

HAWC Newsletter

September 2026
Volume 18, Issue 9

Houston Area Woodcarvers
(HAWC)

President's Message

The August meeting had a great turn-out of carvers – 25 members and 3 visitors. Thank you, Elliott Emery, Jenny Casteneda, and Victoria Shipman, for coming. Jenny is a potter and graciously showed some of her work during Show 'N Tell. We look forward to seeing all of you again soon.

I usually learn something at every meeting. August's lesson was *to always have a Plan B*. It was my turn to bring the monthly mini-class project, a wood burning project. Most of the time experienced wood burners are taking the class. Sooo, I designed a fall project with a pumpkin girl selling pumpkins under a tree. Not really a beginner project. **Five** people in the class had never wood burned! Luckily, I had brought my pattern box so we picked out an easier project – a stylized bird. All five of the new wood burners completed the project and did a great job! Looking at their projects, you'd never know it was their first time. The "pros" in the class also did a good job on the original project. Lesson learned – always have a Plan B. I had fun with the class and hope they did too.

HAWC got an email inviting us to participate in Armand Bayou Nature Center's Fall Festival November 7 and 8. At the meeting it was decided to participate. I've submitted the application and am waiting for confirmation. We'll talk more about it at the meeting and have signup sheets.

Plans are coming together for the Fall Show and Classes in October. See the latest update in this newsletter. We have room for more students and exhibit tables!

I'm looking forward to a day of fellowship, sharing and carving on the 19th. See you then!

Carolyn Smith

Monthly Project (Mini-class)



This month (September) Neil Busso will bring the project, an owl, which can be a magnet or hanging ornament. Jamie Frontiera will be bringing a chip carving project for the November meeting.

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

Sunshine Corner

Harry Seurkamp is working to start a new carving club at Russell Farm Art Center in Burleson, TX. They are new carvers — he's had 5 to 7 students at each gathering. If you're up for a road trip and can help, Harry is looking for carvers to help teach. Call Harry at 254-580-3555 or email him at rxwood61@yahoo.com.

Fall Show

The show and classes are only a month away! Are you ready for a great 4-day carving gathering? **Classes are October 14-17 — *There's room for more students!!!!*** Mike Duhon's Wednesday and Friday classes have six students and his Thursday class has 3. Gene Messer's Thursday and Friday classes have 4 students.

The show will be on **Saturday, October 18**. We have **9** display tables and **1** vendor. There's space for more display tables. Calling all Youth! There will be a free, shared table for you to display your carvings. Awards will be given for Best of Show, Pastor's Choice, People's Choice and Best Display Table. Everyone attending the show will be able to vote for People's Choice Award and Best Display Table Award. 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.

Registration forms for classes and display tables will be at the meeting on the 19th for those who don't have computer printers. **Registration deadline is October 1.** We hope you'll take classes, have a display table and enter the competition.

We've received a raffle donation from David & Sally Nye, Fan Carvers World. We appreciate their ongoing support. (Did you know they have video tutorials on their website? www.fancarversworld.com) Do you get the *Texas Highways* magazine? Look for our show listing in the October events and we're on their website also.

You don't have to be a member of HAWC to take classes or have a display table – so invite your carving friends. Come and support your fellow carvers as they display their art and compete in the whittling contest and general competition.

Community Service Projects

Donations for our community service projects are still needed. We will be presenting them to Faith Lutheran at the Fall Show.

All sizes and styles of crosses for Faith Lutheran's Wall of Crosses are appreciated. Comfort crosses/birds/animals for Faith House Ministry (at Faith Lutheran) are also needed. There will be a few blanks for comfort crosses and hearts at the September meeting.

Photos from the HAWC Meeting August 2026









The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet this month from
9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday, September 19, 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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