



Tidewater Woodworkers Guild

May 2024

Woodworking: Getting it done - in wood

President's Notes – Terry Nienaber

Hello Guild Members and Friends,

The February, March, and April programs were great. I'd like to give a huge thanks to Mike Charlem of Woodcraft, who gave our February demonstration on tuning up your bandsaw to ensure optimal performance. Similarly, in March Jim Francis gave an excellent overview of using carving to embellish your work. He makes it look so easy! Ryan Evans followed it all up in April with inspiring examples of fixtures, jigs and work aids he uses in the shop. And of course, thank you to the program team, who make sure we always have content at the meetings that lines up with interests expressed by our members.

I thoroughly enjoy seeing folks come in on the second Monday of the month to share what they've been doing. I picked up advice on refinishing techniques for a convertible crib for a friend. Bob Smith gave us a brief demo of how to make spirograph-looking patterns easily in Lightburn software for those with a laser. It's easier than ever to pull ideas and videos off the internet, but there's something much more engaging and inspiring about in-person dialog. Several members have told me they look forward to the benchtop discussion as much (or more) than the larger group meeting.

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April 8th Benchtop Talk

And finally, thanks to all those who came out to Coastal Fermentory on March 27th to help raise money for the Purple Heart Bench Brigade effort. All proceeds from that event will go toward purchasing supplies as we build additional benches for combat veterans. We're in the process of making two more benches already, with I'm certain many more in the future. Sounds like we'll have a busy summer!

The membership is still growing for 2024. I look forward to seeing you all at the next Guild meeting!

Terry Nienaber

TWWWG President

Puzzle Time! – Terry Nienaber

Puzzle: A friend asked you to embellish the face of a large chest with a carved pattern. He wants a circular logo of a diameter of 4 cm, surrounded by a spiral pattern out to the edge. He gave waypoints for the spiral pattern at each complete turn as guidance. To establish the pattern, assume it starts tangent to the 4-cm diameter circle, and grows such that after one turn, it's radius is 3 cm, after two turns, the radius is 5 cm, after three turns, 8 cm, and after four turns, 13 cm. You lay the pattern out and realize there is plenty of room to make it bigger, so he asked for one more turn. What is the radius of the spiral after one more turn?

(see the last page of the newsletter for the answer)

Shout-out to Local Business – Terry Nienaber

As a “caught being good” in customer service experience, I was forwarded the following message from a Tidewater Turner, George Geyer, who shared his experience with Caddell Electric in Norfolk. Consider checking them out for motor repairs!

As I mentioned, my table saw was good for two cuts and then motor kept cutting out on overload.

Took motor to Caddell Electric, 2150 Bolton Street, Norfolk. Referred by Brownings in VB who only does alternator work.

Caddell didn't know if they could repair it since it was a 1998 vintage saw motor and I had smelled smoke. It was a burnt-out capacitor (single phase motor) which they replaced. Total charge, \$52.00. Whoever heard of being charged ½ hour shop labor on an item dropped off. Highly recommend Caddell Electric for motor repair. r/ George

TWWWG Programs - Chris Zuchristian

UPCOMING GUILD PROGRAMS 2024		
27-May	24-Jun	22-Jul
6:30-8:30	6:30-8:30	6:30-8:30
	Scott Paris	Dennis Nahorney
Cancelled for Memorial Day Weekend	Turning (Introduction & techniques)	Build Project with Exotic Woods

In Mar and April, we had exceptional programs lead by Jim Francis and Ryan Evans. We thank you both for sharing your passion for carving and jig creation with us. They were both informative and inspiring. The May Members Meeting has been cancelled due to being scheduled on Memorial Weekend.

Scott Paris will be our guest speaker in June. He will introduce us, flat boarders, to the world of turning. He will walk us through the basics step for setting up and using a lathe; talk about the tools needed to create different shapes; and finish up with a demonstration of techniques used by turners to generate a variety forms and shapes. It will be an exciting presentation.

In July, the infamous Dennis Nahorney will inspire us with his presentation on exotic woods; what are they, the precautions you need to take before milling these woods and the amazing creations that can be made with them. It should be a night to remember.

The Demonstration Day, previously scheduled for June, will take place in 2025 unless a program opens later this year.

