



*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.

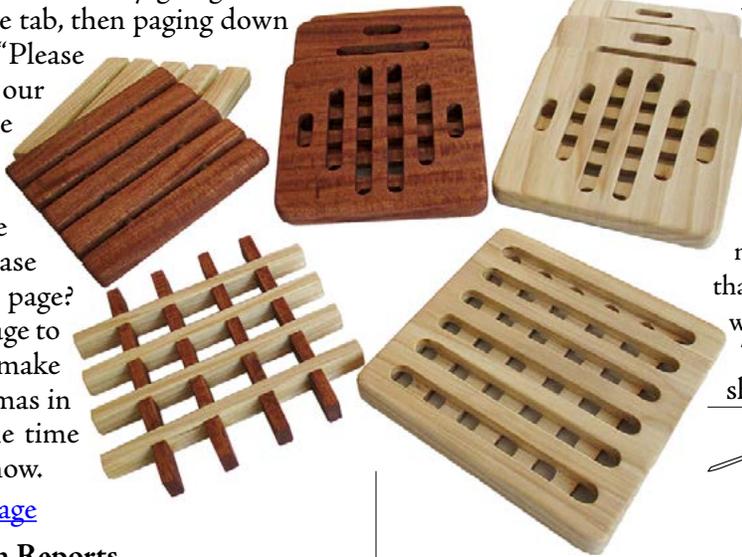
## Meeting Minutes

*by Ginger Gibson*

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

In the Finance Report we heard that we are doing fine financially. Jeff's son (Michael) and his wife (Helen) generously donated \$500.00 for the toy build. It turns out that there's not going to be a quilting show this year, so we can't raise any funds there. Jeff reminded members that we can buy SFV Woodworkers t-shirts and other branded merchandise on our Bonfire store, which raises funds for the club. The Bonfire store can be found by going to [SFVW.org](http://SFVW.org) and clicking on the home tab, then paging down until you see the link under "Please visit our online store." For our Etsy site, Ed made some beautiful trivets. The club has two requests regarding the Etsy site: 1. Can everyone who has an Etsy account please go online and favorite our page? And perhaps promote the page to our friends? 2. Can we all make something to sell for Christmas in the next month or two? The time to begin Christmas sales is now.

Here is a link to [our Etsy page](#)



## Section Reports

In the Toy Committee Report we heard that the toys are coming along well. We're still uncertain about whether we'll have the school for our October build. Jack would like someone else to take over the whiteboards. He's been doing

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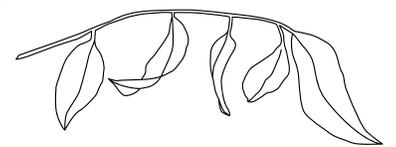
## Our President says...

*by Chuck Nickerson*

**Update on Face-to-Face meetings:** The building where we used to meet (and where we hope to return) is being used as a vaccination site. They are actively using the club rooms for this activity. This might change at the end of August so I'll have an update in early September. They still remember us and are holding our spot.

Meanwhile, sorting through my wood shed is an interesting mental exercise:

- **Some of the wood** I acquired is for a particular project. Can I let go of the wood without letting go of the project?
- **Some of the wood** was acquired to support a more general interest. I have a lot of bass wood because I am going to spend more time carving. Can I let go of the wood without letting go of the interest?
- **Some of the wood** was bought because it is so unique. If I let it go will I ever see something like it again?
- **Some of the wood** was bought because the price seemed really good but I had no purpose in mind. Perhaps that's the stuff I should start weeding out first. There's a lot of wood in that shed.



## August Presentation: Paris Patt

This presentation from Paris Patt compares different adhesives and their uses, covering both wood and the adjacent materials in various crafts (Glass, Plastics, Metal, etc) along with some photo examples.

