

# SFVW

VOLUME 28, ISSUE #1

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## *San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988*

<http://sfvw.org/>

### *Monthly Meetings*

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 PM, at the Balboa Park Sports Complex, Gym Building, at 17015 Burbank Blvd, Encino (see page 3 for map).

### *Meeting Minutes*

*by Jim Kelly*

Minutes of the San Fernando Valley Woodworkers' meeting, Thursday, January 18, 2018

President Marc Collins called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. There were several folks checking us out in the first meeting of the new year. Rick loves working with wood, now he mostly paints, but wants to use recycled lumber to make bookcases. Armen is recently retired from Mattel and is checking out retirement hobby options. He could help us in ensuring that our toys meet child safety standards. Gary is a new woodworker and looking to learn. Tracey is interested in refurbishing/repairing old furniture. Belle is Mike Wells' daughter and likes to chew on wood.

#### **Announcements/Reports**

Sam Shanman reported that someone left a grey, hooded jacket behind at his shop on the day of the build there. If it is yours, please contact Sam.

Jeff Bremer announced that he had brought in a box of cut-offs that could be used to build next month's challenge (if anyone needed some scrap pieces).

Steffan Duesdau announced that Rockler has an old fashioned drafting table looking for a good home.

Gary Coyne apologized for stating in the recent newsletter that Sheila had decimated the toys, when he meant to say she had disseminated (aka distributed) them. Apology was

### *February Challenge*

Make something from scrap!

### *Our President says...*

*by Marc Collins*

2018 is off to a fantastic start! It was truly inspiring to have Brian Miller and Marci at the meeting to demonstrate detailed finishing techniques and then having the book to take away and reference later. It's a great book and it's so much fun to ping Brian with tons of questions. We have more exciting programs coming up later in the year, but please let us know if you have suggestions/contacts for future speakers.

One of the things that my wife marvels at is my ability to sleep when needed or desired, as she often times battles insomnia. I'm going to share one of my secrets – bedtime design sessions. After I retire to the bed, I will often take the latest project I'm working on or an upcoming project and start to process every little detail about construction, technique, materials, or simply how to solve a specific problem that is tripping me up. I find this both relaxing and useful. First off, I don't know if my brain eventually gets bored with my inner ramblings of if there's something to tiring out the brain, but I can always get to sleep. It might also be that simply focusing on one train of thought keeps more stressful and erratic impulses at bay.

Secondly, and perhaps more relevant to woodworking, I do actually solve a lot of problems this way. Sometimes I find the solution right then and there and sometimes it sort of comes to me when I wake up the next day. I can go over a complete build in my head. I can rotate pieces, try different meth-

### *February's Meeting*

This month Chuck Nickerson will discuss the design and construction challenges faced when making circular frames for small stained glass pieces.

He will also cover some techniques for drawing arches, another form of curved work.



## Who We Are

The club was formed in 1988 for the purpose of enhancing skills, providing information and sharing the joys of working with wood. The membership reflects a cross section of woodworking interests and skill levels - both hobbyist and professionals. Annual dues are \$35. Full-time student dues are \$15.

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accepted.

One member announced he had a Powermatic cabinet saw and other tools for sale at a reasonable price. [Ed. we are sorry but this person's name was missed and we've been unable to verify who mentioned this. Hopefully at the Feb meeting he can repeat his offer.]

Steve Sampietro offered his white board for anyone to use during the meeting. He also reminded us of the upcoming tool swap meet at Anderson Plywood (Saturday, February 17, 2018).

Mark Ashley announced that there will be a woodturning



symposium May 10 – 12 in Orem, UT.

Sam Shanman announced that he has a Craftsman full-size router table and fence for sale.

Chuck Nickerson announced that our holiday party at a Mexican buffet about broke even.

Gary Willoughby announced he has a 16-inch, 240 -volt surface planer for sale.

