



Wood Words

The newsletter of the *Kansas City Woodworkers Guild*



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Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Program: Rob Young—the Guild as a teaching organization

Sawdust:
The Presidents Corner



Was February an exciting month or what!! Rick Williams' story about KC Strings at our monthly meeting was fascinating!! I think KC Strings is one of the best kept secrets in KC. We are planning a visit to their shop after the weather breaks, so stay tuned.

And the Woodworking Show just keeps getting better each year. We had ten, that is right count them, ten booths, which I believe was one of the largest displays at the show. When I first learned we would be assigned ten booths, I was concerned whether we would be able to fill them. But noooo problem!!!! We were assigned the entire southern wall, which was just immediately past the entrance, so nearly everyone walked by our booth. According to Bill Johnston, we received 1,000,000 new names, far exceeding our goal!!! No way I said, but Bill insists 1,000,000 is correct. I personally think he got carried away with his zero's, but feel free to ask him.

Some highlights of the show: -Our booth was awarded the most popular. And what did we win? A new book for our library titled *Wood: Craft, Culture, History* by Harvey

Green. -Jim Ramsey won 2nd place in the Show Off contest with his Maloof style rocker. Way to go Jim!!!! We expect brownies at the March meeting!!! -Russ Amos' Jewelry "Books" which recently won 1st Place in Fine Woodworking's Christmas Contest. We let you off easy at the February meeting Russ and expect brownies this month.


-The display of Show & Tell was unbelievable!!! Larry sent out the call and the membership responded overwhelmingly. A variety of items were on display, including boxes, baby crib, furniture of all sorts, kayak, and spice rack to mention just a few. Check out the photos on our website.

- Our new reception desk. A special thanks to Rich Mullen of Gemini Lumber & Millwork for supplying the material, Paul Chafin for designing and building, and David Roth for the intarsia logo.


- The Hand Tool Special Interest Group (SIG) had several demonstrations including Bill Johnston's woodworking with kids (I am certain this was responsible for at least 2 new members) and Rob Young's woodworking with adults.


on March - The Hand Tool SIG also sponsored Jr Strasil's 1800's workshop. Jr and his friend Don Peterson continuously demonstrated hand tool


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techniques throughout the show (Don, hope to see your name on our membership directory soon!!!).

- Three (3) workbenches, Bill Johnston's, Jim Bany's (Jim's has become such a fixture at the show that we should just leave it at our shop, don't you agree Jim? If I do not receive an email, I'll take silence as a yes.), and Kevin Thomas' Holzopffel that he recently completed for the Guild.

- The CNC demonstrations by Arnold Baker and the rest of the CNC SIG were also very popular and responsible for new members. They continuously routed plaques and gave them away to prospective members. (And yes Arnold, one of those found its way to my shop – many thanks!)

- Demonstrations on intarsia, inlay, and jigs.

- Donation of a Work Sharp tool sharpener.

Cliff Bell who spent a tremendous amount of time and effort planning for the Show was admitted to the hospital on Saturday and unfortunately missed much of the fun. He stayed in contact with three cell phones though and is now home doing much better. Take care Cliff!!! Hoping to see you soon!!

And if you think February was exciting, March will be even better. The Guild's own Rob not-so-Young will be presenting *It's A Teaching Guild, So Go Ahead and Teach Me Something!* at the March 17th monthly meeting, Ben Hobbs' Pencil Post Bed on March 19-21, and the Hand Tool Event featuring Lie Nielsen and Jr. Strasil's 1800's Workshop on March 26-27. Don't forget that on Thursday, March 25 Lie-Nielsen is hosting a members' only special demonstration.

In honor of the benevolent St. Patrick, wear green to our March meeting.

Happy sawdust and as always,

Best Regards,

John



FEBRUARY MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The March program is yet to be announced. Election of officers is scheduled. John Johnson made everyone present aware of the new, improved and dynamite Guild website. Payments can be made through the web for hats, shirts and events. Several upcoming events were announced (see elsewhere in the newsletter for details). Our Special Interest Groups are growing in number and in members attending. Several persons have mentioned a SIG on finishing would be interesting.

