

Toy Making Project

Nov. 25, 2018

Vincent Valvo

Members have heard about the toy making project over the past few months. With considerable planning effort by EMGW President Steve Hoffmann and his group leaders Jeff Clunie and Don Michael, the project started a several weeks ago. Steve and group leaders organized the work project, toys, and materials. Jigs were made for safety and productivity. Since then, guild volunteers have been busy finishing up the wooden sedans, sports cars, trucks, and SUVs.



But before any work began, it was discovered that, unlike the past two toy making seasons, this season needed to be more formal in the design and building stages. Certification was required for these gifts to children. Steve investigated the issue further and found a guild doing similar work. [Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia](#), after discussions with Steve (and lawyers), offered their certified plans at no cost to EMGW. Certification plans included designs, build process, wood type, finishing, and other documents necessary to follow the recipe for certification.



With teams meeting weekly at shops of Jeff Clunie, Don Michael and Steve Hoffmann, Guild volunteers have produced over 140 toy vehicles this year. Besides the group leaders, the following Guild members



volunteered their time to produce this record number of toys - Dick Belanger, Brian Chandley, Jim Thompson,

Richard Silva, Don Cole, Len Nyren, Ken Zoller, John George, Andrew Davis, and Vincent Valvo.

On December 4th at 10:00 AM, Steve will be handing over the toys to the Toys for Tots program at the Mass State Police Museum, 308 Providence Rd South Grafton 01560. All members are welcome to attend. Consult with Steve if you wish to attend.



Many thanks go to [Valley Woodworkers of West Virginia](#) for the incredible support they provided to us including the documentation package and regulatory assistance. We would not have been able to make toys this year without their help. In addition, the guild members mentioned above are recognized for their time and a job well done and appreciated, no doubt, by the 140 kids in receipt of their new toy.

