

# WOOD WORDS

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Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild

PUBLISHED BY THE KANSAS CITY WOODWORKERS GUILD \* 3189 MERCIER ST \* KANSAS CITY \* MO \* 64111

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I received an email this week that urges a reminder to all.

One of the shining lights of the Guild is the willingness to assist other members and share our knowledge. We must remember that the Guild is composed of talented men and women as well as members just starting their woodworking hobby. There are times when a member will ask for assistance and times when it may be obvious to all but the member that they need assistance. We must all be conscious of how much of our assistance is needed. I hate to use the term "Mansplaining" but there is a real risk by assuming that the member doesn't need someone to catch the long board but rather needs an in depth woodworking tutorial. Your offer to help has instead been a degrading insult souring that member on woodworking and the Guild. Why did that member need such a tutorial? Was it?

1. Because they were using the tool the wrong way?
2. Because you consider yourself an expert from whom all can benefit?
3. Because the member was a woman?

Here's a hint, reason #1 is the only acceptable

reason. If you chose #3 then you need to wake up.

Which brings us to another concern. Respect of personal space. Everyone has the reasonable expectation to work and interact at the guild without feeling they are having their personal space violated. The Guild is a busy noisy place. As a result many members are wearing hearing protection (good) and focusing on their project (good). When you need to get their attention a simple "excuse me" from 4 feet away may not be noticed. Unless the member is in immediate danger of personal injury, touching is not how to get their attention. Each member has their own sense of what touches are appropriate and by whom. We must all respect each others space.

The Board of Directors and the Leadership Committee will not stand for any form of harassment to members or guests of the Guild. Your membership will be terminated at the least.

Sincerely,  
**Craig Arnold**  
President  
Kansas City  
Woodworkers'  
Guild



## TRAINING MY HANDS

The best part about writing these articles is when someone responds. Otherwise it is almost like casting notes into the air hoping that the intended recipient will receive them. I recently received such a confirmation via a helpful link provided by a reader. He had a better location for the book download I mentioned last month.

Rob Young says:

“<https://archive.org/search.php?query=carpentry%20and%20woodwork> tends to have full PDF versions of books which are a bit more portable than the epub or kindle formats (I’ve found them to be a bit buggy at times). And on the whole, archive.org has more “stuff”.

Branching (ha!) out a bit from woodworking books and old periodicals, you can find all kinds of crazy stuff. Archived radio broadcasts, vintage video games, and sometimes the most useful thing they have is the “wayback machine” which archives old web sites.”

Good to know. Thanks Rob!

Rob reminds me of a training topic I wanted to share. I had been woodworking for many years relying on power tools alone to accomplish the projects that I need to build. I would occasionally pick up a hand plane and the result would often

be similar to attempting to peel an apple with a dull ax. I hacked away at the wood, convinced



that a plane was an antiquated tool that deserved a place in an antique store or on the shelf of a museum. But not something that belonged in a modern woodworking shop.

Then I came to the Guild. At first, I looked askance at the hand tool enthusiasts. Liking them to Roy Underhill types who dressed up in their breeches and built rustic furniture in the backyard. What I

slowly learned is that hand tools are the secret to power tools success for the machines that we use today. That understanding, and knowing how to use hand tools, leads to better woodworking when you use power tools.

My revelation will probably not come as a surprise to most people, after all, power tools were just an automation of the hand tools in use at the time. A rip saw blade is just 24 tiny chisels mounted to a circular steel disc that allows you to nibble away wood accurately and at a high rate of speed when mounted to a table saw. Hand rip saws and crosscut saws are mirrored on the table saw by setting the tooth deflection. Power joiners and planers are updates from the hand plane.

Considering that a table saw blade is going to spin more than 3000 RPM, a typical 24 tooth rip saw would then be making more than 1,200 ‘chisel’ cuts a second. This allows for great speed compared to hand work which means that you can cut parts faster. It also means that you can ruin parts faster.

Learning the fundamentals of hand tools can lead to a better understanding of the limitations of your power tools and how best to approach a given operation.

Think of how a sharp chisel cuts

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compared to when it is dull. What is the effort needed to make the cut? What is the finish of the wood after the cut? How does it cut cross grain versus with the grain? Understanding how the chisel works and what results you achieve, a single cut at a time, can help you as you are removing a lot of wood very quickly on a machine. The same concept can be applied to saws, planes, drills, and other hand tools.

