

Knothole News

www.greencountrywoodworkers.org

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This month’s meeting will be held at the Woodcraft store near 41st and Sheridan. Our presenter, Matt Baxter, will share his knowledge of the many different kinds of handsaws—what they’re used for and the best techniques for using each one.

We’re also kicking off our Toys4Tots group build project at this meeting! This year, we’re planning to build tow trucks with a small car in tow. The prototype will be on display at the meeting. If you’d like to help with this group effort, you can sign up to build a part. Of course, you’re also welcome to build toys on your own. If you need wheels and axles, please let us know—Vinton or Jim Rouse can help.

If you don’t have a woodshop yet, there’s a new community woodworking shop in the area: The Workshop Project, located in Bixby. Members will be able to use this space and its tools to build their wood projects. We’ll be holding our September meeting there.

Also, mark your calendars for Thursday, December 3, for our annual Christmas Dinner at the Silver Skillet. The restaurant was not available on the second Thursday, so we’ll be gathering a little earlier this year.

Thanks for all you do!

Vinton Knarr



Officers

President

Vinton Knarr 918-508-5898

Vice-President

vacant

Secretary

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Treasurer

Mike Ruttgen 701-207-0712

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Luncheon

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Toys 4 Tots Coordinator

Bill Nay and Vinton Knorr

THIS MONTH’S MEETING

Thursday, July 9, 2026 @ **6:30 PM**

At Woodcraft
6341 E. 41st St, Tulsa, OK

Handsaw Presentation

MINUTES FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

June 11th Meeting Notes

- Introductions were made – 2 new individuals attended. Alex and Kevin. Both said they found out about club from Woodcraft.

- Next meetings will be a Breakfast meeting on June 19th at 8 AM. Location will be the Sunrise Café. The next regular meeting will be held at Woodcraft.

Show and Tell:

- Marc showed a perpetual calendar made by rearranging blocks to display the date using his CNC machine.
- Bill showed a lidded box with splines and a walnut top with trays. He made this from reclaimed wood.
- Vinton showed an elephant made from a new scroll saw purchase and a quarter in a box.

Reclaimed wood – Marc

- Marc gets a lot of his wood from trees that have fallen due to storms, utility easement clearings, and just being observant. He also helps neighbors in need who have had trees damage their homes by assisting in the removal of the trees from the structure. While he does not have a wood stove, he also cuts up the smaller material and places it out for free for neighbors who do have a wood burner.
- Marc also showed us trays made from smaller wood cookies that he cuts into squares and uses epoxy to make the patterns and eliminate and imperfections in the wood, such as cracks since the epoxy will fill all voids. He also showed his bandsaw sled that he uses to mill up shorter pieces. He had both round and rectangular silicone molds.

MINUTES FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

- He showed pictures of his solar kiln and explained how it worked and greatly reduced the drying time. Free plans are available from Virginia Tech. He also showed pictures of his Turbo mill and his Alaska chain sawmill.

Reclaimed wood – Bill

- Bill explained how he collects wood from every place he sees. From:
 - An old pergola where he salvaged the posts to make Adirondack chairs and base for lighted mirror.
 - Recovered wood from Port of Catoosa to make benches.
 - Walnut flooring scraps to make ring holders.
 - Mahogany cuts off from his father to make chips and dip bowl and tray.
 - Fence pickets to make bird houses and tan gram puzzles.
 - Construction sites to ask about removing scraps such as 2x4 or 2x6. Also wood siding.
 - Wood pallets to use to make projects.
 - Estate and garage sales.
- Bill also wanted to remind everyone to be sure to clean the reclaimed wood as best as possible using bristle brush, steel brush, paint scraper, air compressor, metal detectors, etc. to reduce dulling or damaging your equipment.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- GREGG ZUMWALT



I started my interest in woodworking as a 12-year-old boy when my dad gave me a Dremel scroll saw with a multi-tool flex shaft power take-off that would hold small drills, carving burrs, and all the Dremel grinding and sanding tools. I made many small projects including small boxes and wall hangings with scroll saw enhancements. For at least the next 10

years everything I made used the scroll saw multi tool, but I always really wanted to make furniture and dreamed of acquiring the tools to handle the larger projects.

