

SFVW

VOLUME 31, ISSUE #1

JANUARY 2021



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

At 7:07 p.m. the meeting was called to order.

We had no new members or guests at this meeting, so we began with committee reports.

Announcements & Committee Reports

Jeff reported that our finances were in better shape than last month as a result of the newly opened Etsy store. At the time of the meeting, we had shipped 5 items and netted and extra \$250.00. Our members had contributed items, with more on the way. Jeff asked members to share Etsy shop info with friends, and if you have an Etsy account, favorite our shop, as that should help with search visibility. Jeff also noted that dues are coming up for 2021. Since we're still not meeting in person, you can make a check payable to Jeff and mail it to his address, which is in the roster.

For toy committee, Jim reported that we made 1600 toys for 1200 kids for the holidays. Then, an organization that works with foster kids contacted us saying they needed 250 white boards for the kids to use while going to school online. Our good

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Our President says...

by Chuck Nickerson

A new year has arrived. For those of us given to New Year's Resolutions (NYRs) the urge to make some related to woodworking is very tempting. It's not difficult for me to list how I want my shop time to be different; that's something I consider each month. Since some of the items don't change much from month to month (or year to year) it's clear I need to change my approach.

This year I'm focusing not on the what, but the how. What rule or practice, the how, will help achieve the what. Onward and upward!

Between this effort and working my way through my woodshed I found two 12" x 12" x 4" blocks of cherry. I'm not entirely sure why I bought them but it will be fun to figure that out.

January Presentation: Us!



From Jack Robbins:

"I don't know who promised 250 white boards in 3 weeks because it can't be done, but it was. It took 7 men who volunteered their service to make the impossible possible. They put in long hours in their shops making all the parts and I think they deserve a big pat on the back for it.

They were (in alphabetical order): Jeff Bremer, Gregg Golden, Jim Kelly, Gregg Masini, Chuck Nickerson, Gregg Rogers, & Gary Willoughby"

Our intended January presenter did not work out so we're doing what we do best: an expanded Show & Tell that will emphasize what we did, why we did it the way we did, and the advantages of that approach. As of now, we will have short presentations from Eitan, Chuck, Jeff, & Gary C. If you wish to be part of this, please prepare images on your computer of what you wish to talk about. It's much easier to see images in Zoom than you holding your phone or small items up to the computer's camera.

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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friends at Anderson Plywood donated the necessary white board, and the boards were built by Jeff, Chuck, Jack R, Gary M, and Gregg M.

For the speaker report, Glen said he was waiting on a response as to a possible January speaker [Ed. this didn't work out, see the bottom right of page 1 for an update on this]. For February or March, Chuck has a topic he can talk about, with videos.

Tips and Techniques and Questions

In Tips and Techniques and Questions, Jeff asked in anyone has a benchtop drill press that adjusts speed by lever rather than belt. This was because on his drill press, he was getting a noise/vibration that seemed "off" and he wanted to know if the vibration could be fixed. A few possibilities offered were maybe it wasn't stable enough, or maybe the chuck just needed re-seating on the quill. But Marc stated that has the same type of machine and confirmed that his vibrates too.

Gary C offered the following trick for placing drawer sliders in a cabinet. He measures from the base of the cabinet to where he wants the bottom of the drawer slide to be, then cuts a piece of wood to that size and clamps it to the sides of the cabinet, to use as guides for the drawer slides to rest on. This makes it easy to then drill the holes and I also know the drawer slides are parallel and the same distance from the bottom.



Marc asked the group if anyone has a good sliding compound miter saw they would recommend. Some people said Bosch makes a good one, Ginger said she likes her Harbor Freight Hercules brand, and someone said maybe Kpex, and that Mark Newton knows how to really dial one in.

Greg Rogers asked if it's possible to get our Rockler discount on mail order items. The answer was not really. You

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would need to go into the store and place the order at the kiosk, then the store employee can go into the comments section and request the discount. (It's best to do this when Don or Jeanette is working.)

Gary C offered the following tip: If you wish to buy something from Woodcraft online, go to their site and look at something but don't buy it. They will start emailing you, and after a couple of emails they'll offer you free shipping.

Chuck asked if anyone has any beech wood. Jeff said he does, and Greg Rogers said he might.



