

July's presentation

Luke Wyatt and Bob Rennie will help you understand and work with the “card scraper.” Perhaps due to the mystery of sharpening a piece of metal, or to a disbelief in producing a shaving while “scraping.” The fact is that a card scraper can do things no other tool can. After this meeting, you’re likely to add these to your collection of tools, even if you’re a “power tool person.” This will be a hands-on meeting where everyone gets to sharpen and scrape.

Meeting Minutes

by John Fisher

Meeting Minutes, SFVW June 2025 meeting

President Jim Baldridge opened the meeting (which was a week later than usual, due to the Juneteenth holiday). He introduced our presenter, Jason Gallagher, a Windsor-style chair maker and teacher from Auburn, CA. Jason had driven down from his home that day, was camping in the Topanga Canyon area, and needed to get back before they locked the gate on him.

Jason had brought a steam-bending system and a shave horse with him to show some of the techniques involved in making these chairs. These are preferably made from green wood, and often various woods are used for different parts of the chairs. This is why the chairs are traditionally painted; he likes using milk paint.

The crest rails and spokes need to be made from riven, rather than sawn, stock. Oak is a good choice. The seats are often carved from softer species such as pine, and the lower limbs turned from maple.

He took a piece of wood and placed it in his shave horse, then proceeded to start to shape with a draw knife — this would be for a bent rail, for example. The radial faces are shaved first, followed by the tangential faces. Following a continuous grain line will help to split along grain lines and prevent breakouts when bending the piece. Similar straight grain in the spindles will also add strength to the piece.

The orientation of the growth rings in

Our President says...

By Jim Baldridge

A volunteer is a person who chooses freely to do or offer to do something that benefits someone or something else. ‘Volunteerism: voluntary or willing participation in a course of action.’ (Paraphrased from Webster’s Fourth Edition.)

Our Toy Build has been an integral part of the San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since the organization’s inception in 1988. Granted, we were established to enhance each other’s abilities, and our passion has evolved into creating toys for children in need during the holiday season.

Over the years, the number of charities to which we have donated toys has increased, as has the quantity of toys we produce. What has not happened over these years is a growth of members who volunteer to help make the toys. As our members age and grow weary, toys are handed down to other members already building “their toys.” This places a greater burden on those members. And, at a certain point, members reach a state of “burnout” and want to free themselves to pursue other projects.

I fear newer members will have to be responsible for the overall production of an item if they were to volunteer. This is the furthest thing from the truth. However, if you want to take charge of a specific toy production, you are more than welcome to step up. The toys we build are not set in stone. Many of these toys have been produced for many years, so the “muscle memory” is there to stay the course. Do you have an idea for a new toy? If you would like to see it come to fruition, all you need to do is speak to someone



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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.



Balboa Recreation Center Location
Map courtesy of Google Maps

Club Officers

President:	Jim Baldridge
Vice President:	Emily Lichtman
Secretary:	Eitan Ginsburg
Treasurer:	Gregg Massini
Photographer	Luke Wyatt
Publisher:	Gary Coyne
Safety Coordinator:	Bob Bilyeu
Web Master:	Jan Min
Toy Chair:	Jonathan Nail
Toy Distribution:	Sheila Rosenthal
Refreshments:	Greg Golden

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the various parts can help mitigate eventual wood movement and significantly contribute to the overall strength of the chair. Holes for the legs in the seat are drilled, then reamed to a taper, allowing the legs to be wedged into the seat holes. One trick he had was only to put glue on one side of the wedge - this allowed the rest to move without creating problems later.



The piece he had in the steam chamber was ready for shaping at about this time. With the help of a couple of volunteers, the piece was removed, placed in the

shaping jig, and pressed and wedged into its final three-dimensional shape for a curved top rail.

He teaches classes at his shop in Auburn, which usually run for about a week

He has traveled to the eastern part of the country to find logs of green wood (often red or white oak) to bring back.

