations along with all the tools and supplies needed.



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 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:	59
Special Projects completed:	52
Total contributions to the VWC:	\$2025.54

Pre-Made Items managed by Bernie Harkins

Items Sold	324
Total Contributions:	\$3334

Website:

As always, if you have an idea of how to improve the website please send your suggestions to woodshop@thevwc.org.

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WANTED – Photographer to take pictures of Members projects displayed during the Show and Tell for General Meetings and Turners Group Meetings as well as other VWC activities. These photographs will then be entered onto the website for display under the Media tab.

WANTED – Website computer application support. This person would assist in the maintenance and operation of our website. Suggested skills are in HTML, SQL database or general familiarity with website operation. Programming skill in Microsoft C# program language would be helpful.

More information and details will be forthcoming in the next few weeks on both the website and as a subject of e-Mails to our members.



Administration – Front Office

Anne Bell, Manager

We are working to contact and enroll members to fill the twenty new slots approved by the Board.



Member Merchandise

Bob Bell, Manager

Nothing to report.



Library

Mary Ann Main

Progress in the library continues.

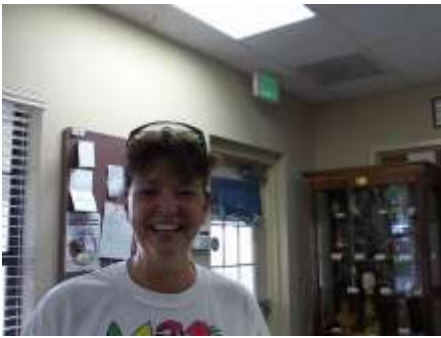
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The computer and printer have been moved up near the entrance of the library for easier access. A newer computer and printer will be installed and available for research as well as viewing DVD's.

A smaller number of higher quality books are being kept in the main categories. The extra books are being removed and placed on the free shelves for members to take or for donation to charity. When the sorting process is complete, the indexes will be updated.

The top 10 magazines are being identified. Extras will be removed. Two more cabinets will be emptied and turned over to Toys or for shop storage.

We are looking into providing additional access to online magazines. Details to come.



Education

Deb Larouere

Education Department Report

Classes for the Spring Term are currently scheduled to run through May. Openings are listed on line.

Any class openings added over the summer will be advertised through regular VWC email updates.

Progress continues to be made on adding classes for the CNC router. This is taking some extra time as there are a lot of interworking parts, including software to work out. The goal is to give VWC members the best outcome of really learning how to use our specific machine (including the software, parts and limitations) safely to get the desired results. It's a new process for our shop and all those working to get the project up and running appreciate your patience. We really do want to get it right, not just fast. A demonstration class showing what can be expected from our specific machine is also planned.

New courses and instructors are welcome for fall 2018 and winter/spring 2019. Please send email to Bob Matthews or Debbie Larouere if you're interested in teaching a new class. And please encourage your fellow woodworkers to share their skills by teaching a class. We'll help you to get started.

Congratulations are in order for fellow instructor Steve Mendelsohn, winner of five first place wood carving awards at the 2018 Florida State Fair! We are grateful to Steve for sharing his skill with our VWC members who had a chance to learn from the best this past term.

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Lumber

Stephen Yovan, Manager

We have recently received:

- 300 board of cherry lumber
- Marble wood, zebra wood, Leopard wood and Purple Heart Exotic hardwoods for turners



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

The Toy Department continues to build on our successful start to 2018.

We participated in one external community activity in March, Toys on the Square at Spanish Springs on March 15th, where we collected \$60 regular donations and \$130 in toy sales for a total of \$190. My thanks to all the Toy Team members who donated their time and efforts to this activity.

We also had a donation from Joe Stone and his Wednesday Euchre Group Paradise Recreation Center for \$530.

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

- We produced 971 toys for the month.
- This brings our year to date total production to 2535.
- Which means we are 1227 toys ahead where we were at the end of March last year.
- So far in April we have made an additional 287 toys

Our shipments for March included the Children's Home Society of Florida, Operation Shoe Box, and the Sumter County Literacy Council.

- They contained 904 toys.
- Their donation value was \$4135.
- This brought our year to date shipments to 1255 toys with a donation of \$8,559

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We have been asked to participate in the 2019 Hoedown Days at the Polo Fields, which is scheduled for Saturday February 9th 2019. We have already started to design three new pocket cars to be used for the event, plus we will also do the tote boxes again.

We will be back at Spanish Springs town square on Wednesday April 11th from 5-8:30.

