



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

# Colorado Woodworkers Guild December 2022 Newsletter

## President's Corner



*Dennis Edmonds, President*

As my first year as your Guild President ends, I want to thank each of you for the support you have given to me and to the board. I also want to thank each of the people who contributed their time and talent to help the Colorado Woodworkers Guild transition from Covid induced Zoom meetings back to in-person meetings with simultaneous Zoom.

While membership is still a little lower than before covid, it is growing again. We have gained new members and past members are coming back.

Looking forward to 2023 we plan to ramp up both the educational and social opportunities for our members. I was gratified by the results of both the volunteer survey and the mentor survey. Our members are willing to contribute their time, skills, and knowledge to take Colorado Woodworkers Guild to the next level.

We are happy to announce your 2022 officers and board members have agreed to continue on with their duties for 2023, but after four years as our treasurer, Larry Abrams has handed over the Treasurer reigns to Larry Christianson. Our new Larry is superbly qualified as a certified CPA and a retired CFO for a nonprofit. Thanks to Larry Abrams for his great work as our Treasurer and his willingness to continue as our AV Chair, and to Larry Christianson for picking up the financial reigns.

Happy Holidays. See you next year.

*Dennis Edmonds, President*

## Show and Tell

At the November 2022 meeting we had entries from five 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. 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](#).

First up was Don Prorak with two hats turned from Wet Aspen. You can view the video of Don's discussion of the hats [here](#).



Next up we had two projects from Dennis Edmonds. The video of Dennis's S&T entries is [here](#). Dennis's first S&T project is a simple holder for a bottle of glue, it holds the glue bottle top down so that the glue is ready to use when needed (hopefully the top is sealed)





The next S&T project from Dennis was a trivet made from a tile purchased in Mexico. The tile is wrapped in Walnut and framed in Maple.



Jason Matisheck (one of tonight's A/V people) offered up two Adzes with handles he fashioned. The video of this can be viewed [here](#). Jason procured the blades for these at a Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors meeting. He made the handles out of Maple.



Next up were two turned boxes from Larry Abrams (our second A/V person). Larry recently took a class where he made these two boxes. You can view Larry's part of the S&T video [here](#). The first box is turned from Walnut and Cherry (Larry is not saying how this was done). The second is turned from Boxwood and Walnut. Note: the lid of the second is "pierced".



The winner of the November S&T was Larry Abrams.



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](mailto:showandtell@coloradowoodworkersguild.org)  
Thanks, and see you at the next meeting,

*Cary Goltermann, Show and Tell Administrator*



# Meeting Presentations

## November 2022 Meeting

On November 15, 2022, **Mr. Rich Johnson**, the former manager of Rockler, did a presentation to the group on **tips and tricks to use in the shop.**

Please note, that due to the visual nature of several his jigs, it's best to consult the video recording of the presentation. This will be a summary of the jig's capabilities, as well as the numerous other suggestions that Mr. Johnson presented. 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 1h.06mm into the meeting video and goes until near the end of the meeting until 2h.17mm.**

Mr. Johnson presented a pair of drawer clamps that are used to hold a drawer box to the side of a workbench. He pointed out that drill bits can be used to accurately set calipers to standard dimensions. He demonstrated how to find the middle of a board by angling a ruler on the board and finding an easily divisible length.

He recommended modifying a marking gauge from a point to a knife edge to improve the scoring action. He uses white pencils for marking on dark woods like walnut.

He bought a file box at an office supply store to store different sandpaper grits. He uses foam blocks with glued on sandpaper to sand crown molding, and with complicated shapes he uses bondo to make the sanding block. He attached a hacksaw blade, with washers as spacers, to his workbench, to allow the tearing of sandpaper easily. He adds duct tape to the back of sandpaper to strengthen the sandpaper when sanding edges.

He demonstrated the proper use and how to burnish a card scraper, then explained how to use the scraper to level inlay to bet effect. He discussed using a card scraper to smooth out bowl turnings.

He discussed wood filling and repair. He prefers Wonderfil putty which is water based. This allows adding artists acrylic paints to the putty to get the color right. To fill in imperfections in dovetails, sand it, add finish, and continue to sand it to make a slurry to fill the voids. You can also cut off pieces of the same wood to add wedges to the end grain. Use real wood instead of putty whenever possible.

Use gift cards to spread glue on surfaces. Trim the card with pinking shears to cut grooves in the card for a striped glue affect. Glue paddles (from Rockler) can be used for wood filler application.

When using a router, use the right-hand principle to determine which way to push the router, place your right hand on the wood, your thumb indicates direction to cut. Mr. Johnson displayed some router subbase templates he created for flushing edges, routing the center of a board, and for a mini router. He uses inlay strips to hide edge joint mistakes. When fine tuning a router fence, he uses cards and blue tape to expand a slot slightly. Mr. Johnson presented a template with a hinge that he uses to get a straight edge when routing. The hinge allows the template to fall directly on the cut line and fold out of the way so that the router can do the cut unimpeded.

