

COLORADO Woodworkers GUILD

July 2005

Encouraging all woodworkers in
self-expression, craftsmanship and
knowledge

Mark Your Calendar for July's Meeting!

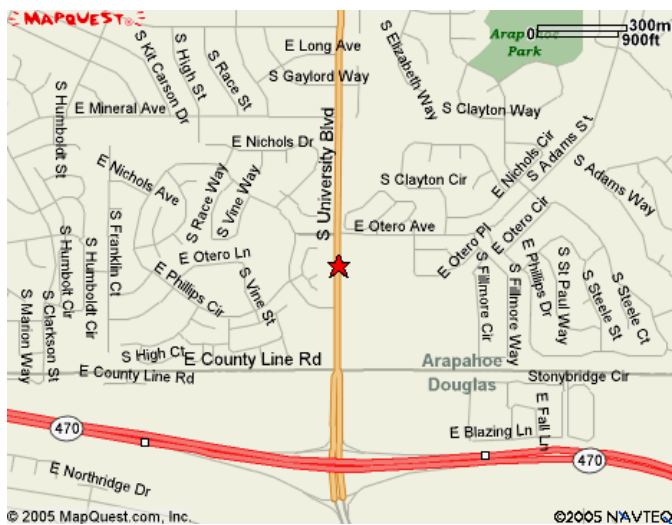
Tuesday, July 19th, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Stickley

8130 South University Blvd

Suite 120

Centennial, CO 80122



July's meeting will be held at Stickley's show room. Stickley is a fine furniture store headquartered in New York. They specialize in high-quality black cherry and walnut products from the Pennsylvania and New York Appalachian forests. You'll see a variety of furniture construction and design details. You'll also be treated to a film about their production facility back east. There will be an opportunity to walk around the store and get a closer look at Stickley's quality furniture. It should be a great time for all. But, if that's not enough to entice you to come—refreshments will be served!

Upcoming meetings

August 16th :

Rich Gady, Marquetry, Part 2

Location: Paxton

September 20th:

Leslie Kennedy, Band Saw Boxes

Location: Rockler

October 18th:

Quick Things to Make for Holiday Gifts

Location: To be announced

Visit our website for latest updates on meetings and locations:

www.coloradowoodworkersguild.org

A Big Thanks to Rockler!!!

Our June meeting was a huge success with 50 members attending the 25th Anniversary Event sponsored by Rockler. We also had eight new members join us that evening to enjoy the food, discounts, demos and door prizes that were generously donated by Rockler and manufacturing representatives from Delta, Porter Cable and Jet. Congratulations to the winners of the BIG door prizes! New member Fred Matzen took home the Delta benchtop spindle sander, and long time member Marvin Perkins won the Porter Cable router. A special THANKS to Rich Johnson and the Rockler staff for making the event possible!



IT'S HERE—

The Jefferson County 4H Fair

Saturday, August 6th from 9 AM till 5 PM

We have selected the birdhouse and have purchased all materials. Now, we need your participation. We're asking for your help to cut the parts and pieces. If you can help, please pick up plans and materials at July's meeting. Once you've cut the parts, please contact Dave Villella at 303-888-2076 to make arrangements to get the material to the fair. Whatever amount of time you can give to this worthwhile project is greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance for your support.

June's Demonstration Review: Pen Turning by 'Big' John Hammer & 'Lil' Chris Pine

by Marvin Benson & Leslie Kennedy

Little Chris and Big John. That theme seemed to hold true throughout June's pen turning demo as everything that Chris had was small and everything that John had was big—lathes, supplies, and even the platform John was standing on. The dueling pen makers started with an overview of the various types of pen blanks that are available, from wood to plastic to Corian®. Chris passed around his case of 10 pens including the first pen he turned—"always keep your first pen to see how bad you really were!" Then, as you might expect, John shared his big case of over 40 pens! Both turners had completed pens of many different shapes, colors and materials. It seems as though you can make a pen from nearly any material, from dyed blanks to even corn cobs! They also shared pictures from last year's Freedom Pens Turn-a-thon, where scores of pens were turned and sent to our troops overseas. More information on this ongoing event can be found at www.sawmillcreek.org.

