



North Texas Woodworkers Association

See us at: www.ntwa.org

Volume 24, Number 4

Newsletter

April 2015

Welcome

President John Loftis greeted a large crowd to the April meeting of NTWA.

Guests

Jessica Torres & son Jonah are new to woodworking. Jessica found NTWA online and wants to learn about shelves and inlays.

Josh Harris of North Frisco received a notice on Facebook.

Frank Haas is from Central Frisco and has been on the NTWA email list. He decided to come to a meeting.

Rick McClay is a wood sculptor and wants to learn more about furniture making.

Jaime Barraza is new to woodworking.

Jim Ridgway is from Alaska and likes to do most of his woodworking with hand tools.

Roger Thompson came in from Allen and likes to build clocks.

Dale Smith is from Double Oak Texas and learned about NTWA from Eulless Saw Mill.

Announcements

John Loftis said there would be two new estate sales coming up that will be reserved to NTWA club members.

He will send out emails with details when they are in place.

Bill Bush said he is working with a widow in Southlake who has wood and equipment to sell. She'll sell the wood first, then the equipment. Bill will send details to John Loftis for distribution.

Woodworking school Worth Effort is moving from San Marcos to Austin and is selling some really good workbenches for \$2000. Contact them at www.wortheffort.com.

NTWA does have a Facebook page. Ken Clayton has volunteered to maintain it.

Gary Bobenhausen brought in 3 mesquite logs available at no charge and said the owner has more available. All the owner would like in return is 3 jewelry boxes as gifts for his granddaughters.

Dan Chenault of Rockler brought in 20 pairs of offset hinges available at no charge.

Sidney Futrell has a friend selling a 14" Jet floor bandsaw for \$500.

Vic Gutekunst, Membership Co-chair, reminded everyone to renew their dues for 2015. It's still \$36 annually.

Shop Questions

Bill Richardson asked for suggestions on removing glue from Bessey parallel clamps. The most common suggestion was to wax the clamp before gluing.

A member asked about the best finish for mesquite table tops. Dan Chenault suggested Armor seal or Endurovar. Bill Richardson suggested 3 coats of catalyzed varnish, but this finish must be used within 8 hours of mixing.

Another member asked about a list of sawmills in the area:

Wood of Mission Timbers in Sanger.
Harden Cabinet in Denton
Sutton Saw Mill
Fritz Hannaman in Benbrook
Euless Saw Mill

Lynn Floyd again reminded everyone to watch for bugs, especially if the wood is air dried.

Jeff Witcomb reminded everyone he still has schedule 40 pipe for steam bending chambers available at no charge.

Show & Tell



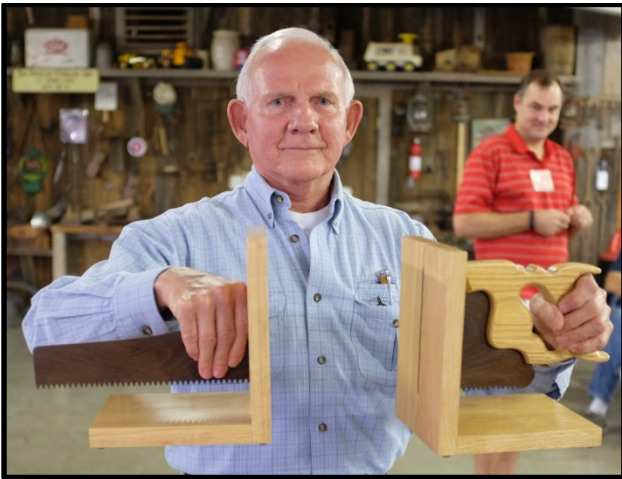
Steve Jenkins brought in a cross-section of a pegboard that used 1" dowels for shelf supports. The architect didn't want the plywood to show in unused holes so Steve glued strips of Oak between the sections of ply. The dowel holes were then drilled in the Oak.



Pete Yarner shows off his Hickory & Maple cheese board.



Dan Chenault brought in a scroll sawn guitar made by one of his customers - Neil Owen.



Donald Hanson made this pair of bookends of Oak. The saw blade is made of Peruvian Walnut.



Isabel Nieves brought in her tilt-top table with a hand carved post.



Jim Polanco made this exercise stool for his wife using White Oak, Cedar & Paduk.



Dave Cassman made this upholstered vanity chair out of Poplar. He used a filler primer then used white spray can paint.