The Guild has had a lathe and thickness planer donated.

It was announced that the Guild now has a blood borne pathogen kit which we never hope to use. However, if there is a serious incident, we have a way to protect both the injured person and those who are helping him or her.

PROGRAM

Rick Williams from KC Strings was an informative and entertaining speaker. He had a cabinet shop for 12 years and had requests to do other tasks from time to time, some of which had nothing to do with cabinetry, just other types of woodworking. He decided he wanted to make a double bass musical instrument, and after some time and many adventures, KC Strings

was born. His best safety tip was to stop working when you are tired. He also noted you can remove fingers with hand tools as well as power tools.

In 1992, he started making instruments, and learned to see curves in a whole new way. It was interesting to really look and see that most string instruments have next to no flat areas. He doesn't start with thin wood, just takes a thick piece and removes about 95% of it to make it the proper shape for the component needed. His shop makes primarily viola, violin, cello and double bass instruments. Fish glue with its high protein content and other properties is preferred for much of the construction.

His partner was trained in Europe and is a master luthier with an experienced eye to the proper shapes and a good ear for the full and clear tones desired in concert instruments. Others on staff are concert performers and have participated in the Kansas City and Leningrad symphonies.

The shop does use CNC routers to rough out wood into approximate desired shapes, then turns these "blanks" over to the craftsmen to further refine, often with fingerplanes. There are two CNC machines, one with three axis and the other with four.

Tops of instruments are cut first, slightly oversize, and the arch is roughed out. Carving the scrolls into the top of the neck is one of the most difficult parts of construction. However, cutting and shaping the sound holes in the front is also very challenging. Purfling is set into the edges to emphasize the shape of the instrument itself. The thickness of the wood from top to bottom and side to side varies across the face and back of the instrument "shell". Elaborate thickness gauges of several types are employed to check what thickness is where on the "shell" so any adjustments can be made during construction. The varying thicknesses help enhance the vibration of the wood. It's the wood vibration that makes the sounds produced when the instrument is played. The slightest variation in production methods can affect how the instrument sounds. Component changes, such as steel versus wooden tuning pegs will affect the sound.

When final assembly of the instrument is completed, a sealer is applied to the wood, then an oil based varnish is applied. Several coats of varnish are applied, sanded to 1800 grit, then further polished. One sealer used is derived from lava from the area where Stradivarius build his instruments. It was noted that Stradivarius built about 800 violins, and approximately 2000 of these are in New York.

A good instrument uses fish and hide glues so it can be taken apart with hot water and repaired. If other glues are used, splinters will likely result if disassembly is attempted. There are lots of varnish variations, and their shop does do some experimentation.

Much interest was expressed in arranging a tour of KC Strings, and a sign up sheet passed around. {Follow up note: there are three scheduled tours, each limited to about 35 people. You must sign up at the March 17th meeting. }

Special Interest Groups

CNC Routers March 2, 2010

Well, that wasn't bacon frying that you smelled at the wood-working show. The power supply in the Guilds' CNC computer has called it quits. Arnold brought in his computer and we stepped through the CNC Router Operation checklist. The checklist must be followed when running the CNC Router. Brad will post the checklist on the CNC forum. We are also developing tutorials for using the Vectric software.

Next month we will get the table mobile and hopefully have the PC back online with a surge suppressor to boot. Dave Clark will bring back the piece he ran tonight after adding paint to add contrast.