Chris turned a Mont Blanc style pen using "blood wood", a pretty, red-color wood, for his demo. He explained the importance of always wearing a face mask and eye protection while turning. Another reason for these precautions, especially with exotic woods, is that some people may have an allergic reaction to the wood. John chose a Patriot pen kit using bubinga.

Penn State Industries (www.pennstateind.com) is a great source for pen kits. The kits include all parts (mechanisms, tubes, refills) needed to make your pen. Prices can range for a few dollars to about \$150, depending on the types of metals used (e.g., brushed metal, 24K gold, sterling silver). Pen blanks (the wood or other material you select) are usually ordered separately from the pen kit and come pre-cut, pre-turned and pre-drilled. Or, you can make your own blanks. If you are going to make your own blanks, you may want a centering vise for your drill that will hold the blanks vertically while you drill the holes.

The next step is to glue the tubes into the holes in the blanks. Before gluing, rough up the tube with sand paper for better adherence. Two-part epoxies, cyanoacrylate adhesive (CA) or SuperGlue are good choices. For non-wood blanks such as translucent plastics, the brass tube may be visible through the blank. If this is not desired, John suggests that you use spray paint or colored epoxy to hide the brass tube.

After the glue has completely dried, you need to dress the ends of the blanks to be perpendicular to the hole on both ends of the tubes. Also, remove any glue that may have leaked into the inside of the tube. Once complete, you can mount the blanks for turning. Chris and John used different techniques for mounting the blanks on the lathe. A mandrel mounts between the lathe's headstock and tailstock and are available for the pen tube size and to match your lathe's headstock style. Pen bushings slide onto the mandrel to indicate the final diameter of the wood at ends of the blanks. John preferred not to use the center bushing on the mandrel to allow him to do "more creative things". Chris prefers to put the center band on the mandrel as his guide for how far down to turn the wood. It was obvious that John and Chris have developed their own personal preferences in the pen turning process.



Now, on to the turning: Chris' technique is to "get it round real quick", turning at a high speed until it is roughly the size of the center ring. Tools used include gouges and parting tools. Chris had a small set of tools that his kids gave him as a gift. And, John...yes, John had bigger tools. One thing made clear when Chris gave us a "whoops!" during his turning...John said that was NOT a good word to hear when you are turning.

After turning the blanks to the desired diameters, the next step is sanding. Chris cuts his sandpaper into small strips to conserve the paper and to make it easier to handle. With the lathe turning, he sanded in graduated grits: 150, 220, 320, 400, 600. He noted that it doesn't take a lot of pressure. He also stopped the lathe occasionally to sand in the direction of the wood grain.



(Article continues on page 4)

Voices from the Guild

This month's voice: **Bob Betting**



**You have something to say?
Get it published in your favorite wood
magazine—and, get paid!**
by **Bob Betting**

There are a few dozen good woodworking magazines out there, and every one of them is eagerly looking for interesting items to publish. They are hungry for articles for their readers, and if they don't find them, their magazine will fold.

The magazines cover every aspect of woodworking. Subjects include woodturning, whittling, carving, intarsia and scrolling. But, these are only scratching the surface. For instance, there is a magazine for women which focuses on projects of interest to women. You can buy one on pyrography (woodburning), marquetry or toys, birdhouses, furniture, jewelry boxes, driftwood, etc.

Do you have a good idea for a children's toy? It doesn't have to be something you invented. How about something grandpa made for you ages ago. It's probable that no one has recently described how to build it in a magazine so others can make one for their grandchild.

Have you come up with a good jig that makes something easier for you in your shop? 'Your' magazine will love knowing about it so others can also benefit! Do you have a shortcut for sanding or finishing? Share it.

