



# Wood Words

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

Volume 23 Issue 11

November 07

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

**The more tickets you buy, the better your odds of winning. Support the Guild**

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

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

**Program: Steel City Toolworks**

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



There are a couple of subjects I want to reflect on this month.

First, two months ago, at the September meeting, James Childress brought in a project for Show and Tell. He called it a semi-circle truss. As I recall, James was asked what was the purpose of this unique looking woodworking project? His reply was "It wasn't for anything in particular, just a neat thing to do."

How many woodworkers can say they have chosen or built a project just for the pure enjoyment of it? No need or purpose, but just for fun. I looked at the shape and design of James' truss and really appreciated the tight laminations and the symmetry of the web going from the top cord to the bottom cord. Then the thumb turn at the crown, to top it off. What a great piece of work. All just for the fun of it.

I came away from that meeting appreciating James' craftsmanship and his willingness to share his project. I'm looking forward to doing one myself.

My second point is Thanksgiving. It is this month and I want to acknowledge that I'm thankful for being a woodworker and a member of the Kansas City Woodworkers Guild. We had some good times this past year and I think we have learned a many, good things.

I want to acknowledge John Johnson for taking on the Andre's project. Bill Evans, for all the work he does with the raffle. Roger Grout, for leading the tool show. Bill Johnston, for inspiring us to build our own tools.

I want to thank Arnold Baker for stepping in at the last minute to share about his cyclone. Wayne Wainwright, for being Member of the Year. John Van Goethem and all the volunteers who worked on the Habitat for Hu-

manity house. Kevin Thomas, for being patient with us on the newsletter.

Thanks to Dave Kraatz for

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his knowledge. And a special thanks to James Childress for showing us how to have fun.

So what's going on in your shop?

## **Program: Sharpening with Phil Akers**

By Shelly Taylor

At our October meeting, Phil Akers demonstrated the abrasive sheet method for sharpening hand tools. Phil had recently attended a hand tools workshop in which he learned this particular method and obtained the necessary jigs as well. He noted, of course, that you may have your own method and if you're happy with it, then stay with it. Otherwise, read on!

Phil began with a thorough explanation of abrasive paper used for metal removal and polishing. The most common types are alumina-zirconia, aluminum oxide and silicon oxide. Alumina-Zirconia is best for fast metal removal in coarser grits, ranging from 80 to 220, and is blue or green in color. Aluminum oxide is durable and good for medium grit range of 220 to 600, and is usually gray, brown, gold, or sometimes purple. Wet/dry silicon carbide is best in the fine grit range of 600 to 2000 for the final cutting and polishing of the tool and is black in color.

In addition to types of paper, Phil explained that there are two different grade scales for abrasive paper. One is the North American scale as defined by the Coated Abrasives Manufacturers Institute (CAMI). The other is the European scale as defined by the Federation of European Producers Association (FEPA). The significance of the scales is that above the grit of 220, the grit numbers do not match one another from one grade scale to the other. For example, the North American 1000 grit paper uses 9 micron particles, while the European 1000 grit paper uses 18 micron particles, making it more coarse. So make sure that you're using the same grade, either CAMI or FEPA, the latter designated with a "P" before the grit number to help you tell the difference, such as P1000. Phil mentioned that most abrasive paper is imported these days and is what he uses to sharpen his tools.

Though the workshop recommended using all three types of abrasives in the abrasive sharpening method, from the coarse alumina zirconia to the medium aluminum oxide to the fine silicon carbide, Phil has been satisfied using only the medium and fine and always

sands dry. He went on to demonstrate the method with the blade of a bench plane, quite pitted and dull, that he had purchased at an auction. Phil began by placing the blade against a square and using a black felt tip to mark the sharpening line. He then used two jigs to set the 25 degree angle that he wanted for the blade by clamping an angle jig to the blade itself and then setting the blade on a jig made with stops for angles of 25, 30, 35, and 45 degrees. Next, he attached a strip of sticky-backed 100 grit aluminum oxide paper to a 3/8" thick glass plate with cork coasters on the bottom to prevent the plate from slipping during the grinding process. A guild member mentioned that a glass plate can usually be had for free from cut-offs or breakage at places like, Harding Glass.

