



January 2013
Issue 329

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
January 17, 2013

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

Taming the Shavehorse by Cecil Robertson

Guild member Cecil Robertson will cover everything you ever wanted to know about the shavehorse and how it applies to woodworking.

Making A Three-Legged Stool

by Gary Hinegardner

So many people enjoyed Gary Hinegardner's last presentation on turning that we decided to invite him back for the November 15th meeting. The topic this time touched on the main reasons why so many woodworkers love woodturning: it is fast, you don't have to work with dimensioned lumber, you don't have to do any measuring, it doesn't take but a few power tools (a bandsaw and a mini lathe), and it is something a beginner can tackle with good results. Just how fast is it, you might ask? Well, Gary made his stool in just about 45 minutes. And that included giving instructions and explanations to everyone present. I bet he could have knocked off 15 minutes if he'd just worked and didn't talk. But, now that I think about it, I'm not sure Gary could pull off the not talking part. He has a LOT of woodturning information in his head and he loves sharing it.

First, Gary pulled out his wood for the project. It was a small (about 18" long) section of half a log that was mostly fairly dry. He pointed out on the endgrain where he would make two cuts with the bandsaw that would give us a blank for the seat and three blanks for the legs. Then he started up the bandsaw and eyeballed a setting on the fence that would give him a blank of about the right thickness (an inch and a half or so). Placing the flat face of the log against the fence, he made a slice. This largest slab was the blank for the seat.

He made another slice. This blank would be further cut into three blanks for the legs. To cut those, he trimmed the live edge off the second blank, then placed one of the newly trimmed edges against the fence and made his cut. This produced a blank that was 1.5" x 1.5" x 18". He repeated the last step two more times to end up with three square blanks. If you have enough wood, it isn't a bad idea to make a fourth and fifth blank, just in case you bugger something up.

Going back to work on the seat, he used a compass to mark a circle on the biggest blank and then cut it out with the bandsaw. He mounted the disc onto the lathe and picked up one of his standard turning tools – a Michaelson gouge with a Michaelson grind on it. He fired up the lathe and turned the seat a bit concave, leaving a tenon in the middle. The tenon is used to mount the seat on the other side so you can turn the bottom.

He then proceeded to do just that. Since the top of the seat is concave, he made the bottom of the seat a bit convex. He also knocked a bit off the edges, as well, to soften them up. Then he cut a little recess into the bottom of the seat, which is used for holding the blank the other way again when you want to smooth out the seat. While the seat was still mounted with the bottom facing out, he used a pencil to mark the center line on the bottom where the holes will be drilled out. He made sure the mark was far enough in from the edge that the leg didn't stick out.

continued on page 4

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636.485.5217

Wayne's Sawdust January 2013

Another year has flashed by and when I think back over the past twelve months, I'm gratified for all that the Woodworkers Guild accomplished. Our toy program for hospitalized children continues to be the centerpiece of our community activities. John Patton and Steve Briner delivered 1,896 toys last year. Since the Guild first started delivering toys in 1994, our members have built 36,103 items. We are now entering our 19th year of bringing smiles to the faces of children who could really use some good news. Both John and Steve and everyone who has provided toys deserve a hearty WELL DONE!

We also are supporting the County Parks Department in two locations. Faust Park has Keith Lissant, Al Carlson and Rich Weitzman volunteering their expertise to maintain the Historic Village exhibits. The Museum of Transportation has the "Termites" AKA Bob Brinkman, Al Carlson, Jerry Lammers, John Wetter and I showing the "Tin Knockers" over there, that wood is good! If you have some spare time on your hands consider volunteering at one of these locations.

Education is also one of our Guild's pillars and we have just touched on what will be seen in the future. Kurt Herrmann put together an exciting line up of mini-workshops last year.

Unfortunately the classes were limited by the size of the shops they were held in. Now that we have opened our Guild Shop (the "Chicken Coop") in Faust Park we should be able to offer classes to much larger groups. Bob Brinkmann has agreed to help Kurt Herrmann schedule mini-workshops for 2013. Talk to them about the subject matter that you are interested in. From basic to advanced topics we have the expertise within the Guild. And when we don't have the necessary internal knowledge, Mike Sistik can go and find it. He is bringing in Matt Cianci; the "Saw Man" to give us a hands on class on saw building to be held in the "Chicken Coop." Each attendee will learn to build his own high quality backsaw. This is going to be a must attend.

