



# Wood Words

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

Volume 24 Issue 4

April 08

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

**Last newsletter  
unless you pay  
your dues!**

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## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



This is my last newsletter contribution as President of the Kansas City Woodworkers Guild. When I started in trepidation two years ago, I took the liberty of doing a little editorializing. I wrote about what was on my mind at the time. My hope is that I haven't offended anybody because I quite enjoyed this exercise, despite Kevin Thomas having to remind me every month that my article was due.

This exercise has given me the opportunity to write about a lot of different subjects and relive some old woodworking stories. I paid tribute to my dad who influenced me the most to really get into woodworking, and I talked about the special times we shared together in the shop. Last fall I wrote about Habitat for Humanity and community service. I wrote about cleaning and reorganizing my shop. I also wrote about every tool in my shop

and I reminded Guild members to record the history of their heirloom tools so they don't end up in a garage sale. I shared my experience visiting a woodworkers club in Australia. Last month I got to eulogize the passing of a good friend, Greg Godbout.

The last subject I need to bring up is the possibility of moving our meeting space. The Kansas City Woodworkers Guild has met in the present location since its inception almost 25 years ago. We, the Board of Directors, have been looking into sharing a space with the Kansas City Woodturners Guild, which is located about 12 minutes south of our present location at I-35 and 67th Street. I think we need to have some dialog about this subject. There are some advantages and disadvantages that need to be discussed in detail. I've spent time analyzing the differences and in my humble opinion I think it would be a good move and in our best interest. Be prepared to discuss

*(Continued on page 2)*

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this at our April meeting.

Lastly I want to thank everybody. It's been a great experience to be President of the Kansas City Woodworkers Guild. It couldn't have happened without the support of the Board, the past Presidents, and all the members. Now I get to spend more time in my shop. So what's going on in your shop?

## **Program: Evolution of a Display Cabinet with Ron Lomax**

By Shelly Taylor

At our March meeting, Ron Lomax used digital photographs to demonstrate the evolution of a gorgeous display cabinet that he had made for his wife, Sharon. For over two years, Sharon had wanted a cabinet and finally, Ron asked her, "Well, what exactly do you want?" And so began the creation, as Sharon drew a sketch of her much desired cabinet. From the sketches, Ron began his part in the creative process and a beautiful cabinet was born.

Ron started with making a one quarter scale model of the cabinet based on the sketch and provided different tops and feet of various profiles, so that his wife could determine exactly how she wanted the cabinet to turn out. Sharon made some decisions and Ron was able to move on to a scaled drawing of the piece. Both the model and the drawing helped him figure out the construction of the cabinet as well as the materials that he needed to do so.

Walnut turned out to be the wood of choice for Ron and his wife, including walnut burl and walnut veneer. Java gel stain by General Finishes was selected to finish the wood. One and a quarter inch beveled glass was chosen for the doors and sides of the cabinet and, eventually, glass was selected for the back as well. Four shelves of glass would complete the interior of the cabinet. Sharon went shopping, meanwhile, at Locks and Pulls and brought home pulls and back plates, hinges, and drawer pulls, all of highest quality, of course – nothing but the best for this baby! Ron then picked out the lighting for the piece and, given his work with an electrical manufacturer, he is something of an expert. He chose Juno tenon display light strings that he knew would light up the piece beauti-

fully.

Ron's next stop was Liberty Lumber, where he had his carefully chosen wood milled S2S1E– two sides and one end square– so as to more easily and accurately make the cuts that he needed. Ron, of course, bought more board feet than he needed for the cabinet in order to get the grain pattern that he knew he would want for the piece. In fact, he bought 40% more and used almost every bit of it to complete the project. Ron also had Liberty Lumber mill the wood to 1 1/8 inches and then let the stock set for several days before the final milling to one inch thick.

By the way, here's a bit of information about milling and grain for any of you novices out there. Quarter sawn lumber results in vertical grain. Look at the end of the board and you can see that the grain runs straight up and down. Rift sawn lumber results in grain lines that are angled, again something you can see by looking at the end of the board. Ron wanted to make sure the doors of the cabinet wouldn't warp and twist over time and so he needed wood without a lot of "curl" that has a tendency to warp. His lumber is thus quarter sawn.

Ron then began the construction of the cabinet "carcass." This involved four face frames, of course, a front, a back, and two sides. The front frame is glued to the side frames, no rabbets. The back frame, meanwhile, is set into rabbets on the side frames. The joinery is mortise and tenon – a half inch thick and one and a quarter inch deep – to carry the weight of all the glass. Ron built a 45 degree angle jig to help him miter the corners of the piece and then chiseled the miters to a perfect fit.

