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June 2024
Volume 42, Issue 6

TWA Newsletter

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 18, 7:00 pm

Location options:

(1) Klingspor's

(2) Zoom videoconference; use the information below to join.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85142843149?pwd=MlFnLoJSS3hjRFhYVjYreVRraFZlQT09

Meeting ID: 851 4284 3149

Passcode: 705732

Topic: Community Service Projects for Woodworkers

This meeting will feature two community service opportunities available to members. Some of you already participate in the established Toys for Tots program and this meeting will kickoff that initiative for another year. Toys from the various member workshops will be displayed at the meeting and special food will be provided.

In addition, TWA will be introducing a new program called Beads of Courage boxes. These are heirloom style boxes made for children undergoing cancer treatment for storing beads that they receive after each treatment. Each bead is awarded by the hospital to remind them of the courage it took to go through a specific treatment or the effect of the treatment (e.g. hair loss). Children can accumulate hundreds of beads over the course of their cancer treatment and the beads serve as a reminder of their courage. We have established a contact with Duke Children's Hospital who will partner with TWA and receive the boxes we build for the children.

TWA plans to hold a box-making workshop and a Beads of Courage "box making challenge" in the coming year. More info on these events will be forthcoming. If you like making boxes or would like to learn more about it, then Beads of Courage may be for you.

Hosts: Bob Andrews and Kerry Schoolfield

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TWA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—MAY 21, 2024

(meeting minutes: James Sapp)

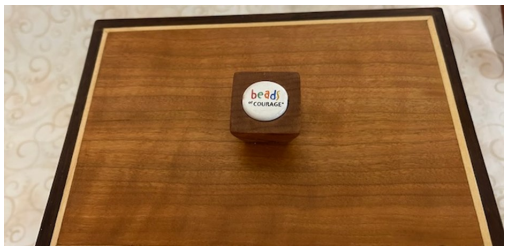
The May meeting was held at Klingspor's Cary store at the regular starting time of 7PM. Twenty-four people attended at Klingspor's and four more on Zoom. Dennis Dunlow attended as a new member. Richard Raynor attended as a guest.

Roy Brookhart announced that there is one board position opening up in September. Members interested in volunteering to serve on the board should let one of the board members know by May or June. The board officially meets four times a year, but the December Board meeting is usually pre-empted by the Christmas Toys for Tots meeting. Serving on the board does not require a significant time commitment. Please give volunteering serious consideration.

Kerry Schoolfield reviewed plans for the June meeting, which will be titled "Community Service Programs". The meeting will officially kick-off the 2024 Toys for Tots program. The meeting will also initiate the Beads of Courage program. Kerry announced that Duke Children's Hospital will partner with TWA on this program. The meeting will be held at Klingspor's at the regular meeting day and time. Please note that this location is an update from the notes from the April TWA meeting.

George Mills informed the group that a neighbor of his wants to sell his 52" Delta Unisaw. If interested, contact George. Bob Gabor announced the final disposition of material and tools from Terry Tenhouse's shop will be occurring on Saturday, May 25 from 9 AM to 1PM. Details were sent out to the club by the Webmaster.

Mike Payst, who conducts our monthly meeting raffle and secures the Woodcraft gift certificate prize, announced that he will be retiring from TWA this year. He is looking for a member volunteer to take over his duties. Please let Mike know if you would like to assume this function for the club.



Examples of Beads of Courage boxes, which will be discussed at the June meeting.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

TWA would like to thank members who provide donations to the club or the Toys for Tots fund. The following members made a generous donation to the club or the Toys for Tots fund within the club in the last month.

- Robert Markowski
- Barton Meeks
- Jonathan Sapp

TOYS FOR TOTS UPDATE

June is the historical kick-off for the Toys for Tots campaign in our club. This year is no exception as we will have the kick-off meeting on June 18 at Klingspor's. There will be vegetable, fruit and charcuterie platters as refreshments at the meeting. New toys will be displayed by the groups making toys this year. As of now, there are 13 Workshops that will be making toys. On July 10, we will be assembling toys at NetApp that some of the members have already made. This year's campaign will conclude on December 7, when we will have the annual Klingspor's Toys for Tots workshop. More details on that at a later date but if interested in helping, please send an email to Joe Sabo indicating your interest. We will follow this workshop with another assembly day at NetApp. If there is anyone interested in helping make toys, please let Joe Sabo know at *sabojc12@gmail.com*.

Joe Sabo, Toys for Tots Committee Chairman

TWA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—MAY 21, 2024

THE WHY AND HOW OF BOX-MAKING

(meeting minutes: James Sapp)

The featured presentation during May's meeting was given by Ray Essington. Bob Gabor gave a quick intro of Ray's presentation on box-making.

Ray doesn't consider himself just a box maker as he also focuses on furniture building and other woodworking pursuits. He got into box making because his son wanted to present his girlfriend with a jewelry box gift. Ray and his son scoured woodworking magazines for inspiration and came upon the design they liked and would build. The resulting jewelry box was made of walnut and spalted maple and turned out very well. Before committing to the project's final form, Ray built a prototype out of pine. Ensuing from this project, Ray continued making boxes for gifts and items for special occasions as time went on. The reason he continues to build boxes is that it presents him a way to spend more time woodworking without getting into large projects. It also offers opportunities to utilize wood scraps and cut-offs, it provides ways to learn and apply new woodworking techniques, and it allows him to test out finishing techniques on a small scale. In building boxes, Ray has learned that it takes greater precision than in many other woodworking ventures. Examples Ray cited of new woodworking techniques he used in box building were the application of stringing, hammered veneering, press veneering and Kumiko fitting to his boxes.

