



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

November 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner



Dennis Edmonds, President

Found Wood

Wood is essential for woodworking and fortunately, it is all around us. Many of us go to a lumberyard or big box retail store to buy wood for our projects. But there are other great ways to acquire wood. Here are a few.

Internet sites like Next Door or Craigs List often have ads for free or low cost wood.

Construction sites have a considerable amount of scrap wood that can be obtained with permission from the site supervisor. It is surprising how much usable lumber gets dumped in the landfill. But you really must get advance permission before taking any of it.

Cabinet shops generate nice hardwood cutoffs that can be had for free by talking with the shop manager.

Sometimes other woodworkers have too much scrap and are happy to share it with you. Occasionally someone quits woodworking or moves away making very good wood available at a reasonable price. Estate sales offer another opportunity.

If you have access to a bandsaw, table saw, jointer and planer your options are even greater. Our Guild has started a tool sharing program to help woodworkers who don't have all these tools.

- Specialty retail stores sell rough-sawn lumber at lower cost
- Sawmills produce rough lumber at even lower cost and custom cut pieces to your specs.
- City forestry departments and arbors take down trees that can be a wonderful source of lumber if you have access to a chainsaw and sawmill. You may need to sticker the wood and air dry it for a year.

So, keep your eyes open for great deals on wood. Ask other Guild members for help as you need it.

Dennis Edmonds, President

Show and Tell

At the October 2022 meeting we had entries from six 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 or by clicking on the following link

https://youtu.be/k1SZwE_9S30?t=63. I've added a link to the start of each S&T portion below. You might have to "right click" and select "Open Hyperlink" to get to the video. Show and Tell starts [here](#).

Our first entry was two sets of coasters in dovetail boxes made of Oak, Maple and Walnut from Marty Bartholomew. Below is a picture. You can view the S&T of this entry [here](#).



Next up we had two entries from Don Prorak. Don did this work at a turning workshop. His first entry is a "Hollow Form" made from Elm, pictured below. The S&T video of Don and his entries can be viewed [here](#).



Don's second entry was a Bowl made of Ash, shown below.



The next entry was a “Quilted Box” made from Mahogany, Walnut and Maple finished with wipe on poly, from Jim Barry. pictured below. You can view the S&T video [here](#).





The next entry was from yours truly. Last month we only had one entry aside from a plane I brought in to show off. so I thought I'd better bring something. Turns out this was unnecessary as there were plenty of entries. I looked around my shop and the only thing which was near to complete is a board I made by laminating some very old oak flooring together. So that's what I showed off. My presentation at S&T can be viewed [here](#).



Our last S&T entry was from guild president Dennis Edmonds. Dennis showed off a Quilt Rack shown at right made of Oak and finished in poly. You can view the S&T presentation of this entry [here](#).



The winning entry for the evening was Jim Barry's Quilt Box.



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 mmm 202x meeting,

Cary Goltermann, Show and Tell Administrator

Meeting Presentations

October 2022 Meeting

On October 18, 2022, we had the privilege of a presentation by former Rockler employee, Robert Garrin. Mr. Garrin discussed the versatility of the Shaper Origin, a computer-controlled router system invented by the Festool company. The unit comes with three router bits-V-groove, 1/8 inch and 1/4 inch straight bits. He reviewed the 3 main functions of the system,

1. Scan - Looks at the location tapes on the work surface.
2. Design - Looks up a cutting pattern either in the unit, online, or from a thumb drive
3. Cut - This activates the router function to cut out whatever predetermined pattern has been selected, be it a butterfly joint, flush-mounted hinge, veneer trim, engraving, marquetry, inlays, etc.

Mr. Garrin reviewed the components of the Shaper Origin, the screen, camera, and router. He went into some detail on the use of the screen which not only shows the cut in progress but displays the correct direction of cut. The unit prevents errors by retracting the bit quickly if one tries to cut outside the lines. Mr Garrin demonstrated how to change the bit and how the Origin determines the bit size and depth.

