

Wood Words

April Program: Roubo Workbench

by TIM LOCKE

Member John Johnson will present a workbench he recently completed. It is a Roubo design adapted from Christopher Shwarz's Workbench Book. It is constructed nearly entirely of repurposed lumber, in a relatively short period of time, in a small shop, using a mix of power and hand tools.



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President's Corner

by ROB YOUNG

I'm sure most of you are familiar with the company Lee Valley (www.leevalley.com). One of the premier wallet vacuum companies in business today. Based in Canada, they are for the most part a genial bunch. But I think they do have a bit of a mean streak, particularly I believe they feel it their responsibility to take revenge on us poor Americans and the timing of our tax code for all the dopey Canadian jokes we tell. Once again, Lee Valley's "Free Shipping Event" seems to coincide with my personal coffers being the most

empty as I hope against hope that by doing my taxes one more time I find a mistake in my favor. Rats.

I'd like to thank all of those who attended the "Evening with Don Williams" event in March. If you couldn't make it, ask around to find somebody who did. That way you can sample my Free Shipping versus empty pockets feelings of misery because you missed out on a great lecture. Unfortunately we had to stop Don off after about 1-1/2 hours because he had been teaching his parquetry workshop since 8am and I was informed by his wife that it was well past his bedtime, 15 hours on his feet talking about things he

loves was enough. And we still had two more 12-hour days to go in the workshop! Check out his web page (www.donsbarn.com) where you can find his blog and many of the scholarly articles he has written over the years.

Thank you too for the past two years of participation in the Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild programs, clinics, meetings, SIGs, workshops, classes and open-shop. We have come along way in the over 28 years the Guild has been around. And welcome Chuck Saunders into his new role as President along with the returning members of the Leadership Committee, Board and a few new faces!

Woodworking Vistas

by CHUCK SAUNDERS

On March 26th members convened at the shop to help out another organization, the (Kansas City Auto-

motive Museum set to open on the 19th of April in their new location near 116th and Strang Line Rd. They

were in need of 120 stanchions to help rope off the display cars to help detour the fingerprints and drooling left by visitors. Using materials they provided the saws started at 6:00pm. When the last paint brush was laid down at 8:30pm, there were 120 black stanchions waiting to start their new career.



This project represented one of the Guild's guiding canons, to contribute to our community in service to others. The scope of the

project was small enough that it was able to be scheduled for evening work sessions and offer an opportunity for members to support their Guild with their hands and backs who miss out on other opportunities due to daytime employment (retirement challenged?). Unfortunately these projects often come along with short lead times making the courtesy of long advance notice impossible.

If you become aware of a community service project that would benefit from the skills of the Guild, especially if you would like to lead the charge, let any of the Leadership Committee know and we'll see what can be done. I would like to thank the members of the Guild that gave of their time and effort to complete this project quickly and well:

- Ryan McNair
- Jack Gregg
- Jim Stuart
- Dave Kraatz
- Terry Stair
- Jay Nichols
- Bill Nagle



The Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild presents ...

“Designing & Constructing a Traditional Journeyman Cabinetmaker’s Toolchest”

Facilitated by William Johnston

Saturday, May 10, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

At the KCWG Shop

All Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild paid members and their guest are invited!

There is no charge for this clinic but please RSVP on the [signup page here](#) !

This will be an interactive discussion centered clinic. We will not be making sawdust. You will want to attend this clinic if you are interested in exploring all aspects of the design and construction of a Traditional Journeyman Cabinetmaker’s Toolchest custom adapted to accommodate your current new traditional and collectible user handtools.

Come prepared and willing to think through the options available and discuss those options with other participants including why you think that option is important.

We will have on hand for display and detailed inspection a number of wooden toolchests which will be seen to make up components of a traditional journeyman cabinetmaker’s toolchest. These include a circa 1910 patternmakers toolchest with original tools, a second quarter 20th century carpenter’s toolchest(s) with original tools, a tool & die makers toolchest (circa 1930), an engineer’s toolchest, a machinist toolchest (circa 1942), among others. Attendees are also invited to bring any wooden toolchest for display, with or without tools. The facilitator will also have his own design of a journeyman cabinetmaker’s tool chest as a basis for discussion, outfitted with user made and working collectible handtools.

Subjects to be explored include:

- Physical size and final weight consideration with/without tools.
- Wood selection including wood strength vs. weight.
- Joinery and construction style with emphasis on strength considerations.
- Wood movement.
- Tips on how to physically and visually expand the height of the sides before considering glue-up.
- Bottom construction and attachment allowing for wood movement (and why CS is out of his mind).
- Considerations for disassembly for repair and replacement.
- Top construction and assembly.
- Interior design, tills, drawers, and trays, and slides including the



transfer of tool weight to the chest sides and off of the bottom.