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"Vice President" from page 1

on the Toy Committee. The Toy Committee is also not set in stone. All members are welcome to participate in the committee and/or attend the meetings. Attending a meeting will help you learn more about what goes on with the toy builds. None of what we do is meant to be secretive or exclusive to the Toy Committee. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The title of the Committee is a strong hint of what we do. The best part is that it does not cost members a dime. All of our wood is donated, and the SFVW reimburses any expenses for parts!

Give the toys a try, and you'll feel better about yourself come the holiday season!!

Let the sawdust fly,
Jim Baldridge

All of Luke's Photos

We can only put in so many photos in each Plane Talk. If you want to see more of Luke's photos From Our meetings, here's the link! These are in chronological order.; oldest on top and the more recent on the bottom.

<https://adobe.ly/4eBtuOQ>



Being green, they will sink in water, so he keeps them stored in a pond on his property until he needs them.

His website, where you can find info on his products and

classes, is followingthefibers.com

After Jason departed, the rest of the meeting resumed

We had a new-comer, Diane Fullmer (now a member), who had helped her late husband

make custom bass guitars. She wants to continue his work.



Announcements

The Brian Miller class on finishing wood the previous Saturday had been a good success. Another class is scheduled for July 26. It will cover various natural and synthetic dyes, involve some brushwork, and some spray finishing. The class is free to club members. Non-members can pay their SFVW dues and then attend.

Jeff Bremer is continuing his wood-body plane classes at his home.

Reports

Programs

Vice-President Emily Lichtman said that the program calendar is set for the year. Remember that our June meet-ing is moved to the 4th Thursday, June 26th.

- **July** – Card scrapers and planes, by Stefan Dusedau and Chuck Nickerson (updated, see page 1)
- **August** – Science of wood, by Bob Behnke from Titebond
- **September** – Vacuum veneering, with Chuck Nickerson
- **October** – Annual Jigs & Fixtures meeting
- **November** – Super Show & Tell
- **December** – Holiday party, date TBD.

Treasurer

David Boardman's sales have helped our financial position. Unfortunately, some people still haven't paid their dues. If you think you might be one of them, please check with Gregg, our treasurer.

Toy Committee

Jonathan is not here; we need some new people to step up. The old ones are wearing out. Committee meetings are held via Zoom on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm. If you've not been receiving emails about the meetings, contact Jonathan Nail.



if you haven't received an email about them prior.

Safety – Bob Bilyeu was not present this evening. However, since he was going to discuss first aid kits, we proceeded without him. The general gist is to keep them up to date with fresh supplies as needed.

Q&A

There was a question about getting good results with edge banding. Suggestions ranged from using the plywood's surface wood on the edge to using solid wood of the same species as the plywood's final covering.

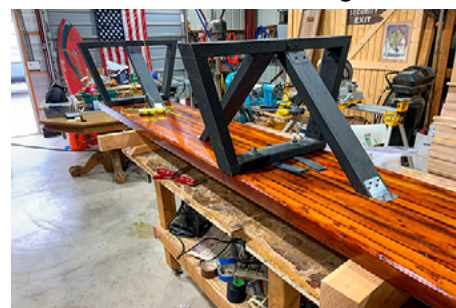
Show & Tell



Jim Baldridge has finally finished converting the wooden diving board he had been dragging from place to place into a long bench.

It measures 15 inches wide by 12 feet long. It is now placed adjacent to his Bocci Ball court.

New member Diana Fullmer had some cutting boards she had made from tapered off-cuts from the guitar-making business.



Marc Collins showed a 3d printed support holder for sharpening very narrow router plane blades.

From the Web

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

- ✂ Fitting pieces in non-square locations
 - ♦ A simple homemade gadget makes this easy.
<https://tinyurl.com/3z2uc9v9>
- ✂ I HATED The Jigsaw... Until I Did This!
 - ♦ Some subtle and blatant tricks making your jigsaw a pleasure.
<https://tinyurl.com/4ktryauw>
- ✂ Why Didn't America Go Metric? Now I Finally Get It.
 - ♦ A humorous and serious review.
<https://tinyurl.com/3h7zmv98>
- ✂ How to safely and accurately mill lumber
 - ♦ An excellent list of should and must-do steps to convert raw lumber into usable lumber.
<https://tinyurl.com/yexzswxh>
- ✂ Oak to Axle: Crafting the Water Wheel Shaft!
 - ♦ If you've seen water wheels (for power). See how craftsmen converted an oak log into a shaft — all with hand tools.
<https://tinyurl.com/3dsbtarc>
- ✂ 7 Simple Jigs That Beat Expensive Woodworking Tools!

