

## Welcome

**President John Loftis** welcomed a very large group to the May meeting.



From left: Lynn Floyd, Gary Turman and Joe Polich enjoy the meeting.

## Guests

**Vince Bush** – found NTWA from our website; wants to build cabinets and other woodworking projects.

**Dan Rose** – found NTWA from our website; does turning plus scroll and band saw projects.

**Michael Rowan** – cabinet work and wants to learn more about carving.

**Sunny Krishnamoorthy** – came as a guest of long-time member Dan Pugliese.

**Don Brown** – found NTWA through a web search.

**Ed Blazer** – came as a guest of his neighbor James.

**Jeff Whitcomb** – a turner wanting to do more furniture projects.

## Announcements

A tour of Bill Richardson's shop, Artisan Woodworkers of Texas, is scheduled for Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

John Loftis has information on the sale of a 10" Dewalt table saw and accessories. If interested, let John know.

John also advised members to pay attention to sale notices. Some of these are exclusive to NTWA members and few members show up. Those who do have been getting great bargains.

## Shop Questions

**Mark Lindeman** has been having difficulty with glue ups for table tops in not getting flat tops. Suggestions including using biscuits to keep the planks aligned and to glue up two at a time instead of the full width. It was also suggested that he not mill to final size which will allow him to run the pairs back through the planer to insure a flat top with less work.

**Tim Brown** asked if anyone has experience with the Rapid Air system for piping compressed air in their shop. Bill Richardson said he uses it and is pleased with how easy it was to run and that he's had no problems with it.

**Bill Carr and Jeff Whitcomb** both asked about spraying finishes. Dan Chenault said he'd touch on it a little in his program later in the meeting.

?? asked about a finish for a MDF bench top. Dan Chenault recommended using water based Endurovar by General Finishes. Bill Bush also recommended General Finishes Exterior 450.

**Ken Clayton** reminded everyone that he still has copies of the shop emergency plan that was recommended for everyone to put in their shop in case of serious injuries.

## Show & Tell



Naser Jannati shows off a model of a modular chair he created with his laser cutter and how the full size pieces will be interlocked.



Naser shows examples of the laser cut Dallas Cowboy star he has created for a cutting board John Loftis is making for Cowboy's owner Jerry Jones' airplane.



Mike McVay builds models of churches for sale at craft shows among other places. Some are very elaborate with lighting and stained glass windows.



Joe Polich used the tour of John Loftis' shop in March as inspiration to build a "modified" torsion box for assembly and finishing. It has removable legs for storing flat against a wall.



John Loftis and a Cherry trestle table for a client.

## **Raffle**

**Bill Crawley:** Bessey band clamp

**Keith Farris:** Rockler thin-rip table saw jig

**Bill Bush:** Rockler mini glue brush set and Bench Cookies Plus set

**Bill Richardson** Snap depth gauge

**G.T. Robinson:** Dewalt planer blades



Dan Chenault with his “Wquilts” project: wooden quilt. He used a dozen different woods; some natural and some dyed with trans-tint dyes. This Wquilt is made up of over 175 individual pieces.

## **Program**

### **Hand Finishing**

Dan Chenault presented an extensive program on hand finishing based on over 35 years of finish work. He used a number of pieces of Birds Eye Maple sanded to 220 to illustrate how different techniques and create different effects. He cautioned against sanding beyond 220 as it just starts polishing the wood and makes finishing problematic.

He made mention of Rockler’s HVLP and the Earlux system as less expensive alternatives to last month’s program presenting more expensive equipment options. Wagner airless sprayers are basically for paint only. He stressed that the more expensive the equipment, the better the atomization which should yield better finish results.

Dan talked about the use of dyes and tints to achieve the finish you desire. Trans-tints are liquid and Transfast tints are powder. Power dyes can be used only with water while liquid dyes can be used with water or solvents.

Spotchiness can be avoided by wetting the surface and resanding with 220. You can also use sanding sealers, but they prevent the wood from taking the full effect of stains by reducing the penetration.

He cautioned that you must be finished sanding before dying or you'll sand through the color.

In response to a question from a member, dyes can be used to color epoxy, but only after the A & B components are mixed.

Transtint dyes can be added to lacquer for darker colors and different colors can be combined to get the shade you're after.



Dan applied a variety of dyes he mixed to the sample boards he

brought in to show how they "pop" the grain before a finish is added.

