



# Wood Words

Kansas City Woodworkers Guild [www.kcwoodworkersguild.org](http://www.kcwoodworkersguild.org)

Volume 23 Issue 3

March 07

Guild Meetings:  
Jacob's Well Church,  
1617 W. 42nd St.,  
KC Mo. 64111

**Last Month to  
Pay 2007 Dues**

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**March Raffle:** Bill Evans will have his usual assortment of items

**Next Meeting Wed. March 21st, 7 PM**

**Program:** Constructing Raised Panel Doors— Jay Nichols

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



It looks like the weather is starting to break from winter to spring and I've been talking to some of the woodworkers who are dependent on good weather to work in their shops.

Most woodworkers are a little more blunt about it: no heat, no work. I'm included in that category. I can add a little heat to my garage to make it somewhat tolerable, but it's inconvenient and expensive. So I envy you people who can work year round in your shops.

I've been looking through some of my old issues of magazines that have features on different shops and I find I never get tired of visiting shops, even if they are in magazines. One thing I'm going to change in my shop this year is get-

ting rid of some of the stuff I don't use. My biggest problem is lack of space. I basically have a two car garage that we haven't parked a car in for at least 12 years.

Every tool I have is on a mobility kit and I've got to roll it out to use them. This is one of the disadvantages of a using a garage for a shop.

Another area I plan to improve is my dust collection system to facilitate getting a larger drum sander. I don't have space for either so I'm going to build a cyclone on the exterior wall of the garage. I'm going to need the extra dust collection capacity when I upgrade my drum sander from a 15" Ross single drum to a 24" double drum. Right now I'm leaning towards purchasing the Steel City drum sander.

On my job site we just tore out some old door jambs that originally were installed in the 1950's. I now have to

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479 253-5994

find space to store about 75 board feet of white pine that I've salvaged. I hope I can find some more space.

So what's going on in your shop?

### **Program: Ways to Improve your Woodworking Skills: Woodworking Schools**

The guild offers programs, taught by other members, to improve your woodworking. Many of the skills taught by our members have been learned at woodworking schools. The program this evening focused on the experiences of four of our members, Jim Ramsey, David Roth, Wayne Suter, and Wayne Wainwright, at the schools they attended.

David Roth and Jim Ramsey attended the woodworking classes at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

David took a class on Marquetry, using veneers, at the school. Marc explains the types of veneers, how to condition them, so they don't crack when you are cutting them. Also about dying veneers and sand shading. He also teaches parquetry. Parquetry is using veneers in geometric patterns.

Classes are about \$750 for a 5 day class. You start at 8:00 am each day and finish around 6:00 pm. There are about 18 people in a full class. Each person has their own workbench and their own scroll saw to do the Marquetry.

Jim Ramsey told us don't worry about getting the project done. Concentrate on learning the technique. David added that he finished a parquetry piece and also finished 2 marquetry pieces in that week.

David talked about their schedule book of classes that includes a paragraph about each instructor that teaches there. David suggested you can find more information about those instructors on Marc's website, [www.marcadams.com](http://www.marcadams.com).

Jim Ramsey has been going out to Marc Adams School of Wood Working for 8 to 10 years. Jim's first year there was to learn how to make cabinets. Jim wanted to make new cabinets for his kitchen but didn't quite know how. It was intended as a one time deal, but by Tuesday he called his wife and said "I don't know what I'm going to take, but I'm coming back up here next year".

The school is on the property right behind Marc's house. They have a very good hot lunch that is served daily. There is coffee and soda available all day. There is also continental breakfast every day. They even have a softserve ice cream machine. They

want you to make yourself at home.

Jim says he is a better woodworker today because of the many classes he has taken over the last 10 years. The quality of instructors and shop assistants add to the whole learning experience that Marc Adams brings into his classes.

You are allowed to stay late and work on your projects, but, Marc has his rules. From 8:00am to 6:00pm the power for tools is on. After 6:00pm, it's hand tools only. You can also use the library, watch a video, work on your design work, or use Marc's resources that he has in the shop. If you want to get there early, you can do that too. Jim spoke of the large Powermatic bandsaws Marc has. David and Jim think he has 14 band saws in all. There is one whole shop that is dedicated to finishing.

Jim showed the chest he made using 95 percent hand tools. He might not build another chest using hand tools, but, the skill that he learned there can be put to good use. Jim is better with a hand saw and is no longer afraid of using a hand plane.

Marc's school is the largest woodworking school in the United States. In the last 12 years he has had over 10,000 students come through his doors. And has a 90 percent return rate.

Our next speaker was Wayne Suter. Wayne shared with us where he got all that knowledge on the art of finishing. The Dakota County Technical College (now the National Institute of Wood Finishing) in Rosemont, Minnesota. This is the only finishing course that has been certified by the Smithsonian Institute. Classes run \$700 plus your hotel and food expenses.

