Southern New England Scroll Saw Club February 14, 2016 Meeting Notes

We had nine people attending the February meeting, including one new member who met us at the Woodworking Show. We welcome Tom Caffeine to our club, and hope to see him at many of our future meetings. Maurille brought his granddaughter, Samantha, to the meeting and she amazed all of us with the wildlife/landscape plaques she made using plans from The Berry Basket. They were very well done, and I hope she continues to be involved with making projects on the scroll saw.

Max gave a quick summary of the Woodworking Show results. Our booth was stuck in a corner again, but we did have the Seacoast Scroll Saw Club in a booth next to us, so that was a big help. The attendees enjoyed using the saws we had in use, and at least one attendee purchased a saw at the West Springfield Woodcraft store as a result of our demonstration of the saw at the show. The attendance at this year’s show appeared to be lower than in previous years. If all goes well, we plan to participate again next year.

Thanks go to everyone that helped staff the booth this year during the show, and a special thanks to Max for taking care of all of the on-site logistics, transporting the scroll saw from and to Woodcraft, and setting up and taking down the booth.

The show and tell was dominated by the amazing mechanical hummingbird that Dick W. built. The bird was powered by a small electrical motor that moved almost every portion of the bird’s body through a series of gears and cams. It was an incredible site to watch as it flapped its wings, moved the tail, and flew in to the flower and back out again. The project took Dick over 5 weeks to construct, working on the project every day, with over 200 hours total labor. The project also cost over $250 for the plans and hardware involved. A tremendous accomplishment by Dick, and something he will be able to proudly display. There is a “you-tube” video of the hummingbird if you want to see the bird in action, but you will need to search for it - I no longer have the link on my computer. It is worth the watch!

Dick also brought in 3 other motorized walking creatures that he built. Dick has become the “gizzmo king” as far as this club is concerned. Great work Dick! Look for pictures of his projects on our website.

Terri brought in an interesting “I-Pad” stand and a couple of “I Phone” holders as well. I did not write down where she got the patterns or if she designed them herself. Pictures of these will be on the website as well.

I did a brief demonstration on the basic pyrography (wood burning) equipment, and brought in a few projects I had completed during our vacation in Florida last month. We did not have the time to show much of the process, so if anyone is interested you can contact me and perhaps I can do another demonstration at a later date.

Speaking of demonstrations, we do not have one lined up for the next meeting, which is April 10, 2016, at the Woodcraft Store in Manchester, CT. So if you have a tip, technique, process, or product you would be willing to share with the club, PLEASE let me know and I will send out the information. We should have a demonstration or discussion at every meeting, but we cannot do it unless someone is willing to step up and do it. Please consider doing a demo sometime this year.

Due to a prior commitment, I will not be able to attend the April meeting, so if someone else could take notes and pass them on to me, I would sincerely appreciate it.

I hope that many of you will be at the April 10 meeting!

Arnie