



August 2013
Issue 336

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
August 15, 2013

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

Reclaimed Wood

John Bronson will be discussing how he used reclaimed wood to craft a frame for a stained glass window.

At Our Last Meeting: Large Segmented Turnings by Wes Kolkmeier

At the July meeting, Wes Kolkmeier spent some time with us discussing his large segmented turning projects. Wes is a retired carpenter of 45 years. He started turning when he was working on restoring an old home and had to replace a number of spindles for a stairwell. This led to other turnings (such as bowls), which eventually turned into the large segmented turnings he does today.

His process for constructing a segmented turning is similar for each piece. First, he takes plenty of time drawing up full-sized plans for what he wants to build. This is where he works on proportion and dimensions to make sure it looks right. Once that is done, he begins working out his formulas for the size of each ring segment.

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Wes Kolkmeier
and his large
turnings of
Mulberry, Cherry,
and Walnut



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Wayne's Sawdust August 2013

Are you using all of the resources that the Guild has to offer? Everyone, I would hope, takes advantage of the discounts our sponsors offer here in St. Louis. But did you know that we have a few out of town sponsors who offer us discounts as well. These folks can be found in the **members' private site** on our website. If you have not signed up for access to the private site, you may be missing out on an opportunity to save a little.

Our library is top notch, with both DVD's and printed material. It is almost always available before and after our monthly meetings. Looking for ways to expand your skills or for just a spark of inspiration, a visit to library might just be the ticket. Should you have an interest in a specific book, or DVD, talk with our Librarian, Kevin Wiesner. He may be able to add it to our selection of titles.

On the subject of learning new skills, you have a broad range of topics available in the Guild's Mini-Workshops. These are very inexpensive classes conducted by volunteer Guild instructors. The topics have ranged from tuning up hand planes to line inlay to finishing. If you would like a class on a specific topic contact Bob Brinkman. We usually have one Mini-Workshop each month, typically at our Woodshop which is located within Faust Park in Chesterfield.

Our Woodshop is another wonderful resource. It is available for our members use at a nominal fee. It is well equipped with stationary and bench top woodworking equipment. If your home shop is still in the planning stage the Faust Park Woodshop is a good alternative.

Are you new to the craft of woodworking? The Guild's mentoring program is a great way for our newer woodworkers to jump start their woodworking journey. The Guild will pair you with a more experienced member to help you on your way. Their advice on everything from methods of work, to what tools to acquire can eliminate a lot of the mystery which surrounds our craft.

Perhaps the greatest resource we have available to us are the sixty plus members who are present for each meeting. Have a question? Having difficulty with a machine? Can't decide on a finish? No matter what your issue might be, I'm quite confident that one of our members has a solution.

Wayne

Annual Guild Picnic / Saturday Sept. 28

Meet at 9 am at
DNC Resources
24114 State Highway 3
Dow, Illinois 62022
Contact: Dan Bechtolb / 618 786 3029
Demonstrations of Sawmill, Lucas Slab Mill and possibly a chainsaw wood carver along with access to his lumber store and Antique Shop.

At 11:00 we will head to Pere Marquette State Park to the shelter called the 'Large Shelter'
The Guild will furnish hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, buns, condiments, soda, water, ice and cups.
Members should bring a 'covered dish'.

Show and Tell

Wayne Watson, Ethan Sincox, Brad Bernhard, Gary White, and James Richard all brought in the saws they'd made at the Build A Back Saw class in June.



Bob Brinkman brought in the first Windsor rocking chair made in one of Cecil's Windsor chair classes!

Brad Bernhard also brought in a jewelry box he'd made.

Jim Blaine showed everyone the woodland snowmen he made in a carving class.

Inlay Mini Workshop

On July 20th, the Guild hosted a mini workshop on pattern inlay. Don Snyder led Bob Brinkman, Brad Bernhard, Al Carlson, Jim Inkpen, and Gary White. The group took advantage of the Guild's workshop in Faust Park to produce a lotus flower following the method described by Steve Latta in his November 2010 article in Fine Woodworking.