Wayne used to make projects that he didn't finish and they weren't done. Now the tables have turned to when Wayne finishes a project, he puts the finish on. He no longer looks at finishing as a nasty chore. He knows more about finishing thanks to the class that he took.

The class Wayne took was "Finishing New Wood" and he was amazed at what he learned in a week's time. Everything was covered from basic tung oil to multiple layers of coloration on panels. Wayne explained that you work with gel stains, aniline dyes, water soluble dyes, pigmented stains and several types of varnishes. Also covered was working with open pored woods to get a finish as smooth as glass. Also rubbing out a finish with different grades of pumice is taught.

The first portion of each day is lecture time, from 1 hour to 3 hours. You do take a lot of notes. All questions are answered and personal attention is a premium. Classes run for

5 days, Monday- Friday, and size is about 20 people.

The school is a finisher's dream with one room for only sanding. Another room for brush on and wipe on finishes and in the next, a very professional spray booth. You are supplied with everything you need, but, Wayne suggests bringing extra gloves cause you'll use a lot of them.

You go home, at the end of the week, with a stack of panels for everything that you've done that week. You'll learn how to achieve different colors from the same type of wood. You won't be covering up the beauty of the wood, but you will enhance the color of the wood. When you are done it will pop.

Wayne has class schedules and outlines available.

Our final speaker was Wayne Wainwright. Wayne has attended Kelly Mehler's school in Berea, Kentucky the past three years. One of Wayne's projects was a blanket chest.

Kelly worked at Marc Adams School, in Indiana, for a number of years. Like Marc, Kelly starts with a mandatory safety program. Class cost for a week runs between \$650 and \$750. Unique to Kelly's class is you work on what you want to. So if you want to finish a piece of furniture, you can bring it with you and finish it in the confines of the program that he is teaching. The key is learning the technique no matter what you're working on.

Kelly's main focus is on hand tools, but he has lots of power tools to break down stuff for the students. There are two floors in his shop. Heavy equipment downstairs and the work benches are upstairs. In Kelly's class, you'll get the personal experience of working in a small group of 9 to 10 people. The experience includes personalized assistance to finish your project. You get a lot of information from his assistants. They are from the local college, which offers woodworking courses. Kelly is also known as "the table saw guy". Kelly test new table saws for the government and lets them know if they meet the standards.

Wayne says that Kelly does a lot of the training himself, but also brings in many talented instructors though out the year so that you get a very well rounded experience.

Class schedules are available on-line at [www.kellymehler.com](http://www.kellymehler.com) and he encourages you to consider Kelly's school for your continuing education in woodworking. It is a great environment and a great place to get inspired. Wayne also confesses that the food is great and the hotel rates are cheap. What more could you ask for.

Thank You Gentlemen, for sharing your insights on the woodworking classes that you have taken through the years.

## New Lumber Supplier

Tim O'Neill, owner of The Urban Lumber Company, came by to tell the guild about his business. He sells air-dried lumber and brought by a few samples. He harvests, saws, and dries the lumber himself.

His three top woods are walnut, hackberry, and red bud. So when you build a custom piece it will show a varied grain. It look's interesting and Tim thinks that will set him apart from the other lumber companies.

He has 5,000 board feet of lumber that has been dried and is ready for sale. There will be another 5,000 board feet available in the spring. For a full listing of his inventory, go to his website [www.urbanlumberco.com](http://www.urbanlumberco.com) or call Tim at 816 797-2602 or e-mail [timo@urbanlumberco.com](mailto:timo@urbanlumberco.com) .



## Klingspor Discount Offer

Great news! An excellent opportunity has presented itself to our guild. Klingspor is offering a 10% discount on products purchased by guild members.

Don't know much about Klingspor? Then read on!

KLINGSPOR Abrasives is a manufacturer of the highest quality industrial sanding and grinding products. Our history is a long one which dates back over 100 years.

KLINGSPOR originated in Germany where it is today still one of the world's largest and most respected abrasive manufacturers making some of the highest quality products for industrial applications. With quality products and budget-conscious prices, KLINGSPOR gives you The Most Sanding Power for Your Money!

To take advantage of this wonderful opportunity we are going to send Klingspor all of the names and addresses of our guild members.

If you do not wish to take advantage of this offer, please contact Jim Bany and let him know.

If you do want to take advantage of this offer, do nothing. Your name will be submitted automatically.

## For Sale

I recently relocated to KC from Wisconsin for a job change. Due to the compressed relocation schedule, I ended up moving a lot of lumber with me. My wife wants her garage back and is pushing me to sell some of the lumber.

Details are as follows:

All boards are rough sawn to 1" Air dried for about 2 years (properly stacked and stickered). All boards are northern grown stock from Wisconsin. Lengths are 8'-10' and widths 4"-20". Price is \$2.50 per board foot. I will sell in any quantity.