Speaking of the "Chicken Coop," we opened it late last year, for the use of our members. I have already seen some nice Christmas presents come out of the door. If you are interested in using it contact me and we will get you started.

Last but not least we have the Woodworking Show in Collinsville coming up February 8th thru the 10th. We would like to feature a few larger projects as we did last year. If you have a piece that you can loan us let Rich Weitzman or I know. We will arrange transportation if need be. Rich will also be looking for volunteers to work our booth at the show.

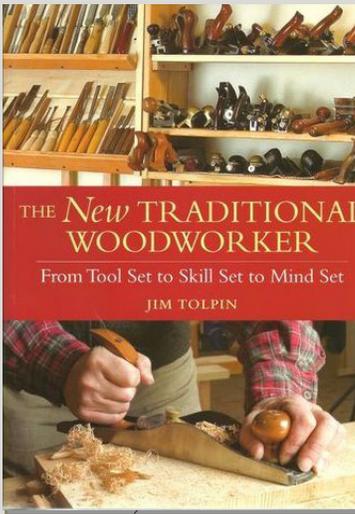
Wayne

The DaVinci Machines Exhibition

Now through May 2013, the DaVinci Machines Exhibition is in St. Louis, on loan from the Museum of Leonardo DaVinci in Florence, Italy. It is one of three such exhibits traveling the world and contains over 60 hand-crafted inventions built from Leonardo's 500 year old designs. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. every week. Admission and location information can be found on-line at <http://discoverdavinci.com>.

Book Review: *The New Traditional Woodworker – From Tool Set to Skill Set to Mind Set* by Jim Tolpin

Review by Ethan Sincox



Is the hand tool focused shop just a fad? If we look ten years to the future, will we see SawStop table saws in the garage of every person who calls themselves a hobbyist woodworker? Will a deluge of antique and modern hand tools sit unsold on eBay and Craig's List? Will corporations once again find themselves employing the hundreds of craftsmen who have left their cubical-shaped work week to try and hack it out in the trenches of the fickle hand tool world?

Or... is there something more to it? Is this really a crescendo of practically-minded people who look forward to the serenity of a quiet shop, who want to rub the aching muscles that result from an hour of dimensioning lumber, and who want to breathe in the scent of freshly planed

wood instead of fine particles of sawdust?

I vote the latter, if for no reason other than the simple fact I cannot imagine the former! I feel the momentum building, and I look forward to the resulting revolution – people casting aside the chains of technology that suck their souls out through smartphone-strained eyes.

You might be wondering where Jim Tolpin's book comes into play in this thought process. I'll tell you. It is a blueprint, a path, a way for you to create a shop you can go work in at two o'clock in the morning without fear of waking your spouse or children. It is a guide for anyone who wants to turn their woodworking hobby into both more and less at the same time. More pleasure. Less danger. More quality time with your iPod trickling your favorite Grateful Dead concert into your ears. Less ear pain from expensive, skull-crushing hearing protection.

After a thoughtful and mood-setting foreword, Mr. Tolpin walks his readers through the differences between a hand tool shop and a power tool shop (and the benefits of the former if woodworking is your hobby and not your job). He covers size, layout, workbenches, saw benches, and a (relatively) brief, but comprehensive, overview of hand tools. He does this all with a perfectly and understandable writing style.

The second section of the book is devoted to shop projects. But it isn't your typical candlebox/cutting board/cabinet list of projects. Instead, it is a series of projects that supplements your cordless environment with accessories essential to making a hand tool shop work. As you tackle each of these projects – beginning with a straightedge, a try square, winding sticks, and a planing stop - you will develop your hand tool skills and, more importantly, your confidence. By the time you've finished with these important shop jigs, that candlebox will be a breeze.

Whether you are just starting out, interested in incorporating more hand tools into your power tool shop, or want to get rid of most of your power tools completely, I think this is a great place to start.

Announcements

November Attendance

There were 53 people in attendance at the November 15th guild meeting.

Raffle Winners

The \$50 Rockler Gift Card went to Mike Aufmuth.

