



Wood Words

The newsletter of the *Kansas City Woodworkers Guild*

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Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 19, 2011
Skill Building with Small Projects — Dave Kraatz

Sawdust:

The Presidents Corner



Ah, autumn. The seasons are changing again. Baseball season changes to football season. The leaves change from green to red and orange. Then they turn brown, fall off the trees, and cause a huge mess to clean up. It's this time of year, as I've said before, I'd like to turn a chainsaw and sawmill loose in my neighborhood. But I digress.

Change is the topic of the day. There have been changes happening all around the guild since I joined about 7 years ago. We're no longer 75 guys meeting in the basement of Jacob's Well Church in Westport. We're over 400 members strong now. Monthly meetings now draw about 150 people each month. We now have a fully equipped shop with 2 classrooms, a library, and offices for membership and training. To go with that new shop we have a lease and utility bills and all the trappings of renting a suitable location.

So as so often is the case, change begets change. Change has come to our membership fees for 2012. Those fees are going up, I regret. But, we on the Leadership Team feel that what we offer here at the Kan-

sas City Woodworkers' Guild is worth every penny and more. The new rates are as follows: **Student-** \$20, **Senior-** \$35, **Regular-** \$50, **Sawdust Maker-** \$75, **Woodworker Plus-** \$100, **Sponsor-** \$125 and a new level, **Benefactor-** \$150. The Benefactor membership gives you all the benefits of the Woodworker Plus membership with the added satisfaction of knowing you're helping the Guild.

Another change that's coming our way doesn't actually get here until April, 2012. That is when we will be holding elections for elected offices. As this will be an even numbered year the positions up for election will be President, Vice-President, and Directors of Communications, Training, and Membership. I will be stepping aside as your President and not seeking another term. Vice-President Rob Young, as called for in our by-laws, will be moving up to the big chair.

What I'm looking for is new blood to take its place on the Leadership Committee. If you've ever thought that you'd like to try a leadership position, now is the time to step forward. Each directorship is looking for an Assistant Director. According to our by-laws each director is to recruit and

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mentor an assistant director. That assistant would then be trained to take over that directorship at some later date. This makes for some continuity in our leadership while bringing in new blood to the team.

I know with over 400 members, there has to be a few of you who are up for the challenge of leading this guild into the future. If you are interested, in making that commitment to our future, please contact the Director that has the job you want. You won't be sorry.

Now for just a brief follow up from last month's column. I returned from vacation with nothing in my suitcases but clothing. Our brief searches of Texas antique stores turned up nothing. At least nothing I wanted. Instead I enjoyed some time on the beach, at Padre Island, and letting my worries not worry me for a few hours. There's nothing like it. But now its back to the real world and all those darn leaves in my yard.

'Til next month, I hope you're making sawdust.

Kevin



November Program

Dave Kraatz will present Building Skills with Small Projects. He plans to demonstrate a small project that could be built with a basic tool kit. It could be built with either hand tools or by machine, or a combination of both. The program will include a simple way to approach and practice making dovetails. He will then discuss alternative joint methods such as mortise and tenon, and sliding dovetails and other joints that could also be used in the same project.

Dave suggests that to acquire skills, you could build the project once (or more) with hand tools, then again with power tools. Each method will add to your skills.

This will be a great introduction to a series of exercises for next year, held on Saturdays, to introduce both hand and machine tool skills in a progressive manner. At the end of the series next year, you will have acquired a full repository of skills that will enable you to do any project with either set of tools, or a combination of both.

Wow, this could lead to a lot of sawdust making !!!



Woodworking Dust

One exposure to a woodworker that is often overlooked comes not from an injury from a power tool, but from [wood dust](#). This does not minimize the im-

portance of hearing, eye, hand and overall shop safety when dealing with power tools. The small stuff like the ever-present dust is overlooked; wood dust particles like noise exposure can cause the most long-term damage to your body. Wood dust can affect you in the following ways.

Irritants: The most common way that wood dust affects a woodworker is by being a primary irritant. This means that dust can irritate your skin, eyes, and lungs through exposure to the dust. Immediate visible reactions are sneezing, coughing, runny nose, rashes, and asthma-like breathing problems.

Sensitizers: Beyond being an irritating nuisance, some woods can make us increasingly more sensitive upon each successive exposure. So even if you don't experience any allergic reaction to the wood or its dust upon first exposure, each time you breathe the dust or handle the wood you become more sensitized to the species wood dust. Sometimes the reaction can be quite dramatic, resulting in rashes, severe sinus or respiratory pain/inflammation, or a number of other conditions depending on the wood species.

Toxins: This is not as common, but some woods are considered directly toxic. One example of this is Yew, which according to ancient Roman knowledge, was capable causing fatality in certain cases.

Carcinogens: If you look at this [hyperlink to a toxicity chart](#) of wood species it identifies the woods that are toxic.