Show and Tell

Chuck showed us his fixture that lets him use Bessey F-body clamps and convert them into something like a Bessey

Upcoming Wood-related Events & Important News

from Jim Kelly

The following events and announcements were found in the September – October 2020 issue of Woodworker West and may be of interest:

Woodworker West is a great source of events, sources, and items of interest for woodworkers of all types and abilities focusing on places in the Western US. For more information go to <http://www.woodwest.com>.

Ongoing: Recently published is the first detailed biography of James Krenov, the founder of the College of the Redwoods Fine Woodworking Program. More information at: www.lostartpress.com/.

January –February: The Escondido Arts Partnership has canceled the 2021 Wood: A Furniture Show due to COVID-19. They will be offering a series of videos of Southern California craftsmen on their website: www.escondidoarts.org.

January 9 & February 13: Bay Area Woodturners will have virtual demonstrations on Spalting by Dr. Seri Robinson January 9 and Wheel of Delicacy by Michael Alguire on. More information at: www.bayareawoodturners.org/.

January 16 & February 20: San Diego Woodturners will have virtual demonstrations by Eric Lofstrom January 16 and Jeff Hornung February 20. More information at: www.sdwat.org/.

Through the end of March: Sonoma County Woodworkers are doing their annual Artistry in Wood exhibit online this year. The work may be seen through the end of March at: www.museumsc.org/2020-artistry-in-wood/.

February 1–28: Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the 34th Annual Arts and Crafts Conference in Asheville, NC will be virtual this year. More information at: www.arts-craftsconference.com

Ongoing: The online gallery, Wood Symphony, will host several juried exhibitions, including March 1–31, Turned and Sculptured Wood, June 1-30 Inside the Box, September 1–30 Small Treasures and December 1–31 The Art of Giving, More information at: www.woodsymphony.com

March 6–7: Virtual Canadian Woodworking Show will feature seminars and vendor presentations. More information and schedule at: www.woodshows.com/.

Mid-March The annual World Wood Day, which was commemorated in Long Beach a few years back, this year will be virtual with presentations, discussions, workshops, etc. More information will be available at: www.worldwoodday.org/2021/.

April 24 –June 18: The Brea Art Gallery will present Made in California, a juried show in various media with cash prizes. More information at: www.breaartgallery.com

July 15 –18: The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) 2021 exhibition in Omaha will have the theme Finding the Center. This can be taken literally, figuratively, or emotionally. Entry deadline is March 15. More information at: www.woodturner.org

July 20–23: The biennial Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS) Fair will be at the Las Vegas Convention Center. More information at: www.awfsfair.org/.

From Dave McClave



My son is in the “industry,” and he recently set up his production company called Film Lodge. I carved this piece to remind him of our stay, when he was six or seven, in an A-Frame at Big

Sur Campground. It’s two kinds of cedar with a couple of pieces of redwood imbedded in those scraps from earlier works. Simple plywood square as back.

The bust is of a Spanish sculptor my sister and I met on



our Camino (pilgrimage) in Galicia, Spain, in 2016. He wanted to serve us dinner but we had to hike off to complete our stage.

I made these trivets out of the aromatic Eastern Red Cedar I still have.



K-body clamp.

Gary H. showed us the homemade clamps he made. He bought one from Woodcraft for 25 or 30 bucks, then copied the dimensions off the store-bought clamps and made 10 wooden copies for about 5 bucks each.

Marc showed off his outdoor Christmas lights.

Calvin made a wooden deer head out of pine. He was still working on its body.

The Presentation

The speaker for the evening was Colin Knecht. Colin is an experienced woodworker who has contributed to Popular Woodworking and has a YouTube channel called Wood-WorkWeb.com. His topic was which tools are his go-to favorites for accuracy and ease of use.

His first favorite is a left-handed tape measure. He said that when he holds a standard tape measure in his left hand, the numbers are always upside down, and he found it confusing. Once he got the left-handed tape measure, the numbers were right-side up, and it cut down immensely on measuring mistakes. He also added the tip that he has 3 tape measures that are exactly the same and he has checked their measurement to make sure that they measure exactly the same. This is very helpful for accuracy for woodworkers who tend to have tape measures everywhere, and just grab whichever one is handy.

His next favorite is a Dowel Max doweling jig. For years, he had been using mortise and tenon joinery, and they were agony. This doweling jig was a total game changer for him, and he says the joints are as strong or stronger than a mortise and tenon. The bit that comes with the jig is slightly undersized, and he uses fluted dowels. The jig is very easy to line up accurately. You just have to use your finger to feel the end of the jig on the end of the wood. This jig (which has 5 holes) is self-centering, but if you want to have a reveal the jig comes with 1/8" spacers that make the reveal.