- ♦ Seven good ideas, and there's a bonus tip at the end.
<https://tinyurl.com/4hmyar4f>

✂ Tips & Tricks for Making Boards Longer / End-to-End Woodworking Joints

- ♦ Not in any order; a variety of techniques.
<https://tinyurl.com/2ny5d5tp>
- ✂ How To Ebonize Wood
 - ♦ I saw a red door, and I want to stain it black
<https://tinyurl.com/443xcmm>

-----Reviews-----

✂ Taylor Tools Bedrock Plane Review : Is This Plane a Game Changer?

- ♦ At a price about half of a premium plane, how does this stack up to Rob Cosman's? If nothing else, it's worth seeing this before you review any plane for purchase
<https://tinyurl.com/3yu6nejt>

✂ 1950s Made in America vs NEW Made in China

- ♦ This goes into drill press chuck accuracy. The results may surprise you, and the information along the way is very interesting.
<https://tinyurl.com/ydsrdxbx>

✂ High-Quality Rasps That Won't Break the Bank

- ♦ A review of Italian-made rasps.
<https://tinyurl.com/y47c5r7f>

Sawdust behind hidden corners

By Tom Ferkel

I did something with my little 10-inch Craftsman bandsaw the other day. Embarrassingly, I've only done it once or twice before during the 30 or 35 years that I've had it. I'm sharing this for several reasons.

It's something that should probably be done regularly.

It doesn't take long to do it.

It's not at all difficult.

I imagine that not doing it might present potential, even dangerous, problems.

Lastly, I think it may be a common issue with other machines.

I may also be wrong, and it's just an issue with cheap old power tools. Perhaps over the years, design considerations have improved, but just in case they haven't, and the following photos inspire you to take a look around your own shop, I hope this is helpful.

Photo #1 is the cover for the cord and wires that power my band saw. As you can see, The cover is removed with two screws (circled in red — your milage may vary).

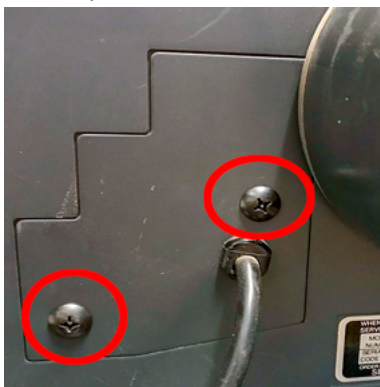


Photo #2 is a picture of the inside of the compartment with the cover removed. It's about 1/3 full of caked-on sawdust. The last time I opened it, the accumulated sawdust was so packed in that I actually had to loosen it with a screwdriver to remove it. This time, I was able to vacuum it out.

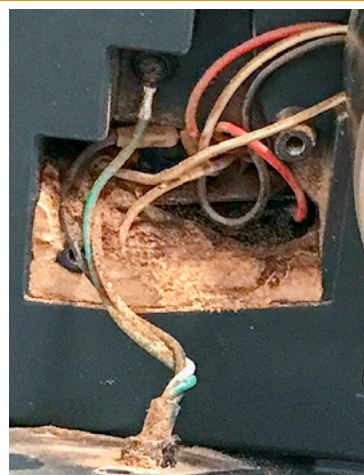


Photo #3 is the cleaned-out compartment. The wires were carefully positioned back inside the compartment so as not to be pinched or damaged, and the cover was screwed back on.

To say that I don't know where all that sawdust came from would not be true. I do know where it came from. I just don't know how so much of it was able to find its way into the wire compartment, but somehow it did. You may want to inspect some of your machines to be sure.

