

# Tidewater Woodworkers Guild



## Notes from the Wood House

Hello woodworkers. It has been another hot month! Be careful with your sweating beverages and your cast iron tables!

As many of you already know, we are deeply saddened by the passing of long time friend and member Martin Carter. Please take a moment to read the article Bob Malloy has written about our very close friend and mentor. We will have a card available for everyone to write his or her condolences and sign, and will deliver the card to his wife, Eleanor, and his family. In addition, we will ask the Guild to approve a donation, in Martin's name, to the American Heart Association.

In case you missed last month's presentation on hand cut dovetails, or if you just want some hands-on help, Jim will be available before our meeting this month to guide you through the process of cutting dovetails by hand.

Please see his note on what to bring.

We will gather names of those desiring to make a cutting board for this year's "Board & Bowl" collaboration with the Tidewater Wood Turners club. Our names will be paired with someone from the Turners club on Tuesday evening. We are asking for everyone to complete their cutting boards and bring them to our September meeting. This will allow Heather and Bill some extra time to get the boards and bowls sold before the holidays, and to pass on the donations to the charities. Heather will be available to give out more information.

There are a few toy plans available for download at our web site,

<http://www.twwwg.com/plans.asp>

I am going through some books I received from one of our members and will get Ed

to post a few more once I get them copied. Please see Pat Lester for any information. We hope to make our toy presentation to the Marines at the beginning of our November meeting. This is a very worthy event and if you are interested in participating, or have any ideas, please contact Pat.

We had some wonderful items brought in for "show-n-tell" last month. Thank you to all who brought something in. Lets keep it up.

I am sorry, but I will not be at our meeting this month as I will be out of town for the week. I want to thank Jim now for stepping in for the evening.

### Wood Chips

The Dewalt/Porter Cable/Delta Store on Northampton Blvd. is a good source for the hard to find parts. Stop in say hello to Joe, the store manager.

## August 2009 Issue

### Next Meeting

**August 24, 2009  
7:00PM**

Woodcraft of Norfolk  
5802 E. Virginia Beach Blvd.  
Norfolk, VA 23502  
(757) 466-1166

### Monthly Meeting

4th Monday of Each  
Month

### Find Us On the Web

**[www.twwwg.com](http://www.twwwg.com)**

Please note that parts of the site are password protected. The password is provided to those whose dues are current.

### Club Dues

Dues are \$15.00 per year and are payable by check or cash.

## Upcoming Meetings

Jim Francis 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 Jim Francis.

### August

Guest Presenters

Karl Bogott, Pat Taylor

Ed Bunker, Andy Steinberg

Bowls and Cutting Boards

### September

Guest Presenters

Corey Larson

Jeff Portzline

Toys for Tots

## The Executive Board

<b>Bret Lancaster</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>631-0634</b>
<b>Jim Frances</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>595-9041</b>
<b>Adrian Marshall</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>877-2710</b>
<b>Fred Olds</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>486-3862</b>
<b>Andy Steinberg</b>	<b>Past President</b>	<b>285-3575</b>

**Contributors Wanted:** We are looking for articles for our monthly newsletter like an article on a shop tip or technique, a review about a tool or product or a woodworking event. Send it to [patron300@cox.net](mailto:patron300@cox.net).

## MARTIN CARTER

I have been asked to reflect on my association with Martin Carter whose work and craftsmanship I have long admired.

As a young teenager Martin was launched into woodworking when his father gave him a small woodturning lathe. Subsequently he took woodworking classes in High School, which were the foundation of his woodworking career. Martin completed many wood-related projects prior to our meeting. The list is long and varied and I know only a small part. He built his home in Onancock on the Eastern Shore, and fancy oyster shucking gazebos for estates there. He built Church furniture including kneeling benches, altar rail extensions and many wooden building repairs both on the Eastern Shore and in Suffolk.

Four poster beds were the hallmark of his turning skills. The most recent bed turned was an oversize bed with large post designed for a local woodcarver to embellish.

His High Boys and Low Boys are of museum quality and historic measured drawings were always an important starting point for these major items.

When I was making a walnut bachelor's chest for my daughter, Martin took time to discuss and explain all the intricate details. I asked if I could use a dovetail jig and router to do the drawer dovetails (all of Martin's dovetails were cut by hand).

His reply was slow in coming; "I guess that would be OK since the drawers are closed most of the time." The end result was Martin hand cut the drawer dovetails.

Martin had an extensive library of books on furniture, historic houses, measured drawings and woodworking details of times past. Want to create and build something of wood? You could ask Martin on how to proceed. He had valuable information to give on most any wood project. Some of his recent work included studying and mastering vacuum pressing of veneer needed for a High Boy.

When Martin was called on to do demonstrations, his inner feelings were, "I hope my audience is satisfied." This feeling was not of insecurity but rather of his mastery of the subject and his being a teacher. Did you, the student, understand?

There are students, apprentices, craftsmen, teachers and leaders. With the loss of Martin Carter, all of these positions are now one major person short.

Thanks Martin for your precious time and attention to my woodworking concerns.

Bob Molloy

August 2009



Editor's Note: I had the pleasure of spending the afternoon with Martin Carter at his shop a couple of year's ago. I have yet to meet someone who had more of a passion for woodworking than Martin Carter. If you ever had the opportunity to speak with Martin one on one or listen to him lecture, you immediately sensed his passion.

The Tidewater Woodworking Guild will miss Martin's knowledge and skill set. But most importantly, we will miss a classic gentleman and an incredible person.

