



November 2012  
Issue 328

## Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM  
November 15, 2012

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

## Stool Turning

Gary Hinegardner will give a presentation on turning a stool in 45 minutes.

## Holiday Gift Ideas

by Bill Hobson, Kurt Hermann, and Don Snyder

### Cutting Boards by Bill Hobson

Due to another obligation later in the evening, Bill gave us a quick presentation at the beginning of the meeting on how he goes about making his cutting boards. But, quick as it was, Bill's presentation was also informative and entertaining.

Bill makes both large and small cutting boards. His smaller cutting boards are generally about 12" long and 8" wide. This is because he likes to store them in a kitchen drawer that is 12" wide and he owns an 8" jointer. The larger sizes vary somewhat, depending on the purpose and who they are being made for.

For Bill, this is a great way to use up scrap wood he's saved from recent projects that was too small for furniture but too big to just throw away. He notes that he only uses scrap wood with closed pores for sanitary reasons. In order to prevent warping, he adds breadboard ends to most cutting boards he makes.

Bill's procedure is pretty straightforward. He selects his wood, which consists of various contrasting and complementary species, such as maple, purple heart, and walnut, and cuts it to dimension. He then takes some time to figure out how he will arrange the layout. More often than not, the cutting boards end up having bilateral symmetry. He also tries to make sure the breadboard end pieces are the same species of wood as the two edge strips.

Then he glues them up. He uses Titebond 2 for its water resistant properties. One glue-up tip he suggested is to pick up the rubber glue applicator brush from Rockler. After using it, you just let the glue dry on it. Then you can peel it off and throw it away and use the applicator again. Once the glue is applied, Bill clamps horizontally with F-clamps and applies downward pressure using the low ceiling of his shop and spring clamps.

Once the glue is dry, he removes the clamps, trims the cutting boards to their final dimensions, and rounds over all of the edges with a router. He then sands the cutting board to 220 grit before applying a butcher block finish he also purchases at Rockler.

If you make a cutting board for someone as a gift, one thing you might want to mention to the recipient is that these should never be run through a dishwasher.

*continued on page 4*



**Bill Hobson shows off one of his cutting boards**

## Guild Officers

**President**  
Wayne Watson 314.846.1172

**Vice President**  
Mike Sitek 618,243.6071

**Secretary**  
Keith Lissant 314.962.1907

**Treasurer**  
Larry Grzovic 314.846.4882

**Directors**  
Bob Brinkman 314.378.1893  
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**  
Chris Law 314.401.8284

**Membership Committee**  
Bill Hobson 314.863.6437

**Toy Committee Chairmen**  
John Patton 314.843.0616  
Steve Briner 636.866.6121

## Sponsors

**Woodcraft**  
314.993.0413

**The Wood & Shop**  
314.739.0001

**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 November 2012

We are approaching our last meeting of the year. As 2012 comes to a close, I can't help but look back at the past year. The Guild really accomplished quite a bit. Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved we had a superb exhibit at the Woodworking Show in Collinsville. Mark Koritz loaned us the display fixtures and our booth really looked good! We were able to sign up many new members. Our community service activities expanded as well. We participated in "teaching" woodworking to preschoolers and Girl Scouts, delivered hundreds of toys to hospitalized children and assisted the St. Louis County Parks Department with restoration and repairs at Faust Park. Our members also demonstrated woodworking skills during numerous Faust Park formal activities for the public. We made significant progress on the complete restoration of the wood tanked vinegar car at the Museum of Transportation as well as numerous other activities. So, if you have some spare time on your hands consider volunteering your skills at one of our museums or to help John Patton or Steve Briner with the toy program. We got the Guild's new shop at Faust Park up and running, and we will be opening it to the members next month, just in time to make those last minute gifts for the holidays!

Mike Sitek did a wonderful job of providing excellent programs and the best is yet to come! He arranged another tour of Quinn Saw and set up a great day at Kunz Carpentry followed by a picnic which everyone enjoyed.

Kurt Herrmann got our mini-workshops going and they have been a resounding success. With our new shop at Faust Park we will be able to expand the offerings and the numbers who can attend should not be as restrictive as the past.

