

St. Louis Woodworkers Guild



September 2011
Issue 316

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
September 15, 2011

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

Turning for Furniture with Gary Hinegardner

For September, Gary Hinegardner the Vice President of the Woodturner's of St. Louis is going to do a presentation on the basics of turning for furniture. He's going to cover lathe and tool selection, sharpening, wood selection and preparation and will demonstrate various techniques used when turning.

At Our Last Meeting: Woodworking Safety and First Aid with Dr. Brad Bernhard

This month, the presentation was less about the fun things you can make with wood and more about what can happen with carelessness and misuse of your tools. Dr. Brad Bernhard spent about an hour discussing what we can do to prevent workshop mishaps, some basic first aid for the different types of injuries, and ended with a small "scared straight" session, showing us before-and-after medical photographs of woodworking injuries.

We are our own worst enemies in the workshop! The tools we use will not hurt us on their own; generally it is through ignorance (not knowing how you use them) or carelessness (not caring how you use them) that the end result is some type of personal injury. So the most important rule of shop safety is NOT to wear these (safety glasses) but to know your tools. Know how to set them up properly and know how to use them properly. Know what you should and should not do with your power tools. It is also important that you work in a comfortable space, unimpaired by wood, tools, trash, wood shavings, and anything else that might collect on the floors and flat surfaces of your shop.

Some general safety items you should always have on-hand in the workshop include hearing protection, safety glasses, and dust protection. Breathing protection is especially important if you know you have wood allergies, if you already have breathing issues, such as asthma, or are dealing with exotic woods that are known to cause allergic reactions. And always keep in mind that wood dust is a known carcinogen. It has been known to cause nasal cancer, lung cancer, and certain types of leukemia and lymphoma.

You should avoid doing anything in the workshop when you are impaired! This is not just limited to drinking or drugs; if your mental capacity is limited due to affects from diabetes, sleep apnea, fatigue, mental impairment, high blood pressure, pain medications or mood altering medications, then you should not work with tools.

Dr. Brad Bernhard talks about shop safety ▼



continued on page 4

Guild Officers

President
Wayne Watson 314.846.1172

Vice President
Mike Sistik 618,243.6071

Secretary
Keith Lissant 314.962.1907

Treasurer
Larry Grzovic 314.846.4882

Directors
Bob Colegate 636.239.8910
Mark Koritz 314.579.0401
Kurt Herrmann 636.394.4517
Rich Weitzman 314.872.7866

Newsletter
Ethan Sincox 314.303.2297
Scott Wunder 636.922.7629

Webmaster
Michael Beaudoin 314.781.4571

Membership Committee
Bill Hobson 314.863.6437

Toy Committee Chairmen
John Patton 314.843.0616
Steve Briner 636.922.1947

Sponsors

Woodcraft
314.993.0413

The Wood & Shop
314.139.0001

St. Charles Hardwoods
St. Peters 636.926.2000
Fenton 636.717.1770

Rockler Woodworking & Hardware
314.209.1116

Hydraflow Equipment Co.
314.644.6677

Hibdon Hardwood Inc.
314.621.7711

U-Pick Hardwood Lumber
636.485.5217

Wayne's Sawdust September 2011

Last month, I was privileged to attend the first mini-workshop sponsored by our Guild. Chris Law and his lovely bride opened up their home and shop to host two groups of our Guild members for a seminar on mortise and tenon joinery. Chris has an impressive body of work throughout his home. After our quick tour it was down to the shop to get into the "meat" of the day's activity – mortise and tenons.

Chris was very well prepared and certainly very knowledgeable. He demonstrated cutting mortises using a mortising fixture on his drill press. He then showed how he cuts the tenon in a single pass using a Dado blade with a dedicated spacer he had made. Dan Coleman brought several tenon jigs. Chris had a slick shop made tenon jig which he uses along with a great little shop made jig for routing the mortises for "floating tenons." This prompted a discussion of jigs and fixtures and then other shop topics followed. It was great to be part of the interaction of the Guild members. There is a huge bank of knowledge and experience within our Guild and these mini-workshops are a wonderful way to tap into it.

Future Mini-Workshop topics are; Decorative Line Inlay Techniques by Don Snyder (Oct. 8 & 9) and Restoring, Tuning and Using Handplanes by yours truly (Jan. 14) and spray finishing by Scott Wunder (TBD). The class sizes are small and the cost is miniscule. All in all a very good deal.

Kurt Herrmann and Don Snyder are co-chairing this new activity and will be setting up mini-workshops approximately every other month in the future. If you would like to see a topic covered or would be willing to host a mini-workshop please contact Kurt or Don.

Our annual picnic is coming up this month on the 24th. We are going to Jefferson Barracks in South St. Louis County. We will be getting a private tour which will be followed by the picnic. You should have received an e-mail by the time you read this. Please plan to bring a dish to share. The Guild will be providing the "main course" along with drinks.

