



San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

Monthly Meetings

Our meetings are *normally* held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 PM, at the Balboa Park Sports Complex, Gym Building, at 17015 Burbank Blvd, Encino.

Meeting Minutes

by Ginger Gibson

The meeting was called to order at 7:08

We welcomed a new member, Dan, who is an amateur woodworker who moved into a new house 2 ½ years ago and got into various projects.

We had 2 announcements: George Irwin had an item to give away, a 6 X 48 belt sander with a 9" disc. The motor runs backward, so the belt has a twist. (Note: Chuck has already taken this.) Jeff mentioned we sold 2 shirts last month.

Tips and Tricks and Questions were many:

Greg Golden said he typically uses deck screws, and wanted to know, when building furniture, does he need to go to wood screws? Gary said the screw is just to hold items until the glue dries, after which the screws are superfluous, except in the case of pocket screws. Gary C also added that for hardwood, you should use finer threaded screws, but for pine you should use a looser thread. Jeff said when screwing into hardwood, it can help to put wax on the screws, and several people mentioned that they learned you could use soap in the same way, but then others said you shouldn't because the glycerin in the soap is bad.

Jim Baldrige wanted to know what glue does everyone

See "Minutes" on page 4

Our President says...

by Chuck Nickerson

Balance.

For the past month, in the shop I've been doing too many 'shoulds' and not enough 'wants.' It's been tricky to tease out the problem because some of the 'shoulds' have been disguised as 'wants to help.' As near as I can tell the 'shoulds' will be wrapped up before our next toy meeting. THEN I can regain some balance.

Usually when I'm backed into this kind of spot, money gets spent on inspiring wants: special planks from EBay, very special Japanese paring chisels, deposit on a skills class, and similar stuff. This time I am resolved to work through "this spot" without spending the money so it's a bit tougher than usual.

Next month if I'm showing you a really neat tool or fantastic plank, I lost the battle. As long as I'm making sawdust, I did not lose the war.



Steve Veenstra displays his wonderful turning abilities with these two segmented bowls made from walnut, birch, maple and cherry.

May

Meeting:

Online #3!

We've had two successful online meetings in a row so this approach is working. Stay tuned for our meeting

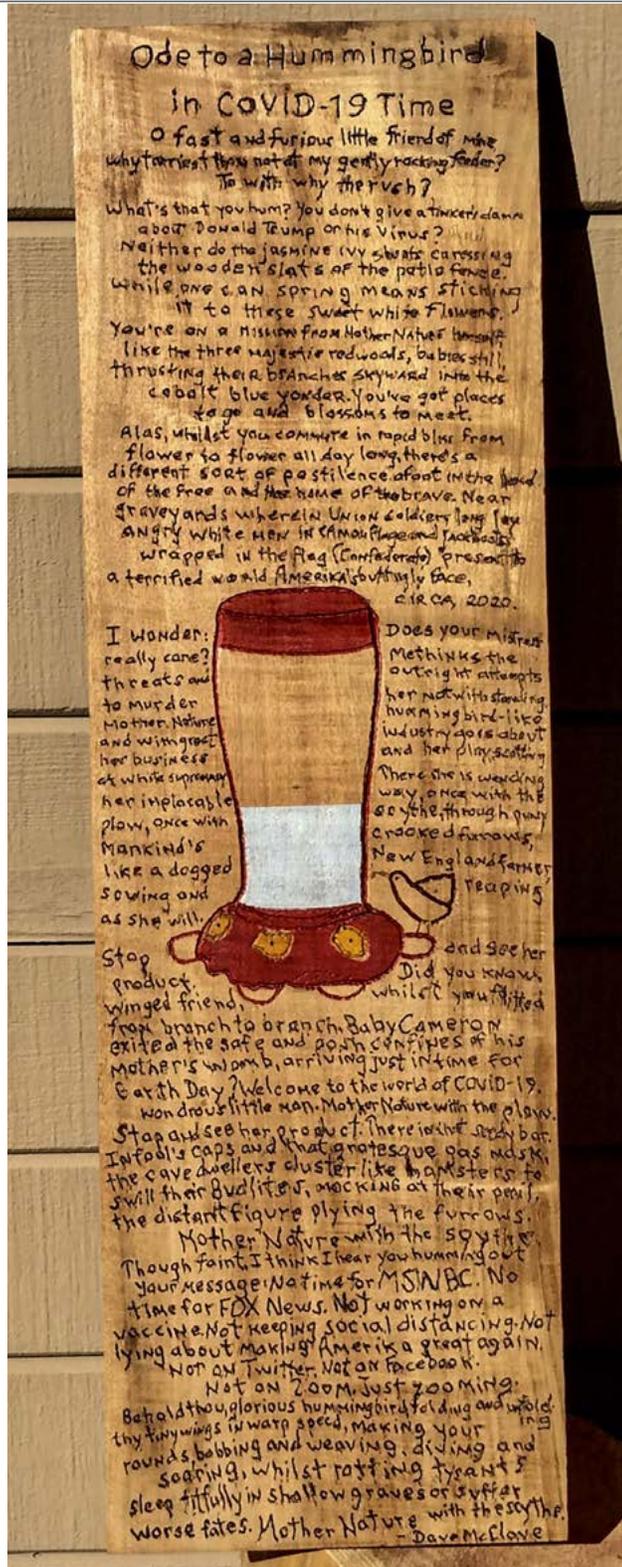
agenda, we are working out the details as you read this. Again we'll be using RingCentral (<https://tinyurl.com/r7dxgq5>) as our meeting software. If you have a tablet, laptop, desktop, or smart phone with a camera (optional) you can participate! (See page 4 for more information on how to log in.)

