

Upcoming meetings

June 17th: Rockler, 2553 So. Colorado Blvd., Denver

Rich Johnson Tips 'n Techniques

July 15th: Rockler, 2553 So. Colorado Blvd., Denver

Earl Walker Furniture-design, build, & sell

Visit our web site for latest updates on meetings and locations:

www.coloradowoodworkersguild.org

From the President

I hope you're all having Spring Fever and looking forward to great vacations, outdoor adventures, working in the yard and starting on that list of glorious woodworking projects that is getting longer.

You know as a member of the Colorado Woodworkers Guild that you have paid your dues and you have a right to get something in return. These dues equate to the price of a magazine subscription but what is promised is so much more. You have the right, as a member, to attend meeting to gain new knowledge, inspiration, see other members' projects, get ideas, make new friends and generally improve your woodworking life. As a member, you deserve to get a newsletter that informs you of what the group is doing, gives you information about woodworking things and some useful information. And as most of you know already, you get discounts on woodworking supplies and lumber and our generous sponsors.

As a member you are represented by four volunteer members who act on your behalf as the Board of Directors. These four bodies are responsible for the quality of the presentations, the newsletter, the website and even your discounts. Even for four able

Mark Your Calendar for

Tuesday, May 20th, 2008

Robbie O'Brien Guitars - Making and Finishing

bodies that sounds like a lot of work and honestly, it is. By becoming a member, you have empowered these four people to represent you and control what you get in return for your membership dues. In order to put forth their best effort they must get a feel for what the members want and if that does not happen, they must then draw on their own instincts and personal wants to keep things going.

Is that fair to you?

Are you not attending meetings because they aren't presenting anything you care to see?

Are you complaining that not enough information is being written into the newsletter or maybe it's not bad but could be better?

Maybe the web site isn't to your liking and you really hate to visit it. What would you do to improve it?

Could you spare 5 minutes or more a month to voice your opinion?

That's what it takes to make our group stronger and better. The amount of feedback received from members amounts to less than 5% of our total membership. This means that these four volunteers

have pretty much total control of what you get for your dues. With additional occasional feedback from another couple of folks, on a good month, they might gain a little insight into what the group wants.

It could be better.

These four volunteers spend anywhere from 5 hours to 40 hours a month to provide an experience that is worth much more than the cost of a magazine subscription. It's interactive. There are other PEOPLE there to answer questions or just chat with you.

The names of these four volunteers may change from time to time but their purpose is always the same and their challenge equally difficult: How to COMMUNICATE with the group that trusts them?

Do you have 5 minute to help them give you a better Colorado Woodworkers Guild?

Frederick

Belt Sander Races !!! :

Nascar, eat your heart out! That's right, on Saturday, May 10th, Rocklers is having their annual Belt Sander Races and tool swap. Seriously.

There will be four divisions. The stock sanders. Run 'em the way they come out of the box. The Modifieds. Soup 'em up. Polish the armatures, change the gearing, or anything you want. The Vintage division. Get out grandpa's 30 pound Rockwell. The Most original design division. I wonder if I could make a sander look like Hillary?

Did I mention that the winner of each division gets a **\$50 gift certificate**?

Did I also mention that the Guild sander is undefeated. Oh yeah! We bad!

During the event Rocklers will be running specials

in the store.

Out side, there will be **FREE** hotdogs, pop, and **PRIZES!** I've got the inside skinny that the hotdogs go fast. Be early.

The races will run from 11:00 till 1:30. Racers report at 10:00 They have to have prelims and such. So soup up your sander and challenge the Guild's DOMINANCE. Come on, chicken, I got your sander right here!

All proceeds will benefit **Excelsior Youth Centers.** They do good stuff so if you would like to call them and see what all they do, call 303 842-9761.

You can call Rocklers at 303 782-0588 if you need more details.

The tool swap is pretty neat too.

So cancel your surgery, let the grass grow, tell your wife, "I can't do it today, Honey" and come out to run your sander or at least support the CWG Super-Sander and look at the tools and eat free grub!

Saturday, May 10th. at Rockler's

Reporting live from the Rocklers Speedway,

Ed

Member of the Month :

This month's Member of the Month made me realize what a good thing it is to recognize the achievement and contributions of our members. Bill Hoppers deservedly earned the unanimous vote of the board this month.

He served as President from mid 2006 till January this year. He was incremental in starting the Christmas Toy program that has brought a lot of joy to some wonderful children. He has been a member, on and off, since 1976. He also belongs to the Turners Guild and the Shipwrights. When I talked to him tonight he mentioned that he used to teach classes on hand cut dovetails, sound joinery, and cabriole legs.