Every magazine has a list of staff and mailing addresses. Most can also be contacted by email. Send a short description of your idea to one of the editors listed. Include a picture or drawing, if appropriate. Ask if they are interested in an article about it. Keep a copy of what you send, just in case.

Almost every magazine is going to offer to pay you for what you contribute. You won't hurt an editor's feelings if you ask what they will pay. That's only good business.



Wonderous Wee Willy - One of Bob Betting's signature Paleo Pet Puzzles that was featured in a national publication.

Don't let your writing skills stand in the way of getting published. Magazines will assign an editor to help you prepare your idea. Some will even help with photos, while others demand that you furnish the pictures. In the latter case, they usually will pay more, because there is less editing and publishing work involved. Most have a draftsman on staff if your article needs a drawing.

If you don't like the way a magazine responds to you, pick another. There are probably several that cover your subject. And, they are desperate enough for material that a magazine often will want to publish something that is not even closely connected to what the magazine title says it is about.

There's money out there. You may as well pick up some of it!

Bob was recently published in Scroll Saw Work Shop's Holiday 2003 issue with an article that featured his Paleo Pet designs. He is currently negotiating with the same magazine to publish a second article. Bob is a self-taught scroll sawyer and has a passion for his craft. He hopes to someday publish a book about his unique Paleo Pet puzzles.

Thanks to Bob for writing and submitting this article. If you have written an article that would be of interest to CWG members, please submit to John Hammer at : jvhammer@msn.com.

Pen Turning Demo Review - continued from page 2

Once sanded, the next step is to apply a finish coat that will give the pen a nice shine and lasting protection. Both John and Chris used thick (medium viscosity) SuperGlue and an accelerator. John really got into his finishing. Another tip from John: In case you get *too* much into your finishing, keep some acetone handy to unglue your fingers from the pen! With the lathe at its slowest speed, he applied one drop of glue along the top side of the pen, while gently buffing with a small paper towel on the bottom side. Next, he applied the accelerator and buffed again. John stressed the importance of using the accelerator that matches your superglue (e.g., same brand). After 4-5 applications of glue and accelerator, he sanded with 220, 400 and 600 grit wet/dry sandpaper and buffed with 3M automotive polish and plastic cleaner or micromesh. WOW, was it beautiful!

Several Guild members gathered around the lathes for a close-up view of the demos. Chris commented that he became interested in turning pens after attending one of John's demos a few years ago: "John has a way of making me addicted to whatever he is teaching. First it was pens, and more recently it is Shaker boxes." A final warning from both guys: After you start turning pens, you will most likely get hooked. Consider yourself warned! Many thanks to John and Chris for sharing their tips and techniques on pen building. (More information can also be found on the Yahoo Penturner Group.)



ABC Recycling for the Guild

Mike and Holly Burns, of **ABC Custom Woodworks**, have been saving cutoffs for the Guild to use in our Christmas Toys Program and other Guild projects. If you are participating in these events, or if you can use some random cutoffs for your own projects, please feel free to contact **Mike or Holly at 303-910-0359**.

CWG Opportunity

Stickley has invited the CWG to attend a special event in September. Mike Danial, the company historian, will be sharing stories about the folklore behind Stickley. His unique road show began in 1985, and has been enjoyed by experts and novices alike. Mike will share stories from several generations that span heirloom quality pieces—to the modern day throw-away mentality of today's buyers.

While everyone is invited, seating is limited and a reservation is required. Mike will conduct two shows: September 9th at the Centennial showroom, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and September 10th at the Westminster showroom at 11:00 a.m. If you plan to attend one of these exciting road shows, call **Mary Frances at 720-493-5677**. You'll need to let her know which date you plan to attend.

Christmas Toys Program



It's time to begin thinking about this year's *Christmas Toys* program. We need participants to help build the toys. We realize that the days leading into the Holiday season can be hectic for everyone. To accommodate everyone's busy schedule, we've made some changes to lighten the load. Here's how the program will work:

We have organized the metro area into groups. Each group will build a specific toy. Within each group, we're asking individuals to do a specific step on the group project. Once your step is complete, you'll pass the toy along to the next member on the list. You'll always be completing the same step. We hope this will relieve scheduling problems of trying to get everyone together at one time and place.

