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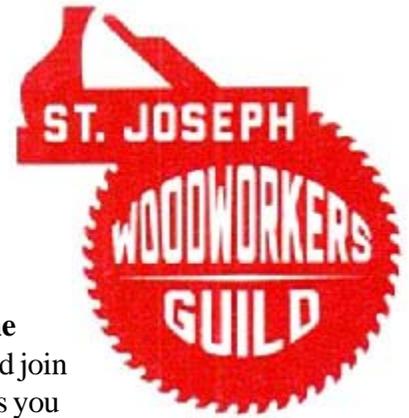
# ST. JOSEPH WOODWORKERS' GUILD

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Volume 17 Issue 12

December 2025



## December Meeting

**Tuesday, December 9 at 6 PM**

**NOTE THE EARLIER TIME. We will be having our December meeting at the Pizza Ranch at 3007 North Belt.** Bring your significant other, friends, or relatives and join with us to celebrate another successful year of the Guild. We will order off the menu as you enter. And don't forget your gifts for the gift exchange: bring a gift and you get to choose a gift after numbers are given out. Hope to see you all there.

The St. Joseph Woodworkers Guild officers and membership wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you will be a part of our activities in 2026.

## November Meeting Notes

Our president, Lynn Anderson, started by welcoming everyone and recognizing one visitor in the audience. He then recognized our other visitors: Jeff Atkins, St. Joseph Parks and Recreation Director and his wife, Sarah Elder, manager of the Remington Center, and Chelsea Howlett, Executive Director of the Noyes Home. Chelsea also brought some of the Scouts for the Noyes Home troop.

Lynn started off the meeting with the presentation of the benches built by Guild members for the Remington Center. Jeff explained the story behind the Liberty Tree in Hyde Park, when it fell, and how the Guild was involved in using some of the wood for public use. He said the request for benches seemed to be a good use for the wood after it was milled into slabs.



*Ralph lining up the three benches for display.*



*The large bench.*



*Jeff Atkins addressing the crowd.*



*Sarah Elder explaining where the benches will be located in the*

Sarah then told where the benches are to be located in the Remington Center building. The large bench will be inside the main door. One of the smaller benches will be in a viewing area where visitors can watch birds outside the building through monoculars. She said the staff hadn't decided on the third bench location. After photos of builders and benches with the notable guests, they departed.



*One of the small benches.*



*Some of the bench builders, Jeff and Sarah.*



*Ralph showing how the butterflys are covered on the bottom.*



*Chelsea talking about the Kindness Awards.*

Chelsea Howlett came up to speak about the Kindness St. Joseph Initiative started by the Noyes Home. It is an effort to honor those who show kindness and do kind gestures to help other people. Part of the Kindness Initiative is asking kids to write essays about someone in St. Joseph who has shown kindness toward them. Last year had over 700 essays entered for the contest. Chelsea asked Guild members to be a part of the contest by reading the essays and judging those who should be recognized. Last year there were 43 awards given, Awards also go to schools, organizations, businesses and individuals who are recognized. She presented a certificate to Lynn recognizing the Guild as a LUBA Legacy award. LUBA is the Noyes Home governing board. The Guild is awarded for the projects we do with the Noyes Home and will be officially recognized at a dinner and ceremonies at Missouri Western next March.



*Lynn holding the LUBA Legacy Award.*

Rusty Cook, treasurer and shop manager, reported he had purchased the plywood for the Community Services doll beds for Adopt A Family. AFL-CIO Community Services sent the Guild a check to reimburse the cost. He also mentioned that Home Depot had given the Guild a discount for the cost of the plywood. So next time you are in Home Depot, tell them thank you from the Guild for their generosity and help. Rusty also reported that Rick Adkins, a Guild member, had donated \$250 to the Guild. Rusty called to thank him and Rick said he and his wife donate each year to good causes.

Jennifer Percell reported that she continues to work with the women at Sisters of Solace. She said Kevin Crawford had spend about 15 hours over two days working with the women to learn how to operate a new engraving machine Sisters had obtained. She wanted to thank him and commend him on giving so much time to the group.

Lynn stated that the next meeting is December 9 and will be our annual dinner meeting. It will start at 6 PM at Pizza Ranch on North Belt. People are encouraged to bring their spouse or a woodworking friend. It is a pay for your own dinner. We will also have a gift exchange. If you bring a gift you will have the opportunity to pick one of the gifts brought.

Lynn discussed the Noyes Home shelving project to be done on the third floor of the building. We will furnish shelving materials and Noyes Home will purchase the structural material. They will be made into kits so that they can be carried up the stairway to the third floor. This will be a Guild project for the new year.