Bills skills are obvious when you step into his home. He actually built the house himself.

Member of the Month (cont.)

I remember my first meeting at Paxtons when he was having a class at his home in a couple of weeks

. He was with Rocky Flats for 33 years as Senior Standards Engineer. I asked him what he really did and he said he would have to kill me if he told. You can see the twinkle in his eye (the good one) even over the phone. Thanks Bill, for everything.



Mays Demo :

This months demo will be very interesting. I've never seen anything on guitar making so I'm going to bring my pencil. Here's a biography that Cal provided to me.

"Robert O'Brien is a classically trained guitarist and woodworker, who has always had the desire to put the two arts together and make guitars. This opportunity came in 1997, when he was living in São Paulo, Brazil. "I had the opportunity of meeting Antonio Tessarin, one of the best and most highly regarded luthiers among Brazilian guitar makers", says O'Brien. Over the next couple of years, he studied the craft under him and built several guitars under the supervision of Tessarin."Antonio taught me the tricks of the trade and selflessly opened his shop and home to me. His attention to detail not only gave me the skills necessary to make a fine handmade guitar but also taught me to be passionate about the art of guitar building". Robert recently moved back to the States and now resides in Parker, Colorado with his Brazilian wife, where he continues building guitars using the methods learned in Brazil. While still living in Brazil and after moving back to the States Robert studied steel string guitar building with Kent Everett in Atlanta Georgia. He builds both high end classical and steel string guitars as well as offers building classes in both subjects at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colorado. He is the author of three instructional DVD's on guitar building and finishing.

"Each guitar I build is a labor of love. I'm sure you will appreciate the amount of time and energy I put into building each instrument and making it the best guitar yet".

I'll be there with bells on. Hey maybe Robbie and I can do a duet? Seriously, don't miss this one. This has been a great year for learning about our craft of wood!



May's Mini Demo :

We are not having one!!!! Robbie is going to fill both time slots with his presentation.

A Special Event in June :

Our feature presenter in June will be Rich Johnson. As many of you know, Rich is the General Manager of "Rockler Woodworking and Hardware". Rich's topic for the night will be "Tips and Techniques for the shop". These are those little tidbits of information, tricks and jigs that help us work more efficiently and accurately in the shop. Rich says he's been collecting these ideas for sometime now and wants to share them with us, so make sure you're present for this unique presentation.

The June mini-demo is YOU! That's right, in keeping with the theme of the night "Tips and Techniques for the shop", we want you to share your favorite one with us. As incentive, we will be awarding the most favorite tip or technique with a **\$25 gift certificate** to "Rockler Woodworking and Hardware". The winner will be determined by the members in the audience. So start thinking of that winning idea and we'll see you in June!



Demo's To Look Forward To :

Tips and Techniques
Tables with inlay and classic design
More Musical instruments (like violins)
Exotic and Custom Woodworking
Using Sketchup
So be sure to attend!

Board Meetings :

I realize that very few of you ever considered attending the regular CWG Board meetings but I wanted to make sure that those of you who might want to know that the meeting will be held in a different location until further notice.

New location:

Holiday Bowl
10350 W. Colfax Ave.
Lakewood, CO
That's just west of Kipling, on Colfax

For those of you interested in using Green Wood and who hate to see trees constantly being hauled to landfills or burned in somones fireplace, there is a new group headed by Dan O'Dell of the TC Woods sawmill that is just for that purpose. Check out the web site for more info: www.treerecycling.org

We would love to know your opinions on our new meeting format and any of the presentations so far this year. So if you have time, shoot us an email, make a phone call, send out a carrier pigeon, Pony Express, Telegraph, whatever way you prefer to communicate and let us know. We have gotten good feedback from several members but we always want to here from more of you.

Frederick

Craftsman Show :

It's actually coming up, people! September 12,13, and 14th. Let's not make this a last minute affair. This meeting, we are going to form a three person committee to set it up. We have a lot of info on last years 200+ person event. It won't be that difficult to help out. Maybe pick up some food at Sam's or something. Please support it this year with ideas. Our show and tells proves we have the talent. If everybody would bring the stuff you hauled to the meeting, we would have the largest show ever! That translates into interest in the Guild. Get it?

Ed

Clearance Sale:

We have an assortment of the denim type shirts That have the "Colorado Woodworkers Guild" name embroidered on them.