- Ideas for secret compartments (always fun).
- Finish choices (and why CS is again out of his mind).
- Handle construction or purchase options, attachment, including lifting and moving issues.
- Skids vs. wheels (or can/should you have both?).
- Concealing non-structural flaws (those who are perfect need not feel they need to participate).
- Hinges, locks, and hardware. (“I don’t know nothing about attaching no locks, Ms Scarlett!”)
- Any and all other considerations of interest to the participants.

There is no charge for this clinic but please RSVP on the [signup page here](#) !

Questions and comments are welcome and may be addressed to William Johnston, johnston@everestkc.net, 913-492-6942.

Sponsors who offer discounts up to %10 with KCWWG membership card



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Securing Stock for Jointing on a European Style Workbench

Text and Photos by William Johnston

The European style workbench, with its unique tail vice, is a great tool for planing the wide face of stock between dogs. The jaws of the tail vice also grips stock tightly with the endgrain up. However, jointing the edge of a board is not so easily accommodated. Sometimes, especially for short and narrow boards, it is possible to successfully joint with the board on edge between dogs in good repair. For longer or wide boards this often does not work satisfactory.

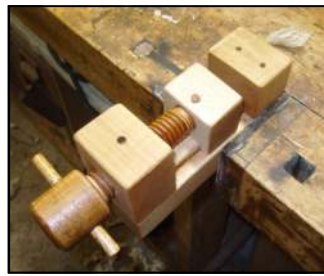


For a number of years I have used a fashioned metal and wood vice secured between the tail vice jaws. This has worked well to securely hold wide, narrow, or long stock on edge for jointing. The parts for this vice, in addition to scrap walnut left over from another project, consists of the metal moving jaw with its metal screw from a bar clamp designed to be mated with a 2X2 of any length (similar in function to a



pipe clamp) that had become separated from its fixed jaw (garage sale purchase, of course). Clamp the fashioned vice between the jaws of the workbench tail vice and a quarter turn secures or releases the stock to be planed. This is a great tool when a number pieces of different (or same) lengths need to be jointed or the sharp corners need to be rounded with a hand plane.

At our February Hand Tool Special Interest Group Meeting we explored woodtreading. We threaded turned 1 inch blanks using a thread box and taped a wood nut with a corresponding metal tap designed for making the female thread in wood. We also made female threads in hardwood using a standard 1/4 X 20 metal tap. This accommodated a 1/4 X 20 brass bolt. Think this won't hold, think again! A good rap with a mallet on the head of the bolt produced no movement or damage to the wood threads so tapped. This is a great method for making all kinds of jigs, fixtures, and appliances without resorting to troublesome threaded inserts and the like. I had used scraps of 8/4 hard maple, for this demonstration, that were left over from making a double wood screw Moxon vice earlier in the month.



I decided to use the hard maple demonstration scraps, the threaded screw & nut and the demonstration brass bolts, to fashion a similar, but wooden, vice to the one discussed above. The bottom block was bolted to the end blocks (the wood threaded nut & fixed jaw) using two brass bolts for each block in holes tapped into the end blocks. A separate moving jaw was prepared to slide along the bottom block with a socket for the end of the wooden screw.

This vice may be placed between the tail vice jaws at full height or can be lowered to accommodate narrow stock. A quarter turn releases stock on edge between jaws or tightens it again allowing very fast changes of stock that may be of various lengths. If desired, the far end of especially long stock can be placed against a dog to stabilize the loose end to keep it from flexing to the side when planed.

This vice will be left indefinitely with the Koa European Workbench in the Guild's Workbench and Hand Tool Room should you wish to give it a tryout, make one for yourself, or joint your stock.



As usual, questions and comments are welcome and may be addressed to William Johnston, johnston@everestkc.net, (913) 492-6942.

Eyes on the Blackboard

by MARK WAUGH

Training opportunities for all guild members coming up. Please remember you need to have a Green Card to use the shop for any of our training opportunities unless noted. You can do this by signing up early and completing your written test before attending the SAFETY TRAINING ORIENTATION. The next date for the Orientation is Saturday March 29th at 9 AM. If you have any additional questions about obtaining your Green Card, please email safety@kcwoodworkersguild.org

Remember First Paid gets the Spot in the Training!

Introduction to the Scroll Saw

with JOHN TEGELER

→April 5 1-4 PM

	Tuition	Material
Member	\$0	\$25
WW +	\$0	\$25

John Tegeler will lead members through an overview of the Scroll Saw and then you can work on some basic exercises for skill building. Then we will plunge into a small Scroll Saw project that you will complete by the end of the clinic. Must be a Member & Have your Green Card

Introduction to the Scroll Saw

with BILL EVANS

→May 3 9AM-12noon

	Tuition	Material
Member	\$0	\$25
WW +	\$0	\$25

Bill Evans will lead members through an overview of the Scroll Saw and then you can work on some basic exercises for skill building. Then we will plunge into a small Scroll Saw project that you will complete by the end of the clinic. Must be a Member & Have your Green Card

Designing & Constructing a Traditional Journeyman Cabinetmaker's Tool Chest

with BILL JOHNSTON

→May 10 9 AM to 12:30 PM

	Tuition	Material
Member	\$0	\$0
WW +	\$0	\$0

Bill Johnston will be facilitating this interactive discussion based clinic to explore choices to be made when building your Tool chest. While we won't be making Sawdust, it will help you think about what you will & won't want when you build your next Tool Chest. This clinic will allow you to work out the details before you start cutting. This will be a discussion, so come ready to explore all the possible choices available.

