



# North Texas Woodworkers Association

See us at: [www.ntwa.org](http://www.ntwa.org)

Volume 24, Number 2

Newsletter

February 2015

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## **Welcome**

**President John Loftis** welcomed everyone; said it would be a short program and that we'd probably get out early. Didn't happen – the program was outstanding!

## **Guests**

*Van Price* from McKinney likes to make wooden ships and heard of the club through Larry McQueen.

*Scott & Margaret Perry* of Flower Mound. Found NTWA online. Scott is a turner who also does cutting boards and some furniture.

*Nick Moeller* is from Dallas and discovered NTWA online. He is just starting out and is motivated by the need for furniture for the house.

*Richard Kenyon* likes to make cutting boards.

*Michael Minarzick* is also our speaker. Likes to do carvings.

## **Announcements**

Membership renewal is now taking place. Annual dues are \$36 so bring a check or cash to the next meeting please.

Steve Yauch announced the following open positions for the board of directors and was seeking volunteers:  
Raffle Prizes: Teresa Jones  
Membership:  
Programs:

A full slate of candidates will be presented via email and voted on at the March meeting. Check your NTWA email for the full slate before coming to the meeting please.

## **Shop Questions**

Keith Johnson is looking a good track system for sliding doors in a cabinet. The biggest issue is the size of the doors, 24" high x 16" wide x 3/4". Steve Jenkins suggested rabbeting the bottoms so only 1/8" would be sliding and to wax the track and tenon real good.

Don Brown is building a hollow mantel to be mounted on a brick wall and asked about mounting suggestions. John Loftis just completed a similar mantel. The installer used "L" brackets on the brick. A removable lower panel on the bottom allowed for attachment to the mantel. Other suggestions included using a cleat on the wall to fit inside the hollow section then securing it with hidden screws from the top.

Richard Kenyon is looking for help on a Grizzly sliding table as well as a Laguana jointer/planer. Both John Loftis and Steve Jenkins volunteered to let Richard look at their sliders even though they aren't Grizzly.

Nick Moeller is looking for general recommendations on which is better, a drum thickness sander or a planer. The general consensus of the club was to get a planer with it being

quicker and more versatile than the drum sander.

Gary Bobenhausen asked about Jet vs. Powermatic lathes and 110 vs. 230. The Powermatic is much heavier, but has a 3 phase motor. Steve Yauch has a Powermatic and says the weight eliminates all vibration.

## **Show & Tell**



Donald Hansen created this round cutting board out of maple and used Peruvian walnut for the legs.



Earl Guyer made this red oak folding card table with fluted legs. The top is vinyl over plywood.



Mike Hollander makes these boxes out of figured oak and inlaying Arts & Crafts tiles into the lid.



Keith Johnson made two lateral file cabinets to match a bookcase he previously built. He added a top to span both cabinets to create a desk.

**And the winner is:** Keith Johnson won the \$10.00 Show & Tell drawing.

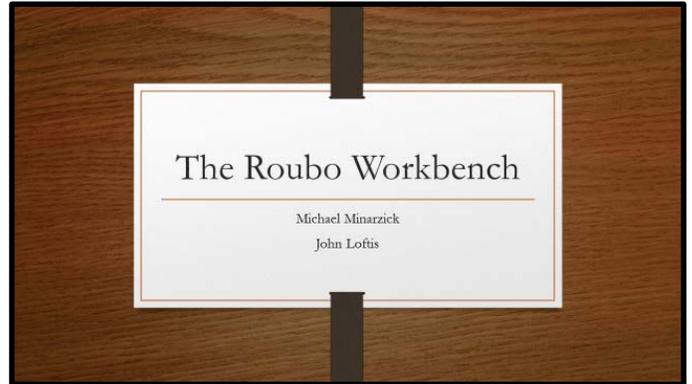
### **Raffle**

Kent McClurg: Woodworking Tools dovetail saw

TJ: Wixey digital height gauge

Earl Guyer: Wolfcraft Multi-Angle Drill Guide

### **Program**



Michael Minarzick got tired of chasing his bench across the floor whenever he hit a chisel with a mallet so he decided to build a heavy duty workbench to solve the problem.

After a lot of thought and research he decided to build a Roubo workbench. The best features of this bench, according to Michael:

- Heavy: Will not move when working a board or a carving.
- Rigid: Does not flex under working pressures.
- Versatile: Capable of holding common work pieces in any orientation.
- Durable: A one-time build that will outlast him.
- Future-facing: Will support all of his project needs as his skills and the complexity of his projects grow.



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Michael says there were four people he used for design inspirations:

- Scott Landis:  
*The Workbench Book: A Craftsman's Guide to Workbenches for Every Type of Woodworking*
- Christopher Schwarz:  
*Workbenches: From Design And Theory To Construction And Use*
- André Jacob Roubo (1739-1791):  
*Son and grand-son of journeymen carpenters; wrote three books with over 300 pictures, #11 shows a workshop with a close up of the classic Roubo workbench and clamping accessories.*
- Marc Spagnuolo founder of The Wood Whisperer Guild an online woodworking school.

Michael decided to use Marc as the starting point is his quest to build his workbench. Projects are available through the guild with an annual membership of \$129/\$299 or a-la-carte; \$100 for the Roubo workbench.

Michael says the plans are accurate plus there are videos available that show every step of the build process. An advantage with the videos is that you can view them over and over, but the disadvantage is that you don't have that up-close oversight that you get with a live instructor.

Michael built his bench with the split top. Among the advantages he cited is that the top is lighter and easier to handle and the legs are in the same

plane as the top, allowing boards to be clamped to the front of the bench.

Other features he included were a sliding dead man to support larger or irregular shaped pieces and a leg vise that uses a crisscross design that eliminated the need for a guide pin.

Material List:

- 200 board feet of rough sawn hard maple – \$900.
- A-la-carte Roubo workbench plan from The Wood Whisperer Guild – \$100.
- Benchcrafted Split Top Roubo Benchmakers Package (<http://benchcrafted.com/str.html>) – \$850.
- Accessories (Veritas Surface Clamp – \$100, Grammercy Holdfasts – \$45).
- Miscellaneous (glue, Danish oil, suede, rags, sand paper, etc.) – \$55.
- Total project cost – \$2,050\*.
- Weight: 300#

Michael says you don't have to use hard maple, it was just his choice and the total project cost is a rough estimate.

A list of tools he used included:

- Table saw, jointer, planer, band saw, drill press and bits, router and router table, chisels, hand saws, mallets, measuring and marking tools.
- You'll need a set of saw horses to start working on the front

and rear top slabs, but it's easier if you already have a workbench.

Michael provided some shots of his most impressive bench:



*Crisscross design of the leg vise keeps the clamp parallel at all times.*



*The tail vise will not sag over time like a traditional wagon vise can.*



*Notice the square peg holes. The pegs are a friction fit so they are always waiting for you.*



*Sliding dead man clamping a large piece with the vise and a hold fast.*

**Next club meeting:**  
**March 17th, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**The Party Barn**

**Program:**  
**Walter Wharton**  
**Relief Carving**

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich  
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