

Tidewater Woodworkers Guild



Notes from the Wood House

Greetings all! I hope everyone has been keeping cool in their shop these past few days.

A belated Happy Father's Day to all our gentlemen members. Hopefully, you all received some new toys for your shop and you be showing off your new creations in the upcoming months.

We have come under the radar of the Virginian-Pilot. A reporter is interested in writing an article about the Tidewater Woodworking Guild and our toy making endeavor for Christmas. This is an incredible opportunity for our Guild to gain some publicity.

This reporter has asked to interview some of the

members who are participating in the toy making project. I am going to request that everyone who is interested in the toy making program or has already started making toys for the program to please let me know as soon as possible and before the our next meeting of June 25th.

Wood Chips

For those interested in assisting in the milling of wood, Andy Westrich hopes to be firing up his saw and cutting either in South Norfolk or Hampton in the next few weeks, weather permitting. If you are interested in helping or just buying some of the wood, please contact Andy or myself.

With the spring/summer

distractions, the by-laws committee has been on the back burner. I know there has been some interest by guild members to participate. If you are still interested, please contact Ed Bunker since he is overseeing the project.

Hopefully, we can have the first meeting to discuss the changes by the July gathering.

On behalf of the Tidewater Woodworkers Guild, our condolences to Fred Olds and his family on the loss of his brother, Robin Olds.

A quick update for the journey to the Eastern Shore. Since I have not heard back from the folks over there, I am going to postpone any efforts to visit until the Fall.

June 2007

Next Meeting

**June 25, 2007
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

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

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.

June

Guest Presenter

Jack Spillane

An Overview on Creating
Wooden Stringed

Instruments

July

Guest Presenter

To be determined

Bending wood using Steam

Or

Table Saw Safety and Tricks

The Executive Board

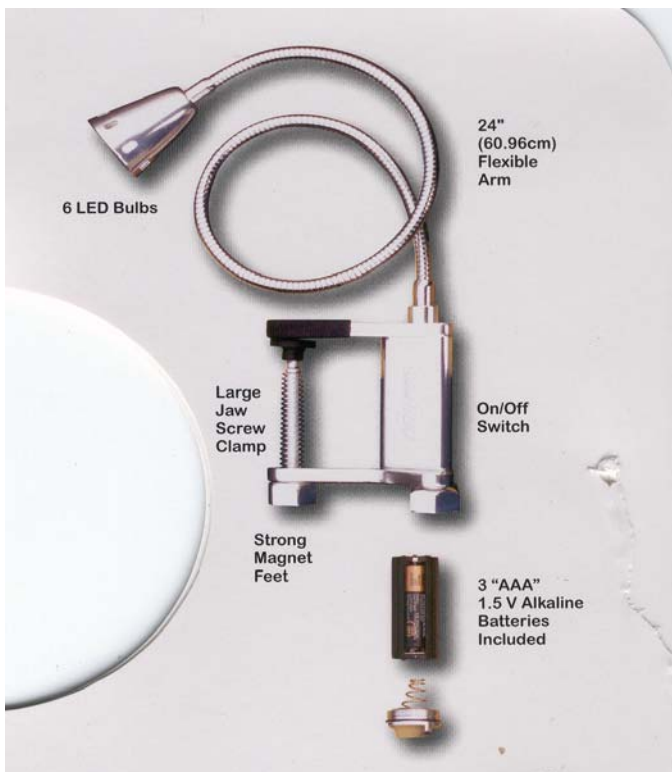
Andy Steinberg	President/Editor	624-9151
Bret Lancaster	Vice President	631-0634
Bill Hoffman	Secretary	420-7087
Gene George	Treasurer	499-7281
Pat Taylor	Past President	481-3167

Tool Review: Shop Light

Submitted by Ed Bunker

As you may know, I need all the help I can get when it comes to wood working ... and I guess my family realizes it too. Anyway, with my birthday and Father's Day going down in June each year, my family usually congers up these useful things to give me to make my woodworking hobby a bit easier. They are so supportive of this dusty hobby of mine!

So, I received this really "cool" light they found in the BBQ & Grill section of Target. It is called "*Smart BBQ Aluminum LED Grill Light*". It has a 24 inch flexible arm, six LED bulbs that last 50,000 hours, and can either be mounted with a screw clamp OR it can be mounted on anything metal ... because there are powerful magnets in the three feet. Now that is a significant feature! Because it can be "stuck" right up there on the old band saw to illuminate that line that has been getting harder and harder to see. There isn't anything to plug in and the LED lamps are great.



Although I couldn't find it on Target's web site, I did locate it at JC Penny's site:

<http://www.jcpenney.com/jcp/Products.aspx?Dep-tID=0&CatID=038781&Grptyp=PRD&ItemId=10fbf3d&siteID=210054841>

So if you are in need of a light to "see" that line a bit better, this one come highly recommended.

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.

This month's wood comes from a client of mine. She asked if I had ever heard of zebrawood.

Zebrawood is a hardwood found in the Central western region of Africa in the countries of Gaboon and the Cameroons. The tree can grow to heights of 150 feet with trunk diameters of 4 – 5 feet. It is commonly found along the equatorial riverbanks in stands primarily of this one tree. And like many African hardwoods, it is a dense wood with weights of 36 – 45 pounds per cubic foot.

Zebrawood is distinctive for its zebra like light and dark stripes. The term, "zebrawood" is shared by several different woods with this particular appearance. The wood has highly decorative, light gold color, with narrow streaks of dark brown to black, visible by quartering. To get the exciting alternating color pattern and a straight grain, it is almost always quarter sawn. But beware, because zebrawood is known to give off an odor similar to a backed up sewer when fresh cut. And, the odor can be present when the wood is resawn or planed.

Since zebrawood is a heavy hardwood, it can be polished to high gloss. To get to that gloss, one has to overcome the coarse texture. The wood can be worked well with the saw. However, once the wood is feed through planer, tear out seems inevitable in either direction even if you set your cuts for a minimal depth. Some wood workers recommend using the wide belt sander to obtain your final dimension. Once it has been filled, zebrawood can be finished with little difficulty.

Uses for zebrawood include wall paneling, custom furniture, inlay, turning and marquetry. The use as a veneer is limited because the wood tends to tear easy at thin dimensions. Because of its hardness, zebrawood can also be utilized as skis or tool handles.

Zebrawood is considered a true exotic wood since it has limited availability, high prices as well as being somewhat unknown to many wood workers. However, those have incorporated into their shop take pride in its beauty.



Program Highlights from the May 2007 Meeting

Last month, the Guild was treated to a great presentation. After a long hiatus, Bob Fred took to the workbench and provided an overview on how to build a block plane. Bob covered all aspects from wood and blade types to the details in creating the curves for the handles and the dimensions for the sides.

For those you that are interested in building your own plane, Bob has offered to provide whatever guidance you may require for your plane. Please feel free to contact Bob for assistance.

Again Bob, many thanks for an informative and entertaining presentation!



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 3 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.

Show and Tell From Our May 2007 Meeting

Unfortunately, no one had any items for Show and Tell last month. However, John Blakeney was kind enough to forward pictures of a new tape measure that is so simple, anyone can use.



The numbers and lines for this new tape seem easy to read, thus eliminating the problems we all have in the adding and subtracting of fractions. John did not include pricing for this new tape, but knowing the deal maker that he is, I am sure John will be able to get us all a great deal for these new tapes! ☺

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
Plywood & Plastics	
	Norfolk (757) 858-3908
Scroll-it Service	
	Portsmouth (757) 237-6867
Sherwin Williams Paint	15% Discount
	All stores in Hampton Roads