



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild September 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner



Dennis Edmonds, President

Maintaining the Joy of Woodworking

The Joy

As woodworkers we love making things with our hands. It's not so much about the finished project. It's about the process of visualizing, designing, and building that excites us. When creativity is flowing, we are "in the moment" and we lose track of time in the shop. We experience inner peace and joy in our work. We want to share our work with others. We dream about potential new projects. This is play for us.

The Pause

But enthusiasm can ebb and flow over time. Work commitments, family needs or health issues periodically keep us out of the shop. When that happens, we must take advantage of what little shop time is available.

But sometimes we just hit a "flat spot" where our motivation stalls. Perhaps we have already built all the furniture we need. Maybe are tired of doing the same old projects. Or maybe we are fresh out of ideas to motivate us in the shop.

Press Start

There are many ways to rekindle the joy of woodworking.

If time is tight, do small projects that can be completed more quickly. Worry less about perfection and practice learning and having fun. Raid your scrap box for materials. Use this precious time just to play.

To stimulate your thinking, get out some old woodworking magazines, read a woodworking book, go to a museum, or take a class. Get on YouTube, Pinterest, or just surf the web on woodworking topics. Develop a list of projects you might like to do and then go to the shop to try one.

When you hit a "flat spot", try something new. Experiment with new materials, tools, techniques, and work processes. Create something different from what you have done before. If you have only built simple furniture, try a more complex design that will stretch your knowledge and skills. A simple chest of drawers can be trimmed out nicely. A basic rectangular box can be a blank canvas. Take it up a notch by adding decoration to your projects (routed edges, inlay, woodburning, intarsia, marquetry, or carving). Think outside the box with a bandsaw or scroll saw project.

“A good day is a day in the workshop, a great day is a day in the workshop with a friend.” Ask a more experienced woodworker to coach you on a new project. Or invite a new woodworker over to your shop and help them with their project.

To give meaning to your work, build something for a family member, friend, neighbor, or child. Help with a community project.

Dennis Edmonds, President

Guest Article

Adapting to Increasing Years and Decreasing Abilities

Given my failing eyesight and declining physical capabilities, I need to recast my woodworking from what it had been for most of my life into something that I can still find rewarding and fun. Also woodworking that doesn't involve using muscles I no longer have or that are obviously ill suited to the kind of work I've always done, which has been primarily heavy duty home improvements all out of proportion to what I look like I'm physically capable of. I now need to let others build wings onto my home and masonry chimneys and the like.

I'm certain that other Guild members have been confronted by the same need, but I don't recall anyone ever penning articles on the subject. So as I evolve a new approach (for me) to woodworking, I intend writing about my adventures, the good and the bad both. I have no idea what direction my woodworking will take as I need to become more realistic for my life circumstances, but I'm confident it will be an adventure, and I'll try to make it an interesting one as I write about it periodically.

When I volunteered to write this series, I didn't know that I'd be moving out of my 2600+ square-foot long-term house and into what had been a rental condo for the last 15 years that I'm now going to be living in full time. The first order of business will obviously be to construct shelves and cabinets to accommodate my tools and materials, not to mention storing all the things that 85 years as a pack rat mean I have and just won't part with (yet). And, yes, a lot of my “treasures” will end up at Goodwill or Guild auctions or on Craig's List. Pack rats don't throw things away.

Although I haven't researched the subject, and only thought about it a bit, I'm sure YouTube will prove to be a great resource. Of course, anyone who's ever used YouTube has an appreciation for how easy it is to be drawn off in a direction having nothing to do with what you initially set out to research. While interesting, that's not usually a beeline to productivity. I think I'll need a SawStop or equivalent for the mind. What? They don't make such a thing, you say? Now there's a missed opportunity.

So keep a sharp eye out for updates on my progress toward making quality boxes inspired by what Gary Glatthar won at the last Show and Tell, with or without wooden wall sconces such as Don Prorak made. Yes, I'll need to think small(er) but the items I've just cited are no less demanding of craftsmanship, but actually more so, because of their diminutive size. Not having made a jewelry box since I was 12, I look forward to it. And I'm glad I still have that jewelry box; where else would I keep my tie-pin collection that hasn't seen any use since I retired?

