# Wood Words

Volume 29, Issue 3

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# This Month's Presentation: The Bandsaw

informative and helpful

program so you can make

on Wednesday, March 20,

the most of this important

for this informative pro-

shop tool. Join us

gram.

Do you know how your bandsaw works? Do you know how to adjust it so that you get maximum performance?

David Kraatz, KCWG long time member and teacher, will provide a thoroughly

## Presidents's Corner submitted by Rob Young

As many of you already know, Kenyon Greene passed away. Most recently he had stood before us at the February meeting to announce a project whereby the KCWG would be creating birdhouse kits for Wings Over Weston. The Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild will continue with that project in his absence, details will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, many other things are happening. The Lie-Nielsen Hand Tool Event was the first weekend in March and it was a good steady draw all weekend for both members and potential members. Several new members were signed up after they were mesmerized by the shiney. We also want to thank Elkhead Tools and Benchcrafted for their commitment to lightening the wallets of those who walked through our doors.

And boxes, don't forget the boxes! Another batch of boxes for TurfMasters left the building and yet another build session is scheduled for the "briefcase" style of sample box. Information about dates and times have been posted and emailed. This is a different construction technique with mitered corners, hinges and other details, made of red oak instead of poplar.

Erwin Kurtz and Chuck Saunders have been busy researching new equipment for the Guild and very soon we will have a 37" wide belt sander and two new SawStop cabinet saws installed. Changes to electrical, air and dust collection have begun and we hope to have all the new toys ready soon. The Steel City and Grizzly table

saws will be for sale, speak with Chuck Saunders if you are interested.

And one last thing, for STRASSER those of you who didn't get enough of Lie-Nielsen and their shiny stuff, there will be another opportunity in May as we are arranging a bus trip to the Amana Colonies for the first Handworks (http:// handworks.co/) on May 25th. And not just Lie-Nielsen but shiny stuff from Lee Valley, Hock, Bridge City Tools, Sauer & Steiner, Daed and lots of others! Please talk to Mark Waugh or signup on the KCWG web page.



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# Woodworking with Small Children Submitted By William Johnston

Aidan will be five this month. Small children from walking to age 5 or so are content to just play with tools ... your tools ... hammers and mallets, planes, drills, and saws along with the workbench and vice. At some point they want to make something, usually after they start making simple projects to bring home in nursery/kindergarten. While there is little in the way of complete projects possible at age 5, I wanted to find a way to encourage Aidan's strong desire to build. A "kit" custom created especially for him to assemble and finish seemed the likely project.

I wanted something to last and enhance his woodworking as he gets older. So I decided on a tool tote. Even with light wood (sassafras) the tote would be too heavy for a five year old to lug around ... especially with tools. So it was a "grow into it!"

The project, for Aidan, was to be an assembly project, starting with dry assembly, followed by the spreading of glue on the dovetails and tenons, and clamping with bar clamps. After drying Aidan would use an electric drill (screwdriver mode) to attach the sides. He would apply the finish ... a penetrating oil followed by wax. The project would be in two sessions ... each short enough to keep within his still short attention span.

My job would be to prepare the kit and sand after Aiden did the gluing. Children do not like the noise of power tools so I did the sanding of the dovetails and the tenon stubs 'offline' as well as pre-sand the boards prior to first assembly.

While this is a traditional tote in most aspects, I turned a handle on the cross-bar on the lathe. The edges of the handle are beveled with a hand plane on all sides and taper toward the center. The cross-bar has walnut wedged tenons. Aidan really enjoyed tapping in the wedges during assemble and noticeably learned something in the process as he spoke about the alternate color wedges several time. The crossbar is sized to hold a small vice on the end. The ends are hand-cut through dovetailed to the bottom.

My plan is to give Aidan another tool for his toolbox each time he visits the shop

to do woodworking. I will show Aidan how each tool works before he takes it home. His dad is to approve each tool and offer parental guidance as grandparents are known to be more liberal than mom or dad. I have numerous duplicate restored antique tools and will also make many of the tools for him. A pull saw (Japanese or backsaw) will be next followed by a plane. Supplied with the tote is the vice, two clamps, a antique restored level, a cobblers hammer, and a square.

