



May 2014  
Issue 344

## Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM  
May 15, 2014

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

## Violin Making

Our speaker this month  
Geoffrey Seitz. He has  
been making violins,  
violas and cellos for  
over 25 years. Geoff's  
instruments are noted  
for their beautiful design  
and rich tone. Join us as  
Geoff shows the process of  
making a fine instrument.

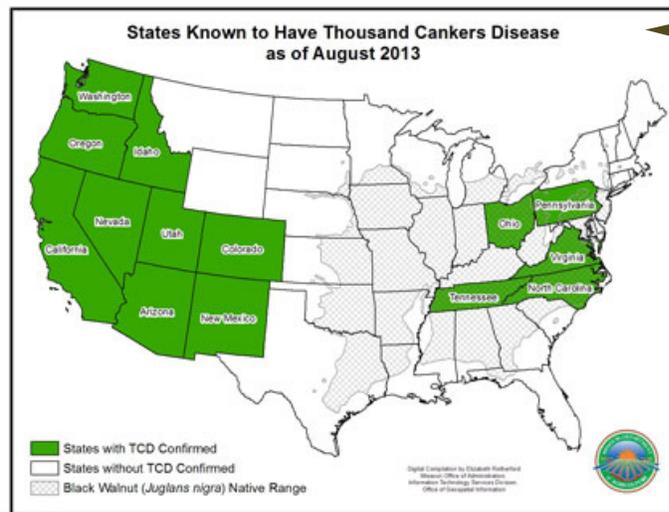
## At Our Last Meeting: Forest Health with Robbie Doerhoff

We were joined at our April meeting by Robbie Doerhoff from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Her discussion was officially called "Forest Health" but the title would have been more accurate if it was called "Forest Death". As Ethan Sincox pointed out, everything Robbie brought up was quite negative, though presented in a very positive way. Robbie spent most of the evening introducing everyone to the threat of Thousand Cankers disease that is taking out walnut trees in the U.S.

Thousand Canker disease is caused by a tiny beetle and his bezillion friends that drill into the tree creating little wounds that then get infected with a fungus, eventually killing the tree. In Robbie's little fairy tale scenario every infected tree dies from the disease and there is no stopping it. The best we can do at this point is to reduce the spread of the disease by using local products and not moving firewood.

Thousand Cankers disease was first found in Colorado in 2008 and has quickly found its way to many other states. Robbie showed a map that illustrates the natural range of walnut trees and the states that have the disease. It looks like just a matter of time before it makes its way to Missouri.

Continued on page 4



### Thousand Canker disease

States in green currently have cases of Thousand Canker disease.

### Robbie Doerhoff

Robbie showed many slides of Thousand Canker disease.



## Guild Officers

### President

Wayne Watson 314.846.1172

### Vice President

Denny Krupinski 636.677.1678

### Secretary

Keith Lissant 314.962.1907

### Treasurer

Tom Tupper 636.458.3669

### Directors

Bob Brinkman 314.378.1893

Mark Koritz 314.579.0401

Kurt Herrmann 314.608.8602

Mike Sistek 618.243.6071

### Newsletter

Ethan Sincox 314.303.2297

Scott Wunder 636.922.7629

### Webmaster

Cecil Robertson 314.605.1410

### 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

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## President Letter May 2014

When I sat down to write this with only a blank page and a blank mind, I decided to go back to earlier SLWG Newsletters and read some of the blogs written by Scott Wunder and Wayne Watson. I came away impressed at how easily their writing and thoughts flow. It'll take me a while to be writing like that, and perhaps it will never be so. Then I started thinking about Guild members working together to benefit others in the Guild and the community. An important example for me is the Guild's Executive Board. This is a big and active board that does all the planning for meetings and Guild activities and some administrative work too. All Guild officers (4), Directors (4) and appointed members (10) make up this Board. That's 18 Guild members who all work towards making the Guild a place to learn, socialize, and contribute to the community. Another example is the team effort required to prepare and distribute the Guild's Newsletter each month. There is an Editor who does what editors do – write about items of interest, gather material written by other members, and generally oversee getting material ready to be in the Newsletter. Brian Zirkle is the Editor and is doing a terrific job at it. Brian works closely with Scott Wunder, who puts it all together in formatting and distributing the Newsletter via e-mail. The team of Brian and Scott deserve our applause – so, clap with me for them! Community outreach is an example of how Guild members, working together, contribute their woodworking knowledge and skills to benefit others. A very significant example is the toy program, which, since its inception, will soon reach a donation of 40,000 toys to children in area hospitals. It is our members working on a common goal that yields these many, many toys and many, many smiles.

But wait! There's more about working together. I received a note this week from Dan Barton, who is the chairman of the Industrial Technology Department at John Burroughs School and the District Chairman of the St. Louis Technology Educators Association. That Association organized the contest last month for area high-school students who entered their woodworking projects for judging. Working together, at least 12 Guild members contributed their time and thought as judges, and additional members gave woodworking demonstrations for the students while their projects were being judged. Dan thanked all Guild members who participated, and he thanked the entire Guild for its donation of \$200 towards expenses of the competition.

A new committee has been formed, the Faust Park Shop Committee. It has the big responsibility of overseeing shop operations, shop safety, equipment maintenance and inventory, coordination of shop use for seminars and mini-workshops, and interacting with County Park personnel at Faust Park. As you know, Wayne Watson has been a strong force in creating the shop and bringing it to a point where members can now access and use the equipment there. We are fortunate that Wayne will be the first chairman of the new Committee. Working with him on the Committee will be members Dan Coleman, Keith Lissant, and Al Carlson. This is another way that members work together to the great benefit of the Guild.

