

August's presentation

Bob Behnke, from TightBond, will be talking to us about the science of wood and how glue sticks to it. For more information on Bob, check out his "short" bio on page 3.

Meeting Minutes

by Eitan Goldberg

SFVW – Minutes July 17, 2025 meeting

Club president Jim Baldridge introduced returning member Bob Rennie. Previously, Bob has worked in a cabinet shop, did customizations on jet planes, and taught high school wood shop. He helped start the club's holiday toy project many years ago. Bob said that nowadays he likes to do smaller projects.

Announcements

Mark Collins said that we now have an adapter that we can use to display pictures from your cell phone.

Jim said that the next challenge will be to build a kinetic project, and it will be judged at the November meeting.

Jeff Bremer said that Japanese tools from the Allen Boardman sale are available to club members at 25% off the current asking price. Please contact him if you're interested.

Mike Wells said that you shouldn't throw out worn-out Japanese saw blades. The spring steel makes great spatulas. If you have any that you don't want to keep, please give them to him.

Eitan Ginsburg brought ¼" dowels and organic vapor respirator cartridges to give to members for free.

Chuck Nickerson brought a slab of burl that he gave away for free.

John Fisher said he is selling a contractor's table

Our President says...

By Jim Baldridge



Welcome all to another message from the President's corner of very serious and/or irrelevant stuff. May the reader be the guide.

Now, let me get down to some serious business. At last month's meeting, it was decided that the next "challenge" project would be presented at our regular monthly

meeting in November. I hope all of you who were at last month's meeting drove home brainstorming for an idea. And, those of you not able to attend, will have read this article and are already sitting at the drafting table planning a build.

Well, what is the challenge? Each member has been asked to create a "kinetic" toy/item. Kinetic, simply put, is



"caused by motion, energetic or dynamic." In other words, move point "A" and an item or items move into motion. For example: a

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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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saw, and interested parties should contact him.

Gary Coyne said that we need more content for the newsletter, so please send articles or pictures.

Reports



with Chuck Nickerson

October – Annual Jigs & Fixtures meeting

November – Super Show & Tell

December – Holiday party, date TBD.

Programs: Vice-President Emily Lichtman said the remaining programs for the year are:

August – Science of wood, by Bob Behnke from Titebond

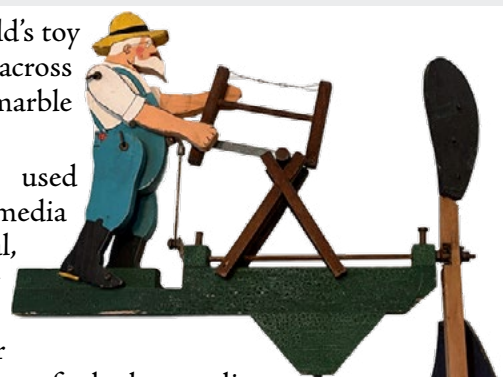
September – Vacuum veneering,

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whirly gig, a child's toy that you push across the floor, a marble dropped, etc.

The material used can be a mixed media of wood, metal, plastic, etc. Try to be as original as possible, or



find plans online to design and build.

The choices are limitless. The judging will be based on design, functionality, and originality!

Let your imagination be your guide, and the subject matter is unlimited!!!

The examples in this letter should get your creative juices flowing!!!

Let the sawdust fly, Jim Baldridge

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The second part of Brian Miller's wood coloring workshop will be this Saturday, July 26th, from 8:30 AM until around 5:00 PM.

Finance: Treasurer: Greg Massini said we are doing OK.

Toy Committee: Jonathan Nail reported that projects are moving along all right; however, we need more volunteers to help on the preparatory stages of builds during the year. Please contact him if you are interested.



Snacks: Joe Neustein, we'll be doing snacks in August, and Dave McClave volunteered to do September.

Safety: John Fisher spoke about lathe safety. He pointed out that lathes are different

than most other woodworking tools in that the work piece rotates, rather than a blade or cutter.