The other thing that I learned was the art of sneaking up on a fit. Hand tools allow you to sneak up on a solid fit more consistently than power tools. You can do the same with power tools, but the amount taken off can quickly be too much. The 'slowness' of a hand tool becomes a real advantage when you are looking to achieve a precise fit.

And sharpness matters. Both in hand tools and power tools, but you experience the issue more directly when

using hand tools. I have never run across somebody that could cut with a handsaw so fast that it leaves burn marks, but that person can tell you if the saw was sharp or not based on how much effort they needed to exert. More effort means greater energy expended and more friction, more friction means more heat. More heat, increasing with a high rate of repeated cuts, means burning.

Take some time to train your hand how to use tools that don't have an on/off switch and you will find that your overall woodworking skills will improve.

Until the next time, keep the sawdust flying.

**Norm  
Carpenter**  
Director of  
Training



## SAFETY COMMITTEE

**W**e don't have much to report for Safety this month. As the shop continues to get busy, it is a good idea to be tuned in to your surroundings.

While I was in the shop on a Tuesday recently, I was surprised to find so many people working on a weekday. This brought to mind a thought that no matter what day it is or what time of year it is, folks are getting into the shop and things get a bit crowded. As I've said before, with lots of people using machines, it is good practice to grab a broom and sweep up after yourself. Better yet, grab a broom and sweep up after someone else. Since we all share this incredible shop, we also share the responsibility to keep it clean. Our Foremen aren't the janitors. The Foremen are there to ensure you are being safe in your work. They are not there to clean up after you. When a lot of sawdust starts to accumulate around the machines, it becomes a hazard that could contribute to someone slipping and falling. Please

take the time and effort to keep our shop clean.

I am putting out the call to all of our newer and older members that we can use new, fresh ideas on our Safety committee. In particular, we need to beef up our roster of safety instructors. You'll all remember, when you joined the Guild, you either went through a safety orientation or you went through a Rough-to-Ready class. Many of us on the committee will attest that having a few new instructors to add to the roster would be a welcome addition. If you think you might have something to offer, we would love to have you. Let me know of your interest by sending me an email expressing your interest in joining the Safety Committee. You can get messages to me by sending them to [safety@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:safety@kcwoodworkersguild.org). I hope to see you all in the shop.

**Mike  
Jones**  
Director of  
Safety





## MEMBER PROJECTS



***Darren Wright***

***Project Name:  
Motorcycle Rocker***

***Materials: Pine***

***Finish: Latex & Poly***

***Points of Interest: CNC  
Milled sides***

***Challenges: Wheels &  
Balancing***

**Photos Courtesy  
Neal Ray Shoger**

***Fred Arnold***

***Project Name: Carvings***

***Materials: Bass Wood***

***Finish: Acrylic Paint***



## OUR SHOP BENEFITS FROM THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS

**T**hank you to our Sponsors and the kindness of strangers. First for our sponsors, Thanks to Dewalt for our new miter saw as well as the new parallel clamps (they're yellow) and Irwin saw blades fresh and sharp. Just one of our many in kind sponsors that help keep our Guild running while keeping dues low.

We have also benefited from a generous donation of tools from a local man liquidating his father's cabinet shop. Thanks to his generosity we will have a better supply of pipe clamps not to mention a Powermatic benchtop mortiser, Vega edge sander and a 15" Shopfox widebelt sander. The Guild is most grateful.

Our shop benefits from the kindness of strangers as well as the kindness of members. We run through a fair amount of consumables for the convenience of the members. It's handy to have glue and sanding pads here when you need them and our members are kind to drop off a bottle of glue or leave the roll of blue tape or extra sandpaper. Thanks to all of you who have donated and those who will, it really helps out.