I showed Aidan how each tool was used. He was most impressed with the turned mallet as I explained it was turned from osage orange (hedge). He recalled the tree with the big yellow "grapefruit" balls from our walks in the area. I explained that the yellow color would turn red -brown in a year or so and showed him an older mallet with the rich warm color change. We split a few 1/4 inch pegs with a froe and drove them into holes with the mallet and cobblers hammer.

Aidan wanted wood to practice with the square. I gave him a golf pencil to draw the lines. This gave him the idea that he needed a board inside the box to store pencils. This resulted in an immediate new project, a 3/4 inch x 2 inch board exactly the width of the box. He drilled holes in the board on my micro-mill set up as a drill press. This is a very quiet tool (power tools must be quiet for kids) where he had previously controlled all the operations (on/off, speed, lower the drill into vice clamped wood). Sizing the length of the pencil board to the width of the box gave me a chance to demonstrate a shooting board which is easy for a child to use, though I think Aidan thought we were smoothing the endgrain, rather than fitting the length, as smoothing is more visual.

As usual, questions and comments are welcome and should be addressed to: <u>johnston@everestkc.net</u>. And feel free to request an email copy of "Woodworking with Small Children" if you are a Grandparent (or parent) with a small woodworker in your life.

"The magazine cover that the old women held depicted a late 19th century workshop where in the corner a small child sits, on the floor, at a very small workbench working with a few sticks of wood, surrounded by a mallet, small plane, and a saw. The old woman remembers a similar time in her grandfather's shop when she was a child. "Grandpa, can I have a piece of wood", she would say. Grandpa always had a few sticks of wood, not scrap, but small pieces, specially prepared and set aside, for her 'work'."

If you are privileged to have a small child to introduce to your hobby, the article, <u>Woodworking with Small Chil-</u> <u>dren</u>, which first appeared on the Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild website is available on request at <u>john-</u>



## Commitments Needed Amana Bus Trip Submitted By Mark Waugh



On Saturday, May 25th the guild is planning a road trip to Amana, lowa for the HandWorks show in the Festhalle Barn. There will be over 20 Vendors demonstrating and selling their wares (Mostly all "Wood working" related). Free admission to the show! Due to the distance we will be leaving very early at 3 AM to get there for the 9 AM Special Presentation: "Virtuoso: The Tool Chest of H.O. Studley" by Chris Schwarz and Don Williams.

A few guild members have paid to join the bus trip to the show. However, to commit to having the transportation available everyone who is planning to go needs to pay their \$70 for the trip by Monday, April 1, 2013 so we can make the bus reservation. For Info on show: www.handworks.co

Questions email Mark Waugh

training@

## Membership Renewal submitted by George Rexroad

There are several members that have not renewed their membership for 2013. If you have not renewed your membership you can either pay online using the Paypal link on our website or you can bring your check or cash to the guild meeting on Feb 20, 2013. The renewal period ends on April 1, 2013.

# Let's Talk Woodworking ... Small Numbers, Hand Plane Shavings, a Rat's Hair, and a Hog's Breath

## by William Johnston

Typically a power thickness planner adjusts up and down by turning a crank connected to a 16 thread per inch screw. To plane four quarter stock to 3/4 inch requires two full turns of the screw for each side of the rough stock ... each full turn removing 1/16th inch.

#### 1/16th inch = 0.063 or sixty-three thousands of an inch, the finest division on many rulers.

You might sneak up on the final thickness by taking a half turn, about 1/32 inch...

#### 1/32nd inch = 0.031 or 31 thousands of an inch, about the thickness of a paper clip.

When you get down to that final pass you might take just a quarter turn of the crank. The vibrations of the planer and the lack of bite of rotating knives make finer cuts questionable. I've often joked (incorrectly, I might add) that a oak board changes size by more than a 64th while you walk it across the shop.

