

## Calendar

### DPWW Regular Meetings

Usually Third Monday 7:00PM  
 at [St. James in Glen Ellyn](#)

Will be in person also via  
 Zoom until further notice

- [January 20, 2025](#)
- [February 17](#)

### DPWW Board Meetings

Usually First Monday

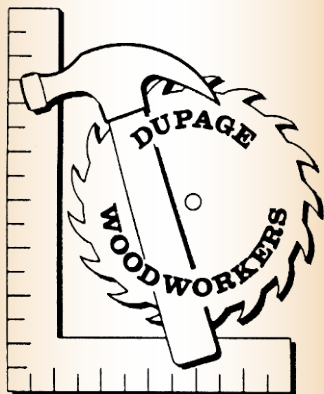
- [January 6, 2025](#)
- [February 3](#)

### Future Activities

- [February 1](#)  
 – [Sawdust in Your Coffee](#)
- [January 18](#)  
 – [Shop Visit Rick Ogren](#)

### Programs

- [January 20](#)  
 – [Splined Boxes George Rodgers](#)
- [February 17](#)  
 – [Microjig products – John Zurales](#)



## President's Message - January 2025



I hope everyone is off to a good start in 2025. Seems to me like just yesterday that people were worried about Y2K!

We had a very nice [Holiday Party](#) at Reserve 22 last month. The food and conversations were both very good. I would like to [see more of our members](#) (link from 2018) attend the holiday party. I will be asking

for ideas/feedback at our upcoming general meeting on Monday, January 20. For those of you who might have remembered a couple of years ago when I had to cancel our meeting on MLK Day; that won't happen this year. I will make sure to get the church keys on Friday rather than finding out the church office is closed on MLK Day.

Speaking of our general meeting, I will be presenting on how [I make splined boxes](#). Hopefully, there will be something for everyone. Some of the frequent program requests we get are how to make a box and also providing some general woodworking information. I hope to meet those goals along with a tip or two for those advanced woodworkers.

I am looking forward to our next activity, a [tour of Rick Ogren's shop](#), on Saturday January 18 from 10am to noon. Rick has a well equipped, clean and well organized shop. Always an inspiration to see. Look forward to seeing you there.

We normally go to Milwaukee in February for the annual The Woodworking Show. It appears that the organizers of The Woodworking Shows will not be having their usual set of shows this year. [Vaibhav Konanur](#), our activity chair, is open to ideas about activities you think we should be hosting. Please talk to him or one of the other board members at our January meeting.

Everyone likes the coffee and treats provided at our meeting intermission. They don't just appear. [Jim Harvey](#), [Mary Olson](#) and [Ron Colliander](#) have been doing this for the past several years. They are ready to pass the baton. Please step forward if you can to help set up and clean up. It doesn't take much time and is something appreciated by our members. Please let me or one of the other board members know if you can help.

Finally, we are still looking for someone to help with/take over the production of our newsletter. This is a very valuable asset to our organization. [Jim Harvey](#) is very willing to help you learn the ropes and make this transition seamless. Please let Jim or one of the other board members know if you can help with this.

Hope to see you in January!

**George Rodgers 708-623-9038 [GLRodgers@comcast.net](mailto:GLRodgers@comcast.net)**



## DuPage Woodworkers Board Meeting — January 6, 2025



**George Rodgers** opened the Zoom meeting at 7:02pm. In Secretary **Steve Young's** absence, **Mark Wieting** agreed to draft minutes; **Dave Wesolowicz** also contributed.

Present were Gordon Brand, Jim Harvey, Bill Hoffman, Mike Kalscheur, Bruce Metzdorf, Lee Nye, Howard Peterson, Mark Wieting, Dave Wesolowicz.

### **Agenda Additions, Changes and Approval –**

No changes were made to the proposed agenda. The Board approved the December 2 meeting minutes.

**Treasurer's Report: (Dave Wesolowicz)** – Dave reported that at year end our cash balance was \$8637. As compared to the previous year, figures for income and expense were similar, except for a jump in donations, resulting from two donations of wood then sold to our members, some individual donations for the food pantry project, members adding donations to their dues payment. Additionally, a \$250 donation from the employees of Excelon was deposited in our account in 2025. The board did not know the genesis of the Excelon donation.