Bill Hoppers has a pallet of cut-offs available for use for this important program. You can contact Bill to schedule pick-up of the cut-offs. If you need the name of the group leader in your area, contact a Board member. This is a great opportunity to help make a difference for some of the area children.

Guild Members' Show and Tell

Have you finished a project or two lately that you'd like to show off in the Newsletter or on our website? If so, send a photo to newsletter@coloradoodworkers.org or email directly to any of the Board Members. We will publish it in an upcoming newsletter and on the website. Please include a brief description of your project; what inspired you to build it; materials used, and anything else you think the members would be interested in knowing. Also, feel free to bring your projects to the monthly Guild meeting! Everyone loves a close-up look of the real thing! To get things "kicked off", here are a couple of projects recently finished by the Guild's Board members.

Dave Vilella – Maple Fireplace Mantel

This past year we remodeled and updated our home. When we got to the family room, there stood a 20-year old brick fireplace that I had no idea what to do with. After researching how to reface a fireplace, I decided to design a new look for ours. I selected maple to complement the maple kitchen cabinets and the maple crown molding. The nickel glass doors tied the nickel hardware and ceiling fan to the fireplace. The hand routed bead board around the base of the fireplace helped bring together the east coast cape code wainscot in the adjacent dining room. The red wave tile blended well with our earth tone color scheme. The tall vertical raised panel elements on both sides of the hearth are hidden storage shelves-great for holding DVDs and VCR tapes. At first glance, this project seems enormous, but my approach was to build complete sections in the shop, then install them on the fireplace. It worked great. If you try this approach, make sure you can get them out of the shop first!

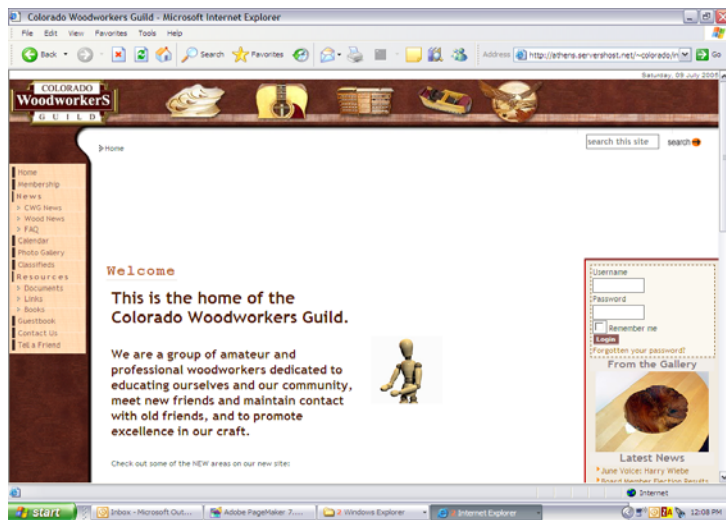


Leslie Kennedy – “Cascade” Band Saw Art Box

Most of you know that I've been on a "band saw box" kick lately. I wanted to create a vertical design series that I can use for 2, 3, 4 or 5 drawer boxes. This 4-drawer box is the first one in the "Cascade" series that I have completed, and I have a similar 3-drawer box underway. The box measures 11" high and 5" wide at the base. It was crafted out of spalted maple with lacewood drawer pulls, and is finished with several coats of Danish oil topped with a coat of paste wax.

New CWG Website Is Under Construction!!!

