



Ed Eich, Manager



**Kathy Villani
Assistant Manager**

Stained Glass

STAINED GLASS GROUP

We have a dozen students in classes so far this term but there is room for more. If you are interested, come on and join us. Several students are finishing up their projects and we'll have pictures of those soon. One of our instructors, Gary Wright, recently completed this panel that is now hanging in his home



We are selling stained glass so if you wish to purchase any, please see Kathy Villani, Gary Wright, Karin Williams, or Ed Eich on Friday mornings in the shop.



Hans Zassenhaus, Manager

Special Projects, Website

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

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you have finished the project, put a piece of purple tape on the project, store it in the Special Projects Storage 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 new home, please notify the Front Desk of this change so that we can update your password on the website.
- ✚ 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

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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

In preparation for opening the Brownwood Woodshop we have added 10 new front office staff in 2019. These new team members are being trained and will be ready to go when the doors of the second shop open. A few of them will stay at Rolling Acres while some of the ‘old timers’ will be moving on to Brownwood.

However, **we still need at least 10-15 more members** willing to work at the front desk either at Rolling Acres or at Brownwood.

If you are interested in working at the front office please contact Anne Bell at 352-305-2416 or by email at apbell06@embarqmail.com.

On January 31st, 2020, we officially closed the 2019 year. We lost 80 members throughout 2019 – an all-time low number.

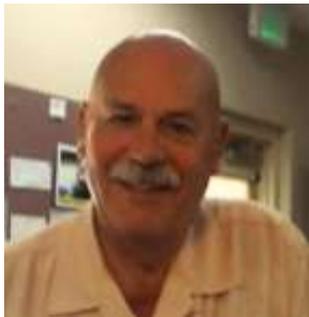
Our membership was asked which shop they preferred to work in and over half will be still be calling Rolling Acres their home shop.



Member Merchandise

Steve Eikenberry

We held an inventory clearance sale this past month on items that had not sold in the past year. Most of the sale items were gift kits that had been purchased years ago for classes no longer being taught. Most of what we had on sale was completely sold out, although a few gift kit items went back into inventory with no sales at all. I am looking for an assistant merchandise manager who would be responsible for the merchandise stock at the new shop. I am planning to remain at the current shop. Duties would primarily be monitoring and selling merchandise at the new shop, and letting me know when more inventory is needed. Time involvement is projected to be minimal. Interested? Contact me with by email or text at 260.437.9560, or see me in the shop.



Mark Corner

No report this month.

Library



Deb Larouere

Education

Take a fresh look at the updated website features. If you haven't been there in a while, you're missing out. Sit down with your favorite beverage in one hand and your mouse in the other and cruise around to see what's new.

Classes online NOW! Really! Lots of mini classes on video! Look under the Education tab on the website. Certification review, how-to's for shop equipment, Turning 101, Framing and more.

Beginning woodworkers - be cautious not to get too far beyond your skill level. Important for your safety and your sanity. Ask for help - FIRST!

A few new seats are opening in the End Grain Cutting Board and Epoxy River Board classes. Full details are on the website. Sign up directions are on line too, but you must still sign up at the Front Desk.

The Skill Connection Bulletin Board has new items regularly. Mentors and Mentees should post there to see if you can make a connection. Mentors are needed. Just a few hours can make a difference. The ripple effect is endless! It multiplies for a safer, better Club all the way around! Set your own hours, days, etc. (Thanks!)

Smile! Remember to make some new friends when you're at the Shop. That's your best source of experience, support, applause, info, laughs, inspiration and more! Makes it more fun for you to be there too.

See you around the Shop.
Spread Joy!



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.

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 PCs we currently have and to prepare for the additional PCs 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 and Chairman of the Board

Lumber species of the month... **Purple Heart**

Characteristics.... Newly cut heartwood is bright purple, turning a deep purplish-brown on exposure to light. There may be color variation between boards, and minerals may cause uneven color. The grain is usually straight, can be wavy or irregular, with a medium fine texture and a high luster. The off-white sapwood is distinct from the heartwood.

Durability....The heartwood is highly durable and is very resistant to decay, fungi and dry-wood termites. The sapwood is vulnerable to the powder-post beetle. The heartwood is highly resistant to preservative treatment but the sapwood is permeable.

