

### Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild

Increase your Woodworking skill and knowledge



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John Van Goethem 913-631-1094



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Find more sponsors inside!

# **Wood Words**

### President's Corner

chool is out, grass is growing, temperature is getting up there, might even be time to turn on the AC. We had a great time making the recycling stations for Boulevardia and they will also be used for Irish Fest. Having members turn out to get these Guild projects done makes it possible for the doors to stay open. When the opportunity appears, jump on it. Lot's of fun working with other members on a common project.

Which reminds me that Maker Faire is the end of June and the Guild will have a hooth there. Contact Tim Locke and tell him you want to Help staff the booth and represent the Guild to a large group of people that want to make things. And if you want to demonstrate making something talk it over with Tim. Speaking of Tim. the Auction is already getting underway and there is a lot of work that

goes into getting donations for the auction. If we wait until November 1st to start there won't be an auction. These things take advance work If you are interested in helping let Tim know about it.

What are you making this summer? Well get to work on it, and bring it in for Show and Tell. Everyone should have a project to work on and improve their skills. Look at the classes that Mike Jones is putting together and maybe one of them is just what the doctor ordered. If you don't see something that interests you or you want to teach a class about your favorite project, just let Mike Jones know. Just say "Hey Mike, I want to teach a class on how to build a c1750 Flemish Double Manual Harpsichord. Or perhaps something more complicated. The more we know what members want and what resources the membership contains, the more

Mike can get the classes you want to take.

And now for the disclaimer - The Guild is of, by, and for the members. All of the great programs, facilities, classes and fellowship are thanks to the members of the Guild aettina involved. Help the Guild grow stronger and become a better resource for the members, volunteer and offer your time and expertise to help run the Guild. Every one of the officers and directors have projects and tasks that they are willing to share. Get involved and make the Guild a project that you started this summer.

— Chuck Saunders



# Next General Meeting: June 18th, 7pm KCWG Shop Program : Don't Let Abrasives Rub You the Wrong Way

Mr. Mike Cobb of our local Woodcraft store will tell you everything he knows about abrasives and more. Mike has a long career in woodworking, first as a presenter in the Shopsmith Traveling Academy, then as a Delta Sales Manager for 10 years and, finally, a Woodcraft employee since 1994 where he is one of their most prolific wood working skills teachers. He will explain abrasives, their classification systems, techniques for various sanding

challenges, the use of power sanders, and some solutions to those nitty-gritty problems we've all encountered. Whether you're a beginning woodworker or a seasoned professional you will find his presentation to be highly informative.

- Cliff Schuette

#### Wood Words



### Eyes on the Blackboard

raining & learning 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 otherwise noted. Get your Green Card by completing your written test before attending the next SAFETY TRAINING ORIENTATION on Sunday June 21st, 9am at the KCWG shop. If you have any additional questions about Green Cards and the shop, please email safety@kcwoodworkersquild.org.

— Mike Jones

### Build a Backsaw Weekend Workshops

Just the kit (12" x 3" x 0.020" spring steel with 13ppi punched teeth, slotted brass back and 2 split nuts) \$55

Kit + Weekend Workshop \$115 (WW+ and above, \$105)

Saturday June 21st, July 12th and 26th. 9am until somebody cries or 5pm, whichever comes first.

Contact Rob Young rwyoung@ieee.org for details.



frog first
thing in the
morning and
then nothing
worse can
happen to you
the rest of
the day."

"Eat a live

— Mark Twain

#### Coming up!

Scroll Saw SIG : Wednesday June 11th 7pm



#### Coming up!

Power Tool SIG: Sunday June 1st

Let's Make a Quiet Bandsaw

Power Tool SIG met on June 1st this month due to Father's Day on the 15th. The activity for the day was paint removal and attendance was shockingly low. Our next meeting will be July 20th to continue the work on the bandsaw.

The completed bandsaw will become a new addition to the Guild Shoo.

See you there.

