

St. Louis Woodworkers Guild



April 2011
Issue 311

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
April 21, 2011

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

Brian Romaine, Manager of Rockler

The speaker for the April 2011 guild meeting is Brian Romaine, the manager of Rockler's North County store. He will be discussing and demonstrating the use of the table-mounted router, router tables, and router table accessories

Annual Show and Tell

March 2011

Since March was the official Show and Tell guild meeting for the year, there was a bit of it going on last month! Here is a list of all who brought or talked about something:

Scott Wunder – slides of a kitchen wall and library cubby wall.

Chris Law – Beds, tables, lamp, jewelry box, easel, display case

Walter Henderson – Child's pull toy, 1/2 banjo 1/2 dulcimer

Dan Sudkamp – Gears in Motion

Rich Sanders – Snoopy, Tiger, Cardinals parquetry

Lynelle "Nel" Kobes – boxes with unusual parts on them, like brass buttons and jewelry

Bill Newberry – Arts and Crafts Architectural Design (newel post, columns, fireplace mantel)

David Vitali – Remote control cars

John Miller – Library, Front Door, Steps

Paul Hanson – Candle holders, dresser top valet, jewelry boxes

Charlie Hoehn – Serving trays (inlay and musical notes)

Cecil Robertson – Windsor continuous arm settee

Mark Koritz – Table made from scraps (and his grandson's tool tote)

John Stevens – wine barrel stave foot stool, butcher block table

Jerry Lammers – TV Tray, magnet toy, wine bottle holders

Larry Alvarez – turned boxes

Jeff Morgan – 9/11 Commemorative Coin Base

Keith Lissant – Parrot head carving

Gary White – slide show on making a quilt trunk

(continued on page 4)



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314.993.0413

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2650 Metro Blvd.
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314.209.1116

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314.644.6677

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314.621.7711

Scott's Thoughts - Surface Preparation 101

April 2011

On my last cabinet job I worked myself into a pickle. It seemed like a simple request from the customer at the time – paint the cabinets black. I paint cabinets a lot, usually white or off-white, but not black. I finish cabinets all the time, usually clear or tinted lacquer, but not black. I stain cabinets quite dark sometimes, but not black. Still, it didn't seem crazy. It isn't like I have never used black paint before. I have painted everything black at one point or another, even cars – but not cabinets.

When I paint the white/off-white cabinets I use a lacquer for the topcoat and a white primer/undercoater. The primer goes on a little rough, but it sands easily without clogging the sandpaper and builds up quickly. Just a couple of coats will have the surface smoothed out and all of the small voids filled. I, however, decided not to use the white primer because I thought it would look bad if the black paint got chipped and the white was exposed. That's when my problems started. I attacked the woodwork like it was getting a clear finish, first putting on a couple coats of sanding sealer and then the black topcoat.

In a perfectly-sanded, defect-free world the sanding sealer is fine. It seals up the wood and preps it for the finish. But (and this is a big one), it doesn't fill or build up like the primer. I didn't consider this as an issue at that point and after the sealer everything looked fine. The maple was low-grade color-wise, but overall it was a clear grade that looked great with a finish on it. Until (and this is another big one), I put the first coat of satin black on it.

Everything that was less than perfect showed up and there was no way to hide it. The beautiful wood grain that would normally lead your eye away from any imperfections was now covered up. All that was left was about a billion areas that still needed attention. There were small voids at the joints, sanding scratches, small dents, small chips – you name it. Nothing was terrible, but it looked terrible.