Phil was now ready to commence with the first step of grinding the bevel flat and square and began moving the blade back and forth against 100 grit aluminum oxide paper. He recommended applying pressure on the forward stroke and letting up a bit on the back stroke and proceeded through the 220 and 320 grits of aluminum oxide, stopping periodically to check the bevel with a bevel angle guide. During the grinding process, a burr began to form on the face of the blade. The indication that Phil had ground the blade down far enough was when he could feel the burr at the place where the two planes— that of the bevel and the face— met. He then moved on to the second step of flattening the face of the blade, going from 100 (if pitted) to 180, 220, 320, and 600 of aluminum oxide paper and then 800, 1200, and 2000 of silicon carbide paper. Phil was careful not to rock the blade while sanding and emphasized the importance of maintaining even pressure throughout the process.

The third step of honing the bevel actually involves only 3/16 of the entire bevel of the blade, so Phil first set a secondary bevel 2 degrees higher (to 27 degrees) by setting the 25 degree stop of the jig back approximately 1/8". He then proceeded to cut and polish, beginning with 320 and 600 of the aluminum oxide and then 800, 1200, and 2000 of the silicon carbide. He finalized his demonstration by showing us the "ruler trick" to take care of the burr on the face of the blade. He simply placed a steel rule under the face, and with 3 to 4 strokes of 2000 grit paper, the burr was gone. There you have it - a nicely sharpened blade!

Phil did a wonderful job of demonstrating the abrasive sheet method of sharpening tools completely solo -- sanding, sweating, and breathing heavily, all while explaining the process and expertly answering questions. Thanks, Phil!

## Membership Benefits

It's that time of year to start considering renewal of your Guild membership. So here is a reminder of our 4 different levels of membership and their annual fees

### Member - \$35

#### Benefits

- \*\* Demonstrations
- \*\* Exchange of Knowledge
- \*\* Fellowship
- \*\* Free access to the Guilds Video & Print Library
- \*\* Lectures and/or Demonstrations from Master Woodworkers
- \*\* Mentoring Program
- \*\* Monthly Newsletter
- \*\* Tool Reviews
- \*\* Safety Programs
- \*\* Community Service Programs
- \*\* Purchase Discounts
- \*\* Auctions
- \*\* Guild Membership Directory (Coming Soon)

### Senior (Over 65)- \$25

- \*\* All regular Member Benefits

### Associate Member- \$50

An Associate Member is an Individual that is led through the Fellowship and Learning of the Guild to step up their Membership as a means of Thanks. The following additional benefits will be awarded to these individuals as a Thank You from the Guild back to them as the Guild's way of saying Thank You for the additional support.

- \*\* All Regular Member Benefits– Plus:
- \*\* 20% discount on Guild Activities (trips, seminars, & training)
- \*\*20% discount on Guild Merchandise

\*\*Personal Space made available on the Guild's web site

### Sponsor- \$100

\*\* All Regular Member Benefits (for 1 person)- Plus:

\*\*Advertisements in the Guild's Monthly Newsletter, the Guilds Website, and the Membership Directory

\*\*Tax write off for yearly dues

\*\*Access to Membership through Newsletter, Web Site, and Membership Directory.

## Reminder- 2 x 4 Contest

1. The item can be anything the craftsman wants it to be
2. The Item should be made out of any species of wood that the Craftsperson want to use. They are allowed the equivalent of an eight foot 2x4 in materials
3. The voting for the contest will be conducted at the December 19th, 2007 general Guild membership meeting.
4. Each person attending the December meeting will be given one (1) marble and after the presentation of the projects by their makers and during the meeting break, each person, in attendance, will be asked to vote for their favorite piece by placing their marble in the receptacle that is sitting next to that piece.
5. The marbles will be counted after the voting has completed and the winners will be announced.

**1st Prize- \$100.00**

**2nd Prize- \$50.00**

**3rd Prize- \$25.00**

### Habitat for Humanity House Blessing

All members are invited to attend the blessing of the home built by Guild and other volunteers. It will be held on December 1st, 2007 at 11:00am. The address is 1220 S. 34th Street Kansas City, Kansas in the Argentine neighborhood. Please join the family for this moving ceremony.