Don't wear loose clothing or jewelry, and tie back your hair, which might get caught in the spinning work piece.

Always wear eye and face protection for chips. A dust mask is important when sanding, and dust collection is helpful.

Make sure your workpiece is mounted properly and won't fly apart.

If you have a variable-speed lathe, start it at the lowest speed. Set the tool rest as close to the workpiece as possible, then move it in or adjust the height as you remove stock.

Test your tool position and cut before starting the lathe.

When turning larger or less balanced pieces, start slow. Essentially, there are two types of lathe tools: (1)



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Biography — Bob Behnke

Bob Behnke is Franklin International's Technical Service Manager for the Construction Division, handling all technical aspects of the Titebond Branded product line of wood glues, construction adhesives, wood flooring adhesives, and sealants. At Franklin, Bob manages a group tasked with handling all calls to the company's 800 number, along with technicians tasked with testing competitive products and new substrates. Bob has worked for over 30 years in the adhesives and sealants industry with experience in the development of emulsion polymers, scale-up from bench to production of a range of adhesive technologies, and development of breathable technology for organic and inorganic fabrics.

A quick range of YouTube videos on Card Scraper Sharpening

#1 Innovative Card Sharpening – Techniques, Practice & Patience

- ♦ Brian Boggs puts forward his approach.
<https://tinyurl.com/3seakkv5>

#2 Card Scraper Sharpening

- ♦ Paul Sellers on card scraper sharpening and use
<https://tinyurl.com/ab6hxxkar>

#3 Cabinet Scraper – How to use and Sharpen

- ♦ By far the most complex and demanding but excellent results
<https://tinyurl.com/2d2r6wpe>

#4 How To Sharpen A Card Scraper // Simple Method

- ♦ More of the same and also different.
<https://tinyurl.com/mwz5sbc9>

#5 How to Sharpen and Use a Cabinet / Card Scraper

- ♦ This covers both flat, convex, and concave scrapers
<https://tinyurl.com/5n8bc858>

#6 Card Scrapers Made Simple!

- ♦ Again similar but different approach. This one also covers the burnishing rod.
<https://tinyurl.com/mrym8b2n>

#7 How To Sharpen & Use Card Scrapers (The Ultimate Guide)

- ♦ From a Lutheran's point of view, an excellent range of covered subjects. Also, note he uses an oil, not a water stone.
<https://tinyurl.com/4zmywy2c>

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>

From the Web

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

The five strategies to avoid tear out

- Both practical and psychological solutions to tear out.
<https://tinyurl.com/yc8ak4pp>

Fine Tuning a Bench Plane

- A breakdown of the hand plane, what each part does, and why. [Note: mouth adjustments for non-Rockwell planes.]
<https://tinyurl.com/4anu6x2m>

Choosing Hand Planes

- Overall, matching the size to the job
<https://tinyurl.com/2svc7j99>

55.Choosing the Right Block Plane

- As the title says, here's info on which ones do what.
<https://tinyurl.com/2s4zvt3t>

Graham Blackburn Woodworking

- If you liked the video above, check out this link. It goes to all of Graham Blackburn's videos; there's a wealth of information in the 113 videos (at this point). All focused on hand tools.
<https://tinyurl.com/4nykxh8m>

The Ultimate Frank Klausz Dovetail Guide

- His approach is sort of like "the recipe calls for some salt, carrots, etc." No specifics, but it ends up accurate anyway.
<https://tinyurl.com/42vka865>

What I learned from 14 years teaching sharpening

- Yet more, "How to make it easy." Maybe this one is for you?
<https://tinyurl.com/3u2r83n7>

What Pros Know About Screws. That Beginners Don't.