Another favorite tool he uses is a 6" cordless Milwaukee circular saw.

Next Colin showed us an L-fence, or duplicating fence for the table saw. This is a fixture that sits on top of the fence and uses magnetic switches to lock it down to the fence. The L-fence can be used to cut a live edge off of wood without going to the bandsaw or jointer for a straight edge, or it can be used to cut a perfectly straight angled side. The part of the wood that will be cut off rides under the bottom part of the "L" and you put a straight piece of wood on top of the piece to be cut, which butts up to the edge of the bottom part of the "L." Between the two pieces of wood, you put some anti-skid material (such as Great Tape rug tape.) This jig can also be used to cut rabbets and tenons. For a more thorough explanation of how the jig works, you can see him demonstrate it on his YouTube channel [Ed. If you go to this month's "From the Web" to see Colin's L-fence

From the web

✿ Sanding and Sandpaper - All you wanted to know and were afraid to ask.

<https://tinyurl.com/y4sjxr2k>

✿ A slide staircase. No really, a slide staircase

<https://tinyurl.com/y3h5ydhc>

✿ Various approaches to the L-Fence as was demonstrated by our guest speaker at the last meeting. This was Colin's approach:

<https://tinyurl.com/yymqs5e4>

✿ here's two more

<https://tinyurl.com/yxwn7wmg>

<https://tinyurl.com/y66glebq>

✿ Some interesting ideas of things to do with the plastic carrying boxes that our tools come in

<https://tinyurl.com/y3erzge8>

Some interesting thoughts and approaches for table saw blade height

<https://tinyurl.com/y4p9ngad>

✿ And how many uses can you think of for Blue Tape?

<https://tinyurl.com/y38ejqrg>

Tool Review: CBN Hand Hone

by Chuck Nickerson

Cubic Boron Nitride (CBN) grit has been part of the machine shop world for decades. Over the last few years, the technology has moved to the woodworking world and has finally worked its way down to hand-held hones. CBN material is tightly graded (no errant scratches) and wears very slowly, if at all. They are available in various sizes and grits which affects price. The pictured hone (600 grit x 1000 grit) was \$20. (The photo is a teaser for an upcoming article- countersinks: styles, proper use, and sharpening.)



and two other approaches.]

Another jig he likes is a big jig for making box joints, based on a design by Lynn Sabin. This jig sits in the grooves of your saw, and a stacked dado blade cuts the box joint. The jig allows you stack and cut up to 4 pieces of wood at the

See "minutes" on page 5

Tool Review: Grizzly G1015 Knife Belt

Sander/Buffer.

by Chuck Nickerson

This machine is marketed to knife makers. Knife Makers use this belt sander (27"x2" belts) both for material removal and the buffer for polishing (A buffing wheel is not supplied because there are more than a dozen styles.) But see past the marketing and recognize it as a great tool for woodworkers.

This belt sander is a large strip sander and the buffing spindle has a new-found use for improving edge tools such as plane and chisel blades (see the article from Jim Kelly on page xx) along with its normal use for buffing resinous woods (cocobolo, ebony, etc.) and applying wax. Because of the knife makers needs, the 72x2 belts are available in grits from 36grit to 2500grit + ceramic abrasive. This range makes it also an excellent medium-capability metal working tool.



Assembly was quite straight-forward; it took me 30 minutes (and machine assembly is not my long suit). Older reviews mention tracking issues but it appears Grizzly has addressed them. Its only drawback is the tool rest: the usual 2-piece articulated monstrosity has trouble holding a setting under pressure. As I design and build a supplemental rest which will allow precise, repeatable work. I'll feature its build in a future issue.

The next step up in this style of machine comes in at around \$3000 so this Grizzly is an excellent place to start.

Price of this machine: (including tax and delivery) \$726.

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same time. You can find a full explanation of how to make this jig and how it works on his YouTube channel: <https://tinyurl.com/y5vtbfjm>. Another table saw acquisition that he loves is a really accurate miter gauge for the table saw. It is made by Incra, and one of the reasons he likes it is when he's making picture frames. The most important thing about making a picture frame isn't cutting an exact 45 degree angle, it's that the lengths of the sides are exactly the same from tip to tip, and this jig makes that very easy.

