



Plane Talk Newsletter

February 2021

Vol. 20, Issue #02

This is a publication of Nevada Woodchucks, Inc. , a Nevada Domestic Non-Profit Corporation. The members are woodworkers from the Reno, Sparks, Carson City, Dayton, Minden, Gardenville, Fernley, Lake Tahoe & surrounding area.

More information available at the website:
www.nevadawoodchucks.org

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President's Message by Jerome Alterman



We are looking at an exciting new year, club wise and equipment wise. We have added five new members, which include a family of three, and we welcome you all. Equipment wise we are in the process of procuring a CNC (Computerized Numerical Control) machine that will greatly enhance the ability to produce items that are basi-

cally exactly the same, in quantities that will supplement the production of toys amongst other things. We've identified a problem with the laser and will be working to correct that, and to top everything off, we are working on getting internet access into the club. This will allow us to broadcast the workings of the different SIGs as it is happening, as well as accessing the various videos from around the world with regards to woodworking. See what a CNC machine is capable of this video demonstrates the repetitive capabilities. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wIM67oaoVgY>.

Important Tips

**Feb General Meeting—Wednesday night not the usual Thursday !
Tool Sale— Saturday, Feb 20—details to follow—[click here](#) !**

Schedule Highlights for the Month of February

Board Meeting, Zoom, Tue 2nd @6:30 pm

Annual General Meeting, Zoom, Wed 10th @7:00pm

Toys SIG, Shop, Wed 3rd & 17th @10am, Sat 13th & 27th @9am

Lathe SIG, Shop, Tues 16th @ 6:30pm & Sat 20th @ 1:00pm

TnT SIG, Shop, Thur 18th & 25th @ 6:30pm

Scroll Saw SIG, Shop, Sat 6th & 27th @ 1pm

Digital Workshop SIG, Zoom, every Monday @6:15pm



All programs and projects of the Nevada Woodworkers are supported, in part, by the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency



The Sierra Arts Foundation supports Nevada Woodchucks activities in the Reno area.

Membership General Meeting

February's General Membership Meeting will be held on the **Wednesday the 10th** rather than the 11th. The reason being we are going to have a guest presenter, and he was already booked for that Thursday. Colin Knecht, of YouTube fame, is going to give us a Zoom presentation based on: 1. Understanding Saw Blades and how to select them, 2. Saving money on wood, what you can gain and what you can lose, 3. His top 5 favorite workshop tools and why, and 4. Selecting woodworking tools, expensive versus budget. Hopefully he will be able to cover all four subjects. Note that he is doing this on a volunteer basis with no cost to the club (John) and your support by attending this Zoom meeting would be awesome and appreciated.

SIG Schedule page 1 of 2

Toys by Donnah Wenstrom

When: Wednesday Feb 3rd and 17th, 10 to 1pm (Bring bag lunch) and Saturday Feb 13th & 27th, 9:00 to Noon

Where: Clubhouse

Program: Working on 2021 Christmas toys

Team Leaders: Donnah Wenstrom, Julia Tachihara

Other Toy related articles in other sections of the newsletter (click on link):

- * [Toys for Kids](#) (Show & Tell:)
- * [The Children's Cabinet](#) (Community Activity)
- * [The Domestic Violence Resource Center](#) (Community Activity)
- * [Mastercraft Wood Donation](#) (Membership Awareness)
- * [Complete Mill Works Wood Donation](#) (Membership Awareness)



Lathe by Tom Doud

When: Tuesday, February 16th @ 6:30pm & Saturday, February 20th @ 1pm

Where: Clubhouse in the Lathe Corner

Program: Turning kitchen utensils

Team Leaders: Russ Lambert, Tom Doud, Mary Sedgwick

Other Lathe related articles in other sections of the newsletter (click on link):

- * [Using Dyes for Finishing](#) (Show & Tell)



Tools N Techniques by Ed Campau

When: Thurs Feb 18th & 25th, 6:30 to 8:30

Where: Clubhouse

Program:

Finish Case for Toy Patterns and begin work on stand for new miter saw.