## 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.

"Minutes" from page 1

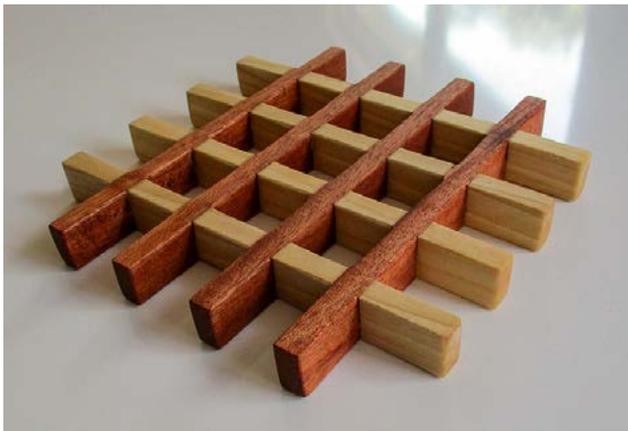
it for years now. Regarding the dolls, we now have over 200 dolls, and people making clothes, but no one making hair. Cliff's wife is painting all the faces.

### Tips & Tricks

In Tips and Tricks, Jim Baldrige offered the following: If you need to round over a lot of edges of something, you can bundle several together and run them through the router. Then Jeff talked about how he had a clamp rack that the clamps kept wanting to fall from, so he put little ½" blocks on the rack to block the slot so the clamps can't fall off.

### Show & Tell

In Show & Tell, Ed showed some of his trivets that he made by using a straight router bit and going about half-



way through on one side, and then going halfway through on the other side from the opposite direction.

Jeff showed an example of the hand cut dovetails he's been practicing.

### Presentation

Our speaker for the month was postponed to October, so a few members picked out some interesting YouTube videos to watch.

The first video was [Paul Sellers top 10 tips](#). There were some great tips, like if you need to drive a nail and worry about splitting the wood, you can cut the head off a nail of the same size, chuck it into a drill to make a pilot hole, then nail into that hole. Another good one was if you need to draw out an arch, an easy way to make a guide is to put

## Club Officers

|                   |                   |  |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
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| Toy Chair:        | Jim Kelly         | (323) 254-0837<br><a href="mailto:jimkelly@earthlink.net">jimkelly@earthlink.net</a> |
| Toy Distribution: | Sheila Rosenthal  | 818-653-4847<br><a href="mailto:sheiladeee@yahoo.com">sheiladeee@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Refreshments:     | Open              | (626) 666-6666<br><a href="mailto:needone@needy.com">needone@needy.com</a>           |

a thin piece of wood end-to-end into a clamp, and then tighten the clamp. The wood will bow as you tighten the clamp and make a perfect arc.

The second video was on [planer set-up by Roland Johnson](#). He discussed how to set up safely, how to orient the grain in relation to the planer, that slower speed equals a smoother cut, how to plane figured wood, and how to prevent snipe. Jeff mentioned that he has drawn a picture directly on his planer to remind him which way the grain goes.

The third video was from [Tightwad DIY](#), with lots of great information on tape measures. There's almost certainly at least one thing you never knew about tape measures in this video.

Video number 4 was from the [Wood Whisperer on his tapering jig](#).

Video number 5 was from youtuber See Jane Drill, and it was a very interesting narrative on [how to use a "ticking stick."](#)

Our speaker for August will be guitar maker Paris Patt on using natural glues. See the information on Page 1

## From the web

✿ Using Chisels: The mastery is all in the basics.  
<https://tinyurl.com/3d6duwh9>

✿ Planning very long boards (you gotta see this)  
<https://tinyurl.com/zu6mhzw7>

✿ Finishing Touch: A great finish starts with proper sandpaper selection.  
<https://tinyurl.com/w5axcefw>

✿ Vessels of life keep lost loved ones close  
<https://tinyurl.com/k3cmct6c>

✿ Can you put water-based finish over an oil-based stain or finish? (A good comprehensive overview of what finish you can put on top of previously laid finishes.)  
<https://tinyurl.com/3jry4h35>

✿ Easy Double-Ball Catch Placement Trick  
<https://tinyurl.com/ppxdc87>

✿ Honest, traditional joinery, coupled with a sleek design, sets this night table apart.  
<https://tinyurl.com/cytu7nn7>

✿ Wood Hardness Chart – Bigger, Better, More Woods [Interesting collection considering that the site is for making Bass guitars.]  
<https://tinyurl.com/4fbx5fk4>

✿ Plans for Japanese Style Semi-circular lantern  
<https://tinyurl.com/4mb5enrj>