### **Communications:**

**Secretary – George Rodgers** mentioned that Steve and others are attempting to obtain the complete set of back minutes from **Jerry Johnson**. **Mike Kalscheur** mentioned that his membership records go only as far back as 2014 and he would like a more complete set.

**President** – No report

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Membership (Mike Kalscheur)** – Mike reported that we now have 218 total members, and that 80% of member households have paid their dues for 2025. About 40 members have not yet reupped. Mike had sent to the board a list of items suggested for programs and activities he'd gleaned from the dues process responses. There seemed to be an emphasis on basic skills, along with more advanced topics and activities. It was suggested that perhaps basic skills instruction could take place a member's shop.

**Library (Tom Kubica)** – Through George, **Tom Kubica** reported that **Andy Ban** had offered to donate books and magazines, and **Jim Harvey** said he is likely to donate

some books in the near future.

**Publicity (Mark Wieting)** – No activity beyond the successes we had with [CBS Channel 2](#) and [WGN Channel 9](#) covering the toys program.

**Prizes (Bruce Kinney)** – Bruce recounted our shift from offering three prizes to offering two, with a resulting budgeted expense going from \$200 per meeting to \$150. Offering two prizes has gone well but increasing prices of tools is becoming a minor concern. Tools that used to cost \$100 are now \$125 or so, and that squeezes the budget for secondary prizes.

Bruce said he has already purchased prizes for meetings through May, and that the larger prizes are in hand through the end of the year. The prizes for January will be a suite of sanders (random orbital, palm ¼ sheet, and detail), and a fire extinguisher and gooseneck work light.

**Toys (George Rodgers)** – The annual toy collection will occur at the November 17th meeting.

**Newsletter (Jim Harvey)** – Jim will include a link to the Colliander brothers (Ron and Mike) early morning [visit with WGN](#) to donate toys to its annual toy drive. He will note the **Rick Ogren** shop visit.

**From Our Workshop (Lee Nye)** – Lee Nye reported he has the prizes for January, safety items for the table saw and planer.

**Activities (Vaibhav Konanur)** – Bruce said there is a [shop tour at Rick Ogren's shop](#) Jan, 18, from 10 am to 12 noon. There was a plan to attend the Milwaukee Wood Show in February but it appears to have been cancelled. We are looking for alternative activity for February.

**Programs (Bruce Metzdorf)** – Bruce talked about future programs he has scheduled. January: **George Rodgers** on making spline joints. February: **John Zurales** will show [Microjig products](#) applied to a specific project..

In addition there was discussion of whether it would be desirable to pay small honoraria to club members who make presentations as a thank you for their efforts. Although that has not been the tradition in the past at DPWW, other clubs do so and we should explore it further. We do pay honoraria to outside speakers unless they are representing a company. The current budget



was not constructed with the idea of payments to members, but there is some flexibility. Bruce will follow up with the member who asked that it be considered.

**A/V (Howard Peterson)** – Howard said he is still exploring a new microphone for meetings.

**Web (Bill Hoffman)** – Bill Hoffman noted the addition of two new volunteers, **Michael Welburn** and **Vaibhav Konanur**. Bill said they have defined roles including on the one hand the calendar, programs and activities, and on the other working on revising the website in the context of a content management system which makes it easier to post photos and text to the website. Bill called it a work in progress. **Mike Kalscheur** noted that many new members have found our organization through our website. Bill is working to make it easier to join via our website, and noted that two brand-new members were on Saturday’s Sawdust in Your Coffee.

**Tools (Gordon Brand)** – An item left over from a recent tool sale will now become one of the club’s “loaner items,” a **Porter Cable biscuit joiner**. A **dial indicator** for setting up power tools is also available. George noted that the sale of deceased member **Jack Harkins’** shop is progressing; Windy City Wood Turners is organizing it and it’s likely that larger tools will be sold first, this winter, then hand tools later in the year. George is also helping.