- Basics and interesting details about wood screws, this is good.
<https://tinyurl.com/5n86xyym>

Pocket Holes Overexplained

- Yes, overexplained — for your benefit!
<https://tinyurl.com/yd4fkms4>

Carve a Chair Seat on the Table Saw

- I needed to see it to fully understand it.
<https://tinyurl.com/4zmaecwu>

Scrollsaw Workshop

- From the newsletter by Steve Good. Some good tips and a list of 20 top Scroll Saw Links on the web as selected by an AI agent.
<https://tinyurl.com/59ap444p>

The L Fence Jig Every Woodworker Needs!

- If you've missed these in the past, here's another one, a great thing to add to your toolset.
<https://tinyurl.com/2zhnsfmv>

Impossible wood bending

- Impressive planning and problem-solving for this ceiling light
<https://tinyurl.com/4wfk3sv9>

I don't get why people fall for these myths

- Clickbait title, but adding a bit of reality to these myth
<https://tinyurl.com/584632d8>

Avoid Table Saw Injuries: 13 Common Mistakes Exposed

- \$h!t happens. This shows how it happens and why.
<https://tinyurl.com/mufkbux3>

10 Tips to Minimize Dust, Loading, and Static While Sanding

- Good tips about sanding from a sanding manufacturer
<https://tinyurl.com/4sc4jc4v>

House for an Art Lover

- This link provides a full, complete history of this house discussed at the meeting (after it proves you are human).
<https://tinyurl.com/ycxvxy4y>

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scraping tools, which use leverage and have a raised burr, and (2) edge cutting tools that slice the wood. Edge cutting tools have a bevel that will support the cutting edge. When beginning your cut, rest the bevel on the work piece, then raise it until it cuts.

Always keep your tools sharp.

Q&A

Luke Wyatt asked what he could do to

prevent burn marks on rip cuts on the table saw. Recommendations included using a clean, sharp blade, aligning the miter slots blade to the blade, and aligning the fence to

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the blade. [Editor's note: Jim Kelly went to Luke's house and aligned the miter slots to the blade, then the fence to the miter slots. Now, all is great!]

Show and Tell

Bob Rennie showed several toys that he had made in years past, some of which were models for our toy build. These included a log truck, a flatbed truck, a helicopter, a dune buggy, and a dull cradle. [Editor's note: Bob was one of the original members of the club and he was the one who started the Toy Committee.]

Emily Lichtman brought in a Kumiko panel she made



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using a hemp leaf pattern. She said; Kumiko is not glued; rather, all the pieces are tension fit. You make them by



pairing them with very sharp chisels in jigs. She used basswood on this piece. Kumiko is not technically hard, but does require a lot of patience.

Mark Collins showed a jig that he 3D-printed to sharpen router plane blades. It holds the blade at a 5° angle and rides straddling a sharpening stone.

Mark Ashley showed pictures of bifold closet doors he made out of oak with Japanese-style shoji panels.

Jeff Bremer brought in some wooden planes he made recently. He invited interested people to contact him about his next plane-building class in a few weeks.

Gary Coyne showed frames that he made for a series of gesso panel posters that he mounted in his house. The posters were from "the House for Art Lovers" in Glasgow, Scotland. Both Furniture and architecture were designed by Rennie Macintosh and his wife, Mary Macdonald.



Program

Luke Wyatt offered a presentation about card scrapers.

A card scraper is used for smoothing and finishing wood. They come in various shapes,

sizes, and thicknesses. You can use handles or gripping devices to help you use them. Card scrapers are, in fact, micro planes, making shavings, not dust. How does a card scraper work? It is a sheet of steel with a hook or burr turned on the edge. You hold the scraper in both hands and push the center with your thumbs to create a bend. It is held at an angle and pulled towards you, creating a shaving. If you are getting sawdust, re-sharpen the card scraper or adjust your angle.

To sharpen a card scraper, you will need a mill file, sharpening stones, and a burnisher, which is a smooth rod of steel that is harder than the scraper.

First, hold the scraper in a vise and file it with the mill file about 5 or 6 times. Hold the file at an angle so that the lines on the file are perpendicular to the scraper edge.