We plan to continue to include door prize(s), raffles, and "Show & Tell" for every meeting, so bring in your projects to show off and gently used tools/woodworking items to donate to our raffles. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Upon arrival, drop off your show & tell and raffle donation items on the tables near the entrance. Cheryl Davis and Dennis Nahorney will be available to register new members and collect dues if you have not paid yet. 2024 Annual dues, \$20. Ensure to pick up your member nametag from John Tirey and your door prize ticket from Chris Zuchristian before catching up with friends until the start of the program at 6:30 PM sharp.

Before intermission, members who participated in the "Show & Tell" will present their projects to the members attending the meeting at Woodcraft and ZOOM. Each participant will provide a brief description of their project (e.g. wood type, other material, joinery, finish, challenges, etc.). Descriptions should be no longer than 2- 3 mins.

After the intermissions, our featured program begins. Feel free to kick back and enjoy the show. Once the demonstration and discussions are done, we will announce the winners of the door prize(s)/raffles, provide concluding remarks and end the meeting.

Challenges - Chris Zuchristian

Our second Challenge for 2024 is from May to June. The theme is: 4th of July or summer. Make something patriotic, furniture, BBQ, etc. You can use any type of wood. It is preferred that the wood be purchased locally. Your entry may also include other wood or non-wood materials for decorative purposes or for functional purposes. The additional material shall be less than 15% of total materials used. Any type of fasteners, glue, and finishing, including paint, method may be used. You can also build from someone else's plans. There will be three prizes: First place \$50, Second place \$25, and Third place \$10. Participants will present their entries to the members at the June meeting. If the project is too large or you won't be able to attend the meeting, send pictures and a description to TWWWGuild@gmail.com not later than June 23rd. Members will vote during intermission.

Purple Heart Project (PHP) Bench Brigade –

The photo below was taken at the recent build event (May 13th). Facebook note from Rob Cosman... *“Just plain AWESOME!”*



Building a Sam Maloof Inspired Rocker Chair – Final Installment (Ta-Dah!) – Scott Paris

It is done! Yes it has been an experience and I am happy to say that it is done and soon to be delivered to my mother-in-law. I hope she will be very happy with it, but as she is my mother-in-law, she will probably be happy with anything I made for her. She is truly a wonderful mother-in-law and I'm lucky to have a good one.

So, now that it's done, what did I learn? This is something we should always ask ourselves after completing a major project, if not every project. That's how we grow as woodworkers, and really at anything else we do in life. We learn from our experiences and our mistakes.

As this was my first chair or in this case rocking chair, there was a lot to learn. There were new techniques. There were tools I have never used before or have used very little in the past. I also used a different finish than I used before. So there were lots of opportunities for learning.

So I would say one of the first things I learned or gained from this build was confidence. Having never built a rocker before and having never done any real sculpting/carving before, I gained confidence that I can do it. When you have a lot invested in something, as I had in this rocker, there is a lot of apprehension when you start working on it. You don't want to mess it up. So getting through the build with something I am proud of and proud to give to my mother-in-law gave me the confidence to take on more challenging projects and new things. I hope to build more pieces that involve carving in the future. In fact, one of my other bucket list projects is to make a rocking horse. Maybe that may be my next big project, we'll see.

As you can imagine, there was a lot of carving or sculpting involved with the rocker. It is estimated that you lose ~50% of the wood you start with after cutting and assembling all the rocker components. I would have to say this was likely the most challenging aspect of the build. It is not that hard to cut parts to a pattern, but to then take those parts and take off as much as half the of the wood and turn it into a piece of sculpture was a bit intimidating. Then of course you had to duplicate that so that one arm looks like the other, or one leg looks like the other etc. This was also the most time consuming aspect of the build which you probably gathered from some of my previous installments. As I didn't want to take off more than I should, it was a slow process of sculpting, take a step back, sculpt some more, take a step back, etc.

Another thing I learned was a greater appreciation of hand tools. Not that I haven't used hand tools in the past, but certainly not to the extent I did with the rocker. Spoke shaves, rasps, card scrapers to name a few were some of the tools used extensively during the shaping of most of the rocker parts. I will have to say, that there is just something about using a spoke shave that feels good. Hard to explain, but I really enjoyed using this tool and will look for opportunities to use it in future projects. And if you need some exercise, using a rasp is a good way to get a bit of a workout.

