

Ada County Woodworkers Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 PM by President Bill Nowlin.

Visitors & New Members

New members this month: Larry Schmidt
Visitors: Lance Warnick and Richard Clement

Treasurer's Report

Bill Johnson reported the current treasury balance is \$1543.07. Wheels for the cars will be ordered soon.

Announcements/Discussion

Toys

See the demonstration entry below for some toy car information.

Woodcraft Expo

The Boise Woodcraft Expo will be Saturday August 26th from 8AM to 5PM. There will be discounts and an extra 5% discount (not sure if there are exclusions) for those in the door the first hour. The club will have a table. Consider staffing the table for a while if you're planning to attend.

Hudson & West Discount

The Hudson & West store in Meridian is giving club members their contractor's discount.

Old Business

Start Craft Fair

The club is entered for a booth in conjunction with the turners at Art by the River 2023 in Star, Sept 16 (10AM-6PM) and 17 (10AM-4PM). Members can show items for sale. The club will take 10% of the sale price in return for paying the entrance fee. A temporary sellers permit form for sales tax will be available at check in. John Lee has a canopy that can be used. The clubs are paying the \$100 entry fee for the booth. There will be a sign up for sellers.

Picnic

The picnic with the wood turners will be August 5th from 11AM to 1PM at Heroes Park in Meridian (3064 W Malta Dr). Expect to eat about 11:30. The clubs are furnishing the meat from Bodacious Pig, drinks, and utensils. If your last name begins with letters A-M, bring a salad; N-Z bring a dessert. Bill suggests for 5-10 people would be about the right size. Don't forget your 3rd foot challenge project.

Due to the picnic, there will be no August meeting.

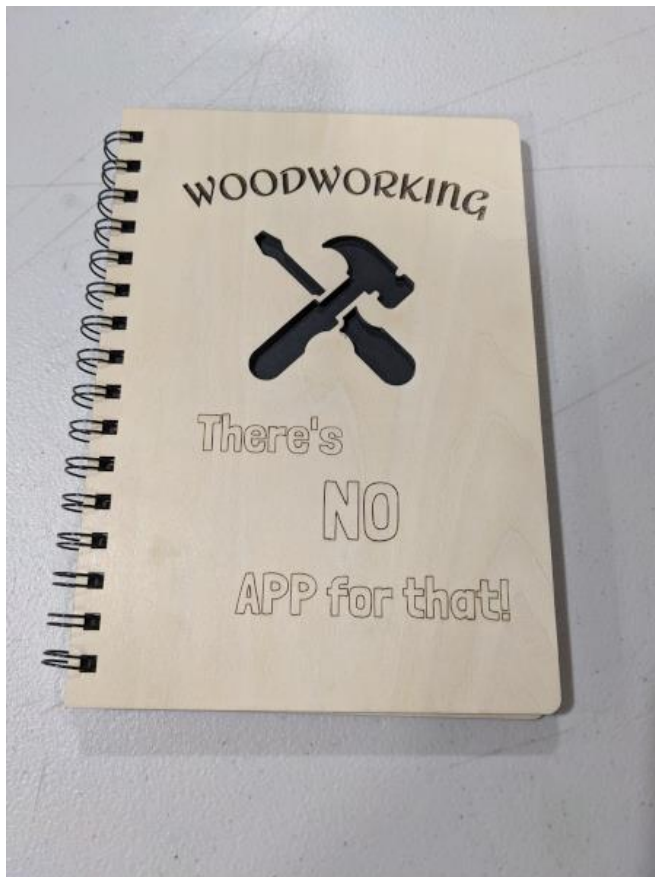
New Business

Saint Alphonsus Festival of Trees

The turners are donating a 4' tabletop tree decorated with handmade ornaments. Members of the club can contribute ornaments. There will be a tree-topper contest at the November meeting. The donated trees are sold at the event or online through their auction site.

Raffle

The first item was a tablet by Cheri Henney won by Bill Nowlin. Other raffle items were some casters, a stress ball, "The Workbench Book", a piece of wood and some Titebond II glue courtesy of Woodcraft, a ruler, and a \$10 gift card.