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.

Club Officers

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Here's Dave McClave's latest carving. It's a poem.

Dave says: "I wrote a poem, an ode, about two weeks ago and decided, if I can't get it published, I might as well give it some staying power by etching it onto a Koa board. I'm not sure if I'll put a finish on it or not. Maybe you and the guys can advise.

It's kind of a Whitmanesque poem, so as long as it's mainly readable, good enough for me and Walt. Maybe one thing might be to choose a softer wood:-) Koa was pretty hard for my little tool."

Coming next month: Aeolian Harps.

A bunch of years ago Tom Ferkel wrote up instructions on how to make an Aeolian Harp, These are stringed instruments that make noise as wind passes over them. They provide a very ethereal sound.

Tom got to thinking about these because of this article: <https://tinyurl.com/ybwyk5bg> of the Golden Gate Bridge has become one giant Aeolian Harp.

Next month Tom will update his article on how YOU can make your own. Stay tuned, it should be a great article.

From the Web

History of chairs from 1800-present (this is long so be ready to watch a long video (but it's worth it)).

<https://www.vitra.com/en-us/page/chair-times>

How to align a table saw fence #1 (Note: this is shown using a SawStop but can apply to most any table saw.)

<https://tinyurl.com/y729n7e2>

How to align a table saw fence #2 (many other adjustments) Note: this applies more toward SawStop saws.

<https://tinyurl.com/ycngudfj>

It's not Precision Engineering (it's CGI) but fun to watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZtTupRKSKY>

Maybe this might inspire someone? Click on each video to see the many secret compartments.

<https://ctfinefurniture.com/>

Tips for Woodworking Measurements and Layouts. We all know some of these but few of us know all of these.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDcrs0btn6Q>

The Speed Square: more than just a speed square.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNH_BhjwhV8

For clock fans, here's Big Ben like you've never seen it before.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Elffjsjbio>

A reprinting a Russian fairy tale of an old hand plane making a new one, with illustrations. While you may not be able to follow the Cyrillic, the images are very easy to read.

<https://tinyurl.com/y7yakuo4>

On-line Meeting Tips

By Calvin Sou & Gary Coyne

One of the fun things about online meetings is your woodworking friends. This is especially great for seeing the members who are not able to always come to meetings.

Here are some tips for "lookin' good" during the meeting:

1. Lighting is typically poor with webcam so it's important to have an extra light around that can light you up so it's not grainy and the webcam isn't losing focus (assumes you have an auto-focus webcam).

2. If your back is facing a light or an open window: move. If there is more light behind you than in front of you, you will be a silhouette.