The \$20 Gift Card from Rockler went to Phil Haskins

Toy Report

We delivered 153 toys in December. We wish to thank all who contributed to the fine selection of Christmas items that we were able to pass along. The total contribution since 1994 is 36,102. Please consider making cars, bird houses, animal kits, rabbit kits, butterflies, coyotes, cats, tulips, heart necklaces and other flowers for the next meeting in January. Try to make things holiday-appropriate at least a month or two before that particular holiday, to give us and the hospitals time to distribute them properly.

If you need patterns see our web site to select and print a pattern or you can call and we will send you the patterns by mail. We really 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 pick-up or delivery.

Making A Three-Legged Stool

continued from page 1

Then he pulled the standard tool rest out of the lathe and replaced it with a jig he made. This jig uses a tool rest with a V-trough that has a section of pipe glued, soldered, welded, or taped to it. The pipe you use should be sized to act like a guide for the long drill bit you're going to use to drill the leg holes. Use the jig with the drill bit inside to set up the proper angle (about 15 degrees) and lock the jig in place. Then use a drill and the jig to drill three holes through the bottom of the seat.

After your holes are drilled, pop the top off and flip it around, using the recess to mount it back on the bottom. Replace the tool rest back in the lathe and finish turning the top. Remove the tenon (because you don't need it anymore) and clean up the top. Sand to finish and call the top done!

Next you get to move on to the legs. Mount up a leg blank and make it round with a roughing gouge. To gauge the 1" thick tenon you want on the end, stick a 1" diameter section of copper pipe on the tail end of the lathe before you mount the blank. Then, as you get close to the final dimension, you can check it with the copper pipe to make sure it is accurate. Turn the leg with any designs or details you might want. Repeat it for the other two legs.

One Pro Tip Gary offered at this point was to purposely make your designs in the three legs NOT match. If you burn a line in the first leg, move that burn line three or four inches up on the second and another three or four inches up on the third. That way, it won't look like you tried to make them the same and failed, but that you tried to make them different!

A second Pro Tip was to make the tenon using a 1" open wrench. You'll have to grind the short end of the wrench to sharpen it, but then it is just a matter of pressing the wrench into the turning wherever you want a 1" diameter. It will stop cutting when the size is right.

Mount the legs into the seat to test the fit, but don't glue them in yet. Then mount a 40-grit sanding disc onto the lathe and replace the normal rest with the V-trough jig. Set the right angle back on the jig and place a leg in the trough with the bottom of the leg facing the sanding disc. Push it up to the sanding disc until the end is sanded to the proper angle.

Now you can glue the legs into the stool. Make sure the legs are set with the flats of the bottom at the correct angle so the chair sits on them properly. Once the glue is dry, you can apply a finish if you want. Or not! Now get a few more log halves ready to go, because as soon as others see your stool, they're going to want one for themselves! By this time, you're done with one or two more, you'll be doing them as fast as Gary!

Thanks for another wonderful presentation, Gary! We look forward to the next one!

Build A Backsaw Class with Matt Cianci

Matt Cianci, the Saw Wright and author of The Saw Blog, is going to come to the SLWG on April 6th and 7th to teach a class on building your own backsaw! Matt is a full-time saw maker/restorer from Rhode Island. You can take a look at his work and learn about his thoughts and ideas on saw making and restoration at <http://thesawblog.com> and <http://thesawwright.com>.

The class will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 6th, and from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 7th. The cost of the class will be \$300 and will include lunch on both days and all of the materials to build a high-end backsaw, except for the tote blank. Space is limited and there is a lot of one-on-one instruction, so the size limit for this class is 12 people. The first slots will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and require a \$100 deposit due to Mike Sitek by February 21st. Checks can be made payable to the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild. The rest of the cost is due by the day of the class and can be paid at that time or sent to Guild President, Wayne Watson.

If you are interested in this great opportunity, hurry up and contact Mike Sitek at 618-830-4516 or via e-mail at sitekmiw@charter.net or spwoodworks@charter.net. As of right now, there are only four slots open!



Show and Tell

Brian Texeira – microwave stand

Rich Sanders – scroll saw ornaments made from cherry, maple, and poplar

Steve Briner – router jig for making spindles/poles

Phil Haskins – cherry TV stand

Brad Bernhard – jewelry boxes and a story about his SawStop setting off because of a jig

Keith Lissant – Christmas tree ornaments and mechanical toys

Al Carlson – a puzzle dog

Walter Henderson – ukuleles

Dan Pace – six boxes of woodworking magazines, free to anyone who wants them

Mini-Workshops

Now that the Faust Park workshop is operational, all mini workshops will take place out there unless otherwise indicated.