If we are holding our annual picnic then Christmas can't be far behind. Many of us make gifts for the holidays and Mike Sistik has scheduled a program for October that will get us motivated. All I ask is that you consider spending a portion of your shop time to build a few items for the hospitalized children in the area. This is one of our signature programs that have been ongoing for years. John Patton and Steve Briner can help if you need a boost to get started. The kids in need will thank you but the real reward is the feeling of accomplishment that will brighten your holiday season

Wayne

Guild Picnic Saturday, September 24th

Our Annual Picnic and Tour will be held on Saturday, September 24th. We are meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the visitor center of the Jefferson Barracks Historic Site. There, we will get a private tour of the park's exhibits. Following the tour, we will gather for our Annual Picnic. The guild will provide the main entrée and drinks; please bring a side dish to share with everyone. Please RSVP at the next guild meeting (9/15/2011) or contact Wayne Watson.

Directions to Jefferson Barracks Historic Site:

Take I-255 east.

Exit at Telegraph Road and go North (at the Y-intersection, bear right onto Kingston) 2.5 miles to the park entrance. Watch for an A.C. Delco sign on the right. Just beyond is South Broadway. Turn right onto South Broadway and continue on that street until you pass the stone pillars. Take the second left (North Road) and this will bring you to the Visitor Center parking lot.

Editor's Corner: A New Guild Sponsor

by Ethan Sincox



Walnut lined up on the wall at U-Pick Hardwoods, a new sponsor of the guild.

straight-line ripped on one edge) to 13/16" thick and sanded to 150 grit. He offers a guild discount of 10% off his already-low board foot prices and deals with sawmills all over the U.S. to get the best quality lumber he can find.

His standard maple is from Michigan and white as can be. The best cherry comes from Pennsylvania, and that's where Craig gets his from, as well. His bird's eye maple (which had some very impressive figure, I must say) all comes from a cabinet shop in New York. They don't want the figured woods in their cabinets, so Craig has them send him all of their "defects". He also has a large selection of red oak, ash, poplar (some very wide poplar), and walnut. He carries white oak in 4/4 and 8/4 dimensions and you can buy the standard dimensions plain sawn, rift sawn, or quarter sawn. If you're working on an Arts and Crafts project, you'll be pleased with his hand-picked selection of quarter sawn white oak, full of medullary rays.

The one type of lumber that consistently comes unsurfaced is basswood. Being delivered mostly from Michigan, he offers it in 4/4, 8/4, 12/4 and 16/4 thicknesses.

Leaning up against one wall of the warehouse is a great selection of exceptional lumber. This is where Craig stacks the best of the best of his lumber, from highly-figured bird's eye, curly, and quilted maple to 60 year old air-dried walnut. Along that wall you'll also find Bubinga, African Mahogany, and Honduran Mahogany.

Located just off of Hwy 94, south of the Page Extension in St. Peters, MO, U-Pick Hardwoods is not too far to travel for a great selection of lumber at very competitive prices. His hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (minus a lunch) and Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Here is his contact information: U-Pick Hardwood Lumber
80 Triad South Drive
St. Peters, MO 63304
636-485-5217

Please make an effort to support a local business and the latest sponsor of the guild!

Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

October 20 - Holiday gift ideas presented by guild members

November 17 - Spray finishing by Scott Wunder

Mini Workshops

Mini workshops are a great way to spread woodworking knowledge throughout the guild, but they will only succeed if members offer to share their knowledge. If you are interested in hosting a learning experience for other guild members, please contact Kurt Hermann via e-mail at kurtdee@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 314-608-8602.

August attendance

There was a total of 45 people in attendance last month, including one guest. Due to the lack of tickets, there was no raffle at the August meeting.

Toy Report

The toy delivery for August was 150 items. So far this year, over 1050 items have been delivered, bringing our grand total up to 33,358 toys since 1994. With an average cost of about \$2.50/craft item, this comes up to approximately \$83,000 worth of craft items the hospitals did not have to buy.

We need a lot of craft items and cars for future deliveries. Trinket boxes, bird houses, animal kits, flowers, heart medallions, butterflies, coyotes, cats, and bears will make nice craft items for the kids to assemble and paint. Please jump in and help out in any way you can to support the charitable goals of the Guild.

You can select and print patterns from the website or call John Patton (314-843-0616) or Steve Briner (636-866-6121) to have patterns mailed to you or to arrange pick-up or delivery of toys.

We have a new Librarian

The guild has a new librarian! Please congratulate Kevin Weisner for volunteering for the position. Since our library is still currently being stored at the St. Louis Woodcraft store, please e-mail Kevin at: jaguar_one@hotmail.com if you want a specific item from the library and he will bring it to the following meeting if it is available.