As for the finish, as I mentioned, I used Sam Maloof's two part finish. The first part worked well and I was very happy with it. However, I am still on the fence with the second part of the finish. The bees wax did not melt very well and I had some issues with it. Not 100% happy with the final finish, but it isn't terrible, so I won't mess with it for now. Will need to work with this some more before using it again on a finished piece.

Anyway, attached are some pictures of the completed rocker. These aren't great given the limited lighting and using my cell phone, but that is what I have for now to work with.



More Shop News – Jeffery Shipman

Following is my response to the request about member shop work. I've been working on a couple of projects. Below is a cookbook holder; an opportunity to work on wedged tenon skills.



A box to practice dovetails.



And finally, a nightstand with more intricate wedged tenons.



Member News

Congratulations! Dan Krum, 2023 Master's Award - Marc Adams School of Woodworking (<https://www.marcadams.com/masters-program/>). As you might imagine, Dan (far-right in the picture below) has spent some serious time (over a dozen, week-long classes) at Marc Adams' school of woodworking in Indiana, and received the Master's award in October, 2023. So, if you've got questions or issues; Dan's the man who can advise and teach. But plan to catch him in July; like other celebrities (i.e. Taylor Swift), he's currently on a European tour.



Wood and Shop Instructor – Jeremy Tritchler. Fairly new to the Guild is Jeremy Tritchler, but a tremendous resource, and instructor at Wood and Shop Traditional Woodworking School (<https://store.woodandshop.com/pages/wood-and-shop-traditional-woodworking-school>). Welcome!



Jeremy Tritchler is currently a hand tool woodworker specializing in 18th century cabinetmaking. After receiving a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Wyoming, he worked for several years as an exploration geologist in Utah. A long-time woodworking hobbyist, Jeremy eventually started taking part time woodworking classes at Salt Lake Community College where he decided to make a career change into furniture making. With some encouragement from his teacher, Chris Gochnour, Jeremy moved with his wife to Boston where he graduated from the North Bennet Street School's Cabinet and Furniture Making program. After graduating he continued at the school as an adjunct instructor while taking on private commissions and working for an architectural millwork shop. He has written for *Mortise and Tenon Magazine*, and he has been featured on *Fine Woodworking Magazine's* blog. Outside of work, Jeremy can often be found tinkering in his garage or spending time with his wife and daughters while exercising his dad jokes.

Upcoming Woodworking Events

- Midwest Tool Collectors Association Tool Sale/Swap (<https://mwtca.org/>); June 22; Bethania, North Carolina (near Winston-Salem).
- Society of American Period Furniture Makers annual conference; Period Furniture Construction, Conservation, and History (<https://sapfm.org/>); June 28 – July 2; Collegetown, PA
- International Woodworking Fair - North America's largest woodworking event (<https://www.iwfatlanta.com/>); August 6-9; Atlanta, Georgia

Links for Your Use

- Tidewater Woodworkers Guild Website (<https://www.twwwg.com/>)
- Tidewater Woodworkers Guild Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TWWGFB>)
- Purple Heart Project (<https://www.thepurpleheartproject.org/>)
- Woodcraft Virginia Beach Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/woodcraft.beach>)
- Hampton Streetcar 390 Project (<https://www.facebook.com/streetcar390/about>)
- Colonial Williamsburg Furniture Collection (<https://emuseum.history.org/groups>)

Editor's Notes – Jim Francis

- Thank you everyone for supporting the Guild's work (i.e. Streetcar 390, Purple Heart Bench Brigade), and for being enthusiastic supporters of our other Guild activities.
- Feel free to send me (jfrancisjl@aol.com) news items you'd like to share with Guild members; i.e. your projects/pictures, technical articles, designs.
- The next newsletter will be issued sometime in July/August/September.

Answer to Puzzle: 21

Explanation: Each radii waypoint is found by combining the prior two numbers. The initial logo is 4 cm in diameter (2 cm radius), followed by radius 3, then 5. So the pattern becomes: $2+3=5$; $3+5=8$; $5+8=13$; $8+13=21$.