



June 2015
Issue 356

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
June 18, 2015

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

Medieval Woodworking

Guild member Thomas
Rowland discusses
woodworking techniques
used long ago that never
go out of style.

At Our Last Meeting: Making a Jewelry Box with Vic Barr

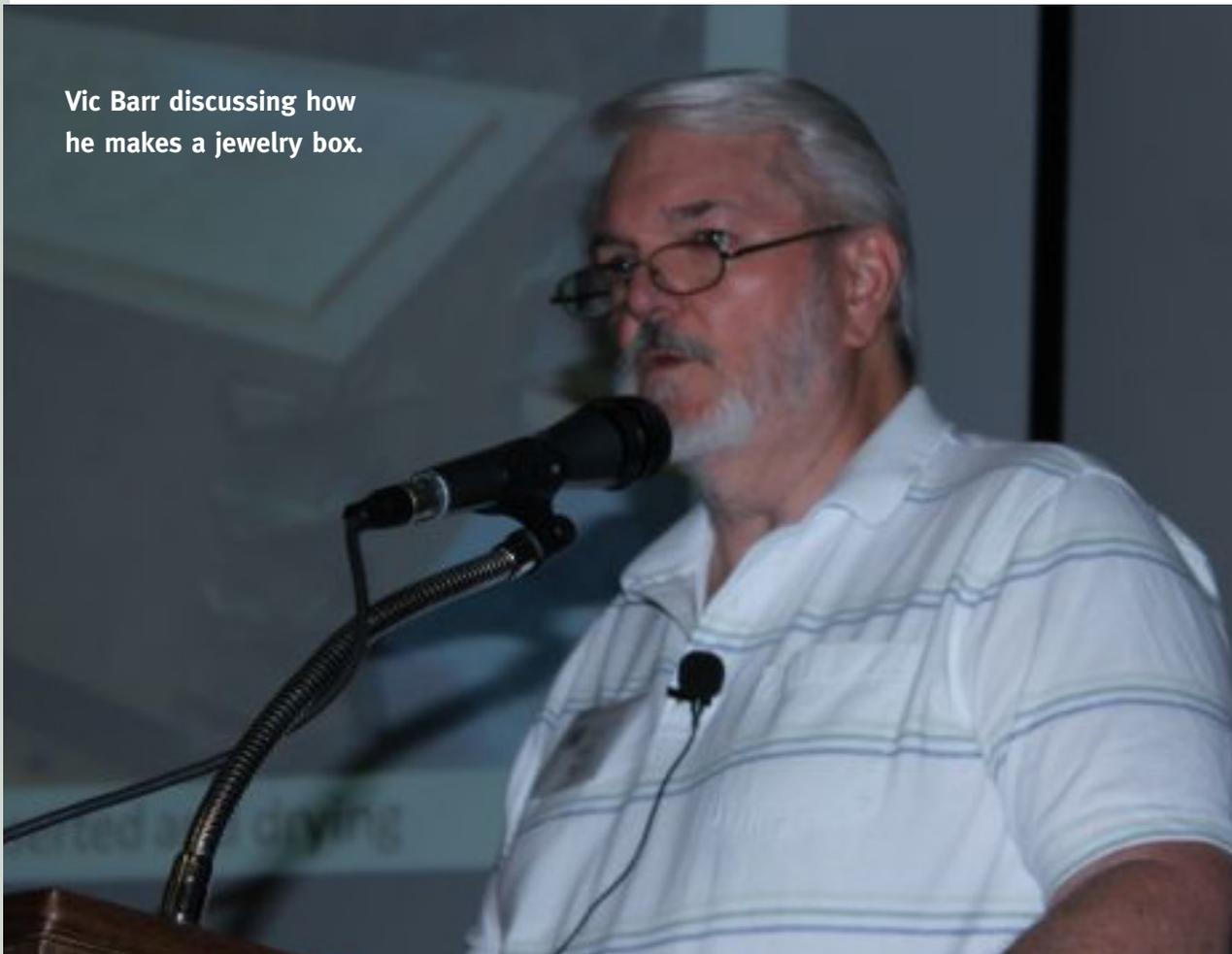
At our May meeting guild member Vic Barr entertained us by showing his process for making jewelry boxes. Vic is a long-time member that specializes in one-of-a-kind artwork made from wood that usually has a more practical side. Besides jewelry boxes, Vic makes other types of keepsake boxes, pens and other free flowing storage designs. The one thing they have in common is that they all use unique woods and are treated like small jewels themselves.