Team Leaders: Ed Campau, Tom Doud, Bob Dietrick, Christian Ziegler

Other TNT related articles in other sections of the newsletter (click on link):

- * [Toy Pattern Case Project](#) (Show & Tell)



SIG Schedule page 2 of 2

Digital Workshop by Ron Flint

When: Mon Feb 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd @ 6:15 to 7:30pm

Where: Zoom on the internet

Program: Train on Fusion 360 - a cloud-based CAD/CAM modeling package that will allowed users to design items to be milled on a CNC Machine, cut/engrave on a laser or printed on a 3D printer.

Team Leaders: Ron Flint, Jerry Alterman



Scroll Saw by Jerry Alterman

Scroll Saw Sig by Jerry Alterman

When: Saturday, Feb 6th & 27th @ 1-3pm

Where: Clubhouse

Program: Open

Team Leaders: Jerry Alterman, Donnah Wenstrom



Carving SIG is Suspended for Now!



Feature Articles page 1 of 2

WOODLORE about Cocobola by Pat Ekedahl

In the days when merchant ships battled the ravages of South America's treacherous Cape Horn, heavy Cocobolo commanded precious little cargo space. The opening of the Panama Canal in 1912 changed all that. Cocobolo became common deck cargo, and tons poured into New England ports, where manufacturers turned it into handles for the finest cutlery.

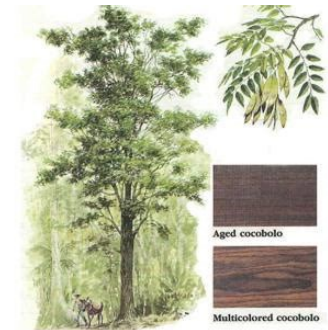
Even though merchants had traded Cocobolo for more that 100 years, it was decades before botanists agreed on its name. Because the tree, discovered in Panama, was classified as Rosewood. Later botanists found other specimens in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, and Mexico and classified each as a different species.

Such scientific disagreement meant little to manufacturers and craftsman. They knew the wood was heavy, yet machined well, could take abuse and oil protected in from dunking in the dishwasher. [Difficulty in gluing, ed.]

Cocobolo has a bad reputation, but not for its working qualities. The wood is a well-known sensitizer that can produce a poison-ivy rash or other reaction in allergic individuals. If you have an allergy history, work Cocobolo with full protection: gloves, long sleeves, a dust mask, and a protective skin cream.

I've worked it and it's a beautiful wood. Caution!!!! Be careful, with all that's going on in the world right now, play it safe

Some info from WOOD magazine February 1990.



**THE WOOD
DATABASE**

Check-out
Cocobola wood
Specification [here](#).

Feature Articles page 2 of 2

The Teacher Got Schooled

by Mary Sedgwick

My friend's daughter with special needs was interested in woodworking and, as it turned out, so was her mother. Neither had any prior woodworking experience, which I viewed as a good thing, and so we began Mary's Introduction to Woodworking Class with great enthusiasm... The project I chose was a set of 'drink coasters.' Being a retired teacher, I knew I needed to keep these two ladies busy with a secondary task so I thought making a 'reindeer' would do the trick.

When they arrived, I showed them a giant piece of 2" thick mahogany and a sketch of the drink coasters we would make. In unison they said: "That's pretty thick for a coaster!" The shock factor was perfect... Yeah, I could have started with a ½" thick board but I wanted them to learn to appreciate what it takes to make something. The reindeer was less of a shock because the one I had made was setting upon two small pieces of pine.

SAFETY was my primary focus in working with a very protective mom and a daughter who is **legally blind**. I provided both with safety glasses, ear plugs, and N95 masks. For every step, safety instruction was provided and reinforced in different modalities: auditory, visual, and tactile. I was totally hands-on through-out. I learned the emphasis on safety reassured her mom and that meant they both could enjoy being students.

