

Knothole News

www.greencountrywoodworkers.org

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



“Don’t get old!”

That’s something my father-in-law used to say when trying to explain that some of the “golden years” can come with a few less-than-golden aches, pains, and ailments.

But if getting older is your concern, **woodworking to the rescue!** There are at least two proven anti-aging benefits to being part of our woodworking club: **staying active and staying social.** Add a little sawdust, a few good friends, and something you love to build, and you’ve got a pretty good recipe for staying young at heart. So, keep doing what you love—and whatever you do, don’t let the sawdust settle!

Toys for Tots Build

Good progress is being made on our Toys for Tots group build! Our goal is to build 150 tow trucks, each pulling a small car. We’ll take a look at where we are, see what remains to be built, and figure out how to get these toys across the finish line.

And remember, you can also help by building toys on your own. Let’s see if we can break the 500-toy barrier! That’s a lot of happy kids—and a lot of sawdust!

So, what are you building?

Fourth Thursday Dinner

It was great to see some new faces at our monthly Fourth Thursday dinner! This is a fun opportunity to get to know your fellow woodworkers beyond the shop—and maybe discover that they’re just as interesting without a power tool in their hands. Spouses are always welcome, so bring your better half and join us for some good food, good conversation, and good company.

Officers

President

Vinton Knarr 918-508-5898

Vice-President

vacant

Secretary

Bill Morgan 918-760-7456

Treasurer

Mike Ruttgen 701-207-0712

Club Committees

Luncheon

Bill Morgan 918-369-6435

Membership Management

Joshua Lee 918-859-3063

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 and Vinton Knorr

SEPTEMBER 2026, #413

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August Program

Our August program will be held at The Woodshop Project facility at 12311 S 74th East Ave.

We have a two-part program lined up:

Joshua Lee will talk about working with reclaimed whiskey barrel staves.

John Middleton will tell us about his work and experiences with The Woodshop Project.

It should be an interesting evening with plenty of ideas, inspiration, and—hopefully—no one accidentally turning a whiskey barrel into a rocking chair before the program is over!

Upcoming Meetings

October: We'll meet at Hardesty Library, where Marc Morgan will talk about CNC uses and epoxy work.

November: Our meeting will be our group build. The location is still being determined, so stay tuned for details.

Thanks for all you do to support the club, our projects, and each other. Keep building, keep sharing, keep learning—and most importantly, keep making sawdust.

Vinton Knorr



THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Thursday, September 10, 2026 @ **6:30 PM**

The Woodshop Project facility

12311 South 74th East Avenue, Bixby, OK

The Woodshop Project facility intro

MINUTES FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Green Country Woodworkers
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2026

These members were present: Bill Nay, Greg Z., Gary Smith, Vinton Knarr. Rick Davis, Art Barber, Kevin Jackson, Jim Karimi, Jim Rouse, Alex Dela Rosa. Guest/new members present were Jim McNett and Vernon Seaman

Introductions were made and wooden puzzles given to the first timers.

Treasurer's report. Current bank balance is \$976.08. 15 members have paid their \$20 dues. We are spending approximate \$750/year. So we need to generate some new revenue.

4th Thursday, August 27 will be Oliveto's at 6:00.

Next month's program topic is at "The Wood Shop Project" (the woodshopproject.com) in Bixby at 12311 S 74th East Ave. The program is two parts. Josh Lee will talk about reclaim wood from barrel staves. And John Middleton will tell us about "The Wood Shop Project".

Show and Tell. Greg showed a Cybertruck that he is building for Toys4Tots. Rick made a small bowl from a Japanese maple log.

Toys4Tots group build project.

We met our goal for this month which was 1/3 of the parts except for Earle. He was to make 25 small cars. Vinton will check with him. Gary, Rick and Alex bought what they made. We have the following volunteers to make parts for the next 1/3 as follows: cabs & beds (50 each) for Art and Alex, beds & booms (50) – Gary & Rick, fenders (50) – Bill N., axle blocks (50) – Bill N. and small cars (25) Alex.

Bill Nay will follow up with Jim R. on what he needs for his personal Toys4Tots effort.