## Tool Review

### Sonin 4-in-1 Multi-Function Detector

I purchased this particular detector for two reasons. First, it was much less expensive than its competition and, second, it is not a one-trick-pony. It does more than one thing. It has four functions and I tested each to determine if I would keep the unit. I might easily use 3 of the 4 in pursuit of hobby or profession.

The first test was the stud finder. Now, I own a stud finder, so this was a redundancy in my tool box. I found it sensitive enough to make it through a plaster wall. Incidentally, never look for studs in a pocket door enclosure with the door open. For some reason, the detector thinks it is a solid wood wall ... duh! I tested it again at the office on a wall that had drywall on only one side of the studs. It found each one and marked the edges of the stud within 1/2".

The second test was for metal studs. My office has metal stud walls and it worked very well. Of course, not many of us search for metal studs.

Third is a sensor to detect live electric lines. It works with the following caveat. IF the line is hot (current flowing) it will find it. IF the line is not (such as a switch line with the switch 'off') it will not. Receptacles and other lines 'under load' are found. It appeared that lines well away from the surface (like stapled to the far side of the stud) may be missed. At Habitat for Humanity, I might well need to find wires in walls before I start a renovation.

The final sensor is the reason I bought the tool ... moisture. I have many slices and pieces of trees that I use for the grain and color in my hobbies of lamination and intarsia. The sensor does indicate percentage of moisture from 'dry' to fresh cut at greater than the sensor's gauge. I did not do empirical testing against another gauge for accuracy of the measure. For my purposes, this sensor is a good enough gauge of wet or dry.

In short, I found this to be a surprisingly good tool; a welcome addition to my 'bag of tricks'.

*Submitted by Karl Bogott.*



## July 2009 Meeting Minutes

Tidewater Woodworkers Guild

Date: August 4, 2009

The meeting was called to order on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7 pm by the president, Bret Lancaster.

After a short introduction and recognition of new faces, the following announcements were made:

Scott Paris is making a trip to South Carolina and will be picking up some curly maple. If interested in obtaining some of this wood, contact Scott. Ed Bunker will send out the details in an email to the Guild.

Bob Fred brought in black walnut items (i.e plaque boards) to give away.

Karl Bogott has slate roofing tiles to give away.

Jim Francis gave a summary of upcoming presentations: August- Board and Bowl plans, September – Toys for Tots Plans, October – Biscuit Joints, and November – Relief and Chip Carving. Also in November, plan for a large show and tell of year-end projects (completed and uncompleted).

The president introduced the featured presenter and program:

Presenter	Program
Jim Francis	Tools and techniques for hand cutting dovetails
Andy Steinberg	Process of cutting dovetails using a Leigh jig

Show and tell projects:

Fran Foster: Shaker box with steam bent handle, candle box with hand cut dovetails, tea caddy with curves cut on a table saw, and miniature antique tilt-top table

Don Lancaster: Colorful, painted pine train of modular construction

Phil Carey: Circus train accompanied by an elephant, tiger, lion, giraffe, and zebra (made of zebra wood)

Don Hubbard: Toys in their suitcase with button catches

Old Business: None

New Business:

Meeting adjourned at around 9 pm.

## Program Highlights From Our July 2009 Meeting



At the July meeting, Jim Francis provided a wonderful overview on the art of hand cut dovetails. Enough interest was generated that if anyone is interested, please see Jim about some hands on training. Andy Steinberg (below right) brought in his Leigh Dovetail Jig and demonstrated its ease of use. (pictures by Don Hubbard).

### Club Discounts Available

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               | 10% off on meeting night      |
|                         | Norfolk (757) 466-1166        |
| Sure Set Saw            | 13% Discount                  |
|                         | Chesapeake (757) 420-7991     |
| Cabinet Makers Hardware | Contractor's Price            |
|                         | Virginia Beach (757) 490-1185 |
| Wurth Woodgroup         |                               |
|                         | Norfolk (757) 858-3908        |
| Scroll-it Service       |                               |
|                         | Portsmouth (757) 237-6867     |
| Sherwin Williams Paint  | 15% Discount                  |
|                         | All stores in Hampton Roads   |



## Show and Tell From Our July 2009 Meeting



In July, we had a great turnout for show and tell. Fran Foster (top 3 pictures) finally got the opportunity to display some of his reproductions. The past few months unfortunately Fran was bumped— thanks for your patience Fran. Once again our resident North Pole elf shows off his latest creation for the holiday season. Don Lancaster (middle right) brought in his latest train complete with color. Don and his son-in-law Richard Royals (not pictured) are making the best effort possible to ensure that every child in Tidewater will receive handmade toy. Phil Carey (bottom right) shows that he is on the road to recovery. He has been busy crafting his animal train puzzle. Based upon the input and responses that we have received, it looks like our Toys-for-Tots effort will be better than last year—a feat that was hard to surpass. (photos by Don Hubbard)



## Woodworking on Television

There are a number of woodworking shows on cable and satellite these days for those of you who subscribe to these services.

Recently, WHRO has stopped broad casting the New Yankee Workshop on Channel 15. But if you have digital cable and receive the Create Channel (Cox Channel 109), there are multiple showings of the New Yankee Workshop: Tuesday (4:30PM & 10:30PM); Wednesday (4:30AM); Thursday (4:30PM & 10:30PM); Friday (4:30AM).

On Saturdays now, the Woodsmith Shop is broadcasted on Channel 15 at 8:00AM

At 3:30PM on Saturday, the New Yankee Workshop is broadcast on the North Carolina PBS. This is followed by the Woodwright's Shop at 4:00PM.

The Discovery Channel now carries a show called Extreme Loggers on Wednesday nights at 8PM and 9PM.

If you know of any other shows, please pass on the information.