New CWG member, Frederick Matzen has volunteered to rebuild our website. He began this project by soliciting feedback from our board members and investigating other woodworking guild sites for ideas. In two short weeks, Fred created a prototype for our new, improved site. We hope you find the new site interesting and easy to use. He hopes to have it completed soon, so check back periodically at www.coloradoodworkersguild.org for the new look! **Thank you Fred!!!**



Food for Thought: East High School's Library Project

An interesting woodworking article was spotted in a web publication from the *Rocky Mountain News* called **YourHub.com**. Denver's East High School needed new library furniture and wanted to reproduce a style appropriate for their circa 1925 historic building. East High students, under the direction of their woodshop teacher and a volunteer professional woodworker, will be completing the project this summer. You can read the article and see pictures of the student woodworkers at:

<http://www.yourhub.com/default.aspx?tabid=526&contentid=7137> .

Perhaps this article will plant some seeds on how the Guild can encourage budding woodworkers in our communities. If you have ideas, please contact any of the Board members.

Wood Hats and More

by Leslie Kennedy

Two things are consistent about the Cherry Creek Arts Festival (CCAF) each year: hot summer weather and a wide variety of very talented artists. I toured the festival over the 4th of July weekend with particular focus on the dozen woodworkers who traveled from across the U.S. and British Columbia to show their wares. Original furniture designs, beautiful turned vessels, unique musical instruments, elegant boxes, and wooden hats—yes, hats—were on display! The CCAF is a juried show and, in the words of one of the artists, is “the one show where everyone wants to exhibit”. A few of my favorite exhibitors included:

- John Wesley Williams' furniture (www.johnwesleywilliamsfurniture.com)
- Hamilton/Roberts Designs' boxes (www.hamiltonroberts.com)
- Johannes Michelsen's hats (www.woodhat.com)

I highly recommend checking out this annual festival next July to see the fine craftsmanship displayed by the woodworkers and the other 200+ painters, sculptors, photographers, jewelry makers, metal, glass and ceramic artists. If you do attend the show, remember to go early, rub on lots of sunscreen and wear a hat – wooden or otherwise!

Christmas in July?

Yes, it's time to start thinking about those holiday gifts that you plan to crank out of your shop for family and friends. Only six months and counting! Last year, we held a “Quick Things to Make for Christmas” program at our November Guild meeting. It was very interesting to see all of the wonderful items presented by Guild members including games, boxes, puzzles, toys, intarsia and more.

This year, we will hold our “**Quick Things to Make for Holiday Gifts**” program a month earlier in October...just in case you need a *little* more time to act on those great ideas. Start planning now! We hope that several of you will come with items, plans, tips and suggestions for quick holiday gifts.

Guild Member Discounts

20% off of purchases at

The Hardwood Emporium

16043 W. 4th Ave., Golden CO. 80401,
303-277-1488

10% off at:

Abilene Awards & Logos

1730 S Abilene, Aurora, CO. 80012,
303-755-0337

Austin Hardwoods

975 W. Mississippi, Denver, CO. ,
303-733-1292

Centennial Wood Co.

985 S. Logan, Denver, CO.
303-778-6209

Charlie's Secondhand Store

2227 Larimer St., Denver, CO.
303-295-1781

Paxton

4837 Jackson St., Denver, CO.
303-399-6047

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware

2553 S. Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO.
303-782-0588

TC Woods

9776 Arapahoe Rd, Lafayette, CO.

Woodcraft

4403 S. Tamarac Parkway, Denver, CO.
303-290-0007

Wood of the Month

Hardwood Emporium has:

8/4 Red Oak for \$3.75/BF (regularly \$4.23/BF)

Paxton has:

4/4 Red Oak for \$2.37/BF

Centennial Wood Co. has:

4/4 Sheduva for \$5.06/BF

Note: Centennial is probably going to offer quarter-sawn Red Oak as their Wood of the Month next month.

Tools For Sale in Estes Park

Stacy Patterson, a member of the Colorado Woodworkers Guild is in the process of moving to Texas and selling a few tools that he uses for his woodworking hobby. All of the items are in great shape.

