

# Building a hobby

**Dean of Information Technologies Garry Warren has a creative streak**

**by Anissa Palmer**

Are you in dire need of a few hammers and saws, and your neighbor will not let you borrow his? Then pay a visit to Dean of Information Technologies Garry Warren. His hobby is woodworking, and though he probably would not lend you his supplies either (a wise move), he could give you a lesson or two in his area of interest.

Why did Dean Warren choose woodworking as a hobby? It was actually an alternative to something that involved a lot of grease and grime.

"I used to work on cars," he said, "but after you have car parts laying around, it gets messy. This is much cleaner!"

Dean Warren's hobby also has its advantages. "Having a hobby such as that makes it easy for people to get me Christmas and birthday gifts," he said. (Hint, hint!)

But do not misunderstand the meaning of it all. Dean Warren's idea of woodworking involves more than a stick, a pocket knife,

and wood shavings falling at his feet as he whittles.

"I'm in the process of completing a hobby shop in my back yard. I'm also very much into remodeling my house," he said.

By spring, Dean Warren hopes to have the hobby shop completed. His new shop will also benefit him in the process of house remodeling, since it will be easily accessible.

"We're knocking walls out and putting walls in," he said of his remodeling project, "but we will remodel every room in the house. We're really just redoing everything."

What other advantages does Dean Warren's hobby provide him with?

"I think that I really like to do woodworking as a hobby as a way to release frustrations," he said. "And once you complete a project, it is something in front of you and a source of pride."

He also describes it as "a way to use my hands in creativity."

Woodworking also gives

Dean Warren time to be alone and gather his thoughts. "It's a solitary hobby," he said, "and I'm a private person."

Dean Warren's wife helps with the remodeling, but only indirectly. "I work better alone," he said. "However, I do get her opinions."

After years of woodworking Dean Warren has learned a great deal about his hobby. He has also accumulated plenty of tools.

"Over a period of time you're really surprised how much money you've got in it," he said.

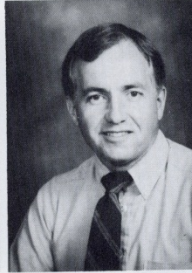
There is one minor pitfall that accompanies his hobby, and Dean Warren recognizes it.

"People realize you're in the hobby," he said, "and they borrow your tools."

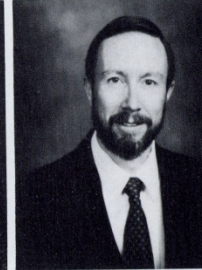
So if Dean Warren still seems like a good prospect for tool borrowing, forget it. By the way, have you thought about asking the neighbor on the other side of your house?

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CECILE NABORS  
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WAYNE ONEAL  
Associate Librarian  
CELIA REYNOLDS  
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A Brief Look At:

**Dr. G. Garry Warren**

**Education:**

Florida State University, 1978, Doctor of Philosophy, Library Science; 1977, Advanced Master, Library Science; 1973, Master of Science, Library Science

Murray State University, 1970, Bachelor of Science, Major: Library Science, Minor: History, Supporting Block: Business

Paducah Junior College, 1966-68

**Employment:**

(Present) Dean of Information Technologies; Professor, Librarian, University of North Alabama—Florence, Alabama

(1987-1990) Dean of Library Services; Professor, Librarian, UNA

(1984-1987) Director of Library, Associate Professor, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas

(1978-1984) Director of Learning Resources, Professor, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas

(1973-1976) Head Librarian, Assistant Professor, Bainbridge Junior College, Bainbridge, Georgia

(1971-1972) Head, Government Documents Department, Memphis (Tennessee) Public Library and Information Center

(1970-1971) Reference Librarian, Business, Science and Technology Department, Memphis (Tennessee) Public Library and Information Center

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AT A SUMMER Board of Trustees' meeting, Dean of Information Technologies Garry Warren talks with Dr. Paulette Alexander, assistant professor of CIS. (Photo by Brigitte Borden)