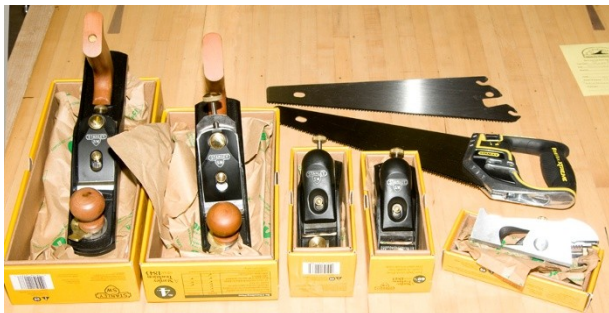
Respectfully submitted, C huck Saunders

Hand Tools

From Benches and Holding devices session:

- Q: If you were going to buy a decent multiuse plane, would you get a #4 or #5?. I was looking at the Woodriver line.
- A: I would get a #5, and slightly crown the blade. Hone the blade to a mirror finish, near front bevel, front bevel and back of the blade. This set up will provide a compromise between a scrub and jack plane, so it can be used for either purpose.
- Q: I am planning to build my own workbench, a version of Le Roubo from Christopher Schwarz's "Workbenches" work-book. What material to use?
- A: Keep in mind that this is likely to not be the only bench you will make. If starting from scratch, hard maple for the top. Softer woods do not hold up as well, do not have the mass that makes for a good bench and can have other issues. Metro Hardwoods gives a 10% discount to members, but you can check around for prices.

This is just a very brief summary of the discussion at the meeting.



What Russ Amos won with his first place jewelry box. Nice!

ANTIQUE TOOL OF THE MONTH

MARCH 2010 by DON KRUSE

The antique tool for the month of January was a molding plane that is designed to shape the overlapping edges of the two hinged doors where they meet. This month's featured tools are other special planes needed to make the dustproof seals between the door and case.

The hinged side of the door requires three different planes



to make the seal. The first plane cuts two grooves on the inside edge of the case stile. Two fillets of wood that were a little wider than these grooves were deep were glued into these grooves. The second plane trimmed and rounded the protruding portion of these fillets. The third plane cut semi-circular grooves into the hinge stile of the door. The semi-circular grooves fit over the rounded fillets when the door was closed making a dustproof joint.

The top and bottom seals were made with a set of two more planes. For this joint, the fourth plane cut a single rounded groove into the inside face of the top and bottom door rails. The fifth plane of the set removed material from the faces of the stops at the top and bottom of the door opening leaving a rounded tongue that fit into the grooves made by plane number four. This plane also left a second rectangular tongue that fit into a groove in the case rail.

The planes used for the hinge stiles were indexed off of the front of the case and door so there was no problem aligning them if the planes were matched. The top and bottom cuts do not have a common face for indexing but if the door is made to properly fit the opening, the grooves and tongues would fit together.

The picture shows plane number one, two, three and five. I am still looking for an example of plane number four. It is similar to plane number two but cuts one groove instead of two. This rounded groove can also be cut with a fairly common small round plane.

How to Learn Something New

In the past, the Guild has polled its members about why they join. What may be the commonest answer is “to learn new skills”. How does this sound?

The purpose of the Guild is to promote the skill and craft of woodworking, and to provide education, information, fellowship and organization to those interested in working with wood.

It is the mission statement for the Guild. In pursuance of this mission we need to look both without and within the Guild membership. Furthermore each member should look within themselves to decide what they wish to learn and how they want to learn it. As a group we have the wherewithal to bring in some big names for weekend seminars and workshops. That’s great. But also because we are a big group we certainly have our own experts and teachers. Three good examples of looking within the membership are the workshops by Dave Kraatz (Bandsaw Tuneup) and Jim McCord (Boxmaking) and the well attended Tablesaw Tuneup by Scott Engleman. Those were organized, formal (black tie optional) events.

But let’s drill down a little further. In the paragraph above I underlined the phrase “and how they want to learn it” because the Guild goes beyond formal classes. On a more basic level it is about asking questions and doing. Want to know how somebody made something or where they found some material? Ask them. Ask them to show you how. Make time for those people who ask you how. Get that “green card” certification so you can take advantage of the shop resources. Pull together two or three people and make a project together or teach each other a skill.