The box that Vic showed was no exception. It featured figured wood throughout, held together with showy joinery and finished inside and out with great care. Vic even makes his own hinges, which give his pieces an extra feel of being custom made.

Vic did a great job of taking photos throughout the process, and had a plethora of slides to go along with his talk. He started from rough lumber selection, continued through machining and construction, and finished with all of the small details, including the deerskin suede that he used for the inside.

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**Vic Barr discussing how
he makes a jewelry box.**



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President Letter June 2015

I'm constantly amazed at the breadth of talent that we have in our guild. We have woodworkers that seem to fill almost every woodworking niche that there is. You name it and we seem to have someone who not only has done that particular type of woodworking, but chances are great that they are also very good at it. I'm always impressed when our programs or classes are put on by one of our members. Not only are our members' programs and classes informative, but I always seem to enjoy them just a little more. It may be because when our members put on the programs or classes you get the whole story. They not only want you to be successful in learning the skill, but they also want you to avoid the mistakes and false starts that they may have gone through when learning that skill. When one of your friends passes on their experience, you get both sides of the story.

With that said I'd like to ask for any of you who have a particular woodworking niche to let either Brad Bernhard or myself know. Let us know if you'd be willing to put on a program or conduct a mini-workshop. I know that giving a program can seem like a daunting task, but it is actually a fun and rewarding experience. It lets others enjoy your experience and learn from your accomplishments.

However, if you are convinced that putting on a program isn't your cup of tea, then also consider the mentor program. The guild has long had a mentor program, but it's been somewhat of an informal program. Usually, it's matching a new woodworker with an experienced woodworker who happens to live close by. In the coming months I'd like to expand our mentor program and make it a little more formal. Not only can new members benefit from a mentor program, but I'd like to see our more seasoned members benefit as well. For example, I've been woodworking 30 years and have made quite a few things, but I'd really like to learn carving for period furniture and I'd like to be a better turner. I could use a mentor for those two skills.

So, if you are interested in presenting a program, conducting a mini-workshop or if you are interested in being a mentor, please let me know.

Mike

Made-By-Hand: Furniture Projects from the Unplugged Woodshop by Tom Fidgen

No Extension Cord Needed!

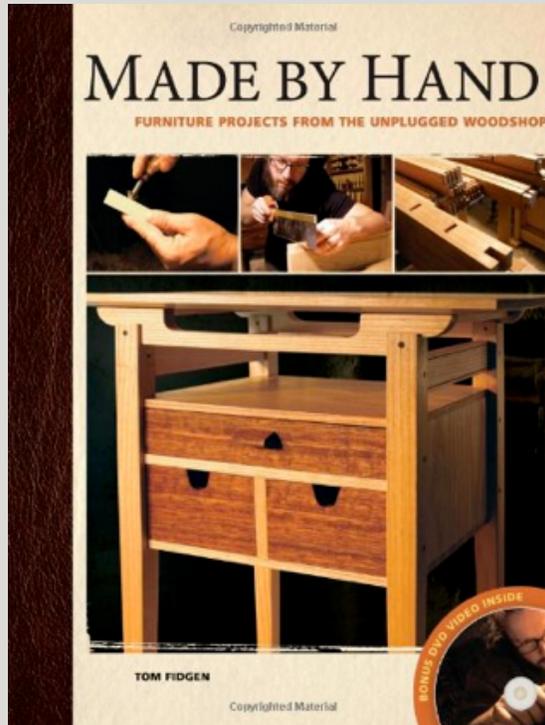
If you are looking to reduce your electric bill or a beginning woodworker without the resources to power equipment then *Made-By-Hand: Furniture Projects from the Unplugged Woodshop*, by Tom Fidgen is a must read book. You don't need to build a Zen shop (Tom's built-on addition to his original shop for only hand tool work) just to use hand tools, but since hand tools produce less dust and noise the corner of your basement or garage can make for a suitable working area.

The book starts with explaining the list of tools needed for hand work and some necessary jigs to save time in the wood working process. The Bonus DVD provides a deeper explanation of the necessary hand tools. Next, the book talks about proper planning and set-up for woodworking projects. He also explains some of the more common joinery. The last section of the book focuses on projects showing his process in the crafting of these masterpieces. There are a number of photos showing the step-by-step processes for some of the difficult layouts and joinery. The book contains rough drawings with measurements of the projects, but no full size drawings.

