

# SFVW

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MAY 2024



## San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

### Meeting Minutes

by Eitan Ginsburg

SFVW – Minutes April 18, 2024 meeting

Club President Jim Baldrige welcomed members to the meeting and asked new people to introduce themselves. Florencio said he was brand new to woodworking. Evan has been woodworking for four years, making furniture and a workbench. Susan is relatively new but has taken a few woodworking classes. John said he is an amateur woodworker.

#### Announcements:

Jeff Bremer spoke about his recent injury and reminded people to be mindful and careful when in the workshop.

Bob Bilyeu reviewed a variety of safety tips, including keeping your workspace clean and uncluttered, reducing the dust in your air, making sure you have good lighting, not working tired, angry, or distracted, keeping your tools lubricated, sharp, and tuned up, securing your workpiece before bringing a tool to it, using push sticks and safety equipment, and taking care of wounds, broken equipment, and workpieces.

Chuck Nickerson brought some tools he wants to sell and will donate the proceeds to the club [The total raised was \$32].

John Bullock brought some woodworking books from Jim Cabernoch for members to take. He said Jim has moved to a nursing home and is not doing very well. He would probably welcome a call or visit from any of us.

#### Reports

**Finance:** Our finances are OK. We will be holding boutiques in the fall and

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### Our President says...

by Jim Baldrige

#### Table Saw Brakes

Do we, or don't we? Do we accept further government involvement in tool safety, or do we not? Do we, as the consumer, allow government overreach? Are safety concerns an overreach of government, especially in our homes? Quite frankly, I don't think consumer concerns would matter. I am referring to the possibility that manufacturers may soon be required to place safety brakes on all future table saws sold in the United States.

This subject will be discussed and rehashed many times around the coffee table, in the wood stores, and in our shops. What is right and what is wrong? We all know that safety is of the utmost importance in everything we do, but should it be left up to the user? Or should we be told what is safe and what is not?

Obviously, there are a lot of opinions regarding these brakes. I have heard and seen some of the following comments: "I have been a woodworker my whole life and have

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### May Presentation:

#### What's Up with SketchUp? By Luke Wyatt

For May's presentation, Luke will demonstrate how he uses SketchUp to accomplish all sorts of tasks during a woodworking project that makes the life of a woodworker easier. He uses it for cut lists, material calculations, furniture design, concept renderings, client reviews, and presentations, to name a few. We'll dive into several different projects and highlight skills that will hopefully give you the confidence to utilize this 3D modeling program on your next project.



## 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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winter to raise money for the club.

**Toy Committee:** Jim Kelly said progress is being made on the different toy projects. He got more lumber donated from Swaner Lumber. Jeff Bremer asked for help from May 11th to 12th to help with a toy project in his shop.

**Program Committee:** Emily Lichtman said the upcoming monthly programs are:



- **May:** Project planning using SketchUp and other methods
- **June:** Currently open, plus we will have our member's tool garage sale at that meeting.
- **July:** John Fisher will be presenting about off-center turning.

### Q&A

Jeff Bremer is looking for a 220-volt surge protector. Mark Collins suggested trying APC. He said that the higher the clamping joules, the better.

Dave McClave said he is looking for a referral for an electrician to do a panel upgrade. Emily Lichtman said she has someone for him.



### Tips & Tricks

Jeff Bremer said he uses CRC 3-36 Lube and Rust Protection. It works well and lasts a long time. It costs \$8.55 on Amazon.

### Show & Tell



Chuck Nickerson showed an ideophone rhythm instrument he made but noted that the glue did not hold well. He plans to make another out of maple and walnut that will look like a rattlesnake.

Gary Coyne showed router bit holder bases that accom-

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## Club Officers

President: Jim Baldrige

Vice President: Emily Lichtman

Secretary: Eitan Ginsburg

Treasurer: Jeff Bremer.

Photographer: Luke Wyatt

Publisher: Gary Coyne

Librarian: Grant Christensen

Web Master: Ed Sheanin

Toy Chair: Jim Kelly

Toy Distribution: Sheila Rosenthal

Refreshments: Greg Golden

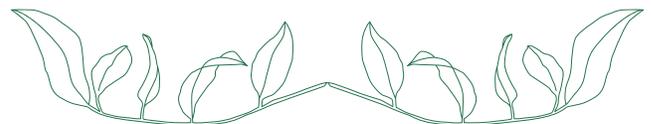
"President" from page 1

never hurt myself." "Oh, heck, I have hurt myself a few times over the years, but it was my fault; who does the government think they are?" "If I want to hurt myself, that is my own business!"