— Chuck Saunders

#### Coming up!

Hand Tool SIG: Sunday June 22nd 2pm

Concealing Flaws with Bee's Wax

Join us, Sunday, June 22nd at 2PM, at the Hand Tool SIG in the shop. We will be presenting "Concealing Flaws with Bee's Wax"... a hands on session where you will have an opportunity to experiment with bee's wax on finished wood and see yours results and the results of others to help you determine when bee's wax might be appropriate for your work. All members and their guests are welcome to attend. To assist in preparation for the SIG. please see the related article elsewhere in this month's Newsletter. Questions may be addressed to William Johnston, 913-492-6942, johnston@everestkc.net

— Rob Young



### From The Shop

n May the shop was again very busy with Boulevard recycle station, Tool Box, scroll saw, and jig making clinics and members in working on their own projects. A busy shop is great but it does have downfalls of machines needing more attention and of course, cleaning. It is very important that everyone clean up the machines, work tables, and floor before leaving the shop. Cleaning does not stop with just brushing of the top surfaces. Vacuum the saw dust and chips from inside the table saw and jointer cabinets and around the miter saws. Help the Shop Foreman by empting waste containers. Be sure to check the dust collector bag

often when using the thickness planers. Inform the Shop Foreman and help him change and carry the bags to the dumpster. If you experience a problem with a tool please inform the Shop Foreman so that he can either fix or leave a note for the DOA to fix or replace the problem tool.

No soda or beverage containers on any power equipment. The reason is obvious, it can spill and damage the metal surfaces and get into the inner workings of the machine. Or it is just left there, someone else to have to throw away (and clean off the rust ring!).

It appears that the Guild and Dean Reality have come to an agreement on the additional space in the rear of the shop with a 7 year lease. After signing the new lease there are plans for the floor in the storage area to be marked off in squares and offered to member for storage of projects that are in process of completion. The space will not be for long term storage only for work in progress. A fee schedule is yet to be determined, but will be in the neighborhood of  $50 \cite{Children}$ 

Be safe in the shop.

— Erwin Kurtz

#### More Sponsors!

Metro Hardwoods

#### www.metrohardwoodsinc.com

JUNE SPECIALS

#### 2 X 2 POPLAR TURNING SQAURES

\$1.19 PER LINEAL FOOT

HARD MAPLE 4/4 SURFACED TWO SIDES AND ONE EDGE STRAIGHT LINE RIPPED TO 25/32" THICK

\$4.25 PER BOARD FOOT

<u>BIRCH 4/4</u> SURFACED TWO SIDES AND ONE EDGE STRAIGHT LINE RIPPED TO 25/32" THICK

\$2.89 PER BOARD FOOT

SPANISH CEDAR 8/4 SURFACED TWO SIDES AND ONE EDGE STRAIGHT LINE RIPPED TO 1-3/4" THICK.

\$7.49 PER BOARD FOOT

BUBINGA 16/4 SURFACED TWO SIDES AND ONE EDGE STRAIGHT LINE RIPPED TO 3-3/4" THICK

\$13.19 PER BOARD FOOT

COCOBOLA 4/4 SURFACED TWO SIDES AND ONE EDGE STRAIGHT LINE RIPPED TO 25/32" THICK

\$24.99 PER BOARD FOOT

FREUD 10" X 62TOOTH LU82MDIO HEAVY DUTY MULTI-PURPOSE SAW BLADE \$39.97 EACH

SPECIAL FATHER'S DAY SALE ALL EASY WOOD TOOLS AND CHUCKS 15% OFF DUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

PRICES GOOD SATURDAY JUNE 7TH





### OPEN SHOP JUNE 2014

Sun	Man	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10a-3p Chuck Saunders	2 9:30a-12:30p Pat Brown 5p-9p Gary Strohm	3 9a-12p Gary Creek 12p-5p Craig Arnold	4	5 9a-1p Erwin Kurtz	6 6p-9p Scott Eng- leman	7 9a-4p Mike Jones
8 10a-4p Rob Young	9	10 9a-12p Jim Stuart 12p-3p G Forister 3p-6p TBO 6p-9p T. Dockweiller	11	12 9a-1p Erwin Kurtz	13 6p-9p Dave Kraatz	14 9a-12p Dave Kraatz 12p-3p B. Schenke
15 Happy Fathers' Day No Open Shop	16 5p-9p Gary Strohm	17 9a-12p Gary Creek 12p-5p Craig Arnold	18 Manthly Guild Meeting 7pm	19 9a-lp Erwin Kurtz 6p-9p Kevin Thom- as	20 6p-9p Brad Swa- ters	21 9a-4p Mike Jones
22 IOa-2p Rob Young	23	24 9a-12p Jim Stuart 12p-3p G Forister 3p-6p TBD 6p-9p T. Dockweiller	25	26 9a-lp Erwin Kurtz	27 6p-9p Dave Kraatz	28 9a-3p Dave Kraatz
29 1Da-4p Chuck Saunders	30					

#### **Wood Words**

### Shhhh, From the Library

### **Next Safety Orientation**

June21st, 9am at the shop.