The annual officers election was held during the November meeting. The slate of officers was: Lynn Anderson, president, Jim Jones, vice-president, Roger Martin, secretary, and Rusty Cook, treasurer. The slate of officers was approved without any additions from the floor. Jim Jones provided the motion to approve the slate of officers with Steve Bunse providing a second. The slate was approved unanimously. Thanks to Jennifer Percell, our vice president for the past two years.

Rusty said that, due to the colder temperatures and lack of adequate heat in the shop, the Thursday evening work night will be discontinued. Ed Roberts will offer his shop for work if anyone wants to continue projects. Guild members may also use his shop on Mondays and Wednesdays mornings to work on Guild projects. Lynn said that the January Guild meeting will be at Ralph Alvarez' shop due to the cold. That will give us opportunity to use tools if the demonstration requires that activity.

## **Sho-N-Tell**

Frank Shores — one of the cedar display stands that he is making for each of his grandchildren.

Don St. Cyr — a wooden car that he will be giving away to a child and a 59½" band saw blade he was giving away that evening.

Ralph Alvarez — an example of a carving class project: wooden carved candy. It starts out as a dowel and ends up painted like some wrapped Christmas candy.

Roger Martin — a wooden Christmas tree made by tilting the scroll saw table and making repetitive cuts. Then the tree can be pushed out from the flat surface.

Ken Gerber — Another bowl made from mulberry burl.



*Frank holding the cedar stand.*



*Don talking about his car construction.*



*The stick of carved candy before cutting apart and coloring.*



*Ralph holding the carved candy.*



*Roger and his Christmas tree.*

## **November Program**

We did not have a formal program for November. It was

a work night as we finished up doll beds for the Adopt A Family program later in December. Ed Roberts, Dave Halter, Jay Hales, Ralph Alvarez, Pete Peterson, and Rusty Cook did a lot of the prep work so our work night would be successful. Kevin Crawford used his CNC to cut out all the parts for over 40 doll beds using plywood obtained at Home Depot. Meeting night we were able to finish up the sanding, assembly, and final inspection of the beds and ready them for delivery to AFL-CIO Community Services. Rusty and the crew had set up stations for machine sanding, routing, hand sanding, and glue up/assembly. Each bed was checked for splinters and protruding nails or anything else that might hurt a child and then the completed bed joined the others in a pile on the finish table. Thanks to all who came for the meeting and stayed to help get the beds completed. Volunteers are always needed at Community Services later in December to give out toys and other gifts to the families signed up for the program if you want to see the smiles on kids and parents faces yourself.



*Bottom view of Ken's burl bowl.*



*Jay Hales and Pete Peterson doing some of the prep work before meeting night.*



*David Halter and Ed Roberts working on parts before the meeting night.*



*David Halter and Lynn Anderson continuing prep work before meeting night.*



*Pete Peterson and Tom Engel at the belt sander.*



*(L-R) Jennifer Percell, Alan Kline, Steve Bunse and Darrell Magee finish sanding.*



*Steve Davidson and Ralph Alvarez assembling a bed.*



*Jay Hales operating the router table and Frank Shores on the sander while our visitor watches.*



*LeRoy Gray and Lynn Anderson discussing the finer points of doll bed assembly.*



*Caption should read "how many woodworkers does it take to assemble a doll bed?," but (L-R) Brian Graham, Richard Richards, Rusty Cook, Dale Andrews, and LeRoy Gray are putting one together.*



*The completed doll beds almost ready to deliver.*

## **Membership**

**January is renewal month for the Guild annual membership dues of \$30.** The membership helps cover the costs of our shop, the treats at most meetings, and this newsletter and to maintain our website and mailing list. Paid membership provides you with a card that allows you to get a discount at Metro Hardwoods, Woodcraft, and the Rockler store. Guild Life Memberships (\$100) are for those 70 and above and that amount covers your dues forever! Treasurer Rusty Cook will be happy take your dues at meetings. If you are unable to attend, you can mail the check to him at the address at the end of this newsletter. If you would like the discount card mailed to you, please include a stamped, self addressed envelope when sending the dues to Rusty

## **Upcoming Events**

- Army National Guard Christmas Party - December 7 from 9 to 11:30 AM  
301 N Woodbine Rd. Guild members will help kids assemble cars or wagons

## **Social Media**

Don't forget that the Guild has a Facebook page, [St. Joseph Woodworkers Guild](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephWoodworkersGuild), and a website, [www.stjosephwoodguild.com](http://www.stjosephwoodguild.com), that you can use to let others know about your hobby.

## **Caps and Shirts**

Guild logo ball caps and tee shirts (in limited sizes) are available for sale. The cost is minimal for either. Contact Roger Martin if you are interested.

### **ST. JOSEPH WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS 2024-2025**

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WE THANK OUR SUPPORTERS — PLEASE PATRONIZE THEM AND SHOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD FROM THE GUILD FOR A DISCOUNT.



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