Approximate quantities as follows:

Red Oak: 1,350 bf  
 White Oak: 140 bf  
 Elm: 120 bf  
 Hickory: 400 bf  
 Ash: 600 bf

Larry Nelson  
 913 538-5709

Want to help cut guild monthly costs? Consider receiving the newsletter via email. It is faster and comes in color. If you are interested, please send an email to Kevin Thomas at: kv1014@sbcglobal.net, or add your email to the Attendance list at the monthly meetings.

**Newsletter Deadline: 1st of the month:**

**Please send all submissions for articles, tips, want ads announcements and anything else to Kevin Thomas: 816 941-8865 email: kv1014@sbcglobal.net**

**100 W. 96th Terrace, KC, MO 64114**



## Member of the Month

By Nan Melton

### William Johnston

#### What is your specialty in woodworking?

I started out making some kind of furniture, working on the basis that I could buy both the wood and a new tool for less than the furniture would cost and come out “a tool ahead” for the next project. In the last two years, I’ve tended toward making woodworking tools, a diversion that allows me to combine metal with wood to make neat tools and accessories made out of brass, drill rod, bubinga, padauk, cocobolo, or common American woods like walnut, cherry, or maple. Making a tool demands that I learn a lot more about how to use the tool as well.

#### How many years have you been woodworking?

My dad was an electrician. You can’t compete with your dad as a kid so I took up woodworking which he either didn’t do or pretended he didn’t. An early project (not woodworking, except the handle) was to make a battle axe out of quarter inch boiler plate steel. I cut the blade out with my dad’s hand held jigsaw. The jigsaw never worked quite right after that.

#### What is your favorite hand tool and why?

Definitely, my Swiss Army Knife. I’m rarely without it. Tweezers for splinters, scissors for pruning plants, screwdrivers for tightening odd screws that come loose and leveraging out industrial strength staples at work, pliers for pulling on just about anything. My lead power tools are chiefly a Shopsmith and all that it will do and an original “Joint-Matic” (bought from the inventor) for most joint making.

#### What is your favorite wood to use and why?

Early on whatever was available and inexpensive was my wood of choice and that usually meant red oak. But I came across some old, thick, very dry, and cheap walnut some years back. Another time it was cherry that someone had cut up from a tree in their yard but never used. I’ve used butternut ... light, soft, and easy to cut. I wish I had some more sassafras ... soft, smells good (spicy pepper) when cut and looks like oak. Lately, I’ve become partial to the expensive imported woods in small quantities for tool parts.

#### What is the most favorite project you have built and why?

I’ve really enjoyed building my three European style workbenches. My first was years ago (clue, Fine Woodworking was in its first year of publication) using Tage Frid’s plans. You know, it’s especially hard to build a workbench without a workbench to build it on. My most recent was a small

bench for a kid to stand at or an old geezer to sit on a chair at that’s made of salvaged maple (dishwasher top), garage sale walnut, and a wood-threaded vice screw from an ash baseball bat.

I think I really liked building two cedar lined chests for my daughters, each with hidden compartments (the hidden compartments are in the chests, not the daughters) A pleasure was working with my daughters on a few items together ... a walnut and maple chopping block that looks like a bound school notebook for one, a box for holding watches for the other’s husband, and lots of small music boxes for them to use as gifts. Ask either daughter the difference between taking off a ‘rat’s hair’ or just a ‘hog’s breath’ ... two common woodworking measurements, that I’m sure you recognize.

I enjoyed making several wooden planes, years ago, using the methods described by James Krenov in his various books.

#### What is the best deal you have gotten on a woodworking tool?

Frankly, I’ve gotten great deals on almost every tool. I always try to buy used tools at half of what it cost new at the time originally purchased and sell at half of what it cost new today. That is buy wholesale, sale retail. It was the only way to accumulate tools when money was hard to come by ...lots of tools with little cash outlay.

#### What has been your favorite guild activity?

I really like “Show and Tell”. It’s an activity that gives everybody a chance to stand up and tell about and show a project. I really enjoy seeing all the stuff and have a good chance of being introduced to something new in the process.

#### What shop tip can you give us?

Never, ever, tell anyone what you are building. You may have to turn it into a chopping block.

#### What safety tips can you share with us?

Safety is important. There was an old article in Fine Woodworking from years back. It suggested that woodworkers get a Ziploc bag and tape it to their saw with a note inside ... directions to the proper hospital and instructions to pick up the cut off body part, shake off the sawdust, and put in the bag and take both the woodworker and the bag to that hospital. Makes you think about safety!



## Tool of the Month

Don Kruse

This month's selection is a set of English molding planes made by either George or Elizabeth Stokoe of 31 Sun St. Bishopsgate, London.