Woodworking Safety and First Aid (continued from cover)

Last year in the United States, there were over 500,000 woodworking-related injuries. The majority of these are most likely construction-site injuries, but a good percentage of them still go back to the hobbyist woodworker. A quick survey of the 45 people in attendance showed that 15 guild members have been to the emergency room with a woodworking-related injury. About 100,000 of the total injuries from last year were saw-related, with 35,000 of these being the table saw. And 10% of the table saw injuries lead to amputation.

Table saw hazards include blade contact, kickback, and flying debris. 95% of all table saw injuries involve the hand/arm. 95% of the injuries are lacerations, amputations, or fractures. Some of the more common and easily-accessible table saw safety devices include blade guards, riving knives/splitters, feather boards, anti-kickback rollers, and push sticks/hand guards. If you can afford it, a Saw Stop is, certainly, the best safety device installed on a table saw to-date.

You should always maintain a first aid kit in your workshop. The American Red Cross has a suggested list of items you should have in your first aid kit here: www.redcross.org/services/hss/lifeline/fakit.html.

After the discussion of shop safety, Dr. Bernhard went over some basic things you should do for each of the different types of injuries. Eye injuries can be caused by either foreign bodies or chemicals. These injuries should almost always be examined by a professional, especially if you feel discomfort after 24 hours. If you use cyanoacrylate glue in your shop, it is important to also keep an amount of reversing agent handy, in case you glue your fingers together... or worse.

Minor injuries, such as a cut or abrasion, should be cleaned thoroughly and the bleeding controlled. Foreign bodies should be removed and an antibiotic ointment applied, followed by a sterile dressing. If you are unsure about when you received your latest tetanus shot, you should get it updated. Finally, monitor the wound to make sure it is healing properly. If it becomes red and inflamed and appears to get worse, rather than better, seek medical assistance.

Lacerations are deeper injuries (over a quarter of an inch in depth or more or wounds that do not close on their own). If you receive a laceration, the first thing you should do is sit down. Then apply pressure to the area to try and control the bleeding. The wound should be inspected for foreign bodies, continued bleeding, sensation, and movement. An injury like this might be closed with butterfly bandages, but you should seriously consider getting medical attention.

Fractures are generally caused by falling accidents or nail guns, not by spinning blades, but they can happen in the shop, none the less. Amputation, on the other hand, is generally the result of a body part coming in contact with a blade from a table saw, jointer, or band saw. In these instances, the first step is to control the bleeding. The amputated part should be kept in a cool container (not directly on ice) and you should call 9-1-1 immediately.

Dr. Bernhard ended his presentation with a slide show of pictures of severe woodworking-related emergencies. This wasn't the kind of slide show you would want to eat popcorn while watching. Hopefully none of us will ever see images like this in real life! Thank you for taking the time to discuss such an important topic, Dr. Bernhard! Now if you'll excuse me... I'm going to go put my guard back on my table saw.

Show and Tell

Wayne announced that Cecil Robertson won the Best In Show at the St. Charles County Fair this year for his Windsor Settee. Congrats, Cecil!



Brad Bernhard – Took Cecil’s Windsor Chair class. Brought in three additional chairs he’s made since the class. Brad is looking for someone who might want to attend a Sam Maloof chair class with him.

Gary White – Showed pictures of a window he trimmed out in curly maple.

Dan Coleman – Found an old cam-operated clamp at an estate sale and passed it around.

Bruce Shockley – Brought in some shaker boxes he made at a class offered by the woodworking guild in Columbia.

Jeff Morgan – For the 10th anniversary of 9/11, Jeff was commissioned to make a presentation case for a flag that was flown on several different Navy ships.

Keith Lissant – Showed some holdfasts made with the help of the blacksmith at Faust Park.



Scott Wunder and John Stevens – Brought in pictures of a secretary and explained how they went about making it “rustic”.



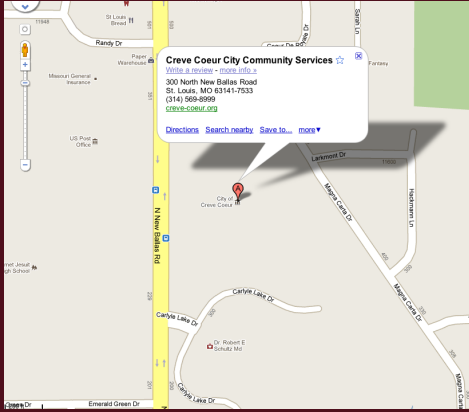
Faust Park

Don Snyder and Dan Coleman are donating table saws for the new workshop. We’re still looking for an 8” jointer and a 15” planer. Please contact Wayne Watson if you are interested in making a donation.

September 24th and 25th is the Fall Folk & Fine Arts Festival at Faust Park. They are looking for anyone who might be able and willing to demonstrate old-time skills at the festival. Anyone interested in volunteering their skills and services should contact Keith Lissant by e-mail at lissants.dragonhold@juno.com or by phone at 314-962-1907.

Meeting location.

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



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, c/o Treasurer Larry Grzovic, 2849 Championship Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63129.*