Next, polish the scraper faces on sharpening stones. Hold the scraper flat to the stone and run it about 20 times back and forth on either face. You should get a dull sheen on the cutting edge. Use a medium grit stone, followed by a fine-grit stone.



Next, use a block of wood to hold the scraper 90° to the medium grit stone and polish the thin edge.

Repeat on a fine-grit stone. The more polished the edge, the more resilient it will be.

Next, lightly wipe the burnisher with some oil, such as 3-In-1 Oil.

Holding the card scraper in a vise, lightly run the burnisher perpendicular to the edge a few times, which draws out the steel.

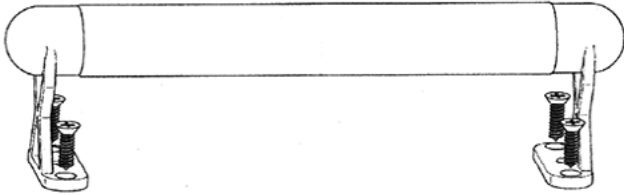


Oh, that's how...

by Ed Sheanin

I recently purchased a grab bar on Amazon, and here are the instructions that came with it for its installation.

Product usage instructions



Installation instructions: the handrail 4 screw holes in the installation of the location of the marking, if the installation in the wood, directly with the attachment of the drill holes, if it is installed in the concrete need to use a special drill holes, after the attachment of the expansion of the tube stuffed into the holes, and then use the screws to fix the handrail.

First of all, thank you for your trust and buy our products, encountered any problems can be feedback to us, we will be very valuable from your valuable advice!

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Next, lay the scraper flat on a bench, overhanging the edge by about 1/8". Run the burnisher back and forth a couple of dozen times at a slight angle to draw out the edge. Turn the scraper over and repeat on the other side.

Finally, put the scraper back in the vise and use the burnisher to create the hook on the edge. Start perpendicular to the scraper, then slowly move to a greater angle. Don't push too hard. Then repeat on the opposite edge to turn the burr on the other side.

A safety tip: don't run your finger down the edge of a sharpened card scraper. It will cut you very easily. When using a rectangular scraper, you may want to round the four sharp corners.

You can use a card scraper in just about any direction, and on end grain, figured wood, or non-conforming grain direction.

Card scrapers can be used to clean any glue squeeze out.

Convex and concave surfaces or moldings. Curved scrapers can be used on these. You can also turn a Burr on a chisel to get into corners.

Luke introduced four workstations that were set up for members to try both sharpening and using card scrapers.

Everyone partook of this opportunity.

Some images from the Brian Miller's Finishing Class done on July 26th.
A great time was had by all, and much was learned.



From Power Tool Enthusiast to Medieval Hand Tool Apprentice

by Brittany Joiner

When I watched a BBC documentary on Guedelon, the modern castle being built using only medieval tools and techniques, I was instantly mesmerized. I began doing everything in my power to get a position as a carpenter.



This is the castle that Brittany is working on

My communications were all ignored, even to the extent of my sending a carefully crafted illuminated letter, gilded in gold, extolling my experience and desire to be a part of the team, with a “wood cut” painting of myself in the woodshop.

I was just about to have my friend in France phone the office to get some response, when the email showed up in my inbox- I received your letter. “Hired everyone for the season. We should talk anyway.”

That Saturday, I hopped on a Zoom call with Emmanuel, the director of the program, and thus began my journey to the middle of France.

I committed to 3 months, as 90 days is the limit of a tourist visa. I let Emmanuel know I didn’t need to be paid (I have a regular job), but I’d need a place to stay. He secured a dorm room on-site for me. I bought my one-way plane



This is not a miniature, it’s just a section of the roof. Here Brittany is attaching shingles to the roof.

ticket (knowing that I’d need to feel out how long I’d actually want to be here after I’d stayed awhile) and a rental car through Turo since the site is in the middle of a forest, 5 miles from the nearest bus stop.

