

DESERT WOODCRAFTERS ASSOCIATION (DWA)

Meeting Minutes NOVEMBER 2, 2025

President, Bud Bencic, opened the meeting held at the Flowing Wells High School Auto Shop, at 9:00am with 32 members, and 3 guests: Will Roads (Chris Road's son), Peggy Scalzo (Sam Scalzo's wife), and Linda Heffernan (Terry Heffernan's wife) who joined DWA this month.

MINUTES: Minutes for October were approved with no changes.

50/50: The total was \$76. Fred Frankenfeld won \$38 and \$38 went to the club.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Current DWA bank balance is \$6,442.05.

BRING BACK: Will, Chris Road's son, won the Bring Back, which was a laser box made by Stan Ries. Something for the Bring Back next month will be contributed by Will.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2026 DWA yearly dues. The cost is \$35/year. Pay Jim Payne (cash or check made out to DWA) at the next meeting or mail a check to Jim Payne, 1611 N Roger Rd, Tucson AZ 85705

OLD BUSINESS:

Jim Click RAFFLE TICKETS are available until next week when they will be turned in. \$25 or 5/\$100. Prizes include a new car, trips and cash. Tickets can be bought at SAZWA or DWA through Bud Bencic. Raffle takes place in December.

The 2026 Budget is complete and will be approved before the December meeting..

NEW BUSINESS:

SAZWA Christmas Luncheon will be held Saturday, December 13, catered by the HS Culinary Class. The cost of the lunch will be \$24. Menu to be decided by early December. DWA members can pay Jim Payne.

DWA Christmas Party will be a Potluck held after the meeting on December 6. There will be a auction of DWA ornaments and whatever else members want to donate for auction. Bring money!

Beads of Courage Craft Fair, February 7, 2026. Bring anything handmade to auction. Give items to Beads of Courage Community Project Chairman, Curt Peters.

Santa's Helpers (Elves):

Dec 15, Meet @9:00am - Richardson Elementary School, 6901 N. Camino de la Tierra.

Dec 18, Meet @9:00am - Walter Douglas Elementary School, 3302 N. Flowing Wells Rd.

Pen Kits Pricing: Price increasing due to Tariffs and Duty on imports, Pen Kits have gone up to \$65. It is still 1/3 the price of anywhere else. Could check AMAZON for “buy in bulk” prices, which are pretty good.

Shopsmith: Shopsmith has suspended operations after 75 years. There will be no more support for owners of Shopsmiths.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

AUCTION & FOR SALE:

Carbide, Gold-Standard Saw Blade, donated by Chip Jarvis. Value \$160 new. Cuts smoothly. Gold Standard Saw Blades are top quality and must go back to the manufacturer in Missouri for sharpening. The cost is \$75, with a turnaround time of 1 week. Sold to John Nicholson for \$45.

Roller Stand for Saw: Sold to Spencer Davis for \$10.

Delta 14” Bandsaw Guide Block: Sold to Spencer for \$10.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

DOODLE BOXES (Part of the Toy Project) – Chairman: Terry Glover (520) 290-8503

Each Doodle Box comes with a set of 4 colored, dry-erase makers)

Goal Set for 2025: (between DWA & SAZWA). 1,000

Status for 2025: TBD (over the Goal set)

* Note: Still have kits ready to assemble. Contact Terry to volunteer.

TOYS – Chairman: Frank Pickett (520) 546-7646

Goal set for 2025: 3,000 (including Doodle Boxes)

Status for 2025: TBD Completed Toys must be turned in by the December Meeting, Dec. 1.

* Note wheels and axles are provided for toys cards. See Frank for bags of them. Also if you don't like to paint, but like to build, we can arrange for volunteers to paint for you.

BEADS OF COURAGE - Chairman: Curt Peters (520) 240-4876

Goal set for 2025: 50

Status for 2025: 57 Met the year goal, but will still be accepting more.

* Note: Community Project Beads of Courage containers cannot be auctioned off at their auction event. They are made to give to the kids. However, containers for auctioning can be accepted as a separate donation from individuals and will not be counted as part of the Community Project total.

PURPLE HEART PENS - Chairman: Spencer Davis (520) 471-2480

Goal set for 2025: TBD

Status for 2025: TBD 50 pen kits and blanks are available for completion.

* There will be a re-opening of 2 new Military Order of Purple Heart Clubs - one in Apache Junction and one in Tucson.

PENS FOR VETERANS - Chairman: Terry Heffernan (520) 400-9252.

Goal Set: not established for 2025

Status: 10 (already handed out to Veterans)

PENS FOR THE TROOPS – Temporary Chairman: Bud Bencic (972) 533-8752

New Chairmen (starting 2026): Dale (520) 539-2173 & Dianna Benson (520) 699-1588

Goal set for 2025: 1,900 (between DWA and SAZWA).

Status for 2025 : 1,600 (might meet goal with pens turned in today - not counted yet)

* It takes 6 weeks for Woodcraft to get us another 400 pen kits. No other organizations are turning pens for Woodcraft except DWA. Classes are held at Woodcraft, but the people making the pens keep them.

DIAPER BANK – Chairman: Jim Payne (520) 591-9876

Fundraiser Event for 2025 has been changed to Spring - April 18, 2026

Status: Auction Items due by April 14.

NESTING SHELTERS (HOUSES) – Chairman: Spencer Davis (520) 471-2480.

Goal set for 2025: 50

Status for 2025: 50

Nesting Season is coming up in the Spring. See Spencer for wood if anyone wants to get a heads start on making them

SHOW & TELL: \$25 Monthly Award Winner for November was won by Sam Scalzo.

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: Next Quarterly Award will be in December.

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE FOR DECEMBER: Bring an Auction Item or something for our Community Projects. Items must be handmade. Looking for ideas for President's Choice Items for 2026. Communicate your ideas to the President, Bud Bencic (972) 533-8752, or he will choose them himself.

TODAY's DEMO: MicroJig Setup and its in-depth use in the woodshed.

DEMO FOR DECEMBER: None. Replaced with Auction.

Looking for Demonstrations that might be of interest to the club, or Demonstrators willing to demonstrate something. Communicate your ideas to Adrian Barton (985) 264-3724. The club can also bring in outside demonstrators.

The next meeting will be held on December 6, 2025 at 9:00am at the Flowing Wells High School, Auto Shop.