

Welcome

President Jay Stearns welcomed everyone to the November meeting.



Member Introductions

Bill Bush first started woodworking in 7th grade wood shop and has been a serious woodworker for the past 5 years. He worked in the tech business for 40 years. Bill likes to do cutting boards and Big Green Egg tables and accessories. Hickory is his favorite wood and he likes to bookmatch it with walnut borders.

Britt Baumei took a Woodcraft class 10 years ago, but kids put a hold on his woodworking ambitions. He used a gift certificate to buy a router and has just jumped back into resurrecting his woodworking.

Mike T got a tablesaw from his father-in-law. His first project was a picnic table then he started turning pens on his drill press. He now has a lathe for the pen turning. His favorite woods are snakewood and purple heart.

Announcements

The 2x4 challenge has been rescheduled to January's meeting and will replace Show & Tell.

Jay asked for suggestions for the grand prize for the December potluck. Suggestions included a really nice drill bit set, CBN grinding wheels, a Festool sander and vacuum, a Festool chopsaw and a jointer.

Shop Questions

Bill Richardson has to make some light boxes for a customer and is looking for a source for acrylic. Steve Yauch suggested Cadillac Plastics.

Chris Kersey needs to repair a chair from his mother but doesn't want to take it apart. Gary Turman suggested Chair Doctor. It expands the wood and then hardens for a more "permanent repair."

Guests

Jeff Austin met Joe Polich at a Festool Roadshow who invited him to come to a meeting. Jeff likes to do cabinets and furniture and his favorite wood is quartersawn white oak.

Mark Montgomery is a past member and is rejoining NTWA. He prefers hard woods and enjoys making cabinetry and furniture.

Ron Bauman came at the invitation of Dale Smith. Ron is a novice doing

mostly pallet projects. His does like cedar though.

Greg Brockmann was invited to attend by Bill Bush. Greg likes to make furniture and cabinets and considers himself to be a hobbyist.

Show & Tell



Joe Polich made this headboard out of Oak. The top cap is a bent lamination using the top rail as the form.



Jay Stearns make this bandsawn box out of Sycamore, maple burl, curly maple and mahogany for the Texas State Fair. He placed 3rd in his category.



Mike Petrana made this segmented, turned handle spatula for his grill.



Gary Turman made a set of four stackable jewelry boxes out of black walnut and brown ash for his wife Elaine. He lined the interior with velvet.



Larry Maughan turned this bowl with a beaded rim and is working on the goblet beading the outside.



Michael Bosley got a jump start on the 2x4 contest building this workbench from a single 8' 2x4.



Dale Smith hand carved this cross out of cedar.



Carl Medina made these sanding blocks out of 2x4 scraps. Cork is glued to the bottoms and he painted them bright colors to make them visible in his shop.



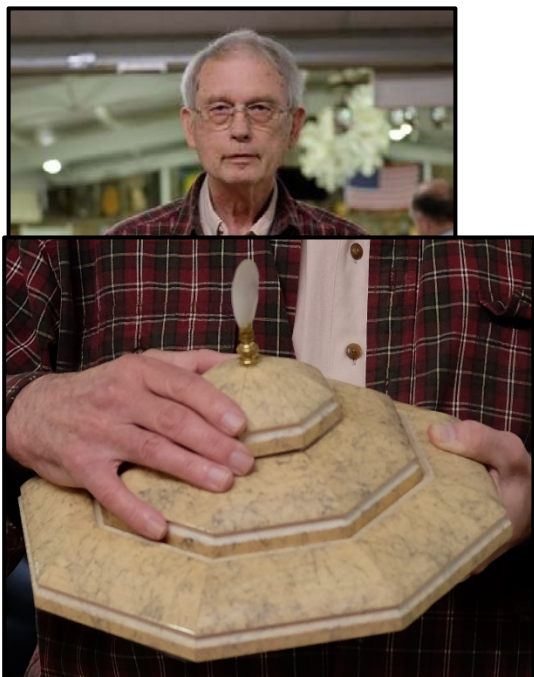
Ron Giordano (hey I got it right!) made this knife from a kit during a class at Rockler.



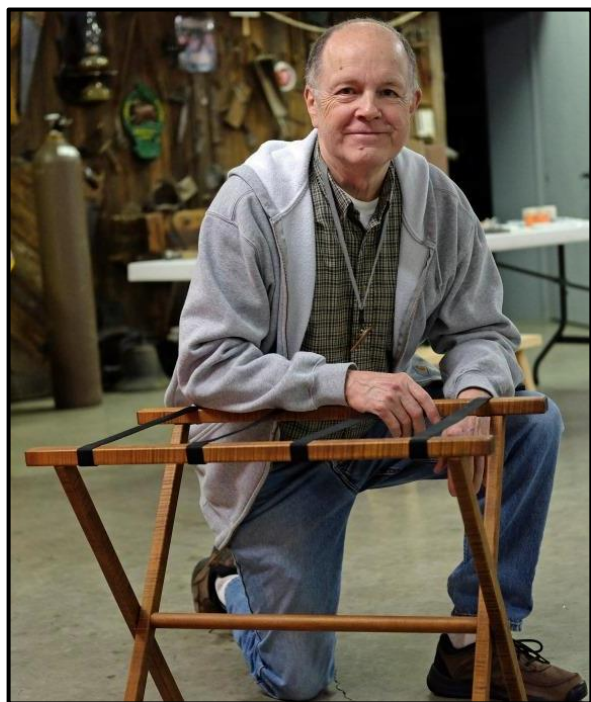
Dan Nilius turned several bowls from John Loftis scraps. He used the information from the September program to make the spalted hackberry bandsawn box.