Ways that you can minimize wood dust risk and reduce the exposure is by implementing the following three areas:

- Use of personal protective equipment (dust masks, respirators, powered purifying respirators, etc).
- Use a dust collector for fixed and portable tools or a down draft table.
- Use a ceiling-mounted air filter to collect airborne dust particles that are suspended in the air.

Dust cannot be avoided in a woodworking shop, but it can be managed so that the effects of dust on your body can safely managed for a safer and more enjoyable time in the shop.

Chuck Slagle, Safety Chairman

Programs 2012

Jan 18 — Annual Safety Program
 Feb 15 — Wood Working 101: Handtools
 Mar 21 — Wood Working 101: Wood selection for Projects and layout
 Apr 18 — Wood Working 101: Power Tools
 May 16 — Round Robin: Dovetails and Box Joints
 Jun 20 — Nationally known speaker—TBA
 Jul 18 — Wood Working 101: Joinery
 Aug 15 — Wood Working 101: Adhesives
 Sep 19 — Wood Working 101: Finishing, sanding, scraping, sealing, staining.
 Oct 17 — Commercial presentation: TBA
 Nov 21 — Benches, jigs and fixtures
 Dec 19 — Annual holiday party

Note we will be offering six basic woodworking programs for beginning and minimally experienced woodworkers. There will be three projects which can be built, using the skills taught in these programs. First would be a small jewelry box, the second a larger tool box and the last a small table or nightstand. The projects will be mentored by Guild members. The people who complete their projects by at least the December meeting will receive recognition from the Guild. Please see future newsletters for more details.

The joinery program will be a “round robin” type, with benches and tool set-ups around the shop for people to mingle and visit each station to learn more about box and dovetail joints. There are several ways to cut each joint, and we hope to have about 7 to 8 stations, with 10 minute demonstrations repeating about six times.



Baby Steps

One of my personal goals in life it to be a life-long learner, a permanent student, someone who is continually learning new things. There's always something new to learn! This year I picked a few new things to learn. One was to learn how to eat healthier and to lose a little weight. One was how to build

a content-driven website. And yet another was to learn some woodworking skills!

The KC Woodworkers' Guild has two primary purposes stated in their by-laws; the primary purpose of the KCWG is to educate woodworkers (even if they don't know they are a woodworker yet). The secondary purpose of the KCWG is to serve the community.

Most of us learn in small chunks, baby steps.

I took a few shop classes in junior high, but please, that was a long time ago. I own NO woodworking tools to speak of. OK, I have a hammer, and a cordless drill, and maybe a handsaw.

You have to walk before you can run, so guess what I did? I took a baby step and I joined the KC Woodworkers' Guild.

Then I took another baby step and started attending the monthly general membership meetings.

Guess what I did next? At Kara Paris' and Kevin Thomas' promptings, I took another baby step and signed up for an intro class to woodworking machines this past summer! I have a really heavy and beautiful cutting board to show for it! And a clipboard. Baby steps, nay, toddler steps!

Here is my challenge to you this month: Take a baby step! Sign up for some sort of educational event. The program offered at our monthly general membership meetings are a great place to start. Join our Guild and start attending the monthly meetings!

As you look through this newsletter you will see many, many opportunities to take your own baby steps. Look through our calendar online or the KCWG online home page and you can see various clinics, workshops classes and SIGs.

Clinics are open to all KCWG members, are generally free but may have a materials fee. Clinics are open to guests. Clinics are perfect if you are looking for something free to do with a friend. The Roubo workbench clinic that was held in July was a perfect example. There were 3 classes over the period of about a month.

Workshops are short in nature, 3 or 4 meeting sessions. They usually are held over a week or weekend. There will be a tuition charge for workshops and a possible materials fee.

Classes are ongoing with four or more meeting sessions. There will be a tuition charge for the classes and a possible materials fee. One of my baby steps was attending the Introduction to Machine Woodworking Class (NC101) and I really enjoyed the class.

A Special Interest Group may consist of a small group (usually) of members who share a particular machine, or area of endeavor such as Using Hand Tools, who would like to get together, talk shop, and further their special interest. Attending a SIG is also a fast track way to learn from fellow members who bring their experiences to share. An ideal group would consist of several members, some of whom would like to learn more about and share their special interest, some who are beginners, and hopefully a mentor with expertise in the special interest. Since I am a computer guy I have been thinking about taking another baby step and joining the CNC SIG.

Take a baby step and participate in one of our many educational opportunities. The most difficult decision should be deciding which baby step to take first!

The KC Woodworkers' Guild is no small club, but a full-service organization offering education and service projects. At the time of this writing our membership totals over 400 members (412) with over 100 attending our monthly meetings! How will you be ingrained into our community?

