



February 2015
Issue 352

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
February 19, 2015

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

Finding and Buying Used Tools

This month Guild members Dan Coleman and Wayne Watson will give a presentation on finding and buying used tools.

At Our Last Meeting: Covered Bridges with Dale Norman

At the January 2015 Guild meeting Dale Norman gave a presentation on Covered Bridges. Dale is a member of the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges. The group's stated purpose is "To preserve covered bridges. To gather and record knowledge of the history of covered bridges. To collect and preserve pictures, printed, and manuscript matter and other articles of historical interest concerning covered bridges." Dale's talk covered the history, construction, preservation, and finding covered bridges around the country.

So why cover a bridge? Modern bridges don't require a covering. The answer can be found in the construction of these bridges. Bridges were covered to protect the structural trusses. Dale said that without protection from the weather the trusses would likely last just 10 years. A covered bridge could be expected to last 50 years or more and Dale has visited a bridge in Ohio that was built in 1829. Trusses are the most expensive component of a bridge while roofing and siding make up a much smaller share of the cost. So it made sense to sacrifice the cheaper components to save the trusses. Dale did note that many bridges have windows. Fishermen were known to kick out the siding so small windows were added to keep this from happening. Larger windows were generally added much later to enhance the look of a bridge but at the expense of longevity. Dale then showed a series of slides on how bridges have been repaired over the years sometimes with poor engineering and even worse methods.

Before one can study Covered Bridges they must be located which Dale says is part of the fun. The National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges has published a book that gives the location of remaining documented Covered Bridges. The book gives the GPS coordinates of each bridge but Dale said the book can be trusted only so far. He suggested doing some homework before visiting a bridge. Checking Google Earth or a map can save getting lost. His number one suggestion was "If there is no stream on the map there is probably no bridge." Dale's record is

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President Letter February 2015

Our Guild's booth at the woodworking show in the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, IL, was a very good success. I hope you had a chance to visit it and see the large display of items made by members and the many pictures of Guild activities. Rich Sanders is, I think, the winner when it comes to the number of items displayed; his many pieces of intarsia, and two- and three-dimensional scroll saw items were a big hit that attracted many to stop, look and comment. The custom handsaws made by Ron Bontz were a very big hit too. The Windsor chairs made by Cecil Robertson did what they always seem to do – draw a lot of attention and questions. Keith Lissant's antique, pedal-driven scroll saw had many conventioners looking under its table to figure out how it works. I thank the many members who helped staff our booth and make it such a success in attracting several new members to the Guild and some additional participants in the upcoming weekend seminar that Marc Adams will teach.

Learning about woodworking is this month's game. Wayne Watson and Dan Coleman are experts when it comes to restoring hand tools found at yard sales, auctions, and antique malls. They will share their knowledge as the featured speakers for our general meeting on February 19. Then, Marc Adams joins us at the end of February (Feb. 27-28, Mar. 1) to give a weekend seminar for the SLWG. It's a special opportunity to learn from a nationally recognized expert. A small number of seats remain available, so now is the time to sign up if you want to participate; see Tom Tupper at the Feb. 19 meeting to do that.

The meeting on March 19 will be our annual show-and-tell and silent auction, so get your items ready to be shown or sold. Please read and follow the guidelines for participation in the silent auction. Our meeting on April 16 will be a very special one to celebrate the SLWG having donated 40,000 toys to children in area hospitals. This will be a meeting where families are especially invited. The usual Guild business that takes place at meetings (show-and-tell, raffle) will be postponed to May for this special event.

Don

Show and Tell



Steve Briner – Steve showed a four-piece vase.



Ethan Sincox – Ethan showed a couple renewed hand drills.

Jakob Beutelmann – Jakob showed a hammer built with hand tools.



Anna Beutelmann – Anna showed Jakob how she got the nickname “hammer”.



Allen Carlson – Allen showed a box with string inlay.



Tom Tupper – Tom showed a cutting board and why he does not go by the nickname “hammer”.



Tony O'Driscoll – Tony showed two keepsake boxes.



Don Snyder – Don showed a glass and wood sundial.

Announcements

There were 94 attendees, including guests and members, at the January Guild meeting.

St. Charles Hardwoods donated 500 lineal feet of Profiled poplar car bodies to the Toy program.

Raffle Winner:
\$20 Rockler / Rich Weitzman

Future Workshops

February 21

Hand Plane Tune Up & Tote Repairs. Taught by Wayne Watson in his shop.

March 21

Intarsia. Taught by Rich Sanders.

April 2015 - Making Pens.

May 2015 - Turning Bowls. Taught by Brad Bernhard.

Contact Bob Brinkman to sign up for any of the workshops.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

February 28 – March 1
Marc Adams Seminar

March 19
Annual Show-and-Tell

April 16
A Celebration of Service:
40,000 Lives Touched

Toy Report

We made a good delivery of toys this month (150 toys). Our year to date total is 150 items. Since 1994 the total delivered is 40,116.