Marc Collins proposed a shop tour this spring. Gary Coyne, Sam Shanman and Jim Kelly offered to present their shops. Hopefully another three or four will follow their lead. Other "tour" suggestions included the Sam Maloof Foundation, the San Diego County Fair, the Neth-

## Club Officers

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Toy Chair:	Jeff Bremer	(310) 740-6892 <a href="mailto:jabremer@msn.com">jabremer@msn.com</a>
Toy Distribution:	Sheila Rosenthal	818-653-4847 <a href="mailto:sheiladee@yahoo.com">sheiladee@yahoo.com</a>
Refreshments:	Nina Dusedau	(201) 913-6151 <a href="mailto:wood@bark.com">wood@bark.com</a>

*"President's Message" from page 1*

ods of construction, and generally assess my entire process. Everyone is unique, but this helps me immensely in both increasing my enjoyment of a project, as I really love the analysis, but also with my productivity and general relaxation. It's almost like its "woodworking meditation." Try it out and let me know if you find enlightenment.

Have a great week and can't wait to see you all soon!

Marc

El Presidente

ercutt Collection musical instrument restoration shop, and the Getty furniture restoration shop.

### Program Report

January's program was more on finishing by Brian Miller; February will be Chuck Nickerson on building an oval frame for a stained-glass piece; March will be Jim Kelly on building a Rogowski stool; and April will be a program on storage. Ideas for future programs are needed and may be forwarded to any of the officers.

See "minutes" on page 3



**Balboa Recreation Center Location**  
Map courtesy of Google Maps

*“Minutes” from page 2*

### Treasurer’s Report.



Chuck Nickerson reported that we are solvent, with sufficient funds to finance the toy build for the current year.

### Toy Committee Report

Jeff Bremer reported that all of the toys had been distributed, and that he had been one of those delivering toys. He said it gave as much satisfaction as making them. Shelia Rosenthal reported

that she has received many thank you notes and photos of happy kids with new toys. The photos will be posted on the webpage as we obtain parental consent for posting each one. Jeff announced that Duncan Valore-Kemmerer has volunteered to be Secretary for the Toy Committee, but we still need a chairperson. After the meeting, Duncan and Jim Kelly talked about the committee and Jim stated he would be the chair if he did not have to take minutes too. One meeting a month is enough!!

### Questions

Ginger Gibson asked if there is a way to artificially weather wood. Brian Miller suggested she use a product called

crackle lacquer.

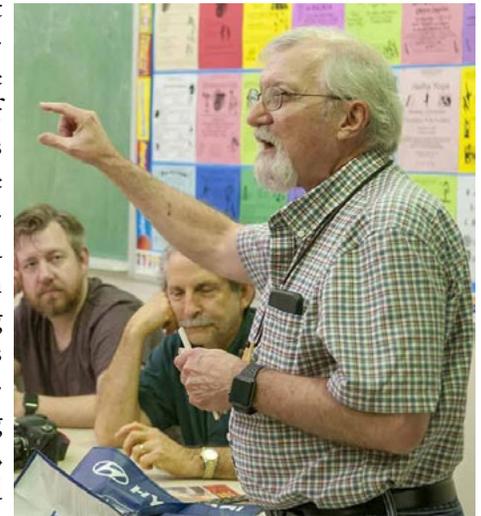
Greg Rogers said he has a friend who wants to buy a drum sander and was looking for recommendations. Both Chuck Nickerson and Gary Coyne expressed satisfaction with their Supermax 19-38s.

Jeff Bremer asked for the best way to plane 6-inch boards on a 13-inch planer. Recommendations were to place the boards side-by-side, but staggered, to minimize snipe.

### Show & Tell

Chuck Nickerson showed us a couple of bowls he is making out of bendable plywood from Lee Valley. He stated an interest in convening a meeting of a sub-group to discuss design.

Gary Coyne bemoaned his long practice of using thin scrap for stickers (to separate his stacked wood) and ending up with a lot, but of varying thicknesses (two are OK but three of varying thickness is not good). He solved the problem by buying a sheet of 3/16-inch MDF and cutting a supply of stickers of the same thickness and pitching his old collection.



