

HAWC Newsletter

October 2026
Volume 18, Issue 10

Houston Area Woodcarvers
(HAWC)

President's Message

*The mornings are cooler, the pumpkins are in the stores and It's Time for the HAWC 56th Show, Competition and Sale!!!
Are you ready!*

The September meeting was a lot of fun. We had 6 visitors and 29 members! Thank you, Nic Guerin, **Marcel Guerin**, **Nathan Guerin**, **Megan Palkovics**, **Brian Boling**, and **Huner Dusek** for coming. We look forward to seeing all of you at the Show in October and at the November meeting.

The carving community has lost a good friend, great carver, and excellent teacher. Wanda Reichert passed away September 23, 2026. She was a long time Texas Wood Carvers Guild member and an excellent instructor who taught at TWG Roundup for many years. She taught carving in relief, in the round, and power carving. Most of her class went home with a finished project both carved and painted. Wanda also taught several years at HAWC's Fall Show Classes and along with her husband, Danny Reb, judged our shows. Danny has also been hospitalized in September; I don't have a report on how he is doing.

I've been busy getting ready for the Fall Show — taking care of last-minute details and trying to finish my competition entries. Do you have yours ready? Last year we had a lot of creative carvings. I'm really excited about this year's classes. Mike Duhon and Gene Messer have some easy challenges for us. I say challenges because I'm still learning to carve faces and need all the help I can get. Mike and Gene will be able to give us some pointers on faces and other parts of carving that challenge us. It will be a fun three days.

Because we are having the three days of classes and show, there will not be a regular club meeting in October. The next regular meeting will be November 21. We'll elect 2027 officers and plan the Christmas party.

Bring all your friends to the Show on October 17th. They can help decide the People's Choice and Best Display Table awards and do some heckling during the whittling contest. See you on the 17th!

Carolyn Smith

Fall Show

It's Time! Our 56th Annual Fall Show will be Saturday (October 17). It will be a great day with a Whittling Contest (don't forget to bring your tools), greeting visitors, and of course, the carving competition. There will be awards for Best of Show; People's Choice; Pastor's Choice; Best Display Table; and 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place for each of the carving categories.

Show Schedule

8:00 am	Display set up
8:30-9:45 am	Competition Check-in
9:00 am	Show Opens
9:45 am	Judging Begins
1:30-2:30 pm	Whittling Contest
3:00 pm	Awards Presentations
3:30 pm	Raffle Closes
5:00 pm	Show Closes
5:00-6:00 pm	Clean Up

Demonstrations throughout the day. (Bring a small project that you can work on at your table; great conversation starters.)

We have **19** display tables and **1** vendor. You don't have to have a display table to enter the competition. And don't forget the **Whittling Contest!** Carvers and hecklers are needed for the Whittling Contest Saturday afternoon.

You don't have to be a member of HAWC to enter the competition. I'm happy to say that we do not have space for more display tables. Come and support your fellow carvers as they display their art and compete in the whittling contest and general competition. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to come see the fantastic art that HAWC members create.

There is a good turnout for the show classes on Wednesday – Friday. Fun projects and talented instructors. Can't wait to see the finished carvings!

Monthly Project (Mini-class)

Thank you, Neil Busso, for bringing the September project, an owl. Neil had an overflowing class! Jamie Frontiera will be bringing a chip carving project for the November meeting. It will be in two sizes. Let Jamie know whether you want the large or small blank.

We're in need of carvers to bring projects in 2027 and suggestions on what you would like to learn/carve!

Sunshine Corner

The *World of Decoys* online magazine features all forms of carvings. The editor, Rafton Lefort, is including photos of carving events, club Show & Tell, flyers for carving shows. He is trying to help promote and grow all types of carving. HAWC's 2026 Christmas in July photos and August Show & Tell photos are in the magazine. He's asked to get photos of our Fall Show and monthly Show & Tell. If you do **not** want your photo posted in the magazine or the HAWC website, please let Carolyn Smith and Helen Havemann know. Check out the October issue of *World of Decoys* <https://online.fliphtml5.com/xqgis/October-WORLD-of-DECOYS-MAGAZINE/#p=1>

Congratulations to Jerry McNulty for being inducted into the Caricature Carvers of America! It is an honor to be a part of this group and we're proud to have another Texas carver as part of the Caricature Carvers of America. <https://cca-carvers.org/>

Community Service Projects

Donations for our community service projects will be presented to Faith Lutheran at the Fall Show.

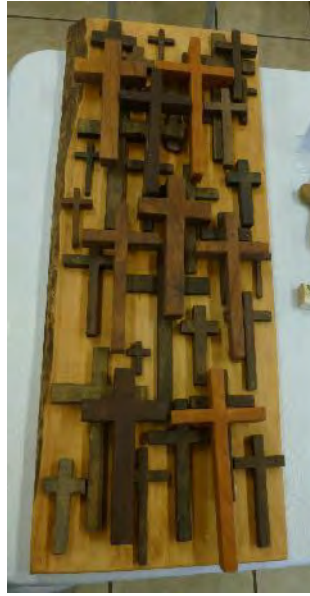
Comfort crosses/birds/animals for Faith House Ministry (at Faith Lutheran) are needed.

Update of the Wall of Crosses: I've talked with Stacy Williams, Faith Lutheran. There have been changes and milestone celebrations at the church. Her latest message is

"We have not hung the crosses yet as we are about to go into major renovations, but they are safely put away in my office. Once everything is complete, we will display them, as we have also asked members to add to the collection. We really want to display them in the lobby area."

Photos from the HAWC Meeting August 2026







The Houston Area Woodcarvers have their annual show this month from 8am-5pm on October 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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