If you have the feeling of building a project using just hand tools or want to improve your knowledge and use of hand tools this is the book to read.

Note: The DVD is checked out separately through the SLWG Library.

Review by Kevin Wiesner, Guild Librarian



Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Popular Woodworking Books (December 4, 2009)

Announcements

There were 71 attendees, including guests and members, at the May Guild meeting.

Future Workshops

June 20th - Turning Pens.
Taught by Jeff Nasser

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

June 18th
Medieval Woodworking
with Thomas Rowland

Toy Report

We again delivered 210 toys in May. Our year to date total is 960 items. Grand total since 1994 total delivered is 40,926.

Steve and Jason Otten collected 218 items at the May meeting. Thanks to all who devoted their time and talent. For the next delivery in June 2015 we have large supply of race cars on hand and no wheels (They will be ordered soon). Independence Day, and Fathers Day, Grandparents Day (Heart Necklaces, etc.) would be appropriate for the holidays coming up.

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: Making a Jewelry Box with Vic Barr

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Vic is a professional woodworker, but since he works alone and most of his projects are smaller, he can work from his home workshop and garage. He presentation started by showing his lumber preparation area in his garage, with a focus on his Performax sander, which is critical to finishing figured woods without chip out from the planer.

After the main parts are machined Vic moves inside and into his basement for actual construction. Layout for the box is critical to make sure the figure flows around the outside. On this box, Vic used miter joints held together with splines of contrasting wood. He showed how he holds the joints together with masking tape for alignment and large rubber bands for clamping pressure after he finished the inside parts. Once the glue was dry, Vic moved to the table saw where he used a jig to cut the splines, which add great strength the otherwise weak miter joint.

After the box, along with the top was constructed, Vic moved onto the band saw, where he cut the top off of the box, which made for a seamless intersection between the two. Vic spent awhile talking about this operation, as he feels it is vital to making a box with a focus on small details that allow the wood to shine.

Once the box was constructed, Vic moved on to the interior pull out trays and their construction. He spent a great amount of time from the beginning laying out the inside of the box to make sure that he had the proper locations for all of the interior grooves to hold the trays and the point where that top was going to be cut. The trays were held up by wood that was inserted in the grooves, allowing for one sliding tray and one pull out tray.

They trays were small, but lacked no details, with wood that was as nice as the exterior and finished with much care. Vic spent a bit talking about the flocking for the trays and about the suede that he found for this box. It was a deerskin suede, and Vic found it to be much softer than other suede that he has used.

After the box was constructed, Vic moved on to the hinges. Vic showed and talked about the hinges he makes and how he does them. He also focused on other small details like the finger relief to lift the lid and the stay on the back of the box to hold the lid open.

After everything was built and finished on the inside, Vic moved on to finishing the outside and final assembly. Vic uses water-based finishes since he works indoors and others in the house (his wife) appreciate the lack of fumes.

Thanks to Vic for showing off his work and sharing his knowledge with the guild.

Show and Tell



Joseph Turner – Joseph showed toy train set made from scraps.



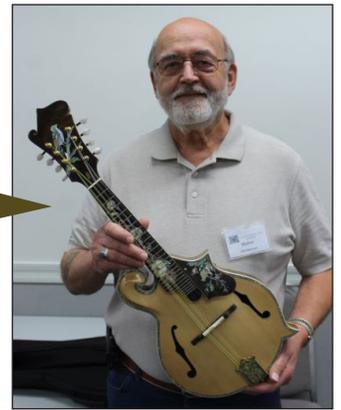
Rich Sanders – Rich showed some of his latest scroll and intarsia work.



Matt Stacker – Matt showed some turnings that he did at Marc Adams.



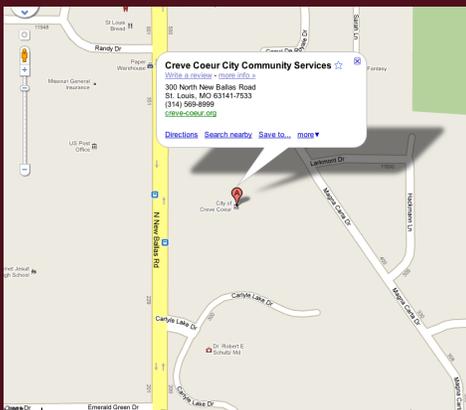
Robert Bearden – Robert showed an oak side table.



Walter Henderson – Walter didn't build it, but wanted to show some inlay work.

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