

# The Push Stick

## Good Works



At the WOW February meeting, member **Paul Wilson** presented a slide show he made. It gave an overview of the things WOW members did for the Christmas season. This included the **Hathaway Ranch** block building project workshop, where some of our members make blocks every week. **Toy distribution day**- the day in December when twenty charities come to Hathaway Ranch and pickup the toys and blocks the Woodworkers of Whittier have built.

**Interfaith Food Bank**- This is the first year that some WOW members volunteered to help give out food at the annual Interfaith

Food Bank Christmas meal program. Families that have been pre-screened by need, are given food to be used to prepare Christmas dinner. Included with each meal is a WOW toy for the children. The members that volunteered said it was a moving experience and they want to do it again next year. Thanks Paul for the informative show on what happens during the Christmas season.



## Making Smiles

Ray Mitchem makes pocket cars. These are smaller cars than WOW makes for charities. They are three to four inches long with tiny wheels. They can fit in a pocket. This makes it easy for Ray to carry some with him and give to good kids. Sometimes, when he is at a restaurant, he will see a well mannered child. He will ask the parent if their child would like a toy car. What kid would not?

He also makes a bunch and stores them in a large plastic container. This he gives to the Emergency Room at Presbyterian Hospital. The nurses give them to children in the ER. They tell him that when they give a child a toy, they fixate on the toy and the Doctors can examine them. It brightens the bad experience of being in the hospital. He says even when he gives cars to the nurses and doctors, a bit of their inner child pops out. There is something special about a handmade wooden toy that plastic can not approach.

## Club Volunteers

President

Alan Schwartz  
(626) 274-4840

Vice President

Dave Reid  
(562) 693-3204

Treasurer

Ray Mitchem  
(714) 523-8697

Secretary

Dick Toney  
(562) 328-6102

Membership

Jim Lockwood  
(562) 926-7069

Raffle

Gene Getz  
(562) 777-1480

Refreshments

Julie McCamey  
(562) 698-7496

Push Stick Editor

Website

Alan Webster  
(562) 943-4919

Founders

John Erickson &  
Jerry Hughes

If you would like to make pocket cars, talk to Ray, he is very helpful. They can be made with a scroll saw or bandsaw. He buys the wheels at Cal-Dowel in Buena Park. This is where WOW gets our wheels. Mention the club and get a discount.

When I was at Ray's shop, something you notice right away is he has covers for just about all his tools. His wife Judy made them. Many even have the name of the tool embroidered in! As you may know, Ray loves bowl turning. This produces a lot of wood shavings all over his shop. The covers make it easier to clean up.

## March 10th Meeting

WOW Woodworker of the Year, **Ron Holtz**, will describe what is done weekly at Hathaway Ranch. It is hoped more members will volunteer for the **Hathaway Ranch** block building project. It is an ongoing project to build toy blocks to give away to children at Christmas time. It has been going for 18 years. The gang at Hathaway would be glad to have your help. They meet Monday mornings 8:30 - noon at Hathaway Ranch, 11901 Florence Avenue, between Norwalk Boulevard and Pioneer Boulevard. Open the gate and drive in, close gate. Call Jim Sparling 562-943-3013 for more information.

## General Club News

**Steering Committee Minutes-** WOW has 31 paid members. A representative from the YMCA will come to a WOW meeting and explain to the members why they should sign-up and log the amount of hours they spend in their shops working on WOW charity projects.

**Dues of \$30 are now due.** Please make checks out to Woodworkers of Whittier. Your cancelled check will be your receipt. If you can not make it to the meeting, you can mail a check to Ray Mitchem, 15710 Formby Drive, La Mirada, CA 90638.

**Jim Sparling** is seeing if WOW members are interested in taking a CPR class. It would be at the Carpenters Union Training facility Buena Park (where Nabisco used to be) on a Saturday for \$5.00 lasting 8 hours. You can bring your spouse. This is a low price. See Jim Sparling at the meeting.

## Upcoming Meetings

**April-** CNC machine demonstration by Steve Aukenbauer

### Club Calendar

March Meeting -Thursday March 10th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Steering Committee-Tuesday March 15th 7-8:00p.m.

April Meeting- Thursday April 14th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Steering Committee-Tuesday April 19th 7-8:00 p.m.

Meet 2nd Thursday of the month at Adventure Park  
10130 Gunn Avenue Whittier , CA 90605



John makes the nicest things. Get the mike really close so we can actually hear him!

**Thanks to:** Harold Ehlers for mailing the newsletter, Julie McCamey for bringing the snacks, Gene Getz for organizing the raffle.