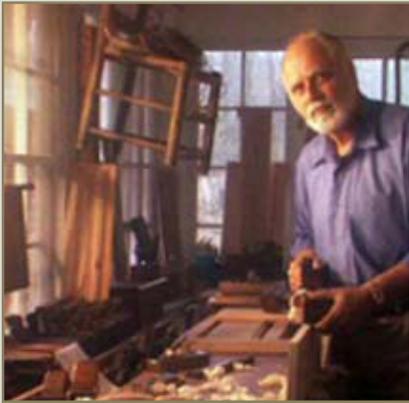
My first thought was that it wasn't a big deal. Just sand a little and put on another coat of black. Except, this isn't primer. It's not made to sand. The paper clogs immediately. Wet sanding hardly helps. Even my special Trizact sandpaper clogs. I go home. It's best to go home sometimes.

The next day I return and work on it some more (and more). I go home. I return again and work on it some more. I go home. The day that it needs to be delivered I work on it some more and finally call it quits. It wasn't perfect, but I decided it will have to do. There was no way I was going to start over after all of this. After it was finally done and delivered it didn't look so bad. It isn't anything I would show if I was trying to get a finishing job, but most of the issues only I know about now. I am so happy it is delivered and done.

The lesson for me is simple and obvious at this point. I needed to use the primer/undercoater that I normally use, but get it tinted dark or black. I use TransTint dyes all of the time and probably even have black in the shop. I could have at least made the primer darker before I applied it. This would have allowed me to sand or scrape all I needed to, while also filling in voids and quickly achieving a smooth surface for painting.

Remember this and remind yourself often. A smooth finish is 80% surface preparation, and a topcoat is not for surface preparation.

Scott



On Saturday, May 7th, and Sunday, May 8th, the Saint Louis Woodworkers Guild will host an intensive woodworking seminar on high-end hand tool techniques with Graham Blackburn. Graham is an author of more than 16 books on woodworking and home design and construction. The event will take place at the Creve Coeur Community Center, located at 300 North New Ballas Road in Creve Coeur. Saturday will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with an hour lunch on both days.

The first day will consist of an introduction to serious tool tune-up of marking, sawing, and planning tools, with an emphasis on being able to produce the finest surfaces – better than what can be achieved by sanding. Once tools are in good shape, they need to be used with complete accuracy, so he will take us through some of the traditional methods of making jigs and guides.

Graham encourages us to bring along any planes or saws you would like advice on tuning. He will demonstrate his super-fast method of sharpening as taught to him by his father.

The focus of the second day will be on joinery not generally possible with machines, like efficient frame-and-panel techniques and hand-cut dovetails and possibly purpose-made mouldings of superior quality.

The general emphasis over the two-day seminar will be on traditional techniques, not easily duplicated through use of a table saw or router, in order to expand the average woodworker's "vocabulary" for more interesting and higher quality projects.

The total cost for the two-day seminar will be \$95. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer pricing for just one day. Graham has also agreed to bring copies of his book, *Traditional Woodworking Handtools*, and offer them for sale at a 30% discount of the list price he advertises on his website.



Trizact paper from 3M, shown here, usually doesn't clog and it is the best between coats finishing sandpaper you can get. Designed originally for solid surface finishing, the sanding surface is man-made with perfectly-sized pyramids, which produce a consistent grit with no scratches. One 5" disc will last for years, either in your orbital sander or if used by hand. Green is the grit that will be the most useful.

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

May 2011 Meeting

Mike Sistek will be our guest presenter in May. He will go over techniques and tools used to make inlay! If you've seen one of Mike's presentations before, then you know how good he is; if you've never seen one, then you can't miss it! See you on May 19th!

Faust Park

If you are going to volunteer or use the shop at Faust Park, you need to fill out some forms for insurance and the like. Please see Keith Lissant for more information.

Toy Report

There was no toy report at the last meeting per John Patton was out with back surgery. But you know the drill, boys. With Spring officially here, items needed are going to be things like bird houses and animal kits (like rabbits, butterflies, coyotes, and cats). If you need patterns, see our website (www.stlwoodworkersguild.org) to select and print one. Or contact John or Steve for more information and assistance.

You can reach John at 314-843-0616 or Steve at 636-922-1947 for any information related to toys or to arrange delivery or pickup. Many wishes for a speedy recovery, John!