✿ Plans for an Asian flare to your décor with this stylish table lantern  
<https://tinyurl.com/7w4dcbuj>

✿ A good breakdown between files and rasps  
<https://tinyurl.com/59vddyer>

✿ A good breakdown of Japanese saws  
<https://tinyurl.com/r9awj57c>

✿ A whole bunch of free plans from Canada  
<https://tinyurl.com/3w2ycjep>

✿ AWFS 2021 Highlights: if you couldn't make it this year, here is a VERY quick run-through of some of the technological highlights that made this person's pick.  
<https://tinyurl.com/444vbs2u>

✿ Some thoughts to consider when making very wide miter or butt joints  
<https://tinyurl.com/anw7z6f6>

✿ Woodworking 101: Wood Finish Types and Techniques  
<https://tinyurl.com/j7uzf4v6>

✿ A Better Way to Sharpen Scrapers  
<https://tinyurl.com/kmbswa4j>

✿ Five of My Favorite Weekend Woodworking TIPS!  
<https://tinyurl.com/tsundnsv>

✿ National Priorities in Early Metal Plane making in the US and the UK  
<https://tinyurl.com/2kr4p7a3>

✿ Is this a BIG dust collection filter cleaning mistake? [Editor's note: I thought this was nonsense until I saw comments from dust collection experts who all agreed with the issue.]  
<https://tinyurl.com/y6azp7ww>

✿ How To Prevent Kickback  
<https://tinyurl.com/b2yv977>

✿ Wood corner joints / Woodworking joints / Part 2 (from hard to impressively hard)  
<https://tinyurl.com/3hrzu6bt>

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From Steve Veenstra: 11" olive bowl (11×4) epoxy repairs (dyed black). Sanded down to 320 grit; cellulose sanding sealer, Yorkshire grit and microcrystalline wax



Also from Steve: 14" walnut bowl (14 × 5) extensive repairs made with black epoxy. Sanded down to 320 grit, finished with cellulose sanding sealer, Yorkshire grit (brings it to about 800-1000 grit) and 2× microcrystalline wax



## Upcoming Wood-related Events & Important News

from Jim Kelly

The following events and announcements were found in the July–August 2021 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>.

**Please Note:** A number of these events occur on two dates. For your benefit, both dates are provided so these listings appear twice, one for each date.

**July 16–August 15:** Orange County woodworking competition will be a live event this year. (Entry deadline is May 28.) More information at: 2021-Woodworking.pdf ([amazonaws.com](http://amazonaws.com))

**August 19:** Channel Islands Woodturners will have virtual demos by Trent Bosch (and Kevin Wallace, September 14). More information at: [www.channelislandswoodturners.org/](http://www.channelislandswoodturners.org/).

**August 21:** Old Tool Swap Meet at Anderson Plywood (tentative). More information at: [www.andersonplywood.com](http://www.andersonplywood.com).

**August 21:** San Diego Woodturners will have virtual

demonstrations by Trent Bosch (and Mike Mahoney, September 18). More information at: [www.sdwt.org/](http://www.sdwt.org/).

**September 1-30:** The online gallery, Wood Symphony, will host several juried exhibitions: Small Treasures (also December 1-31 The Art of Giving). More information at: [www.woodsymphony.com](http://www.woodsymphony.com)

**September 14:** Channel Islands Woodturners will have a virtual demo with Kevin Wallace. More information at: [www.channelislandswoodturners.org/](http://www.channelislandswoodturners.org/).

**September 18:** San Diego Woodturners will have virtual demonstrations by Mike Mahoney. More information at: [www.sdwt.org/](http://www.sdwt.org/).

**September 18–19:** Central Coast Carvers Show at Veteran's Hall, Cambria. More information at: [www.centralcoastwoodcarvers.com/](http://www.centralcoastwoodcarvers.com/).

**October 21–23:** National Hardware Show will return to Las Vegas. More information at: [www.nationalhardwareshow.com/](http://www.nationalhardwareshow.com/).

**December 1-31:** The online gallery, Wood Symphony, will host the juried exhibition: The Art of Giving. More information at: [www.woodsymphony.com](http://www.woodsymphony.com)

## Making an Archtop Guitar, Part 2

By Gary Hersch

The “box” is closed and set aside for now. Later I will make bindings, cut channels and then install them. But now, it's onto making the neck.

