

Tidewater Wood Workers Guild
23 July 2007
Minutes

The monthly meeting of Tidewater Wood Workers Guild was held at WoodCraft July 23, 2007. Andy Steinberg, President, opened the meeting at 7 p.m. Officers of the guild were recognized as were guests present, Lou Henry, Robert Grace, and Richard Royals.

Lia Russell from the Virginian Pilot was introduced and explained their interest in writing about some of the activities of the Guild, especially plans for producing toys to be donated for needy children. She asked for anyone interested in being interviewed to contact her at 222-5829. The article would be published in the Compass and possibly the Beacon.

Bob Fred and Tom Smith presented a program on steam bending wood. A system for steaming wood strips was set up outside the store and they demonstrated the process used in bending the wood. Bob gave background on various means of bending wood, earliest used in shipbuilding and later in making fine furniture. He also described how the steam box works and how to construct one safely. A handout covering this was distributed.

He mentioned the first step was building a jig with proper shaping, and using green or air-dried, rather than kiln-dried wood for the strips. Steaming would take an hour for wood 1 inch thick, less time for thin strips, which would be desirable. Gloves are a must for removing them from the steamer and clamps are used progressively to conform it to the jig. Having another person available would be helpful. Wood could also be soaked for 24 hours, or boiled rather than steamed. Choosing grain in the direction of the bend is best. After forming the strip should remain 24 hours before unclamping. Types of epoxy to use for joining the strips were also discussed, as well as using vinegar for cleanup. A finished boat tiller was on display.

After a short break, presentations at "show & tell" were invited, with suggestions of using a CD. Also discussed was converting the present 35 to 40 videos on woodworking to CDs.

Under New Business Andy announced a woodworking show Oct. 12-14 in Mechanicsville Show Place near Richmond, with call for some car-pooling for anyone interested. Fee is around \$8-\$10, with possible discount.

A discount of 10-20% is being negotiated with Plywood & Plastics in Norfolk. Also a call was received from someone wanting a rosewood speaker box constructed. If anyone is interested in doing this, contact Andy.

The Webmaster stated server problems are corrected. A woodworking show channel is available 24-7 at www.woodworkingchannel.com. Members were asked if there was a preference in an upcoming presentation by Freud on saws, or perhaps router bits. It was announced that Sherwin-Williams honored discount cards, but sometimes sales prices were cheaper.

Don Lancaster presented at Show & Tell a 5-part puzzle toy made from one 2 x 4. There was a cab, flat bed with wheels and three toy cars which were fitted on the top. Frank Pogue showed dollhouse dining table with 4 chairs, complete with rush seats. Martin Carter presented a baking "shovel" called a peel, made of hickory with a long handle for removing bread from a kiln-style oven.

Pat Taylor volunteered materials for anyone interested in making toys. Bill Caillet announced the sale at WoodCraft Sat. July 28 with most items 10% off.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Correa, Acting Secretary