Other Notes

John Arnot won the \$25 Rockler Gift Card. David Knudson won the \$50 Rockler Gift Card! Congrats, guys, and thanks to Rockler for being such a great sponsor to the guild!

Annual Show and Tell (cont)

Here is a sampling of some of the pieces from the Annual Show and Tell.



Lie-Nielsen Toolworks Hand Tool Event!

May 13th – 14th

The Lie-Nielsen Weekend actually starts on Thursday, May 12th! From 7:00 to 9:00 PM, they will be holding a special demonstration at Kent's shop.

On Friday, May 13th (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and Saturday, May 14th (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), Kent Adkins will host a Lie-Nielsen hand tool event in his amazing new shop. Kent's shop was recently featured in Popular Woodworking Magazine (issue #188). Lie-Nielsen will have a full line of tools available to try out, along with skilled craftsmen to answer any questions you might have.

What to Expect Friday and Saturday. This is a wonderful opportunity to try a wide array of hand tools and learn how great tools make your woodworking easier! Ongoing demonstrations at interactive stations will help you learn valuable techniques. Ask questions of guest demonstrators and learn from some of the most skilled in the industry. This is a hands-on event. Lie-Nielsen hand tools are available for purchase! For more information click www.lie-nielsen.com. The show hours are Friday 10:00 to 6:00pm and Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Guest demonstrators include Glen-Drake Toolworks, Czeck Edge Hand Tools, Sauer & Steiner Toolworks, Benchcrafted, MS Bickford Planes, and Brese Planes.

Admission is free and there is plenty of on-site parking, so... you really don't have an excuse for not attending, do you?

The address of Kent's shop is:
8 Steeplechase Court
St. Louis, MO 63131



Lie-Nielsen
TOOLWORKS[®]
INC.

**HAND TOOL
EVENT[®]**

May 13 - 14, 2011
Friday (10 am - 6 pm) & Saturday (10 am - 5 pm)

Hosted by
Kent Adkins' Shop
8 STEEPLCHASE CT. • ST. LOUIS • MO 63131

GUEST DEMONSTRATORS:
• Kevin Drake, *Glen-Drake Toolworks* • Bob Zajicek, *Czeck Edge Hand Tool*
• Jameel Abraham, *Benchcrafted* • Konrad Sauer, *Sauer & Steiner Toolworks*
• Ron Brese, *Brese Plane* • Matt Bickford, *MS Bickford Planes*

FREE ADMISSION • ON-SITE PARKING

Come see how great hand tools make your woodworking easier!

For more information: www.lie-nielsen.com • 1-800-327-2520

Other Notes

Officer Elections:

Our officer elections will be held during the April meeting. Current nominees for open positions include:

President: Wayne Watson

Vice President: Mike Sistek

Secretary: Keith Lissant

Treasurer: Larry Grzovic

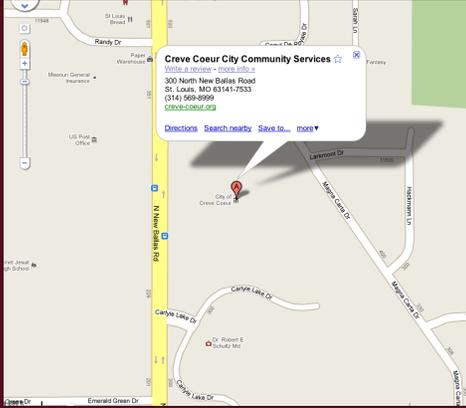
Directors: Bob Colegate, Kurt Herrmann, Mark Koritz, Rich Wietzman

Shop Tour:

Mark Koritz will open up his shop for all the guild to see later (TBD). Mark's shop was previously featured in Woodcraft Magazine. You've seen it in print – now come see it in person!

Meeting location.

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, 36 Burnside Court, St. Charles, MO 63303.*

