

HAWC Newsletter

February 2026
Volume 18, Issue 2
Houston Area Woodcarvers
(HAWC)

President's Message

This past week the weather has been very nice. So, Preston and I have been sitting outside soaking up vitamin D and doing a little carving. It's been nice to slow down enough to enjoy the outdoors, carve and look for inspiration for more carvings. Do you have a favorite place or time to carve?

We missed the January meeting but thanks to you, 2026 is off to a great start! 30 people were at the January club meeting. Welcome to our new members **Stacey Louie** and **Roy Parker** and our visitor **Kasey Shell**. We're looking forward to meeting you.

Congratulations and thanks to the newly elected 2026 officers: Treasurer Charlie Holden, Secretary Matt Brueggeman, Vice President Lance Rath; and President Carolyn Smith. Please give your thanks to Shen Liang and Jamie Frontiera for their many years of serving as treasurer and secretary. Thank you: Helen Havemann for being our newsletter editor; Pete Reittinger for newsletter distribution and new carver table; Ronnie Boston for new carver table and the many mini-class projects; Nancy Ustin for hospitality (donut lady); and Kenan Schultz for raffle management. You have helped make HAWC successful.

Charlie Holden's class on miniature people was well attended. Charlie made a handout with detailed instructions. Thanks for going the "extra mile." This month (February) Ronnie Boston is bringing a project to help us get an early start on Easter/Spring carvings. He has a caricature rabbit that can be a magnet.

See you February 21. Until then, keep the chips flying!

Carolyn & Preston Smith

Sunshine Corner

This month the Sunshine Corner doesn't have very sunny news. There is a request for encouragement and prayers. Helen Havemann has broken a small bone in her right foot, Preston Smith has three broken ribs, and Joe Brueggeman (Matt's brother) is recovering from heart valve replacement surgery.

Monthly Project (Mini-class)

For February Ronnie Boston will be bringing the project: a caricature rabbit. In May, Carolyn Smith will share tips on painting caricatures. You will need to bring a carving that has been "sealed", either by spraying with spray lacquer or boiled linseed oil.

Volunteers are needed to bring projects for March and April.

2026 Club Dues

Dues are due. At the November meeting it was decided to increase the dues to **\$30** per year per family – carver and spouse; parent(s) and children under age 18.

Crosses for Faith Lutheran

We are trying to arrange a time to give the first group of crosses to Faith Lutheran. It will be exciting to see how the church will display them. Making crosses for them will be an on-going project in 2026. We need medium to large crosses – any style of carving or wood burning.

Fall Show

Now is the time to begin plans for the 56th Fall Show, Competition and Sale and the show classes. We need to know what type of classes you would like and suggested instructors. Instructors' schedules fill up

quickly, so we need to act soon. The tentative location of the show will be Faith Lutheran Church.

Texas Wood Carvers Guild

If you have carvings you don't want that are not painted, consider giving them to the TWG for the 2026 community service project and help a veteran.



The TWG Spring Round Up and Show in Kerrville is April 18 – 24. There is a great line-up of classes and instructors. It's a good time to meet other carvers and share carving tips and tall tales. More details are on the TWG website, <https://texaswoodcarversguild.com/>.

More Buddy Ives Carving Items

A message from Sondra Ives:

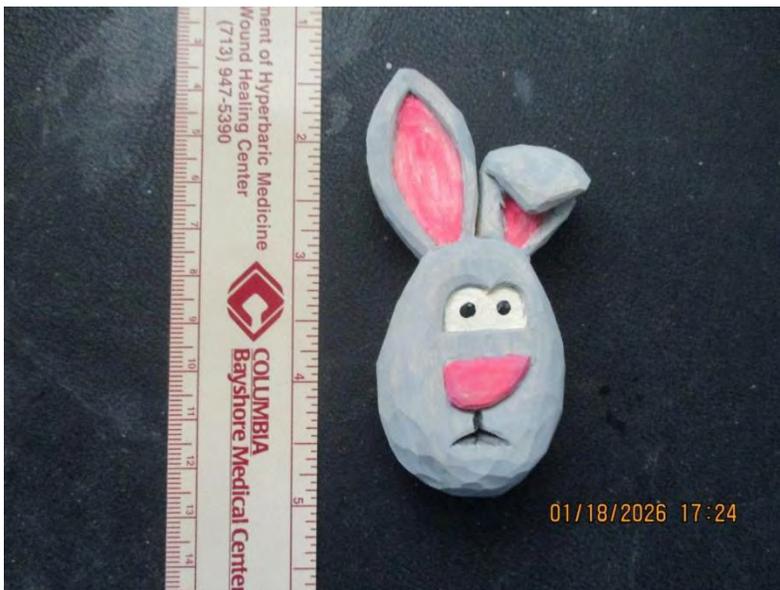
I am inviting anyone interested to my house to see items too bulky or heavy for me to transport to the HAWC meetings. I have set aside 3 days, March 12-14: from 10-5 on Thursday and Friday; and Saturday from 10-3. **I ask that you let me know which day you plan to come and an approximate time (morning or afternoon works fine).** My cell is: 281-732-7982 and my email is twoives@swbell.net.

You can also text. I live in Spring Branch in Spring Shadows: 2503 Pomeran Dr, Houston, TX 77080. If you are familiar with the area, Spring Shadows is off Gessner between Hammerly and Kempwood. You enter the subdivision at the light at Westray.

Not everything is priced but everything will be for sale. There is something for everyone. Sample Items: 5 woodburning/detailers; portable air filter/dust collector; 10" Craftsman Direct Drive band saw; 14" Delta Band Saw with manual; Craftsman 16" variable scroll saw; 2 knife sharpeners; air brush with supplies; manuals; paints; new paint brushes; gun stocks; wood.

Carving a Bunny Magnet

This month Ronnie Boston will teach carving a bunny. The cost is \$2 for the blank and magnet. Ronnie's classes are always fun, so get there early to get a place.



The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet this month from 9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday, January 17, 2026, at the Faith Lutheran Church Day School Community Center, 4600 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX

See us on the Web: houstonareawoodcarvers.com

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On Facebook: [Houston Area Wood Carvers](#)