It's easy to be more ingrained into the KC Woodworkers' Guild:

- Become a member,
- Attend our monthly general membership meetings,
- Learn a new skill,
- Step into our shop, and
- Give back by serving others.

Are you ingrained?

Derin Beechner,
Director of [Membership](#)



Christmas Ornament Class

David Roth will be teaching how to cut out Christmas ornaments that can be used year after year. They would be suitable for the tree or to give away as a special memento.

Class will be held Thursday November 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, and again on Saturday November 12 from 9:00 am and if demand exists, a second class the same day from 1:00 to 3:00. The classes are limited to four students, and generally fill up fast. There will likely be a cost for the class, but it has not been determined yet.

Contact Kara Paris, Director of Training to sign up for this special opportunity.



Scroll Saw SIG

The September meeting was well attended. We talked about the patterns that the KC Woodworkers Guild received from former member Merle Krugman. The patterns are going into an organizational process. Christmas ornament patterns are kept in binders. The larger patterns are indexed in numerical order so it can be easily restored to the correct spot after use. There was also a good assortment of show and tell items. Hohn Tegeler had a question about how to attach a photo to wood to prevent tear out when making and cutting out a puzzle. The puzzle was passed around. The question was answered. Good luck, John, can't wait to see the next puzzle.

Veneer samples were passed out to members to take home and finish, then return for our veneer collection. Wayne Albright gave an excellent presentation on how to make a scroll saw basket. He talked about the wood to use and the thickness, what size blades and glue up procedure. We then had some of the members start cutting out the basket project.

The October meeting will be about making a mini office clock. November might be John Tegeler cutting out puzzles on the scroll saw.

The Scroll Saw SIG meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



Photography by Neal Shoger, White Crane Images.



Bill Fitzgibbons



Bill Nagle—Scroll saw goose landing, red oak and plywood.



James Childress—cam set. Pear wood, blood wood and mesquite.



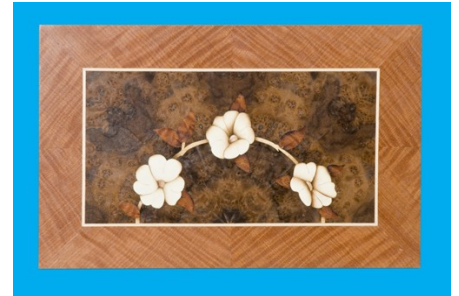
Craig Arnold—Sector Cherry, magnet, brass hinge



Dan Gregurich— box of poplar, walnut, and pernamcubo.



John Tegeler— walnut box, picture frame holder, card holder



David Roth—Marquetry panel, Burl walnut, maple, fiddleback mahogany. Note sand shading.



George Rexroad— bandsaw box

Dave Randalls—pencil box, Baltic birch and plywood.



Keith Tedl—two jewelry boxes, two clocks. Walnut, cherry, ebony. Velvet inside jewelry boxes.



Justin Jones—trunk, cherry and maple. Challenge to find hardware.



Jim Bany— cutting boards, maple, cherry, walnut, purple heart.

Bill Fitzgibbons—restored Federal chair, replacement parts



Mark Waugh—sack back chair, red oak, pine and maple—from Windsor Institute class. Note layout marks on seat



Mike Regan—rustic stool, hickory with sea grass

Bill Kuhlman—Galileo's bicycle, padauk, Baltic birch, stainless steel, brass, lead. Challenge cutting gears, making it run.



General Meeting Programs

- Oct 19th – Dave Kraatz – Building Skills with Small Projects
- Nov 16th – James Ramsey – Inlay techniques
- Dec 21 – Holiday Party
- Jan 18 – Annual Safety Program
- Feb 15 – Wood Working 101: Handtools

Coming Programs and events

We have a many special events planned this year!
Too many to list here, so stay “tuned”.

- Safety Orientation: 7:00, Oct 24, needed for shop usage privileges
- November – Christmas Scroll Saw Ornaments, David Roth, Nov 10, Nov 12, make your reservation early. Classes limited to 4 per session.
- Queen Anne Foot Stool with Calvin Hobbs
- Raised Panel Small Blanket Chest with Scott Englemann
- End Grain Cutting Board with Scott Engleman

Calendar

Leadership Meetings, 7:00pm, 3189 Mercier, Kansas City, MO 64111-3631—map at www.kcwwg.org

Guild meetings, 7:00 pm 3189 Mercier, Kansas City, MO 64111-3631, come at 6:15 to share and visit.

Executive Meetings	2011	Guild Meetings	
Nov 2	May 2	Oct 19	Apr 18
Dec 7	Jun 5	Nov 16	May 16
Jan 4	Jul	Dec 14	Jun 20
Feb 1	Aug 1	Jan 18	Jul 18
Mar 7	Sep 5	Feb 15	Aug 15
Apr 4		Mar 21	Sep 19

Links for the Guild

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