Properties... It is hard, dense and heavy, with high bending, stiffing and crushing strengths, a moderate steam-bending rating and medium resistance to shock loads. It is difficult to work by hand, and machining is moderately difficult. The blunting effect on cutters is moderate to severe. The tenth person who can tell me the origin of this species will get a free bowl blank to turn. Slow feed rates and a reduced cutting angle are advised. It glues, waxes, stains and polishes well, turns very well, but is not easy to sand. Pre-boring is advised for nailing or screwing. Spirit finishes tend to remove the purple color; lacquer retains it.

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Origin ... Central America and northern South America.

Common uses.... The wood is used in quality furniture and joinery, turning, inlay, marquetry, boat building, billiard, cue butts, handles and shafts, flooring and heavy exterior construction, bridge building, cladding, vats and decorative veneer.

Possible health risk.... Sawdust can cause nasal irritation and nausea.

Availability... about 50 board feet is in stock at \$11.00 per board foot, in 8" widths and in 4' lengths, 4/4 and 8/4 thickness



Toys

Conway Williams, Manager

We have started off the 2020 with a bang!

We participated in two outside activities in the month of January

- We had Toys on the Square at Lake Sumter Landing on Wednesday January 8th. The Toy Team of Ron Gammon, John Scott, Mike Custard, Spike Durant, Dennis Draskowski and myself endured a rather chilly night and small crowd to generate \$65.00 in toy sales and \$22.00 in donations. We did have several opportunities to talk about the Club and answer questions about the new shop. We also met several people who were already on the waiting list and looking forward to getting into the shop.
- On Saturday January 25th we participated in Hoedown Days at the Polo field. I would like to thank Dick Steele for chairing this activity in my absence, and for the able assistance rendered by the rest of the Toy Team; John Scott, Spike Durant, Mike Custard and Dennis Draskowski. The team assembled and gave away over 60 Totes and over 90 painted and assembled special Pocket Cars. The event also produced \$338.00 in donations.

Both the Painters and the Elves are back from the Holiday break and working at full speed!

- We have produced 1,001 toys in January.
- We have also shipped 889 toys to 5 clients with a donation value of \$4,541.00 in January,

We are working hard to train and assimilate the half dozen new toy makers that have joined our ranks since December.

We will be doing Toys on the Square again on Wednesday February 12th at Lake Sumter Landing. Please come out and support the Toy Department.



Safety and Turners

John Herega, Manager of Safety and Turners

The turner's group monthly meeting will be held Tuesday February 18, 2020 promptly at 7:00PM in the shop. The demonstrator will be; Rudy Lopez. Please bring a show and tell item.

NEW LATHES:

There have been some slight difficulties with the tool rest clamping devised on both lathes.

- Jet: equipped with a two piece shaped barrel type of clamp, similar to the devise on the Robust lathe, it is important to be sure the device is lined up properly with the interior of the tool rest opening.
- The capacity over the lathe bed has been increased, because of this the after-market shorter shaft tool rests painted and marked "Jet" may be too short thus causing your tool to be positioned too low on the workpiece. **USE THE TOOL RESTS MARKED POWERMATIC, FOR THIS NEW JET LATHE.** Continue to use the Jet marked tool rests for the older jets. The black tool rest was supplied with the new lathe and is the proper size.
- POWERMATIC: This tool makes use of a clamping type device; use ONLY the tool rests marked POWERMATIC on this lathe as the diameter of the Jet tool rests are slightly smaller. Please do not adjust the cap screw located on the left side of the banjo, at the clamp.

If you encounter a problem with either lathe please inform John Herega or maintenance. Please do not force any tool rests into the banjo.

TURNER SUPPLYS HALF PRICE SALE Limited quantities still available.

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.

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

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

APPAREL

There is a limited supply of woodshop caps available - both carvers and general membership Aprons, smocks, respirators, dusk masks, safety glasses and side shields are available in the shop. Tan smocks are in stock at reduced price. Inquire at the front desk or contact John Herega.

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

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SAFETY

The next Safety Committee meeting will be **MONDAY FEBRUARY 24, at 9:30am** in the library. We are looking for additional members especially those who will be transferring to the Brownwood shop, as well as anyone interested in joining this committee.

