

SWWA's WOODWORKER'S CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 3, 2011



The 2011 edition of **SWWA's Woodworker's Challenge** took place on November 3rd. We had 28 projects entered in the six categories – five more projects than last year. Ribbons and prizes were awarded in every category. Thank you everyone for either entering or participating in the voting. Great job by all! Plan for 2012 now – the date is November 1st!

Starting with the **What Not** category, we had two entries. Entry one was from **Bernd Krause** and was titled *Newlywed*. Bernd bent and formed the walnut to represent two newlyweds and then attached the piece to a block of spalted maple burl before finishing it with lacquer. Entry two was **Tony Baleno's** original design guitar stand which he constructed for his wife, Lee. The oak stand was built with both mortise & tenon and box joints. Felt was added to protect the guitar and musical notes adorn the upright section. Tony was first and won a gift certificate to PS Wood while Bernd won second and won a gift certificate to Highland Woodworking.

The **Toys** category was next with three entries. Third place and a gift certificate to Treeline went to **Barbara Raymond** with her jumping cherry bunny. A pine doll cradle from **Jim Patsos** received 2nd place and a sanding mop donated by RJR Studios. The first prize winner was **Wilbur Chatterton** with his truck made from red cedar, walnut, and cherry and finished with Bush Oil. Wilbur received a gift certificate to PS Wood for his efforts.



TOYS



using about 3 dozen #5 blades. Tony finished the piece with four coats of antique oil and added a paper backer to accent it. Tony received a book from Scroller and a gift certificate from The Art Factory for his 3rd place finish.

In second place, **Barbara Raymond** entered her figured big leaf burl clock which is finished with Danish oil. Barbara received 2 gift certificates, one from Scroller and one from



SCROLLED

Our third category was **Scrolled** with four entries. Receiving an Honorable Mention was **Bill Noroski** with his Porsche 356A cut-a-way. This carefully cut piece is of 1/8" Baltic birch and one of 3 cut and then signed by Chuck Stoddard, one of reasons why Porsche cars are available in the US. Third place was won by **Tony Baleno** with his cherry, natural edged Mallard cut-out. The 7/8" thick slab now has 409 cuts that took Tony 24.25 hours to cut

The Art Factory. The *Golden Spike* train picture cut by **Paul Granger** won first prize. The trains and letters are cut from maple and mounted on a walnut backer. Paul finished his picture with lacquer and received two gift certificates, one from Scroller and one from The Art Factory.

Turned Objects is the fourth category. It had the most entries, eight with five Honorable Mention (HM) winners. **John Meloling** received a HM award for his #7 maple Shaker rocking chair. This is the chair that won 1st prize in the chair category at NWA's Saratoga show last spring. **Rod Castle's** cherry burl accented with padauk and black veneer crush grind peppermill also won HM. The burl is from Tupper Lake and needed washing to remove the mud and stones before he could start turning. A black walnut bowl was the HM entry from **Tom Lawlor**. He used Waterlox wiping varnish for the finish. A black ash bowl with a salad bowl oil finish was the entry from **Mark Baumes**. Our last HM turned project was a maple lamp constructed by **Wilbur Chatterton** as a Christmas gift for his wife. Winning a gift certificate for third place was **John Ruttan's** box elder burl vase. This vase was dyed and then finished with lacquer to produce its shiny finish. The second place turned object was the 24" diameter maple burl platter presented by **Charlie LaPrease**. Charlie received a gift certificate to Craft Supply for his win. A well deserved first place and Craft Supply gift certificate was won by **Bob Norton** for his maple, walnut, black veneer, and mahogany 18 layer segmented bowl. Bob was inspired by a Feb 1999 *Wood* magazine article by Ray Allen which provided the plans for creating each of the layers. The prep work alone took Bob many hours, required precision cuts at 22½°, 15°, 7½°, and required lots of patience even before he started to turn. The feature ring in the center of the bowl contains 120 pieces. This is Bob's first ever segmented piece. What a piece!



The **Accessories** category [photos next page] had four entries which resulted in one Honorable Mention. **Mic Jenkins'** spalted maple box created from wood which came down in Hurricane Ike garnered him HM. Good friend Ed Fauler re-sawed some of the wood for him over 8 years ago. Third place and a Woodline gift certificate were won by **Jerry Higby** with his box elder jewelry box. The red coloration is due to a pigment found in a fungus (*Fusarium negundi*) that commonly afflicts the tree. Much of the reddish coloring becomes a more subdued pink or brown/gray upon drying. New member **Jason Wrench** received 2nd place and a Lee Valley gift certificate for his curly cherry and curly maple innovative jewelry box. We saw this piece when Jason joined us a couple months ago. The rope hinge is unique and patterned after something Jason saw as a kid. The picture showed all the drawers including the hidden one. The router cabinet by **Bruce Meissner** received first prize and garnered Bruce a gift certificate from Lakeshore Hardwoods. Bruce constructed this furniture quality unit of ash. It's design matches the roll around tool chest with the general design patterning a similar unit in the August 2010 *Woodcraft*. The construction included floating panel sides, veneered drawer faces, and full drawer extensions rather than tracks. He also included a 4" port for dust collection needs.

The **Furniture** category [photos next page] had six entries and a tie for 3rd place. Two entries received Honorable Mention ribbons. **Jerry Sweeney** submitted the cherry bookcase which he constructed for his living room. The inspiration was a *Wood* magazine article. In order to match other wood pieces, Jerry used a

Berkley wipe-on stain and then wax to finish the piece.

Bruce Swift entered a walnut hallway bench, the first piece he made, and received a HM ribbon. Again, an article was the inspiration; this time Handyman. However, Bruce modified the plans



ACCESSORIES

to meet his needs. He shrunk the bench's length to 30" to fit his house. When constructing, Bruce buried the end grain and hid the screws to enhance the piece. Our tie for third was between **Bob Casey** and **Jason Wrench**. Bob entered a Shaker tall clock made from cherry and finished with oil. This clock's construction and history was featured in (and on the cover) of the August 2007 *Popular Woodworking*. Bob made several trips to the Shaker Museum and Library in Chatham, NY to measure the original which was built by Erastus Rude in 1811. As with many Shaker pieces that are larger, the top section the clock lifts off for easier transport. Bob's 3rd place resulted in a gift certificate to Woodcraft. Jason entered a cherry and walnut vanity which garnered him a \$25 Lee Valley gift certificate. The three sets of drawer fronts and center doors used book matched walnut. The box joint jigs on the drawers and cut most of the mortise joints by hand. Second place and a gift certificate for Lee Valley was won by **Bob Norton's** ash, cherry, and walnut sleigh coffee table. Bob used plans from *Wood* November 1999 modifying the frame's joints to use mortise and tenon construction rather than lap joints. The runners are 16 pieces of 1/16" ash bent around MDF forms. The table is for sale. Placing first and winning a Lie Nielson gift certificate was **Steve Flood** with his red oak Richfield grandfather clock. Steve took considerable time to complete the project and had Barbara scroll the two side panels. GREAT MEETING! PLAN FOR 2012!



FURNITURE

