



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

April 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner



Dennis Edmonds, President

Where does the inspiration for designing new projects come from? The answer is everywhere.

Many of us started our woodworking journey by using project plans from a woodworking book or magazine with measured drawings, pictures, and written instructions. YouTube came along to show us how to construct projects. These are really good ways to understand the basics of design and develop good woodworking skills. They provide an opportunity to develop woodworking skills without having to design a project from scratch.

Some of us began modifying those basic plans by altering dimensions, combining features from different articles, adding trim, and applying different finishes to customize our own projects. Our personal satisfaction grew because we were able to customize to meet our specific needs.

Some of us were lucky enough to have mentors guide us along the way. Often a father, grandfather, uncle, aunt, or a friend shared their knowledge and encouraged us. By joining the woodworking guild we were able to learn from other woodworkers and to share what we had learned. We profited from demonstrations by more experienced woodworkers.

In time, we discovered our own special interests and became emboldened to experiment with our own designs. At first, it was disappointing because we had not yet learned enough about basic design principles. But we persisted. Some of us read books on art and architectural design. We began paying attention to examples of great design that were all around us. Buildings, furniture museums, art shows, photos, paintings, and nature all provide an endless source of ideas and inspiration.

Freedom came when we developed a sense of play. We started with rough sketches. We began to experiment with design options using some of the principles we were learning (such as the rule of thirds or the perspective of larger drawers on the bottom of a dresser). Sometimes we did three-dimensional sketch-up drawings or created small models that helped us visualize how it might look before we built a big project. Sometimes we kept a flawed project just to show what did not work. Other projects went directly into the burn box. But we got better each time.

We kept experimenting. Our rough drawings became more detailed. Eventually, we learned that "There are no mistakes, just design opportunities". We learned how to modify on the fly to make a project look better. We added trim or decorative elements to improve appeal.

I hope this article encourages you to experiment with new project designs. Try something you have never done before. This will increase your personal satisfaction and help satisfy that innate need to create which we all share.

Dennis Edmonds, President

Membership

If you wish to renew by check simply send the check to the address below. If the check is not in your name, please provide the member name on a piece of paper with the check. NOTE: If your current member information does not include the correct address, please provide this info as well.

The Colorado Woodworkers' Guild
% Rockler Woodworking and Hardware
ATTN: Membersip Renewal
2553 South Colorado Blvd
Denver, CO 80222

Here is the membership status as of this writing:

We currently have 67 members paid through the end of 2022.

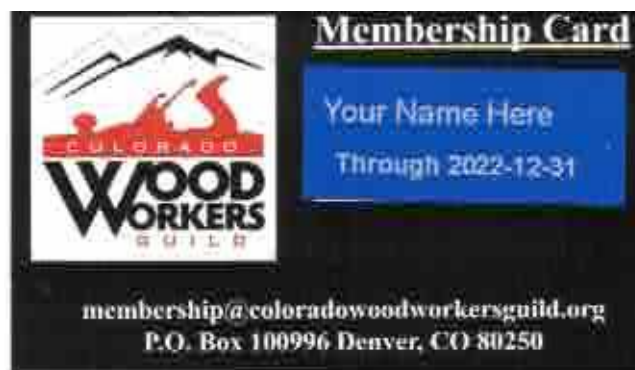
There are 84 people who were members in 2021 who have not renewed in 2022.

As a reference point there were 152 paid members in 2019. If the 84 people who were paid in full in 2021 and have not renewed in 2022 renewed we'd be in good shape.

By tradition, members who have not renewed by April will have their on line accounts disabled. This will begin shortly.

Now is a great time to renew your membership!

The 2022 member cards look like this (member name/expiration in White text on a Blue background). If your member card does not look like this it is expired.



Membership Problems??? Send an email to showandtell@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

If you believe that you have renewed for 2022 and do not have a current membership card, please let me know. Send an email to showandtell@coloradowoodworkersguild.org and I'll address the problem.

Cary Goltermann, Membership Chair

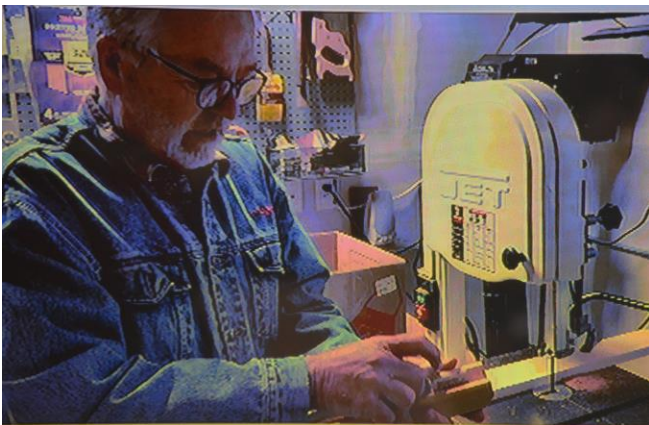
Show and Tell

The show and tell items at the 15 March 2022 meeting included entries from seven members.