We spent Saturday and Sunday (4.5 hours each day) in Mary's Introduction to Woodworking Class and wound up with a reindeer that holds a bag of mini candy bars and 4 sets of coasters (each set contained 4 coasters with different colored epoxy stripes). During a much-needed snack break each day, they made gift tags and learned to make holiday bows with pine cones from my back yard.

I learned what strategies and accommodations worked with the daughter to help her be successful. She is an auditory and tactile learner so this was incorporated into this experience. With the exception of the band and scroll saws, she was able to use the other tools with my guidance.



Mother & Daughter



Coasters & Pine Cones



Captain Jerry says our start of February will arrive early this month by one day—The General Meeting is Wednesday, Feb 10 instead of normal Thursday.

Look out for email on Zoom meeting—check-in will be 15 minutes before flight.

Community Activity page 1 of 2

The Children's Cabinet Thank You submitted by John Hasenau

December 31, 2020 email from Kristin Loebbecke

The Nevada Woodchucks have been part of The Children's Cabinet's holiday giving celebrations for over ten years. We always look forward to greeting Donna Wenstrom—in her red holiday sweatshirt and earrings—when she brings a carload of handmade toys for the Children's Cabinet staff to distribute to families throughout Washoe County. We “ooh and ahh” when we open the boxes each year to see longtime favorites (cars, trucks, locomotives, and the magical stick horses) and new designs (the hand-painted baby cradles and the intricate puzzles revealing dragons and Pegasus horses). We can always anticipate the reaction of little ones when they open their gifts on Christmas morning.

Donations from the Woodchucks are special for a number of reasons: They ensure that we have toys to give and that no parent coming to The Children's Cabinet at the holidays needs to be turned away. The toys inspire with the creativity, skill, and care that obviously go into making each one. And they create moments of good old-fashioned fun and imaginative play. At The Children's Cabinet, we like that most of all!

As we all faced so many challenges this year, it was a familiar comfort to receive the Woodchucks' boxes filled with cheerful toys again, and to have items available to give. In a normal year, we would have displayed and distributed the toys at a big, public “Community Toy Table” event, where we invite parents without gifts for their children to come to The Children's Cabinet to shop for free. With no event this year, we adapted by inviting our staff to select and hand-deliver toys to some of their client families, especially as they delivered baskets of food and other necessities. We also set some of the coveted baby-doll cradles aside, at the special request of our therapy team leader, who likes to keep the toys in the therapy suites for young clients because of the comfort they provide.

Thank you for working all year-round to provide holiday toys for The Children's Cabinet and the families we serve. We can tell how much you love the work, and we appreciate your talent and thoughtfulness.

The Children's Cabinet is a Nevada non-profit agency dedicated to keeping children safe and families together. Since 1985, The Children's Cabinet has collaborated with public partners and community leaders to identify gaps in service and to meet the needs of a wide-ranging age group—from small children to young adults. With the help of donations and other community support, The Children's Cabinet is able to provide its many programs and services at no charge to children and their families. During the 2020 holiday season, we distributed toys, gift cards, food, and necessities to more than 700 families—or 2,100 children—total.



Community Activity page 2 of 2

Domestic Violence Resource Center Thank You

submitted by John Hasenau

December 15, 2020 letter from Denise Yoxsimer

Donnah Wenstrom
Nevada Woodchucks
PO Box 20285
Reno, NV 89515-0285

Dear Donnah,

Thank you for your generous donation of the handmade toys to the Domestic Violence Resource Center families.

These toys will help to brighten the holiday season for our residents. These individuals are victims of domestic violence working to rebuild their lives after escaping from abusive homes while dealing with

the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Contributions like yours make a tremendous difference for the individuals we serve.

If you have any questions, please call me at 329-4150 or email at denisev@domesticviolenceresourcecenter.org.

Sincerely,
Denise Yoxsimer
Executive Director



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Resource Center



Captain Jerry says please wear a mask at all group face to face meetings and maintain a safe distance from others.

