

HAWC Newsletter

March 2026
Volume 18, Issue 3

Houston Area Woodcarvers
(HAWC)

President's Message

It is so great to see HAWC growing! Long time members are returning, newer members are coming, and "new" carvers are joining us. **Randy O'Neal** and **Kasey Shell** also joined HAWC in January. It was a large group at our February meeting.

Ronnie Boston's caricature rabbit project was a fun, easy spring project. I want to challenge everyone who participated in the class to bring their rabbit for this month's show and tell. It will be fun to see how different the same pattern can be!

At the February meeting it was decided to hold another Christmas in July carving contest and donate the ornaments to Chip Chats' Christmas ornament campaign. Last year Jamie Frontiera won a rough out and Ronnie Boston and several of our members' ornaments were featured on the Chip Chats website.

The HAWC officers got together after the February meeting to talk about plans for 2026 — managing the tools/books/blanks we are inheriting, the Fall Show, officer duties, and the website. It was decided that in future years when the TWG Spring Round Up conflicts with our HAWC meeting we will not have a mini-class — that month will be open carving. It will allow those who want to participate in TWG and still have a HAWC meeting for those not going to TWG. It was also decided to have a quarterly "donation table" for gently used tools and books and roughout/blanks/wood. The idea is to help clear our shops of unwanted items and help newer carvers get tools, books and supplies, and in the process, help the club treasury a little bit.

Keep making those carved heirlooms! See you March 21.

Carolyn Smith

Monthly Project (Mini-class)

This month's class (March) will be on sharpening our tools. Thank you, Lance Rath, for volunteering to teach the class. In April Ronnie Boston will be bringing the project. 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 June and July.

Crosses for Faith Lutheran

So far, we have 46 crosses and 1 angel. Eight carvers signed their work; at least 2 didn't. We all need to remember to sign our work. It makes it more special if whoever gets the piece knows who carved it. Thanks to all our cross makers.

Quarterly Donation Table

March will be the first Donation Table Day. The next months will be June, September and November. November because December is our holiday party. Here's how it will work:

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 Donation Container on the table.
4. If you take an item and are able, put your donation in the container. The amount is your choice.
5. At the end of the meeting, the money collected will be given to the treasurer to deposit in the club bank account.
6. 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. If it goes well in March and June, we'll keep doing it. If not, we'll stop.

Fall Show

We have confirmed the location for the Fall Show – the Fellowship Hall at Faith Lutheran. New for 2026 will be a Youth Display Table provided by HAWC. Youth will be able to display their carvings for free on the Youth Table. Competition entry fees for Youth will be half price. Youth are carvers who are under the age of 18.

Also new in 2026, you can register for a member shared table, member table, non-member table or visiting club table. There will be a price increase from 2025 because we know more about the expenses of the show (room rental vs free, etc.) and we're back in practice entering competitions.

The search is on for instructors and class types for the Wednesday-Friday before the show. **Save the Dates! – October 14 – 17!** Your help is needed to make it successful.

Texas Wood Carvers Guild (TWG)

Wanted! Carvers who are interested in being leaders in TWG and keeping carving growing in Texas. There will be elections in April at the Spring Roundup for President, Treasurer, Financial Officer, and Publicity Officer. Officer meetings are held telephonically and at the Spring meeting in Kerrville, TX. More information will be available at our meeting Saturday. Contact Helen Havemann, hhavemann@austin.rr.com, telephone (713) 385-0682, or Kathy Roberts, katloy.kr@gmail.com for more information or to apply. Current officers will be available to train you in the positions. If you are interested, the time is now to apply!

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/>. If you need help with signing up electronically, please contact Helen Havemann at hhavemann@austin.rr.com.



If you have carvings that are not painted and you don't want, consider giving them to the TWG for the 2026 community service project to help a veteran. Charlie Holden has offered to take the carvings to Kerrville — bring any you have to this month's meeting.

Photos from February 2026











Houston Area Woodcarvers
25211 Sandi Lane
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The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet this month from
9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday, March 21, 2026, at the
Faith Lutheran Church Day School Community Center,
4600 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX

See us on the Web: houstonareawoodcarvers.com

EMAIL: houstonwoodcarvers@yahoo.com

On Facebook: Houston Area Wood Carvers