He noted that the basic Origin Shaper goes for \$2,600 and the full kit is around \$3,000. Although expensive, it is a lot cheaper than a full-blown CNC system. Mr. Garrin suggested that the Origin Shaper is ideal for the hobbyist doing one-off projects, while a CNC machine is more suited for a mass production shop.

The entire presentation can be viewed online at the guild's website or by opening the following link https://youtu.be/k1SZwE_9S30?t=63. **Again, for the presentation, you may have to "right click" and select "Open Hyperlink" to get to the video. The presentation starts at 1h.24mm into the video and goes to the end of the meeting at 2h.14mm.**

November 2022 Meeting

Mr. Rich Johnson, the former manager of the Denver Rockler store, has agreed to provide a new series of tips, tricks, and techniques for general woodworking for our November 15, 2022 meeting. Hopefully, it will include some of the new tools that Rockler stocks as well. Mr. Johnson is a wealth of information regarding woodworking and has been an active speaker to the guild in the past.

Mike Zelman, Programs Chair

About Wood

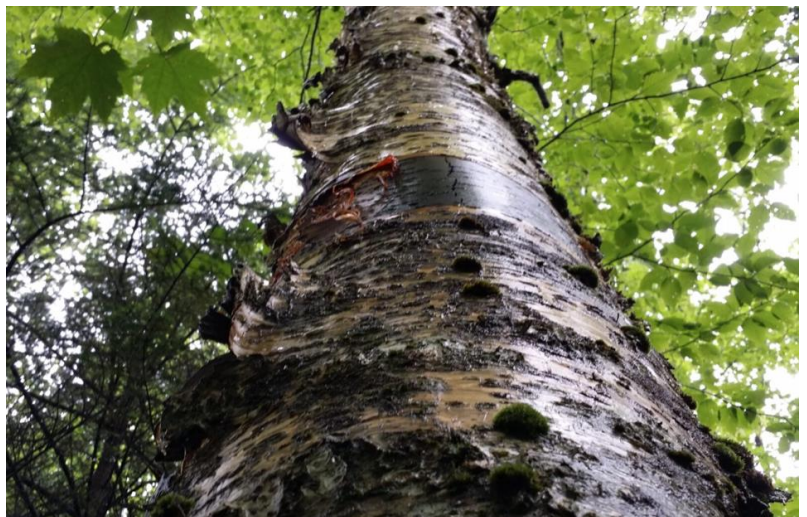
For this month, we look at **Yellow Birch** (*Betula alleghaniensis*). Birch (*Betula* spp.) consists of 30 to 50 species growing in Asia, North America, and Europe. The species important to us in North America are yellow birch, sweet birch, and paper birch.



Birch Forest



Birch Tree



Birch Bark



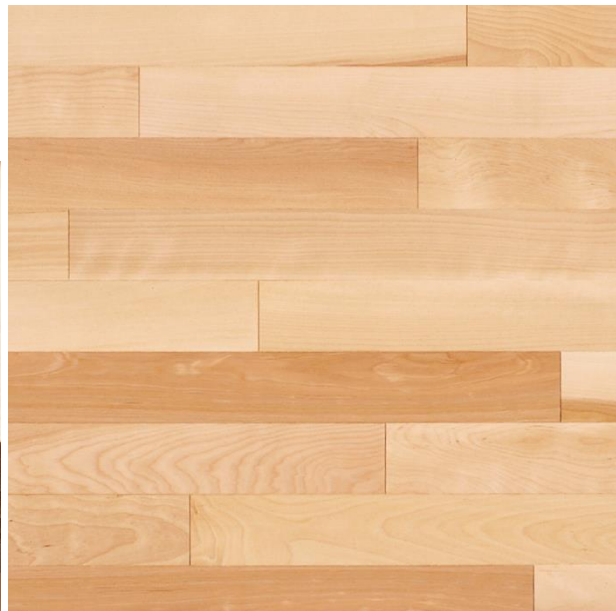
Birch Logs



Birch Leaves & Catkins



Birch Lumber



Birch Flooring

Before we get to the characteristics of this common birch, let us once again define one of the terms used to describe woods; in this case, that of Janka Hardness. Measures of Janka hardness help us to describe “how well a wood will withstand dents, dings, and wear—as well as indirectly predicting the difficulty in nailing, screwing, sanding, or sawing a given wood species.