Mini Workshop

Oil, Shellac & Spray Finishing

The Oil and Shellac finishing mini-workshop that was scheduled for the 17th of August has been cancelled and will be combined with the spray finishing mini-workshop on the 19th of October. During the October workshop, Mike Sistek and Jeff Morgan will cover:

Surface preparation for finishes

Different types of Oil Finishes and their application

Shellac and French Polishing

Finish problems and repair

Safety and Health concerns

Spray booth setup

Spray equipment (Standard, HVLP turbine, HVLP conversion)

Spraying techniques

Different types of spray finishes

We'll be able to support 12 in the class and it will be held at Jeff Morgan's shop in Aviston, Illinois. More details will be announced as we get closer to the class, but this should be a fairly comprehensive finishing class. If you are interested in attending, you can contact Bob Brinkman at (314) 378-1893 to get signed up for the workshop.

Toy Report

141 toys were delivered to three hospitals in July. The total delivered thus far in 2013 is 1050 and 37,152 toys have been delivered since 1994. If you assume an average toy value of \$2.50, then that means we've saved the hospitals over \$90,000 over the last 20 years by supplying them with toys, thus eliminating the need to purchase them.

We are currently looking for such items as cars, bird houses, airplanes, animal kits (coyotes, cats, bears, etc.), tulips, and other flowers. If you need patterns, please see the website (www.slwg.org) or call John Patton (314-843-0616) or Steve Briner (636-866-6121). For any pattern you use, please try and make around 20-30 items in that pattern.

At Our Last Meeting: Segmented Wood Sculptures continued from page 1

All of his wood is 1-1/2" thick and each ring is made out of 12 segments with 15 degree miter cuts on each end. So the only thing he needs to calculate at that point is the length of each piece of wood in the ring. The formula for this is:

$(\text{Intended Diameter Of Segment}) \times (3.1416) / (\text{Number Of Segments}) = \text{Length Of Segment}$

*3.1416 is his abbreviated use of pi.

Once he knows the length of the segment, then he can cut the 12 pieces for that ring and glue them up. He keeps his segments 1-1/2" thick so he has a bit of leeway when turning them to get them to blend with the two segments on either side of it.

After he has made a large number of the rings he wants to use, he dry stacks them to make sure he is happy with the rough shape of the project. If he is, then he starts gluing them up and turning them. He only glues up 6" at a time and he turns both the inside and the outside of the segments. Once he is done with the first 6", he'll add another 6" and turn that, as well. He applies a finish to the inside of the piece as he turns, because he probably won't be able to get to most of the inside once the piece is finished.

When his turning project gets long enough, he starts adding a stabilizer – a Corian ring with rollerblade wheels and oak arms – to the project to help keep everything steady. Once he gets past 4' tall, he does not use an RPM higher than 150.

Once the outside is turned to rough shape, Wes sands the piece through the following grits: 120, 220, 400, 600, and finally he ends by burnishing it with a brown paper sack.

Thanks for taking the time to visit with the guild, Wes! We enjoyed seeing your work!

Woodworking With Mike Van Pelt

On Saturday, September 21st and Sunday, September 22nd, Mike Van Pelt, former owner of Sycamore Woodworking School, will conduct a two-day seminar on woodworking. The cost will be \$45.00 for both days or \$25.00 for one day. The topics Mike will cover include:

Day 1
9:00 am – Noon: Router Mania
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Bandsaw Techniques
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Finishing and Sanding Techniques

Day 2
9:00 am – Noon: Wood Bending
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Track Saw
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Dovetails and Mortise and Tenon Joinery

He'll be covering several different techniques for each subject, from beginning to advanced, with power tools and hand tools. Lunch will be provided both days. Payment can be made to Wayne Watson, Tom Tupper, or Mike Sitek. Please contact Mike with any questions!