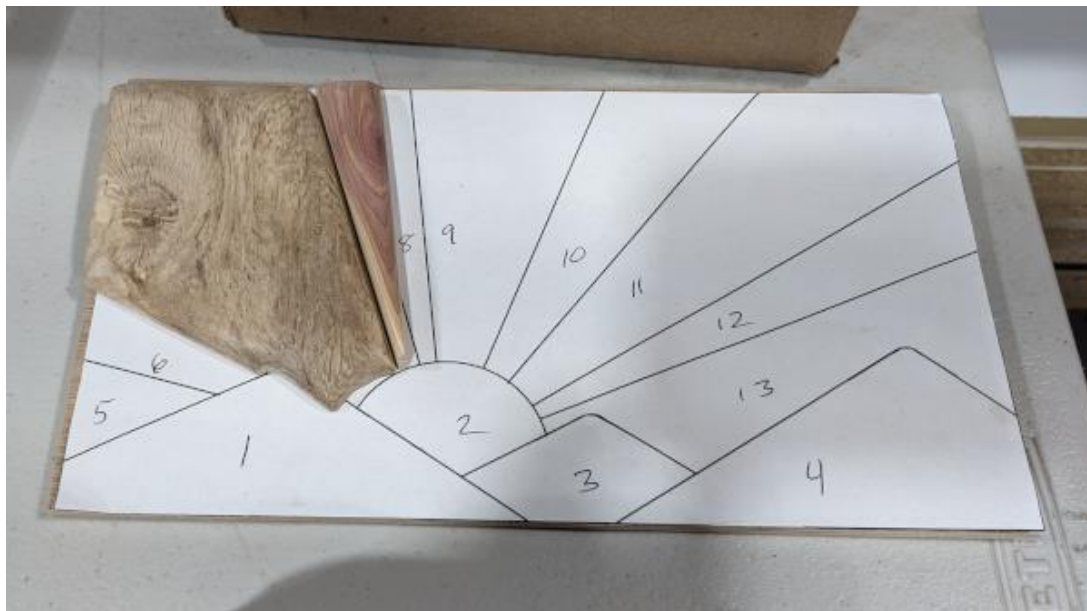


Show and Tell

Bill Nowlin brought a table leg practice piece to show the pommel cut, which is the transition between the square pommel and the turned section.



Paul Verhage brought in another plaque and some intarsia practice pieces. You can see the layout he drew on the sheet underneath



John Hinman showed a piece he made to test gluing curved pieces together for cutting boards. It looks like inlay, but is actually through the thickness of the piece.



John Lee made a small box from a block of wood with a wood burned lamb on the top. The box is made by cutting off the ends, then the top, and the inside is cut out like a dado leaving the bottom, front, and back. The lid opens inside and the brads that form the hinges are hidden.



John's finish process goes something like this...

The finish is equal parts marine spar varnish, linseed oil, and turpentine, with a small amount of Japan drier. He uses 3 or 4 coats for soft woods and 2 for hard woods. The finish is applied, wiped off, and sanded with 600 grit paper after at least 24 hours. After the last coat has dried at least a week he sands with 600 grit paper and then puts on a coat of wax. Make sure you don't wad up any rags used during finishing. Lay them out so they dry without overheating so they don't self-combust.

The card shoe John also brought holds three decks of cards for a Jokers Wild game and the grain wraps around the corners



Demonstration

Bill Johnson talked about building cars.

I didn't take many notes, but a photo of some completed cars and templates that are available courtesy of Cheri Henney is below.



The car stock is best if it is about 1.5" thick since that allows the axles to be inserted without hitting the axle on the other side; other-wise they may need to be cut shorter. 2x construction lumber can be used but keep your stock as thick as possible. Bill uses the templates to arrange them for most efficient stock use and ease of cutting out with the bandsaw. A 3/16" wide by 6 TPI blade works well for following the curves. Bill said he gets 300-500 cars per blade

Once cut out, use a spindle sander to work the inside curves and a disk sander for the outside curves and straight portions. Woodcraft sells some sanding drums [Clesco - Sanding Drum Set 16 pc \(woodcraft.com\)](https://www.woodcraft.com/Clesco-Sanding-Drum-Set-16-pc) for a drill press that you might use if you don't have a spindle sander. You can read the reviews to see if you want to give them a try. If you have lots of time, you can always sand by hand. Practice and care with the bandsaw will minimize the amount of sanding. Following your lines exactly when cutting cars out isn't a necessity, but try to get close and aim for smooth surfaces.

A 1/8" roundover router bit softens the outer edges and "window" holes. Good bits need resharpener after 200-300 cars; not-so-good bits don't last that long. Watch grain direction and feed direction to minimize tearout.

Woods that don't splinter easily are a good choice, and they must be left unfinished. Bill didn't list any specific "bad" woods, but try to avoid anything that people are allergic to which includes a lot of tropical woods. A lot of the club cars have been made using construction 2x lumber.

When installing the wheels, you may need to tap the axles in with a hammer. Ron Lee uses a block of wood with holes in it so he can put wheels in on one side without also driving the axles on the other side farther in.



A plastic credit card or gift card works well as a spacer between the wheel and car body as you're inserting the axle so it doesn't end up too tight. Only use a small amount of glue or squeeze-out may glue the wheel to the car body. Too much glue can also cause hydraulic pressure buildup and want to force an already inserted axle out when the second axle is pushed in. Make sure the wheels spin freely.

Cars go to Shrine hospitals, Ronald McDonald house and the local Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Ministry. The latter collects their boxes in mid-November (400/year), so keep that in mind. Ron Lee has already made 200 cars.

The meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

Alan Hochhalter, Secretary

Upcoming Events

Picnic with the woodturners August 5th at Heroes Park in Meridian; 11AM to 2 PM

No August meeting

Club meeting September 13, 6:30 PM at Woodcraft

2023 Officers

President – Bill Nowlin

Vice President – Tim Cripe

Treasurer – Bill Johnson

Secretary – Alan Hochhalter

Meeting Refreshments – vacant

Member-At-Large – vacant