



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

February 2023 Newsletter

President's Corner



Dennis Edmonds, President

Introduction

Our woodworking journeys help shape our roles in the Colorado Woodworking Guild. Some began woodworking as children, others later in life. Some had mentors, others were self-taught. Your individual experience can help you contribute effectively to the Guild.

My Personal Woodworking Journey

From an early age I followed dad around and helped fix up the house. I played in his “shop” (a converted chicken coup) in the backyard but wasn’t allowed to use power tools. I was free to use hand tools so long as I put them back. Along the way there were cub scout projects and 7th grade woodshop class. We built a cabin for my grandfather. My father told me then “if you buy tools for each project, the tools will pay for themselves”. It was good advice.

As a young adult, I bought some hand tools, a circular saw, and a drill. I painted apartments and built functional projects like bookshelves and a simple camper for my truck. When we eventually bought a home, I did typical home improvements. Projects included a doghouse, fences, flower beds, etc.

As the kids grew older, I had more time on the weekends, so I began buying more power tools. During the good years I bought the larger tools and in lean years I bought smaller tools. Over 10 years I accumulated a basic workshop. Projects included home improvement, mobile shop stands, cabinets, and many smaller items. I read woodworking magazines and eventually joined a woodworking guild. I experimented with different techniques and built more complicated projects.

When I retired, I finally had time to do the projects I had been hoping to tackle. My focus shifted more toward the art of woodworking. I became a guild officer because of the social connection and learning opportunities offered by guild membership. And I wanted to help others experience the joys of woodworking.

The Guild

Our collective woodworking journeys can inform how we navigate the future. I believe there are three major goals for the Guild:

- Member Education
- Social Connection
- Community Outreach

I encourage each of you to volunteer for the activities our committee chairs will be putting forward. You can learn from each other, develop friends, and help the community.

Dennis Edmonds, President

Show and Tell

At the January 2023 meeting we had entries from two members.
The meeting video is available on the guild's web site.

First we had a turned bowl in pine from Don Prorak

Here's the bowl and below is Don talking about the bowl.

Click [here](#) to view the video of Don explaining his bowl. **To view the Show and Tell you may have to “right click” and select “Open Hyperlink” to get to the video.**



Next up was the end grain cutting board in a quilt pattern made by our new treasurer Larry Christensen.



Above is the cutting board and to the right is Larry discussing it. You can view the video of Larry discussing the cutting board [here](#).

The winning entry was Larry's cutting board.

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 next meeting,

Cary Goltermann, Show and Tell Administrator

Meeting Presentations

January 2023 Meeting

NOTE: If you'd like to skip directly to the presentation click [here](#) . Again, for the presentation you may have to "right click" and select "Open Hyperlink" to get to the video. The presentation starts at approximately 46mm into the meeting video and goes until near the end of the meeting until 1h.50mm.

On January 17, 2023, **Mr. Brendan Whitehead**, a former employee of the Denver Woodcraft and frequent woodworking instructor, did a presentation to the group on **various ways to make a dovetail joint**.

He first noted that there are two general ways to make a dovetail joint- by hand and by machine. Brendan first discussed the most popular method, the machine method, using a dovetail jig and a router. When making four drawers or more, setting up the router jig is worth it. When making three or less drawers, he cuts the dovetails by hand. A typical jig costs between \$100-\$950, although a CNC machine and a Shaper Origin can also cut dovetails.

You may want to consider cutting dovetails on the table saw. This allows the making of thinner dovetails, usually down to the width of the blade, 1/8", but requires a specially ground saw blade. Ridge Carbide sells a specially ground blade for \$150. Use the blade to cut the tails, and a standard flat-top blade with an angled miter gauge to cut the pins. Freud manufactures a very good flat-ground blade. This technique doesn't work very well with very large, cumbersome projects.

Vexour is a company that can do the resharpening, typically charging \$20-\$30.

Mr. Whitehead shared a money-saving trick: at Home Depot, the orange saw blades (Wen?) are actually the same as the red blades (Diablo?) for a lot less money.

Then Mr. Whitehead discussed the bandsaw method, which allows dovetails down to 1/16" width. This method works well for very large dovetails as well, typically seen in workbench construction.

There is also a chainsaw method of dovetailing, often used in cabin construction.

Brendan went into a discussion of hand-cutting dovetails and some of the jigs used to assist building up muscle memory - a magnetic jig by David Byrne helps control the saw angle. Rob Cosman's videos are also a good resource. Brendan suggested practicing on clear pine, as it's easy to cut and it shows errors clearly.

Brendan likes using Dozuki saws and dovetail saws for cutting; a Veritas dovetail saw is approximately \$70. A 20 tooth per inch saw is easier to start, but a 16 tooth cuts faster. Rob Cosman's Handsaw costs over \$200, but it has a varying tooth pattern to take advantage of both features. Cosman also sells a spirit level that assists in keeping the saw level. There are various jigs for different dovetail angles, but Brendan doesn't believe the different angles actually matter for strength; it's really more of an aesthetic issue.

A houndstooth joint is a dovetail joint inside of a larger dovetail joint.

Mr. Whitehead then discussed how to lay out a dovetail joint, using two sets of calipers, a wheeled marking gauge to set the proper depth, and how to hold the saw to properly to cut tails and pins. Sometimes he uses a small rabbet plane to create a small lip on the scribed line. He often uses a fret saw to remove most of the waste wood and he uses special chisels, including a fishtail chisel, to get in corners.

February 2023 Meeting

Mr. Johakin Seitfudem has agreed to do a demonstration, live, from Germany on how to carve the human form. Considering we expect him to finish a complete carving and discussion, within the time frame of our meeting, at 3:30 am Germany time, I think it will be a great opportunity to learn carving. Check out his website at www.info@seitfudem.com.

Mike Zelman, Programs Chair

About Wood

[Editors Note: Lindy s currently taking a break from providing this column.]

Lindy Baer, Newsletter Woods Contributor

Toolbox Alerts

Stan Wolpert

Stan announced at one of our last meetings that he has some new and vintage tools that members might be interested in purchasing. Currently, he is offering the following items:

- A Powermatic 3500 lathe he is willing to sell at half price for \$3000.
- An Inka 10in planer/joiner that is portable for \$600.
- An RBI 20in throat scroll saw for \$650 with an entire set of blades
- And all types of vintage planes (metal, transit and wood joiner) as well as many types of vintage hand measurement tools

If interested, contact Stan at (805) 427-3222

Rockler

- Rockler continues their Founders Day 27 Jan -2 March 2023 sale. They are offering 15-25% off on a wide variety of dust, jig, router, table saw, turning and hardware items in their flyer and online at Rockler.com. Check it out.

Woodcraft

- For the whole month of February Woodcraft has some great up to 50% off savings on a number of items including wood, benchdogs as well as sharpening tools. Classes continue to be offered ranging in price from \$150 to multiple day classes at \$1000.

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

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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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