

The Push Stick

Josh Fang Violin Maker



At the September WOW meeting- Josh Fang talked to us about the different steps in making a violin. The first step was to make a violin bow, as a violin does not work without one. The first bows made had an extreme bow to them, but as time went on stiffer wood was used and they now have just a slight bow. Brazilian wood is used that is straight and strong. Fossilized mastodon instead of ivory is used for decoration. The part of the bow that is used to tension the horsehair string is called a “frog”. The bow has to be rosined or it will just slide across the strings and not make a sound. Bows can last 100 years.

The first violins were made during the 16th century in Italy. Italian Spruce is the preferred wood for the front of the violin as it has the right resonance to produce the wanted sound. The wood has to be seasoned for 14 years. Josh uses scrapers on a thick piece of spruce to make the bowed out front and back of the instrument. Maple is used for the frame and back. Ebony is used on the neck to resist wear from the strings. Maple is used for the bridge which conducts the sound of the strings to the body which amplifies the sound. There is sound post inside that supports the top and conducts the vibrations to the back of the instrument. Josh said it takes 300 hours to make a violin. With all his attention to detail, it seems like it would take much longer.

Club Volunteers

President

Alan Schwartz (626) 274-4840

Vice President

Ray Mitchem (714) 523-8697

Treasurer

Red Nichols (562) 941-7596

Secretary

Dave Reid (562) 693-3204

Membership

Lindsey Fisher (562) 941-2831

Raffle

Gene Getz (562) 777-1480

Refreshments

Julie McCamey (562) 698-7496

Push Stick Editor

Alan Webster (562) 943-4919

Webmaster

Paula Eagleman (562) 204-6581

Founders

John Erickson & Jerry Hughes



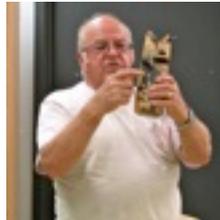
General Club News

Free wood for cars at Hathaway Ranch Monday mornings. They have 2x stock that works great for toy cars. Call Jim Sparling 562-943-3013 or Ron Holtz 562-943-4339

Toy Cars- Don't forget to get busy making toy cars. The club has placed an order for 8000 wheels. Extra wheels are purchased in case you want to make more than you signed up for. Make sure cars are smooth with rounded corners and 7/32" axle holes. Members can also buy wheels at California Dowel and Turnings in Buena Park www.caldowel.com telephone 714-523-8278 tell them you are from WOW.

Steering Committee Minutes- Club Finances as of 9-16-14 WOW has \$1476 in the bank. 8000 wheels and axels will be ordered for an estimated 1820 cars. 12840 blocks have been made. John Rodgers has ordered the club shirts.

President Alan Schwartz reminds you to please make 3 gifts for the **Christmas Party Raffle**. It is anonymous and no one knows what you made unless you tell them. Should be made from wood of course and can be Christmas themed or not. Whatever you like to make.



Show and Tell

John Okawa showed a bowl he turned on a lathe from baltic birch plywood, mahogany base and insets.

Robert Bilevich showed 2 vases he turned from cottonwood and buckeye burl. He has to be careful since they have holes in them and can fly apart when turning. He won a 3rd place at the O.C. Fair

Jim Sparling showed a vessel he turned from ash and added inlay of red glitter mixed with resin.

Mike Scott showed United Parcel Service truck desk name plaques he made for employees at the UPS Credit Union. He is on the board there.

Alan Webster showed an edge jointing jig for squaring up the edges of a board. He uses it for making a straight edge on scrap plywood when making cradles.

Upcoming Meetings

November- Wheels and Axels install on toys for charity. **December-** Christmas Party

Club Calendar

October Meeting Thursday Oct. 9th 6:30-8 p.m.
 Steering Committee Tuesday Oct. 14th 7:00-8 p.m.
 November Meeting Thursday Nov. 13th 6:30-8 p.m.
 Steering Committee Tuesday Nov. 18th 7:00-8 p.m.
 December Christmas Party instead of meeting

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 and Paula Eagleman for being webmaster.