

Knothole News

www.greencountrywoodworkers.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The recent woodworker garage sale was absolutely incredible! They had cherry, walnut, white oak, and even American chestnut boards laid out like treasure. I ended up snagging several great pieces — including a particularly gorgeous chestnut board with hardly any worm holes (a rarity in itself!).

As you probably know, American chestnut trees were nearly wiped out by a fungal blight in the early 1900s, so getting the chance to work with this wood feels a bit like holding a piece of history. The species once stretched from Maine to Georgia, providing not only exceptional lumber but also a vital source of food — those famous chestnuts — for both people and wildlife.

If you're fascinated by this tree's story, you have to check out *American Chestnut: The Life, Death and Rebirth of a Perfect Tree* by Susan Freinkel. Seriously, put it on your Christmas list! It's a wonderful, uplifting read and an absolute joy.

I can't wait to start working with this wood — and I hope you dive into its story too!

Happy Holidays!!!

Vinton Knarr

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Thursday, December 11, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

The Silver Skillet restaurant

Present the toys for the "Toys for Tots" Program

Officers

President

Vinton Knarr 918-508-5898

Vice-President

Gregg Zumwalt 918-605-2761

Secretary

Bill Morgan 918-760-7456

Treasurer

Mike Ruttgen 701-207-0712

Club Committees

Luncheon

Bill Morgan 918-369-6435

Membership Management

Vacant

Newsletter

Ray Hucek 918-619-2980

Toy Wheels & Axles

Jim Rouse 918-636-9286

Webmaster & Photographer

Arthur Barber 918-671-2437

Toys 4 Tots Coordinator

Bill Nay 918-492-8481

Minutes from Last Month's Meeting

The GCWW club met on 11/13/25 at Earle Smith's home shop for our annual Christmas toy assembly. Several of the members have been making components for the toy cement truck and the wood turner's club contributed the mixer drums.

Earle Smith, Vinton Knarr and Bill Nay coordinated the effort, set up the work stations, supplied the glue and hand tools and kept the assembly operation running smoothly. We had a total of 12 members participating. Vinton Knarr, Bill Morgan, Greg Z., Art B., Joshua Lee, Robert Atherton, Earle Smith, Marc Morgan, Mike Ruttgen, Ron Staebell, Robert Rothenbucher, Bill Nay.

The club supplied pizza and Earle had drinks and dessert available

Several members have built toys independently and we should have a final toy count available at the Christmas dinner in December.

Ron talked about his learning experiences since he's taken up woodcarving and showed

of

some
his

DECEMBER MEETING:

We will have our annual Christmas dinner on

December 11th at **6:00**

at the

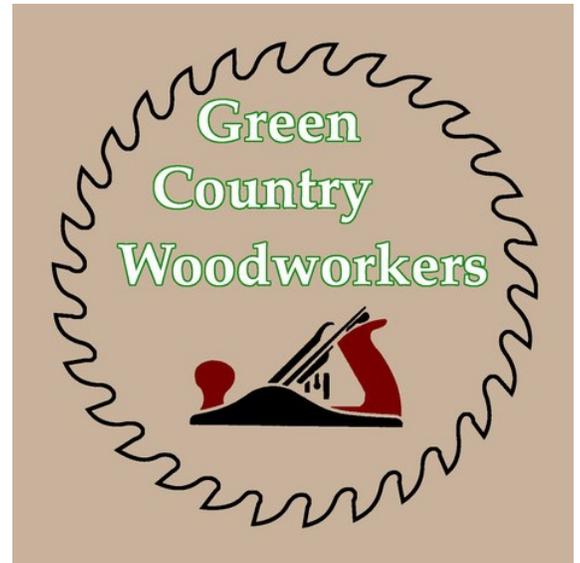
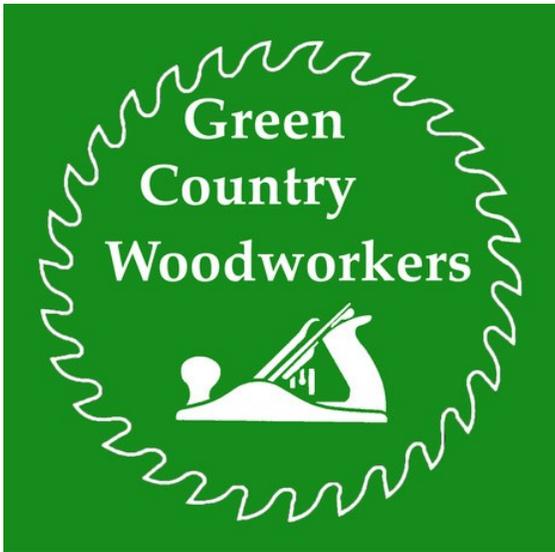
Silver Skillet

(61st & Memorial).

If you made Toys 4 Tots gifts please bring those including samples to display on the table. All members and spouses are welcome!

work.