WOOD DUST TOXICITY (CONTINUED)

RESPIRATOR SEAL PROTECTION

- ❖ Respirators with tight fitting face-pieces must not be worn by persons who have facial hair or any condition that interferes with face-to-face-piece seal or valve function.
- ❖ Corrective glasses or other PPE must be worn in a manner that does not affect the seal.
- ❖ A user check must be performed ***each time a tight fitting respirator is used.***
- ❖ Most of the tight fitting types of respirators would be overkill for the environment in the woodshop and, for most of us, the dust mask type is sufficient; or, in some cases, a half mask respirator.
- ❖ If you prefer a tight fitting respirator be aware that they come in various sizes and require fit testing to insure a proper fit.
- ❖ In addition for the woodshop environment there is available a battery operated, filtered forced air devise incorporated in a hard hat with a face shield that maintains a steady air flow keeping all dust from coming in contact with your face. This type is advantageous for turners or while sanding.

SOME WOODS FREQUENTLY IN USE IN THE WOODSHOP & POSSIBLE REACTION		
WOOD	ADVERSE REACTION	TOXIC PARTS
Soft & Hard Maple	May affect lung function	Dust
American Walnut	Irritant to eyes and skin	Dust, Wood
Pine	Irritant, decrease in lung function, allergic bronchial asthma, rhinitis, dermatitis	Dust, Wood
Poplar	Dermatitis, sneezing, eye irritation asthma bronchitis	Dust, Wood
Douglas Fir	Dermatitis, sneezing, eye irritation, asthma, bronchitis	Dust, Wood
American Red & White Oak	Asthma, sneezing, irritation to nose & eyes, nasal cancer	Dust
Western Red Cedar	Asthma, rhinitis dermatitis mucus membrane irritation, nosebleeds, nausea, stomach pains giddiness. Can affect blood and central nervous system	Dust, Wood, Leaves, Bark

- ❖ The information in this presentation was gathered from various sources, including the OSHA website as well as other web sites dealing with wood dust.
- ❖ In addition to the web sites, the club has a very good book in the woodshop containing a chart of some of the toxic woods that you may come in contact with.

❖ The Title Is:

WOOD – IDENTIFICATION AND USE

BY Terry Porter

❖ It is located in the carvers room, not in the library.

FINISHING: PREPARING THE WOOD SURFACE

Before you begin working your lumber, make sure your tools are sharp and machines are adjusted properly. Dull planer, jointer, or shaper knives and worn out router bits will leave pronounced washboard like marks in your wood that will take extra effort to remove. Chipped knives will leave unsightly ridges. And if the machine tools are dull enough to burn or glaze the wood, they could ruin your project. Always work toward the smoothest surface possible.

SANDING AND SMOOTHING

Of all of the steps involved in making and finishing something of wood, sanding is the most detested. At the same time it is the step that consumes the most wasted effort. *There seems to be some mystique that the more you sand, the better the end product will be. But as an old finisher used to say, "When you're in the bathtub and you're clean, get out.* Once the wood is smooth and the mill marks and other defects are gone, there is no reason to continue sanding

Remember, the only reason you need to sand is to remove the marks left in the wood by saw blades, planers, jointers shapers and to a lesser degree, routers. Before the invention of these machine tools, there was seldom any reason to sand; indeed; there was no sandpaper!

The tools that were used to smooth and finish off furniture parts before the introduction of machines were hand tools – bench planes, molding planes and scrapers of several varieties. These tools are still available, and can often be used very effectively to remove mill marks. In fact, for some woodworking projects, a finely planed surface can be regarded as a final surface. In some applications, the evidence of hand-plane work – ridges from the edge of the plane iron or hollows from a scrub plane – add character to the surface. And for any woodworker that cannot afford or is uninterested in large power sanding equipment a simple tool like a scraper can be a godsend.

Whichever tools you use, you will usually get a better outcome if you prepare all of the parts before assembling. You'll be able to secure each part to your workbench, where you can see what you are doing in good light. And you will be able to do your preparation in a comfortable position with any tool you choose. You'll also avoid the difficulty of trying to sand or scrape already assembled, right angle joints, such as stiles and rails, or legs and rails, without putting cross grain scratches in the perpendicular pieces.

Turned and carved pieces shouldn't need any additional preparation. Turnings should be sanded while on the lathe. Carvings shouldn't be sanded at all, as sanding softens the crisp lines left by the carving tools.

Table and chest tops, sides, panels, rails, door and drawer fronts, however, will contain mill marks that should be removed. The two most efficient tools you have, besides hand planes, to accomplish this task are sandpaper and scrapers.