Members, bring your waiver and completed test to get qualified to use the KCWG Shop!

his month we wanted to bring to the Guilds' attention that you have DVD's available to check out from the Library. We are featuring a Taunton Press release from 1999, Gary Rogoski presentation on Routers, twelve ways to cut mortise and tenons joints. This DVD is for the Apprentice and Journeymen alike, the Master Woodworker would know all of the material presented in this DVD.

The presentation covers the use of a Chisel and Mallet as well as use of Square, Knife, Marking Gage & Marking Wheel. The following get covered in the process of making M&T joints. A Dovetail Saw, Hollow Chisel Mortiser, Router under a table or on top with a fence and without one in some cases. The Table Saw and Band Saw are presented here as well as a Horizontal M&T Router. The video explains how loose tenons are made, and explains why we

round some tenons while most are squared off. I recommend that you should check this out and other videos available in the Library.

— Barry Pennington

Buried in nick-nacks you've made in the shop? Consider donating items to the monthly raffle!

### May Show and Tell

Dates to remember:

KCWG Open House — August 23rd

KCWT/KCWG Auction — November 1st





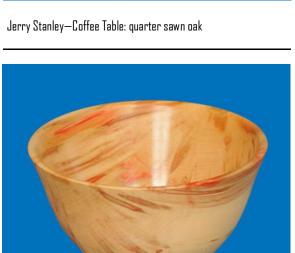
James Childress—Picture stand & scratch stock: cherry & sycamore



Gary Mielke—Boxes from class: ash, oak and cherry



Gary Mielke-Marquetry with Dave Roth: walnut & maple



Scott Engelmann—Bowl: box elder from Louis Armstrong's yard



Michelle Johanning—Cutting board: poplar, hickory & walnut

#### June 2014, No 6

"Principles for the Development of a Complete Mind:
Study the science of art.
Study the art of science.
Develop your senses- especially learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else."

— Leonardo da Vinci



Mac Dressler—Period drawer restoration: mahogany & oak

#### **Events**

he Kansas City Woodworkers guild will be hosting a booth at the annual <u>Maker</u> <u>Faire</u> in Kansas City this year, June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

The purpose of the exhibition for the KC Woodworkers' Guild is to get the work out to Kansas City attendees who are interested in "Making".

We would like to exhibit a couple of dozen completed "Show and tell" items. Please let Tim Locke know if you have interesting items for display.

In addition we would like to do some demonstrations. We plan to assemble some Dave Kraatz wooden toy trucks and give away to attendees. The exhibit will include toy assembly of part premade. Please let Tim or Dave know if you can assist in making parts or exhibit assembly methods. The Scroll Saw SIG has indicated they could do some demonstrations also.

— Tim Locke <u>events@kcwoodworkersguild.org</u> cell 816 392 9889

More Information about Maker Faire can be found at www.makerfairekc.com

Union Station 30 W. Pershing Rd Kansas City, MO 64108





Michelle Johanning—Clipboard: poplar, hickory & walnut

**Wood Words** 

### Concealing Flaws with Bee's Wax — William Johnston

(With discussions of other intermittent solutions)

sing colored bee's wax for filling holes, cracks, gaps, defects, and generally correcting visual mistakes in wood, particularly newly finished projects. In correcting visual defects ... don't draw attention to the defect. ... don't draw attention to the correction.

This is sufficiently touchy as a subject that I had some reluctance to write about it. Some of you may feel that our wood projects should be perfect and as such not be in need of the fixing, that concealing flaws is tantamount to poor workmanship. We should, no doubt, do "our best" workmanship and with practice and experience improve the quality of our work. However, if we have done our best work, concealing visual flaws is part of wood finishing.