Bob Kleinfeldt, Director at Large

Show and Tell

The show and tell items at the August meeting included entries from seven members. If you were unable to attend the meeting, either in person or via Zoom. It can be viewed online at the guild's website [here](#). I've added a link to the start of each S&T portion below. You may have to "right click" on these links and select "Open Hyperlink" to get to each video.

Our first entry is from Mike Seymour. Mike showed off a box whose center is made of cedar and outsides made of Osage Orange. The box even has wooden hinges. Below left is Bill Bixby holding the box and Mike about to describe it. [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video.



Mike had a second entry which is a Doll Cradle. The entire cradle was made on Mike's scroll saw.



Next up was some work by Gary Glatthar. [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video.

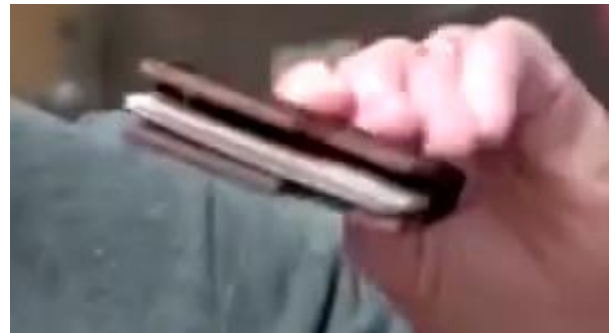
Gary showed us a set of three hexagonal boxes he made for friends to store urns containing the ashes of relatives. Two of the boxes are made of [Apricot](#) wood with [Wenge](#) trim. The third is made of [Macacaua](#) with Wenge trim.



The third entry for the evening's S&T was from member Don Prorak. Once again, [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video. This is a drink smoker. One places this on top of a glass containing the drink to be smoked, puts in some wood chips and lights them. This adds a smoky flavor to the drink.



The forth entry was from Jim Barry. [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video. Jim made some "plywood" from veneer he had lying around and turned that into a wallet.



Next up was a “Butterfly” box made by our esteemed president Dennis Edmonds. [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video. The box is made of Cherry, the butterfly body is walnut and the wings are maple.



Jesse Anthony showed off two of his projects. [Here](#) is a link to that part of the meeting video. His first project is a tray for his daughter-in-law. It is used in her camper for two purposes, first it is a tray, second by turning it over it can be used to cover the stovetop and provide more counter space.



His next S&T item is a scale model of a baby grand piano. The piano body is made of bent laminations.



Shown below is the jig he made to glue the bent laminations together



Last up we had member Ron Ainge who showed us an image created by his late sister.

It is an image of two buffalo lying in a field. Nothing is known about the techniques employed, but it was a beautiful piece shown in the next pictures.



Gary Glatthar and his hex boxes was voted the winner of the S&T at the August meeting.

Thanks to all who participate. 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 September 2022 meeting,

Cary Goltermann, Show and Tell Administrator

Meeting Presentations

August 2022 Meeting

On August 16, 2022, we were honored to have an in-person guild presentation by **Mr. Michael Morris**, a lamination artist, architect, and illustrator. He attended Red Rocks College and studied furniture design and woodworking. The entire presentation can be viewed online at the guild's website by clicking [here](#). **Again, for the presentation you may have to "right click" and select "Open hyperlink" to get to the video. The presentation starts at 42.06 minutes into the video and goes to the end of the meeting at minute 1:20.**

Mr. Morris discussed his inspiration for design from the rock formations he saw, especially in the different layers of rocks, he played with sketching them out in pleasing ways.

He then showed off slides of his work including differently colored woods, using oil pastels to highlight the grain.

Mr. Morris discussed his process, first he would mill his lumber to get it flat and square. Then he would go to the bandsaw and create tapered laminations. Then he would build an MDF form for holding the piece.

He would glue the laminations together using epoxy, usually West Systems, most of the time.