3. If you are using a computer, tablet, or phone with a camera and you want to easily be able to stop and start the

This following is a two-part web suggestion for learning one of the best way to do dovetails by hand I've seen. The first half of this is by Stumpy Nubs who presents the basic concepts and the tools used. This is important for you to get more of the real star of the pair by watching the originator of this technique, Rob Cosman go through the entire process with more tips for every step and why he does what he does. Even if you do not ever plan to do dovetails, this is a worthwhile set of videos because there are tips that will cover so many other facets of woodworking.

Part 1: Stumpy Numbs on cutting dovetails by hand more accurately.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-fLkdVRMwE>

Part 2: Rob Cosman cutting dovetails by hand more accurately.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9LZOwDSGkY>

If you want something fast and dirty, here's Frank Klausz with a three-minute dovetail done with two bowsaws.

<https://tinyurl.com/ybjcftuc>

And for good measure here's back to Rob Cosman again on how to make shooting boards. And yes, there are miles of tips throughout.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyfygylyJg>

Jeff Bremer is offering to do a Zoom tutorial on Sketchup. If you need a downloadable copy, go here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5avz4un>

An awesome Geometric Marquetry Introduction with Dave Heller

<https://tinyurl.com/y95zhgt2>

Cool Structure

<https://tinyurl.com/ybyunr4w>

camera's viewing, keep a piece of post-it note right in front of the webcam so even if the web meeting starts off with the camera defaulting to ON, no one can see you until you remove that piece of post-it note piece from the front of the web cam. Post-in notes are nice because it doesn't leave any residue.

4. If you're holding your phone, watch out that you're not partially covering the camera with your hand.

5. Please hold your device in landscape mode (side-ways), NOT portrait mode It really looks weird.

prefer for basic joinery? The majority of the group said Titebond 2 or 3. 3 has a longer open time and is water-proof. Jeff added that you can also use hide glue if you want a longer open time. There was also a conversation about using CA glue, someone said they've had a lot of joints come apart from CA glue, and Gary said that its "pull-apart" hold strength is great but its rotational hold strength is terrible.

How to see our on-line meetings

by Marc Collins

In our ongoing effort to ward off bad viruses and be a part of the 21st century, we are going to move forward with the May SFVW meeting via virtual online meeting. This will be intended to be as full featured of a meeting as we usually do in person and we will follow roughly the same agenda as a typical meeting. A lot of us in the group did a test run of this last week and it worked well.

We will send you an invitation via the e-mail that we have on file for you. If you wish for the invitation to go somewhere else, please let Gary know and he can update the list.

You will have the option of joining the meeting on either Android or Apple smartphones and tablets as well as on PC and Mac. When we send the invitation to you, you will receive a weblink at the top of the body of the e-mail. You will simply click that link on either your phone or computer and it will prompt you for an application to download and install the software that you must perform. (Follow the prompts for installation and you should be fine.) Once the software is installed, you do not need to do that again. Then, when you click on the meeting's link you will enter the meeting. (If you have issues, you can always click the link again.) You can listen to the meeting either through your computer or you can also join via phone for the audio and computer for the video.

The operation of this application is very similar to Zoom, but for a very nice quick start guide (PDF), please visit this site:

<https://netstorage.ringcentral.com/guides/meetings-quickstart-guide.pdf>

You can also install via the instructions in the quickstart guide above. We will have the ability to share screens, but for our first meeting, things like show and tell or anything else you would like to share would probably be better served by looping in myself or one of the officers ahead of time and you can send us the pictures you'd like to share.

This will likely be a little bumpy for our inaugural web conference, so please be patient with us, but we wanted to find a way to continue to be a value to each other, even if we have to do it remotely. You are welcome to ask questions, of course. If we get a lot of the same questions, we may send out follow up e-mails with answers.

Greg added that plain old white glue lasts forever.

Jeff explained how to tell how old Titebond glue is. It had a numbering system. Before 2019, it would look like A81022 1223, which would be read as follows:

	Year	Month	Day	Batch
A	8	10	22	1223

After 2019, A19 1220 123 would be read as follows:

	Year	Month	Day	Batch
A	19	12	20	123

Eitan asked about the shelf-life of 2 part epoxy. Steve V said it depends on how you store it and temperature, but 6-8 months is about as long as it's good, and general consensus agreed with that time span. Levon has been working extensively with epoxy recently, so he mentioned that the mixing is critical, with the correct ration being most important. Someone added that using more hardener doesn't make it cure faster.