At about age 22 after many Saturday morning visits to Sears to drool over all the shiny woodworking tools on display, I pulled the trigger and bought their radial arm saw and started adding every accessory they made for it. With that machine I made a houseful of furniture for my family along with many pieces for friends and relatives. I never really followed any plans but instead made a rough sketch then cut parts to fit other parts and used almost no measuring tools other than to define the overall size of projects. Using that method I made dining tables, chairs, benches, sewing machine cabinets, bookshelves, china cabinets, bed frames with headboards, side tables, hall tables, desks, tilt top tea tables, and many other household items.

I first became aware of the exotic woods offered by Paxton's when they were located at 15th and Yale. I loved seeing the wood species they sold from all over the world and used some of those, but my favorite was and still is American Walnut.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- GREGG ZUMWALT

About 2001, I discovered the Green Country Woodworkers Club and started attending every meeting I could. I was still working and hated to miss any meetings due to having to sometimes be out of town for business. At that time, the club was very large with well over a hundred members and had very large meeting attendance each month. The various member presentations and guest woodworking teachers that put on classes for us gave me exposure to a lot of education and techniques I would have taken years to learn on my own. The club consisted of woodworkers, wood turners, carvers, and scroll sawyers all enjoying the world of wood. Finding a place where a large group could meet was a bit of a challenge, so we moved from Woodcraft meeting room, which was way too small, to a couple of different churches.

At that time, the various special interest groups broke off on their own and formed individual clubs so the number of woodworkers still participating in the original club fell drastically. Seems many people love the way woodturning works with being able to take a chunk of free wood from a downed tree that has been allowed to dry for 6 months to a year and then easily turn out a finished project using that wood in one day or even one afternoon. Many of our woodworkers abandoned “flat work” in favor of turned work so we lost some members over the years that never left their love for working wood but instead became focused on just scroll sawing, or the woodturning aspect of our hobby. As a smaller but still very active club, we then met at the Tulsa Garden Center, then moved to a dedicated building on the Garden Center grounds which was to become the Tulsa Wood Arts Center but in the end that didn’t work out.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- GREGG ZUMWALT

We then moved to Bud Garbee's business, American Tool Rental, then to another church, then to various member's shops and eventually to the library where we now meet. Lots of meeting places over a lot of years but still the club remains. Much smaller group now but I'm happy to see new visitors each month and still enjoy attending our meetings and seeing demos and projects our members have made.

The large pieces made when I was younger were easy to move and work on, but today those large items seem much heavier so I'm starting to downsize to smaller lighter weight projects.

Photos are some of the style furniture I enjoy designing and making but as I get older, I no longer desire to rush through projects to complete pieces but instead just keep something going on the workbench and my goal is to finish building it whenever it gets done. Seems I like the building process more these days than seeing the completed item. At least that's my excuse for going so slowly.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- GREGG ZUMWALT





M&M Lumber Company

Thanks to
M&M Lumber
for donating
\$91 worth of materials
for our
2026 Toys4Tots effort!

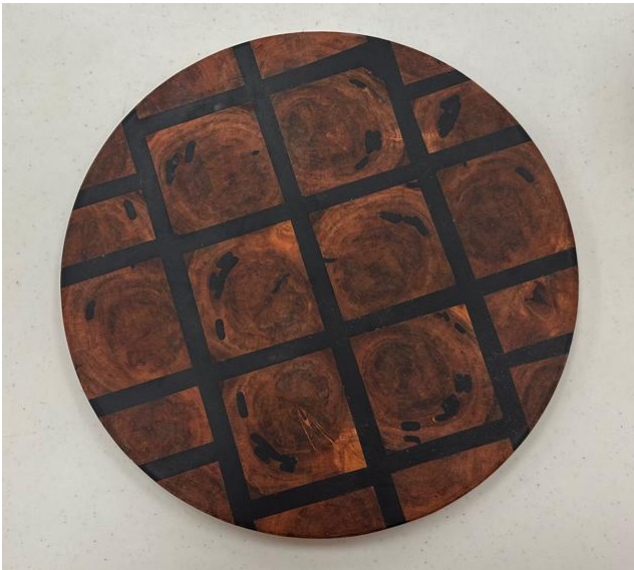
Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Content Submitted by Club Members



I saw a similar guitar that was built with plastic and decided to recreate it in wood.