Faust Park Workshop: The Faust Park workshop is up and running! It is now available by appointment on Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Before you can use the shop, however, you must be a St. Louis Woodworkers Guild member in good standing and complete a safety class taught by one of the Safety Monitors. The cost for the class is \$20. There will also be a \$5/hour fee for any shop time.

The workshop has a nice variety of machines, including two tablesaws, an 8" jointer, a 12" thickness planer, a Delta lathe, several scroll saws, a spindle sander, a mortise machine, a 14" Delta bandsaw, and several miscellaneous hand tools. One of the next projects the guild wants to tackle for the new shop is to make a few workbenches. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas for the Faust Park Workshop, please contact one of the following:

Keith Lissant
lissants.dragonhold@juno.com
or 314-962-1907

Al Carlson
carlsona@swbell.net
314-434-3074

Rich Weitzman
rweitzman@sbcglobal.net
314-872-7866

The Woodworking Show in Collinsville, Ill.

The Woodworking Show is returning to Collinsville Illinois on February 8th, 9th and 10th. As in years past, we will have a large booth to showcase our Guild. As we did last year we would like to exhibit some larger pieces that our members have built. If you have a piece that you would be willing to provide we can arrange to pick up and then return it to you. We will ensure that the item will be displayed in such a way that it will be returned to you in the same condition that we received it. If you have an item, send me an e-mail workwood@earthlink.net or give me a call at 314-541-3047. You may also bring any items to this week's meeting.

Volunteers

We will need volunteers to occupy our booth during the show. Volunteers will be accorded free admission to the show. We request that you volunteer for a two hour block of time. Rich Weitzman will have a sign-up sheet at our meeting this Thursday. If you cannot make the meeting and wish to volunteer please contact Rich Weitzman at rweitzman@sbcglobal.net

Our primary purpose for attending the Woodworking Show is to advertise our existence to a targeted audience of people interested in woodworking. We measure our success by the number of new members that we recruit. Last year we signed up around twelve people, which was wonderful, but I feel that we can do so much better. This is where our volunteers play an enormous role. As you talk to people at our booth, be sure to convey all of the benefits of membership. These include our community activities; the Toy Program, Faust Park and Museum of Transportation. Education; our monthly meeting programs,

mini-workshops and annual programs with the likes of Frank Klausz, Graham Blackburn and Jeff Jewett to name a few. For prospective members with limited woodworking experience we have a robust mentoring program. Annual trips and picnic; We have had private tours at locations all over the area. From Quinn Saw Company to the Bissell Mansion to the Art Museum, the Guild has arraigned for interesting and informative visits to the area's most interesting venues. We also should not forget the financial advantage that membership brings. Our sponsors; Rockler, Woodcraft, St. Charles Hardwood and U-Pick Lumber, to name several, provide a generous discount to our members. For the average member his cost of membership is returned several times over while shopping for tools and supplies through the course of a year.

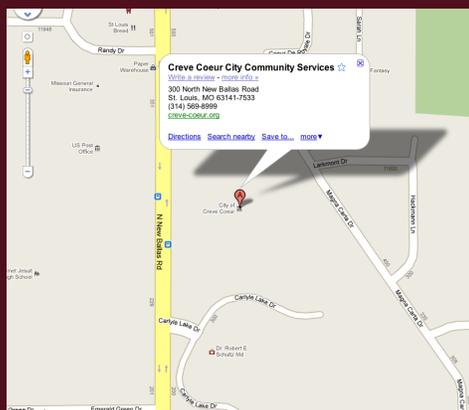
If you spend some time with an attendee Please, Please, Please get their contact information so we can follow up after the show is over. We will have lists going at the booth. We will also have brochures to give to prospects.

Activity at the Show

This year we plan to have three scroll saws set up for show attendees to try out when visiting our booth. Keith Lissant is holding a mini-workshop for show volunteers on Saturday January 36th starting at 9:00 am at our shop in Faust Park. If you are planning to work the booth at the show we would like to have you attend this session. Not only will Keith bring you up to speed on the various scroll saws we will be using but you will be preparing stock that will be used at the show for toys to go to the hospitals. If you have not been to the Faust Park shop, just follow the signs to the parking area for the shop.

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.