The neck blank is constructed from three pieces of flat sawn Honduran mahogany and two pieces of what is essentially black fiberboard. I use a template to rough out the shapes on the bandsaw and then laminate the whole



thing together, alternating the two pieces of fiberboard between the three pieces of mahogany, creating a triple decker sandwich. It should be noted that by flipping the flat sawn pieces 90°, they are now quarter sawn resulting in a super strong assembly.

Once the glue is dry, I run the front part of the neck (where the fingerboard will eventually attach) over the jointer, to make a flat surface. The same procedure on the headstock, flattening that as well. Next, I measure

## Free: three carbide tipped jointer blades available to a good home

by Jim Kelly

I purchased my jointer in 1998. After some dinging of the original HSS knives, I purchased a set of carbide tipped knives from Infinity tools. They really made a difference. I recently upgraded again to a helical cutter head and have the three carbide tipped knives available to a good home. They are 6-inches in length, by 5/8-inches wide by an 1/8-inch thick. They will fit most six-inch jointers. Let me know if you are interested. If interested, contact Jim Kelly at [jimkelly@earthlink.net](mailto:jimkelly@earthlink.net)

375mm from where the neck and headstock meet to the heel end of the neck and scribe a line. From this, at either side, a 4.5° angle is drawn down the heel, and then cut on the bandsaw. This angle is very important as this establishes the angle at which the neck will sit on the guitar, later determining the height of the strings over the bridge.

Now comes the slot of the truss rod. A truss rod is an adjustable piece of metal installed in the neck to adjust it as the strings put tension on it. One can pull a bow out of the neck or put one in, depending on the player's need. I cut the

See “Guitar” on page 5

slot using a table saw with a dado blade, ¼' wide to match the width of the rod, and slightly deeper than its height.



Then it's on to the tenon. Using a jig equipped with a 4.5° ramp to match the neck, and a template, I use a router to cut the tenon into the heel of the neck. This is only done after I've cut a couple of test pieces (both mortise and tenon) to assure the two will go together. Thanks to Chuck for helping me build this jig!

The fingerboard extension comes next. The length of the fingerboard will extend over the body of the guitar and needs to be supported, so a piece of mahogany is cut to length and width, a ledge is cut into the end of the heel and extension is laminated onto the neck and then flattened to match the plane of the fingerboard area of the neck.

With the fingerboard area of the neck done, we move onto the headstock. Because a typical headstock for an archtop is wider than the neck blank, "ears" are cut and glued onto either side, then flushed with the face. A 4mm veneer of ebony is glued to the whole face



and then a template is used to draw the shape, which is rough cut on the band saw and finished on the spindle sander. The whole thing is then thickened to 16mm (or whatever is called for by the tuners to be used) and then the tuner holes drilled. Last, the truss rod is installed and covered over with a mahogany shim.

Now I move onto the fretboard. Slots for frets are cut into an ebony blank using a template and a purpose made miter-box and saw. The board is then tapered, walnut bindings fitted and glued and the fretboard is attached to the neck.



With the fretboard attached I can start the process of bringing the neck to the desired shape. This takes patience and should be done carefully as this is one of the player's primary points of contact with the guitar. It should be thin and round enough to be comfortable, but not



so thin that strength and durability are compromised. Raspers, files and a spokeshave are used, and hopefully at the end I have a smooth surface that fits nicely into the hand of the player.

The final procedure is the cutting and installation of the frets. However, before that is done, I drill holes for and install fret markers. I used slices from a walnut dowel for the top of the fingerboard, and plastic for the side dots. Once that is done, the fingerboard needs to be radiused. I use a sanding block with a 12"-radius concavity running lengthwise removed from one side.



I have a piece of 80 grit paper adhered to the concavity so that I can sand the fingerboard from a flat piece of wood to a surface that has a slightly rounded profile (this adds to the playability of the guitar). Frets are now cut to size and pounded in using a dead blow hammer. I used gold colored fret wire which will match the gold tuners and contribute to the warm look of the guitar.

Except for cleanup work on the frets and final sanding and then fitting the neck to the body, the neck is done. Hopefully by next issue we will have a completed instrument!