#### 1/64th inch = 0.016 or 16 thousands.

Now let's take a look at a jack plane. With a properly cambered blade and set to take off .006 thousands of an inch, the jack can be used across the grain to remove cup in the board. It would take three passes the width of the blade (minimum) to take off that 64th inch. The course set jack starts where the power thickness planner leaves off.

#### 0.006 inch = 6 thousands = maximum cut with a smooth plane, jack, or jointer plane. That's two sheets of printer paper.

You know those thin fluffy shavings that seem to float out of a Lie-Nielsen smoother. They are 0.001 thick ... just about the lower limit of thickness of a smoother ... not because the smoother won't (properly tuned) take a finer shaving but because the wood itself will often not further divide below this level. At one thousands Hard Maple is translucent. Oak shavings, because of the pores, are as much empty space as wood, looking more like a fishnet. Dry Mahogany, at one thousands, is mostly dust, or shavings that crumble into dust when you touch them.

#### 0.001 = one thousands = those super thin, wafer like shavings, coming off your smoother.

When adjusting a handplane we talk in terms of thousands of an inch as fractions don't mean much at this level. And that includes not only the thickness of the shaving but the depth setting of the blade (no it is not always the same as the thickness of the shaving), the mouth opening, and the setback of the chip breaker.

When five year old Aidan and I assembled the Tool Tote (see previous article) among the tools I initially equipped my grandson with was three sharpened golf pencils to do layout work with the square. He says he's not ready for a marking knife. Aidan brought me a small board and asked if we could drill holes in it to hold the pencils. I wanted the board to be a press fit between the sides at the bottom of the tote so as to not need glue or fasteners. You've got one crack at this with the table or miter saw. Why? Because you can't take off small shaving on a second pass ... the saw blade flexes away from the stock. Ah! But there is always the disk sander! We cut it slightly oversize, about 1/32 to 1/16th inch, and smoothed and planed the end grain to length on a shooting board, taking off as little as .003 inches in a pass until we had a snug fit.

#### A Rat's Hair = .001 to .003 inches, a Hog's Breath is anything less than .001 inches

As usual, questions and comments are always welcome and can be addressed to:

William Johnston johnston@everestkc.net 913-492-6942

# MEMBER PROJECTS



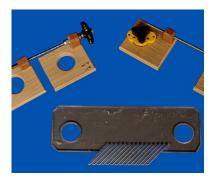
Cutting Board by Andy Krum made of maple and cherry finish was salad bowl challenge was CNC



Tool Box by Steve Erickson. Made of a type of barn board. Finished with two coats of BLO



Truck by Jay Hansen made with walnut and oak finished with lacquer



Fence Adjuster and Feather Board by Jerry Jennings. Made of wood and plastic. Challenges were cutting holes



Step Stool by John Hashimoto made from poplar point of interest is the change of colors challenge was dye



Cherry Side Table by Rob Young. Finished with shellac & wax. Points of interest was made with all hand tools, rough-cut lumber.





Mantle Clock by Rob Young

Made of pine, Finished with shellac & wax Point of interest is it was made with all hand tools except mortise for mechanism



Bamboo Fly Rod by Ken Grainger

Fly Rod Case by Ken Grainger made with poplar, walnut and abalone inlay



Leg Vise Jaw by Rod Hansen. Made of maple, bench crafted vise. Finished with linseed oil Point of interest from massive 30x84" bench top (split top raubo) Challenges were many

## Understanding, Tuning, and Using the Stanley Bailey Bench Plane

## Kansas City Woodworker's Guild Hand Tool Special Interest Group Presentation

## Facilitated by William Johnston

### Sunday, March 24 from 2:00 - 4:00

### All Kansas City Woodworker's Guild Members and their Guests are welcome!

You should attend this discussion regardless of experience level if you have a serious interest in getting your planes to work for you and want to know how and why bench planes work. You should come with an open mind about using hand tools when appropriate to the job or when hand tools do a better job than power tools. Several opportunities will come up in the discussion of jobs that these planes will do that can not be done, done as well, as effectively, or safely with available power tools.