Gary also showed us a pair of brass

stair/square gauges that when fastened to one side of a framing square, let you rest it on the surface of a piece of lumber, rather than trying to keep it hooked on the edge while drawing your line. The subject of correcting framing squares came up as they are notoriously off. How to square fram-



ing squares can be found on page 5.

Mike Wells showed us a knife that he had made in which the blade and tang had a wedge cross-section that made drilling the holes for

the rivets for fastening the handle a challenge. It was suggested he use two blocks of wood with a complimentary taper and fasten them to either side of the tang with double-sided carpet tape. This would give a block with parallel

## Upcoming Wood-related Events

*Jim Kelly*

1. San Diego County Fair is coming up June 1 – July 4, 2018. The entry deadline for the Design in Wood exhibit is April 27. Submissions are online at [www.sdfair.com](http://www.sdfair.com).
2. Metabo is recalling 5, 6, and 7-inch Rat Tail Angle grinders with brake (Models WEPBA 17-125 Quick RT DS, WEPBA 17-150 Quick RT DS, and WEPB 19-180 RT DS) The “On” switch can lock on, presenting a personnel hazard. Contact Metabo online at [www.metabo.com](http://www.metabo.com) or at (844) 470-5540.
3. Orange County Fair is also coming up July 13 – August 12, 2018. Entry deadline is June 1. For more info see [www.ocfair.com](http://www.ocfair.com).
4. Anderson Ranch is accepting applications for residencies until February 15, 2018 for the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 sessions. More information at [www.andersonranch.org](http://www.andersonranch.org).
5. The California State Fair Best in Wood Show will be July 13 – 29, 2018 and is open to all California residents. Entry forms will be available in February at [www.castatefair.org](http://www.castatefair.org).
6. Anderson Plywood will sponsor a Tool Swap Meet on Saturday, February 17, 2018. For info contact John Arenson at (310) 397-8229.

## On the Web

Core77 is an amazing website for makers. <http://www.core77.com/>

As an introduction here's a link to an interview with Chris Schwarz. <http://www.core77.com/posts/72547/An-Interview-with-Christopher-Schwarz-Part-1-Learning-from-the-Past-to-Inform-Modern-Designs>

When it comes to tools, old can be gold. The Antiques Roadshow appraisal of a Cesar Chelor plane. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/season/15/washington-dc/appraisals/cesar-chelor-plane-ca-1755--201006T14/>

Craftsperson Amy Umbel has started a journey well worth watching. See is working through how to appropriately decorate hand-crafted woodenware. She can be found at <http://www.fiddleheadwoodworking.com>.



Found on a Facebook quilt page.  
We're not the only ones....



Mike and Belle

# Making your Framing Square Dead-on Accurate

by Gary Coyne

At the January meeting I showed some Stair Gauges that can be attached to a framing square that makes the framing square more useful for woodworking. A comment came up that framing squares are traditionally not 90° so it's not much of an asset.