The doorframes containing the panels of the heavy tempered and beveled glass are hinged to the cabinet with two 8 inch hinges on each side. The pin hinges are solid brass with finials at the top and bottom of the hinge. The barrel of the hinge is over the door instead of on the style and, because the weight of the cabinet is vertical and not shear, Ron knows the hinges will hold.

The back of the cabinet, meanwhile, was to be quarter inch walnut that Ron had purchased, but Sharon thought a glass back would look nicer and so an 1/8 inch double strength glass back it is. Anybody out there shopping for some walnut? Just call Ron – he's got a couple of pieces for you.

Now, whenever Ron and his wife create a piece of furniture, Ron gets to purchase a new tool. This time, a pin nailer was his tool of choice and he used it to set the glass panels into the doorframes. He was particularly thankful that he did, because no sooner had he set one of the pieces of glass into a frame than he realized it had a long, long scratch in it. He was able to simply pop off the stop holding the glass without tearing any of the walnut wood and then easily replaced the scratched piece of glass with an unscratched one. Ron notes as well that the pin nailer creates such small holes that you can't even see them and he highly recommends getting one for yourself.

Next, Ron went to work on the cabinet feet. Each foot is made from two square pieces of wood. Ron used his bandsaw to cut the foot profile from one square of wood and then mitered the straight edges of each square to match. He then cut the profile of the second square and put the two pieces together at the mitered edges to make one cabinet foot. Ron placed a support block in the back of each foot so that the weight of the cabinet is on the inch and a half block and not on the mitered corners. The support block is screwed into the base of the cabinet as well. Ron used templates in the making of the feet, of course, to ensure an exact match of each foot.

Following lots of discussion with Sharon in regard to the cabinet top and molding, the decision was made to create a rounded molding with the top actually being a "well" to hold plants. Ron made the molding on the table saw and routed the edge with a thumbnail bit to create the rounded effect.

At the bottom of the cabinet, meanwhile, are two drawers on whose fronts Ron created masterpieces of walnut burl and veneer. The swirling pattern of the burl center is surrounded by veneer carefully cut and placed to resemble a starburst and, in certain reflections of light, the swirling burl takes on various images. Ron thought he was finished with the drawer fronts, however, Sharon thought they needed just a bit more detail. Ron appeased her by adding a banding that created a definitive border between the imaginative burl and the starburst veneer.

Finishing the cabinet involved the wipeon Java gel

stain mentioned previously, followed by a clear wipeon, then buffing with wool lube, and a final waxing for a super smooth surface.

Finally, Ron installed the 10 watt Juno tenon lighting, placing a light string at the top of the cabinet and at each of the four shelves. Push a button and the cabinet is awash with soft light.

And so, after a lengthy gestation and birth, a handsome walnut cabinet came into this world, nearly six feet tall with beveled glass doors that are five feet high and weighing some 200 pounds! It is an absolute vision of shining light, glass and wood. Congratulations, Ron and Sharon, and we look forward

### **The Andre's Table and Bench Diaries**

By Shelly Taylor

March was a busy month for the Andre's Project. We now have two table tops made and two pedestals nearly complete. The team leaders have been trained in table top and pedestal construction and they are ready to start makin' sawdust! Here's how it all happened:

All the templates and jigs mentioned in the last diary entry have, of course, been completed with one little fixable glitch. A slight change in tenon measurement (6 inches instead of 5 inches) was made subsequent to the completion of the pedestal templates by Regal Plastics, but we were able to modify the templates ourselves with two strips of 1/2 inch Plexiglas and superglue.

Instructions for the pedestals were written up and distributed to each pedestal team, while a pictorial set of instructions was completed for the table top teams. The latter can be accessed on the website for you to take a look.

On Saturday, April 5, the team leaders met at Jim Bany's shop to receive their marching orders. Project Manager, John Johnson, gave everyone a brief overview of where we are. Jig Master, Dave Kraatz, gave a run down on all jigs and gauges used. His biggest warning to everyone was "Put your tape measure, square, or any measuring device away and just use the jigs and gauges for continuity." A hard thing for many woodworkers to do.

Bill Evans gave to all those making pedestals, step by step instructions. Bill had done the initial run through on the

pedestals to scope out any problems and finalized the processes. Roger Grout did the same for those making table tops. He stressed a need for numerous clamps. Something every woodworker can never have enough of.

Materials have been turned over to the team leaders and, with the help of their team members, they are ready to begin building tables and pedestals. Ron Lomax has come to Russ Amos' aid as the team leader responsible for 7 deuces (two-person tables) and both Ron and Paul Twenter are still in need of volunteers for their teams.

So ... any of you out there who can volunteer for a team, please call Ron or Paul, and tune in again next month for news on the continuing development of the Andre's Table and Bench Project

### Table Tops– Scenes from Roger's Shop



You can never have too many clamps.