This will be an interactive class. Attendees are encouraged to comment on the subject matter and participate in the demonstrations. If you have one, please bring a <u>clean</u> Stanley or similar bench plane with you along with a screwdriver and small box to disassemble/reassemble your plane in order to better follow the discussion.

We will not be covering restoring, cleaning, rust removal or the fine details of sharpening in this session. These subjects have been previously covered could be again but warrant a full session each and in a hands-on clinic format.

Subjects to be discussed include:

- Parts of the plane and how they interact in a tuned bench plane.
- Troubleshooting common problems, their reasons and causes for these problems, and solutions including discuss
  - Tearout,
  - Chatter.
  - Benefits of thicker blades.
- Vertical adjustment.
- Frog adjustment.
- Lateral adjustment (including alignment of the frog, symmetry of the blade, and causes of miss-alignment).
- Shaping the blade
  - Crowning the blade, how much, and why,
  - Bevel Angles and why.
- Frog (bedding) angle.

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- Preparing and setting the cap iron/chipbreaker (including the two functions of the cap iron),
- Demonstrate and illustrate how each of the Jack, Jointer, and Smooth Plane are traditionally used
- Additional uses and tuning for Jack, Jointer, and Smooth.
  - Acknowledge of our access to power tools and their use as a labor saving devices (our apprentice),
    - Power tool shortcomings in planing, smoothing, and jointing
    - Where the plane fits in, where it complements the power tool, and where it does a better job.
    - Adjusting of the plane mouth opening for traditional uses of the Jack, Jointer, and Smoother.
- Preparing stock for the power thickness planer and why it is necessary in the absence of a wide power jointer.
- The two jobs of the jointer
  - Edge Jointing.
    - The jointer plane vs. the power jointer and how to eliminate the power jointer step.
    - When the jointer plane might prove to be quicker & easier, and how it does a better job.
  - Why boards need to be flattened before smoothing,
    - What to expect from the jointer in flattening vs the powered thickness planer and the power jointer.

# **MEMBER PROJECTS**



End Grain Cutting Boards by Rod Hansen made of cherry, maple, elm, locust, Hickory and oak finished with Behlen's Salad Bowl Finish

challenges were keeping joined end straight



Jewelry Box by Ron Lomax. Made of walnut, cherry veneer Finished with shellac and lacquer. Points of interest are marquetry, double bevel type inlay. Jewelry Box 2 by Ron Lomax Made of walnut sapelle veneer. Finished with shellac and lacquer. Point of interest is the marquetry, double bevel type inlay



Cadobe Heart by Bill Nagle made with plywood finished with stain, paint.

OFFICERS All email addresses end with

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#### Increase Your Woodworking Skill and Knowledge

KANSAS CITY WOODWORKERS' GUILD

The Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild is a great source of information for every level of woodworker from amateur to professional. At monthly meetings, members can improve woodworking techniques and skills through hands on demonstrations, guest speakers and discussions. The Guild supports its own Woodworking Shop, publishes a monthly newsletter with articles of interest, reports of events, notes, & comments, sends out for sale/wanted ads and sponsors' specials by E-mail. Many of our sponsors give members special prices and/or discounts on purchases of select tools and materials.

# **Upcoming Events and Important Dates**

February Program – John Johnson, Shop Safety
Saturday, February, 23, --9pm Shop Safety Training
March Program – Dave Kraatz, Band Saw Tuning and Maintenance
Saturday, March 23, --9pm Shop Safety Training
April Program—Brian Holland, Japanese Inspired Furniture and Craft Using Traditional Tools and Techniques
Sunday, May 19 --9pm Shop Safety Training
Sunday, July 21 --9pm Shop Safety Training
Sunday, September 22 --9pm Shop Safety Training
Saturday, October 19 --9pm Shop Safety Training
Sunday, November 24 --9pm Shop Safety Training



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