

HAWC Newsletter

June 2026
Volume 18, Issue 6

Houston Area Woodcarvers
(HAWC)

President's Message

Summer is here. Between the heat/humidity and hordes of mosquitoes it's not fun to be outside! I hope you have a nice, cool indoor place to carve. So many projects to choose from! — comfort crosses/animals, crosses for Faith Lutheran's cross wall, the annual Chip Chats ornaments for charity/HAWC's Christmas in July carving contest, entries for our fall show

I've been trying to design my entry for the Christmas in July contest. It would be very helpful if I could only draw! I have several ideas in my head, but when I try to draw them, they look bad. I'm envious of people who can draw. With the help of pattern books, I'll eventually get the design I want. How's your entry coming? There are still blanks available for the Christmas in July carving contest.

I am very thankful for our members and their families who are supporting HAWC by donating carving tools and supplies. It is giving us a variety of items for the monthly raffles, raffles at the Fall Show, and giveaways to members. It is especially helpful to our new carvers. You are a special group who willingly and patiently share their knowledge and skills. You make it fun to be a part of HAWC.

We're looking forward to seeing your finished carvings and/or works-in-progress. My works-in-progress are still in progress — I found a new-to-me blank in the donations from Tom Warren's family. Just couldn't resist carving it instead of finishing other projects. 😊

Carolyn Smith

Quarterly Donation Table

The March donation table was a success. I think most everyone found something they just had to have. It was good to see stuff find new homes and not end up in the trash pile of unwanted things. **June** is the second Donation Table Day. The next months will be September and November. November because December is our holiday party. Here's how it works:

1. Bring tools, books, roughouts, blanks, wood (in good condition) that you no longer want.
2. The items will be placed on a table.
3. There will be a free-will Donation Container on the table. Donations are optional; the amount is your choice.
4. At the end of the meeting, the money collected will be given to the treasurer to deposit in the club bank account.
5. If your items are not taken, please take them back home.

We hope this will be an inexpensive way to get new supplies/tools and help carvers who are just getting started.

Monthly Project (Mini-class)



Fred Childers is bringing the June project – miniature, stylized birds. These little birdies should be fun to carve.

Ronnie Boston is bringing Christmas ornament blanks for July. After all it's Christmas in July! August will be a wood burning class with Carolyn Smith, and in September Neil Busso will bring the project.

Christmas in July Contest

If you didn't get a blank in May, there will be more at this month's meeting. The blanks are 5-inch hearts and 5-pointed stars. They have a pattern on them, but the pattern doesn't have to be followed — it's just to give you ideas. You can also make your own blank. Let your imagination run wild in designing your ornament for the competition. It was decided to have a donation basket to help offset the cost. Contributions are appreciated. The ornaments will be judged by popular vote at the July meeting. Then we'll send them and any other ornaments you'd like to contribute to Chip Chats in October for the 3rd Annual Holiday Ornament Share & Care Campaign.

Community Service Projects

Don't forget our two community service projects — Faith Lutheran's Wall of Crosses and comfort crosses/birds/animals for Faith House Ministry (at Faith Lutheran). All sizes and styles are appreciated. If you have a pattern or can make blanks to share, please bring them to the meeting.

Fall Show

I am excited to announce we have instructors for the Wednesday-Friday classes before the show! **Mike Duhon and Gene Messer** have agreed to teach. These generous guys are designing their classes to be very low cost, affordable so everyone can come have fun. Mike will be offering a choice of Santa, cowboy bolo, or wood spirit on all three days. Gene will be offering a 35mm film canister figure and a 3-inch figure on two days. It's going to be a hard decision on which classes to take so **Save the Dates! — October 14 – 17!**

It's not too soon to start/finish your entries for the competition. Plan now to have a display table and enjoy sharing your art. The show will be **October 17**. Registration will start soon.

Photos from the HAWC Meeting May 2026











The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet this month from
9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday, June 20, 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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