He uses blue painters' tape to hold mitered joints together for gluing.

He discussed getting glue out of inside corner joints.

- Chisel it out
- Preset blue tape to catch the glue during squeeze out.

Glue sandpaper to your jigs to prevent the jig from sliding. He uses bicycle inner tubes to hold joints together, as well as blocks clamped onto the project. Use a burnisher to close the 2 corners of an open miter joint.

He demonstrated how to put a screw into the edge of plywood without cracking the plywood- add a dowel at 90 degrees to the grain to catch the screw.

He demonstrated how to install threaded inserts: have a sacrificial insert, cut it with a hacksaw to create a screwdriver slot and use it to tap the wood for other inserts. He also uses his drill press (turned off) to get the insert started into the project by keeping the insert perpendicular to the surface.

He uses Chapstick as a screw lube. He uses a pair of pliers to crimp dowels for glue relief slots.

When doing wood finishing, always use gloss finish initially, then use whatever final finish on top (satin, flat) to not hide the wood grain. Remember, high gloss finishes show every imperfection. When staining wood, over-sand the end grain (220-320 grit) to reduce the end grain from darkening too much or raise the end grain with water. To prevent finishes from hardening in the can, use Bloxygen, an inert gas, or if using a plastic container, squeeze the air out, or add glass marbles.

Use double stick tape to hold templates in place. Always keep in mind wood movement. Use double stick tape on aluminum extrusions to rip boards straight. Aluminum extrusions can be purchased at Alreco Extrusions in north Denver. And they sell scrap for \$3 per pound. Use blue tape to minimize plywood surfaces from slitting. Just cut through the tape.

When using dovetail templates, to reduce the router bit from splintering the wood fibers, prescore the edges of the outer surface (especially with plywood) to stop blow-out.

On turnings, use open ended wrenches to measure thickness. Use pen tube storage boxes (available at Rockler) to store jig saw blades.

Mr. Johnson also encouraged the members to get involved in other clubs to increase our exposure to educational opportunities.

Thanks, Rick for a great presentation sharing many fantastic tips.

## **January 2023 Meeting**

Mr. James King, the manager of King's Fine Woodworking and the new manager of the Colorado WoodWhisperers group, has tentatively agreed to provide an open-ended topic for our 17 January 2023 presentation. My thought is that we may be able to turn this into a hands-on opportunity for a group workshop where we can do a subject that we are all interested in.

*Mike Zelman, Programs Chair*

## December 2022 Holiday Gathering

There will not be a regular monthly Guild meeting in December on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Rockler as is our custom. Instead, a holiday gathering was held at the Cloverdale Church of God in Lakewood, CO on Saturday 3 December and was attended by approximately 20+ members and spouses. Bob Kleinfeldt arranged for the venue with Gary Glatthar. Great food was provisioned and beautifully presented by Devon Lindsley and Katie Stump who stepped in to host the event and put in a lot of hard work. Some members provided rough wood and also beautifully turned wood candle holders that decorated each table. A fun white elephant exchange was held after all had their fill of the wonderful food, with the most cherished and traded item being a turned bowl provided by Don Prorak. If you weren't there you also missed capturing the singing moose head that my wife and I am enjoying, often at unexpected times, since it is motion activated. Thanks to all who made this happen!

*Joe Lenhoff, CWG Newsletter Editor*

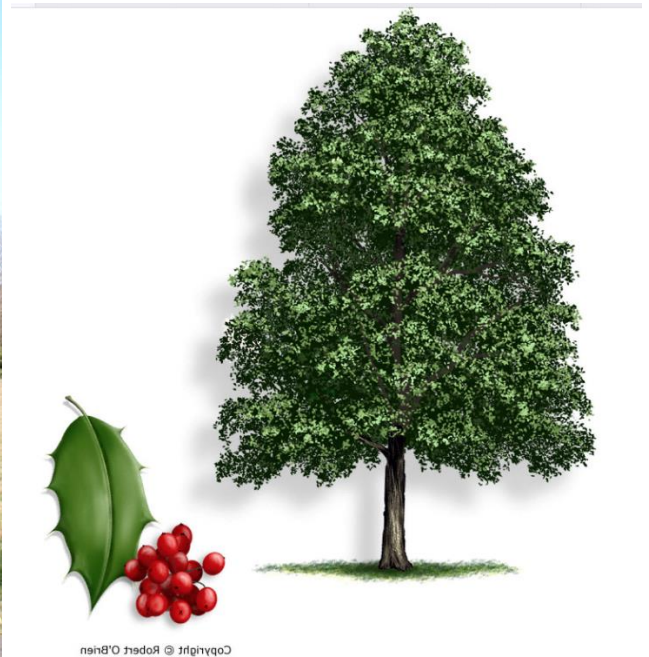
## About Wood

This month we consider **American Holly**. **American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)**, is a médium-sized broadleaved evergreen tree from the family Aquifoliaceae. **American Holly** is distributed in the eastern United States from Maine to Florida, west to Illinois and southwest through Missouri and Oklahoma.