**Chuck  
Saunders**  
Director of  
Assets



## MEMBER PROJECTS



**Bob Rummer**

**Project Name:** *Radio Age Jewelry Box*

**Materials:** *Walnut & Maple*

**Finish Used:** *Oil*

**Points of Interest:** *Secret Drawer*



**Photos Courtesy  
Neal Ray Shoger**

## "HOBBS"ERVATIONS

On a recent Saturday I once again had the privilege of leading the "Skill Builder" session at the Guild, with the topic of "fitting drawers." When I originally thought about my outline, 2 hrs seemed like an appropriate time to allot. Drawer fitting can be a tedious process of iteration, when you take a little here, a little there, and test the fit over and over again.

So, when we got started, everything went smoothly (almost too smoothly). We went through the steps methodically, and everything was fitted in around 45 minutes. At that point the group started an open session of question and answer.

So why did things go so fast? Well, for one, I learned woodworking from a professional, who was always pushing for speed to put food on the table and to pay the utility bills. I still feel the push of my Dad when I spend time in the shop. This results in a minimum of wasted time and motions. Actually this comes in handy when life gets busy and shop time is harder and harder to find.

Second, repetition. I have fitted a fair number of drawers in the last 15 years, and

this has developed a routine, with each step quickly obvious that keeps everything in sequence. This also helps in clamping strategy, handplane sharpening and setup, and on and on. This should give everyone confidence that with practice, things not only get faster, but smoother. At the same time, it's rare that these skills are developed without putting time in on the bench.

Third, confidence. As a new woodworker it was much tougher to be aggressive when planing, chiseling, carving, etc. At this point when I am fitting drawers, I have a good feel for how many swipes with a plane to get the margins right, without a lot of back and forth. This comes with practice just like the previous reason.

So, keep at it, keep practicing, stay on the bench, and I promise you, you will look back one day and say "I'm getting better!" Happy handplaning to you all. Cal

**Cal Hobbs**  
Vice President  
Kansas City  
Woodworkers'  
Guild



## MIKE PEKOVICH TO PRESENT PROGRAM AT THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING

With Fine Woodworking Magazine's Mike Pekovich here in town this week teaching a class on how to build a wall cabinet with a Kumiko screen design, he has agreed to attend and speak about woodworking at our monthly meeting. I haven't talked to him about exactly what he may talk about, and I don't expect that he will give us a 20-minute synopsis of his week-long class, but Mike is well-prepared with years of experience in many aspects of our craft. This would be a good

opportunity to pick his brain about your favorite aspect, or just sit back and enjoy his presentation. I know that I always enjoy listening to our nationally acclaimed speakers when they come to town. See you on Wednesday evening, May 15 at 7:00pm !

**Matthew Nowak**  
Director of  
Programs



## PLEASE WELCOME THESE 16 NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED THE GUILD IN MARCH 2019

<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>JOINED</u>
James	Bernard	Overland Park	KS	Benefactor	4/8/2019
Dan	Cash	Shawnee	KS	Sawdust	4/13/2019
Jake	Culey	Overland Park	KS	Sawdust	4/5/2019
Jim	Faherty	Blue Springs	MO	WW+	4/17/2019
Fernando	Fernandez	Kansas City	MO	Sawdust	4/25/2019
Jon	Gathright	Olathe	KS	Sawdust	4/23/2019
Melanie	Hall	Olathe	KS	WW+	4/18/2019
Susannah	Hall	Kansas City	MO	Sawdust	4/28/2019
Grant	Mallett	Kansas City	MO	Sawdust	4/3/2019
Michael	Pate	Prairie Village	KS	Sawdust	4/12/2019
Michael	Rafferty	Olathe	KS	Sawdust	4/5/2019
Ray	Sharkey	Gladstone	MO	Benefactor	4/28/2019
Ben	Stallbaumer	Overland Park	KS	WW+	4/9/2019
Louis	To	Overland Park	KS	Sawdust	4/25/2019
Bob	Williams	Warsaw	MO	Regular	4/6/2019
Katie	Young	Kansas City	MO	Student	4/6/2019

**Current Membership: 815**



## Drilling Pilot Holes for Wood Screws

Drill Bit Size for <i>Softwood</i>	Screw Size	Drill Bit Size for <i>Hardwood</i>
1/64	0	1/32
1/32	1	1/32
1/32	2	1/32
3/64	3	3/16
3/64	4	3/16
1/16	5	5/64
1/16	6	5/64
1/16	7	3/32
5/64	8	3/32
5/64	9	7/64
3/32	10	7/64
3/32	11	1/8
7/64	12	1/8
7/64	14	9/64
9/64	16	5/32
9/64	18	3/16
11/64	20	13/64
3/16	24	7/32