Iowa State? I hear they make great dust collectors.

## Elections 2008 The Nominees

The following people have stepped up and submitted their names for nomination for the following offices:

- President- **Mike Jones**
- Vice-President– **John Johnson**
- Director of Membership- **Wayne Suter**
- Director of Communication- **Kevin Thomas**
- Director of Events– **Roger Grout**
- Director of Training– **Cara Paris**

There is still time to put your name into the mix. Nominations will be taken right up to voting time at the April meeting. If you wish to put your hat in the ring, contact Newsletter Editor – Kevin Thomas at 816-941-8865 or email at [kv1014@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kv1014@sbcglobal.net) .

Please include your name and what position you wish to run for.

### 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](mailto:kv1014@sbcglobal.net)

**100 W. 96th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114**

## TREASURY REPORT

(April 2008)

**Beginning Balance-** \$18,471.59

**Income-** \$538.00

**Expenses-** \$2,611.73

**Ending Balance-** \$16,397.86

**Paid Members–**

**Senior-23**

**Regular-44**

**Associate– 5 , Sponsor– 2**

## Member of the Month Ron Lomax



**What is your specialty in woodworking?** I really don't have a "specialty". I have made furniture, done inlay work with small boxes and furniture, garden structures like arbors and benches, done veneering, intarsia, scroll saw projects and some cabinetry.

**How many years have you been woodworking?** My woodworking began in my youth, using only hand tools. After marriage, projects progressed using a 10" Craftsman contractor saw, 7 1/4" circular saw, and a drill. Serious woodworking didn't begin until about nine years ago, when I outfitted a shop in my basement.

**What is your favorite hand tool and why?** I cannot really identify a "favorite" hand tool. I don't have tools with a long history behind them, other than a couple of Craftsman chisels that are about 40 years old. They really hold a good edge. Even with the evolution of the cordless drill, I am still using a screw driver manually, when I'm building furniture. I make sure the tips are not worn, so the screw head doesn't strip out, and I can feel whether I'm going to shear off the screw.

**What is your favorite wood to use and why?** Don't have a favorite wood. I do enjoy working with cherry, walnut and mahogany, much more than oak. And perhaps I'm not a hard-core woodworker because I have no problem incorporating hardwood plywood in my projects for the large surfaces. That way, I don't concern myself with wood's movement.

**What is the most favorite project you have built and why?** My most favorite project would have to be the dressing chest, head board, and bedside cabinets I made for my daughter. It was constructed from cherry, with crotch cherry veneer butt matched or book matched on the drawers and doors. The project sort of evolved as it went along, trying to meet the needs of my daughter. She had asked if something could be done to embellish the drawer fronts, like using burl, or something. I had originally thought I could use some crotch mahogany, but it's grain pattern kind of overpowered some of the drawer fronts. The veneer supplier I used, Certainly Wood, advised that they had some crotch cherry (for a price) that had a smaller grain pattern. The rest is

history. (Other than the fact I had to rent a U-Haul to deliver the project to Phoenix, it was a fun project where I learned a lot.)

**What is the best deal you have gotten on a woodworking tool?** I'm not convinced I ever got a "deal" on a woodworking tool. I have a tough time comparison shopping, and am also convinced that you get what you pay for.

**What has been your favorite guild activity?** I enjoy meeting the members of the guild, and am very interested in the projects they are working on. (I have had very little mentoring of my woodworking, and I really enjoy having a sounding board for my questions.)

**What shop tip can you give us?** I do my best work when I have an organized shop. (All tools have a place in my shop, and they should be stored there when not in use.) The shop should also be clean. (Mine has to be, or I get in trouble when I track sawdust throughout the house.) And if someone could give me a tip about discarding hardwood scraps as they come off the saw, rather than throwing them away six months later, I'm listening.

**What safety tips can you share with us?** Never work in the shop when you are fatigued, or you don't have your concentration. Not only can you screw up something, but you could also hurt yourself.



## Antique Tool of the Month

By Don Kruse

Continuing with last month's theme, we have four more inclinometers. Three have a pointer with a weight attached, two of them directly and the third the weight is attached to the pointer through a gear system that amplifies the reading. The fourth inclinometer uses a vial formed into a circular arc with liquid and a bubble.

The top inclinometer pictured was made by the Bradford Union Mfg. Co., Bradford, PA with a patent date of 4-5-04. It is the one with the circular vial.

The second one in the picture was made by the T. F. Deck Gravity Lever Co. of Toledo, Ohio with patent dates of DEC 15, 1896 and FEB 14, 1905 and others pending. It has the internal gears between the weight and the pointer.