Program part 1: Gary presented "Using AI in woodworking". He showed some interior redesign of a fireplace area. Also, asked AI to create plans for a 6" helicopter when he provided the helicopter picture to AI.

Program part 2: We watched a 22-minute overview video Homestead Heritage in Waco, TX. Afterwards Jim K. talked about his experiences there and what wood classes they offer. Using AI to find similar craft villages in the US generate two prominent ones: one in KY and one in NC. Greg said there is one in Eureka Springs.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- BILL MORGAN



Over the years I've relocated several times and developed some rudimentary woodworking skills by building basement and garage shelves

In 1968 I bought a Craftsman radial arm saw and my shelf and bench building was much improved. That saw has moved several times, but it still has a place in my shop.

When I retired and finally had time for hobbies, I took a couple of woodworking classes at TTC and at the suggestion of the instructor joined the GCWW club.

After that I began making toys and assorted small projects. I found a good rocking horse plan and built several of them for grandchildren as well as a couple of fundraisers

The church we belonged to was undergoing a major renovation and I was asked to downsize a large alter table that had been in storage for a few years. That came well and then I built several other pieces of alter furniture.

When you don't charge for your labor word gets around and business picks up. I wound up building the alter furniture for a church in Hugo which was being remodeled and then 11 large bookcases and a podium for the monastery at Monte Casino school.

In 2000 we built a new house with a 4-car garage, and I was finally able to setup a dedicated shop area. I added a table saw (absolutely my favorite tool) and several other tools including a lathe. After taking a turning class (at TTC), I joined the Woodturners club and got exposed to the addictive of the hobby. While I turned a lot of goblets and bowls, I really now just use the lathe for toy wheels and the occasional furniture component

I really can't point to any one thing I've built that I'm proudest of, but I built a Sam Maloof rocking chair which was certainly the most intricate thing I've done and project I learned the most from

As far as a favorite wood species go, I use mostly oak, so I'm used to it. While I've only used walnut for 2 or 3 times, I agree with Bill Nay that it's a very nice wood to work with.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- BILL MORGAN

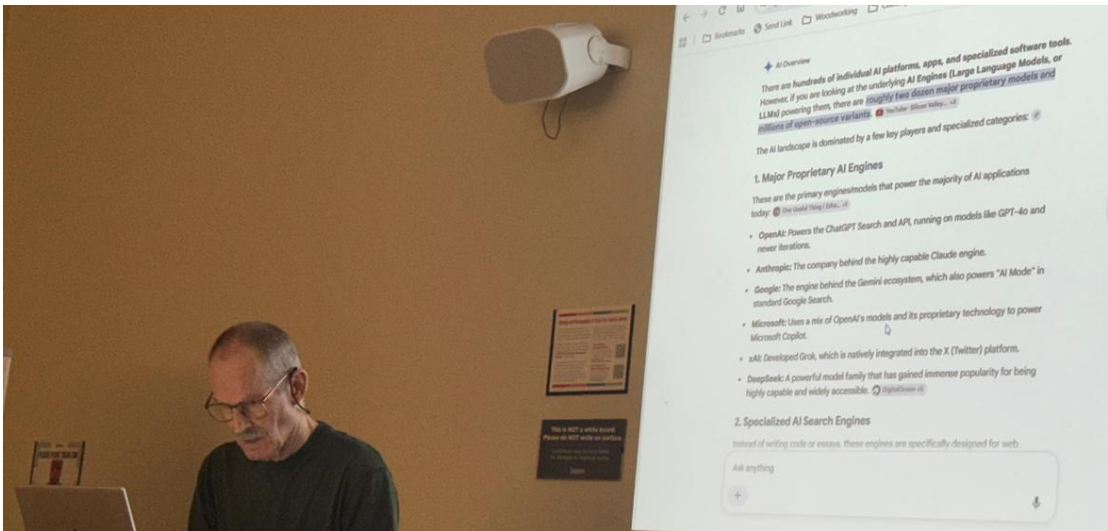
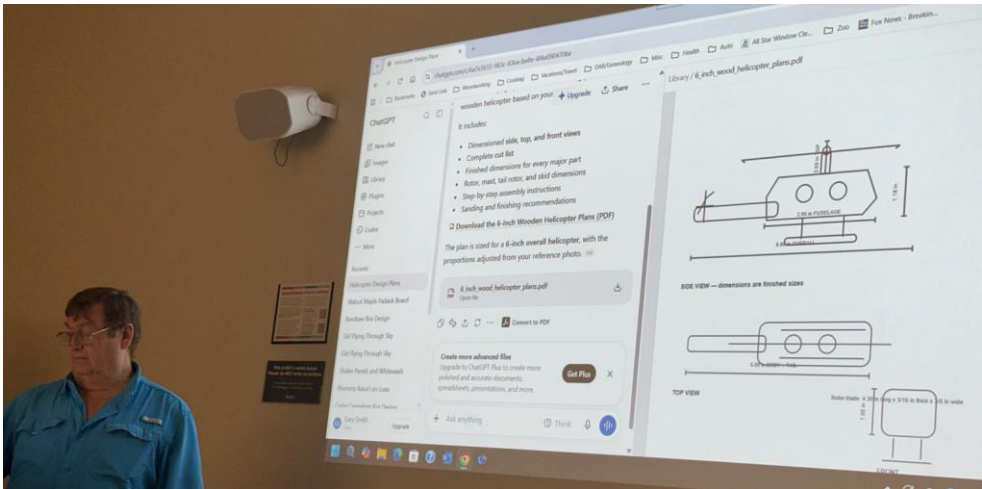
As far as my official duties in the club, I took over the soft drink concession several years ago. I'm not sure when that was, but we were meeting in a downstairs room at the Tulsa Garden Center back then. I was drafted to take the meeting minutes a couple of years later and another member took over the soft drinks. I don't think our bylaws allow anyone to hold the same position for multiple years, so I guess I'm really the "acting" secretary.