**HANDTOOL  
ESSENTIALS**

## MEMBER PROJECTS

*Greg Strasser*

*Project Name: Tool Box*

*Materials: Mahogany*

*Finish: Waterlox*

*Points of Interest: Cloud Lift, Half Blind Dovetail*



**Photos Courtesy  
Neal Ray Shoger**



## COMMUNICATIONS GETS THE WORD OUT

**R**oya Souag, our Communications Director, has been taking an extended time off from her Guild duties as she gets her arms around the demanding task of being a first time mama. During her absence I've been filling in for her and trying to keep up with the various demands that the communication area looks after.

You've probably noticed the changes we've made to the newsletter over the past year. Some of the things that we've done; whenever there is a website or email address in an article, it's been a priority to make those items 'clickable' to make it as easy as possible to go to the web destination that we are referencing or to start an email to the person we are discussing. If you have an idea for an article or would like to become a regular or occasional contributor to the newsletter, I'd love to hear from you; Please email me at [newsletter@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:newsletter@kcwoodworkersguild.org).

We are trying to get everyone who is an officer or member of the LC Committee to tell everyone about the goings on in their areas of responsibility. Did you know that we send our monthly newsletter to over two thousand individuals each month? Every member is emailed their copy of the newsletter and we have a group called "Friends of the Guild" and each of those people get a copy

of the newsletter. We would also like to have YOU participate in the monthly newsletter. If you have a project you'd like to share with the membership, do a quick write up, take a few photos and send it to [newsletter@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:newsletter@kcwoodworkersguild.org) and we'll include it in the next newsletter. Do the same if you've attended an interesting woodworking event, visited a museum, solved a woodworking problem you've been struggling with. I don't meet many individuals that aren't eager to learn a new technique or share a positive thought with fellow members. Please remember, this is your newsletter and it can only get better with the help of our membership.

Do you have a machine that you don't need anymore? How about a tool that you've not used lately and would like to sell so that you can buy the latest woodworking gadget that you can't live without? Our weekly *Classified Ads* might be the perfect solution. The *Classified Ads* go out at the end of each work week and lists items that members and "Friends of the Guild" are trying to sell. You'll also notice that there are ads from folks who are needing various fine woodworking tasks accomplished that they are unable to do themselves. Send your ads to [classifiedads@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:classifiedads@kcwoodworkersguild.org)

Between newsletters, we send out email messages that list various training opportunities that you can take advantage of, special notices about Open Shop period extensions or Open Shop closures or any other activities or announcements that it is felt are important enough to let you know about.

Last but not the least important by any means is the Guild's website. As a resource to find out about upcoming classes, information about how to contact other members and members of the Board of Directors and the Leadership Committee. Safety information is included on the website with information on each tool that we have in the shop and how to use it safely. Need to know what the Shop Foreman for the Open Shop that you are planning on attending looks like so you can easily identify her or him? Photos of each foreman are included under the assets heading. There is nearly always something going on at the Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild's website, so stop in often.

**Ron Haw**  
Assistant  
Communications  
Director  
& Newsletter  
Editor



## THE MAY 2019 INTERESTING VIDEOS....

YouTube and other video sites are great resources for woodworkers, here are a few presented in no particular order. Each of these videos caught my or another's eye for various reasons, be it the education, the project, or the film itself. The videos below will be on a playlist for ease of watching on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/kcwoodworkers/>

Enjoy!

Screw and Parts Organizer And Storage DIY (15 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMgQcKt7wPU>

Woodshop Junkies makes an interesting take on the screw and parts organizer with the additional of a french cleat in a strange place. Most interestingly, is the jig he makes to assemble the doors. When you're confronted with a lot of repeated tasks, it's often worth your time to do so in order to assemble fast. (and safe, because no one wants to fish nails out of your hands...)

DIY Bookshelf (10 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWoycQK9Msg>

Chris builds a low shelf for storage with limited tools just in time for spring cleaning and organization. Take a look at the use of styrofoam as a backer. I also like how he prefinishes before assembly.