We need your help: Over the past month, on two separate occasions, a total four special wagons for the Children's Home Society of Florida have "disappeared" from the paint room and the work beaches in the Toy Department. If you can shed any light on this situation please contact Conway Williams or Mike Borfitz.



Safety and Turners

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

BOD:

Although it is only April, anyone that may be interested in serving on the Board of Directors can contact the chairman of the nominating committee – Frank Giaconne, 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 March turners meeting will be held next Tuesday April 17 at 7:00pm sharp in the shop. Demonstrator to be determined..

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.

Duluth aprons have arrived and SURPRISE, the price has come down! They are approximately \$6.00 less than

they were before..... And, no, you can't return the old ones for a refund! 😊 !

SAFETY

TAKE TWO – We are all retired – **DO NOT RUSH** –take your time when working around or with any machinery or tools. Take the time to, **THINK THE JOB THROUGH** before beginning; be sure you have all of the required tools and equipment needed to perform the task and **KNOW HOW TO USE THEM SAFELY.**

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Keep your work area clean during and as well as when leaving the machine or at the end of the day!



Carvers

Pete Bankowski

Bill McGinnis and I had a meeting this month with Kathy Villani regarding storage of stain glass. The conclusion was to reorganize the area of the cabinets located at the entrance of the carving area.



Certification & Monitor Training

Dick Besler

Monitor training was 4/4 with one more week 4/18. The board has decided to allow 20 new members into club. We will do certification on 4/19, 4/26, 5/10, and 5/17.

Just be aware that the new members during certification have priority on the use of the equipment during the process so schedule your projects around those dates.



Vice President

Jim Spallone

It's a pleasure to report that we sent 120 finished pens to Woodcraft and are awaiting the returning 120 pen kits. We now look forward to the Memorial Day production in honor of our troops. Remember, we have designated the **fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:00** to people who would like to participate in making pens for this effort.



Maintenance

Dave Adamovich

Shaper use. PLEASE DO NOT adjust the height of the Cutter units. If there is a problem bring it to the attention of the maintenance department.

Safety First

There is often more than one way to accomplish a given procedure, but the best method always puts safety first. No matter what you're doing in the shop, your well-being should always be the priority.

HANDS AT 3 IN.

To protect your hands and fingers, keep them at least three in. away from all blades, cutters, and guards.

STOCK AT 12 IN.

If your workpiece is less than 12 in. long, pause to consider if the process or machine you've chosen is safe for this operation. Every machine and tool has inherent limitations. For example, attempting to plane a board that is shorter than the distance between the infeed and outfeed rollers could cause serious kickback. In this case, either keep the stock overlong while planing or turn to hand tools to thickness it.

KNOW WHEN TO STOP

If you begin to feel tired, don't hurry or work past your peak efficiency. The work will be there when you come back.

TAKE TIME FOR SAFETY

Never hesitate to spend the time and money to protect yourself. Use safety glasses for your eyes, earplugs or muffs to protect your hearing, and dust mask and/or point-of-origin dust collection to protect your lungs. Use push sticks, push paddles, and feather boards—unlike your fingers, these are expendable. Finally, trust your gut. If an operation doesn't feel right, consider using a different tool, jig, or fixture, or ask a more experienced woodworker for assistance or advice.



President

Mike Borfitz

Since our last meeting we have entertained 120 visitors to the shop. The waiting list to join now has 107 people.

The Board of Directors has opened the membership to twenty new members. Ann Bell is currently communicating with those first on the waiting list. As of last Friday we had positive responses from ten individuals and the first certification class is full. Dick Besler and his certification team are geared up for a total of four sessions.

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I want to emphasize the note in Conway's report about wagons – i.e. the loss of two of them. From time to time things mysteriously go missing in the Shop. Some miraculously reappear, but some never make it back to the Shop. It's terribly disappointing to think that we have dishonest members, but it's unbelievable that someone may be lifting toys which are intended for needy children.

We continue to work the side keypad entry for the side doors. Most recently we have had a program bug which decides to let people in the shop but not include them in the front desk list. We are working to eliminate that "insect"!

Recently we had a call from a person coordinating the Lady Lake County Fair. Ray Roberts generously agreed to judge the submitted woodworking efforts. Thanks, Ray!

Our CNC efforts are going through some growing pains. Lowell Sunderman has agreed to chair the committee for that piece. While the equipment is intriguing and its capability is amazing, there is a sharp learning curve for our population – the chronologically challenged. While we like to think we retain things the way we used to, just try to remember why you went to the refrigerator! I ask all interested and involved to take it only as fast as it can be absorbed and to practice patience with each other.