The medical profession has the saying “see one, do one, teach one”. The Guild can do the same. Look at the projects coming in for Show-and-Tell. Is there some aspect of a project that reminds you of that skill or technique on your learning short-list? Pigeon hole the maker and find out how they did it. Will they show you how? Will they give you a list of references from whom they learned? Of course they will!

How to learn something new? Ask.

A Hal Taylor Designed Chair Modeled on Sam Maloof's Style By Jim Ramsey

Editors note: Jim Ramsey won 2nd place in the 2010 Kansas City Woodworking Show's Show Off Contest with his Hal Taylor designed chair modeled on Sam Maloof's style!

I have been working with wood for nearly 20 years. When I started taking classes about 12 years ago I was sure I had found the direction I would take with my woodworking, especially at the end of each new technique class

Several years ago I found that you did not have build only with straight lines making rectangular objects. There is tremendous freedom in curves, wonderful curves, whether using forms for bent laminations, the band saw or hand tools to

sculpt the flow of the lines. Each of those tools was used in creating the rocking chair presented here. The process starts with full size drawings to generate templates, several will be used to create bending forms for the rockers and back braces. The others find use in laying out the cut patterns on the rough stock ensuring the best use of the material.

Once the layout is completed the cutting is done. The first of many choices begin as the segments for seat and headrest are arranged for the best color and grain match. The parts for the backrest, such as rockers and transition stacks between the rockers and legs are ripped. This leads to more choices as to which pieces will make it to the top for viewing pleasure. Next comes the band saw. I cut out the legs before returning to the table saw to cut the cove recess in the arms.

It’s now time to start on the joinery for attaching the legs then drilling the holes for the back braces before reaching for the right angle

grinder. I sketch out the area to grind out the seat. By the time I finish the floor as well a lot of horizontal surfaces will be covered in Walnut dust.

Checking the carved area I dust off the seat turn around and push myself up and back a little settling into the carved area, yes it fits. Taking a closer look at the



new seat are the sculpted areas, mirror images of the curves as they sweep to the rear of the seat creating a gentle flowing image. The depth and radius get smoothed out; starting with 80 grit sand paper I work up to 220 grit for now. Well let’s see all of the parts are cut, it’s time to clamp it together and see how it looks. The joints where the legs meet the seat need a little work but over all it pretty good.

Breaking it back down I take a closer look at the front right leg-to-seat joint and start making the finial adjustments. I take it apart and reach for the glue bottle and spread the glue on one joint and clamp it tight only three left to glue. The glue is cured I start working on the front leg joint to get the look I want, like they grew together. Then I move onto each of the remaining seat joints. One last check and everything is looking good. It’s now time to start working on shaping the back braces. The headrest is fitted and drilled for the back braces. It’s time to once again assemble the chair and check the fit. This time I cannot resist turning around. I gently sit in the chair then slowly push back and rock for a few minutes. Everything fits well so once again I pull it apart and glue the headrest and back braces in place then the rockers.

Now the real work begins sculpting in the legs to the rockers. I must shape the legs so all the lines flow in the next member. Sanding through the various grits ending with 1000 and then several coats of oil result in a fine heirloom chair that I can be proud to pass on to our daughter. The chair is made from Walnut with Ash sandwiched in the back braces measuring H 43, W 27, and L 44.



Road trip to Iowa

Saturday May 22, 2010

We plan to tour:

- August Home Publishing Company , home of Woodsmith & ShopNotes Magazine.
 - Including the editorial facilities, shop, photo studio, and perhaps even the video studio of ShopNotes Magazine.
 - And a plant tour of, Kreg Tool, makers of Kreg Jig.
- Lunch at Machine Shed.

If time permits, a tour and shopping at the Woodsmith Store

Buses Leave the Guild shop at 6:45am. There may be another pickup point. Stay tuned for more developments. We plan to return some time between 9 and 10 pm. Note the trip is 210 Miles each way . Cost of lunch is Included .