Using a Holy Galahad carving disc in an angle grinder for rough shaping, he would try to emulate the natural curves he would see in sedimentary rock formations. He would also use a spokeshave whenever possible, to smooth out curves. Then he would use the Ultimate scraper made by Stewart McDonald,

He uses the glancing light technique to look for imperfections in the surface. His sanding regimen is in grits-80-120-180-220. Then his finishing regimen is first a coat of spray shellac, then oil pastel for highlights, then a second coat of shellac, then spray lacquer. He has a makeshift spray booth.

Mr. Morris reported that his work can be viewed on the website [Airtable.com](https://airtable.com) for free if people are interested.

September 2022 Meeting

On September 20th, we have the honor of an online tool presentation by Deneb Pulaski, of Lie Nielsen tools. He will be covering new tools coming out, tuning your hand planes, and tricks and little known facts about getting the best performance from your Lie Nielsen tools. I'm already saving up for my next tool purchase, just in case there's something I can't live without.

Mike Zelman, Programs Chair

About Wood

For this month of September 2022, we consider **Poplar**. There are two Poplars most common in North America, **Balsam Poplar** (*Populus balsamifera*) and **Tulip Poplar** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). The Poplars are part of the Willow family. There are some 40 species of Poplar, 15 native to North America. The genus also includes many species of Cottonwood and Aspen. **Balsam Poplar** is also called Black Poplar while **Tulip Poplar** is sometimes called White Poplar, Yellow Poplar, or just Poplar.

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.

Yellow Poplar

Poplar species are harvested regularly and generally available throughout their ranges. **Balsam Poplar** is a cold tolerant tree and is found especially from Alaska to eastern Canada and northeastern United States, while **Tulip Poplar** is widely distributed in the eastern United States.



Poplar Tree in Green



Poplar Tree Turning



Leaves and Flowers



Poplar Logs



Poplar Boards

Here is a summary of the characteristics of **Yellow Poplar (not in the Populus genus)**:

Common Name(s): Poplar, Tulip Poplar, Yellow Poplar

Scientific Name: *Liriodendron tulipifera* (note that Yellow Poplar is not in the *Populus* genus; rather it is in the *Liriodendron* genus)

Distribution: Eastern North America

Tree size: 130-160 ft (40-50 m) tall; 6-8 ft (1.8-2.5 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 29 lbs/ft³ (455 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity: (Basic, 12% MC): .40, .46

Modulus of Rupture (MOR): 10,100 lbf/in² (69.7 MPa)

Modulus of Elasticity (MOE): 1,580,000 lbf/in² (10.90 GPa)

Crush Strength: 5,540 lbf/in² (38.2 MPa)

Janka Hardness: 540 lbf (2,400 N)

Shrinkage: Radial, 4.6%; Tangential, 8.2%; Volumetric, 12.7%; T/R Ratio, 1.8

Heartwood Appearance: light cream to yellowish brown with occasional streaks of gray or green

Sapwood Appearance: Pale yellow to white, not always clearly demarcated from the heartwood. Can also be seen in mineral stained colors ranging from dark purple to red, green or yellow, sometimes referred to as Rainbow Poplar

Grain/Texture: Straight, uniform grain with medium texture; low natural luster

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; has distinct growth rings

Stability: Moderate

Relative Strength: Low to moderate

Decay Resistance: Heartwood rated as moderately durable to non-durable; subject to insect

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

- Rockler is featuring an "Upgrade Your Shop" flyer featuring many discounted items. You can access the digital flyer at the URL <https://flyer.rockler.com/september/Upgrade-Your-Shop-2022/12/>.

Woodcraft

- For the whole month of September 2022 Woodcraft has some great 50% off savings on a Razorsaw Seium Saku Royba, a WoodRiver© Bottle Opener Turning Kit and also their Honing Guide, and their Picture Frame Miter Clamp, on Patagonia Rosewood boards and also on a 2 ½" x 2 1/2 " X 6" Black Walnut Blank block.

[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.]

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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

Denver Woodworking Company, 2062 S. Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80223. Phone: 303-733-3130.

Website: www.denverwoodworking.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>

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