## Old Business:

a. **Holiday Party** – **George Rogers** George noted that the attendees had a good time and that the setting at the restaurant worked out well. He also said he’s heard some concerns about the cost. The board reviewed other years’ versions of the holiday party, from a straight-out potluck dinner to a meeting with a presentation followed by deserts. The Fox Valley club has tried various formats, including a very inexpensive pizza dinner. There were comments that the cost of eating anywhere where the food was as good as at Reserve 22 has to be, in general, as much or more than the \$45 per person (including taxes and tip) we paid in 2024. Mark said he wondered if the tradition of suggesting that people who brought guests consider making a gift for spouses or significant others was a disincentive for attendance. There was no consensus whether it was or

was not. George will solicit input from other members on how to increase attendance at the party.

Some ideas:

- Having a less formal party, more like our summer picnic. Possibly a catered food such as pizza supplemented by potluck dishes.
- Have a party at a less formal restaurant/bar. Members would order their own food and drink and pay for it themselves.
- Have a party that’s part of a general meeting. Have a presentation that would appeal to both members and spouses.

b. **Service Award** – In **Jeff Kramer’s** absence, Bruce recounted the meeting of the committee which had been summarized and sent to the board. The Service Award was considered a big “thank you” to someone who has made a consistent contribution over a long period of time or contributed something unique over a shorter period of time. The award could be accompanied by a certificate or plaque and a club-logo’d item such as a mug or drinking cup. The committee also suggested that the current Life Member Award be changed to Honorary Life Member Award and that such memberships be limited to a finite number, probably about ten.

There was discussion about all of these items and suggestions, and the committee was asked to reconvene to refine their recommendations.

c. **Past Activities** – **Ed Buhot’s** earlier presentation of string inlays was praised. Ed prepared [instructional notes](#) on the process that will be shared in a future newsletter or our web site.

## New Business:

a. **Mike Kalscheur** asked if we will continue to stream our live meetings on Zoom in 2025, since only about 5-10 members tune in. **Bill Hoffman** said, tongue in cheek, “We’ve discovered all the problems we can have,” so we can deal with them, and it’s not terribly hard to continue this service to our members. There are some members that can’t physically attend the meetings and Zoom allows them to join the meeting from home. The consensus of the board was to continue to offer Zoom meetings.

Adjournment – 8:26pm

– **Mark Wieting**





## Sawdust In Your Coffee



**Sawdust in Your Coffee** is our Zoom-based monthly discussion of wood related subjects. There were 13 participants at the January 4 Sawdust meeting. Topics discussed included:

1. Moving homes and moving your shop.
2. Bookcase drawer assembly. options for finishing parts prior to assembly.
3. Attaching 3D printed letters to wooden name plate.
4. Resawing on the bandsaw tips.
5. Veneering Mickey Mouse character onto a plaque.
6. Recommendations for plug cutters
7. Habitat Restore changing locations and grand re-opening in Naperville.
8. Upcoming shop tour of **Rick Ogren's** shop.
9. Looking for club activity ideas.

There will be another SIYC meeting at **9:00 on Saturday, February 1**. Bring your questions, your progress, and/or your coffee. Expect the usual Email Zoom invitation. — **Ron Colliander**

## January 2025 Meeting – Making Splined Boxes

**Bruce Metzdorf, Program Director**

**George Rodgers** will present his methods and jigs for adding splines to the boxes he creates. Splines are an alternative to dovetails or box joints, they add strength to the structure and can be done in contrasting wood.



## Coffee Makers

Gotta have coffee at the DPWW meetings! Thanks to everyone who pitched in at the 2024 meetings. Anyone is welcome to make coffee. Just arrive a little after 6:00 and join the fun with others.

DPWW is currently looking for a volunteer to oversee the kitchen operation.



## From Our Workshop

The [DPWW Gallery Web Page](#) displays member projects. Projects may be submitted prior to our in person meetings, and can be shown in person. With our meetings held in person and via Zoom, if possible, still submit photos of your current projects to **Mike Perry** and **Lee Nye** via [Google Forms](#). All Submitted projects will be featured during the next in person and Zoom monthly meeting "From Our Workshop" segment.



## Membership News

Three new members were added to the DPWW membership roster within the last month. Total membership count is now at 218.

Please welcome new member **Chris Dede** from Wheaton. Chris recently

retired and is now putting more time into woodworking and upgrading equipment, with a new interest in band saw milling and hand tools. He is also interested in building household items, furniture and audio cabinetry.

Also please welcome **Douglas Jensen** from Wheaton. Douglas found DPWW on our website and wants exposure to lots of woodworking basics and learning more skills about this craft. He's made some basic things like cutting boards, cooking utensils, a basic bench, but wants to step up his woodworking game.

