



November 2010
Issue 308

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
November 18, 2010

Creve Coeur
Community Center
300 North New Ballas Road
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Boxes by Bob Colgate.

Bob Colegate will be doing a presentation on some of the boxes he makes. He will discuss construction techniques as well as his finishing methods

Christmas Gift Ideas

October 21st, 2010

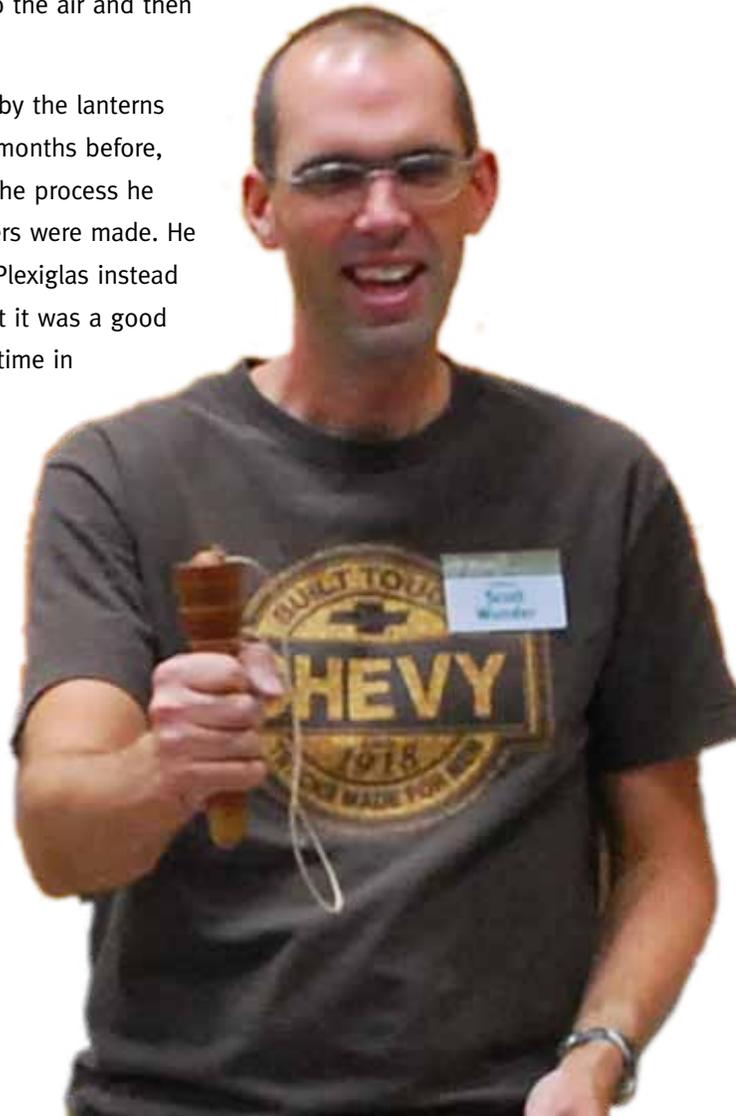
This month we had four members of the guild scheduled to present some of their Christmas present ideas to the rest of the group. Even though we only had four presenters set up for the meeting, a few other members had brought some of their Christmas present ideas that night, as well.

The first person to present his gift ideas was Jeff Nasser. He brought in a toy he'd made in just a few minutes on his lathe. The toy consisted of a handle with a depression in the top of it, tied to the handle with a piece of string was a wooden ball just a tad smaller than the depression. The handle was turned from a piece of Osage Orange but the wooden ball was purchased at a craft store. The object of the game is to swing the ball into the air and then catch it in the depression.

Next up was Jim Hoeller. Jim was intrigued by the lanterns the guild had made for Faust Park several months before, so he decided to make a few of his own. The process he described was very similar to how the others were made. He used walnut from a neighbor's house and Plexiglas instead of plate glass. One thing he noted was that it was a good idea to make several of them at the same time in order to be efficient.

Bob Colegate brought several items in that he'd turned. Somehow, he was able to make turning blanks with diagonal stripes of different kinds of wood. He showed us how to make the blank, and then passed around several examples of things that could be made with these turning blanks, including rolling pins, pepper mills, and vases.