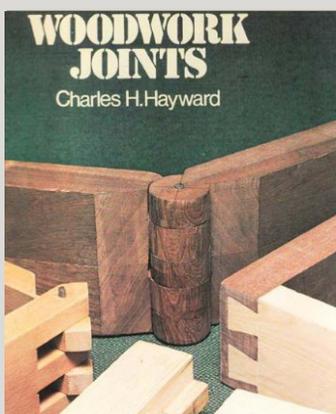
Next year should be at least as active as this year, and I know that Mike Sitek has a couple of surprises in store to get the juices flowing.

I wish each and every one of you a Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season. Have a safe New Year, and I will look forward to seeing all of you January 17th.

*Wayne*

## Book Review – Woodwork Joints by Charles H. Hayward

Review by Ethan Sincox



Whether you rely heavily on power tools or love the peace and quiet of a hand tool shop, it is pretty safe to say you will be cutting joinery at some point in your woodworking ventures. In order to make better joinery, it is important to understand the joint – to know what makes it work, how it can fail, where that specific joint shines in casework, and where such a joint should never be used. There aren't any books I know of that explain joinery – and just joinery – as well as Charles Hayward's Woodwork Joints.

Starting with the simplest type of joinery Mr. Hayward begins the book with a chapter on edge joints. This section includes facing softwood or plywood with solid hardwood as well as edge joining multiple boards to make a wider panel. He covers the importance of jointed edges, of how to test the edges for satisfactory fit, and how to glue up panels both with and without clamps. (Being British, Mr. Hayward refers to them as “cramps”, but after the first time, when you figure out he isn't discussing his stomach ailments, the different terminology shouldn't be a deterrent.)

The author believes the next joint to be so important (which it indeed is) that he dedicated two full chapters to it. The mortise and tenon joint is one of the most often-used in woodworking. There are many variations of the joint, specialized and evolved in different trades, but Mr. Hayward does an excellent job of discussing the fundamentals of it to ensure you understand how it works and how to properly execute it.

His chapter on halved and bridle joints again discusses the most basic of these methods before examining some of the more complicated variations you might see or need to use. Throughout the book, you can also glean little tidbits of knowledge that can be applied to other joinery methods, as well as non-joinery woodworking techniques, such as the best way to knife your lines.

Additional chapters cover housed and dowelled joints, joinery that works best with plywood and laminates, splices, scarfs, and mechanical joints. And, of course, there is a full and complete chapter on making dovetail joints that includes steps for laying them out and how to easily cut them. Over the years, I've read entire books dedicated to dovetail joints. If I'd have read this chapter first, I wouldn't have wasted my time with the others.

Charles H. Hayward has written and collaborated on other books, including Practical Woodwork, Cabinetmaking For Beginners, Staining And Polishing, and Making Toys In Wood. Though I've not had a chance to read through any of them in great detail, I imagine they are all worth checking out. I do not believe the book about toys involves making anything that would be useful for our toy-making program, but it might be good for the woodworker who wants to make something for their children or grandchildren.

This book is no longer in publication, but it is plentiful enough that you shouldn't have any problems tracking a copy down. I'd start with Amazon and move on to some of the bigger on-line used book dealers. Good luck and happy reading!

## Announcements

### October Attendance

There were 37 people in attendance at the October 18th meeting.

### Raffle Winners

The Rockler \$50 Gift Card went to Walter Henderson.

### What's Coming Up

There is no meeting in December – Merry Christmas!

The January meeting will take place on Thursday, the 17th. Doug Edmondson will be doing a presentation on mosaic and sculptural techniques in wood.

## Toy Report

We delivered 120 toys in October. The year to date total thru August will be 1518. Since 1994 the guild has donated 35,725 toy and craft items to the local Hospitals.

We can use heart necklace medallions and Christmas items. Also needed are cat kits, coyote kits, bear kits, airplanes and any craft you feel the kids would like.

If you need patterns, see our web site to select and print a pattern or you may call and we will send you the patterns by mail. We normally need about 20 each of any craft pattern you select.

You may call John at 314-843-0616 or Steve at 636-866-6121 for any patterns or to arrange pickup or delivery.

## Holiday Gift Ideas

continued from page 1

### Napkin Holders, Candle Holders, and Bread Cutting Boards by Kurt Hermann

Kurt Hermann was the next member to present to the guild. He brought in examples of three different things he enjoys making. Like Bill, these items are mostly made using various bits of scrap wood left over from previous projects.

