

The Push Stick

2024 - Our 31st year sharing the woodworking experience

Message from the Prez

Hello To All and Happy New Year. Now that 2024 has arrived and football is winding down their season, that means the holidays are behind us and it is time to once again get back to making sawdust. So to get started I would like to reflect on last year. 2023 was a very good year for the club. We welcomed several new members and all of our club projects were a huge success. Such as our toy project once the club distributed over a thousand toys to children in our area. The club welcomed a new project and new friends from Whittier High School and we returned to founder's day for the first time since 2019. Last but not least we ended with our annual Christmas Party. The party was a huge success with a lot of food and over a hundred door prizes. The Officers and I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and participation in making 2023 an outstanding year for the club.

As for 2024, I hope we can have another great year. There will be some new ideas that we will be rolling out for the new year. Some of the new ideas include some changes to the Ron Holtz participation award and we are working to have our club meeting available on Zoom. More information will be made available at this month's club meeting on January 11th. In closing we would like to ask the members who will be making cars for this year's toy project to please give Dick Toney an estimate as to how many cars you will be making so we can make sure we have enough wheels and axles. Finally for those who help at Hathaway our first day for the year will be Monday January 8th at 9am. Thank you for all of your hard work and I hope to see you at our first meeting for 2024 and as a reminder it is time to pay your dues for the year. Thank you.

Paul W.

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December Meeting

The December meeting was our annual club Christmas party, held at the Parnell Park Community Center in Whittier. Aerie Korpraal was presented with the club's Dave Reid President's award for his outstanding service to the club in 2023, Dr. Francine Rippey was given a cutting board in appreciation of her contributions to the club by providing the Hathaway Ranch facilities for our toy project, Wyatt Sprowls was given a pen and holder made by Dick Toney for his help during the year at Hathaway as a volunteer, and Mike Perovich entertained the group with an outstanding magic show. Mike made money, playing cards, and all kinds of things disappear and reappear, showed Steve Romo and myself an impossible knot tying/untying trick, and told jokes that kept everyone very entertained. The food was amazing, and the door prizes were all very nice. We also had many friends of the club as our guests. It was a great time.



Hathaway Ranch Activities

The club is looking forward to another busy year at the Hathaway Ranch workshop. The first meeting, on January 8, is our annual “cleaning house” and organizing the shop in preparation for all the good things we will be making there this year. Our work begins again making toys in January on the Monday’s of the 22nd and 29th. We will be taking the 15th off out of respect for Martin Luther King Day. Everyone is welcome to come join us making a fair amount of sawdust, and most importantly toys, for our very grateful charities.

Special Note from the Toy Project Committee

The club distributed over 1,000 cars in 2023. To the members who worked throughout this last year making the cars we would like to thank you for all of your hard work.

Looking forward to 2024 we would like to offer a few simple reminders regarding the cars in order to continue to hand out quality hand made cars to each of our charities. We would like to mention a few things to look out for. Please make sure the cars are made for either a **2x4 or 2x6 piece of wood** and make sure there are **no knots**. Please make sure **all sharp edges are broken or rounded and each car is sanded**. If you are making cars with windows cut all the way through **please make sure the inside of the windows are sanded as well**. **No small parts** can be glued to the cars, and they should **not be painted or clear coated** in any way. Finally please make sure when you are drilling the holes for the axles make sure to drill the holes all the way through using a **7/32”** size drill bit. We have some templates available for a few different styles of cars. Contact Paul Wilson if you would like them sent to you.

All of your hard work is greatly appreciated and makes the club’s toy project a huge success. Thank You again for all of your hard work and we look forward to another great year for the club in 2024.

Toy Project Committee
Dick Toney
Gene Getz
Jim Sparling
Ron Holtz

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

There was no Steering Committee meeting in December.

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!

Birthday Wishes

We are recognizing club members who are celebrating (or not) a birthday during the month. The club members celebrating a birthday in January are Chris Voien and Paula Wolven. 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!

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.

Steve Bruns will be our guest speaker this month. He will be showing us how he makes his very attractive coasters with inlays.

2024 Club Meeting Schedule

	Club Meeting	Steering Comm. Meeting
January	11th	16th
February	8th	13th
March	14th	19th
April	11th	16th
May	9th	14th
June	13th	18th
July	11th	16th
August	8th	13th
September	12th	17th
October	10th	15th
November	14th**	19th
December	13th***	

** Wheels and axles Meeting - Whittier Community Center

***Christmas Party - Parnell Park

Club Meetings - 2nd Thursday of each month.

6:30 to 8 pm

Whittier Community Center

Steering Committee Meetings - The Tuesday following the monthly club meeting. 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Whittier Community Center

Addresses: Whittier Community Center

7630 Washington Ave., Whittier, Ca. 90602

Parnell Park

15390 Lambert Rd, Whittier, CA 90604

All paid club members are welcome to attend the Steering Committee meetings.

Contact any club Officer with questions about the meetings

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.

Club Calendar

Club Meeting - Thursday January 11th. 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Whittier Community Center

7630 Washington Ave. Rooms #1 & 2

Steering Committee meeting - Tuesday January 16. 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave. Room # 5

Hathaway Ranch Toy Project.

Monday's January 8, 22, & 29. No work on the 15th honoring MLK Day

9:00 am to approx 11:00 am

11901 Florence Ave. Santa Fe Springs, 90670