Also please welcome **John Albrecht** from Wheaton. John's woodworking interests are furniture, framing, toys, decks, cutting boards, and general wood-crafting. I understand that John may soon have some honey locust lumber available for members.

### **Newsletter Editor or Assistant Request**

No member(s) have yet come forward to take on the Board member position of Newsletter Editor. The DPWW monthly newsletter is a very important

publication where many members learn what's going on in the club. Please consider taking on some/all of the Newsletter Editor tasks. Even a few hours a month of your time will be welcomed. Perhaps you're willing to take photos for the newsletter at a monthly meeting? **Jim Harvey** probably has an extra camera for you to use. He will be happy to train a member or two who are willing to dedicate their time and effort. More details about the Editor tasks are in the [October](#) and [November 2024](#) newsletters.

### **Membership Renewal Dues for 2025 Now Overdue**

Members who haven't yet renewed their membership by submitting a dues payment should have received an emailed reminder in early January. There's a 2-month grace period until March 1st, after which members who haven't submitted annual dues (\$30) will have their name removed from the membership roster and email distribution list. About 80% of the total current households have already submitted their annual dues. That leaves about 40 households who have not renewed yet. Please contact me first if you don't recall whether or not you've submitted dues. That's preferred rather than paying annual dues more than once. Members who do not plan to renew for 2025 at this time are certainly welcome to re-join at a future date.

– **Mike Kalscheur**  
[membership@dupagewoodworkers.org](mailto:membership@dupagewoodworkers.org)



## Internet Links of the Month

**Jimmy Carter**, in addition to his roles as Governor and president was a serious woodworker. Jimmy was friends with Sam Maloof. In 2023 Highland Woodworking produced a page dedicated to Carter as he frequently patronized their store.

[Wood News Online - a free monthly online newsletter - May 2023](#)

MLCS had a nice manual for router techniques. Unfortunately MLCS was bought by HValley Tools and is no longer updating the document. This link is to the 2011 edition.

<https://www.sawdustzone.org/filedata/fetch?id=860049>

We often hear woodworkers complaining about their band saw. **Alex Snodgrass** should be your first resource.

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=alex+snodgrass+bandsaw](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=alex+snodgrass+bandsaw)





**Ed Buhot shared his notes from his recent Workshop(s) on inlaying decorative stringing.**

**Planning and Conducting a Workshop**

When planning for the workshop I would recommend:

- Outline what needs to be discussed.
  - Think about what needs to be experienced in your shop so the attendees will leave with complete enough information to transfer what they have seen to their shop.
- Example: For the String Workshop attendees needed to know how to create channels for the string. Address the selection of materials and source for the string. And creating and adding the string to the project.
  - A 2 to 2 ½ hour workshop with activities requires planning.
- Go through your points of communication (i.e. practice).
  - Discussions can easily wander off-topic, impact getting to the major points and also limit activity time.
- Ask yourself if you have enough time to present all the items and also allow for the activities.
- During the workshop:
  - Stay on track. Keep an eye on the time and remember you have activities to get to.
  - Do not allow yourself to wander off topic or spend too much time on any one activity that jeopardizes getting to all the needed activities.
  - Once again, watch your time.
- Have everything you need for the workshop easily available.
  - It helps to have the items in presentation order.

**Be willing to say –**

- We will see that in a few minutes.
- I've never tried it. Sounds like a good idea.
  - That's interesting, let's talk about it after the workshop

I opened the shop 15 minutes before (9:15 AM) the scheduled workshop time so that the coffee and donuts could be enjoyed, and we could jump into the workshop at 9:30 am. That seemed to work for me.

**Above all enjoy the workshop**

**January 2025 DPWW Activity**

I'm excited to announce our first activity of 2025! Join us for a visit to *Rick Ogren's* shop to learn, connect, and get inspired.

Details of the event:

- **Date: Saturday, January 18, 2025**
- **Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
- **Location: 4533 Linscott Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515**

This is a fantastic opportunity to explore another woodworker's space, share ideas, and gain new insights into tools, techniques, and projects. Space is limited, so please reserve your spot early! Deadline to RSVP is January 11th.