Marc Adams Woodworking video on overhead screens Paypal buttons will be made. Will be limited to 171 people but would prefer 114 people.

Cost \$55.00 Per person

We need your commitment by April 20, 2010 to guarantee pricing for the tour bus (and that you get a seat).



March Shop times

- Thu March 3, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
- Sat March 6, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Tue, March 9, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
- 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM
- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Sun, March 14, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Thu, March 11, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Sun, March 28, 10:00 AM— 1:00 PM
- Wed, March 31, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon



Member of the Month Paul Chafin

I started woodworking out of necessity in the winter of '63. We were newly married and wanted a coffee table. I glued up a top, put some legs on it, and, we had a coffee table.



Later, we moved to Maryland, and we wanted a different dining room table. So, I made that.

My favorite tools are powered, Domino machine, panel sanders, sanders, and skill saw. I don't use hand tools very much in my work.

My favorite projects involve a challenge and have some artistic interest to me. A customer ordered a custom sleigh bed, it was a challenge to me then, and he loved it when it was finished.

I often have company in my shop, grandkids and other relatives. A safety tip I use is that all the safety devices, splitters, fences, guards, feather boards and safety glasses have to be used when they are working on their projects. I religiously observe the 3 inch rule—keep your parts three inches away from any moving part. If a push stick is needed, find one or make one or wait until you can. I've even measured and marked off areas on my machines to emphasize this to myself. I use a respirator when finishing because of the finishes I use.



**The Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild Hosts ...
Lie-Nielsen Toolworks Hand Tool Event**

This is a wonderful opportunity to try a wide array of hand tools and learn how great tools make your woodworking easier! Ongoing demonstrations for woodworkers at every level at interactive stations will help you learn valuable techniques. Ask questions of guest demonstrators and learn from some of the most skilled in the industry. Lie-Nielsen hand tools are available for purchase at this event!

March 26 & 27, 2010

Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild

9701 W 67th Street - Merriam, Kansas

Hours: Friday, noon - 6pm, Saturday, 10am - 5pm

FREE ADMISSION

Special Demonstration for Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild Members and Guests only, Thursday, March 25 - 7:00 P.M. This company doesn't demonstrate in the Kansas City area often. You don't want to miss this event.

Also at the Lie-Neilson Hand Tool Event

[Czeck Edge Hand Tool](http://www.czeckedge.com), a manufacturer of layout hand tools for woodworking craftsmen since July of 2005, produces awls and marking knives. Originally for fellow craftsmen in the Atlanta area woodworking community, they were encouraged by these users to create a company and offer tools commercially. Their vision, then as now, is to provide tools with bench made quality, high performance and affordable prices. They use the finest materials and a combination of traditional and state-of-the-art processes to achieve these goals. <http://www.czeckedge.com>

- **Dave Roth Parquetry Demonstration**—consider this a sneak peek preview of the class in June
- **Junior Strasil 1800s demo workshop**—an encore presentation if you missed it at the Woodworking Show. He demonstrated so many skill sets, that you couldn't have seen all of them even if you did attend. Here's your chance to see more.



Coming in June

John Wilson, the Boxmaker...

Shaker Oval Box Demonstration

(Free to the public)

June 4 , 2010 at 7 pm

and

Shaker Oval Box

One Day Hands on Workshop

With John Wilson



Either day June 5 or June 6, 2010

Workshop participants will leave with a set of five boxes. To preview what you will be learning, read his article "Building Shaker Oval Boxes" in the August 2003 issue of [Popular Woodworking](#). This is a rare opportunity to learn new skillshow to prepare stock to use when making your boxes, using hot water bending, forming wood around a mold, how to locate and select suitable wood, and other things to make your project a success.