Having shared his reasons behind making boxes, Ray turned to discussing the processes he uses to make boxes. First, he considers the function of the box; what will it hold and how will it be used. Next, he considers what proportions would be pleasing to the eye. Paradigms such as the golden rectangle, double cube, 1-2-3 or root of two are some of the important considerations to arriving at the final proportions of the box. Ray cited a Fine Woodworking Magazine article entitled "A Guide to Good Design", Jan/Feb 2004 as an excellent reference on the subject of design proportions.

Next, he decides on the wood species and other media that will be used. After material selection, joinery techniques are determined. Many joinery techniques are available and should be considered. Examples include box joints, dove tails, and miters with keys and splines. In working miter joints, Ray aims to make the grain match at each corner of the box. Ray typically makes his boxes out of 1/4" or 5/16" material. In preparing wood for his boxes, Ray prepares enough material for two to three boxes. Any dadoes or grooves in the sides are done before the boxes are assembled.

There was a good turnout for Ray's presentation on boxes (photos: Roy Brookhart)

In machining box parts, Ray uses table saw sleds, stop blocks and story sticks to ensure that all corresponding parts are cut to the same length. He typically makes the box bottom out of plywood, or if using solid wood bottoms, he sets his dimensions to allow for expansion and contraction. Ray evaluates what he wants the bottom to look like. A box on a base tends to look heavier than a box with feet. His lid designs can be a slab, frame-and-panel or inset, depending on the look he's after. If there are inner compartments, Ray usually makes them out of contrasting woods, but he tries to use the same joinery as the outside. Interiors can be finished in a number of ways, e.g. using a coating such as shellac, fabric felt, or flocking materials. Ray has tried many finishes for the outside of the boxes, but as of late he favors shellac.

Ray cited Doug Stowe as his chief reference in box building. A couple of titles he recommended were "Basic Box Building" and "A Complete Guide to Box Building".

Overall, Ray's presentation was very interesting and educational for all who attended. If you missed the meeting, please view Ray's presentation on the website.

UPCOMING MEETING

Date: July 16, 7pm

Topic: Queen Anne Style Desk

Presenter: Jim Creasman

Location: Klingspor's

Jim Creasman is originally from Western North Carolina. His path to Raleigh went through NC State University, where he completed a MS in Applied Mathematics. His day job as a software architect pays the bills. However, as the son of a carpenter, he's never been far from woodworking. That is really where his heart is. Several years ago he became more interested in acquiring, understanding and using traditional tools and techniques, especially as these relate to making period furniture. Each new project becomes a journey of discovery with lots of paths to explore, leading to improved skills and new tools.

For the July meeting, Jim will discuss a recent woodworking "commission" to build a desk for his wife. After discussions with the client, they settled on a design in the Queen Anne style. The journey begins with the initial design choices and continues through the process of completing a desk using hand tools. Stops along the way include offset turning, veneering, pegged joints, custom moulding planes, shellac finish and more. New projects always seem to invite new tools and this was no exception. There will also be frequent detours to examine some of the new members in Jim's toolbox.

Hosts: Bob Gabor

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send newsletter content for future newsletters to Karin Pihel (karin.pihel@ gmail.com).

Contributions for each newsletter are due by the last day of the previous month.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Have you attended one of the monthly meetings in person recently? If not, I strongly encourage you to venture out on a Tuesday evening and gather with some of the old crowd and mingle with a few of the many new members. Some are again staging at MacGregor Draft House for a pre meeting bite to eat. The programs have been top notch and the presenters are always ready to stay and answer questions. Snacks and a mid-program break allow for lots of catching up with what other woodworking enthusiasts are up to. The chairs are still a bit uncomfortable but the friends are always worth hanging out with.

I hope to see you, in person, again soon.

Regards,

TREASURER'S REPORT (APRIL)

Beginning Balance:	$16,512.78
Income:	$399.00
Expense:	$977.82
Ending Balance:	$15,933.96

Does not include Petty Cash of $86.00.

Submitted by Jack Kite, Treasurer

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

POSITION	BOARD MEMBER
President	Roy Brookhart
Vice President	Kerry Schoolfield
Secretary	James Sapp
Treasurer	Jack Kite
At Large Board Member	Chris Gebhardt
At-Large Board Member	Joe Sabo
At-Large Board Member	Judy Sanwald

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON / MEMBERS
Program Committee	**Kerry Schoolfield /** Jeff Leimberger, Cecil Raynor, Bob Gabor, Mike Payst, Cathy Harms, Roy Brookhart
Toys-for-Tots Committee	**Joe Sabo /** Cecil Raynor, Pete Hodges, Bob Gabor, Roy Brookhart, Bob Andrews and Judy Sanwald, Jim Rhodes, Les Hall, Alex Knittel, Bob Guenther; Tom Hegele, Don Klemp, Jon Sapp
Newsletter Publications Committee	**Karin Pihel /** Fred Ford
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Publicity Committee	**Roy Brookhart**
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