Bill Jacobs made this one-piece book holder out of Bloodwood.



Sunny Krishnamodhrthy made this entertainment center to go with the bookcases he made earlier.



Wayne Bower used Cedar to make this planter. Says if anyone needs the plans he will make them available.



Larry Maughan turned this segmented bowl out of Leopard wood.

Larry also brought in a lidded box he turned out of Zebra wood.

Swap Meet

A club swap meet was held before the regular meeting, during the break and after the meeting. Members brought in unwanted or no-longer used tools to sell to members.



Raffle

Wendell Brough: Woodcraft deluxe scrapper set

John Loftis: Carter's Accuright Circle cutting jig

Frank Haas: Rockler Bandy Clamp set

Program

My Favorite Router Bits

The program was kicked off with Steve Jenkins discussing his favorite router bits and their uses. The brands he likes to use are Amana, Whiteside, Troy, Rockler and Eagle, but stressed there are others that are probably

just as good. These are just what he prefers.



The bits he uses most are:
Rabbeting set – the multiple bearings make cutting rabbets very easy with a hand-held router.

Upcut spiral or Downcut spiral – used for cutting dados and grooves (the difference between dados and grooves? Dados go across the grain while grooves go with the grain).

Flush cut – upcut spiral with a bearing on the bottom. These are available as solid carbide or with inserts that have 4 cutting sides.

Pattern bit – these have bearings on the top. Steve prefers ½" diameter with a 1" to 2" cut length.

Dado bit – bottom cutting bit with 1/16" – 1/8" cut length. These are used to clean out dado cuts made on the table saw that may not be of uniform depth.

Plastic laminate bit – this is a no file bit that has a slight taper and slight round over.

Steve talked about using a bearing lubricant to keep bearings free. He uses a Bostick product available through Rockler and D&R Saw.

And lastly, Steve said he uses D&R Saw to sharpen all his carbide tools, but mentioned that Rockler has a dropoff service for these bits and blades.

Measuring, cutting & common tools

Steve was followed by John Loftis talking about measuring, cutting and common tools used on a daily basis.



One of John's most used tools is a good pencil sharpener. To get the most accurate cuts, you need a pencil that gives a very narrow line when scribed.

Dial caliper – handiest if it is decimal and fractional. Digital calipers can

switch between the two with the press of a button.

Adjustable squares of various sizes. Johan reminded everyone to check to be sure they are square before using.

Tape measures – John advised to use the same tape to measure all parts on any given project to eliminate differences between tapes.

Woodcraft A-Line-It – John says this was one of the best additions to his tool arsenal. They insure his tablesaw fence and blade are in proper alignment and square to the table. This has improved his cuts dramatically.

Narex Chisels – John prefers these chisels because they hold their edge and are readily available from a variety of sources.

Japanese hand saws – these saws cut on the pull stroke rather than the traditional push stroke. He has several of these saws placed throughout his shop to make quick cuts in place.

Hand Planes

Johan Gustavsson, with an occasional assist by Steve Yauch, talked about the many different planes available and he brought in a lot of samples. Johan says the best bench plane is the sharpest one.



Johan says planes are usually designated using the original Stanley numbering system.

Smoothing planes are designated 1-4 and are used to take the final cut.

Jack planes are usually referred to as #5 or #5 ½ and can be used to flatten or smooth your stock. Johan says if you only have one plane, this is the one to have.

Jointer planes are among the longest and are used exclusively for flattening both the face and edges of a board.



I once caught a plane thiiiiis big!

Plane irons should be ground to 45° and are bevel down though some newer planes and more specifically block planes are low-angle and bevel up.

If you are getting grain tearout with your plane, Johan suggests you switch to a cabinet or hand scrapper.

Other specialty planes you might consider are spoke shaves, shoulder planes and router planes.

Johan suggests you start with a #5 plane and then add a #4. The #4 can do anything a block plane can do.

Older planes are usually lighter than the newer expensive planes and he says there is no difference between a smooth or corrugated sole.



Some of Johan's collection of hand planes.

NOTE: Former club member Jim Spallin has a near complete set of Fine Woodworking magazines plus multiple issues of other woodworking magazines for sale. He can be contacted at 972-890-1613 or by email at JSpallin@advaoptical.com.

Next club meeting:

May 19th, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The Party Barn

Program: Router

Techniques

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich
Pictures by: Sidnev Futrell*