



Notes from the Wood House

Greetings all! With all the rain and humidity, I am positive that everyone referred to a previous edition of the newsletter and went through the proper steps in protecting your tool surfaces.

The weekend of November 3rd, Woodcraft will be having an anniversary sale and celebration. Part of the celebration will be woodworking demonstrations. Our Guild has been allocated 2 hours on that Saturday for demonstrations.

Since the Turners will also be demonstrating, I would suggest that our demos not include

turning.

With a 2 hour time frame, the folks at Woodcraft suggest that we break the time into 4 half hour presentations. I am open to volunteers and suggestions. Some ideas are for a bandsaw presentation, something to do with the router or router table, using hand planes, hand cut dovetails, carving or using the scroll saw.

Please give this some thought and present any ideas you have to the meeting.

Also, Freud Tools will have their truck in the parking lot. We are trying to arrange a pri-

vate demonstration for the Guild

Wood Chips

The week after Labor Day, Lia Russell, the reporter from the Virginian-Pilot who was at the last meeting, would like to conduct a few interviews with all the members who are making toys to be donated for the holidays.

A photographer may possibly be involved for pictures; we are still working out the logistics.

Currently, I have 4 teams (8 members) that have confirmed that they are making toys. Please let me know if you are crafting toys

August 2007

Next Meeting

**August 27, 2007
7:00PM**

Woodcraft of Norfolk
5802 E. Virginia Beach Blvd.
Norfolk, VA 23502

Monthly Meeting
4th Monday of Each Month

Find Us On the Web

www.twwwg.com
Please note that parts of the site are password

Club Dues

Dues are \$15.00 per year and are payable by check

Upcoming Meetings

Bret Lancaster will be coordinating presenters and demonstrators each month. If you know of someone that would be a good presenter or if you would like to demonstrate your talents, please contact Bret.

August

Guest Presenter
Jerry Crick

The Router

September

Guest Presenter
Freud

Freud Routers
&
Router Bits

The Executive Board

Andy Steinberg	President/Editor	624-9151
Bret Lancaster	Vice President	631-0634
Bill Hoffman	Secretary	420-7087
Gene George	Treasurer	499-7281
Pat Taylor	Past President	481-3167

Crunching the Numbers

By Ed Bunker

At the start of each woodworking year, I have used the Membership Application to find out what you the membership are interested in learning more about at the guild. Before I crunch the numbers, allow me to qualify the data. As of the July 2007 meeting, we have 77 members in good standing. Of the 77 members 42 responded to the survey on the membership application ... that's about 55% of the membership.

Now, the following "number crunching" is based on those 42 member responses. The top five woodworking **Power Tools** these members wanted to learn more about are:

1. The Router at 64 %
2. The Band Saw at 50%
3. The Table Saw at 45%
4. The Lathe at 40% and,
5. The Scroll Saw at 38%

The top five **Processes** the 42 responders requested more information and training are:

1. Dovetail Joinery at 50%
2. Mortise & Tenon Joinery at 48%
3. Dust Control at 45%
4. Biscuit Joinery at 38% and,
5. Pocket Hole Joinery at 36%

There has been a stronger response this year on **Finishing Techniques** however, the priorities remain as last years poll. There was a note concerning the use of lacquers that was not on the survey. I'll do my best to add lacquers to future surveys.

1. Stain at 50%
2. Varnish at 48% and,
3. Oil at 38%

The survey asked for **expertise** on power tools, equipment, and processes. For example, we have at least four members with router expertise, our number one power tool request. We have six members willing to demonstrate the Band Saw, two on the Table Saw, and three on the Lathe! As for the processes polled, we have in-house expertise in all top-five areas!

Jerry Crick is our Training Committee Chairman; he can be reached at Pecjlc1@aol.com or 757-479-2859. Jerry can coordinate and facilitate desired training. Woodcraft has offered their classrooms for training and provide the necessities for training. If you have an interest in training or you would like to teach, please let Jerry know.

If you have expertise in a specific tool and are willing to create some saw dust at the guild meeting contact the Programs Chairman Bret Lancaster at brlancaster@cox.net or 757-631-0634. Bret maintains the schedule and will let you know which months are still available.

If there are any recommendations for improvement of the process, please forward your comments and remarks to Ed Bunker at EBunker369@aol.com or 757-567-1421. Wishing you all the best in your woodworking projects.

