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February 2019 Volume 37, Issue 2

TWA Newsletter

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 19, 7:00 pm

Location: Klingspor's Woodworking Shop MacGregor Village Shopping Center 107 Edinburgh S Dr. Suite 151, Cary NC

Topic: Member Project Presentations

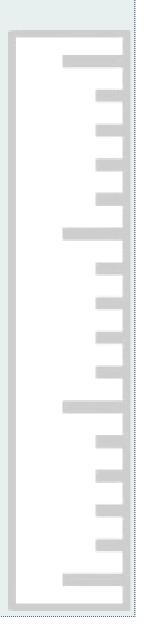
The program for our February meeting will feature member project presentations, focusing on different kinds of projects and "how to's" associated with the construction details of each. Each presentation will be about 15 min. with Q & A opportunities. The project presentations planned are as follows:

- Hand-cut Dovetails the Easy Way! Bill Anderson
 There is a lot of angst out there about the precision required to make a tight dovetail joint. I will demonstrate the "no measurements whatsoever" method for laying out and cutting a through (half blind) dovetail. A method guaranteed to give great results even for the beginner. The only secret to be revealed is that cutting joinery requires attention to detail. Through dovetails are useful for general carcase construction. Half blind dovetails are used almost exclusively for drawer construction.
- 2. How to Make Stringing and Banding Inlay—Hal Brown
 Sharing my approach to making my own stringing and banding inlay
- 3. Making a Cigar Box Guitar—Hugh Fish
 I am in the process of building a cigar box guitar for my grandson who is
 graduating from High School in May. He's a wonderful musician who plays
 and teaches piano and also plays the drums and guitar. I know nothing
 about guitars but am learning about them in a book about making cigar box
 guitars. I will show the pieces that I have already built and the thought
 processes that I have struggled with. Maybe someone in the meeting can tell
 me about a grave error or two that I have made before I complete the project.
- 4. Drilling a Windsor Chair Seat with an Adjustable Jig Alan Leland
 Demonstrating a permanent drill press jig for drilling holes in my Windsor chair seats and my stool seats.
- 5. Traditional Writing Desk Construction Details—Roger and Judy Sanwald We will describe the processes involved in ebonizing wood for cockbeading and applying the beading to dovetailed drawer fronts. We will also share the design for a secret compartment in a drawer; and, the design and application of carved corner brackets for the legs.

Host: Roger Sanwald

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TWA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—JANUARY 15, 2019

(meeting minutes: Janet Batker)

President Roy Brookhart opened the meeting. Over 50 members were present, quite an impressive showing. Roger Sanwald announced that the February meeting will consist of several short demo's, basically a show-and-tell by members; he passed around a signup sheet for this. We hope at least 5 members volunteer to share their work and talents. If there are enough



Roger solicits volunteers for future programs (photo: Mark Firley)





Jim shows the group how he made an inexpensive twin-screw vise, (photos: Mark Firley)

volunteers, a second similar program will be held later this year. Mark Firley passed around a members program survey to help design future programs.

For show-and-tell, Jim brought in a vise (useful for dovetailing, etc.) that he constructed based on a magazine plan. The vise appeared to be similar to Mike Payst's Moxon vise; it was perhaps less elegant but also less

costly to make. It was constructed using an inexpensive dumbbell as the screw hardware.

Mark Firley mentioned an upcoming meeting with Glen Huey, on Friday March 15, held in conjunction with a workshop on that weekend. During the workshop, club members will either be making a tray, focusing on hand work, or a box, mainly using power tools (cost @ \$100).

HAND-TOOL WOODWORKING-LYLE WHEELER



Lyle discussed the sections of a log (photo: Mark Firley)

Mark proceeded to introduce our speaker, Lyle Wheeler (from Miller's Creek, NC, in Wilkes Co.), a humble chair maker and blacksmith. Lyle pointed out that he is also a "Born Fighter," a descendent of Scots who emigrated to America.