First we had a Wine Cork Dart Board from Dale Getz. Dale provided pictures of his work. Apparently, he was unwilling to remove part of a wall to show the work physically at the meeting - go figure.



The first image is Dale talking about the steps he went through to create the dart board. All the corks were split using a jig on his band saw (shown below). This helped to provide a flat surface which is used to attach the cork to the board and halved the number of corks required for the project. The second image (above) is the finished project and the third image (above) is assembling the project.



The next entry was from member Jay Stephens (a regular contributor to S&T). Jay showed off a special handle he designed using inexpensive hardware. He needed a bunch of these for a customer and wanted to limit the expense. So he invented handles using a piece of pipe and two hinges and turned wood caps for the pipe ends. Pretty clever.



Our third entry was from member Leon Nieman. Leon showed off two stunning multi-species cutting boards. These were made by cutting stacked layers on a bandsaw and gluing the desired pieces together. The thin light pieces of wood act to fill in the bandsaw cuts. A massive job.



Our illustrious president, Dennis Edmonds (on the left in the first photo below), provided the next (forth) entry which he calls “Intertwined Hearts”. Made of southern Yellow Pine this work of art is fanciful. Here are pictures of yet another way to use up small pieces of wood (there are no scraps).



Jeff Burke provided the fifth entry demonstrating a “Prototype 40’s Jeep Wheel” he made for a friend’s project. The “rim” is half inch Baltic Birch and the “tire” is Cherry. The parts were cut on his CNC.



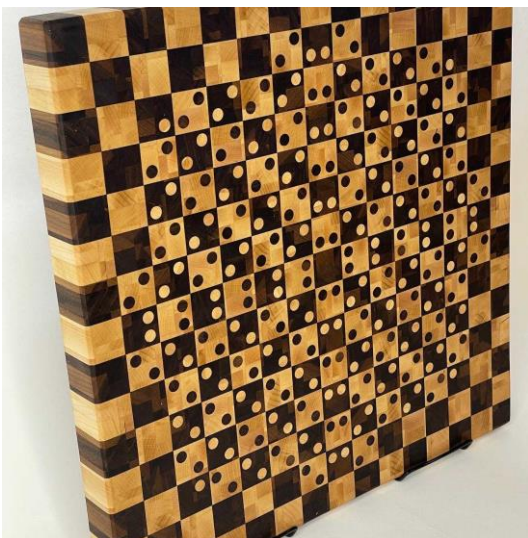
Librarian Jim Barry showed off two projects. The first is a mount for his Jessem Clear Cut Precision Saw guide. Jim mounted the guide to a piece of wood and attached two Magswitch Magjigs to the board. This allows him to easily attach the jig to his table saw and other shop tools.



Jim’s second entry is a beautiful “Quilt-top Box” made of Mahogany, Maple and Walnut.



Our seventh and last contestant entered at the last minute via Zoom. Member David Howard showed off an end grain cutting board with a design intended to confuse the eye.



The winner for the night was Leon Nieman with his colorful cutting boards. Thanks to all who participated! Please consider sending me some pictures prior to the next meeting. Include a brief description of the project and a couple of pictures. If possible, get them to me a week before the meeting so I can prepare for the meeting itself. I can be reached at showandtell@coloradowoodworkersguild.org. Thanks, and see you at the next meeting,

Cary Goltermann, Show and Tell Administrator

Meeting Presentations

March 2022 Meeting

On March 15, 2022, we were honored to have an in-person guild presentation by **Mr. Brian Benham**, a Colorado artist and furniture designer. He learned his trade from his father, a carpenter by trade. A fan of Norm Abram's "**New Yankee Workshop**", then an apprentice at a construction company, and then a project manager for a remodeling company. In 2010, he started a full-time business in custom furniture.

Mr. Benham enjoys incorporating different materials into his design. He showed us photos of an epoxy river table that used a jet engine turbine, valued at \$500,000, into the end of the table, and "Stone and Bridge" bench that required hollowing out a massive stone from the bottom. He also showed us a shelving system for a model train enthusiast that incorporated a 'tunnel for a locomotive to pass through.