I started taking my French lessons seriously and made a few outfits to wear on the job- a medieval “uniform” is provided. Still, as I’m also a historical costumer, it was fun to crank out a couple of ensembles.



Planing wood for the chest’s lid

I have been here a few weeks now, and so far it’s been... a lot. It was 114 degrees a few days- we work outside every day of the week, 8 hours a day...I’m learning to use hand tools for the first time- and wow, am I inaccurate and not strong enough. The dorms

and shared showers, bathrooms, and kitchen are quite a stretch for someone in their 40s, with all the homesickness for my spouse and dogs included.

They differentiate here between what they call ‘charpentiers’ and ‘menuisiers’. The first day, I was with the charpentiers, and we were putting shingles on the roof of the well. We took rough oak boards, sometimes using the axe to shave them to size, drilling with a hand-powered drill, then placing a wooden dowel through the hole that had to be carved down to fit, then cut flush with the top of the shingle. It was tough work. Day 2, they decided I was more suited to be with the menuisiers, who make mainly furniture and more fine detailed work. I’ve been there ever since. Charpentiers are more construction and large format work.

My job has consisted of making a chest for the livery, using no glue or nails- the top, front, sides, back, and bottom are all assembled through box joints, mortise and tenon, and gouges that the planks sit in. Guess how many times I’ve done any of this in my 15 years of woodworking, and even less so



Sawing finger joints for the chest’s lid

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with only hand tools? Yup.

I feel a lot of pressure as well, because the wood we're working with has had a hard journey before it's in my hands. It started as a log that the woodsmen split and formed into large planks with their axes. Then it comes to us in the menuisiere shop, where we square it, and we cut and plane and cut and plane until it's a plank the size we need. (I swear I burned 1000 calories with those massive hand planes.)



Chiseling on the lid's frame to receive the slats

Then I carefully mark on the ends where the box joint will be, then cut with a frame saw, then clean it with a chisel, then fit it all together, only to find that, of course, it's not flush and sitting nicely together, so more and more chiseling is needed until it does. So far, I have spent seven long, hard days, and I have only almost finished with the box joints, for the lid only. This may take me the entire 3 months. [Editor's note: Brittany did finish the lid; it's included in the images.]

It hasn't all been sweat and tears. My overseers, Simon and Nicholas, have been patient and kind instructors, helping me and encouraging me, and teaching me so much along the way. I think I'll always be a power tool ambassador, but learning how to work with the wood, and to read the wood, and know how to use these hand tools, I know, is making me a better, more well-rounded woodworker in the end. And being in the dorms isn't too terrible either. Yes, there



The finished lid

is no AC. But I brought a taste of home tonight and made tacos, banana pudding, and palomas for everyone (no one had ever had any of those things) and received a standing ovation and the cue that you really made something delectable - absolute silence save the crunch of chips while eating.

Only 1 or 2 people speak English here, so I have been thrown into the deep end, and my French is already improving exponentially.

So, why am I here? Well, I ask myself that frequently, and the visitors and other workers ask me that as well. (Apparently, a spot with the menuisieres is quite competitive - there are only 3 of us)

I suppose it's because it sounded like a great adventure. A chance to get completely out of my comfort zone and reach beyond what I know myself to be capable of. So, I can grow as a human being and push myself.

It's been all that and more.

So, when the sun is beating down and I want to throw that chisel across the courtyard of the castle, I remind myself — I can do hard things. This is me in the process of growing.



Dave's Carvings by Dave McClave

My sister-in-law commissioned me to make labels for their guest bedrooms downstairs. Their townhouse has a very lodge-like feel to it (knotty pine, exposed timbered beams, etc.) Their townhouse has a very lodge-like feel to it (knotty pine, exposed timbered beams, etc.) It was their getaway from South Florida to Fraser, Colorado. The bear and the elk will be lodge mates with the eagle. Made from Eastern Red Cedar.