(continued on page 4)



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Steve Briner 636.922.1947

Sponsors

Woodcraft
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The Wood & Shop
2650 Metro Blvd.
314.731.2761

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Rockler Woodworking & Hardware
314.209.1116

Hydraflow Equipment Co.
314.644.6677

Hibdon Hardwood Inc.
314.621.7711

Meeting Room, Mailing Address
Courtesy of Woodcraft

Scott's Thoughts November 2010

When I moved into my last shop and started setting up my tools, I was excited to find a few sets of rollers that were left in the rafters by the previous owner. They were made of aluminum and I used them as outfeeds for my planer and table saw. I still use a set on my planer, but quickly stopped using them on my table saw.



Roller outfeeds can be inaccurate and dangerous.

The rollers were smooth, fast and looked very professional. On the table saw, however, they turned out to be inaccurate and dangerous. I set them up to be easily removed to save space in the shop, which meant that they were not perfectly aligned with the fence. The rollers would usually either guide the front or back of the boards that I was ripping away from the fence and only very rarely parallel to the fence. I would find myself trying to push the trailing end of a board hard to the fence right next to the saw blade.

The rollers were also unsafe after I ripped a board and both pieces were laying on the rollers. If I pulled back the board that I just pushed through the saw (which I don't officially recommend, but do all the time) the other piece would come back with it because they were sitting on the same rollers. A free piece of wood, that you are not paying attention to, is the last thing you want on the back side of the blade. Those rollers always made me nervous when they were on my table saw.

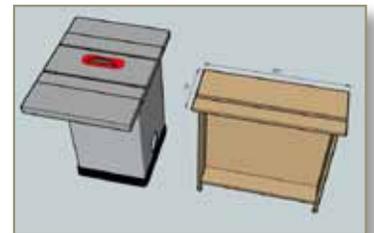
After the rollers were decommissioned I worked on a new solution. I didn't have a huge shop and don't tend to run the tidiest operation, so space was a huge concern. I was worried that a larger table saw workstation would get in the way and be difficult to move. I also think the best designs are usually simpler, so I worked on smaller, easier to build options.

I have worked with my current version for years now and think I have found the right blend of small size and big performance. The top is only 14" x 36", but the mobility makes it outperform all but the most massive of stationary setups. Most of the time the outfeed table is set up close to the saw. If I rip really long boards, I simply move it away from the saw. The perfect distance leaves me finishing a cut with the leading edge starting to drop down and the tail coming up so that I can grab the board and bring it back (again, not officially recommended, but much faster than walking around).

This outfeed table also works great for plywood. I usually bust up full sheets with a circular saw first to make them easier to handle, but even large pieces are supported enough to not fall, especially on the fence side. It looks a little precarious with a large piece of plywood hanging out in midair, but they don't fall unless you have too much hanging off of the table saw itself.

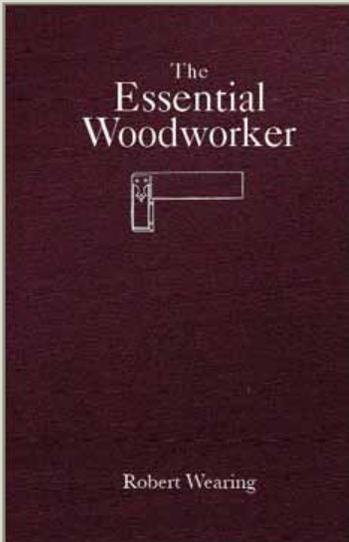
Besides helping out at the table saw, I always find other uses for this small table throughout the shop. It is my go to table because it usually doesn't have anything on it. I like to use it as a stand for spray finishing because of its small size and I like the fact that I can put it wherever I am working to rest tools and supplies. I also use it as an extension to my table saw for large assemblies. I use this thing a lot and you can tell by its worn-out painted-over chipped-up condition.

I have included [SketchUp plans](#) for my version, which is basically constructed like an I-beam with one piece of 1/4" plywood in the center to keep everything square. It was quick to make and can be easily assembled with screws. Of course, yours could be fancier and all woodworky if you like, but you shouldn't expect it to look nice very long.



A smooth 14" x 36" top on an easily moveable outfeed table will find many uses throughout the shop.

Scott



If you want to be a skilled and efficient woodworker, using mostly hand tools or power tools, then there are several basic and essential skills you must possess – or at least have knowledge of. You have to know how to sharpen and saw (yes, even power tool woodworkers need to use a chisel or a carcass saw every now and again). You need to know how to construct a proper joint, be it a dovetail or a mortise and tenon.

