

# St. Louis Woodworkers Guild



May 2012  
Issue 322

## Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM  
May 17, 2012

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

## Sharpening Extravaganza

The May guild meeting will take place back at our normal meeting location in the Creve Coeur Community Center on Thursday, May 17th. The program that night will be a little different than the standard format we're used to. The focus of the evening will be on sharpening systems and we will have company representatives from Tormek, Worksharp, Norton, and ScarySharp on-hand to show the benefits of their systems. We will have four different workstations set up around the room and we'll break up into groups and everyone will receive a 15 minute presentation at each station. You will have the opportunity to see the different sharpening systems in action and benefit from some vendor freebies, as well!

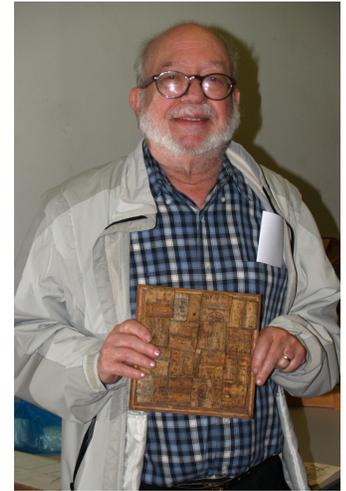
## At Our Last Meeting: Show and Tell/Silent Auction



**Bob Brinkman**  
chess board, boxes



**Kurt Hermann**  
desk set



**Jerry Kohen**  
wine bottle cork trivet



**Dave Vitale**  
pinewood derby cars



**Steve Palmer**  
lamp



**Larry Alvarez**  
turnings



**Tom Tupper**  
entertainment center, doll bed



**Leslie Tupper**  
turnings, cabinet from Marc Adams class

## Guild Officers

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**Toy Committee Chairmen**  
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## Sponsors

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**The Wood & Shop**  
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**St. Charles Hardwoods**  
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636.485.5217

## Wayne's Sawdust May 2012

I just returned from the Lodge of the Four Seasons resort at the Lake of the Ozarks where Dan Coleman and I served as Judges at the Technical Education Association of Missouri (TEAM) sponsored Industrial Technology Education Contest. This is a state wide final, if you will, representing middle and high school students throughout Missouri. The categories included woodturning, furniture building, metal work, ceramics, CNC, robotics, engineering and building technology, to name just a few. I estimate that over 150 projects were entered in the furniture group alone. The group judging was subdivided by age and grade. The level of craftsmanship was remarkable and I must admit a bit humbling, when you consider that the builders were middle and high school students. Each project was judged on design, neatness, accuracy, complexity and finish. Judging the individual projects was difficult work. The category assigned to me was high school sophomores. The work was truly outstanding. It was apparent that these students were dedicated craftsmen and when you factor

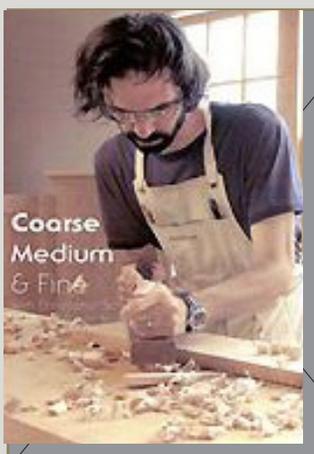


in their age, the body of work that I judged, was very impressive. In addition each contestant was given a written exam, which was part of their final score. Unfortunately there were no entries from the St. Louis area. I was asked if our Guild could help reinvigorate the St. Louis region contest in the future. I will discuss this with the Executive Board. I believe that this would be a very worthy community project for our Guild to become involved with. I was under the impression that Industrial Technology education was fading in favor of computers and college preparation. Perhaps this is true but it is not dead yet and the work I was privileged see is proof that manual skills education is still alive in Missouri.

The shop at Faust Park is shaping up nicely. We are planning an "Open House" event for our members on June 30th. Mike Sistik will have more information as the planning is completed. If you have not seen it recently, then mark the date. We will provide refreshments that day for all who attend.

*Wayne*

## DVD Review: Coarse, Medium and Fine: Fundamental Woodworking Techniques by Christopher Schwarz



If you are new to woodworking, this DVD is a must-have item for your woodworking library. The whole premise behind the DVD is that there are three basic fundamental stages of taking rough lumber and working it into a finished project. If you don't spend the right amount of time in one of the earlier steps, or you skip a step completely, then you spend too much time (and energy and money) on the later steps.