Mr. Benham recommended some design books to start us off on the design process as he suggested avoiding googling pictures of previous designs on the internet and use your creative imagination. Some of the books he recommended are "**As Little Design as Possible**" by Dieter Rams and "**99% Invisible, The Built World**".

His design influence was broken down into steps. These steps are as follows:

- Title of the project- i.e., Jet Engine coffee table
- Focal point- Jet engine
- Supporting elements- i.e., arches, smaller elements, and details
- Purpose-driven design

In addition, he pointed out media influences he's found that inspires him in his designs from packaging to TV shows and movies.

April 2022 Meeting

Our **April 19th** meeting will feature a presentation by **Mr. Mike Farrington**. Mr. Farrington is a Colorado cabinet maker, woodworker and furniture designer living in the Denver metro area. He studied furniture design at Paloma's college. He plans to instruct us in some unique and quick ways to sharpen tools. Bring a favorite chisel or plane iron to the meeting, maybe Mike will sharpen it for you.

He has some beautiful furniture and cabinet examples on his website and he also specializes in kumiko. Check out his website at www.MikeFarrington.com. **Check out his article in the August 2021 issue of Woodcraft magazine. Also check out his profile in the January 2021 issue of Woodcraft magazine.**

Mike Zelman, Programs Chair

About Wood

This month we consider the wood **American Beech**. This article was first featured in 2015.

The genus beech consists of three species of deciduous trees from the family Fagus native to eastern North America, eastern Asia (especially Japan), and Europe (especially in the Pyrenees). The most common species that we are likely to see are **Fagus Grandifolia (American Beech)** and **Fagus Sylvatica (European Beech)**. American Beech, the focus here, represents 0.4 percent of the U. S. hardwoods commercial market.

Recall that in previous columns, we have defined the Modulus of Rupture (MOR), the Modulus of Elasticity (MOE), Crush Strength, and Janka Hardness. We will continue to use those terms. Most of the other terms are generally well understood and will not be defined further. If you have questions about other terms or questions about a specific wood, contact wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

American Beech

Fagus grandifolia (common name **beech** or **American beech**) is the main species available in North America and is harvested from the eastern United States and Canada.



Beech Tree in Snow



Beech Tree, Leaves & Trunk



Leaves and Nuts



Beech Logs

Here is a summary of the characteristics of **American beech**:

Distribution: Broadly across eastern North America from New England to Florida and west to the plains; Canada from New Brunswick to Quebec
Tree size: 100-130 ft (30-40 m) tall; 3-5 ft (1-1.5 m) trunk diameter
Average Dried Weight: 45 lbs/ft³ (720 kg/m³)
Specific Gravity: (Basic, 12% MC): .54, .72
Modulus of Rupture (MOR): 14,900 lbf/in² (102.8 MPa)
Modulus of Elasticity (MOE): 1,720,000 lbf/in² (11.86 GPa)
Crush Strength: 7,410 lbf/in² (51.1 MPa)
Janka Hardness: 1,300 lbf (5,780 N)
Shrinkage: Radial, 5.5%; Tangential, 11.9%; Volumetric, 17.2%; T/R Ratio, 2.2
Heartwood Appearance: Medium brown to reddish
Sapwood Appearance: Thin and nearly white
Grain/Texture: Straight and mostly closed; quartersawn shows attractive rays
Stability: Low
Relative strength: Fairly low, 14.18.9
Decay Resistance: Poor and subject to insect attack
Workability: Easy to work with; glues, stains, and finishes well
Odor: No characteristic odor
Toxicity: A sensitizer
Potency: Moderate
Toxicity Source: Leaves, bark, dust
Reaction: Dermatitis and coughing effects
Sustainability: Not listed as threatened, however limited availability
Uses: A wide variety of uses including boxes and crates, cooperage, veneer, flooring, furniture, musical instruments, pallets, paper products, etc.
Typical Cost: \$4-9/bd ft

If you have questions about a specific wood, don't hesitate to send a note to wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

Lindy Baer, Newsletter Woods Contributor

Toolbox Alerts

Rockler

- The Rockler Denver store is still offering a number of classes and workshops this month ranging in price from \$50-\$150.
- The April Rockler catalog has a number of new furniture items listed, as well as plans and furniture templates. Some interesting Rockler innovations are also featured in the catalog.