Clamp Rack (6 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sBjfse2nw8Q>

A quick 'scrap' project for the home shop in organization. There seems to be a theme going on here. Anyhow, the take away seems to be 'identify a need and come up with a fix.'

Homemade Folding Desk (20 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdhdDNmlBpk>

If you're in need of a desk in a small room, this one attaches to the wall and folds away. A good look at how to make complex yet simple furniture with a bit of planning (and rework).

The Quiet Art of Kumiko with Mike Pekovich (4 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSGmPd1vzGA>

Did you know that Mike Pekovich is in town this month? He's here to teach a class on Kumiko (and the wall cabinet) and give the meeting presentation! If you're curious about what goes into the art of Kumiko, give it a watch. Also, the music is rather nice as well.

**By Andrew Carr**  
*Secretary*



## MAY SAFETY REVIEW

# Sliding Compound Miter Saw

The miter saw is a power tool used to make quick, accurate crosscuts and miter cuts. A compound miter saw can make simultaneous miter and bevel cuts, and a sliding compound miter saw like the ones in the KCWG shop has rails for the motor head and blade to travel on to allow cuts in wider stock. This saw is often used to cut stock to rough length at the beginning of a project.



## Safety Rules

1. Always hold the workpiece securely on the table and against the fence when making cuts. Where possible, use clamps to hold the workpiece in place—and always do so when cutting a workpiece so short that holding it would violate the 3-inch rule. Be aware of the risk of kickback.
2. Support the end of a long workpiece at the same height as the saw table.
3. When cutting a cupped or bowed piece of stock, make sure the workpiece is oriented to leave no gap between it and the fence or the saw table at the point of the cut. If not, you risk pinching the blade and causing kickback.
4. Never reach under the saw blade or perform a cross-handed operation.
5. When you start the saw, allow the blade to reach full speed before cutting; do not force the blade and always start the cut gently.
6. When using a sliding compound miter saw like the ones in the KCWG shop, make your cut in three steps:
  - a. *First* pull the motor head out.
  - b. *Then* start the saw.
  - c. *Finally*, push the blade down into the stock and towards fence to make the cut.

If your work piece is more than 1" thick, make multiple cutting passes to complete your crosscut.

7. Don't raise the motor head from the workpiece until the blade has come to a complete stop.
8. Never try to remove or clamp the workpiece to the saw while the blade is rotating.

# Rough to Ready

## A Basic Hands-on Introduction to Woodworking

This class instructs you in the basic techniques and provides the hands-on experience of using table saws, router table, jointer, planer, bandsaw, wide belt sander, miter saw, some good ol' sandpaper as well as various squares and measuring tools. It serves as the only alternative method to satisfy the KCWG'S safety requirements and earn the required Safety Certification necessary to work in the Guild's shops.

This is the perfect one-on-one or one-on-two class for beginners, novices, even as a refresher for experienced woodworkers to build a 9in x 5in x 3 1/2in lidded box with an experienced instructor. Beginning with rough cut lumber your class will progress step by step to create a lidded box, glued up and ready to take home and apply finish after only minor sanding.



All that's required to take the Rough to Ready class is a paid up Sawdust Maker, Woodworker Plus or Benefactor Membership, a completed and passed Online Safety Test (90% passing grade) and your paid tuition for the class. Sign up is simple, just follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4ca4ac2ea4fb6-rough>.

We currently have Rough to Ready class openings on a first-come-first-served basis at the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4ca4ac2ea4fb6-rough> Classes fill up fast and you won't want to miss out.



**NEXT  
MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING IS  
SCHEDULED  
FOR  
MAY 15  
AT  
7:00PM**

**LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- President:..... Craig Arnold ..... [president@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:president@kcwoodworkersguild.org)
- Vice-President:..... Cal Hobbs ..... [vicepresident@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:vicepresident@kcwoodworkersguild.org)
- Secretary: ..... Andrew Carr ..... [secretary@kcwoodworkersguild.org](mailto:secretary@kcwoodworkersguild.org)
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ONLINE AT**

**[www.kcwoodworkersguild.org](http://www.kcwoodworkersguild.org)**

**Visit the  
Kansas City Woodworkers  
Guild at  
3189 Mercier Street  
Kansas City, Missouri**

