



The Push Stick

2023 - Celebrating Our Club's 30th Anniversary

Message from the Prez

Hello to all. I hope all of you are doing well. The fact that the days are getting shorter means that the end of the year is not too far off. With that in mind we all know that the holidays are just around the corner. So I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for what has been an outstanding year for the club. We have a lot to be proud of. Our toy project is in great shape for another outstanding year of impacting the lives of dozens of children for Christmas. As you know the November meeting is when we will be putting the wheels and axles on the cars. We have about 400 we will be working on so they will be ready to be handed out in early December. Once again we will be handing out more than 1,000 cars and trucks along with more than 3,000 blocks. A big thank you to all who have contributed. As for the November meeting as I mentioned before we will be putting the wheels and axles on some of the cars the club has made. To those who this will be the first time all you will need is a small hammer or mallet. There will be club members at the meeting who can show you how to attach the wheels and axles. The evening will be a lot of fun. I hope to see you there. In closing I would like to give you a couple of reminders. On Monday December 4th will be our distribution day for 9 am - 12pm at Hathaway Ranch and Museum. If you have any questions please contact either a toy project committee member or an Officer. Last but not least December 15th will be our annual potluck Christmas Party at the Parnell Park Senior Center. The party will be on a Friday not Thursday. If you are planning to attend please let me know at the November meeting. I will also be calling later this month to verify attendance. Thanks again for a great 2023.

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October Meeting

Announcements -

October is the last regular club meeting of the year. The November meeting will be the wheels and axles meeting, and in December we have our Christmas party on Friday the 15th.

Paul Wilson has a sign up sheet for a count of the number of members and guests attending the Christmas party, and to indicate whether you are bringing a main dish or a dessert. Please sign up at the November meeting if you have not already.

The Club Woodworker of the Year award was given to Steve Lelewer. Congratulations Steve on this well deserved recognition!

Ray Sosa and Ruben Johnson were both given this year's Ron Holtz Participation award. They were tied for the number of Show and Tell presentations in 2023. Congratulations to both Ray and Ruben!



There are still pen mechanisms for the club pen donation project. Contact Paul Wilson if you would like to make a pen for a worthwhile military/veterans charity.

Show and Tell - a huge thank you to all that participated-

Ruben Johnson - Wooden Music box

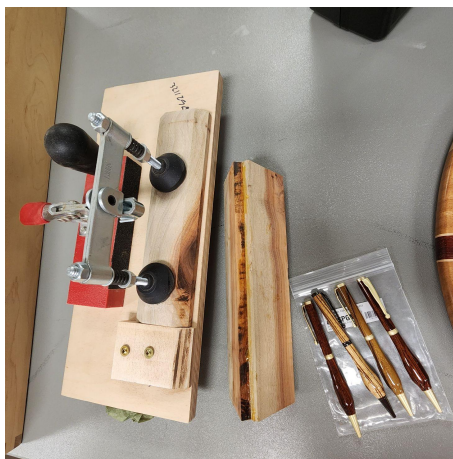
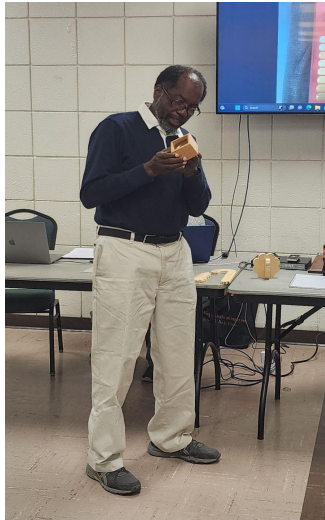
Ray Sosa - Yellow Pine bench with heart designed legs, wooden vase, scroll saw wedding gift, candy canes and christmas trees.

Shawn Cosgrove - Cerritos College project Tool Carrier

Steve lelewer - Cocobolo and zebra wood pens finished with magic juice, 3 sided kaleidoscope, ingenious small part table saw jig

Carlos Jackson - creative turned bowl made from a 1" board.

Ray Wolven - 2 player chinese checker boards



Adventure Park Woodcraft Class

Dates for the Thanksgiving project are October 24 and November 7. It will be the 3D Turkey pictured below. Dates for the Christmas project are November 14 and 21. Look for pictures in next month's Pushstick.



Hathaway Ranch Activities

The crew at Hathaway is currently busy sanding the last few blocks and bagging all of the blocks needed for distribution day this year and also next year. We expect to be 100% completed bagging for both years by the time we take our Christmas break from activities there. We are hoping to start off 2024 with some new toy projects for our annual give away next year. Some ideas that have been proposed are toy planes, trains and other types of cars and trucks. If you have any ideas for small wooden toys you think our charities might like to receive please send them in! Or better yet, bring your ideas to Hathaway on one of the Monday work days there, and have some fun with the crew.