If you are just starting out in woodworking, and you want one source for all of your basic woodworking questions, from how to adjust a plane to how to chop a mortise, fitting a drawer or a door, or the best method for using scratch stocks, then you should start with *The*

Essential Woodworker by Robert Wearing. His book has been a go-to reference for many woodworkers and is chock full of information you'll refer back to for years to come.

It never fails. When Christopher Schwarz does a tool or book review, the demand (and cost) for it skyrockets. That is what happened when Chris wrote a review on *The Essential Woodworker*. The Amazon price for a paperback copy jumped to \$70 or more, if one was even available. But now Chris has done something to counter his sway with the public – he and his friends at Lost Art Press have produced a hard-bound reprint of the book to make it more available and bring the cost back down.

Lost Art Press printed *The Essential Woodworker* the same way they print all their other books – in a 6" x 9" format, hardbound with a cloth cover, and produced entirely in the United States. The paper they used, however, is a bit thicker for an old-school feel. The final product ended up at 256 pages. Along with resetting the entire book, they also included revisions and corrections by Robert Wearing himself and retook many of the photos in high-quality black and white. You can now buy a hardbound copy of this book from Lost Art Press (www.lostartpress.com) for just \$23.00.

Dues are due.

November is the end of the current membership cycle. To renew your membership please bring \$25 with you to the next meeting or mail it to our President at: Scott Wunder, 36 Burnside Ct. St. Charles, MO 63303. Please make the check out to the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild. Remember that your guild membership will pay for itself quickly with a 10% discount for members at Woodcraft, Rockler, Hydraflow, St. Charles Hardwoods, Woodline and Wood and Shop.

Library Reminders

The books, magazines, and tools of the library are there for the benefit of all of the guild members. Please keep that in mind as you check materials out and try to return them in a timely manner.

Announcements

January 2011 Meeting

Looking for a way to add a little extra detail to your next project? At the January meeting, guild member Mike Sitek will show us some useful techniques when he does his presentation on scrapers and beaders. Mike's previous presentations have been great crowd pleasers, and this one promises to live up to our high expectations! (No pressure, Mike!)

Thank You Woodcraft.

Throughout the life of the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild, Woodcraft has supported us with a place to call home at no charge. Unfortunately, the increasing size of the guild has made it necessary to find a larger venue for our meetings. We wanted to continue at Woodcraft, but we just couldn't find the space. Woodcraft plans to continue their involvement with the guild and we would like to thank them for their previous and continued support. Thanks Woodcraft!

Toy Report

We delivered 260 items to the hospitals in October. Our grand total of toys distributed since 1994 is 31,806. In 2010, we have delivered 2085 items. Thanks to all who contributed in October.

Craft items for December include Christmas items, coyotes, cats, flowers, heart medallions, hockey cutouts, bear kits and flag kits. We can start assembling more race cars if you have the blank strips.

If you need patterns, then see the web site to select and print what you need or call John at 314-843-1616 or Steve at 636-922-1947

Other Notes

Congratulations to Richard Orcutt, winner of the \$50 raffle for the October meeting!

Don't forget! The November meeting will take place at the Creve Coeur Community Center, located at 300 North New Ballas Road. The meeting start time will remain the same.

There will be no regular SLWG meeting in December. See you in January.

Christmas Gift Ideas (cont')

To begin, start off with three different kinds of wood. Joint them so they have flat faces and glue them up. Once the block is dry, joint one outside face flat again and plane the other face parallel. Then use a band saw to cut the blank into two triangular pieces, your cut line being from corner to corner on the side of the blank (as opposed to either of the faces). Once this is done, glue the block back up, except this time put the two trued faces together. The end result will be a block of the same dimension, only with parallel stripes going through the block at an angle.



Scott Wunder was the next presenter. He wanted to share his idea for a hanging quilt rack. Unfortunately, he couldn't bring in the rack he'd made because it was permanently attached to a wall in his old house. The idea behind the quilt rack was to make something that could hold the rack without having to fold it over a rod or hang it from a bunch of clips. He'd picked up the idea from the Gamble House, an Arts and Crafts era house in California. The quilt rack had a backer board with two brackets that came out. These brackets had a V-shaped notch

cut into the top of them. The quilt was sandwiched between two rods and then the ends of the rods were placed in the V-shaped notches. The weight of the quilt pulled down on the rods while the notches kept the rods tight together, holding the quilt in place.