Woodcraft

- For the whole month of April Woodcraft has some great 50% off savings on a sanding pack, a zero zero center finder, canarywood, a crosscut saw, and a door dust mat.
- In September and October Woodcraft offering numerous in-store classes ranging in price from \$95 to \$600 each as well as some free demos at the Colorado Springs store. Call (719) 266-9889 for details.

[Editor's Note: We are looking for inputs from members each month on great woodworking tool and accessory deals that you are aware of and that are available sometime in the next month or so. The input should include a short description of the item(s), where they can be purchased with web address or location and phone info, price, and any info on your experience with the item(s). Items can include excess tools and items you want to get rid of. Call me at (719) 964-9570 if you know of an item and then I will ask you to submit a descriptive paragraph to me at JoeLenhoff@gmail.com, or to newsletter@colowood.com to add to this column. Toolbox Alert descriptions will have to be to me about 9-10 days before each meeting to get them into the newsletter.]

Sponsor's Corner

A New Sponsor

This month we are happy to announce we have a new sponsor for the Colorado Woodworkers Guild which is actually two related businesses owned by the same folks, husband and wife Ryan Dirksen and Marina Chotzinoff. They are *Where Wood Meets Steel* and *Colorado Wood Slabs*. They are offering a 10% discount to current CWG members. Here is a description of both businesses:

With over 15 years in business, ***Where Wood Meets Steel*** designs and fabricates custom furniture and fixtures for living and working spaces. A sister business, ***Denver Wood Slabs***, operates 3 saw mills and a vacuum kiln offering milling, planing and drying services as well as hundreds of wood slabs, lumber, turning blanks and tree bases for sale to the trade and public.

Open by appointment, M-F 9-12 and 1-5.



custom furniture designed & built

wwms.net (720) 780.7752 | [@wherewoodmeetssteel](https://www.instagram.com/wherewoodmeetssteel)

CWG Sponsors

A Cut Above 16512 16512 Arminta St. Van Nuys, CA 91406 Phone:800-444-2999

Website: www.acutabove.com

Austin Hardwoods of Denver, Inc., 975 W. Mississippi, Denver, CO 80223. Phone: 303-733-1292.

Website: www.austinhardwoods.com

Bear Woods Company. 6099 228 Street, Langley, BC V2Y 2L3 Canada. Phone: 800 565-5066. Fax: 888 599-1118. Website: www.bearwood.com

B & B Rare Woods. 871 Brickyard Circle, Unit C4, Golden, CO 80403. Phone: 303-986-2585.

Website: www.wood-veneers.com

Bridge City Tool Works, Harvey Industries International DBA Harvey Industries, 10830 Ada Ave, Montclair, CA. 91763. Phone: (800) 253-3332. Website: <https://www.bridgecitytools.com/default/> . Questions or comments to sales@bridgecitytools.com. Please allow up to 2-4 business days for email and phone call responses. Two orders per year (to be determined) and must be shipped to one address. 10% discount, when ordered directly from Bridge City Tool Works. Discount does not apply when ordered through dealers

Charlie's 2nd Hand Store, Inc., 2227 Larimer Street Denver, CO 80205. Phone: 303-295-1781.

Website: www.usedtoolsplus.com

Mile High Tree Care, Inc., 6010 W. 56th Avenue, Arvada, CO 80002. Phone: 303-292-9393.

Website: www.milehightreecare.com

Frank Paxton Lumber Company, 4837 Jackson Street, Denver, CO 80216. Phone: 303-399-6047.

Website: www.paxtonwood.com/denver.aspx

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware, 2553 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80222 Phone: 303-782-0588.

Website: www.rockler.com/retail/denver-colorado-hardware-store.cfm

Sears Trostel, 1500 Riverside Ave, Ft Collins, CO 80527. Phone: 970-482-1928.

Website: www.sears-trostel.com

Signature Medallions, 4218 Ponce De Leon Drive, La Mesa, CA 91941. Phone: 619-303-2876.

Website: www.signaturemedallions.com

TC Woods, 5406 County Road 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621. Phone: 303-666-8989.

Website: www.tcwoods.com

Tool Zone, Inc., 8651 Grant Street, Unit 1A Thornton, CO 80229. Phone: 303-252-8500.

Website: www.toolzone.com

Where Wood Meets Steel & Denver Wood Slabs, 4903 Washington Street, Denver, CO 80216. Phone: 720-780-7752. Websites: www.wwms.net & www.denverwoodslabs.com

Woodcraft of Denver. 6770 S. Peoria Street Centennial, CO 80112. Phone: 303-290-0007.

Website: <http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=305>

2022 Board Members



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