SANDING BASICS:

There are several types of sandpaper, but for almost all woodworking tasks, you will get the best performance from *garnet* paper, which is orange - to - red in color, or from *aluminum - oxide* paper, which is tan- to - brown.

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Sandpaper comes in a series of numbered grits, from coarse to fine. The sequence is 60, 80, 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 240, 280, 320, 400, 500, 600, 1000, 1200, 1500, 2000. I usually start with 80 or 100 grit and rarely sand beyond 220 grit.

For finishes, *silicon carbide* is usually the better choice, and 280 grit is about as coarse as you'll ever need.

There are two types of silicon carbide sandpaper: *stearated*, which is usually grey in color, and *wet/dry*, which is black.

Stearated silicone carbide sandpaper contains metallic soap (the stearate) to lubricate the sandpaper so it doesn't clog up as easily as unsteared sandpaper. Stearated sandpaper is also called *no-load* and *self-lubricating* sandpaper.

Wet/dry silicone carbide sandpaper is made with waterproof glue which continues to hold the grit to the paper backing even when the paper gets wet.

You can do your sanding with the aid of a machine, or you can sand by hand. Whichever you choose, the process is basically the same. There are two steps.

- Remove the blemishes using the coarsest grit sandpaper necessary to do the job efficiently.
- Remove the scratches left by the sandpaper, using increasingly finer grits. Sand with any given grit until you can see no more improvement. Then move to a finer grit.

If you switch to a finer grit before you have totally removed the blemishes, or before you have removed all of the scratches of the previous grit, it will take you much longer. The most common error made in sanding is skipping to a finer grit before you've made the sanding scratches of the prior grit uniform.

When sanding by hand, don't skip any grits. When you are sanding by machine you can usually skip a grit or two, even with coarse papers. The greater speed of the machine makes up the difference. **Always clean off the sanding dust before moving to the next finer grit.** The dust will contain some of the grit from the coarser sandpaper, and the coarser grit will keep you from getting a uniform scratch pattern with the finer grit.

The second most common error in sanding is continuing to use sandpaper after it has become dull. Pay attention to what's happening. The cutting efficiency deteriorates fairly rapidly. You'll cut your sanding time significantly by changing sandpaper more often.

To what grit should you sand? Probably no question in woodworking elicits as much passionate controversy as this one. Most of the passion is based on how good the wood looks before the finish is applied. The finer grit sandpaper used, the more polished the wood will appear. But highly polished wood won't look more polished after you apply the finish. In fact, from about 120 grit up, it's difficult to see the difference once the finish is applied. For perspective, consider that furniture factories seldom sand above 150 grit.

My preference is to sand to 180 grit when applying a film (shellac, lacquer, conversion, or water based) finish. (The higher grit for oil finishes makes the wood feel smoother; it doesn't improve the appearance.) Sanding to 220 grit and above will polish the surface and hinder pigment-stain penetration.

No matter how fine the final grit you use, you won't remove all of the tiny wood fibers that swell and make the wood feel rough to the touch if water is applied. If you intend to use a stain or finish that contains water, you should sponge the wood after normal sanding. Wet the wood and re-sand it smooth after the water dries out (See sponging next month.)

TRY THIS: to determine if you have removed all of the blemishes or coarser-grit scratches before moving to the next step, wet the wood with mineral spirits and look at the wood in a raking light. The mineral spirits will clean the sanding dust out of the blemishes and scratches, making them easier to see. Mineral spirits will not raise the grain of the wood and will evaporate rapidly.

MYTH: You get better results if you sand to 400 grit or finer.

FACT: Before you apply the finish, wood sanded to 400 grit will have a higher gloss than wood sanded to, say, 180 grit, because 400 grit polishes more than 180 grit. But after you apply the finish, you will have difficulty seeing any difference. Try it! You may save yourself countless hours of sanding in the future.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH:



Carvers

Pete Bankowski

I've had a few people ask me where they could purchase carving supplies; for example, - knives. I have, therefore, composed a list of suppliers registered on the Internet.