### Shop Tips

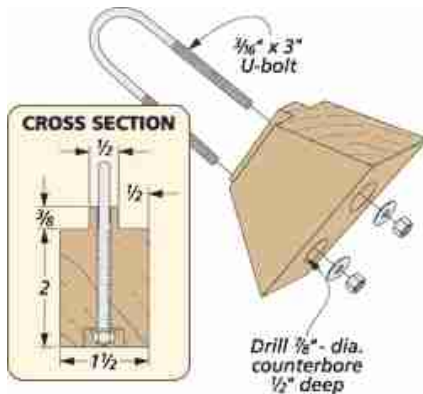
#### Pipe Clamp Stand



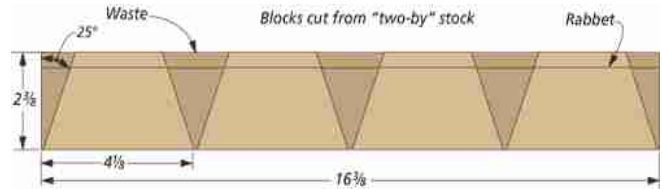
I have a wall full of pipe clamps in my shop. And most woodworkers would agree that they're a great, low-cost clamping option. But at

times relying on pipe clamps can generate some frustration. The small "feet" on the clamp heads don't provide a very stable platform, allowing them to tip over easily. And little clearance for the handle can make tightening the clamps a challenge.

I was able to put an end to both these problems by making some stands for my pipe clamps. The stands, shown in the photo, give the clamps a very stable footing, as well as creating extra clearance for the handle.



The construction details are shown in the drawings at right. You'll start by cutting a length of 2x stock to width and then rabbeting both sides of one edge. This creates a narrow tongue that accommodates the screw head. Then you can cut the individual blocks to shape. Drill a couple of counterbored holes for the U-bolt and the stand is ready to be installed



A bonus is that the stands can be added to the clamps or removed in a snap. And now, when I get the glue out for an assembly, I have one less concern

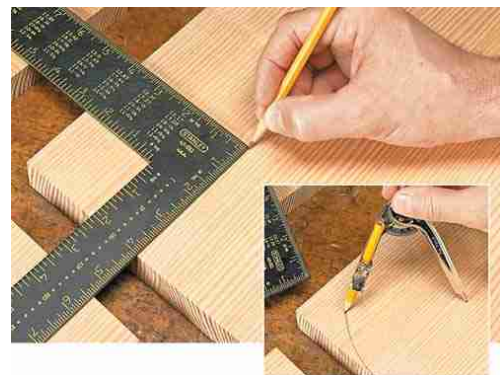
Printed by permission of: © August Home Publishing Co. All rights reserved. For more tips like this, visit: [www.WoodworkingTips.com](http://www.WoodworkingTips.com)

#### Finding a Corner Radius

I often need to make a rounded corner on a workpiece. But this can often lead to a lot of trial and error until I get the corner radius just right.

You'll find a carpenter's square and a compass makes this task quick and easy. And the results are perfect every time.

For example, I needed a 4" radius at the corner. So I lined up the edge and end of the workpiece with the 4 mark on the outside of both legs of the square (see photo below). Then I marked the point of the square. Finally, put the pointed arm of the compass on this mark, extend the compass to the edge of the workpiece, and scribe the line, as shown in the inset photo.



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## Member of the Month Cliff Bell



By Nan Melton

Our Member of the Month for November is Cliff Bell. Cliff notes that his dad had a little shop and he himself did some turning as a kid, but never was able to do too much until 7 or 8 years ago, even though he's always been interested in wood-working. Since his high school shop class focused more on drafting and architectural drawing, he is mostly self-taught - and admits to learning a lot from our Guild meetings and members. He's also able to adapt what he learns to use in new ways.

With his children out on their own now, he has more time to pursue his own interests, and states that his wife is very supportive of his activities. In addition to doing trim work around the house and turning some pens, he has made a Windsor chair, bird houses, clocks and gift boxes that have been very popular with his wife's colleagues, and one very special jewelry box out of curly maple and fancy walnut, for his wife's birthday.

He uses whatever wood strikes him as appropriate for the task at hand, using mostly oak, walnut and maple recently. His favorite hand tool is a spokeshave. He was hard pressed to decide on a favorite power tool- he appreciates each of the many tools he has for their particular contribution.

Cliff's shop is a source of great pride. He walks 10 feet from his house across the patio deck to his freestanding, 30 x 42' shop. Everything is right there, ready to go, and with heating and air conditioning, he can work comfortably any time he pleases. He has the added luxury of being able to work on several projects at the same time- he has the space!

Given this enviable situation, he has a couple of projects underway - end tables, probably maple, and a steamer trunk for one of his granddaughters. What a family treasure that will be!

Cliff enjoys Guild meetings and the relationships he's developed with other members. He has some very good safety advice to offer: be aware- anticipate the potential hazards of each process you're undertaking- and FOCUS on what you're doing.

Cliff, congratulations again for being our November Member of the Month!