I have heard it all regarding the addition of brakes to saws. I have my opinion, but I will not share it, as safety should be our utmost concern when working around any power tool. No matter how safe we make our workspace, we can be assured that someone will find a way to circumvent a safety device and get injured.

We all need to wait and see what or how this is resolved at the manufacturing level and learn to work with the outcome.

Let the sawdust fly,  
Jim Baldrige





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

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modate both quarter-inch and half-inch bit shafts. These are for storage in his router box cabinet. He made them in various sizes so that he could organize his bits into types of bits more efficiently.

Sedi said that she has shifted her art from painting to wood sculptures. She showed a sample of a layered plywood sculpture that she built. Other pieces she has made are 8-10 feet high and 4-6 feet wide at the base. These are made from hundreds of shaped pieces of plywood. Some have been in art galleries and museums. She also showed

some of the preliminary drawings that she uses to plan out her work. [See Sedi’s write up on page 4 on her work.]



**Monthly challenge**

The challenge for this month was to make something out of one board foot of lumber.

Jeff Bremer showed two hand planes he had made.

Greg Golden brought a napkin holder.

Chuck Nickerson showed two Polynesian-style masks.

Ed Sheanin brought an intarsia work of a dog. [Ed. note: Ed also made a bear and sent me the photo, seen on page 4.]

Dave McClave brought a Heart Sculpture [Ed. note: look

**Dave McClave’s work**

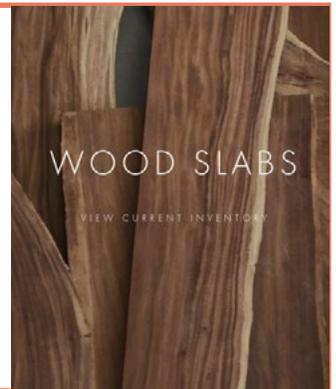
Jeanette and I met as volunteers working the polls in Calabasas. One thing led to another, and I asked her if she’d like something from wood. She requested a heart. From Boris Bernard’s stock, I had just the right board of redwood (2 x 10 x 3’), all heartwood



on one face and heartwood surrounded by sapwood on the other. I considered naming it the Telltale Heart, but in the end, since Jeanette hails from Denmark, it became “Heart of a Great Dane.” You gotta love redwood — our state and national tree. Thanks to Jeff for the finishing touch.

**Slabs**

Greg Rogers found another source for slabs, Conejo Hardwoods. (<https://tinyurl.com/2r876fcv>)



up for more photos]. Ed won the best project prize.

**Presentation**

This month’s presentation was on hand tools presented by Eitan Ginsburg on Marking and Measuring, Steve Sampietro on plane care and use, and Chuck Nickerson on Hand Saws (due to

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time overruns from a busy meeting, Chuck's session will be done at a future meeting.)



Eitan Ginsburg spoke about and displayed a variety of measuring and marking tools. Tools used to measure and mark straight lines included a simple ruler, combination squares, a DelVe square, an Inca square, and a double-sided adjustable square. Tools that help with curved lines include plastic French curves and a bendable ruler.

He explained that a mechanical pencil can be better in certain circumstances than a normal pencil since its thickness is always consistent. He uses a marking knife with a diamond-shaped point that is flat on one side. This creates the sharpest line and can also be a registration aid for a chisel or saw to start a cut. For angles, he showed a bevel gauge and a digital angle gauge. He showed a fractional caliper that can measure interior and exterior length, as well as depth, and measures in fractional imperial measurements going down to a 64th, as well as hundredths of an inch. Other tools included a white pencil for marking on dark wood, an awl to mark and indent points, set-up blocks, and trammel points.

Steve Sampietro demonstrated the use of several hand planes. He said it helps to have bench height around where your pinky knuckle is for height. He uses wooden dogs and surface clamps to hold his work to a bench. When tuning a plane, you must ensure the mating surfaces are clean and flat. He recommends Hock blades (which are thicker than older blades) and chip breakers if you want to upgrade a plane (available through Lee Valley Tools). You should also lap the sole of a plane flat, but do it when the plane is fully assembled (blade retracted), so it is under tension (but do this only when necessary; new, good quality planes do not need their soles flattened).