You may not want to go as far as Captain Jerry did for this photo—but it would work!

Show & Tell page 1 of 2

Toys for the kids by Donnah Wenstrom

We resumed our Toy SIG Saturday Jan 16 with 5 members. Donnah, Julia and Von remained the 3 hours prepping wood, tracing patterns, cutting out toys, and sanding. Randy brought in 12 cradles and 35 horse heads he made in his shop over the last 4 months with more in the works. Shirley took home the horses to start her loving task of painting them.



Race Cars

The Woodchuck Lathe SIG turned 53 race cars for the Toy SIG last year. Shirley and others painted the men and women drivers, some of which are seen here. Many of the finished drivers had helmets and goggles. Our painters keep getting more and more creative, as do the turners. Thank you all!



Prehistoric Animals

These animated prehistoric animals were beautifully crafted by Woodchuck Roger Haynes. He put many hours into creating thirteen of them, so each of our toy donee's got one. Thank you, Roger!

Using Dyes for Finishing By Tom Doud

Lathe SIG program on Saturday Jan 23 was about finishes - dyes and lacquer. Dyes penetrate deeper than stain and offer many more colors



Todd Williams was experimenting with orange dye on bowl.

Tom Doud was applying a dye & lacquer finish to his bowl.



Stand Merrill was experimenting with different dyes - Orange & Red. This was segmented bowl out of oak from his family farm in Iowa

Russ Lambert showing off his work - the bowl at the bottom was from two different dyes - one for the rim and other for the inside - beautiful.



Show & Tell page 2 of 2



Toy Pattern Case Project Almost Done

By Edward Campau

The TNT team has lead a group build of a custom designed drawer case for storage of hundreds of toy design patterns. There are eight drawers of different sizes built to the specifications provided by the Toy SIG. There is a few hours left to complete the build which includes mounting custom drawer pulls and applying finish. The material is mostly Baltic Birch from Mastercraft. The two larger drawers are mounted with metal drawer slides. The balance use wooden guides that support both top and bottom on the drawer sides.



Turnin' and Burnin'

By Mary Sedgwick

I was asked to make 5 awards with military challenge coins in the center. Previously I shared with you my circular vase design so this photo depicts an alliteration of that design and the coin is visible from both sides.

After turning the upright and base discs on my lathe, I contacted Ron Flint to see if he would teach me how to laser engrave the 5 awards. We engraved the face of each award on the detached discs and then I took them home to finish them. These awards were distributed during Christmas week by Major General Berry from the Nevada National Guard.



Adventure with End Grain Cutting Boards By Rod Procter

In October, I began planning Christmas presents. Like most members, I had a large collection off hardwood cut-offs 4/4 to 6/4 between 2 foot and 8 foot long and 3/4" to 3" wide. I suddenly remembered several articles about end-grain cutting boards.

I ran the boards thru the table saw to cut off the ragged edges and create a consistent width. I glued them up into blanks under a foot wide (to fit in my planer). When dry I ran the blanks through the planer. The blanks were then cut into slices. The slices were glued with the long grain vertical. When dry the boards were run through a finish sander to level the surfaces. My giftees decided they did not want grooves in the boards so I made them into serving boards. Various recipients like their serving/cutting boards different sizes and thicknesses.

Raffle Details

Raffle At General Meeting is Suspended for Now!

Shopping



Tool Review – Narex Coarse Cut ½ Round Rasp 872514

By Rod Procter

Thanks to Ed Campau, in the last 10 years or so I have often used rasps. This Christmas my wish list included a Narex Professional Rasp and my Sister in Law obliged.

My Woodchuck sale rasps have worked well but this new one is a dream. I tried it out with light cuts on hard maple and WOW! Then I tried cleaning up an uneven cut on the end of a piece of ¾ maple plywood with great results. I do not know how long this rasp will hold up, but for the money \$30 on Amazon it is well worth the investment. My wish list now includes Narex's fine cut rasps! (Available Lee Valley, Infinity and Amazon.)

FOR SALE!