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



Content Submitted by Club Members



I bought some of the walnut that Jim Carpenter has for sale. It is excellent quality and reasonable price. If interested, call him at 918-519-5529.

Vinton Knorr



James Carpenter at 918-519-5529 has some walnut boards for sale. They are about 1 1/2" thick, various lengths about 100 bd ft. Call him for details.

“PERSIMMON” from www.wood-database.com



Common Name(s): Persimmon, White Ebony

Scientific Name: *Diospyros virginiana*

Distribution: Eastern United States

Tree Size: 60-80 ft (18-24 m) tall, 1-2 ft (.3-.6 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 52 lbs/ft³ (835 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .74, .83

Janka Hardness: 2,300 lbf (10,230 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 17,700 lbf/in² (122.1 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 2,010,000 lbf/in² (13.86 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 9,170 lbf/in² (63.2 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 7.9%,
Tangential: 11.2%, **Volumetric:** 19.1%, **T/R Ratio:** 1.4

Color/Appearance: Very wide sapwood is a white to pale yellowish-brown. Color tends to darken with age. Very thin heartwood (usually less than 1" wide) is dark brown to black, similar to ebony. (Persimmon is in the same genus—*Diospyros*—as true ebonies.)

Grain/Texture: Grain is straight, with a uniform medium-coarse texture.

Endgrain: Semi-ring-porous; medium-large earlywood pores sometimes form broken rows, latewood pores medium-small; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3; growth rings usually distinct; narrow rays not visible without lens, close spacing; parenchyma diffuse-in-aggregates, vasicentric, and banded (reticulate and marginal).

Rot Resistance: Being that nearly all of Persimmon is sapwood, it is rated as perishable and is susceptible to insect attack.

Workability: Overall workability is so-so. Persimmon generally responds well to hand tools, but can be difficult to plane and blunts cutting edges faster than expected. Turns and finishes well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Persimmon has been reported to cause skin irritation. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