Finally, Rich Sanders brought in several small gift items that are easily made with scraps of wood in the shop. The first was a ring-and-string puzzle, made by attaching two loops of string to a board with a metal ring threaded on each loop of string. The next was a climbing figure, with cord threaded through holes in the figure's hands. The holes were drilled at slight angles and alternately pulling on one or the other cord made the figure climb up them. He had several puzzle-type games to show, where you presented someone with a bunch of different shapes cut out of wood and they had to arrange them in order to make a specific shape, such as a rectangle or square. Finally, Rich suggested using a scrap of wood cut into an equal lateral triangle and drilling 10 holes in it. Then, by supplying nine square nails or golf tees, you have made the IQ game so commonly found in restaurants like Cracker Barrel.



Thanks to all of the members who took the time to bring their ideas to the guild. Good luck with your Christmas present projects! You have less than six weeks left, so you'd better get into the shop!

top: Rich Sanders, right: Jim Hoeller, left: Bob Colgate

Show and Tell

Bob Colegate came up with two new toys for the toy program. He passed around a heart-shaped box and a sunflower box, both with pivoting lids.

Don Miller brought in some bird houses he'd made.

Vic Barr showed everyone pictures of his "second chance" tables, the tops of the tables made with bits of scrap wood he had. He also brought in a tapering leg jig for the table saw that is very safe to use.

Cecil Robertson offered three suggestions for presents for Christmas. The first was a cane he'd made with a stick of honeysuckle. The second was a cane he'd made from a dowel and a bit of antler. The third idea was the gift of a free spoke shave if you signed up for his November Windsor Chair class.



Vic Barr with is taper jig.



Cecil Robertson with one of his canes.

Tool Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Ryobi Technologies Inc., today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Product Name: Ryobi Model HP 1802M Cordless Power Drill

Sold at: Home Depot from January 2001 to July 2003

Incidents/Injuries: Ryobi has received 47 reports of the drills overheating, smoking, melting or catching fire, including 12 reports of property damage to homes or vehicles. Two of the incidents involved minor burns from touching an overheated switch.

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled drill, remove the rechargeable battery and contact Ryobi to receive a free replacement drill.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Ryobi Customer Service at (800) 597-9624 or go to www.ryobitools.com.

Other Notes

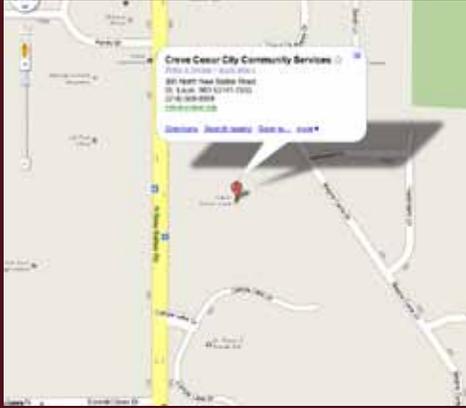
Sharon Overschmidt from Keller Williams Realty needs someone to turn a replacement spindle for a staircase. The staircase is unpainted wood, so the replacement piece needs to match the others in wood species and color. Anyone who might be interested in helping them out should call 314-677-6514 and ask for Sharon or Kathy for more details.

This month Kurt Herrmann arranged for several tools to be donated to the guild for our new workshop at Faust Park. The tools have been delivered and Faust Park employees are greatly appreciative. The shop does not yet have power, but the way things are going it won't be long. If you would like to donate tools or your time to help out with the shop or other projects at Faust Park please contact member Keith Lissant.

Rockler supports the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild. Rockler makes a donation of \$1 for every purchase the guild makes. Please make sure when you purchase an item at Rockler that you identify yourself as a guild member to receive your 10% discount and that they put a check in their book by the register that another purchase was made by the guild. After 20 purchases, Rockler gives the guild a \$20 gift card to use at a later date. Be sure to thank Rockler next time you are there.

Meeting location change.

Creve Coeur Community Center, located at 300 North New Ballas Road, St. Louis, MO 63141.



click map to open in Google Maps

Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Occupation _____

Type of woodworking you enjoy _____

E-mail address _____

Where did you obtain this application and learn about this Guild?

If you would like to join the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild please attend our next meeting or mail this application and your check for \$25 for one years dues to: St. Louis Woodworkers Guild, 2077 Congressional Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146.

