



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

April 2023 Newsletter

President's Corner



Dennis Edmonds, President

Colorado Woodworking Guild Launches the Stem Academy Project

The Problem

As we know from recent news media reports, there is a serious and growing workforce shortage, particularly in the skilled trades. Try to find a carpenter, plumber, or electrician and you will discover for yourself that there simply is more work than trained people.

Historically, guilds trained young people as apprentices to do quality work in their chosen trade. Later, junior colleges and trade schools took on the task of teaching the trades. Many students got their first exposure in junior high or high school shop class. In fact, most of our older guild members took a shop class.

But then schools began closing shop classes and offering computer classes to prepare their students for the information age. While that was a necessary skill to teach, it left us with a deficit of people who know how to build things. That wasn't much of a problem when we just designed things here and sent manufacturing work offshore. But now to bring manufacturing back onshore, we need a skilled workforce who can make things with their hands. While robots will certainly help, they will not be able to do it alone.

A Small Step Forward

I am very pleased to announce that the Colorado Woodworkers Guild has just launched its first youth mentoring project with the Colorado STEM Academy within the Westminster Public School District. The K-8 STEM Academy has a very nice woodshop on campus but no faculty to teach. Eighteen students applied (with parental permission) for the program. While we originally planned for six students, we accepted all 8 of the eighth graders with the understanding that the 7th graders will be able to take the class next fall.

Beginning on April 10th, the eight 8th graders began a 6-week pilot program taught after school on Monday afternoons by three of our guild members. Don Prorak, Devon Lindsley, and Gary White will introduce students to hands-on woodworking and woodturning.

The first 3 weeks will focus on basic woodworking knowledge and skills while building a cutting board. The second 3 weeks will involve a spindle-turning project. Throughout the program, safety training will be the priority.

Assuming this pilot project is as successful as we hope it will be, our guild may want to do additional projects with other schools around the community to help stimulate interest in woodworking. In the longer term, we may even be able to encourage several school districts to add woodshops to their curriculum.

Dennis Edmonds, President

Show and Tell

At the March 2023 meeting we had nine entries. The meeting video is available on the guild web site, but for your convenience, below are links to the meeting video for each S&T presentation. Right click on the hotlink titled "here" at the end of each bullet, and select "Open Hyperlink":

- First entry, Robb Shecter, "Art From 2 By Material. [here](#)
- Second entry, David Howard, Veneer From Scraps. [here](#)
- Third entry, Marty B, Picture Frame, [here](#)
- Forth entry, Don Prorak. Ring Box, [here](#)
- Fifth entry, Don Prorak. Meditation Table, [here](#)
- Sixth entry, Richard Boehm. Carving. [here](#)
- Seventh entry, Devon Lindsley, Mushrooms, [here](#)
- Eighth entry, Jerry Thelander. Cutting Board. [here](#)
- Ninth entry, Dennis Edmonds, Mushroom Dream, [here](#)

Our first entry for the evening was from Robb Shecter which he titled said was an art + learning project: "How far can I push dimensional lumber that I fish out of construction dumpsters".

Here is a pic of this effort and another of Robb talking about his work



The Second entry was from David Howard. David took Walnut scraps, glued them together and cut veneer from the glue up. He then glued the veneer on a piece of Baltic Birch plywood. Note all the scraps are separated by maple veneer to make them stand out. In the picture below the top piece is the veneer glued up on the Baltic Birch Plywood. The next two pieces are the glue up viewed from the top and edge on.



This glue up was then sliced into pieces of veneer. The veneer pieces were glued on to a piece of Baltic Birch plywood. Here is a pic of David holding the veneered plywood.



The third entry is a picture frame made by Marty B. Marty's frame is mortice and tenoned. The picture in the frame is of a pond, so Marty sculpted the edges of the frame to evoke the ripples in the water. Here is a picture of the picture and one of Marty talking about his work.



Don Prorak provided the next two entries. First a turned ring box shown below. Note the captive ring on top of the box. His second entry is a “Meditation Table”. Below is Don talking about his ring box.

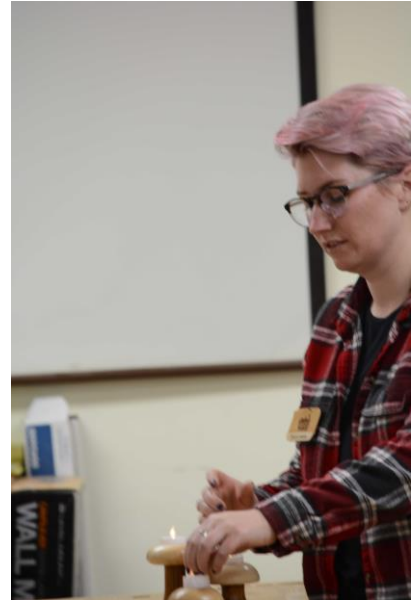




The next entry was a carving, in Basswood, by Richard Bohem. Here is the carving and Richard discussing it.



Next are three turned "Mushrooms" by Devon Lindsley.



Up next was a cutting board made of Walnut, Bloodwood, Paduk and Maple by Jerry Thelander.



The final entry for the evening was from Dennis Edmonds, titled Mushroom Dreams



The winner of the evening's entries was David Howard for his scraps veneer. Here he is seen receiving his Rockler Gift card for the winning entry.



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

March 2023 Meeting

On March 21, 2023, in lieu of a formal presentation, the Guild held a four-station tool sharpening session to share sharpening techniques with members.