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Steering Committee Minutes: October 17, 2023

Present: Paul Wilson, Arie Korporaal, Steve Romo, Dick Toney, Skip Porter, Paula Wolven, Ray Wolven

7:00 pm: Meeting called to order – Minutes approved.

Finances (Arie K.): September ending bank balance \$3,419.10.

Membership (Steve R.): There are 35 paid club members and two compensated members. October meeting attendance was 22 members and no guests.

Toy project (Dick T.): Cars inventory = Approx 1000 cars in inventory - some without wheels and axles. The anticipated amount of blocks to be given away in 2023 are completed, and all of them have now been bagged and are ready for distribution. All of the blocks expected to be needed in 2024 are completed, and approx. half have been bagged. There are approx 600 cars to be assembled at the November Wheels and axles meeting. A discussion about labeling the cars with a label identifying the club on each car was held, a vote was taken, and the idea was voted down. The steering committee agreed that going forward we will put labels on the boxes only.

Raffle Project Update: The last meeting resulted in \$85 in tickets sold against expenses of \$37.98. YTD totals are \$652 in sales and \$236.73 in Expenses. YTD \$303 has been earmarked for the Christmas party fund, and \$138.38 going to the club as profit. Our goal for the Christmas party this year has been reached! A discussion was held about the cost of raffle items going forward. A motion was made, and a vote carried the notion that the monthly budget for raffle expenses could be raised to \$100 when necessary to support the raffle.

New Business:

Pen kits and blanks donated to the club by an anonymous club member. Nails and screws donated to the club by a friend of Paul Wilson, Jim Lynch, in Kingman AZ. A thank note will go out.

Steering committee agrees to end participation in the Adventure Park wood craft class due to reduced participation in the program there by the seniors, and others. Final club projects there to be a Thanksgiving project on October 24 and November 7, then a Christmas project on November 14 and 21. Going forward, the club will be having conversations with the Whittier Community Center about possible programs there.

The 2024 club meeting dates have been requested at the Whittier community center. Waiting on their confirmation.

New ideas for 2024 - Discussion about having the club name engraved on any pens we may make and have to hand out on the clubs behalf. There was also a discussion about starting a new club activity called "President's Challenge". The idea for the challenge would be to award a prize to a member that does the best in completing some sort of project that the club announces. Both new ideas were tabled for further discussion.

Skip Porter graciously volunteers to assume the Program Chair duties for 2024.

Upcoming Meeting Schedules: The next general club meeting will be the annual wheels and axles meeting on November 9 , and the next steering committee meeting will be held November 14, both at the Whittier community center. Distribution day December 4 at Hathaway. Christmas party December 15 at Parnell Park.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Ray Wolven, October 17, 2023.

Push Stick Show and Tell

This space gives members the opportunity to show off their recent projects that may be too large or otherwise impractical to be shared at the in-person monthly meetings. Send in your pics and let the club see what you are up to!

This month Chris Voien sent us a picture of a car with a garage he recently made. The car has the added features of a very cool racing stripe and a spare tire! Nicely done Chris!



Birthday Wishes

We are recognizing club members who are celebrating (or not) a birthday during the month. The club members with Birthdays in November are: Gene Getz, Jim Sparling, and Jose Sanchez. Happy Birthday!

Club Reminders

Don't forget that the club has activities to participate in besides the monthly meetings. Each one is an opportunity to meet and share time with people that you might not otherwise have the privilege of visiting with, and you would be doing something very worthwhile for the community at the same time!

If you have not already done so, please remember to pay your dues. And starting this year, the club has decided that any club members who have not paid their dues by the end of the year will be dropped from the Pushstick mailing list. So please get your money in soon! Dues can be paid at the monthly meeting, or you can go directly to the donations page on our website to pay dues by entering this link in your browser: bit.ly/40sTfKo or by scanning this QR code.



(Thanks to Arie K. for bringing us into the 21st century with these cool new on-line tools!)

Let Your Friends Know

Many of our members found out about WOW through a friend. Please let your friends know that good things are happening in the club this year, and bring them to a meeting. Remember: if you make sawdust you are a woodworker. Business cards and postcards with club information are available to hand out. See Paul W. if you would like some.

November Club Calendar

Club Meeting - Wheels and Axles meeting November 9, 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Whittier Community Center. Remember to bring a small hammer.

Steering Committee meeting - Tuesday November 14,

7:00 to 8:00 pm. Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave. Room # 5

Hathaway Ranch Toy Project

Monday's November 6, 13. Then Thanksgiving break.

Distribution day December 4. Then Christmas break.

9:00 am to approx 11:00 am

11901 Florence Ave. Santa Fe Springs, 90670

Adventure Park Woodcraft Project - Tuesdays October 24, then November 7, 14, and 21. 10:30 am to 11:30 am - Adventure Park