**American Holly** is also called **Christmas Holly** , **Evergreen Holly**, **White Holly**, and **Prickly Holly**. **American Holly** is the most important of 19 holly species growing in the United States.



**Large Holly Trees in a Field**



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**Holly Tree, Leaf & Berries**



**Close-Up of Live Leaves & Berries**

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](mailto:wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org).

## **American Holly**

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

**Common Name(s):** Holly, American Holly

**Scientific Name:** *Ilex opaca*

**Distribution:** Eastern U.S. and west to Oklahoma and Texas

**Tree size:** 30-50 ft (9-15 m) tall; 1-2 ft (.3-.6 m) trunk diameter (quite conical)

**Average Dried Weight:** 40 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup> (640 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

**Specific Gravity:** (Basic, 12% MC): .50, .64

**Modulus of Rupture (MOR):** 10,300 lbf/in<sup>2</sup> (71.0 MPa)

**Modulus of Elasticity (MOE):** 1,110,000 lbf/in<sup>2</sup> (7.66 GPa)

**Crush Strength:** 5,540 lbf/in<sup>2</sup> (38.2 MPa)

**Janka Hardness:** 1,020 lbf (4,540 N)

**Shrinkage:** Radial, 4.8%; Tangential, 9.9%; Volumetric, 16.9%; T/R Ratio, 2.1

**Heartwood Appearance:** very uniform, pale white color; knots are common; virtually no visible grain pattern

**Sapwood Appearance:** Whiter than the heartwood

**Grain/Texture:** Almost no visible pattern; interlocked and irregular; medium to fine texture

**Stability:** Moderate

**Relative strength:** Excellent

**Decay Resistance:** Subject to decay and insect attack

**Workability:** Can be difficult to work because of irregular, interlocked grain; holds screws well; glues and finishes well; if drilling, use slow speeds to prevent charring; turns well

**Odor:** Odorless and tasteless

**Toxicity:** None other than standard concerns over wood dust

**Potency:** Low

**Toxicity Source:** Dust

**Reaction:** None reported (other than exposure to dust)

**Sustainability:** Not threatened



**Uses:** Parts of musical instruments (including organ pipes), turning, furniture accents, inlays, marquetry, and carvings

**Typical Cost:** High; sometimes difficult to obtain

If you have questions about a specific wood, don't hesitate to send a note to [wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org](mailto:wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org).

**[Editor's Note: Lindy has decided to take a break from resurrecting this very informative column that he did for a number of years before the Covid-19 pandemic. Over the last year and a half he has enlightened us with fantastic details about some wonderful varieties of wood that make our craft challenging, but that can also add so much diversity and beauty to it. Thank you Lindy!]**

*Lindy Baer, Newsletter Woods Contributor*

## Toolbox Alerts

### Rockler

- The Rockler Holiday Sale cited in last month's newsletter continues through 24 December. They are offering 20% off on one regularly priced item through the same date. Check it out.

### Woodcraft

- For the whole month of December Woodcraft has some great up to 50% off savings on a number of items including canarywood and curly maple, a crosscut saws as well as stocking stuffers. (Yes, craftsmen and women can stuff their own stockings.) Classes continue to be offered ranging in price from \$100 to multiple day classes at \$625.

[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](mailto:JoeLenhoff@gmail.com), or to [newsletter@colowood.com](mailto: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.austinhardwoods.com](http://www.austinhardwoods.com)

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Website: [www.wood-veneers.com](http://www.wood-veneers.com)

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Website: [www.usedtoolsplus.com](http://www.usedtoolsplus.com)

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Website: [www.milehightreecare.com](http://www.milehightreecare.com)

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Website: [www.paxtonwood.com/denver.aspx](http://www.paxtonwood.com/denver.aspx)

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**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](http://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](http://www.sears-trostel.com)

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

Website: [www.signaturesmedallions.com](http://www.signaturesmedallions.com)

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

Website: [www.tcwoods.com](http://www.tcwoods.com)

**Western Hardwoods,** 8980 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Wellington, CO 80549. Phone: 970-966-4243. Website:

[westernhardwoods.com](http://westernhardwoods.com)

**Where Wood Meets Steel & Denver Wood Slabs,** 4903 Washington Street, Denver, CO 80216. Phone: 720-780-7752. Websites: [www.wwms.net](http://www.wwms.net) & [www.denverwoodslabs.com](http://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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