Ray Hucek

"TEXAS EBONY" from www.wood-database.com



Common Name(s): Texas Ebony

Scientific Name: Ebenopsis ebano

Distribution: Southern Texas and eastern Mexico

Tree Size: 20-30 ft (6-9 m) tall, 1-2 ft (.3-.6 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 60 lbs/ft³ (965 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .77, .97

Janka Hardness: 2,820 lbf (12,560 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 22,090 lbf/in² (152.3 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 2,398,000 lbf/in² (16.54 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 10,740 lbf/in² (74.1 MPa)

Shrinkage: No available data

Color/Appearance: Heartwood is a dark reddish (sometimes purplish) brown to nearly black. Pale yellow sapwood is clearly demarcated from heartwood. Heartwood ages to almost black.

Grain/Texture: Grain can be irregular or wild. Has a fine, uniform texture with a very good natural luster.

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; large pores in no specific arrangement, few to moderately numerous; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3; heartwood gum deposits (reddish brown) common; growth rings indistinct; narrow rays not visible without lens, spacing normal; parenchyma vasicentric, lozenge, and confluent.

Rot Resistance: Reported to be very durable regarding decay resistance.

Workability: Can be difficult to work on account of its density, but turns superbly, and able to take a very high natural polish.

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 Texas Ebony. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Not commercially harvested for lumber, small pieces of Texas Ebony can sometimes be found for sale on a very limited basis for hobbyist and specialty applications. Knots, checks, and other deformities are common in larger pieces. Expect prices to be very high for a domestic species.
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"TEXAS EBONY" from www.wood-database.com



Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, and is reported by the IUCN as being a species of least concern.

Common Uses: Knife handles, inlay, fine furniture, turned objects, and other small, specialty wood items.

Comments: In addition to Desert Ironwood, Texas Ebony might be considered one of the only "exotic" hardwoods that's native to the United States.

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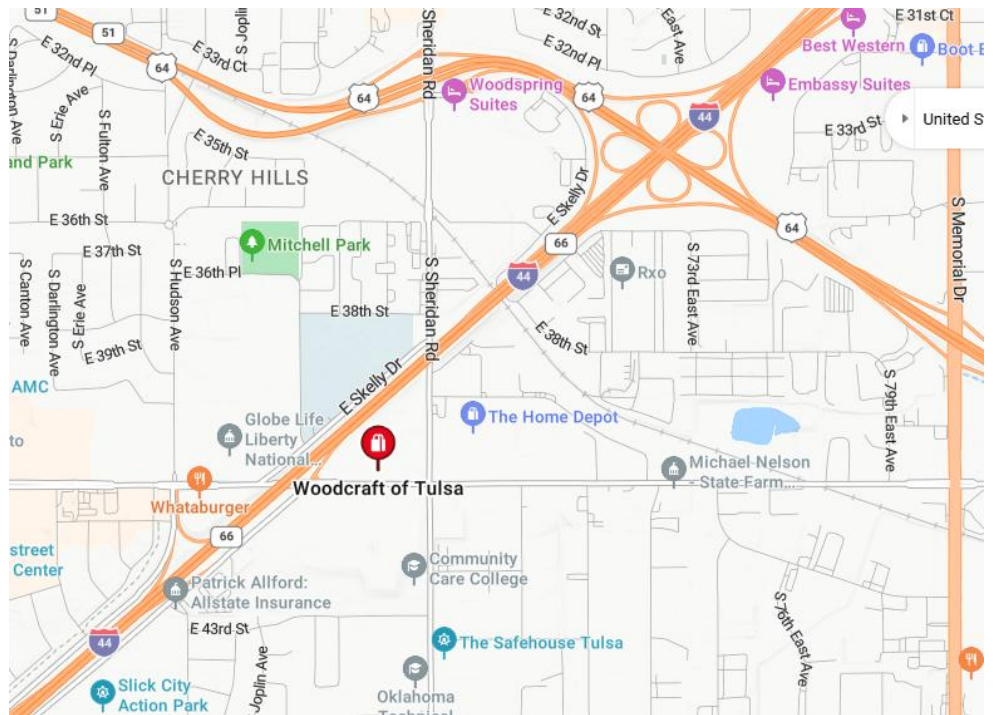
Shrinkage: No available data

Though it's not a true ebony in the Diospyros genus, it's perhaps the only native wood that's dark enough to serve as a respectable ebony substitute. (And, like most respectable ebony substitutes such as Katalox or Wenge, it's also very expensive.)

MEETING LOCATION

Woodcraft

6341 E. 41st
St.,
Tulsa, OK



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

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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.