Tool Sale, Saturday February 20th By John Hasenau

The club will sponsor a garage tool sale in Southeast Sun Valley on Saturday the 20th. Eight major pieces will be sold as a silent auction. Many smaller items will be priced out on tables. Club gets 20% on all sales for running this sale. Times & directions to follow—contact John Hasenau for any questions.

Woodchuck Logo Wear Items Contact Terry Plys @ 775.219.4381

Baseball Cap	\$ 9.00	Baseball Cap name on back)	\$11.00
T-shirt (gray or tan)	13.00	T-shirt with pocket (gray or tan)	14.00
Bibbed Apron	17.00	Wood Turner Smock	65.00
Hoodies with zipper	50.00	Pullover Sweatshirt	28.00
Winter Jacket	60.00	Light-weight Jacket	65.00

Above includes one small 'Woodchuck' embroidered logo.

Add-on's:

Add your 'name' on item = \$6.00 Larger logo on back of jackets & sweatshirts = \$30.00
 Sizes 2X and larger are \$1.00 per 'X'

Thanks to local suppliers who sponsor the club through discounts to members.

Master Craft, 1460 Linda Way, Sparks	356-1772
Apex Saws, 570 Kietzke LN, Reno	329-3076
Woodworking Source, 9736 S. Virginia ST, Reno	624-9174

Membership Awareness page 1 of 2

Officer Elections By Christian Ziegler

The four Club officers nominees were elected on January 14th, 2021 during the Annual General Meeting. This was the first election using the Zoom meeting and the polling feature. There were over 20 members in attendance easily meeting the minimum attendance required for the a quorum.

NV Energy Visits Shop By John Hasenau

Lisa Harris representing NV Energy's selection committee for grants, visited our shop on Jan 20th visit. She seemed impressed and very appreciative and indicated she would communicate this to the selection committee. We discussed the diversity and inclusion aspects of the membership as well as other community support that is given (Veterans Home, Veterans' cometary, Discovery museum, Artown Heart project.....) so they have a greater appreciation of the depth of what we do. One take-away for the club was to understand the higher priorities for NV energy, again diversity, inclusion and other aspects of community support then just the toys.



MasterCraft Donation By John Hasenau

In a Jan 21 letter to Richard Stanley from Mastercraft, John wrote:

" The Nevada Woodchucks are extremely grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness in donating to our club 106 board feet of 4/4 Sup. Alder and 2 sheets of ¼ 4' x 8' MDF. This material is critical for producing cradles for at risk and underserved children in the Washoe County area. We are privileged to partner with you to improve our community and maintain hope and positivity in these children during these difficult times. Donations like this do change many lives, those who create the cradles as well and even more importantly those who receive the cradles. "

MasterCraft

Complete Mill Works Donation By Donnah Wenstrom

A large donation of wood he obtained from Complete Mill Works in Carson City, thanks to our contact Cindy Becher at our new non-profit donee St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry. She and her husband own the company and have offered us a continuing donation of wood for our toys. THANK YOU, Cindy!



WELL DONE Randy Pontius

By Donnah Wenstrom & John Hasenau

The first step in toy production is acquiring the wood. Randy was certainly the point person in acquiring donations from both MasterCraft and Complete Mill Works as reported in submittals for the above two articles.

So Randy—Thanks! You earned this month's WELL DONE!



Membership Awareness page 2 of 2

Officers

President: Jerry Alterman
 Vice Pres. Mary Sedgwick
 Secretary: Paul Yarmolich
 Treasurer: John Hasenau

Board of Directors

Russ Lambert
 Bob Dietrich
 Donnah Wenstrom
 Edward Campau
 Tom Doud

Committee Chairs

Newsletter Editor: Christian Ziegler
 Webmaster: Kirk Jeffery

Monthly Business Meetings

Board Meetings — 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM, any Member can attend.
 Membership General Meetings—2nd Thursday of the month, 7 pm at the clubhouse.