**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, Kansas City, MO 64114**

## Antique Tool of the Month

By Don Kruse

This month's antique tool was introduced by the Millers Falls Company in 1937 and was produced until 1948. It is the Model 209 De Luxe Smooth plane. It is a very striking tool. The knob and handle are made of a transparent red cellulose acetate called 'permaloid', the inside of the bed is painted black and the rest of the metal surfaces are chromed, even the cutter.

The permaloid handle and knob were made by the Worcester Moulding Plastics Company using material from the Hercules Powder Company.

The 209 size (equivalent to a Stanley no. 4) is the only size of this plane advertised but a couple of other unmarked planes of different size have been found.

Millers Falls also made several other tools with permaloid handles, including chisels, brace, screwdrivers and hacksaws.

Reference: The Millers Falls Home Page web site by Randy Roeder.



## TREASURY REPORT

(November 2007)

**Beginning Balance-** \$5513.26

**Income-** \$125.93

**Expenses-** \$181.07

**Ending Balance-** \$5639.19

**Paid Members-**

**Senior-**36

**Regular-**70

**Associate-**10, **Sponsor-** 2

## Wanted: Your Presentation

If you have a demonstration you'd like to share with the other members of the Guild, now's the time to step up. Bill Evans is putting together programs for the coming months and your help is needed. If you would like to put on a program or have an idea for a program please contact Bill at the next meeting or call him at 816-847-2318

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 William Johnston at: johnston@everestkc.net, or add your email to the Attendance list at the monthly meetings.

## Wanted Writers

Do you have a humorous story of your woodworking adventures? Or maybe you'd like to pass along a technique you've learned along the way? We are looking for stories or articles written by Guild members to publish here and on the Website. If you're interested, either email Bill Johnston at johnston@everestkc.net or Kevin Thomas at kv1014@sbcglobal.net

### Show & Tell



**Pete Coleman**– Dobro and Ukulele Clocks



**William Johnston**– Marking gauge and Bow saw



**David Roth**– Intarsia fireplace bellows



**David Roth**– Intarsia fireplace bellows part



**David Roth**– Intarsia fireplace bellows part



**Anthony Harris**– Turned Boxes



**Tim Busenbark**– Old Fashion Sled



P.O. Box 413922  
Kansas City, MO. 64141

### Meeting Minutes

Phil Akers

#### News / Business:

Jim Bany reports that the Habitat for Humanity House is complete. It's the best house they've built. Bill Kuhlman was in attendance and was in good spirits after suffering life threatening injuries on the Habitat project. He continues his recovery at home.

Contact Jim Bany if you are interested in meeting with Schutte Lumber to discuss what products and selection you feel Schutte should be offering.

Metro Hardwoods in Independence should be opening in early November.

#### Visitors:

**Jeff Overton & Tim Dusenbark** from Shawnee.  
**Calvin Hobbs** from Overland Park

#### Raffle:

**Roger Grout** – Shelf pin drilling guide  
**John Maciel** – 8" file card  
**Mike Jones** – Protractor  
**John Johnson** – Sandpaper  
**Ron Lomax** – Wixey digital angle gauge  
**Anthony Joplin** – Wilton clamps  
**Ken Grainger** – Compass plane  
**Kevin Thomas** – Wood Guild shirts  
**Merle Krugman** – Woodcraft shop apron  
**Kristy McKnight** – Set of box clamps

### Show and Tell:

**Pete Coleman** brought in two salvaged musical instruments, a dobro and guitar. He converted both into fine looking clocks. He purchased them at Musicians Friend and added quartz clock movements.

**David Roth** brought in a large ornamental intarsia fireplace bellows. The project was made from walnut, cherry, fiddleback maple and finished with brush on lacquer. The design process was also discussed. David also brought in a second fireplace bellows made from walnut and finished with brush on lacquer.

**William Johnston** crafted a marking gauge made from brass, South American hardwood and Drill Rod. William also made a Bow Saw from Sassafras. The joinery was of special interest. William also brought in the

### 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 11th  
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.

**Bow Saw** he fashioned his after. It was made from Birdseye Maple. William would be glad to share the pattern with anyone interested in building a Bow Saw. Just ask.

**Tim Busenbark** made a new "old fashioned" sled from bent laminated maple. The finish is poly and has held up well in the elements.

**Bill Evans** brought in a fab table with locking castors. He made it from 2 x 4's and used half lap joints. The top is laminate.

**Anthony Harris** brought in several turned objects. Of special interest was the sphere. Anthony says he had a hard time chucking it up!