

## TRWA PLANNING SESSION SUMMARY 2-16-11

The TRWA board held a meeting and discussed ideas on how to determine what the members want TRWA to provide. A study session was held on 2-7-11 and this is a summary of the information gathered at that study session.

The question that we tried to answer was what does the club need to do to meet the needs of all of the members? This survey and study session was designed to help determine the answers to that question. This recording form was used to guide the study session and record information that could help the club plan programs and activities that will better meet the needs of the members.

The meeting attendees broke into groups of 4-5 members each led by a board member. The group monitor recorded the information on the form based on input from each member of the group. As each group did not follow the same format for recording information it took some interpretation to summarize the gathered information.

### MEMBERS INTERESTS

Each discussion group was to indicate the primary and secondary woodworking interests of each member. It was understood that some members would have interest in more than two disciplines but the Board was trying to determine their main interests at this time. Generally this was successful. After some interpretation of the recording methods used by the different groups to indicate the members interests the summary is as follows. A indicates primary interest and B indicates secondary interest.

Bowl and Vase Turning	A,A,A,A,A,A,A,A	B,B
Furniture Making	A,A,A,A,A	B,B,B,B
Decorative Carving	A,A,A	B,B
Toy Making	A,A	B,B,B
Carving 3-D Objects	A,A	B,B
Cabinet Making	A,A	B
Making Scroll Saw Objects	A,A	B
Model Making	A,A	0
Mini furniture	A,A	0
Band Saw Boxes	A	0
Segmented Const	A	0
Making Marquetry Decorated Objects	0	B,B
Musical Instrument Making	0	B
Utensil Making	0	0
Finish Carpentry	0	B
Tool Making	0	B

### LEARNING/TRAINING NEEDS

Once the interests were noted then there was a discussion about where each member feels they would like to be able to increase their skill and safety level with tools and other disciplines within their fields of interest. Once again the results took some interpretation but the results definitely indicated where the members were interested in improving their skills. All members in one group decided they were interested in each category. This tended to distort the results so a 5 was placed in each category to show that groups overall interest.

Router	1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,5
Band Saw	1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1, 5

Table Saw	1,1,1,1,1,1,1,5
Wood Lathe	1,1,1,1,1,1,1,5
Paint Spraying Equipment	1,1,1,1,1,1,5
Jointer	1,1,1,1,1,5
Design and Drafting	1,1,1,1,5
Scroll Saw	1,1,1,1, 5
Planer	1,1,1,1, 5
Hand Planning Tools	1,1,1,5
Brush and Cloth Finish Application	1,1,1,5
Hand Sanding Power Tool	1,1,5
Hand Chisels	5
Hand Saws	5
Stationary Sanding Tool	5
Power Carving	1,1,1,1
Jigs and Fixture	1,1,1
Joints (Biscuit, Pocket, Tenon, Dowels)	1,1,1
Hand Carving Tools	1,1
Refinishing	1
Making Moldings	1

**MEANS AND METHODS TO MEET MEMBERS NEEDS**

After each group had a better understanding of what each member would like to do and what they would like to learn to be able to increase their skill level in these pursuits then they indicated how to best do it. This part of the discussion focused on what programs, activities and environment the club could provide that would allow the members to pursue their woodworking discipline of interest, freely interact with other members of like interests and actively support general club activities and programs.

It appeared that if each member voted that the total for all categories would be about 25. Some groups did not vote in some categories and that answers why not all of the numbers add up to about 25.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES	Very Useful	Some Use	Not Useful
<b>Show and Tell</b>	25		
<b>McHenry Woodcraft Show</b>	24	1	
<b>Member Presenter Programs</b>	20		
<b>Toy Building Meeting</b>	19	4	2
<b>Public Service Projects</b>	18	2	
<b>This study session</b>	18	2	
<b>Paid Presenter Programs</b>	16	8	1
<b>Woodturning SIG</b>	12	2	10
<b>Box Contest</b>	11	6	5
<b>Jeep Decorating Contest</b>	11	5	6
<b>Hard copy newsletter</b>	10	7	7
<b>E-Mail newsletter</b>	10	9	6
<b>Newsletter Help Desk</b>	8	4	10
<b>Auction</b>	7	3	10
<b>Raffle</b>	5	1	16

## POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

Member taught woodworking classes	27	1	2
Field Trips	19	3	2
Member pre-meeting demonstrations	7	3	10
Tool Swap Meet Meeting	8	5	12
Bylaws Review Committee	5		10
Additional Special Interest Groups	5		10

## OTHER POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

If different individuals listed potential activities in different groups this is indicated by the number of votes listed after that potential activity.

Shop Tour (field trip)  
Band Saw tune up 1,1  
Band Saw box making 1,1  
Increase Membership by 1-3 members  
Tool Sharpening  
Woodcraft Store Visit with enough members for discount (field trip)  
Club social event with wives  
Individual 1 on 1 instruction  
Demo dovetail jig  
Fellowship with other wood workers

### What other things do you think we are missing or need?

Q & A session at meeting and/or on the internet  
List of specialty woodworking clubs in the area  
Beginner, intermediate and advanced categories for the McHenry Woodcraft Show  
Limit paid presenter program time and have program on first  
Revise library(DVD not tapes, vote on what members want in library, index in newsletter, DVD of month)  
Make room in newsletter for special interest groups (carving, scroll saw, etc.)  
Paid presenters should be mostly hands on (limit slide show to 20 slides)  
Field Trips

### What is your favorite TRWA activity?

Meetings 1,1  
McHenry Woodworking Show 1,1,1,1,1,1  
Toy making (pass out patterns, materials, etc. meet on days other than Saturday)

### What is your least favorite TRWA activity?

Lack of participation of members 1,1,1  
Members talking amongst themselves during meeting and program  
Drifting away from intention of the club  
Raffle  
Bylaws Review  
Paying Dues  
Lack of mentoring  
Lack of training new members