Steve collected 102 items at the January meeting. Thanks to all who devoted their time to this program. For the next delivery in February 2015 we have sufficient items on hand, but Valentine necklaces and Shamrocks are appropriate for the holidays coming up.

We have on order more wheels and axles. They should arrive before the end of January.

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: Covered Bridges

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visiting 18 in one day. There were over ten thousand such bridges in 1890. Today there are less than 800 in 30 states. Pennsylvania, Ohio, Vermont, and Indiana have the highest number of existing examples. Sadly 6 of the bridges that Dale has visited no longer exist. Some were lost to flooding but several were the victim of arson.

There are at least 23 types of Trusses that have been used in Covered Bridges. Dale took time to highlight several of them. The first type is the King Post. This is often seen in Timber Framed Barns. This is the oldest truss design and is often seen in shorter bridges. This truss consists of a center vertical post with angled beams on either side. Multiple Kingpost designs allow for much longer bridges. As an example Dale showed photos of the Humpback Bridge in Ohio. It was built in 1874 and features a double Kingpost design. This bridge was lost to arson in 2013. Next Don showed the group a Queen Post where there are two vertical beams instead of the one found in the Kingpost. This too is often seen in Timber Framing. Mortise and Tenon joinery pinned with trenails (a wooden peg) are features that many woodworkers would recognize. Dale then talked about the Smith Truss. It looks like a series of wood beam Xs from the side. This was created by the Smith Bridge Company of Toledo OH. These were built in a shop, disassembled, placed on Railroad cars, and reassembled onsite. These were the first prefabricated structures in the US. Dale finished up by showing a Howe Truss system which may be the strongest design. It is a series of Xs from the side with vertical rods which can be adjusted to "tighten" up the bridge after it has been built.

Covered Bridges are not just a relic of the past. Dale finished his discussion with pictures of a Smolen-Gulf Bridge in Ashtabula County Ohio. It was dedicated in 2008. It is rated to carry 80,000 pound tractor trailers and has a life expectancy of over 100 years.

To learn more about Covered Bridges contact Dale or you can visit the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges at www.coveredbridgesociety.org.

Thank you Dale for sharing your knowledge and interest with the Guild.

Open Shop Hours at Faust Park

The St. Louis Woodworkers Guild workshop located within Faust Park will now have scheduled open shop hours so that Guild members may utilize the shop without making an advance reservation. Open shop dates will be the first two full weekends of each month. The next open shop dates are March 7th and 8th and the following weekend March 14th and 15th. The shop will open at 9:00 am and close at 5:00 pm each day.

Your must be a current Guild member and have taken the Guild's safety class, as well as, signed the liability waiver. You must bring your membership card with you. Eye protection must be worn at all times while in the workshop. A Guild Safety Monitor will be present and has the authority to stop any member from undertaking an unsafe operation. The Safety Monitor's decision is final.

If you have any questions please contact Wayne Watson at 314-541-3047 or at vicepresident@slwg.org

Dues are Due

Membership dues for 2015 are due. Your \$30 annual membership fee can be paid in the following ways: mail a check to Tom Tupper c/o St. Louis Woodworkers Guild, P.O. Box 411766, St. Louis, MO 63141-9998; or, give a check to Tom (or charge by credit card) at the January Guild meeting. Keep the benefits of membership coming to you in 2015 by renewing now.

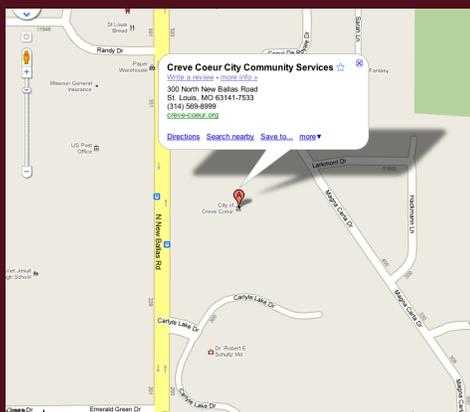
Weekend with Marc Adams

Our St. Louis Woodworkers Guild is hosting a special educational weekend to expand your woodworking skills, taught by Marc Adams. Marc founded the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, which is one of the largest woodworking schools in the U.S. He is a frequent author of articles in Fine Woodworking magazine. The dates to set aside on your calendar for this event are February 28 and March 1, 2015. In addition, there will be a special session on the evening of February 27. The tuition for the entire weekend is \$70 for Guild members and \$100 for non-members. Seating will be limited to 40 participants, so make your paid registration early. A waiting list will be maintained once paid registrations reach the seating limit. This event will be held in same place regular Guild meetings take place, the Creve Coeur Community Center.



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