To view the tool sharpening session right click on the last S&T “here” link, and select “Open Hyperlink” to get to the video. The sharpening session starts at 1h.03mm into the meeting video and goes until near the end of the meeting until 1h.36mm.

April 2023 Meeting

On April 21st we will have a guest speaker via Zoom from Spain, Israel Martin. The title of his presentation is “Woodworking by Hand in the 21st Century”. His work has been featured in Fine Woodworking Magazine.

[Editors Note: Mike has turned over his duties as Programs chair after serving the Guild diligently for two and a half years as Program Director. Jonathan Carlyon, author of the following new Education Corner column is picking up Mike’s duties as Education Chair and has some exciting presentations in the works for our next meetings.]

THANKS MIKE FOR YEARS OF OUTSTANDING, DEDICATED WORK!!

Education Corner [A new Column]

In April we will have a guest speaker from Spain, Israel Martin. He works in metric units. Israel is an amazing woodworker, but I'm not a fan of metric. I love the Imperial system of feet and inches. Also, at the end of the day, the distance from point A to point B is the same whether you measure it with a story stick or a metric rule. As Brian Sedgeley of Sedgtool YouTube Channel said, "A piece of maple doesn't care if you work it in imperial or metric!"

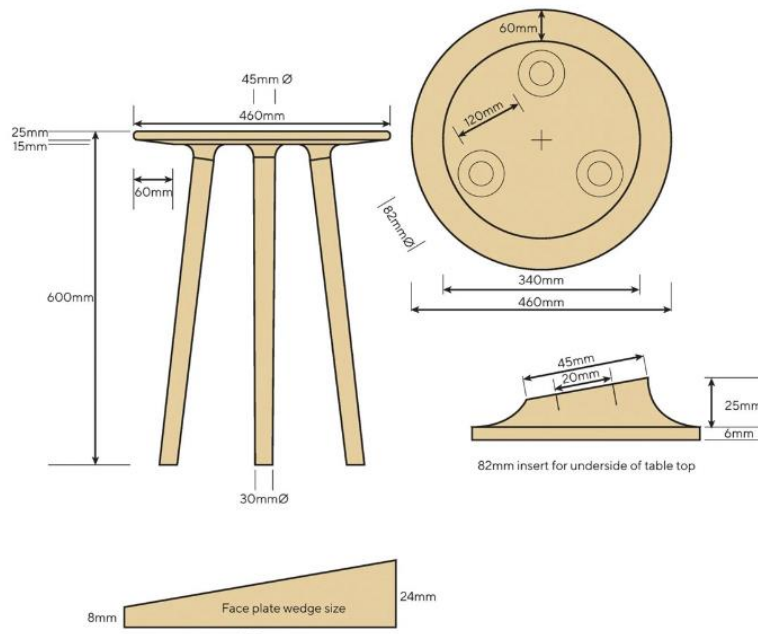
Fortunately, there is an easy way to quickly get the basic idea of the metric system. But, before I share this, one important disclaimer: I'm not going to talk about exact equivalences; I'm speaking about approximations.

For example, we all know that, scientifically speaking, 1in is 25.4mm. However, woodworking is about proportions. When I think to myself: this is 4in wide, if I were using metric, I would just say, this is 100mm. Technically it is 101.6, but who cares. We are making furniture, not sending a rocket to Mars. As long as the proportions are correct, 4 inches by 6 inches can be understood as 100mm by 150mm. Why not?

So, in a nutshell, 25mm is 1in. Think of 25 cents, that is, nickels, dimes, and quarters. There are 4 quarters in a \$1.00. Likewise, there are 4 inches in 100mm. If we think of this, then it's easy to know that 1 foot is 300mm.

Remember 1in = 25mm; 1ft = 300mm; not exactly, but proportionally, so to speak.

Here's an example,



This image is from issue 310 of the English magazine *Furniture & Cabinetmaking*. Think of this as the UK's version of *Fine Woodworking*. Our upcoming guest speaker publishes his work in this magazine often. The image above is from the article "Turned Round Table", by Jason Breach. As you can see, the height of the table is 600mm. What's that in feet? 1ft = 300mm, BAM!, it's 2 feet.

Now, look at the tabletop, it's 25mm thick with a 15mm chamfer. 25mm = 1in. BAM! Done. 15mm? Well, half of 25 is about 12, so 15mm is about 5/8".

Now, at this point, my eyes start to fog over. I'm heading back to feet and inches. However, with these two approximations in mind, namely, 1in = 25mm and 1ft = 300mm, the Metric System becomes a little easier to understand, at least for woodworking.

For more information on this topic, I recommend watching the video, "Why I chose metric", by Brian "Sedge" Sedgeley of Sedgetool on the YouTube Channel at <https://youtu.be/QCoIls0n0FU>.

Jonathan Carlyon, Education Chair

Toolbox Alerts

Rockler

- Again, the Rockler catalog and the April flyer both have some up to 25% sale and new items in addition to a long list of woodworking items. Check it out, especially their new economical line of "Click-Connect" Flexport connectors that can each be permanently locked to individual tool dust port and then snapped into a vacuum hose system when the tool is used.

Woodcraft

- For the whole month of March Woodcraft has some great up to 50% off savings on a number of items including a center finder, a turner's sanding pack, Black Limba and Brazilian Chery S2S. They are also offering sale prices on a number of other items.
- Classes continue to be offered ranging in price from \$16 to a multiple-day class 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, 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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B & B Rare Woods. 871 Brickyard Circle, Unit C4, Golden, CO 80403. Phone: 303-986-2585.

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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

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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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