Review: Iturra Design Catalog

review by Ethan Sincox



Last month, Dan Coleman came over and helped me get my late 1970's Rockwell bandsaw back into proper running order. After pulling it to the front of the garage and giving it a once-over, he said we would need some parts before we could really work on it. I ran down into the house and came back out carrying a box and asked, "Will this do?"

Dan looked over the various replacement parts I'd ordered from Iturra Design and nodded his approval. We then set about tuning up my bandsaw, switching out the old tension spring with a new high tension spring, replacing the cast aluminum pulleys with cast iron ones, removing the old cracked tires and installing new urethane tires, adding a dust brush to the bottom wheel, replacing the upper guide and guide bearings, and cutting new guide blocks from a piece of *lignum vitae*.

After about two hours of work, we had that Peace Sign era bandsaw humming and making perfectly straight

cuts with no drift. Dan suggested a few other pieces I might want to order or fix or replace, so that is something I will do in the future. After Dan left, I broke the bandsaw down into a few pieces I could more easily handle and moved it into my workshop, completely satisfied with how well my restored machine was working.

Iturra Design has been in business since about 1998 and is run by Louis Iturra. I haven't had much in-depth conversation with him, but I believe he probably runs this business out of his house. I don't care. He does not have a website up and running, even after his 2008 catalog says one is on the way. I don't care. Louis can get a bit wordy, and is very opinionated, when handed the right topic (the right topic is bandsaws, FYI). I don't care. Louis uses paragraph breaks like they are \$2 bills (that is to say, he rarely uses them). I don't care. If you step back from the manual, about 20 paces, and squint your eyes, you can almost see some semblance of organization of all the information contained within. I don't care. There is neither a table of contents nor an index. I. Don't. Care.

I don't care because, for the \$8 I sent Louis, I received a 250 page treatise on upgrading a bandsaw, old or new, and making it work as good as (or better in some cases) when it came off the assembly line. I received a buyer's guide on picking out the best new or used bandsaw on the market. I received more information on bandsaws than I knew existed.

The replacement parts I received were all of the highest quality. We had no issues with installing any of them (well, no issues due to the parts themselves), and everything worked beautifully when we were done.

If you have a bandsaw sitting in your shop or garage that isn't working like you think it should, you might consider picking up the latest Iturra Design catalog and reading through it. The information in the catalog is worth the price of it; as an added bonus, it's a great place to shop for any replacement parts you might need.

Iturra Design can be reached by phone (904-642-2802) or e-mail (KALLL@comcast.net).

Announcements

There were 42 people in attendance at the July 18th meeting.

The Raffle winner for the June meeting was John Bronson. John won a \$50 Woodcraft gift card. Congratulations, John!

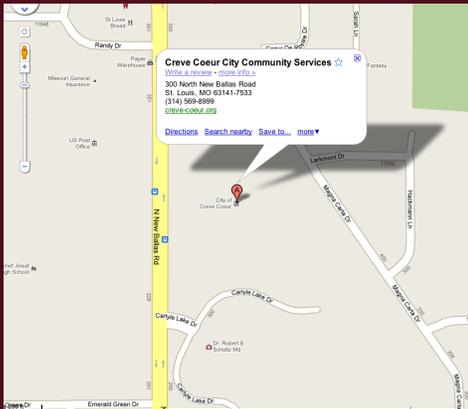
If you are new to woodworking and would like to take advantage of our mentoring program, please contact Mark Koritz (314-579-0401) or Wayne Watson (314-846-1172). They will help set you up with a member who is in your area and willing to meet with you and show you what he or she knows about woodworking. If you have woodworking experience and knowledge you would like to share, then please contact Mark or Wayne and let them know you would like to be a mentor.

Upcoming Meetings

In October, we will be visited by Ron Bontz, one of the newer saw makers to hit the hand tool revolution scene. Ron is going to go into his saw-making background and discuss what goes into the making of one of his saws.

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, P. O. Box 411766, St. Louis, MO 63141-9998*