

TALLAHASSEE WOODCRAFTERS SOCIETY

JULY 2010 NEWSLETTER

CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Spencer Cullen...(850)878-8409 TREASURER: Austin Tatum...(850)561-1400

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Joe Doker... (850)509-1337 e-mail tws@redbaystudio.com

Next Meeting: Tues, July 13th @7:00 p.m.

The July meeting will be held at our regular meeting place, Tri States Automotive, 745 W. Gaines Street in Tallahassee. (see map on next page)

This will be an open discussion meeting where we will have lots to talk about. Discussion items will include: rehash of the museum tour, the IWF meeting that is coming up soon in Atlanta, and the upcoming 10,000 villages project. A friend brought Austin an old wobbly chair for repair. He would like some input on techniques for disassembly and repair of old furniture. We would also like to talk about a possible future field trip to a nearby Georgia Pacific mill. Richard Wieckowicz may have an update about a possible visit to Mark Lindquist's shop in Quincy.

Don't forget your show and tell items.

Highlights From the June Meeting

STATE LIBRARY
STATE LIBRARY

Members gather at the R. A.. Gray Building

The June meeting was a field trip to the shop of the Florida State Museum.

If you've ever been to the Florida State Museum in Tallahassee, you may have noticed the display cases, refurbished parts, and reproductions among the many priceless displays.

Well, thanks to a field trip arranged by Val

Tuck, we received a behind the scene tour of

Buy Sell Or Trade

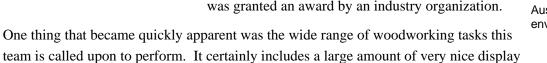
Please contact the Newsletter Editor if you have items for this column.

the shop where that all happens. And, the tour was presented by the craftsmen who carry out this interesting and important work.



Chips Bloyd showing a display case component.

Our main tour guide was Charles Bloyd, aka, "Chips." He started us out in the woodworking shop which, while not extravagant, was provisioned with all the key commercial-grade woodworking machinery. The shop was designed in 1975 and includes a complete dust collection system that automatically opens the proper gates when a particular tool is turned on. The dust collection system was designed by another member of their shop, Brian Smith, and was granted an award by an industry organization.





(Continued on page 2)



TALLAHASSEE WOODCRAFTERS SOCIETY

JULY 2010 NEWSLETTER

("Meeting Summary" Continued from page 1)

cabinetry, but they've also been called upon to make cannon mounts, a river boat, and all manor of accurate missing parts for various state archeological treasures. Many of these items don't come with blueprints, either. Sometimes, when items are too valuable or fragile to display, they are asked to make accurate facsimiles of artifacts. At the time of our tour, a partially completed ceremonial mask was clamped in a vice awaiting the remaining carving by our guide, Chips. All he had to work from were

some detailed photographs taken of the original ancient native American masks that had been unearthed from a peat bog near Vero Beach, Florida.



A partially completed carving of an ancient mask.

The shop doesn't just work with wood, either. They've made a ing of an ancient mask. large number of Plexiglas artifact mounts and cases. They cut the Plexiglas on their table saw but use a special "plexi-blade" made for this purpose.

Viewing an old cannon.

After the shop, we were treated to a tour of an area where undersea artifacts are treated in special chemical baths with electrodes attached to each item to slowly clean them. This room

was designed especially for this purpose and the tanks were full

of very old anchors, cannons, cannon balls and all manor of metal objects. Other tanks contained ancient dugout canoes going through a restorative process that in the final stage will include soaking in ethylene glycol to stabilize the wood.

As if all this wasn't enough, Chips then took us through the Florida State Museum exhibit area where he pointed out many of the unique display cases and other items their shop had produced.



A wooden Florida map made from unique wood scraps.

Directions to the regular meeting location.