Calvin has been using Stick Kut (<https://www.relton.com/stick-kut>) for cutting sheet copper recently as opposed to cutting oil. It's like a buttery looking paste. He asked if anyone had any experience with using it, and any suggestions for cutting copper. No one has used the Stick Cut, but Gary C suggested sandwiching the copper between two 1/4" pieces of plywood.

Gary H had a question about his recently acquired Sawstop. When he goes to lock it, the fence is off by 1/8" to 1/4" of an inch. Jeff had guessed that there might be alignment screws applying uneven pressure. [Editor's note: in this issues Web articles, (the 2nd & 3rd items) are how to align a table saw fence, check them out.]

Manny asked about an outdoor furniture set he's refurbishing. He said it looks awful and he's using teak oil, but he feels like the instructions aren't working great, so how best should he apply it? He sanded to 220 and per instructions "coats generously and waits 10-15 minutes to wipe off." But even after he wipes it, it gets gummy. General consensus was that he should coat the piece, let sit, wipe, then let sit AGAIN, wipe again, and then wait overnight before the next coat. Eitan suggested thinning it prior to application.

George asked how do members handle their scraps. (As in, how do we not save every tiny little piece until it takes over the shop.) This was a question everyone seemed to relate to, and there were multiple suggestions: If solid, put it in a burn pile. Bring it in to meetings to give away. Buy another shed. Give to organizations that teach kids art. Use it to turn pens. Glue up scraps to turn into a project. Calvin said his rule is that if it's smaller than his hand, he throws it away. And Gary said he uses smallish, rectangular pieces to pour glue on, and then he dips his glue brush in that.

George also asked if anyone can help him figure out how to organize his shop. Most people said you have to figure it out for yourself because you are the one who best understands how you work. Eitan suggested writing down every time you use a tool for 6 months to give yourself an idea of which items need to be most easily accessible.

For upcoming Programs there wasn't much to report, as we have various speakers lined up, but with restrictions due to the virus, plans are all up in the air right now.

Jim Kelly made the toy report. Many people are in the process of working up tons of toys. He just got 2.5 pallets of lumber from Swaner, including red oak, white oak, maple, walnut, mahogany, birch, alder, and cherry.

Treasurer's report was that we're not currently spending money, so we're good, but if you haven't paid your dues, please mail to Jeff if possible.

Show and Tell:

We started with Gary Coyne showing the saw blade holder he made for his shop, plus the different versions of blade holders that he looked at before making his.

Ginger showed 2 planters that she made out of cabinet doors, a ladder-shaped planter, and a redwood fence she built.

Glen shared information he found regarding facemasks. As far as he can tell, they don't have a shelf life. For wood-working applications, your mask is no good if you feel it restricting your breathing. For health situations, they suggest not wearing the same mask more than 5 times. He men-

tioned that for respirators with filters there's no filtration on the outflow, so if that's what we're wearing outside, we're not really protecting other people. And your mask needs to fit properly to be effective. If you're wearing a mask over a beard, you're basically defeating the purpose. Jim B mentioned that if you're wearing a respirator and you can smell an odor of any kind coming through, that means the molecules can pass through. Calvin mentioned that KN95 is similar to N95. He found a source for masks: Nomad-goods.com with a 10-pack for \$27.95 and Toolnut.com with KN95 20-packs for \$79.00.

George showed a kumiko he just made using basswood instead of maple, which was much easier, and mentioned that he's going to try to make a 12" disc sander from his mini-lathe.

The presentation for the night was Jeff's rocking-chair making experiences. He was inspired by an old Adirondack-style rocking chair that his brother had. He started by using sketch-up, then built a plywood prototype. His first chair had issues with center of gravity- it kept wanting to fall backward. The joinery was lap joints with 3/4" mortises on the back joints. But he didn't like the prototype and wanted to use curves, so he started Chair #2, which was a child's chair. Then he moved on to Chair #3, which was made of hickory, He made brand new templates. He curved the seat stretcher and made rabbets to lower the seat in the middle, and he made wrap-around joints which were really cool. Chair #4 was beech with a similar design to #3 but with the seat less deep. On the next version of the chair he plans to improve the joinery.