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## Sedi's Story

By Sedi Pak

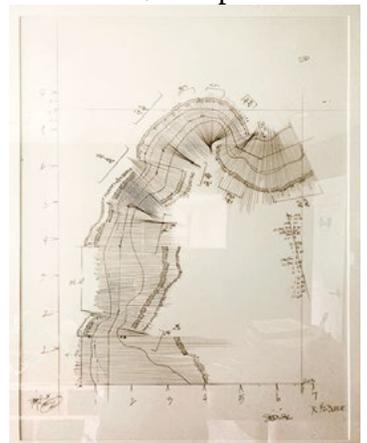


One night in 2015, I was startled awake by a haunting dream. My studio, located behind my bedroom, became alive and was very angry with me. It (the studio) yelled at me to build these large abstract sculptures immediately. There was no time to waste. It didn't care that I was a decorative painter/muralist, not a woodworker. I was filled with images of twisting figures made of wood. So, with some hesitation and fear of angering my studio, I began a journey into woodworking that I

had not planned.

I began by drawing these images to scale—each line on the drawing indicating a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " layer of plywood. I attempted to build these using only wood and glue with no metals or hard materials, but I failed repeatedly for about six months. They kept breaking from the weight of the wood and the angular design. I decided it needed a steel backbone and some engineering to calculate gravity.

I've created 6 of these sculptures. Three of them are large, one is medium-sized, and two are smaller concept pieces. This photo is one of three large sculptures. It is 93" x 61" x 29". Materials are:  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Birch plywood,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " 6-gauge steel pipe, screws, and wood glue. It is a balance of weight and structure. The farther the bend away from the center, the more hollow the wood is. The more centered the curve, the more solid the wood. I welded the steel pipe running through the center, acting as a vertebra, and placed each layer of ply one at a time. Welding steel as I went. The wood and steel needed to be created simultaneously as the form came to shape. Using the drawing as my guide, I cut each plywood disc to size and planed each one at a time. It was layer by layer, one piece at a time.



The few sculptures took several years to construct. They have been exhibited in galleries and museums in CA. Most importantly, my studio is no longer angry with me.

# From the Web

## ----- Tips, Tricks, and How Tos -----

### ✂ STOP wood WARPING before it happens

- ♦ Ways to prevent wood from warping

<https://tinyurl.com/4p8fn67m>

### ✂ How To Prevent Table Saw Kickback: Causes, Dangers, And Anti-Kickback Strategies

- ♦ Some great videos of kickback, and avoiding it

<https://tinyurl.com/4ndcpvak>

### ✂ Never worry about clamping your work again! [Moxon Vise]

- ♦ How to make a Moxon Vise. Parts are very reasonably priced.

<https://tinyurl.com/4r3fkr79>

### ✂ Cosmanized WoodRiver Moxon Vise Hardware Kit

- ♦ How to make a Moxon Vise. In this case, with better (and more expensive) hardware

<https://tinyurl.com/yc7mwhb8>

### ✂ Why do woodworkers still love wooden hand-screw clamps? (And how to use them!)

- ♦ Tricks on how to use a wooden hand clamp

<https://tinyurl.com/5n74bes6>

### ✂ MUST SEE way to Modify woodworking clamps!

- ♦ Tricks on how to modify a wooden hand clamp for greater functionality

<https://tinyurl.com/2mtfam37>

### ✂ How To Remove Snipe | All The Tips And Tricks Plus a Simple Jig

- ♦ A variety of ways to avoid or limit snipe on a planer

<https://tinyurl.com/ydh35c97>

- ♦ I recently had to joint an 11-inch board on my 8-inch planer. I watched seven different videos, each similar but all with something different to say. Suffice it to say, sometimes you haven't seen it all.

