

Calendar

DPWW Regular Meetings

Usually Third Monday 7:00 pm at [St. James in Glen Ellyn](#)
Will be in person and via Zoom

- January 19
- February 16

DPWW Board Meeting

Usually First Monday

- January 5
- February 2

Activities

- TBD

Programs

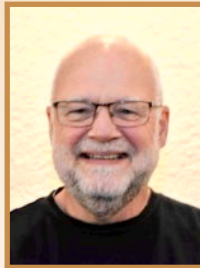
- January 19
 - Presentation by [3M Abrasives](#).

Links

- [Directory for Board Minutes](#)



President's Message January 2026



George Rogers

As I write this message I am working on several different projects both for my home and for others. I need to get these completed prior to starting work on making toy/doll bed parts. **Never too soon to start on making toys for our November toy collection!**

I enjoyed our activity with Owl Hardwood in Des Plaines on January 8. Thanks, Vaibhav, for arranging this. I have been to this location to purchase wood but I have not seen their plywood manufacturing facility. I found it to be very interesting.

I also want to thank Sue Zuales for her informative presentation on noise in our environment and its affects on potential hearing loss. She provided good information on how to help avoid further hearing loss. We had a lot of good questions and Sue did a very nice job in answering them. Thanks also to John for assisting her.

I enjoyed our holiday party. I received positive feedback about this change in format. Some other feedback I have received is to have a larger selection of food available; something other than pizza, salads and desserts. Please give me your feedback on how we can improve our holiday party! What topics do you think would appeal to our mixed audience; woodworkers and non-woodworkers?

I have been very happy with 3M's new Cubitron sanding discs. Our Monday, January 19 general meeting presentation will be given by a representative from 3M's Extract system. He will discuss their sanding and dust collection system which includes the Cubitron sanding discs.

I met with Karl at Woodcraft earlier this week to schedule our next toy workshop. It will be on Saturday, April 25 from 9am to 3pm at the Woodcraft Store in Downers Grove.

I hope everyone is enjoying some time in their shop, or at least planning for what is next, if they cannot be in their shop.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on Monday, January 19 at 7pm.

George Rodgers

GLRodgers@comcast.net

708-623-9038



Toys - 2025 Thank You Letters

Carol Fate, the program supervisor for the Home Visiting and Doula program - Glenbard Parents as Teachers expressed their gratitude

Mark Wieting

Hi George and Mark,

We wanted to send you the most sincere THANKS we possibly could....it is hard to put into words how much joy you brought to families and staff and students in our program!! Here are some preliminary photos, but we wanted you to know that:

- toys were displayed in our office with a thank you sign for all to see
- toys were donated to a Basics DuPage kids corner which sets up free play areas for children and parents in high traffic areas in DuPage Co where parents learn about simple things they can do to help their baby's brain develop
- toys were counted and sorted by students in the "Special Education Transition Program" where students 18-21 learn real life job skills.
- toys were included in every child's holiday gift bag—hand selected by the home visitor who know what would appeal to each child
- we saved some toys for our annual Messy Art Fair

Here are a few photos...

Again, we cannot thank you enough!!

--Carol





Betsy Santana, Advancement director for [Mutual Ground](#) sent this note,

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your generous support of Mutual Ground's Winter Wonderland Shoppe. Because of you, we were able to bring joy, dignity, and holiday cheer to so many individuals and families during this special season.

This year, we were honored to serve 166 client families through Winter Wonderland—an impact that would not have been possible without the generosity and commitment of individuals like you. Your support helped ensure that families experiencing difficult times could celebrate the holidays with warmth, hope, and moments of joy.

Below, you'll find a link to a short video highlighting Winter Wonderland 2025. We hope this shows you the difference your support makes.

[Mutual Ground's Winter Wonderland 2025](#)

Thank you for standing with Mutual Ground and the families we serve. We are deeply grateful for your partnership.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a bright New Year!

With Gratitude,

Betsy





Toys - 2026

Time to start again.

DPWW and Woodcraft (504 Ogden Ave. in Downers Grove) will be hosting a toy making workshop on Saturday, April 25 from 9am to 3pm.

For those unable to make the workshop or wishing to contribute more to the toys program, I will be making doll bed parts and cutting out toy blanks for the workshop. You are welcome to join me in my shop to help with this. This would be especially good for someone new to wood working to learn more about the safe and appropriate use of the table saw, miter saw, bandsaw, router table and bench-top

sanders. Please contact me if you have interest in helping prepare material for the toy workshop.