- o Delta DC380 15" Planer, 2 HP, 2 speed, 230 volts \$495.00
- o Delta 50-851 Dust Collector, 2 large bags, 2 HP, 230 Volts \$195.00
- o Craftsman Commercial 15" drill press \$115.00
- o 3 Miscellaneous Motors, 1.5 HP \$20, 1/2 HP \$10, 1/3 HP \$7.50
- o Victor Professional Acetylene welding unit, with bottles \$50.00
- o 1995 Tilt Bed Utility Trailer, full size tires, bed dimensions 56.5"x10', 12" high side rails \$395.00

If you are interested, please contact Stacy at 970-577-0604, or e-mail him at stacypatterson@estesvalley.net.

Wood for Sale in Lakewood

Leslie Kennedy & Bob Betting

During the June Guild meeting, I mentioned I was contacted by Donna, a women looking to sell some wood that belonged to her late husband. He was a hardwood furniture maker and apparently had the lumber cut in Indiana. Since her husband's death a number of years ago, the wood has been stored in her steel garage. It is stacked with spacers and appears to be in fine shape, per Bob Betting who went to check it out (thanks Bob!). Donna is willing to sell the wood for \$5/BF regardless of the wood species. There appeared to be:

- 18 - 4/4 x 12", 8-10' length
- ~6 - 4/4 x 6", various lengths
- ~2 - 3" x 12", 8' length

The boards were rough sawn (unplaned) and stacked, so it was difficult for Bob to identify the species. Donna seemed to recall her husband saying they were cherry, oak and hackberry. Bob thinks there may also be some mahogany. Donna also has a stack of pine 2x4s, 2x2s, etc., that she is willing to give away to whoever wants to haul them away.

If you are interested, please **contact Donna directly at 303-238-5691**. She lives in Lakewood near 9th and Wadsworth.

Board Members

President:

Dave Vilella
720.229.1185
davev@a1glassinc.com

Vice-President:

Leslie Kennedy
303.478.3890
leslie@woodgal.com

Treasurer:

Chris Pine
303.936.3859
cpine522@comcast.net

Secretary:

John Hammer
303.972.8065
jvhammer@msn.com

Deputies of the Board

Andy Zartman
303.859.0724
zartmaw@louisville.storetek.com

Committees at Large:

Joe Kuter
303.451.8439 (Home)
303.908.5919 (cell)
JoeKuter@juno.com

Committee Leaders

Christmas Toy Program
Bill Hoppers
303.424.6052

Membership Coordinator
Ron Vanous
303.988.6047

Yahoo Group Moderator
Carl Beck
carl@carlbeck.com

Guild Webmaster
Frederick Matzen
webmaster@coloradoodworkersguild.org

Not yet a member of the Colorado Woodworkers Guild?

We invite you to join now. Here are some of the benefits of becoming a member:

Monthly Guild Meetings -- Here woodworkers from novices to highly skilled craftsmen can meet, network, solicit advice, share ideas, and learn

Annual Craftsman Show -- The woodworkers' showcase! A world-class exhibit featuring pieces created by our diverse and talented guild members

Christmas Toys Program -- A great opportunity for novices to work side-by-side with and learn from experienced craftsmen, and in the process create fabulous toys for underprivileged children

Field Trips -- To local lumber yards, mills and workshops

Monthly Newsletter -- That includes meeting announcements, free classified ads and much, much more...

Membership in the Colorado Woodworkers Guild is \$30 per year.

To join, provide the information requested below and return with your \$30 check to:

Colorado Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 480561
Denver, CO 80248

Board Meeting Minutes

To conserve space in the newsletter for articles of interest to our Guild members, we no longer publish the Board Meeting Minutes each month. Copies of the minutes are available upon request by contacting a Guild officer.

Visit our web site for the latest information and late breaking announcements:

www.coloradoodworkersguild.org

Guild Business: Monthly Board Meeting

The next CWG Board Member Meeting will be July 19th, 6 p.m. at Rockler Woodworking. The meeting is open to all members. If you have suggestions on CWG speakers, topics, events or activities, please feel free to contact any Board Member or attend the Board Member meeting.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____