

Welcome



President Jay Stearns welcomed everyone and in honor of St. Patty's day, he wore green.....

It was one year ago almost to the day that we suspended meetings at the Party Barn. If that meeting had taken place, Jay had a "special" pair of pants he was going to wear.....



Yes, those are pants, not drapes or a tablecloth.

Jay talked about our Zoom meetings using Chris Kersey's company's Zoom account. This is the last month we can do that since his company has switched to Microsoft Teams. Jay said he's looked into a subscription of our

own at \$14.95/month. Kyle Einhorn said he has a Zoom account and will check the expiration date. If still active the club can use it. Kyle checked and his account is good to July 16, 2021.

Bodie asked if we have a date to restart live meetings. Jay will check with the Haggards to see if and when they plan to open. A quick poll of those in attendance indicated that 75% would attend live vs. 25% a couple of months ago. The question came up about continuing to Zoom meetings if we do them live. It was suggested to use a webcam with Zoom to give access to those unable or unwilling to attend.

Dues are due now for 2021. \$36/year. You can pay by check to: NTWA
8204 Strecker Lane
Plano, TX 75025
Or
IF you have a PayPal account you can pay your dues through it using: dues@ntwa.org

Announcements

Jay asked VP Steve Yauch to send a notice out to existing officers to determine their intent to stay on or not.

John Loftis says he has a lot of cutoffs for club members to pick up. He is asking for a \$20 donation. His



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address is: 17811 Davenport #3,
Dallas, TX 75252

Jay said the \$20 is more than reasonable and that you have to keep in mind that John had to buy this high-quality wood. A lot of projects have been made with John's cutoffs.

Shop Questions

Rockler has expanded their Garland store to offer more exotic hardwoods and they will eventually close their Richardson store in favor of the Frisco store. John Loftis wanted to make sure everyone is aware of Rockler's sharpening service. Leitz Tools in Garland (214.703.9314; 2721 Market St.; Garland, TX 75041) picks up saw blades, router bits, knives, etc. then returns them the following week. John says he's been using their service for years and they do a stellar job. He says to check with the store to see what day they pick up. Payment is made to Rockler. You can also reach Leitz directly at: <https://www.leitz.org/en-us/services/re-sharpening-tool-repair/>

Bodie asked if anyone has tried to put a finish on bodark. Jay says he's used Danish Oil. It stayed yellow. Steve says to keep it out of the sunlight to keep it yellow and try a UV blocking finish, but realistically it will eventually turn some shade of brown. Bodie wants it to stay bright yellow rather than oxidize to brown.

John Loftis says many of the colored hardwoods like purpleheart, bloodwood and others are hard to keep their colors.

Jim Cadorette shared this link about how to get purpleheart to retain its color by using a microwave: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zlh4fWFpGbo>

Mike Hatley said that before all todays off the shelf finishes were available, his father-in-law mixed his own finish using 1/3 mineral spirits, 1/3 spar varnish and 1/3 boiled linseed oil. He says the mineral spirits keeps the solution workable and the linseed oil pulls the varnish into the wood about 1/8" deep.

Charlie Barnes asked for recommendations for a small tabletop laser engraver. He wants to do small items such as pens. His initial search was overwhelming with the number of choices. Jim Polanco said he'd share info with Charlie.

We currently have two Facebook groups. John Loftis created the original one about 5 years ago and a new one was started 2-3 years ago because of the difficulty of posting to the original. The new one is much easier to post to. Ron Giordano suggested we shut the original and post a note telling everyone to transition to the new one.

Product Reviews

Gary Turman reviewed an automatic center punch made by Leslie, a specialty tool company (mostly automotive). It's only 3/8" diameter and fits in your apron pocket. It has an adjustment nut to control the amount of pressure exerted on the tip. He bought his at Woodpeckers on sale for \$15, normally \$20.

The second was a Jorgenson clamp with a ratcheting/cam action adjuster that does away with the round handle to tighten the jaws. Works great for those who have difficulty gripping the small handles. Other manufacturers include Bessey and Festool. They run about \$18 each on Amazon and come in 4", 8" and 12" models.

Chris Kersey posted this link in the Chat box to see a video on these clamps:
<https://youtu.be/TsiHAXTduws>.

Jay Stearns reviewed a mechanical pencil he bought at Rocker. Comes with 12 leads, a sharpener and eraser. The problem he has with it is if you break the lead, it won't advance and you have to practically take the pen apart to get the lead out.