For example, I recently came across a small piece of useful cherry with a number of checks on otherwise beautiful wood. Now checks are not a product of working the wood but a result, they say, of improper kiln drying of the wood. It is possible that skill in drying could prevent checks ... or maybe it is just the nature of stresses in the wood. Checks show up as interior splits/cracks that are usually short and usually not as frequent as those on my cherry. They don't appear to make the wood less sound. Some wood is just prone to checking ... hickory comes to mind from a prior project where every board I found had a check. Now, sometimes, you can mill around a check or two, resulting in several smaller and less useful boards. But there may be another way to deal with checks!

Occasionally, after completing a project (including the finishing) I find a crack. It's not hurting anything but I think everyone's attention is drawn to it. If enough attention is drawn to a flaw we find that even the slightest error stands out. So fixing a flaw to perfection is secondary to not drawing attention to it in the first place.

I often find that my appetite for hand cut through dovetails is greater than my skill. I make mistakes. I'm trying to get better ... I really am. But short of starting over ... and making new mistakes ... I wish there was some repair that would magically erase small errors.

Than there are those little holes in the wood that add character. My wife doesn't buy this either! These are usually very small knot holes where a little bit of the center has fallen out during smoothing. Sometimes we find worm holes in an otherwise desirable piece of wood or need to fill nail countersinks.

I'm sure we have all tried a number of products and solutions to these and other flaws. When my border

collie was a pup she ate my dining room chairs ... all of them ... though not the entire chair. The legs were well chewed as high as she could reach while lying down. I successfully used burn-in lacquer sticks to reconstruct the legs as it was a three-dimensional problem and hard brittle lacquer could be shaped.

And yes, I have mixed wood dust with yellow glue or epoxy to fill gaps ... sure don't like that ... not at all. For me, this usually looks desperate!

So let's talk about those colored bee's wax sticks. Bee's wax products range from brittle and hard, a bit softer (you can turn it on a lathe), gummy, or softened into a paste. Softening is accomplished by adding other ingredients such as solvents and harder/softer waxes to adapt the primarily bee's wax for specific uses.

Colored bee's wax sticks are firmly solid but not brittle. A small chip or sliver will spread easily when press ... into cracks, checks, holes, and gaps in your wood. Sticks retail in at least 12 different colors (Dap) in packages of four different shades each from your local hardware store. Minwax also sells them in individual color "pencils", a form that I don't find to be particularly useful other than that they match Minwax's stains. Woodcraft use to sell sticks but I haven't seen any in the store for some time. I especially liked these because they came with a plastic, noncutting/marring application spatula. My favorite are Softwax sticks from Fastcap. I purchase mine locally in Kansas City area at Metro Hardwoods in Independence. These come individually (\$2.00) or in a kit with 20 blendable colors. You might want to purchase a few likely individual sticks (\$2.00) before getting into a kit.

Selection of the right color is most important. To do this the project needs to be completed <u>including the finish</u> as the color of the wood will be different (usually darker) after your finish is applied. Look at any piece of finished wood! What do you see? What color is it? Any wood, even the most blah will be made up of several different shades. The space between the growth rings is darker and of an entirely different color or shade from





ge 7 Wood Words

the background wood. Often we apply stain or finish to "pop" out these differences. End grain (think through dovetails and box joints) is much darker than face grain. Knots appear almost black on a lighter background. If you are filling a small knot hole (1/8 or less approximately, larger knot holes might indicate trying other options such as epoxy) you want to select wax that is going to match the surrounding knot. Other areas such as checks generally look best when filled with wax that matches (and mimics) the darker grain lines and natural streaks in the wood. I select a color that is darker that the background wood ... never lighter ... as lighter colors stand out strongly. Even when I am mimicking darker grain, I generally find a still darker color wax looks best.

Colors can be blended, as well, though I don't find the colors blend as well as I would hope. This has an upside as "streaked" wax may look best for some applications. Since wax application on finished wood is reversible feel free to experiment.

While a chisel can be used with some degree of success to press the wax into defects, I recommend a small hard plastic spatula (think cooking store) or make a spatula out of wood 3/16 to ¼ inch thick, an inch or so wide with a bevel much like you would find on your chisel. Don't use scrap wood for your spatula ... cut the small spatula from a ZXIOX8ft piece of flawless cocobolo specifically purchased for the purpose. Give the left over cocobolo to me for my next project. The Fastcap kit comes with a plastic spreader.