The presentation was about classic green

wood chair making, using red oak, a tree with pointed leaves whose sap flows through rings. Lyle uses veneer quality logs and wanted us to understand how critical it is to choose them carefully. He looks first at the small end of a log and requires that the center be truly in the center, indicating the tree's growth is even. He looks for 15-24" round logs with even growth; and a ratio of late to early wood of 25% and this wood works perfectly because it is strong and cuts easily. Knots are undesirable.

HAND-TOOL WOODWORKING-LYLE WHEELER (CONTINUED)

(meeting minutes: Janet Batker)

Lyle buys logs by 1000 board feet prior to delivery to the mill; he usually pays about 0.90 cents a foot. He knows what he needs to MAKE from the log, so it needs to be (cross) cut into proper lengths for different projects once it goes to the mill. After he brings the cut logs home from the mill, he splits them into quarters, or rives them. Lyle passed around a piece of crosscut wood that had notes on it to indicate where in the log different parts of the chair are harvested from.

He splits wood inside the sapwood and outside the old growth and on the rays (or rings) using a froe, and a massive mallet. Lyle prefers hand tools made or designed in the late 1800's. Using a draw knife while seated on a shaving horse, he demonstrated how he shapes the green oak, which will then dry and shrink 15% as it dries. He described the process as "not swiss watch making it's Appalachian chair making," and noted it is harder to make a square than a round. For the legs, after shaping an octagon, he uses a spokeshave to take the



Lyle splitting wood with a froe (photo: Mark Firley)

corners off and make a round.

Once Lyle makes a chair he creates a pattern stick and keeps track of how many times he uses it! He does not make or fit the mortise and tenon until the wood is dry. (There are 2 kinds of moisture in wood, in between cells and in the cells). Most wood is air dried to 20-25% before

putting it into a kiln, which takes it down to 7%. The mortise is made with a drill bit; then he makes the tenon. He uses edge tools to slice the fiber to make the surface smooth; he does not use sandpaper!

For chair backs (slats) he saws a cant in his log and then uses a large rip saw to cut the log into boards. One board is always quarter sawn in the group (by virtue of its orientation in the log); this is the board he uses for the backs of the chairs. This again goes back to deciding from the beginning where in the log he would cut the backs from. Once they are removed from the log they are placed in a device to force them to dry with a mild curve.

Once all of the chair pieces are made and dry (he keeps track of how long they have been drying), he orients the posts or corners of the chair. He wants the center of the chair to be the center of the tree; the mortises must be cut on the correct sides of the posts.

Lyle uses a hand cranked (old) cone or bevel cutter first on the ends of the rails, then the tenon (hollow auger) cutter. He has one that is 150 years old, made by E. C. Stearns &



Shaping the legs using a riving knife and shaving horse (photo: Mark Firley)

Company.

He pegs the backs in and trims them flush with the back of the chair (as it dries they poke out a little). It takes 2 weeks to dry. He recommends to leave the top of the chair too long initially. As it dries, some of the top may check; then it can be cut off and beveled (this prevents more checking). Linseed oil (boiled) and spirits of (or pure) turpentine are used in finish. You can use Thompson's linseed oil deck finish for outside chairs. Rattan reeds are used for the bottoms, and we know a little about rattan from a previous speaker!

Lyle's business is driven by his exhibitions and by word-of-mouth. He is a demonstrator at the State Fair which lasts for 10 days with an attendance of about 100,000 people per day. This provides an opportunity to meet a lot of potential customers. He is a member of the prestigious Southern Highland Craft Guild, and markets at high end craft shows, as well as teaching classes.