### ✂ How to Joint Boards Wider than Your Jointer -- WOOD magazine

<https://tinyurl.com/3szcsr9s>

### ✂ Flatten Boards Wider Than Your Jointer!

<https://tinyurl.com/4sjphh5x>

### ✂ How to Flatten Boards Wider Than Your Jointer

<https://tinyurl.com/fd4mdkj6>

Supersize Your Jointer for Planing Over-width Boards

<https://tinyurl.com/h9h3smvu>

### ✂ FOLLOW UP/BETTER WAY: Jointing Stock Wider Than Your Jointer

<https://tinyurl.com/yc44zn4h>

### ✂ Jointing Stock Wider Than Your Jointer

<https://tinyurl.com/4zcf6385>

### ✂ Jointing Boards Wider Than Your Jointer

- ♦ [To view, you need a Premium Membership video with WW-GOA. Basic membership is not expensive and, I'd say, worth it.]

<https://tinyurl.com/yfh7fw4m>

### ✂ Why Your Hand Plane Doesn't Work | How to Fix It!

- ♦ Techniques on how to use a plane and basic ways to make your plane better than it was.

<https://tinyurl.com/354zwrnk>

### ✂ Why Your Plane Won't Work | Part Deux

- ♦ (Part one above) Good for learning how and where to tune up an old plane

<https://tinyurl.com/mpc34e54>

### ✂ How to Make Cambered Cauls

- ♦ If you have a jointer, this is a VERY easy way to make calls with minimal steps.

<https://tinyurl.com/3rmzemh5>

### ✂ How To Make Simple Wooden Hinges With A Box Joint Jig

- ♦ Title says it all

<https://tinyurl.com/teka4ejy>

### ✂ Customer Spotlight: René LeBel

- ♦ How one customer is using the Micro Fence. From the Microfence website, showing off spectacular woodworking using their tools.

<https://tinyurl.com/22bxun84>

### ✂ A Newbie's Guide To Reading Grain Direction And Avoiding Tearout

- ♦ A good amount of information is contained here that should help both "newbies" and seasoned woodworkers.

<https://tinyurl.com/22scy396>

### ✂ Watch This Before Building A French Cleat Wall!

- ♦ This guy came up with an interesting solution to the ONE issue with French Cleats for your shop. But also watch the one below with a better alternative.

<https://tinyurl.com/5z4xhm5a>

### ✂ The REAL Key To Locking French Cleats?

- ♦ Watch the one above first to get the full idea for this better approach.

<https://tinyurl.com/2d4tzs4d>

### ✂ Was the Stone Age Actually the Wood Age?

- ♦ While only supplying two images, an analysis of wooden tools made by Neanderthals of 300,000 years ago.

<https://tinyurl.com/373nnv3j>

### ✂ My 9 Top Tips For Thickness Planers

- ♦ Some good tips to get the most out of your planer for a long time.

<https://tinyurl.com/yj66awuc>

### ✂ DW735 Planer Deep-Dive Maintenance

Because of the above link, I thought I'd replay this video for extreme maintenance on the DeWalt 735. If you have other planers, please see if you can find an equally extensive video and share that link with me for future editions of Plane Talk.

<https://tinyurl.com/59fuxdy6>

## ----- Reviews -----

### ✂ The MOST Expensive Miter Gauge on the Market | Worth it?!

- ♦ The good and bad of this expensive miter gauge

<https://tinyurl.com/3xs24wjx>

He showed the use of a scrub plane, which has a camber on the blade edge, to hog off a lot of material from a board quickly. A smoothing plane has that camber to the blade and a short body. It is designed to remove a lot of wood fast to make a board closer to flat very fast. A jointer plane has a very long body so that it will ride over bumps and undulations and can get a board very flat. It is also used to joint and square the edge of a board. If the board is

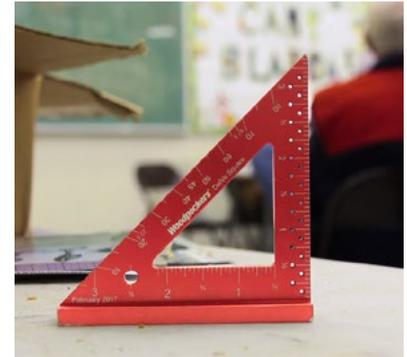


too thin you can try pairing two boards together and joint



them at the same time, which provides a more stable surface. He showed two block planes, a low-angle plane that is very good for shaving

end grain, and a standard angle plane that can be used for chamfering or rounding.



Steve said that you want to read the grain before starting to plane so that you do not lift the grain and get tear-out. You also want to transfer your hand pressure as you pass your plane across a cut, starting with downward pressure at the front of the plane and shifting that pressure toward the back of the plane as you finish the cut.