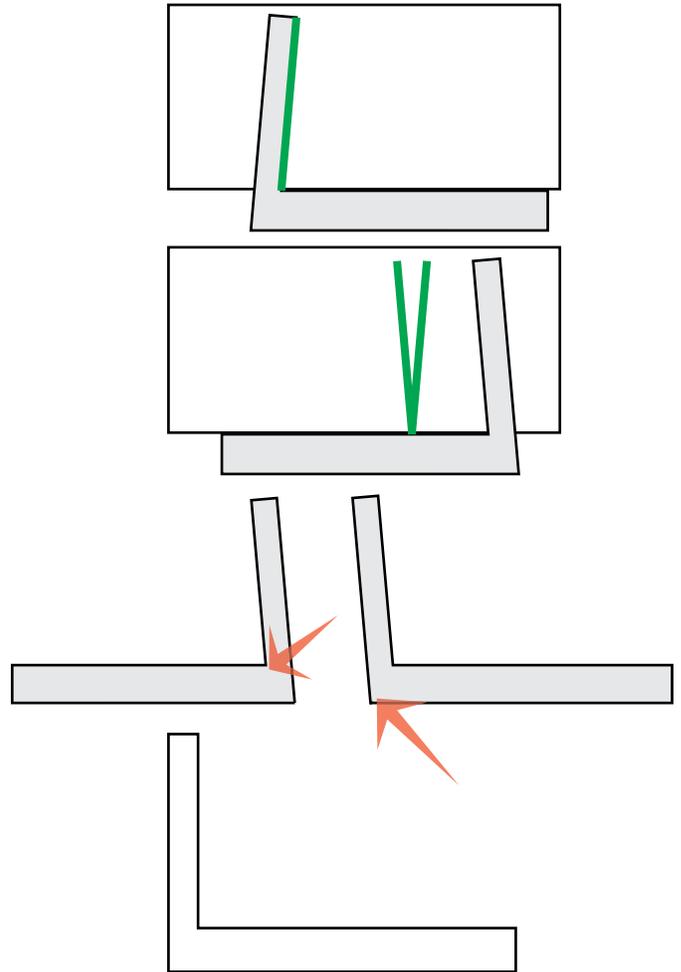
Fortunately it's very easy to adjust a framing square and make it dead-on accurate.

The first thing you need to do is to figure out which way your framing square is off. To do this, place the framing square against a true flat surface with a known straight edge and draw a line on the table (inside or outside, either one).

Now flip the square over and draw a new line adjacent to the first line. This will help you verify if you have an obtuse (greater than 90°) or acute angle (less than 90°).

What you need now is a standard steel punch. If you have an acute angle on the square, take the steel punch, lay the square on your garage's floor and give it a whack in the inside corner/surface (about an 1/8" to 3/16" inside from the edge). If you have an obtuse angle, give the square a whack in the outside corner/surface.

After each whack, do a test as you did in the first part of this and check your progress. You'll quickly see how much movement you get depending on the strengths hzzzt of your "whacks." Depending on how accurate you want to be, you can get this dead on accurate (but you may need to go back & forth as you get closer and closer).



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sides through which he could drill, being sure of being perpendicular to the tang. Mike also showed a plane iron he made for Marc Collins that has a taper to assist in keeping the iron in its desired position in a wood bodied plane. The iron was highly polished. When asked why, Mike pointed



out that the more highly polished the iron surface, the less surface area and the less tendency to rust. Mike's final item was a turning that he did using a piece of spalted wood.

Steve Sampietro showed us a fixture/column that he uses to support

long work pieces at his drill press.

### Challenge

The Challenge for February is to make something from scrap.

### Program

Brian Miller started by noting that he has been in the finishing business about 40 years and currently teaches at both Cerritos College and William Ng's school in Santa Ana. Brian demonstrated using potassium dichromate to stain white oak. He started by mixing the potassium dichromate powder in hot water, then allowing it to cool and straining it to remove any granules that hadn't dissolved. Before staining, he sprayed the surface with a water mist and lightly sanded to

remove the raised grain. He applied the stain with a brush, first to the flat surface and then to the edges. He did this to avoid possibly getting some of the mixture on the flat surface while first painting the edges and getting an uneven coat on the main surface. After the stain has thoroughly dried, he



suggests finishing with tung oil and then a clear coat. Brian also talked about making iron acetate for really darkening wood. He uses shredded pads of 0000 steel wool and cider vinegar. It takes 4-5 days for the chemical reaction to complete and the mixture should be in a loosely covered con-

tainer while the reaction is taking place (the reaction produces hydrogen gas and enough will accumulate to burst a tightly sealed container). Strain the mixture to remove any remaining steel particles and then store in a sealed, amber glass bottle.

Brian stated that for best results, shellac flakes should be mixed with denatured alcohol. Shellac, both premixed and flakes has a finite shelf life, so check the dates on the package or buy from a dealer that does a brisk business. Premixed is good for about one year and flakes (kept tightly sealed) for about three.