Club T-Shirts and Hats for sale



We had a order sheet at the last meeting to see who is interested in ordering T-Shirts and Hats.

We have to purchase a minimum of 24 shirts and a minimum of 12 hats to get the pricing we have been given.

GCWW T-Shirt: Size Small to 2XL are **\$15 each**. 3XL and 4XL are \$18 Each.

Shirt will be a Beefy-T brand. Green in color with white ink.

GCWW Hats: **\$25 each**

Hat will be a 5 Panel hat with adjustable size band. Tan in color with multi-color stitching for the logo.

We need members to order ASAP so we can go forward with the purchase.

We have the following quality orders so far. T-Shirts: 11, Hats: 6

Thanks,

Arthur Barber

abarber2@gmail.com

Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Submissions from Club Members



Joshua Lee is interested in purchasing some woodworking plans for a really nice jewelry box, made by Marc Spagnuolo. The plans and video cost \$129, and wondered if another member might also be interested in building it. If so, maybe split the cost of the plans?

If interested, contact him at

joshua.louis.lee@gmail.com



Jewelry Box

Marc Spagnuolo

Small in stature but big on elegance! This jewelry box features plenty of storage for your valuables.

The box measures 12" W, 7 3/4" deep, 13 3/4" tall.

19 lessons

258 min

\$129.00

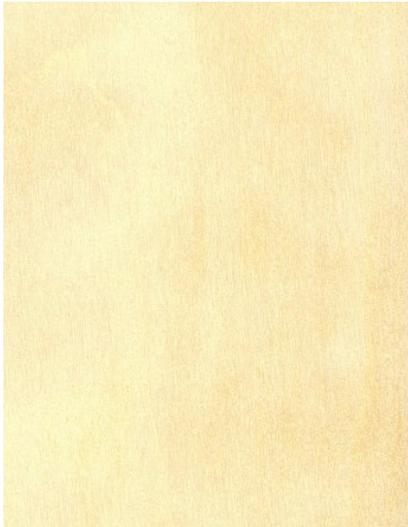
ADD TO CART

Made this simple cheese cutting board for a Christmas gift. -

Vinton



“Quaking Aspen” from www.wood-database.com



Common Name(s): Quaking Aspen

Scientific Name: *Populus tremuloides*

Distribution: Canada and northern United States

Tree Size: 65-100 ft (20-30 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 26 lbs/ft³ (415 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .35, .42

Janka Hardness: 350 lbf (1,560 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 8,400 lbf/in² (57.9 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 1,180,000 lbf/in² (8.14 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 4,250 lbf/in² (29.3 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 3.5%, Tangential: 6.7%, Volumetric: 11.5%, T/R Ratio: 1.9

Color/Appearance: Heartwood tends to be a light brown. Wide sapwood is a pale yellow to nearly white, and isn't clearly demarcated, tending to gradually blend into the heartwood.

Grain/Texture: Grain is generally straight, with a uniform medium texture. Low natural luster.

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; solitary and radial multiples; medium pores in no specific arrangement, moderately numerous to numerous; parenchyma marginal; narrow rays, spacing fairly close.

Rot Resistance: Rated as non-durable, and also susceptible to insect attack.

Workability: Easy to work with hand and machine tools, though sharp cutters are necessary when planing to avoid fuzzy surfaces, (subsequent fine-sanding may be necessary to obtain a smooth surface). Does not split easily, and has poor nail-holding capability. Wood has a tendency to warp and distort during drying. Glues and finishes well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Besides the standard health risks associated with any type of wood dust, no further health reactions have been associated with Quaking Aspen. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Aspen is commonly harvested as lumber, and is used for pulpwood in paper manufacture. Wide planks of Aspen lumber should be available within its natural range for a modest price.

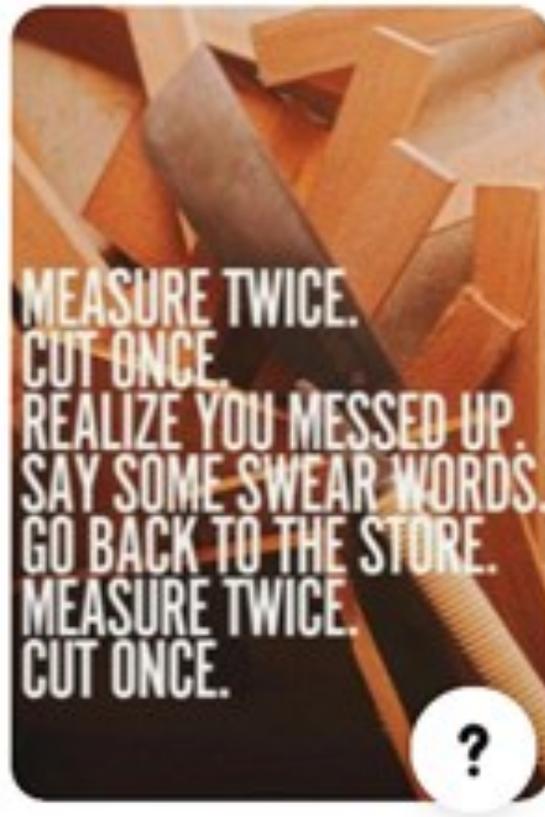
Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices or on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Common Uses: Boxes/crates, veneer, plywood, and various utility purposes.