All these members volunteer for these activities. There's room and need for more volunteers. See me or any member of the Executive Board if you want to participate in this important way.

*Don*

**Follow the Guild on Facebook. Stay up to date with Guild announcements, events, and photos.**

## Show and Tell

**Don Snyder** – Don showed a bow tie box.

**Cecil Robertson** – Cecil showed a magnifier that he uses when sharpening blades.



▶ **Ethan Sincox** – Ethan showed a handsaw that he recently acquired for his son.



▶ **Walter Henderson** – Walter showed a mahogany table.



▶ **Brian Texiera** – Brian showed an arch bottom white oak table.

## Announcements

There were 72 people in attendance at the April 20th meeting.

The raffle winner for April was Scott Wunder, who won a \$50 gift card from Rockler.

## Hands on Class

Project: Build a Shaker-Style Side Table

Taught by: Guild Member Bob Brinkman

Where: Guild's Workshop in Faust Park

When: TBD (6 weekend days in July and August)

Tuition: \$150

## Future Workshops

**May** (Date TBD) Learn to sharpen lathe tools. Taught by guild member Dan Coleman.

**June** (Date TBD) Learn finishing. Dyes vs Stains. Taught by guild member Scott Wunder.

**July/Aug.** Build a shaker table. Taught by guild member Bob Brinkman.

**Oct./Nov.** Make an infill plane. Taught by guild members Mike Sistek and Robbie Field.

## Toy Report

We delivered a total of 150 toys to 3 hospitals in April 2014. Our year to date total is 618 items. Since 1994 the total delivered is 38,634.

For the next delivery in April/May we need items such as; cars, airplanes, animal kits (coyotes, cats, bears), and flower kits. Patriotic items like flags are good for Memorial Day and Flag Day. Heart necklaces are always good for Mothers, Fathers and Grandparents Days. We have a good supply of Butterflies.

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 need about 20 to 30 each of any craft pattern you select.

You may call 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: Forest Health continued from page 1

The beetles that spread Thousand Canker disease are tiny. They are the size of the letter "I" in "In God We Trust" on a dime. They are especially harmful because of the great numbers that reside in a single tree. Robbie showed a slide with only a couple pieces of firewood, and in them were over 20,000 little beetles.

The beetles cause most of the damage to the walnut tree just below the bark, so Robbie recommends that you remove all bark from walnut lumber to reduce the possible spread in finished pieces. Dry wood will most likely be safe, but caution dictates that we take no chance and simply remove the bark.

Once a tree is infected, it starts to decline from the top as the beetles work their way down the tree. An infected tree will show yellow foliage and the branches will start to die back. The tree will try to fight back and shoot sprouts out from lower on the trunk causing a short bushy look. This usually happens to all tree in close proximity, so it is common to find groups of tree with dead branches at the top and thick growth near the bottom.

Missouri is home to 50 million walnut trees, so any disease that adversely affects the population could have major repercussions.

After our talk about Thousand Canker disease, Robbie covered a bit about the Emerald Ash Borer and a few other tree problems.

Our thanks to Robbie for a great job on a very depressing topic.



The beetles that cause Thousand Canker disease are tiny.



The beetles work under the bark.



Infected walnut trees start dying from the top.

## Policy Changes For Mini-Workshops

The Guild's Executive Board has approved changes to the sign up process for future Mini-Workshops. We have found that too many Members have been signing up for workshops and then not attending since they don't have any "skin in the game." Space is almost always limited for Mini-Workshops and on numerous occasions, we have members wishing to attend classes, but were unable to do to those who have signed up ahead of them. Then we have found that no shows have excluded those who wished to attend when spots went vacant. Therefore the following policies will be adhered to.

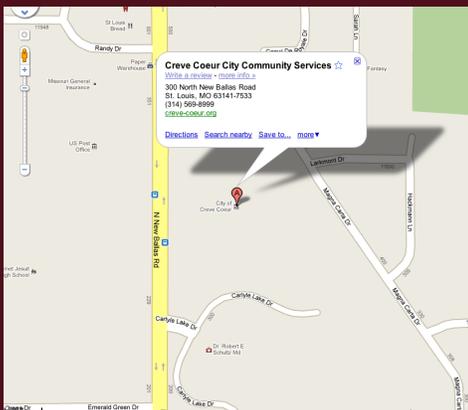
### New Tuition Policy

1. Single-session classes - Full tuition to be paid at time of signup.
2. Multi-session classes - Deposit equal to single-session tuition to be paid at the time of signup with the balance due before the class commences.
3. 50% refund will be made for cancellations made prior to the last scheduled Guild meeting before the class. This refund will grow to a full 100% refund if all available class slots are subsequently filled with no loss of revenue to the Guild.
4. No refund will be made for a cancellation (or "no-show") after the last scheduled Guild meeting.
5. In the event that an emergency causes a Guild Member to miss a class, a full refund will be made provided the instructor or workshop organizer is notified by phone or e-mail before the class commences.
6. A Member may transfer his slot to another Member without penalty as long as it does not become a "no-show."

We believe these changes to the Tuition Policy will greatly reduce members signing up for classes then not attending, thus denying another member an opportunity to attend.

### 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*