This DVD would be especially useful for a woodworker who is just starting off down the road to using hand tools more frequently in their workshop. Chris covers such topics as when to use what plane, some history of the planes, the basic mechanisms of the common bench planes, and then what kind of results you should expect from each plane. He also talks

about the plane irons, from setting the depth to introducing camber to your plane blade.

Even though Chris demonstrates the processes with hand tools, the concepts he covers can easily be applied to your power tool shop. When appropriate, he interjects what power tool might be used instead of the hand tool he is using for the demonstration. Obviously, he doesn't spend any time discussing these tool settings or use, as it is understood you know how to properly use your equipment.

So you aren't new to woodworking, you say? Well guess what! If you've been working wood for a number of years, there is still a lot you can learn from this DVD. Maybe you'll watch it and discover a flaw in your process. Or maybe you'll watch it and get "the itch" to finally give hand tools a try. When I first watched Coarse, Medium, and Fine, it made me rethink process and wonder if I was spending too much time in one stage (Fine) because I wasn't spending enough time in another (Medium). Sure enough, after changing some bad habits, I spend a little more time with heavier stock removal (the medium work) and spend a lot less time sanding (the fine work). If you believe that woodworking involves a lot of sanding, then you will probably benefit from this DVD.

## Announcements

### Upcoming Meetings

June – The June guild meeting will take place on Thursday, June 21st at the Creve Coeur Community Center. The topic that night will be Luthier tools and techniques, presented by Thomas Rein. Thomas has been building guitars since the mid-1970's and I suspect has a fount of knowledge to offer us. If you want to do a little pre-reading, you can visit his website at [reinguitars.com](http://reinguitars.com).

### March Attendance

There were 62 people in attendance at the March Show and Tell meeting!

### Raffle Winners

Congratulations to Jerry Cohen, winner of the monthly raffle item, a \$50 Woodcraft gift card. Good luck to next month's participants; remember, you can't win if you don't enter!

## Bissell House Tour

On the 21st of April, about 35 Guild members took part in a tour of the Bissell House in Bellefontaine Neighbors in North St. Louis County. This outing took the place of our normal meeting for April since we weren't able to have use of our normal room at the Government Center.

This was a great tour and all who went seemed to have a great time. The history associated with the house and St. Louis is very interesting. The furniture in the house is outstanding and is a must-see for anyone woodworker interested in period furniture of the Federal Style.

*A complete rundown of the tour is available on the guild's website.*



## Toy Report

Once again we ask your help in providing toys for hospitalized children who are trying so hard to recover from terrible illnesses.

To illustrate the kind of impact these toy donations make, here is a thank you note we recently received from one of the hospitals:

*"Dear Woodworkers, We wanted you to know that your talent, generosity and history of support during the past years continues to be appreciated and valued. Each day your donations provide hours of fun for our patients, but equally important, the projects allow our kids to just be kids. As we have done for countless years, we thank ALL of you from the bottom of our hearts! The Child Life Department, Mercy Children's Hospital"*

*Quinton, Alberta. Tara, Ali, & Kine*

We can use cars, bird houses, animal kits, rabbit kits, butterflies, coyotes, cats, tulips and other flowers. If you need patterns, please see our web site ([stlwoodworkersguild.org](http://stlwoodworkersguild.org)) to select and print one; or you can call John or Steve to have patterns sent to you by mail. We generally need about 20 to 30 each of any craft pattern you select.

You can reach John at 314-843-0616 or Steve at 636-866-6121 for any of the above or to arrange pickup or delivery.

## At Our Last Meeting: Show and Tell/Silent Auction



**Steve Briner**  
floor mirror, plant stand



**Richard Orcutt**  
lighthouse table decorations



**Jerry Lammers**  
step stool, turned boxes



**Adam Gregory**  
bird house



**Brad Bernhard**  
rocking chair



**Walter Henderson**  
chair, kaleidoscope,  
picture frame



**Cecil "the box man" Robertson**  
two boxes

## W.D. Quinn Saw Visit

Saturday, May 5th was a beautiful day for doing yard work. Instead over forty Guild members assembled at the W.D. Quinn Saw Company in North County for an inside look at the science and art of saw blade sharpening.