Shellac is a great finish to accent the grain says Dan, but it's not a durable finish by itself. It can be topped with lacquer or poly for greater protection. Shellac is also makes a great seal coat and should be thinned to 3 or 4 to 1 when used in this way. It can go over anything and can be topped with anything. Waxed shellac is more durable, but dewaxed is a better sealer.

Shellac comes in a variety of shades including blonde, amber, orange and garnet. All shellac flakes are dewaxed. The advantage of using flakes is that your finish is always fresh.

Shellac and lacquer are the only two finishes where each coat chemically bonds to the previous coat.

Lacquer is available in many colors or you can tint it yourself to get the shade you desire. He noted that Elliott's Hardware in Plano has over 30 different colors of lacquer. Bill Richardson added that if you've sprayed Krylon aerosol paint, you've sprayed color lacquer.

Dan says he likes Armor Seal to highlight the grain and that it goes over almost any stain, but may pull some color out of oil based stains. He emphasized to use care sanding after the first coat of finish so you

don't go through and take out some color.

Whether using lacquer, shellac, Armor Seal or poly, Dan says to use 5-6 coats on a table top for good durability.

Dan doesn't like to use tack cloths on bare wood or water based finishes and absolutely doesn't like steel wool. He does say you can get the last of the dust off by wiping down bare wood with a rag and paint thinner when using non-water based finishes.

Dan emphasized that the key to good finishes is in the sanding!

Thank you Dan for a great program!

**Next club meeting:  
June 17th, 2014  
7:00 p.m.  
The Party Barn**

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**Newsletter edited by Joe Polich  
Photos by Sidney Futrell**

## Shop Tour – Artisan Woodworkers of Texas

A tour of Bill Richardson's shop, Artisan Woodworkers of Texas, was held on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Bill's 2400 square foot shop.



Bill got his start in woodworking as a carpenter during his off hours from the fire department. This eventually led him to building furniture and cabinet work out of his home garage after a stint with a cabinet maker to learn the trade.



Artisan Woodworkers does all custom work; mostly cabinets and restaurant remodels, but prefers to do furniture.

A lot of his restaurant work is with reclaimed/repurposed lumber. One project used 125 year old pine from a church, another use old bowling lanes and yet another used a brewery floor.

Working with reclaimed wood poses its own challenges according to Bill including having to clean and sand before machining to be sure you locate all nails, screws, etc. to keep from tearing up knives and blades. He says that when you work with reclaimed lumber, you must have a good metal detector because you will always find metal of some kind in the wood.

He also said that the carbon print of reclaimed lumber is at least 2-3 times that of virgin lumber because of all the extra steps you must take before getting to the same point as virgin lumber. You should also plan on needing 2 times the normal lumber due to extra fallout.

Bill also factors in knives for his jointer and planer and 3 times the normal sandpaper for each job using reclaimed lumber.

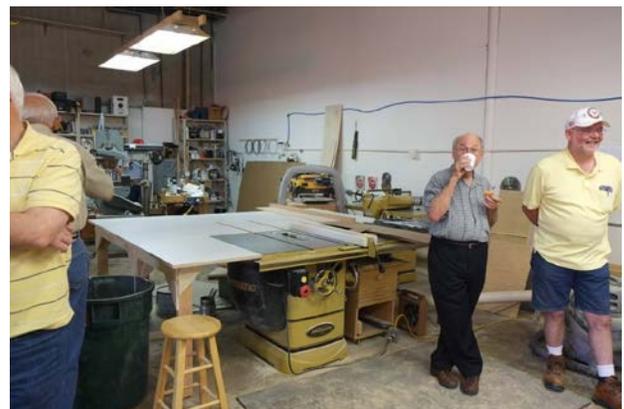
Artisan Woodworkers charges an hourly rate of \$65.00 and when doing quotes, Bill adds in 2 hours to his original thought before adding in 10% to cover shop supplies, fallout,

etc. They prefer to work with designers – not homeowners and require a 50% deposit to start the work to insure that materials are at least covered. He also stressed that he requires all customers to sign off on the color choice before the finish is applied.

All-in-all it was a great morning and many thanks to Bill for sharing his time and shop to NTWA members!



*You can never have too many clamps, can you?*



*Nice takeoff table on Bill's Powermatic table saw.*