Click here to sign up: <https://forms.gle/Zn46RumFDgq4D3i29>

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me directly at [vkonanur@gmail.com](mailto:vkonanur@gmail.com)

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Best regards,

**Vaibhav Konanur — Activities Chair**

**Mentors List**

Quite a few DPWW members have mentioned they would like to be able to contact someone when they have a question about some aspect of woodworking. On-line videos and woodworking forums are great ways to learn, though sometimes having a knowledgeable person as a mentor works better.

If you can't wait for a meeting to ask a question about a problem in your shop, a club Mentor list is available for all members' reference. Many talented members have already answered the call to share their expertise. As the DPWW motto says, "Learning by Sharing" is part of being a member. The Mentor list is available on our website under the "[Members Only](#)" link.

If you have a special woodworking-related skill or expertise, or maybe you've learned these skills the hard way and are willing to ease the path for beginning woodworkers, let me know if you would like to be added to the Mentor list.

**Mike Kalscheur**



## Community Involvement

A very nice letter received after our November toy donation drive.

From: **Off The Street Club** <OffTheStreetClub@mailman.bloomerang-mail.com>

To: "DuPage Woodworkers" <glrodgers@comcast.net>

Date: 12/16/2024 9:13 AM CST

Subject: Thank You

Dear George,

I am writing with heartfelt gratitude to you and all the members of the DuPage Woodworkers group for the generous donation of dozens of handmade wood toys for the boys and girls of **Off The Street Club**.

Your thoughtful gifts bring so much cheer to our Clubhouse this holiday season. Many of the children at **Off The Street Club** come from impoverished families who do not have the resources for Christmas gifts, so we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kindness.

The kids and staff always love and appreciate the handmade wood toys -- from doll beds to trains to horses to trucks --and we especially appreciate all the time and care that go into making them.

As we approach our 125th anniversary in 2025, **Off The Street Club** is grateful for friends like you who make it possible for us to serve inner-city youth. With supporters like you, we can help boys and girls on Chicago's West Side stay safe, become educated and grow into responsible young adults.

Thank you for your dedication to the kids of **Off The Street Club**. May you all experience an abundance of peace, joy and blessings this holiday season.