Quinn Saw is in their 4th generation as a family run business having been founded in 1903. They have a moderately sized facility which is very well equipped with “state of the art” equipment.

Bill Zickel, President of Quinn saw welcomed us and he and his staff took us through their process for bringing used and abused saw blades back to life. The process begins with a thorough cleaning in a large ultrasonic tank, which removes any pitch build up, rust, dirt and grease. Next the blade is visually checked for defects and the run out is checked. Bent blades are straightened by hand on a huge anvil with just a hammer. This is a skill that is acquired through years of experience. Among the large array of high tech computer run sharpening equipment straightening blades remains an art driven by both experience and skill. Missing teeth are also replaced by hand. The shoulder of the blade is precisely reground to accept the new tooth. The carbide tooth is hand braised onto the body of the saw blade and reground to match the other teeth. The saw blades are loaded into one of two automated computer controlled sharpening machines. The saw blade specifics, such as hook angle, top bevels and blade size, etc. are entered. The blades are then stacked and a robotic arm inserts each individual blade to begin the sharpening process. As the sharpening is completed the robotic arm removes the finished blade and then



Bill Zickel explaining their operation.



Bill Zickel demonstrating the ultrasonic cleaning process.



Replacing carbide teeth



Lunch was provided by our hosts

## Mini-Workshop

Kurt Hermann took a few minutes to update everyone on up-coming mini workshops. Phil Haskings is doing one on veneering, but it is already full. Don Snyder is planning on having another workshop on inlaying in the near future. Please contact Kurt via e-mail: [kurtdee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kurtdee@sbcglobal.net) or by phone (314-608-8602) if you are interested in signing up for this workshop or for future workshops or if you would like to sponsor a workshop yourself.

## Faust Park

The workshop at Faust Park is still in need of a 6” or 8” jointer. If you have an extra one sitting around, and are looking for a great way to help out the guild while receiving a tax deduction, then please consider donating it to the guild!

## W.D. Quinn Saw Visit (continued from page 5)

loads the next blade in the stack and the process is repeated.

Carbide tipped blades are not the only ones to receive the Quinn Saw touch. Very large industrial high speed steel blades are also repaired and sharpened. A \$1400.00 five foot in diameter blade was in the process of having damaged teeth replaced. This enormous saw blade, which is used to cut large aluminum billets to size, had several sets of teeth riveted onto the saw blade body. Once the repair was ground and polished it was almost impossible to determine where the repair existed.

Quinn was generous in that every Guild member who brought a saw blade received a free sharpening. In addition they have a 10 inch saw blade made by one of their vendors which is manufactured to the same specifications as the highly touted Forrest "Woodworker II" blade at a fraction of the cost. I obtained one of these blades a couple of years ago and can attest to its quality and effectiveness. They also gave away numerous carbide spiral router bits which had been donated by Onsrud.

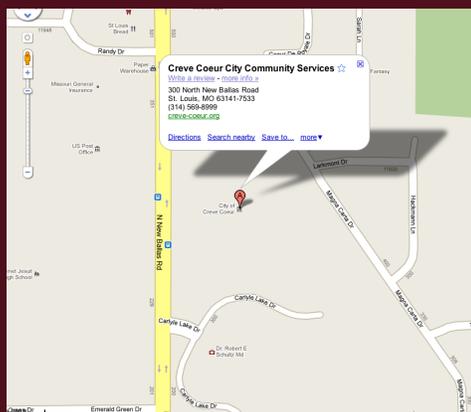
If you need other items sharpened such as jointer/planer knives, Quinn Saw can accommodate you. While they don't sharpen these items inhouse, they have a vendor who specializes in knife sharpening and provides the same high quality sharpening service that Quinn Saw is famous for.

We rapped up our visit with a delicious lunch provided by our hosts. This was the Guild's third visit over the years and it still remains one of the most popular field trips that Guild has gone on.

It is wonderful to see a 4th/5th generation family business continue to thrive. With a mix of high tech equipment and old fashioned skill and experience and a serious dedication to quality and customer service, I believe they will be around to serve my grandchildren and their grandchildren. We are truly fortunate to have W. D. Quinn Saw Company as neighbors and are truly grateful for the support that they have extended to the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild over the years.

### 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 \$30 for one years dues to: St. Louis Woodworkers Guild, c/o Treasurer Larry Grzovic, 2849 Championship Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63129.*