The third inclinometer was manufactured by the Union Gravity Level Co. Inc of Sioux City, Iowa. It has a patent date of 1-9-23 with others applied for. The mechanism is a simple pointer with a weight. I've seen this inclinometer in sizes from 12 to 30 inches.

The last inclinometer in the photo is The American Combined Level and Grade Finder manufactured and patented by Edward Helb of Railroad, Pa. It is the Swiss army knife of levels. It has two level bubbles an inclinometer pointer a compass and a plumb bubble showing. It can also be used for sighting since there are some internal mirrors for sighting and aligning with some distant object. Through the eye piece you can see the image of one of the bubbles overlaying the view in the distance. A common mistake is the assumption that the railroad used these and are called railroad levels. They were just made in Railroad, Pa.



## 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](mailto:Johnston@everestkc.net) or Kevin Thomas at [kv1014@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kv1014@sbcglobal.net)

## WE WANT YOUR PICTURES!!

If you've got that project that you're just dying to show off to your fellow guild members, but it's too big to bring to the meeting, send us your pictures. If you've made an outstanding jewelry box, but your significant other won't let you bring it to the meeting, send us your pictures. We want pictures, of your work, to proudly display on the Guild's website. We're building a Gallery on the website to show guild members and the world what great craftsmen and women we have in the Kansas City Woodworker's Guild. But we need those pictures.

Just send your pictures along with a brief description to either our Webmaster William Johnston at [Johnston@everestkc.net](mailto:Johnston@everestkc.net) or Editor Kevin Thomas at [kv1014@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kv1014@sbcglobal.net). If you can't send them e-mail bring them to a meeting and we will scan them and get them back to you at the next meeting. So get those cameras going.

## 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 or email at [billevansgv@aol.com](mailto:billevansgv@aol.com).

### Show and Tell



**David Roth**-Intarsia Art



**John Tegeler**- Baltic Birch  
Boxes



**Anthony Harris**- Ash and  
Oak Turned Boxes



**William Johnston**  
*Lufkin* Lumberman's  
Board foot ruler



**William Johnston**  
Lumberman's Board  
Foot Ruler Walking  
Stick



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

### Meeting Minutes

March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2008

#### News / Business:

President Jim Bany opened up discussion of ni-cad batteries vs. lithium-ion batteries. Lithium-ion is twice the cost of ni-cad. Lithium-ion is good for 2000 charges vs. 800 for ni-cad. Lithium-ion batteries don't give any warning to drain down, they just quit working. Jim had some used batteries re-built and does not think the cost is worth it.

Volunteers are needed to replace outgoing board members. The new slate of board members will be voted on at the April guild meeting.

Two volunteers are also needed to provide refreshments at the monthly guild meetings.

The Kansas City Wood Turners have opened up their meeting place to the KCWG. A steering committee and the board will be weighing the pros and cons of the possible new meeting place. The wood turners meet at 67<sup>th</sup>. street and I-35.

Andre's table project update. Two tables are being assembled at the present time. All jigs are made and process sheets are being drafted up as well. Dave Kraatz has volunteered to assist each team as they get started.

**Visitors:** Kyle Unruh, Mallory Twenter and a fine young man named Aaron!

#### Raffle Winners:

**Mike Jones**- walnut crotch wood blank  
**Terry Stair**- box clamps  
**Aaron Menning**- silver maple plank  
**Kara Paris**- walnut plank  
**Paul Twenter**- Irwin 15" hand saw  
**Ken Sokol**- Micro Plane  
**Phil Akers**- Shelf pin jig  
**Jim Reynolds**- Incra miter gauge  
**George Rexroad**- 29 pc. drill bit set  
**Wayne Wainwright**- cross cut razor saw  
Adjustable hold downs- **unknown**  
Metro Hardwood baseball cap- **unknown**

#### Show and Tell:

**David Roth** made an intarsia project from fiddle back maple, burl and cherry. It was inspired by a great work of art that was done in Rome. David used a Glyptol finish.

**Anthony Harris** turned some boxes made from ash & oak. Anthony then accented the turning by burning the wood and then finishing with lacquer. Another box was made from cocobolo. It was double sided and finished with wax.

### 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

2008

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

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

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

**Jerry Jennings** brought in an Irwin 7 1/4 inch thin kerf saw blade with wood samples. Jerry was very impressed with the quality of both cross & rip cuts.

**John Tegeler** made several small boxes and brought in 3 for show & tell. They were made from Baltic birch plywood and left unfinished. The boxes were a nice example of a first attempt at box making. John said that most steps of the process were a challenge.

**William Johnston** brought two lumberman's board foot rulers. One he purchased (Lufkin) and the other he made from ash and brass. The ruler also doubles as a walking stick. William finished the board foot walking stick with bees wax and lanolin