For those unable to make the workshop but still wanting to contribute toys, we have wheels and axles. I will have these available to pick up at the DPWW general meetings. You can also contact me directly if you need wheels or axles. We also have patterns and directions for making toys which are available at each general meeting and on our website at: [DuPage Woodworkers](http://DuPageWoodworkers.org)

George Rodgers

Membership News



Mike Kalscheur

Four (4) more members were added to the DPWW membership roster within the last month. They all learned about DPWW from either a friend or the website. Total membership count is now at 218.

Please welcome member **Randy Briasco** from Glen Ellyn. Randy listed his present woodworking interests as building furniture and floating shelves.

I'm sure another member has tackled the floating shelves project in the past. Connect with Randy if you wish to give/get any tips on that subject.

Also please welcome member **Bill Dudek** from Elmhurst. Bill's interests are building furniture, carving and hand tool woodworking. Skilled use of hand tools is an area where many members would like to improve. Reach out to Bill if wish to share in hand tool skills and techniques.

Also please welcome member **Eric Nelson** from Sycamore. Eric's interests are woodworking tools, building cabinets and other types of furniture. Other members are always willing to learn about the skills and project ideas that new members often bring to the club. Check out the FOW (From Our Workshop) Benefit of the club.

Also please welcome member **Kevin Toner** from Woodridge. Kevin's woodworking interests are carving and scroll sawing, but he also wants more exposure to all types of woodworking. DPWW members have a wide variety of woodworking interests, so Kevin is in the right club.

Members are welcome to request specific woodworking topics for programs and activities

throughout the year. Participation in helping organize woodworking programs/activities is gladly welcomed. Please let the Board members know if you have ideas for future activities.

REMINDER: Membership Dues Renewal

The membership renewal dues payments have been coming in strong with about 70% of households paid up for 2026. An email notice has recently been sent out only to members who haven't renewed yet.

If you wish to continue as a valid paid member in 2026, there are three (3) options for submitting your annual dues. These options are described in the following webpage. <https://dupagewoodworkers.org/membership/renew/renew.php>

When paying via PayPal using either your PayPal account or a credit/debit card, note that additional donations over \$30 are optional. Additional donations are also welcomed when paying with cash or personal check. The benefits you reap from DuPage WoodWorkers can be used as your guide for giving.

For those renewing members who wish to receive a current Membership Identification card after submitting a dues payment, just ask at any future meeting. A list of members who have renewed their annual membership with a dues payment is recorded. New members will always receive their Membership ID card in the year they have joined. If your member profile (home address, email address, preferred phone number) has changed within the last year, please let me know.

Mike Kalscheur

membership@dupagewoodworkers.org



December Meeting Recap



Mark Wieting

Holiday Dinner

The casual dinner of pizza and salads plus a desert table was well received. About 42 people attended, approximately 25 members and 15 or so spouses. This was followed up by a presentation.

Generally, feedback has been positive. A suggestion was made to consider expanding the food choices.



Service Awards

Ron Colliander was presented with a Service Award for his moderation on the monthly "Sawdust in Your Coffee" activity and his major contributions to our Toy program and his support of our monthly club meetings.

Harry & Gail Trainor were presented with Service Awards in recognition of their work on the toy program, providing quilts, pillows and dolls as well as packaging the dolls, accessories and beds for distribution.

Audiologist hears us out

At our December meeting, certified audiologist Sue Zuales, MA, F-AAA, and wife of DPWW member John, highlighted numerous sources of hearing loss, from the tools we use in woodworking to the tools we use around the house. She fielded many questions from the

audience, with specific information and good advice.

Proper insertion of hearing protection is critical. Simply jamming a foam plug into your ear is not optimal. Rolling it between your fingers so it is longer and narrower makes all the difference.



After distributing a "Noise Dose Information" sheet listing levels of sounds in decibels and the amount of time it takes to damage your hearing, she and John demonstrated tools while taking continuous measures of each sound. She explained that

exposure to a drill or hair dryer at 85 dBA for 8 hours carries the same risk for hearing damage as exposure to a circular saw or chain saw at 97 dBA for 30 minutes, or a chipper or "rock concert" at 115 dBA for just 28 seconds. In general, the louder the noise, the less time a person can be exposed to it—without protection—before risking hearing loss.