Tim Helfrich—Thomas the Train nightlight and bank for K—State fans



Dave King - Carvings of Indians in butternut and catalpa; Santa in basswood



Bob LaDue—several Shaker oval boxes done at seminars with John Wilson, scheduled to be at the Guild in June



Rob Young, tool tote with hand cut dovetails

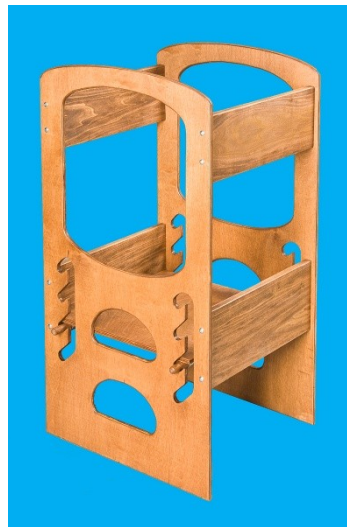


James Childress— Les Paul style electric guitar with ebony, 3 types of mahogany, maple, cocobolo, MOP, lacquer and lots of hours



Dave Johnson— quartersawn red oak barstools, tip to do all sanding before glueup.

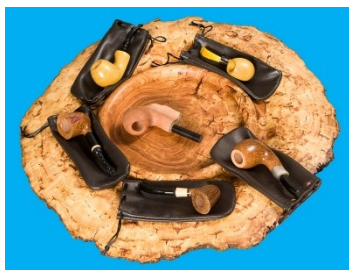
Cliff O'Bryan—Baltic birch plywood and poplar learning tower with threaded inserts for KD.



Dave Clark, red oak step stool, built in one afternoon



Jerry Jennings—jig for repeatable miters using tablesaw



Anthony Harris—various pipes and natural edged turned bowl.

John Tegler jewelry boxes, "woven" inlaid top, hand cut dovetails, stringwork, & hinges



Jerry Jennings—walnut bowl with brass bar inlay, clever boxes with walnut.



New Members

John Gallagher	Fred Damkroger
Dave Winters	Lester Rhodes
Jerry James	John Steinhauser
Christopher Lewer	Jim Baird
Dave King	Robert Lawson
Harold Mueller	Ron Clond
Cari Werner	Dick Kammer
Terry Steffee	Bill Ward
Everett Osgood	Ron Schnieder
Mike Parks	Vince Petrillo
Al Christifano	Vern Young
	Terry Wilson

Calendar

Leadership Meetings, 7:00pm, 9701 W 67th St, Merriam, Kansas 66203

Guild meetings, 7:00 pm 9701 W 67th St Merriam, Kansas 66203, Enter from west , go downstairs, come at 6:15 to share and visit.

Executive Meetings 2010 Guild Meetings

Mar 3	Aug 4	Mar 17	Aug 18
Apr 7	Sep 1	Apr 21	Sep 15
May 5	Oct 6	May 19	Oct 20
Jun 2	Nov 3	Jun 16	Nov 17
Jul 7	Dec 1	Jul 21	Dec 15

Coming Programs and events

March – Rob Young –
The Guild as a teaching organization.

Lie-Neilsen Hand Tool Event
Special Presentation for members and guests
 7:00 pm, Thursday, March 25th

Road trip, Saturday May 22nd to publishers of Woodsmith and ShopNotes magazines, tours of Woodsmith shop, Kreg Tool, lunch at Machine Shed Restaurant, and Woodsmith store shopping if time permits. Commitment needed by Apr 20 to guarantee a seat.

June – scroll saw, marquetry, parquetry and intarsia workshops

June – Open House – ? Do I smell breakfast ?

Workshops

Ben Hobbs – Pencil Post Bed,
 March 19, 20 and 21, 2010.

Shaker Boxes – June 4, 5 and 6. How to make oval boxes using hot water to bend wood. Workshop participants will leave with a set of five boxes that can be nested. Make plans to attend now! The demonstration is free to everyone. The class is hands on and will be very limited so you can get the individual attention you deserve.

Kansas City Woodworkers Guild
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