Wood'n You Like To Know

Each month we feature some information about a wood that you saw in the stores or heard about in conversation but maybe you never took the time to inquire about the wood.

At the last meeting, some mentioned that hickory and pecan are the same wood. While they are related, the woods are different. Pecan was featured in the March 2006 newsletter.

Actually, hickory is a North American hardwood. It is also known as shellbark hickory, scalybark hickory, white hickory, and red heart hickory. It has been misidentified as oak if finished with a dark stain. The wood coloring varies by species but in general, the wood is brown to reddish brown heartwood whereas the sapwood is white. The grain is usually straight and clear. Shrinkage in this wood is exceptional. However, once dried, it is a durable product.

The straight-trunked trees tower up to 120 feet and may be up to four feet in diameter. The gray bark ranges from the smoothness of the pignut hickory to the shaggy strips of the shagbark. Hickory is known as one of the hardest and heaviest woods in North America.

Like pecan and walnut, hickory does bear a nut. When the nuts mature in the fall, they shed their covers of four-sectioned husks. The meat is white with a delicious sweetness. Indians taught the early colonists to use hickory nuts as a source of food.

Hickory wood is unexcelled for use where a great deal of strain or vibration is encountered. Early settlers used the wood for running gear in their wagons and carts.

The lumber machines well but it is extremely difficult to work with hand tools due to hardness. And from our last meeting's presentation, hickory steambends well. Nails and screws require pre-drilling to prevent splitting. Because of its density, hickory can be finished and buffed to a high gloss.

The primary uses today are for tool handles, skis, golf clubs, wheels, agricultural implements. Other uses include flooring, furniture, ladders, musical instruments, sounding boards, paneling, veneer, fishing rods, dowels and building materials. And we cannot forget the barbeque fans that use the wood not only for a cooking fuel but for meat smoking.



Show and Tell From Our July 2007 Meeting



Don Lancaster brought in a toy truck and puzzle (left) that he created using a single 2 X 4 and some wooden wheels. The toys are shown in the various stages of construction. Ed Bunker was impressed enough with the truck that he decided to make his own version. It seems to be a hit because his grandson, Mark, started to test drive the toy before the toy was completely finished. (below)



Wood Finding Link

Submitted by Ed

For someone looking for a source of wood, here's a pretty good web site. <http://www.woodfinder.com>
Just plug in the name of the wood and your zip code and it will tell you the nearest dealers, sawmills, etc. Too bad it won't tell you where free wood is located. John Blakeny may.

Club Discounts	
Over the years, certain businesses have offered a variety of discounts to our membership. Below is a current list of companies that offer some type of discount for products and services.	
Woodcraft night	10% off on meeting Norfolk (757) 466-1166
Sure Set Saw count	13% Dis- count Chesapeake (757) 420-7991
Cabinet Makers Hardware	Contractor's Price Virginia Beach (757) 490-1185
Plywood & Plastics	Norfolk (757) 858-3908
Scroll-it Service	Portsmouth (757) 237-6867
Sherwin Williams Paint count	15% Dis- count All stores in Hampton Roads

Woodworking Show

There is a woodworking show in Richmond, October 12—14, 2007. A group discount is available. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.

Wooden Toys for the Holidays

At the March meeting, Corey Larson brought in a number of toy plans. I still have copies available to anyone who would like a set. The object, of course, would be to make toys this year for the holidays and donate them to a charitable group for the holidays. It was suggested that people work in teams to assist in the effort. To date, we have 4 teams committed. We would like to set a goal of 10 teams with each team producing 10 toys. Most toys can be made utilizing scrap wood laying around the shop. And, there are a variety of web sites out there offering free plans to make toys. Please let Andy Steinberg know if you are interested as well as your team member.

Program Highlights From our July 2007 Meeting



Tom Smith, above, displays the steaming tube he uses to soften wood for the wood bending demonstration. For those of you who came early found out that this tube is useful at tailgate parties as a hot dog steamer. Bob Fred, top right, demonstrates the importance of letting the wood sit for a while in the steamer. Other wise the wood will split.



Above, Tom Smith and Bob Fred show how flexible different thicknesses of woods retain their bent capabilities after time in the steamer. To the right, a group effort is required as well as insulated gloves when bending and clamping hot, steamed wood around a shape or pattern.