I use the wooden or plastic spatula to firmly press a small sliver of wax cut from the wax stick into the gap in the wood. Wax sticks work best when there is a gap of reasonable depth to press it into. Wax does not work well on an edge or corner of a board. When wax is pressed into a gap, it spreads (much like a dovetail or peening in metal work) which keeps the wax from coming out. Wax on an edge will easily chip off. If I am working endgrain (dovetails or finger joints) I spread the wax over a wider portion of the endgrain beyond the gap. It looks great on endgrain and blends the color. On facegrain, after the wax is well pressed into the wood, I use the spatula to scrap off any excess wax. All surfaces should be flat and smooth when you are done.

When a carpenter is trimming a doorway he will caulk the gap between the trim and the wall. This will later be painted having the effect of making the trim blend into the wall. You can often use this technique to fill any gaps when molding is applied to your woodwork. Any slight separation where molding meets the flat surface draws the eye to any separation. After applying the molding and finishing the piece I press matching wax into any cracks. This makes the molding and the flatstock blend together as if it were one piece. This same technique can be used on insides of boxes where sides meet (most noticeable on dovetails).

A word of caution! Most wood changes color and color depth over time. Cherry develops a darker, richer look over time. Color change is often due to oxidation, chemicals in the environment, or more often exposure to light. Some woods bleach out in light (walnut). I have used sassafras in a couple of tool boxes. This is a strong but lightweight wood. Even without exposure to sunlight these pieces noticeably get darker every year. If you were to use a matching wax to fill flaws in sassafras or similar darkening wood the wax would not darken along with the

wood. In cases like this you may find that you have to replace the wax in time ... not good for pieces over which you will have no control. Wax that is darker, filling cracks and matching darker grain of the piece, would be more appropriate. The wax will also pick up dirt and chemicals that you use to clean or polish the piece, and over time and may darken nicely along with the wood as it develops a patina ... though certainly not at the same rate. There is potential for the artist here!

Wax has worked best when the piece is to be cared for and polished with a paste wax, bee's wax finish, lemon oil, or mineral oil. If you remove paste wax polish from a piece with solvents (mineral spirits) before re-waxing, keep in mind that some of the surface bee's wax may be removed. This is not usually much of a problem unless taken to excess ... just note that wax may not be entirely permanent.

Try as I might I find that I am not perfect cutting my dovetails. Sometimes it is only a single tail cut thin by the width of a sawblade when I cut on the wrong side of a layout line. This gap is enough to draw attention and lay suspicion to the dovetails. I find that the appearance is not right if I fill some gaps like this with wax ... usually because the gap is too wide ... more often because it is on the corner where grain is running in two different directions. I do not fill such gaps with wax ... at least not initially. I save the pieces cut out when making dovetails. I will cut from these scraps small slivers and wedges of wood of the proper width matching grain direction and lightly hammer these into any gaps so that endgrain and face grain match. Most of the time I glue these wedges in but not always if I am sure the sliver will wedge firmly. Glue can be a problem, as you know, as it does not stain or finish like raw wood. TIP: did you know that hide glue will take a stain as well as finish much more like the raw wood? I finish the piece as normal and use the colored wax as necessary to blend it all together.

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

Want to learn more? Join us this Sunday, June 22nd, at the Hand Tool SIG. We will be presenting "Concealing Flaws with Bee's Wax"... a hands on session where you will have an opportunity to experiment with bee's wax on finished wood and see yours results and the results of others to help you determine when bee's wax might be appropriate for your work. Join us at 2:00 p.m.



Increase your Woodworking skill and knowledge



# Find Us : KC Woodworkers' Guild 3189 Mercier Kansas City, MO 64111-3631

### Find us on the Web at

# www.kcwoodworkersguild.org

Have a suggestion for the Guild? Idea for a program, clinic, workshop? Contact us using the emails to the right.

## **Next Safety Orientation**

June 21st, 9am at the shop.

Members, bring your waiver and completed test to get qualified to use the KCWG Shop!

"Craftsmanship names an enduring, basic human impulse, the desire to do a job well for its own sake."

— Richard Sennett, *The Craftsman* 



Position	Name
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