Some takeaways from the question and answer period:



Continued on next page



- Hearing loss can be caused by prolonged exposure to high noise levels, aging, and hereditary factors. Noise-induced hearing loss is progressive and permanent.
- High frequency sounds can be more damaging than low-frequency sounds. Power tools produce a significant amount of high-frequency noise.
- Most people experience bilateral hearing loss, meaning both ears are affected similarly.
- Q-tips tend to push wax farther into the ear canal and may cause it to be impacted.
- The effectiveness of foam earplugs depends on proper insertion. Roll the plug between your fingers to make it long and narrow, pull



the ear up and back to straighten the ear canal, and insert the plug deeply. After insertion, gently tug on the plug — there should be resistance. If it slips out easily, reinsert it.

- If you wear hearing aids, remove them before woodworking. Wearing earmuffs over hearing aids may cause feedback.
- Properly inserted foam or rubber earplugs generally provide more protection than earmuffs. Earmuffs can be less effective if worn with safety glasses or hats, as these can create gaps that allow noise to enter.
- Hearing protection should be used whenever there is exposure to loud noise, even for brief durations.

Sawdust in Your Coffee



Ron Colliander

Sawdust in Your Coffee is our Zoom-based monthly discussion of wood related subjects. Sixteen attended the January 3 Sawdust meeting. Topics discussed included:

1. Upcoming Owl Hardwood tour.
2. Repair options for spindle chair back.
3. Members experience with furniture refinishing.
4. Box making techniques for keeping things square.
5. Acceptable tolerances for woodworking machining.
6. Refinishing of repurposed drawer interior.
7. Well outfitted Woodworking store in Portland Oregon.
8. Flat bottom countersinking small holes in knife handles.

There will be another SIYC meeting at 9:00AM on Saturday, February 7. Bring your questions, your progress, and/or your coffee. Expect the usual Email Zoom invitation.

Ron Colliander



January FOW Prizes

The January FOW prizes will be various items from Woodcraft

Door Prizes



Bruce Kinney

The January door prizes are:

- PorterCable 690 Router with Standard and Plunge Bases plus Edge Guide. (Like New. Very lightly used.)
- 2-20V DeWalt Drill/Driver, Hammer Drill, 2 Batteries, Battery Charger and 47 Drill Bits. (Like New. Very lightly used.).

Buy your tickets at the meeting:

- \$2 for 1
- \$5 for 3
- \$10 for 7
- \$15 for 11
- \$20 for 15

From Our Workshop Returns

Due to the holiday party, we did not have FOW entries in December, so none to report on in this month's Newsletter. Please submit your entires prior to our January 19 meeting. You may do this electronically using this [Google Form](#) or by brining your entry to the meeting and filling out a paper submission form.

January Link



[Get the BIG saw](#)

Giant wood saws face off Against Thousand Year Old Tree. This video, explores the process of sawing a large solid log at a traditional carpentry workshop in Vietnam. From operating a giant band saw, to the way the craftsman shapes and processes the rare wood.



DUPAGE WOODWORKERS 2026 Board Members (* Some Committee Members Omitted)



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George Rodgers



Vice President
Jeff Kramer



Treasurer
Dave Wesolowicz



Secretary
Steve Young



Activities
Vaibhav Konanur



Programs
Bruce Metzdorf



Programs
Wayne Maier



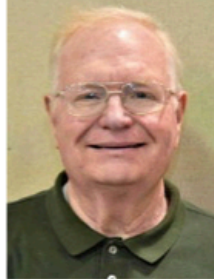
From Our Workshop
Lee Nye



Membership
Mike Kalscheur



Library
Tom Kubica



Library
Tom Olson



Prizes
Bruce Kinney



Prizes
Don Sinnott



Prizes
Rick Ogren



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Audio/Video
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John Wiedemann



Toys *
George Rodgers



Toys
Bruce Metzdorf



Toys
Ron Colliander



Toys
Walter Schmidt



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Treasurer	Dave Wesolowicz	(Officer)
Secretary	Steve Young	(Officer)
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Programs	Wayne Maier	
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Library	Tom Olson	
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Prizes	Don Sinnott	
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Publicity	Steve Young	(co-Chair)
Tools	Gordon Brand	(Chair)
Tools	Rick VanSeters	
Tools	Howard Peterson	
Apparel	Carl Shaffer	Head of Sales
A/V	Howard Peterson	(Chair)
A/V	Bill Hoffman	
A/V	James Arthurs	
Webmaster	Bill Hoffman	(Chair)
Webmaster	Vaibhav Konanur	
From Our Workshop		Lee Nye (Chair)
Toys	George Rodgers	(Chair)
Toys	Bruce Metzdorf	
Toys	Ron Colliander	
Toys	Walter Schmidt	
Toys	Rick Ogren	
Toys	John Grzanich	