Clubhouse Tool Safety

Always Wear Safety Equipment

ear & eye protection, latex gloves for finishing

Wear The Right Clothes

wearing baggy or loose clothes might get caught in a cutting head or saw blade.

Avoid Using Anything That Can Impair Your Reaction Time and Judgment

for example no alcohol or other intoxicant

Disconnect Power

before changing blades or bits on your power tools

Use A Single Extension Cord

too many cords can be confusing & a tripping hazard

Never Use Blunt Blades & Bits

dull tools will need to be made to work harder to cut and as a result can bind or kick back.

Check Stock for Existing Metal

spinning blades and metal (like nails) will harm the operator, & damage stock and the cutting head.

Work Against The Cutter

ensure that the blade or router bit cuts against the motion of the wood instead of with it

Never Reach Over A Running Blade

always wait until a spinning blade has stopped moving before reaching to remove waste or cut-offs

Use a Push Stick

use a push stick on stationary power tools

Minimize Distractions

finish what you were doing when working with a power tool before engaging in other activities

Seek Hands-on Tool Training

seek hands-on assistance for safety awareness any-time using a shop tool for the first time

SIG Program Leaders

Lathe Tom Doud & Russ Lampert
 TNT Edward Campau & Bob Dietrich
 Scroll Saw Jerry Alterman & Donnah Wenstrom
 Toy Donnah Wenstrom & Julia Tachihara
 Carving Paul Volpp
 Digital Workshop Ron Flint & Jerry Alterman

On-line Shop Safety Test:

All our new members must complete the on-line Shop Safety Test. In order to take any classes or participate in any of the Woodchuck SIG's. This Shop Safety Test is a requirement to use shop tools and equipment.

After completing the Application Form and paying your membership dues, you will receive an acknowledgment e-mail that includes the password. You can then take the test.

To take the test, go to the members only section of the web-page and click on the link to the safety test. It will ask you for an e-mail and your name. Take the test and it will e-mail the results and the correct answers (if you missed any) back to you.

Example: go to www.nevadawoodchucks.org/members-only/ enter password, select Safety Test.

Member Contact Information

Members mentioned in this newsletter

See phone list on the right

Clubhouse Address

405 Western Rd. #36, Panther Valley

Club Phone Message

775 -241-3872

Club Mail

The Nevada Woodchucks, Inc. ,PO BOX 20285
Reno, NV 89515-0285

Member

Phone (775)

Bob Dietrich	851-7521
Christian Ziegler	384-1948
Donnah Wenstrom	473-0256
Edward Campau	345-2549
Jerry Alterman	224-5396
John Hasenau	356-9123
Julia Tachihara	826-0825
Kirk Jeffery	208-724-7745
Mary Sedgwick	972-6930
Paul Volpp	853-3432
Paul Yarmouth	925-989-0789
Pat Ekedahl	356-6380
Randy Pontius	750-2632
Ron Flint	224-5318
Russ Lambert	359-4554
Tom Doud	223-5585

Editor's Notes

Article Deadline

20th day of prior Month of Issue

Any article received on or before the 20th will be included in the next issues. Any article after the 20th may not get in, although we will try. If not, it will go in following month if still appropriate.

The newsletter is published at the beginning of each month.

You can email copy of your article to chziggy@atechmar.com. Include photos or art separately—do not imbed photos in text or email as difficult to pull it out. The publisher may edit your text to fit, improve grammar or clarity.

Any urgent questions you can call or text Christian Ziegler on mobile 805-209-9640.

Acceptable Articles

Any woodworking creation done by a Woodchuck whether done in the club shop or at home.

Any community activity that would be of interest to the Woodchuck members.

Any woodworking subject you would like to share with the Woodchuck community.

Any woodworking related item you would like to sell—no commercial ads please!

PDF & Hyperlinks

This newsletter is published as a pdf digital document. Hyperlinks have been imbedded to facilitate navigating throughout the document. The Hyperlink is shown as an underlined word/words—clicking this word should move you to the intended page or website.