



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

May 2021



President's Corner

Wilbur Goltermann - President

Hola, buenos amigos,

I am once again reporting from San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, where I have made an offer on a new house which has been accepted. Closing does not occur until August 15, and I probably won't be coming back down here until September - ya ain't getting rid of me that easily.

We have a good thought it appears unlikely that I will be attending live meetings, if/when we get around to same, I will be attending via Zoom from Mexico.

I am returning to Denver on May 5, and will be traveling around the states through August, so I will be participating in Guild activities locally during that time.

Our Zoom meeting on April 20 was another success, with a record number of attendees (37) for a Zoom meeting of the Guild. Though I would have been able to conduct the meeting myself, I only attended, while our VP, Devon Lindsley, ran the show. She did a *great* job, and we should all give her multiple hurrahs!

Brendan Whitehead gave a truly informative presentation on how to take advantage of the properties of wood grain to enhance our projects. I learned so very much, and I hope that we can have Brendan on our presenter list in the future. I am pretty sure that all in attendance found Brendan's presentation invaluable.

The Show and Tell event had the usual complement of wonderful participants. Read all about it in the SnT section of this newsletter.

I don't know what our Programs director has on tap for the May meeting, but I suspect that he will be publishing something elsewhere in this newsletter.

That's all I have for the moment.

I hope to see a large number of you at the May 18th meeting.

Wilbur

April Featured speaker

Brendan Whitehead was April's presenter. He initially explained how different tree cuts produce different grain patterns. A flat-sawn board produces higher yield but has cathedral grain on its face. A quarter-sawn board has lower yield but produces a more stable board with more regular vertical patterns of grain. He explained that for furniture legs, an in-between grain or rift-sawn is ideal, because the grain looks even on all four sides.

Brendan then discussed different wood properties. He told us of an example of cutting up snake wood, where a thin piece of scrap had spun itself into a corkscrew due to internal stressors. One must be careful when cutting certain boards in order to compensate for movement that occurs due to internal stressors. This tends to happen more with exotic woods.

Brendan explained that it is important to be aware of the scale of your project as compared to the scale of the grain of the wood. Using quilted maple on a knife handle is worthless, because the quilting will disappear in such a small piece.

Toward the end of the evening, the conversation became more focused on tool collecting and comparisons of chisels and hand planes came to the forefront. Methods of dealing with highly oily woods for gluing and finishing came up. Brendan's suggestions for finishing oily woods is to use oily finishes or to wipe the wood down with a solvent before gluing or finishing. Further discussions of pros and cons of oily woods ensued and bocote and lignum vitae among other woods mentioned.

May Featured speaker

I asked Mike Dunbar, of Windsor Chair fame, to do a guild presentation. He turned me down, but he offered the following:

Perhaps the guild would be interested in the Winsor chairmaking series I posted on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvZ36VGhBIHqkETSnajNhMw>

If some of your members would like to make chairs together, they can acquire the patterns and even turnings from makeawindsor.com, the site that accompanies the channel.

If they needed help or advice we could work out an arrangement on Zoom.

Mike Dunbar

May program – TBD

Mike Zelman – Programs director

What is your favorite tool?

Let us know and send a picture of yours (if possible) to:

newsletter@colowood.com

Show and Tell

The show and tell items at the April meeting included entries from perhaps three members.

First up the guild's vice president Devon Lindsley showed us two "Broken Piggy Banks" she made for her niece and nephew.

The first is a Stegosaurus. The body is made of Mahogany, the spines are of Hard Maple. A crack in the mahogany was filled with epoxy which is tinted blue. The eyes are made in the same way. The two broke halves are held together with magnets. Here are pictures:



The second broken bank is entirely of Maple. I imagine it was a bear to make





Next up is a “Possibles” chest made by member Duane Holmes for his granddaughter. It is as much a piece of art as woodworking. Covered in inlay of various materials. The mother of pearl inlay material came from <http://mopsupplies.com/>. I'll let the pictures speak for themselves:





Last of all we have a Platform Bed made by Chuck Hix. The platform itself is made of Cherry. The headboard is made of 5/4 Cherry milled down to 1" and then shaped to frame in a panel veneered with an 80" wide chunk of figured Cherry.



Finally, there should have been a fourth entry in the S&T. I got a last-minute email from Don Prorak containing pictures of an end grain cutting board. In all the confusion trying to display various projects, I forgot to present his work. Please accept my apologies.

In the future, would members please send me an email, at least a few days before the meeting so that I can better prepare. The email should contain 4 to 6 photos of the project and a brief description (a paragraph).

Cary Goltermann

Kevin Loyd - Shows & Exhibits

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