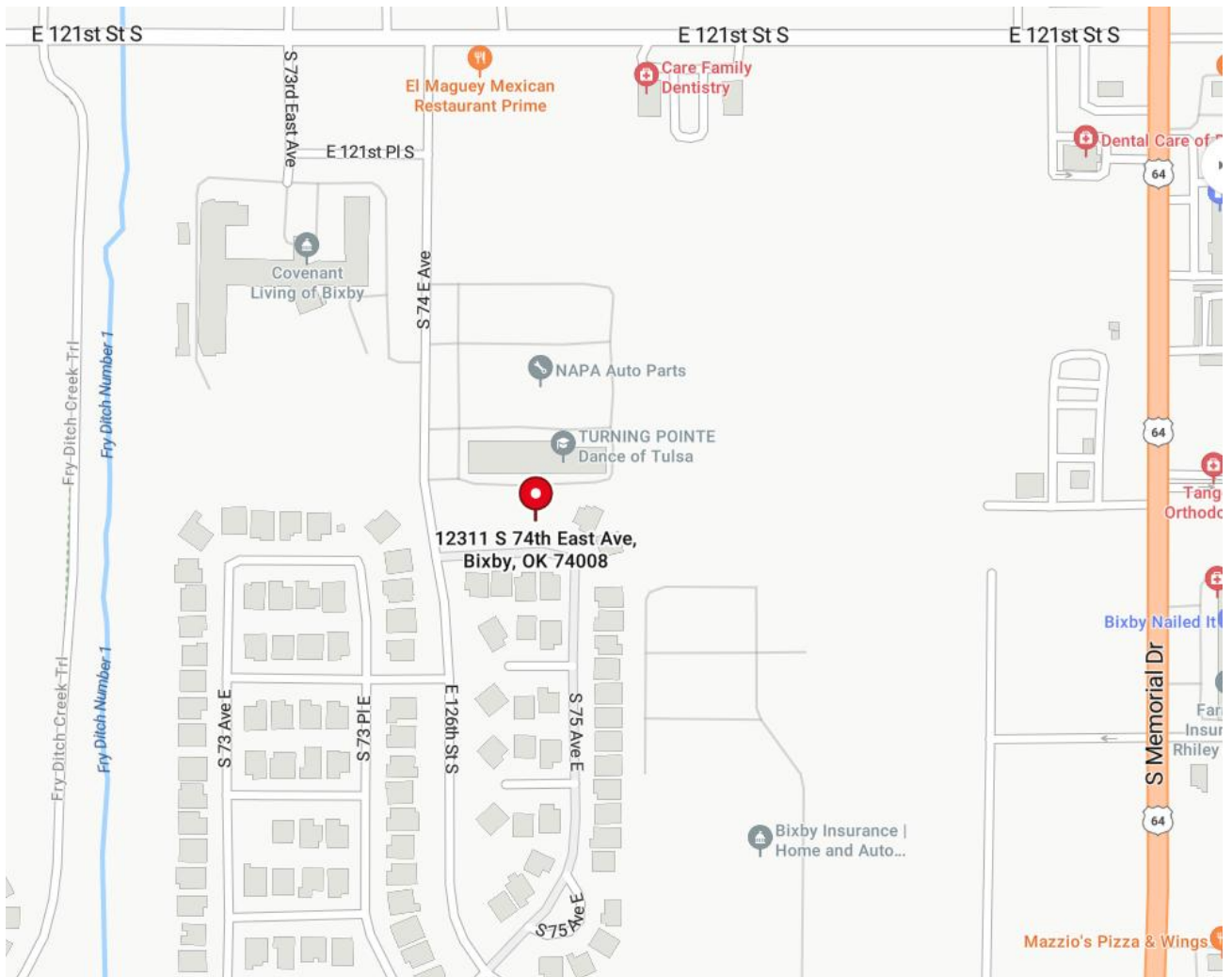
Pricing/Availability: Not commonly available in lumber form, Persimmon may occasionally be seen in smaller blocks or turning blanks. Expect prices to be high for a domestic species.

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

Common Uses: Turned objects, golf club heads, veneer, and other small specialty wood items.

Comments: Persimmon trees are known much more commonly for their fruit, and not their wood. Persimmon is technically related to true ebonies (*Diospyros* genus), and is therefore sometimes referred to as “white ebony.”

MEETING LOCATION



The Woodshop Project facility
12311 South 74th East Avenue, Bixby, OK

It may be hard to find. It is next to a Napa Auto Supply store and a dance studio. If needed, please call Vinton at 918-508-5898.



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.