Lyle loves what he does and appreciates that his sales are driven by people's appreciation for the handmade object.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I ask you to please take a minute and thank all the people that have a part in creating this newsletter each and every month. Jan creates a great record of the events that happen at our monthly meeting. Fred Ford gives a Toys for Tots report and gently persuades each of us to submit our materials on time. Mark supplies pictures and provides the overview of the upcoming program subjects and speakers. Individual members of the Program Committee submit a detailed description of the upcoming month's program and a bio of the speaker. Jack summarizes the club's financial position and Ken reports on our membership. Karin gets all this information and performs her magic to organize, format, and create the newsletter that Paul shares with us all by providing a link to our web site.

Karin has some great ideas on how to improve on the newsletter. It involves all of us and I hope you are up for the challenge.

All the best,

Roy Brookhart

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

All members are welcome to submit content to the newsletter. If you would like to contribute to a future TWA newsletter, submit content to Fred Ford or Karin Pihel. Below are some examples of content that you can contribute:

- Articles on recent classes or demonstrations
- Pictures of interesting woodworking that you come across on vacation or in museums
- Information on woodworking-related events in the area
- Woodworking tips
- Reviews of new tools

Please also let us know if you have any other ideas to improve the newsletter.

Thank you,

Karin Pihel

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

TWA is happy to welcome the following new members:

- David Carter
- Joe Beckwith

Ken Serdar, Membership Committee

TREASURER'S REPORT (DECEMBER)

Beginning Balance: \$11,475.18

Income: \$434.00

Expense: \$13.83

Ending Balance: \$11,895.35

Does not include Petty Cash of \$86.00

Submitted by Jack Kite, Treasurer

UPCOMING MEETING AND WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, MARCH 15 (MEETING) AND MARCH 16-17 (WORKSHOP)

Guest Speaker: Glen Huey

Topic: Finishing with Aniline Dye

Glen Huey was born and raised in Ohio. After graduating from the University of Cincinnati, he got into home building. A couple of career changes later and with a desire to expand his passion for woodworking, he opened a company to design and build projects for home-builders in his area. After completing a major project, he changed the focus of his work to creating 18th and early 19th century period reproductions.

He is the author of several books about period furniture, was the managing editor at Popular Woodworking Magazine and is the founder of Woodworker's Edge and 360 Woodworking.

Friday night, March 15th, Mr. Huey will talk about using aniline dye finishing to get grain to pop.

For the weekend workshop, March 16th and 17th, we will be building an inlaid tea tray. Skills and techniques covered include making inlay materials from shop scraps using a table saw and a spindle sander, sand shading and inlay process involving chisels and router.

Host: Mark Firley

MENTORS

Mentor	Service/Skill Offered	Phone Number	Email Address
Bernie Bogdon	Relief Carving	(919) 850-0739	sabile_27615@yahoo.com
Hugh Fish	Chairs, Joinery, Machinery & Power Tools, Mantles, Routers, Tables and TV Cabinets, Turning	(919) 467-5696	hughpatfish@yahoo.com
John Margeson	Baby Furniture, Beds, Bookcase, Chairs, Chest, Decks, Tables	(919) 876-3476	jmalice@bellsouth.net
Mike Resar	Baby furniture, Beds, Bookcase, Cabinets, Chest, Drafting, Dressers, Tables, TV Cabinets	(919) 876-1664	atwaterla@ncleg.net
Allen Campbell	Simple inlay, Staining/dyeing, Pen turning, Cabriole legs	(919) 772-4551	aacjr@nc.rr.com
Cecil Raynor	Joinery, Finishing, Tables, Chairs	(919) 815-9155	cecil_raynor@yahoo.com
Amy Dowden James Sapp	Google SketchUp	(919) 932-6252 (919) 586-7280	amydowden1@gmail.com james.b.sapp@gmail.com
Ken Serdar	CNC woodworking		ken.serdar@gmail.com

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Gabor, Terry Tenhouse, Roger and Judy Sanwald, Jim Rhodes, Mark Firley, Les Hall, Bill Schott, Alex Knittel, Bill Burton, Antoine Basequiat, Bob Guenther; SUPPORT: Bob Andrews, Bruce Wrenn

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TWA Duties and Responsibilities Editor Fred Ford

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