Finally, he showed us a drill press jig that is just a plywood square with a little hardwood fence and magnetic locks.

January's Rescue

by Chuck Nickerson

More than a year ago this mortising chisel followed me home from a tool swap meet. Although it's a bit banged up



and bent, its age and the quality of the bolster convinced me it was worth the \$10. Over time the cross-section of the blade had lost its rectangular form and it now resembles a parallelogram. This means standard jigs won't help with sharpening. On top of that, someone put a 60° bevel on the end. Thinking about it, the prior owner had probably turned it into a 1/8" parting tool for small spindle turning work on the lathe. Getting its cross-section from parallelogram back to rectangular awaits belt sander tool rest improvements. But as the second photo shows, getting a 30° bevel back in place allows it to be a mortising chisel once again.



Paying Your Dues

by Jeff Bremer

With the new year, comes the task of paying your dues. Dues pay for misc. expenses and a good portion of our toy expenditures.

To make your life a bit easier, we have two options:

1: Mail a check made payable to Jeff Bremer and send to:

Jeff Bremer

3381 McLaughlin Ave

Los Angeles, CA, 90066

2: Send your payment to Jeff via Venmo:@Jeffrey-Bremer-2

Mug Making

by Mike Wells

I made a few mugs out of a limb I saved from trimming my magnolia tree this summer.

I cut the bottom off with the bandsaw and either drilled them out, or used the bandsaw to cut out the interior. After sanding the inside and bottom, I glued everything back together with Titebond 3. The handles are from the same wood, and were shaped with the bandsaw, spindle sander and hand sanding. I used glue and dowels to attach the

handles, except on the very smallest ones where I just used CA glue.

I charred the exposed wood with a propane torch to give it a darker look. I then applied several coats of hot beeswax and heated it in the oven to make it soak in. Beeswax seems to be an effective waterproofing. I decided to add a little dragon to the big one by just scratching it in with an awl.

The mugs are 1 L, 1 pint, and 2 ounces.



Unicorn sharpening

by Jim Kelly

I got the latest copy of Popular Woodworking the other day and read an article about "unicorn" sharpening. I haven't tried it yet but plan to do so. The method is described at:

Searching for Unicorns in a Field of Abrasives and Wood (woodcentral.com) and there is a video demonstrating it including magnified views of the cutting edge before and after at: Chisel tests (chisel-test.netlify.app).

I haven't tried it yet, but if it works as advertised, it will be a positive addition to my bag of tricks.

Items for sale from retiring woodworking shop

- 14" bandsaw on metal wheeled base
- 20" bandsaw
- Full sized vertical panel saw -accurate, and variety of 4X8 plywood sheets
- shaper with 1" and 1/2" spindles
- PACO 3/8" double drill horizontal drill with air assisted feed
- shop smith multitool lathe with many attachments
- Rotary drum sander floor model
- horizontal router table with adjustable table and hand feed handle
- Delta overarm router/shaper with foot operated height

- adjustment
- Dremel tools with many bits and burrs
- various electric motors, 1/2 HP and bigger
- LEGACY ORNAMENTAL MILL with available power feed motor
- wood Lathe, floor model, with speed control
- festool router
- some antique hand planes
- some solid wood lumber
- quantity of wood offcuts
- accessories that one collects over the years
- and more

Viewing by appointment only, contact Boris: 818/371-7042 Chatsworth area

Making a Difference



A place for my bike "stuff!"

by Gary Coyne

Those who know me know that I like to ride my bicycle. For many years I placed into my helmet, bike gloves, bike sleeves, leggings, keys, lights, bike computer, and other "stuff" and the helmet was placed on my woodworking catalogs in my office. It worked in a funky way.

However, over the years, the pressing of this cause a major flump of these said catalogs which also made them hard to access. I knew I needed a better place to store these items and thought of shelves but what they would look like, where and how they'd be attached, and other issues were

lingering in my brain.

Then I had it! Attach them to the side of the adjacent bookcase. The top shelf would be for my helmet, middle for clothing kind of stuff and bottom for my other stuff. I've got an extension cord running up to this to charge my front and back lights.

Each shelf is supported by two vertical supports on the back and right side. These are attached by tenons and mortises. To attach this to the bookcase, I drilled holes from inside the bookcase and screws go from inside the bookcase into these shelves so no attachment can be seen.

There is a 1" lip on each shelf so items cannot fall. It is made of (scrap) white oak (no fuming) and finished with Arm-R-Seal