Jim Polanco made this cutting board with maple and walnut scraps from our favorite supplier, John Loftis. Jim added his own padauk and ash.



Gary Barnes made this octagonal jewelry box from prefinished picture frame molding.



Ed Mastin made this suitcase stand from cherry.

Raffle

TJ (Teresa Jones): Rockler 18" Stand tool holder apron.

Dale Smith: Stonepoint 4' LED shop light.

Bill Bush: Rockler 18pc Insty-drive set.

Program



Past NTWA president Steve Jenkins has been a professional woodworker for 36 years. He moved his shop out of Dallas to 5 acres outside McKinney and built a 3300 square foot shop. Veneering has been a must know skill for the type of woodworking he does; most of which comes through architectural designers. The work they commission would be prohibitive cost-wise in solid wood and in most cases, impractical with the bends and curves needed.

Veneering goes back to the ancient Egyptians who used plywood and facings.

Some basic facts about veneers presented by Steve are that veneers are generally 1/50" thick. A flitch is cut from a whole log and a bundle is a part of a flitch. The advantage of using a flitch or bundle is that the veneer sheets are in sequence making matches more appealing whether they are book-match, split-match or butt-match.

Some veneer is peeled on a rotary press and knife. Veneers can come in quartersawn, flat sawn or rift sawn, the same as lumber.



Steve brought examples of designs you can utilize such as the reverse diamond using 4 pieces and the starburst using 16 pieces. He says to use alcohol or lacquer thinner to pop the grain to see what it will look like. The form in the foreground of the above picture was used to create curved panels.

Steve fills voids in the veneer with epoxy usually tinted with a dye, but you can use other materials such as

turquoise or other materials you find appealing. He uses System 3 epoxy, not the typical "store bought" that comes with the double tube.

To cut veneer, Steve uses a veneer saw or veneer knife. The knife is beveled on one side only and the non-beveled (flat) side is kept against the straight edge. If using a cutter with a double bevel, cut the veneer from the bottom side. This will eliminate a slight gap caused by the angle of the double bevel.

For his substrate, Steve prefers to use MDF rather than plywood. The thickness of the MDF is more consistent than plywood plus it doesn't have voids. Plum Creek MDF is his go-to substrate. It is a Weyerhaeuser product that is super refined to provide superior results.

If Steve is doing curved panels, he generally using laminations, but has used flexible substrate such as bendable plywood or mdf. He prefers the laminations because you get a smooth curve. With the bendable ply or mdf you get a slightly uneven curve due to the kerfs.

If your veneer is not flat, you must flatten it before attempting to cut or glue. Use a mixture of alcohol, water and PV glue. Wet the veneer, cover it with window screen then newspaper. Place them between two sheets of melamine then clamp with cauls or use a vacuum bag. You can stack

layers of screen, veneer and newspaper. The screen lets the moisture migrate to the newspaper.

To prepare your veneer pieces for gluing, place the veneer on its face, butt the edges tight then use painter's tape to hold them together running the tape perpendicular to the seam. You then flip your veneer over and use veneer tape on the front perpendicular to the seams. Remove the painter's tape before pressing. If you press with the painter's tape in place, it pulls the glue from the tape into the veneer. Veneer tape is specially designed to prevent that.

Glue up in smaller sets rather than all at once. The veneer tape comes off easily with water and/or a scraper. Use extreme caution if sanding due to how thin the veneer is.

Use Titebond or plastic resin glue, but if doing burst laminations, Steve recommends using plastic resin or epoxy. If you need longer open time you can even use white carpenter's glue. Always put the glue on the substrate, not the veneer. Use an adhesive roller to get a nice, even coat of glue. Excess glue can create bubbles in the veneer. Steve does not recommend using contact cement unless the veneer has a paper backing. You want to veneer both sides of your panel to keep it from cupping. He also recommends using freezer paper or wax paper between

the veneer and caul to keep the caul from sticking to your veneer.

Steve uses a vacuum bag for most of his projects especially if he is doing curved panels. The vacuum pump delivers 14.7 pounds per square inch of atmospheric pressure at sea level. A small pump will work the same as a big one; it's just slower. This converts to 2116.8 pounds per square foot.

To demonstrate the power of vacuum, Steve connected his pump to a sealed barrel and let it suck the air out of the barrel. The barrel collapsed with a loud bang as show below.



Steve prepared the following project by placing the laminations and veneer on the form to create the curved panel.

The bag must have a mesh under the project or a platen with 1/8" saw kerfs to pull the air evenly. The mesh is a lot more flexible since you need different sized platens for each project.



North Texas Woodworkers Association

See us at: www.ntwa.org

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Notice how the panel conforms to the form in the picture below.



It was obvious that when it comes to veneering, Steve is as skilled in it as he is with the rest of his woodworking. Great program!

***Next club meeting:
Tues., Dec. 18th
7:00 pm at the
Party Barn
Potluck
Bring your Show &
Tell!***

Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich
newsletters@ntwa.org

Pictures by: Sidney Futrell