George made planes from before 1811 until 1827 and then Elizabeth took over in 1828 and manufactured planes until 1833. The two Stokoe's used the same stamps, so which one of the two made them is not possible.

A plane making business was run by Joseph Vincent Tucker at this same address from 1833 until 1853 and by Tucker & Co. until 1870.

The planes shown here is a set of fillet and ogee planes marked as sizes 3 through 8. These sizes indicate the depth of cut in eight's of an inch.

Although planes with this maker's mark are common, a graduated set of six with the same owner's marks is not common.



### Show & Tell



**Bill Evans** - Trim molding & the Router Bits he used



**William Johnston** - Chisel Point Awl, Panel Plane Knob



**John Van Goethem** - curved surface bench



**David Roth** - 2 Intarsia Arrows of Light



**Kevin Thomas** - 7th Grade Projects



**Ken Grainger** - Stool



**David Roth** - Cross & candle Holder



**David Roth** - 2 Intarsia Birds



**Willie Lyles** - 2 Box Turtles sculpture made from sawdust



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Kansas City, MO. 64141

### Meeting Minutes

**New Members / Visitors:** Willie Liles, Joe Buckels, John Sleagle, Fred Jones, Dan Singers, Bob Thompson, Richard Delead (please let us know if your names are misspelled)

### **News / Business:**

Roger Grout bought a new Steel City 6 inch jointer. Jim Bany knows the owners, who used to work for Delta. They saw a decline in the Delta tools and when Black and Decker bought them out they saw a opportunity to go into the tool business themselves.

Jim was impressed with Steel City Tools and they beefed up their tools. Jim is trying to get Steel City to give a presentation to the guild at a future meeting.

Roger thanked everybody who helped with the tool show.

General impression of the tool show were more favorable than last year.

Leadership Positions: **Treasurer – Secretary - Program Director**

The board meets once a month two weeks before the scheduled guild meeting. We decide on projects, programs, financial issues, we cover a lot of topics. The meetings last for about 1 ½ hours. If interested, contact Mike Jones 816 204-6406.

The guild received thank you notes from Restart and the Ronald McDonald House for the toys and food we gave them at Christmas time

The Association of Woodworking and Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS) show is in Las Vegas July 18 – 21 and we are kicking around the idea of a trip to Las Vegas. Let Jim know if you are interested in going.

### **Raffle.**

Bill Webb-Box clamps, Nan Melton- set clamps & drill press clamp, Richard Dewitt-Router bits, Russ Clausing-medium clamps, Shelly Taylor-Straight line Level, Kevin Thomas-self centering bits, Bob King-set of clamps, Neal Shoger-set of clamps, David Roth- sanding blocks

### Show and Tell:

**Don Kruse** spoke of the tool of the month, an inclinometer.

**Jerry Jennings** spoke of wood dyed by Woodsure. It is dyed all the way through and goes for about \$30 a board foot using your lumber.

**Bill Evans** brought in his router bit set and samples of trim molding he had made.

**William Johnston** brought in a Chisel Point Awl for making starting holes for screws. It has an oversize Cocobola handle and a blade made of drill rod, hardened and tempered after squaring, and mounted in brass. Bill also brought in knob for a panel plane he is making.

### Calendar

Executive Meetings, 7:00pm Kansas City Public Library 1410 W 10th St. KC MO 64105

Guild meetings, 7:00 p.m., Jacob's Well Church, 1617 W. 42nd St., To reach us "during the meetings, call: KCMO. (816) 561-8177

#### Executive Meetings

#### Guild Meetings

2007

January 3rd  
February 7th  
March 7th  
April 4th  
May 2nd  
June 6th  
July 4th  
August 1st  
September 5th  
October 3rd  
November 7th  
December 5th

January 17th  
February 21st  
March 21st  
April 18th  
May 16th  
June 20th  
July 18th  
August 15th  
September 19th  
October 17th  
November 21st  
December 19th

All members are welcome at any board meeting. A call to one of the Officers is all that is necessary.

**John Van Goethem** brought in a bench, with curved surfaces, made from Red Oak. It is finished with an oil stain and 4 coats of polyurethane.

**Russ Amos** brought in a piece of unknown wood and asked if anyone new what it was.

**Willie Lyles** brought in a sculpture of two box turtles that he made from saw dust, flour and water.

**Ken Grainger** brought in a picture of a 7 drawer chest made from Cherry. He also brought in a stool made from sycamore. Both had a polyurethane finish.

**Kevin Thomas** brought in a kitchen knife rack and a key rack that he made in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**David Roth** brought in two Arrows of Light, intarsia style. One made from cedar and the other from that white wood that Wayne Wainwright has in his Shop. Both had a glyptol finish. David also brought in a Cross and Candle holder, that he made from Red Oak, and two Intarsia birds made of burl walnut, Makore, and that mysterious white wood that Wayne has in his shop.