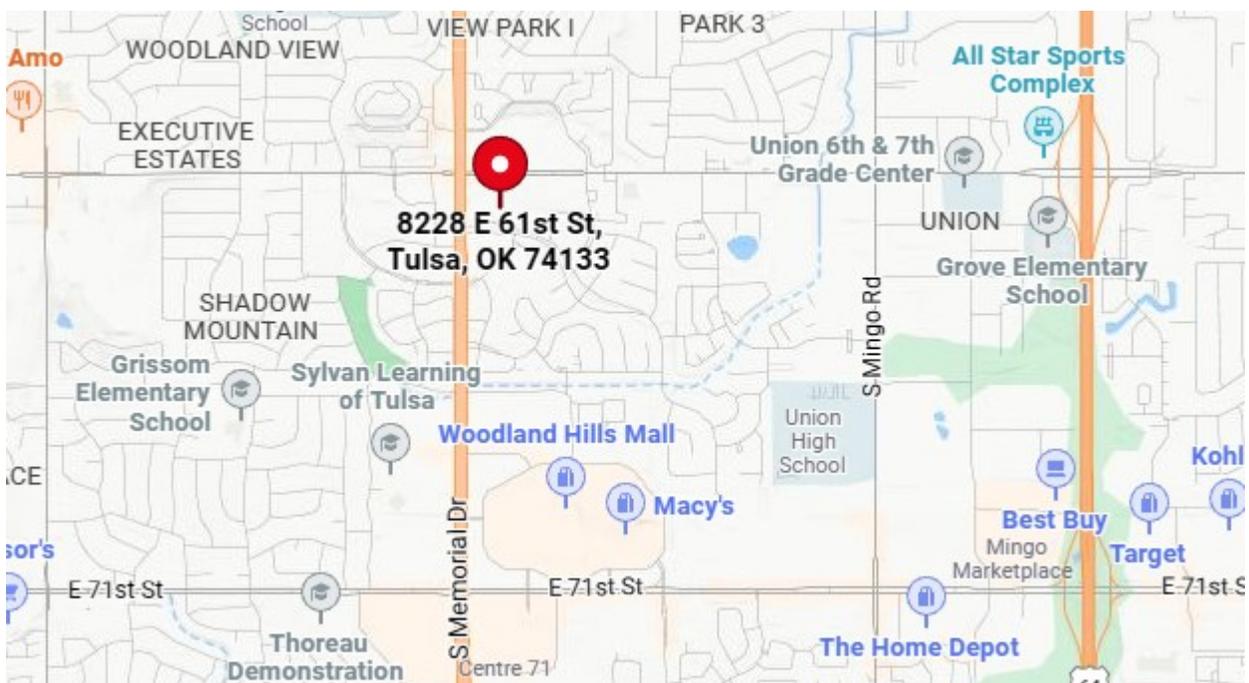
Comments: So named because the tree's leaves tremble and quake even in a light breeze. This is caused by the long, flattened stalks (called petioles) on which the leaves are attached to the branches.

Quaking Aspen was made the state tree of Utah in 2014; it replaced the Colorado Blue Spruce, which had been its state tree since 1933.

MEETING LOCATION



The restaurant is at **8228 East 61st Street**, which is just East of Memorial (behind Hooters)



GREEN COUNTRY WOODWORKERS

The Green Country Woodworkers are made up of men and women who are interested in woodworking as a hobby.

The monthly meetings are conducted as educational forums for the benefit of our members and guests. We have idea exchanges, problem solving sessions, safety tips and tool tips plus a main speaker on topics related to woodworking in all its phases.

The club sponsors community service projects such as making Toys for Tots at Christmas and supporting Beads of Courage by turning bowls and making boxes for children undergoing cancer treatment at Children Hospital at Saint Francis. The containers hold the children's beads. The beads represent their treatment progress.

KNOTHOLE NEWS

c/o Ray Hucek
rayhucek@gmail.com
(918)619-2980 mobile

OBJECTIVES

- To provide the Knothole News, a monthly newsletter
- To promote woodworking and participate in woodworking and craft shows to inform the public of club activities
- To make wooden toys which are donated to selected organizations throughout the year
- Monthly Show & Tell; all items entered in the show and tell will be presented to the membership by the builder

Membership applications are available at each meeting from the club secretary or treasurer. At this time, no membership fee is charged.

MEETINGS

The club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30PM at Hardesty Regional Library.

We also have a monthly dinner/social on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00PM; the location is determined during the regular monthly meeting.

WWW.GREENCOUNTRYWOODWORKERS.ORG

Please be sure to check out our web site for more information about the organization, past Knothole News publications, pictures, resources, etc.