Fennel Crusted Salmon on Cedar Planks

by Gary Coyne

If you like salmon here's the best way to cook it I know.

It starts with good salmon of course, the salmon at Costco is great, but fresh fish at grocery stores can vary in freshness. If you push on it and it doesn't bounce back, walk on.

Next, how to cook it: we BBQ it on our Weber placed on a Cedar plank. Here's how I prepare my planks: Over at Ganahl Lumber (in Pasadena) I buy a single Cedar board that's 1" thick, 12" wide, and 12' long. I cut that into 16" pieces, and I cut their width down to 11-1/4" wide.

I then resaw these into thirds on my bandsaw (about 1/4" thick but this can vary if there's any cup to the board).

To cook the salmon, I soak one of the boards in water (at least an hour) using the lid of a plastic storage container (the width is cut to 11-1/4", to fit that lid) [Your bandsaw may limit how wide your boards will be.]. Then I start a chimney of charcoal to be poured into the center of my Weber.

While waiting for the coals, I've placed the salmon skin-side down on the wet board, shake on some of the Fennel

rub (recipe below), and place board over the coals and close the lid. It takes about 15-20 minutes to cook the salmon, once the meat sections can easily separate, it's done.

If I get a Costco salmon I use the whole board, if I get a Trader Joes salmon I use half a board.

After the board has been used, I toss the boards in the trash, but that's done after enjoying the meal!

1.5 T fennel seeds	1/2 t smoked paprika
1/4 t cayenne	1 t ground pepper
1/4 t garlic powder	1/2 t salt
1/2 t cumin	



Saw Horses and Cart

by Jim Kelly

I found an article in an old copy of Fine Woodworking 20+ years ago on building James Krenov inspired sawhorses. The idea really captivated me as they were elegant, apparently quite strong and could serve a number of purposes in my shop, while taking up minimal floor space. For reasons which I no longer recall, I felt that four would meet all my needs, and they have, to date.

I used red oak that I had purchased for another project in the 80s as my material. The project that I had started exceeded my skill set at the time, and I set it aside until the skills improved. Fast forward 10-12 years and that project had been overtaken by events and this sawhorse project looked to be a good use of the set aside lumber.



As you can see from the photo, the uprights are notched and can accept various cross members for various tasks. At one time, before I built a cart to hold my thickness planer, I had it mounted on a piece of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood that had two cleats under it. The cleats were notched, and two sawhorses were used to hold the planer while in use. When not in use, it was housed in a drawer in the cabinet on the left of the photo.

The most common use for the sawhorses is as an outfeed table for my tablesaw. The top of the removable crosspiece is an $\frac{1}{8}$ " lower than the top of the tablesaw. When cutting sheet goods, I use all four sawhorses and place a sheet of $\frac{1}{8}$ " hardboard on top to catch the outfeed. Spring clamps hold the hardboard to the angle iron on the back of the saw table. If you look closely at the photo of the outfeed saw-



horse, you'll notice I measured once and cut twice. Some lessons are only learned the hard way!

I have recently gotten frustrated with having



two plywood panels. The panels are screwed to the base and the handle to the panels.

The casters came with 1", $\frac{1}{4}$ -20 bolt, washers, and nuts. Since the ends of the bolts would interfere with the operation of the casters if the bolt heads were above the base and protrude above the base if inserted through the caster bases, I inserted $\frac{1}{4}$ " ply inserts between the caster and base and countersunk the base for the washers and nuts. It mostly worked, although the bolt ends are a little proud. After rolling it loaded around the shop a bit, I found the sawhorses wanted to shift longitudinally. To prevent this I installed the cleats you see to prevent their sliding off the base. I got a set of two fixed casters and two swivel casters with brakes for the base and find them adequate. The cart and sawhorse combination may be seen in the next photo. I only wish I had had this epiphany years ago. My shins would have particularly appreciated it!



I recall a couple of years hauling the sawhorses to Ed Sheanin's house where we set planks across them and made tables for staining treasure chests. I've also used them for stacking lumber I was in the process of milling. They have been quite adaptable.