Joe Polich reviewed a Lutz conversion kit he put on his 8" Jet jointer. It is a spiral head with 40 individual carbide cutters. The finish is super-smooth, and the noise is cut in half.

Jim Cadorette did the same with his DeWalt 735 planer and his comments echoed Joes: much quieter and smoother.

Kyle Einhorn commented that the helix (spiral) heads don't perform as well with epoxy. Straight knives are better on epoxy.

Show & Tell

Jay Stearns made these "feather" boxes out of zebra wood. Notice how the inside bottom matched the pattern on the lid.



JW Hoover made this box out of walnut using his router table.



Neal Pappion decided to experiment with resin. He used 4" PVC pipe for a mold and just randomly stuck scraps of white oak in it. He let it cure for 24 hours before turning it on the lathe.



Bodie Pyndus made this cutting board from offcuts from John Loftis. It has a finger groove on each end that he'll explain more about in his program on his mortising jig.



Guests

Josh McGuire recently moved to Grapevine and wants to get active in woodworking again. He found NTWA on the web.

Michael Hatley was invited by Bodie Pyndus. They are in the woodworking club at their church. He's from Richardson and is picking up woodworking again. Says he's learning a lot about how to fix his mistakes. Helping Bodie make Beads of Courage boxes and is doing cutting boards and rolling pins too.

John Loftis made this mosaic cutting board for a local client. The board is 24 x 30 x 3/8.



Joe Polich showed 2 more Beads of Courage boxes he made for Bodie to distribute. The first is an octagonal box using maple and mahogany. The bands are walnut, wenge and sapele. The hinges are wooden and the lid was cut off the box after it was assembled.



The second box is made with 80-year-old cedar with mahogany legs and lid pull. The tubes on the lid and for offsetting the legs is 1/4" rigid copper tubing polished and sprayed with lacquer. The finish is Trans-tint Burnt Sienna and Cardinal Red

aniline dyes over a base of General Finishes' Country Colors White. Both were sealed with 3 coats of Arm-R-Seal satin oil base poly. Joe says he was going for a peppermint color for the girls.



Brian ODonnell made a table at his wife's request. He modified a table he saw in Wood Magazine. The legs and top are mahogany, birdseye maple for the arched rails and quilted maple for the upper and lower stretchers.



Program

Club member Bodie Pyndus talked about a jig he made to do mortises and demonstrated it with a video.

The mortises indicated below were made using his jig.



Bodie emphasized that the jig is very easy to use especially once you've cut several mortises. He said the video is a bit misleading due to the detail he presented.

It's also very versatile and able to do mortises on the ends a piece of wood such as the cutting board in Show & Tell that you can't do on a mortising machine.



You can see this video on Bodie's YouTube channel by clicking on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5waquFYwP8&list=RDCMUQRqtPzGcU1jef9N3iJ5spQA&start_radio=1&t=0

The depth of the mortise is limited by the length of your router bit minus the thickness of the jig's top – in this case, ½" plywood was used by Bodie for his top. Bodie says you can get around the limit of your plunge router's travel by making two cuts, the second one with a longer bit.

Bodie says he cuts his tenons on either the table saw or the bandsaw.

The clamps to hold the workpiece are MatchFit Dovetail Clamps made by Micro Jig. You can buy the clamps separately or as a kit. The "Pro" kit has two clamps, a router bit and 3 pairs of hardware dovetail hold-downs.

Here's a link on the MatchFit Dovetail clamps:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJrXmjjCN84>

Bodie says another benefit of using the MatchFit clamps is that they replace T-tracks which can get very expensive. There are a number of jig plans available for the MatchFit clamps.



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Gary asked Bodie if he's tried using an upcut router bit instead of the straight flute bit he used in his video. They are much better especially when plunge cutting.

Jay asked Neal about a program for April's meeting. He is thinking about knife making. Neal does plan to send out a survey to members seeking input into what they'd like to see in programs.

Jay asks that any members wishing to do any demonstrations to contact him, Neal or any officers to get on the schedule.

Bodie says that he's involved with an Instagram woodworker's group through his church and was wondering if we'd be interested in inviting one of these groups to a meeting and possibly joining NTWA.

Steve raised the issue of a social media chairperson or committee to investigate how to take advantage of social media. Kelly Geer volunteered to work with Instagram and Bodie Pyndus said he would assist.

***Our next meeting is
Tuesday, April 20th at
7:00pm via Zoom.***

***Please note that we
will be switching to a
new ZOOM connection.***

***WATCH for connection
details soon!***

***Thank you Chris
Kersey for hosting all
past Zoom meetings!***

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich
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