Gratefully Yours,

**Arnett Morris**

Executive Director

### **Ron and Mike Colliander interviewed by WGN while delivering toys DuPage Woodworking Club at 2024 WGN Toy Drive**



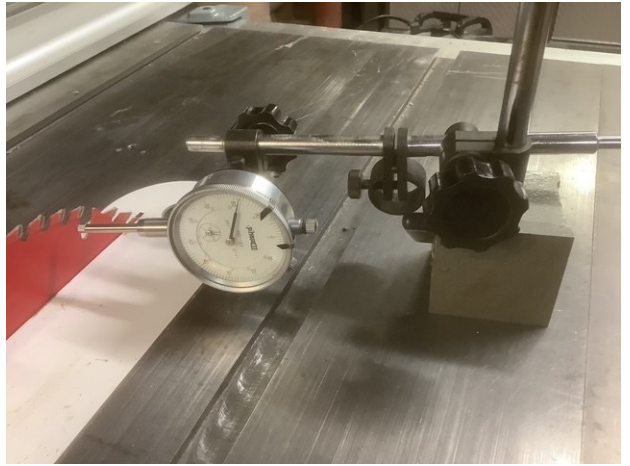




## Borrow DPWW Tools



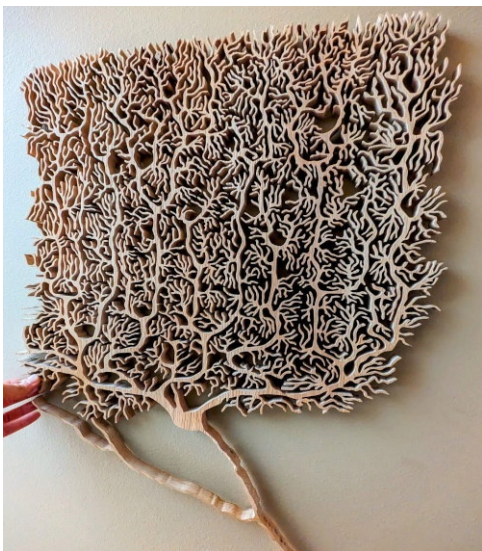
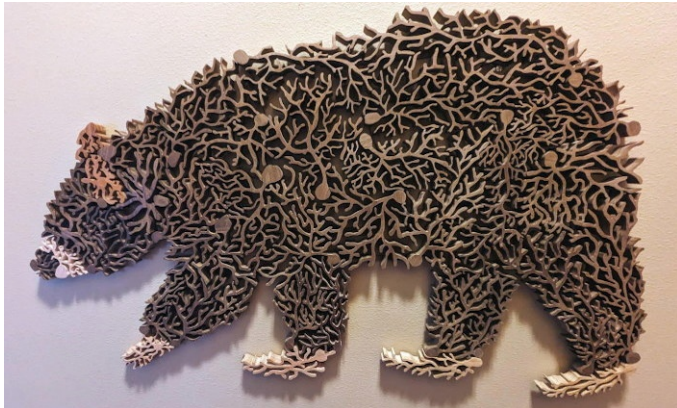
One benefit of being a member of the DuPage Woodworkers is that we have tools you can borrow. We recently acquired a biscuit joiner and a **dial indicator suitable for aligning table saws**. Our Work Sharp has a knife and scissor sharpening attachment. Also DPWW has a 12" planer, an HVLP sprayer, and a small bandsaw. The biscuit joiner, dial indicator, scroll saw, moisture meter, metal detector, Work Sharp, planer, sprayer, bandsaw, and Drill Doctor are available to members by contacting



**Gordon Brand**  
**(630) 661-0476 Gbrandm58@gmail.com**

## Inspirational Project of the Month.

I am a scientist working on the brain during the day, and I spend a lot of my nights and weekends in the shop. – **Louis-Jan Pilaz**



## DPWW Logo Clothing



Welcome to all new DPWW Club members. Stop by my table to introduce yourselves and learn what the club has available in clothing with the DPWW embroidered logo. I just placed an order with our supplier for shirts for those who gave me orders. It should be available for

the January meeting.

Thanks, – **Carl Shaffer 630-251-3106**

## January Door Prizes

Door prizes this month will be:

- Set of three Palm Sanders and a digital caliper.
- Fire Extinguisher and LED Shop Light.



Tickets are \$2 for 1, \$5 for 3, \$10 for 7, \$15 for 11, \$20 for 15.

– **Bruce Kinney**



# DUPAGE WOODWORKERS

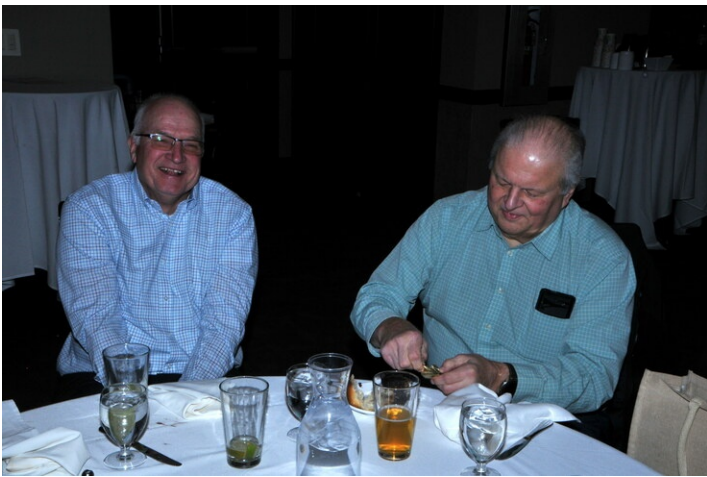


## Holiday Party December 9, 2024 at Reserve 22 in Glen Ellyn

Thirty Dupage Woodworkers and their partners attended this year's party at Reserve 22. Lots of face to face time with people you don't see often. We again had the [Italian style buffet dinner](#). Eight special woodworking projects were [laid out on the prize table](#), these were awarded by lottery to the spouses of those who brought an item.











## Holiday Party 2024 — Food For Everyone





**It's a Dupage Woodworkers tradition to make gifts for the Holiday Party. These are optional and are awarded to companions of the members who made the gifts. A number is drawn and the person with the matching number can pick their choice from the gift table. These photos show the gift projects brought to the 2024 Holiday Party.**  
*Click on an image for a larger view*