The first item he showed us was a box designed to hold napkins. He likes to use complementary species for these boxes. The dimensions he uses are determined according to standard napkin sizes. With some slight modifications, this same idea could be used to make tissue box covers or other boxes with utilitarian purposes. You can make them as plain or as fancy as you want, by changing the joinery or adding inlay details. Since these items won't receive much wear from use, the finish can be simple, such as a few coats of shellac, though an oil finish should be discouraged as it may impart smell unto the paper napkins or tissues.

The next items he discussed were his candle holders. These consisted of a smaller base and a longer platform where the tea light candles rest in shallow holes drilled by a forstner bit. He suggested using contrasting woods, paring a light wood, like maple, with something dark, like purple heart or bloodwood or even ebonized maple. The kind of finish you might want to use here isn't as restrictive as with the tissue boxes.

The third item Kurt brought in was a bread cutting board. This project consists of two separate pieces. The bottom tray is solid and meant to catch crumbs as the bread is being cut. The top piece is an open-slat insert designed to allow crumbs to fall through as the bread is sliced.

### Bookmarks and a Wall Sconce by Don Snyder

The two projects that Don presented to the guild had a unifying feature – both incorporated sand-shaded veneer pieces in the finished product.

The bookmarks Don passed around were 1" wide and 6" long. The basic concept behind making them is to glue up a large block of wood, creating the pattern you want on the long face of the block, and then using a bandsaw to slice off the thin pieces which end up being your bookmark.

In his bookmarks, Don prefers using contrasting woods, like holly and ebony, to create striking differences. He uses the sand shading pieces to add depth and an illusion of motion to the finished item. They can be protected with a coat or two of your favorite finish.

The second project Don showed the rest of the guild was a wall sconce for dried flowers.



Don Snyder's bookmarks and wall sconce's

## Mini-Workshops

The Mini Workshop Committee is looking for IDEAS for new mini workshops. So, if you have an idea for a topic or subject for a mini workshop you would like to ATTEND, then contact Kurt Hermann by e-mail at [kurtdee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kurtdee@sbcglobal.net) or by phone at 314-608-8602. Of course, if you have a mini workshop you would like to host, Kurt would like to hear from you, as well.

If you are concerned about having enough room in your shop, then don't be. As of this point, classes can be held in the new workshop at Faust Park.

He apparently saw the same “wood artist” as Rich Sanders at the Clayton Art Fair. The biggest difference is that Don added a few extra details, the most notable being a veneer oval inlay of flowers on the front of the vase.

To make the oval inlay, Don first tapes two pieces of contrasting veneer together and sandwiches them between thin cardboard. He uses spray glue to adhere the pattern to one side of the veneer sandwich. Then Don cuts the pattern out with a scroll saw. He does not tilt the blade any when making these cuts, as you would normally do using this kind of technique. As a result, he is able to make two oval inlays from each sandwich, using the lighter image with the darker background and then the darker image with the lighter background. Before assembling and gluing the image together, use sand shading to adjust the appearance of the image as desired.

Once the image is glued up, you can inlay it into the front of your wall hanging vase. The other difference between Rich's project and Don's project is that Don made his own tubes for holding water using materials he found at an art store.

A big thank you goes out to all of the guild members who stepped up and presented their holiday gift ideas. Hopefully you have been inspired to get into the shop and crank out a few things for Christmas!

## Show and Tell

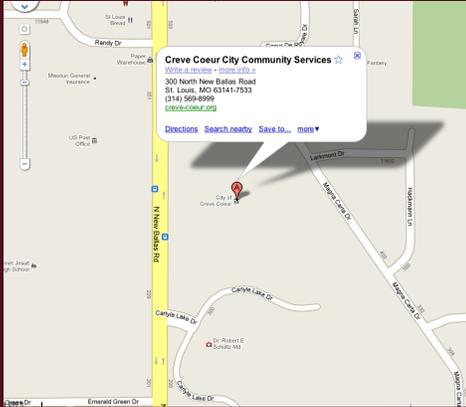


▶ **Rick Sanders** brought in some small, wall-mounted flower holders. If used with dry flowers, he just drilled a hole in them. If used with fresh flowers, the hole is sized to hold water tubes from a florist's shop. Rich also brought in an assortment of intarsia projects

**Cecil Robertson** passed around several Civil War period reproduction shaving mirrors. All were made using scrap wood.

## 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.*