- * WOODCRAFT.COM
- * WOODCARVERSSUPPLY.COM
- * MOUNTAINWOODCARVERSSUPPLY.COM
- * TREELINEUSA.COM
- * CHIPPINGAWAY.COM
- * HIGHLANDERWOODWORKING.COM
- * SUGARPINEWOODCARVING.COM
- * BELCHERCARVINGSUPPLY.COM
- * STADTLANDERCARVINGS.COM
- * AMAZON.COM
- * KVWOODCARVINGSUPPLY.COM
- * HUMMUL.COM



Certification & Monitor Training

Dick Besler

Certification will be on February 13th so the shop will be closed. Remember that monitor training is done three times this month. Two remain - February 19th and the 26th. Always looking for help for monitor instructors and certification instructors.



Vice President

Rik Peirce

Pens for the Troops

2-28 we turned 28 pens.

Year to date number is 82 pens.

The program total is 16,07.

Please note that we turn pens on the 4th Tuesday from 4 to 6.



Dave Adamovich



Glen Croteau

Maintenance/Shop Administration

Reminders:

1. **Shop Hours:** The shop opens to members at 8:00 AM and not before (Maintenance is preparing the Shop and working with the monitors to make the Shop ready for use before then.) The Shop closes at 4:00 PM so that classes may take place. Please observe these times.
2. **Proper Identification** – Projects, racked wood or sheet materials must be clearly marked with an Identification Label what includes your name, Villages ID #, start and stop dates not to exceed 30 days.
3. **Clamped Items** – Clamps are removed from all projects each morning; the projects are placed under the tables or against the outside walls.
4. **No Wood With Bark** – Wood with bark poses a problem for all the wood in the shop. It should NOT be brought in the shop or stored in storage bins.
5. **No Pine** – Pine is NOT to be used on the main floor sanders. Small pine pieces may use the sanders in the Toy Department area if they are available. Please check with the toy workers.
6. **Class Teachers and Instructors** – Please check and perform all closing and cleaning obligations found on your form. Do not forget to close the compressor tank valve and turn off the compressor dryer switch.

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7. **Maintenance Department Personnel** – Maintenance personnel arrive at the shop at 6:30 AM and as cited above are preparing the shop for use at 8:00. After the shop floor opens to membership the Maintenance people are available help and/or give guidance on shop procedure or safety. They are identified by their **BLUE BADGES**. If you are interested in joining the Maintenance team please contact Glenn Croteau.



Woodworking Technology

Lowell Sundermann

Calling all members using or interested in using our Laser.

Tomorrow's (2/12) Woodworking Technology User Group meeting will highlight some of the successes and capabilities of our Epilog Laser.

- Jill will show and explain her "living hinge" with a number of examples, plus some engraving she has done.
- We will have some samples of projects by Dennis Drazkowski.
- Lowell will demonstrate the PhotoLaser Plus software - for engraving photographs.
- Hopefully others will bring show and tell items.
- Q&A and other items of interest.
- and yes we will also update and discuss some CNC topics.

Hope to see you there - 4:00pm, 2/12/20, at the shop.



President

Mike Borfitz

2020 is up and running - so many exciting things ahead and instances for which to be proud of our Club and its members. For one thing, in this time of large numbers of members and want-to-be members, we lost the fewest number at the turn of the calendar. Let me explain – it has been our experience that when dues paying time comes around (starting in October and including the grace period through January) we typically lose 100

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to 120 members. This year when our total memberships have exceeded 1100, we lost only 80. This number includes deaths, people who have moved away, people who no longer feel they are physically able to participate and those who have found other interests. Today the membership stands at 1072 with 370 on the waiting list.

Rik Peirce and I met with The Villages personnel on January 22 for what we called a kick-off meeting. With the exception of the final decision on the dust collection system, all is in place to proceed. "Ground-breaking" is planned for this month. The land was surveyed last week and the land will be mobilized this week. Excavation is being done by Bill Gregory. The builder is Lee Woods Construction. We were provided with a construction schedule that was a little more defined than our previous one, but the dates to open the doors still appear to be very late 2020/early 2021. Following the meeting, The Villages on-site construction manager, Jarrod Ford, invited us to walk the site to identify the tree we would like from which we hope to make some commemorative pens and bowls. He also gave us his number and email so that we can periodically walk the area with him and take pictures while the construction is taking place. Please note that they plan to fence off the area for safety reasons. **PLEASE DO NOT TRESPASS ON THAT PROPERTY WHILE THE BUILDING IS PROCEEDING.** Thanks for your cooperation!

I urge you to read this entire report. Not only will you be more up-to-date, you may learn something that helps you when you do your next project!