We would like to clear these out and maybe sometime down the road take orders for something new. The long sleeve denim shirts are \$19.00 The hat (only have one left) is 10.00 We have a few Blue Aprons left as well. \$10.00 So get them while we still have them!



GET 'EM WHILE THEY'RE HOT!!!!

Last Month's Demo:

Japanese Timber Framing and Joints

Presented by Tom Harvey – Instructor at Red Rock Community College

Our main presentation in April was from instructor Tom Harvey. He has a great style and was very comfortable about being in front of people. And it only took a couple of minutes to realize he had gained a lot of knowledge in his young life. His presentation was a mix of history about Japanese joints, the structures that they were used in, showing tools that are used and a slide show of a Japanese structure master class he was fortunate enough to be involved in.

He brought a partial model of a roof structure that included some fascinating and incredibly clever joints to create a solid, well formed roof that could stand up to anything and with no modern hardware.

Tom gave us some background into the history of teahouses and the master craftsman that created them. The construction and purpose of these dwelling have changed over the centuries to a minor degree but the techniques are essentially the same. Even with the advent of power tools these methods have not changed because in the hands of a skilled craftsman, a fine tuned hand tool can outperform a machine with better precision. Not even a measuring tape is used. As with many modern cabinet makers, a story stick is used to measure and cut everything.

Tom showed some of the tools that were used in cutting joints. Basically an assortment of chisels, planes and saws. One of the events at the seminar he attended was a competition for the longest shaving created from one plane stroke. It was amazing what these tools could do!

Tom began his slide show with some names of the Master Craftsmen that I could not begin to pronounce but he was obviously very familiar with. The images were filled with activities of those attending the class and you could see they were all having a great time and gaining a huge amount of insight into these ancient techniques. Their group

project was to create a small garden structure that was later sold, disassembled and shipped to another part of the country to be reassembled and used in someone's garden.

We hope to bring Tom back for more detailed info on the joints themselves as his schedule permits.



Colorado Woodworkers Web Site

Hopefully, all of you have had an opportunity to check out the CWG web site at www.coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

You need to be a member to access the entire site but everyone can see some of what goes on.

If you are a member and have not received access, please contact the webmaster at:

webmaster@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

Photo Gallery

If you have photos of your woodworking projects or from any of the Guild's events, you can create your own gallery after you login to the site. Or bring a CD/Flash card with your photos to a CWG monthly meeting and give it to one of the Board Members.

Classified Ads

Got Stuff to Sell? Looking for Stuff to Buy? Please check out our web site's Classified Ads

WOOD OF THE MONTH

Paxton: 303 399-6047

4/4 Bird's Eye Maple \$5.99 per Board Foot

Jack says it is very nice

Hardwood Emporium: 303 277-1488

4/4 Cherry \$5.99 per Board Foot

He has 1000 BF with more coming!

Centennial: 303 778-6209

4/4 Rustic Walnut - Andy says it's beautiful

Board Members

President:

Fred Matzen
303 523-8960
frederickrm@gmail.com

Committees at Large:

Ron Vanous
Rvanous@comcast.net
303 842-9761

Vice-President:

Cal Noguchi
303 902-8134
cbnoguchi@msn.com

Bill Hoppers
303 424-6052

Deputies of the Board

OPEN

Treasurer:

Chris Pine
303 936-3859
cpine522@comcast.net

Committee Leaders

Christmas Toy Program
Bill Huffer
303-283-8982

Secretary:

Ed Herst
303 254-8267
emason23@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator
Ron Vanous
303.988.6047

Wonderful World of Wood

If you have a request for a certain species let me know or e-mail your request and I'll work it in to the series.

If you read one of the articles and you have a personal experience or know a story about this wood let me know and I'll print it in the next month's newsletter. Even if you disagree with something I'll research it and print the results. We are all in this together and are never too old to learn from someone else or from our own mistakes. This will be fun.



Monthly Board Meeting

The next CWG Board Member Meeting will be Tuesday, May 27th, 6 p.m. at Holiday Lanes, 10350 W. Colfax Ave.

The meeting is open to all members. If you have suggestions on CWG speakers, topics, events or activities, please feel free to contact any Board Member or attend the Board Member meeting.

GUILD MEMBER DISCOUNTS

20% off of purchases at :

The Hardwood emporium

16043 W. 4th Ave., Golden CO. 80401
303-277-1488

10% off at:

A b i l e n e A w a r d s & L o g o s

173 S Abilene Aurora, CO 80012
303-755-0337

Centennial Wood Co.