There is not cost for this Clinic and you may bring guests that that would enjoy the discussion.

Introduction to the Guild Shop

with ERWIN KURTZ

→Coordinate with Erwin

	Tuition	Material
Member	\$0	\$25
WW +	\$0	\$25

Erwin will work with you in a small group to build a small box using the shop. This is a great opportunity to get some time in the shop with mentoring to build skills and confidence in using the equipment. This is open to any Sawdust Maker Member and above with a Green Card. Times are to be arranged with Erwin in advance so that you get the mentoring time.

I need some help figuring out what you folks want as far as training. I am not getting very much feedback on what you would like to have available. I also need some leads on folks who would help teach the training. If you have a skill, come talk to me (in person, in an email, or by phone) and we can work out the details. Remember that I need your help to put this all together.

Now I need your help, my term as Director of Training concludes in April, if you are interested in taking my place we need to talk soon. I also need someone to help me set up some training for the following possible programs:

- Raised Panel Doors
- Cabinet Building
- Veneering
- Projects in Arts & Crafts, Shaker, etc. styles.
- Tool Making
- And the list goes on

Let's go play in the shop! Mark Waugh training@kcwoodworkersguild.org

What Size Should Your Toolchest Be?

by William Johnston

Most of us, in selecting the length, width, and depth of our toolchest that we plan to build, will, of course, carefully consider the tools we have and those that we expect to acquire. A pleasant shape, usually based on the Golden Ratio is also desirable and might be our second consideration. Without the usual math complications (Google “Golden Ratio” if you want complications) the Golden Ratio for your tool chest would consider the ratio of the length to the height or depth. This classically should be about 8/5 or about 1.62.

But there are, of course, other considerations. Among them are: What will this sucker weigh when full of tools? Will I need six pallbearers and a truck to move it? How many of my tools will it hold (the volume)? And, last how much wood will it take, ie, about how much will it cost me (based on the surface area) to build?

Simply put, a large box takes less wood (and costs less) than does several smaller boxes providing the same volume. You would spend double on materials to build 3 small boxes (2X1.5X1.5) with the same volume for tools as one larger (3X2X2) box. I suspect three small boxes would take much more time to construct.

However, you might find three smaller chests weighing 100 lbs each to be more to your liking than one weighing a whopping 300 lbs. Or you might decide that you won't be moving your chest much so putting a larger one on wheels provides better value and more efficiency.

Of course, this is simplified for illustration. Most all sizes of toolchests would use the same thickness of stock. Divisions, totes, and trays inside the chest would take up proportionally more of the available volume in a small box as compared to its big brother. That, coupled with flexibility in arranging tools and accommodating larger tools, or accommodating new purchase makes the larger chest a compelling choice if it can work for you.

Want to know more about Tool Chests? Here are some upcoming opportunities:

On Saturday, May 10, 2014, the Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild will present a free clinic, “**Designing & Constructing a Traditional Journeyman Cabinetmaker's Tool Chest**” which I will have the pleasure of facilitating. You will find the promotion flyer with the topic exploration agenda elsewhere in the Newsletter as well as information to help you decide if you might benefit from attending. **There is no charge for this clinic but please RSVP on the [signup page here](#) !**

Later this year the **Hand Tool SIG plans to explore a Carpenters Hand Tool Chest** with the original tools once owned by a home builder. This toolchest will be just as it was given to the Hand Tool SIG a few years ago by the builder's son. Join the HTSIG with the opening of this chest while we explore what we can learn about the original owner and his trade from his tools. Watch your email for a date. I believe Rob Young called this forensic anthropology.

The Hand Tool SIG is currently considering a program featuring a 1910-1940 Patternmakers Toolchest. During that program we will explore the life of patternmaker, Fred Fruh, and actually use his hand made planes and tools from his (30 and out) career working for Fisher Body in Detroit which started in 1910. The program would also likely include a segment on Sand Casting, the purpose of the patternmakers creation. Stay tuned for announcements in the Newsletter, email, and website as this program develops.

Questions and comments are welcome and may be addressed to William Johnston, johnston@everestkc.net, 913-492-6942.

Mark Your Calendar

by CLIFF SCHUETTE

Hopefully you'll find several programs that pique your interest and

increase your knowledge and skills. If you don't, please contact Cliff Schuette, Program Director, to make suggestions, or volunteer to present one of your areas of expertise.

May, 2014 *Design Matters* with George Walker

June, 2014 *Crafting a Sculptured Chair* with Cliff Schuette

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.

We invite you to attend one of our monthly meetings as our guest to learn first hand what our Guild is all about. All email addresses end with @kcwoodworkersguild.org

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