The actual number listed in the wood profile is the amount of pounds-force (lb_f) or newtons (N) required to imbed a .444" (11.28 mm) diameter steel ball into the wood to half the ball’s diameter. This number is given for wood that has been dried to a 12% moisture content, unless otherwise noted.

For reference, white oak has a Janka hardness of 1,360 lb_f (6,000 N), while the super-hard lignum vitae has a hardness of an astounding 4,500 lb_f (20,000 N). (Who could imagine a wood species that is over three times harder than White Oak?) On the lower end of the spectrum, basswood has a hardness of around 410 lb_f (1,800 N).” (from Eric Meier’s The Wood Database)

Yellow Birch

Yellow birch, sweet birch, and paper birch are harvested commercially in North America and are widely available.

Here is a summary of the characteristics of **Yellow Birch**:

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If you have questions regarding a specific wood, contact wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

Yellow Birch

Yellow birch, sweet birch, and paper birch are harvested commercially in North America and are widely available.

Here is a summary of the characteristics of **Yellow Birch**:

Common Name: Yellow Birch

Scientific Name: *Betula alleghaniensis*

Distribution: Principally in the Northeastern North America

Tree Size: Height of 65 to 100 ft. (20-30 m) and with a diameter of 2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m)

Average Dried Weight: 43 lbs/ft³ (690 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic 12% moisture content): 0.55, 0.69

Modulus of Rupture (MOR): 16,000 lbf/in² (114.5 MPa)

Modulus of Elasticity (MOE): 2,010,000 lbf/in² (13. GPa)

Crush Strength: 8,170 lbf/in² (56.3 MPa)

Janka Hardness: 1,260 lbf (5,610 N)

Shrinkage: Radial, 7.3%; Tangential, 9.5%; Volumetric, 16.8%; T/R Ratio, 1.3

Heartwood Appearance: Light reddish brown

Sapwood Appearance: Nearly white

Grain/Texture: Generally straight or slightly wavy grain; fine, even texture

Stability: Low

Decay Resistance: Poor if exposed to the elements; susceptible to insect attacks

Workability: Machines well; fair for nails and screws; gluing somewhat difficult, finishes well

Odor: No characteristic odor

Toxicity: Sensitizer

Potency: Moderate

Toxicity Source: Wood, Dust

Reaction: Dermatitis and respiratory

Sustainability: Not listed as threatened

Uses: Furniture, cabinetry, interior joinery, turning, upholstery frames, flooring, violin bows, crates, cooperage, plywood, and veneers

Typical Cost: \$2-4.00 / bd ft

Comments: One of the most widely used woods for veneer and plywood worldwide

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 is offering numerous early Black Friday sale items starting on 18 Nov and continuing thru 28 Nov with a 15% online coupon or a physical flyer 20% off coupon on one non-sale item. They also have a Holiday sale running from 18 Nov thru 24 December. See their flyers at www.Rockler.com online.

Woodcraft

- For the whole month of November Woodcraft again has some great 25% - 50% off savings on a number of items.
- In November Woodcraft continues offering numerous in-store classes ranging in price from \$80 to \$600 each at its Denver area and Colorado Springs stores. See their flyer at [woodcraft.com/store/\[store location\]](http://woodcraft.com/store/[store location])

Tool Deals

[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.]

- New CWG member Mike Moody tools: As of this publication, Mike says all of the tools he offered for sale at the October meeting have sold.

CWG Sponsors (Updated this Month)

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

CS Woods, 4355 Monaco Street, Unit A, Denver, CO 80206. Phone: 720-278-7797. Website: www.cswoods.com

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

Reclaimed Boxcar Flooring, --, Denver, CO. Phone: 303-913-6373. Website: reclaimedboxcarflooring.com

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.signaturesmedallions.com

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

Website: www.tcwoods.com

Western Hardwoods, 8980 W 1st Street, Wellington, CO 80549. Phone: 970-966-4243. Website:

westernhardwoods.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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