2775 W. 7th Ave, Denver, CO.
303-778-6209

Charlie's Secondhand Store

2227 Larimer St., Denver, CO.
303-295-1781

Paxton

4837 Jackson St., Denver, CO.
303-399-6047

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware

2553 S. Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO.
303-782-0588

TC Woods

9776 Arapahoe Rd., Lafayette, CO.
303-494-0425

Woodcraft

4403 S. Tamarac Parkway, Denver, CO.
303-290-0007

Offers Contractor Discount (roughly 20%)

A u s t i n H a r d w o o d s

975 W. Mississippi, Denver, CO.
303-733-1292

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BY ED HERST



Chamaecyparis lawsoniana:

The genus name, Chamaecyparis is from the Greek for ground cypress. The species name, lawsoniana, is after Peter Lawson and Sons, nurserymen from Edinburgh, who introduced the species in England. The family name is Cupressaceae, the Cypress family. It's called a Cedar although it is not at all. It was introduced in Port Orford, Oregon in 1854.

Port Orford Cedar

Common Names:

Lawson's Cypress, Port Orford Cedar, Oregon Cedar, Port Orford White Cedar

Did Ya Know?

A favorite for archers for making arrows. It has long been used as separators in batteries due to its natural acid resistance and high electrical resistance. Also commonly used for wooden venetian blinds. It is related to Alaska Cedar but the foliage looks very similar to Western Red Cedar.

The freshly cut wood exudes a volatile oil which has a ginger like odor and can cause kidney damage. Sawmill workers must wear masks to prevent damage due to prolonged exposure.

It is used a lot for the decking material on boats.

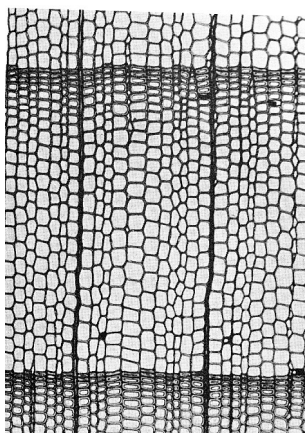
If you attended last month's meeting then you witnessed traditional use for Port Orford Cedar, Japanese timber framing.



Very plain wood. Here's the foliage.

Just The Facts...

An evergreen that grows in elevations up to 5,000 ft. It is found on the western slopes of the Pacific coast from Roos Bay in Oregon south to Humboldt County, California. It generally extends 15 miles inland. Occasionally as much as 40 miles. The wood is a pale yellowish white to a pale yellowish brown. The sapwood is very narrow compared to the heartwood and is sometimes difficult to distinguish based on color. Its specific gravity is .43 which is about 32 lbs per cubic foot.



No Resin Canals!

End grain view at 40X. Remember in softwoods the cells are all lined up in rows? Notice there are no spaces between the open cells. A softwood trait.

Not yet a Member?

We invite you to join now. Here are some of the benefits of becoming a member:

Monthly Guild Meetings -- Here woodworkers from novices to highly skilled craftsmen can meet, network, solicit advice, share ideas, and learn

Annual Craftsman Show -- The woodworkers' showcase! A world-class exhibit featuring pieces created by our diverse and talented guild members

Christmas Toys Program -- A great opportunity for novices to work side-by-side with and learn from experienced craftsmen, and in the process create fabulous toys for underprivileged children

Field Trips -- To local lumber yards, mills and workshops

Monthly Newsletter --That includes meeting announcements, free classified ads and much, more...

Membership in the Colorado Woodworkers Guild is \$30 per year PER FAMILY.

To join, provide the information requested below and return with your \$30 check to:

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

P.O. Box 100996

Denver, CO. 80250-0996

NEW



Name

Company

Address

City State

Zip

Phone

E-mail

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware

Presents a monthly contest:

"You might be a Woodworker if...." You compare shop scars like old soldiers compare battle wounds"

This was submitted by Cheyenne Thorne. Our congratulations and a \$25 Rocklers gift certificate to our winner.

If you have a saying that you think is as good or better, then it could be worth \$25!

Entries must be submitted by the 1st of the month to be eligible for that month's contest. If your entry doesn't win, it could still be a winner the next month (no need to reenter the same quote). Enter as many times as you like.

Send entries to:

E-mail: Contest@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

US mail to:

Rockler Contest

P. O. Box 100996

Denver, CO 80250-0996

Be sure to add your name, address, phone number and e-mail address.

Do You have an adaptation, original project idea , technique or jig you want to share?

Send a rough draft or finished article to newsletter@coloradowoodworkersguild.org for possible inclusion in one of our newsletters.