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Monthly Meetings
4th Monday/month- 7 PM

Tidewater Woodworkers Guild

ON THE WEB
www.twwwg.com



Meeting Host
WOODCRAFT STORE
JANAFShopping Ctr
5802 E.Virginia Beach Blvd
Norfolk, Virginia 23502
(757) 466-1166

Spring has sprung! ...so says the calendar...

We have our upcoming meeting scheduled this coming Monday - 28 March - and it's slated as a full scale SHOW and TELL...

We have several things on the slate- but not a guest presentation- we are looking for member participation to share with us some of your own work- it doesn't have to be your most recent creation- be it a jig, a store-bought tool or woodworking magazine tip that you have tried, tested and can give us a report on - as to it's usefulness...it might be a plan or drawing that you'd share -let us put it in our member plans library...a technique that works great...This is an all hands call to either share a woodworking item...or- to pose a question to the membership as to how best to approach a "problem area" you have run across in your own shop.

We want to show off the club's workbench that is nearing completion...a 2-1/2 inch thick hard maple surface- 30" x 72", with a massive twin screw Veritas end vise, (6 inch by 30 inch jaws with a 12 inch opening span) and the 9-inch quick release vise, both lined with rubber faces and set with brass bench dogs on the work surface...sits on 3-1/2" square maple legs...a pair of cabinets with drawers and cupboards set under the bench...and our approach to allow this massive (300 pounds plus) piece to "go mobile" - once we have our casters welded to large hinges fixed to the underpinings. A smaller set of tool drawers remains to be built and installed between the two under-the-bench cabinets...

And now that we have a piece that can do duty- I hope members will offer to put it to use. That's a call for anyone of you to offer to share an evening at our future meetings- demonstrating planing, scraping, biscuit and

pocket hole joinery techniques...carving, dovetails by hand or with a jig setup...the window is open - and if you're willing to offer club members a Saturday learning session - let us know- We will, of course, coordinate with the Woodcraft Store management on such a schedule- but your offer to share any woodworking skill would surely be appreciated! I hope we can get some use out of this club bench...it's yours for the effort.

Monday night we will raffle off the bench top offered to the club by Myron Curtis. It has been disassembled, planed and jointed, reassembled with Gorilla glue and steel rods- and is again a fine maple work surface. How about buying some tickets for a chance to take home a bench top- about 5 feet long, 2 feet wide...at \$1.00 per chance, 3 tickets/chances for \$5.00...or 7 tickets for \$10.00.

Another call for a volunteer to take in the Secretarial Role...to take meeting minutes for us since Bill Hoffman had to give up the post to care for his family. A note of thanks to Fred Olds who offered to fill in last month on a moments notice...his "minutes" related that we hoped to have the Sherwin Williams Paint Store discount cards available as soon as we can "swing the deal" again this year. Also noted that member/our Webmeister, Ed Bunker is now the wood workshop mentor at the Norfolk Senior Center down off 21st St in town- all locals (50 years old qualifies for Senior Center membership) - not just Norfolk citizens are welcome- there's a small fee for use of the shop- and it's pretty well equipped- Ed is working on securing more- and fine tuning all the machinery in the shop.

We thoroughly enjoyed Joe Macphail's presentation and his handsome reproduction furniture pieces at the February get together- his early American dress and methods added to the skills he shared with us sorry if you missed

Joe again emphasized the virtue of sharp tools-as we've heard so often- they not only make woodworking a pleasure, they perform so much better and safer than dull edged tools. His favorite finishes -Seedlack shellac- if the customer insists on the old-fashioned way...otherwise- Joe likes Deft spray on lacquer - used over and after mixing powdered stains and boiled linseed oil followed with a sealant of shellac.

In keeping with that old fashioned way of woodworking, Tom Meade shared his custom made shaving horse he built ...traditionally used with a spokeshave and draw knife...it allows the woodworker to use both hands at his craft whilst clamping the workpiece with a foot operated clamping vise.

Another tidbit passed on to the membership was a site at Hilltop North Shopping Center in Virginia Beach- Sutton Place- which takes in woodcraft pieces for window showing and sale- for those interested...phone 216-2546.

We sold off the last of our TWWWG ball caps- \$10; and are placing an order for more; we're also looking into the price offered us for both T-shirts and shop aprons with our embroidered club logo.- we'll keep you posted.

Fred Olds also spoke of our opportunity to contribute a woodworking piece for the annual Relay for Life drive...whatever you might bring in goes to raise funds for their cancer cause---this April event is sponsored by our local cancer survivors- and our Fred is one of them. If you have a piece to donate- it will be sold in the upcoming fund raiser- please bring it in to our Monday meeting.

Gene George, our treasurer, is available to collect our annual '05 dues if you haven't paid for this year- \$15 covers you and any other family members- spouse, sons and daughters...as long as they take a liking to sawdust! A check to "Tidewater Woodworkers" is preferred, as it makes the recording of dues paid, names and addresses - much easier. Gene reports we have 48 paid up members...our mailing list is a few over 100!

Some good sale items at the Woodcraft Store this month- the Akeda, Keller, Leigh and Porter- Cable dovetail jigs...the Whiteside Roman Ogee router bit is \$10 off- tapered drills, countersinks and stop collars are 25% off...and twenty-bucks off on their stainless steel fractional dial caliper! Check out their monthly flyer for more good buys.

And finally- to share a flyer received from Kelly Mehler, who runs the School of Woodworking out in Berea, Kentucky...His class sizes are small, and registration for the 2005 classes are now open...everything from making a Windsor chair to John Wilson's class on making Shaker boxes. You can inquire as to the many classes- as follows:

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Keep it with the grain -

Pat

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