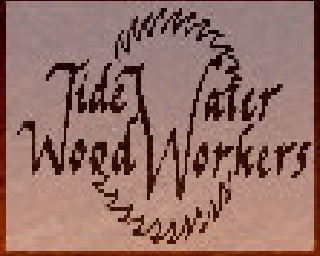




# Tidewater Woodworkers Guild



**March 2006**

## Notes from the Wood House

Greetings all! Now that spring has arrived, I am sure many of you are now contemplating cleaning up your shop, moving the patio furniture off your table saw and start creating some dust and wood chips.

Last month's meeting provided us with a great demonstration on biscuit joinery. This month, we intend to educate everyone in some way on router usage. In speaking with Rob Wagenseller, he has a great presentation ready for us.

We are still hoping to develop training classes based upon the demonstrations from our meetings. Please do not be bashful in letting Bret Lancaster know that you would like to attend a class.

A reminder for those of you who like to procrastinate— April 16th is approaching and your tax return is due. If you are timely though and have filed and re-

ceived your refund, and you have an extra \$15.00, please pay your dues if you have not done so. If you paid your dues in January or February, and you have not received your membership card, please let Ed Bunker or myself know and we will get your card to you as soon as possible.

### Wood Chips

We have an inquiry from someone in Alexandria, VA requesting custom bookshelves and cabinets. If anyone is interested, please contact me at 624-9151 or send me an e-mail and I will forward the information to you.

Many thanks to Pat Taylor for his persistence in getting the Guild pricing for aprons, shirts and hats.

Pat has obtained denim aprons (from Woodcraft) and taken them to the embroiderer to have the TWWWG logo added. He has

gotten 6 aprons at this time. The cost for the apron is \$25.00. We can certainly get more if there is a demand.

In addition to the aprons, Pat has received preliminary pricing for short-sleeve polo shirts with the Guild logo. We will be asking for commitments for shirts and colors. The estimated cost for the shirt, we believe, will be \$20.00. The XXL size is available for little people like myself.

Lastly, I am looking for someone who has a heavy-duty shaper. I have access to over 100 heart pine 2" X 4"'s. These boards are 90—95 years old. I would like to mill them and use them for hardwood flooring in our home. I will be happy to pay for usage of the machine.

No, we are still not back in the house yet, but we are seeing progress and hope to be back in by the end of April (2006!).

## Next Meeting

April 24, 2006  
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

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.

### March

Guest Presenter

Robert Wagenseller

Tips and Techniques utilizing the table and hand-held router

### April

Guest Presenter

Martin Carter

Hand Cut Dovetails

## The Executive Board

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

## Tips and Techniques - Understanding Condensation

What do condensation and the understanding of humidity have to do with woodworking anyway? Well, if you've ever gone out to your workshop and found droplets of moisture all over your equipment's metal surfaces with rust forming right in front of your eyes, you probably had your day's events rearranged while gaining control of the "rusting situation" on the workshop equipment.

Yes, water is the most unique substance on the face of the earth. As a matter of fact, it is the only substance that is present on earth as a liquid, as a solid, and as a gas. So, there are water molecules present in the atmosphere all the time. This water vapor is referred to as humidity. Specific humidity is the amount of water that is being held between the air molecules. **It is interesting to note that for every 11 degrees increase in Fahrenheit temperature, the capacity of air to hold water vapor doubles!** Now, the amount of water vapor compared to the carrying capacity of a gas (air) is called relative humidity.

So, if the relative humidity gets to 100%, the air is saturated for that temperature. Now if your shop equipment is a few degrees cooler than the air temperature that is 100% saturated with water vapor, condensation occurs on the cooler surfaces of your shop equipment. Then, the chemical reaction between the iron in your shop equipment and the oxygen in the water creates iron oxide ... or rust.

What can you do? Well, here is where the understanding part comes in. For the high humidity air to "condense" on your shop equipment, the shop equipment must be cooler for the air to release the excess moisture at that cooler temperature. So if you can increase the temperature of your shop equipment above the temperature of the saturated air around it, the water vapor cannot condense on it. Placing a simple 100-watt "drop light" under the equipment (yes it has to be "on") can raise the temperature enough to preclude condensation. This will always work however it is not

always practical. For those of us without shop heaters, there is a simple method that will minimize the effects of condensation. Covering the bare metal surfaces with a coat of wax will not change the laws of physics but it will keep the oxygen in the moisture from the iron in that band saw table thus minimizing the reaction that causes rust.

So, warmer days are on the way since spring arrived on March 20<sup>th</sup> this year. This warmer air will have a greater capacity to carry moisture. So now is the time to rub down those metal surfaces with some quad ought (0000) steel wool and apply a fresh coat of paste wax. You will also note another significant benefit to this waxing application. It reduces the sliding friction and allows the wood slide over the surfaces much more easily yielding better control of the work piece. Better control means safer operations and that is always important.

*Many thanks to Ed Bunker for his contribution.*

*Editor*

## Club Discounts Available

Over the years, certain businesses have offered a variety of discounts to our membership. Listed below is a current list of companies that offer some type of discount for products and services.

Sure Set Saw 13% Discount

Chesapeake (757) 420-7991

Cabinet Makers Hardware

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

## Program Highlights from our February Meeting



At our February meeting, John Moore provided us an overview from his attendance of the Period Furniture Makers Seminar in Williamsburg, VA (left). Afterwards, John demonstrated some of the techniques of biscuit joinery that he incorporates in his furniture making (right).



## Wood'n You Like To Know

Each month we will feature some general 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.

Originally thought of as a great tasting nut in a traditional pie, pecan has been used for lumber since the colonization of the United States. Pecan lumber is almost always sold as hickory, a traditional but legal practice. There are four pecans and four true hickories that are sold as hickory lumber.

Pecan is native to the United States and is commonly found throughout the south, the mid-west and southwest. The pecan tree has a short trunk with many forked branches, making long length lumber hard to obtain. Because of the nature of the tree, pecan lumber is also somewhat limited in the upper grades as well.

The interestingly patterned heartwood is pale reddish-brown in color with sporadic dark, pecky streaks. Sapwood can be a pale white with pink tones while the heartwood is tan or reddish. Pecan grain is open occasionally wavy or irregular and is open pored, close grained and hard. Pecan is known to be extremely heavy, strong and tough but is also elastic and quite shock-resistant. Although difficult to dry with much shrinkage, once the wood is properly seasoned, it is stable and reliable.

It is somewhat difficult to machine (carbide-tipped equipment is suggested).

A few tips for machining pecan to make your use of the lumber easier.

1. Ensure that the moisture content is above 7%.
2. Implement light cuts so as not to remove too much stock
3. Feed the wood slowly. A recommended speed is 20 cuts per inch.



## Upcoming Regional Craft Shows

<b>APR</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Space Size</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact #</b>
Daffodil Festival	2	1/7	\$75	10x10	Gloucester, VA	804-693-1264
Craftsmen's Classic Arts & Crafts Fest	31-2		\$250	8x10	Greensboro, NC	336-274-5550
DC Big Flea Market	30-1		\$150	9x10	Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly Va	757-430-4735
Hampton Spring Crafts Festival	22-24	4/22	\$375	10x10	Hampton Roads Convention Center	757-417-7771
Suffolk Civil War Weekend	3-4		\$30	10x10	Main Street , Suffolk, Va	757-923-3883
Va Beach Spring Craft Market	15-17	2/15	\$450	10x10	Virginia Beach Pavillion	757-417-7771
Spring Craft Show	15				Chincoteague Island, VA	757-336-0614
Easter on Parade	16				Richmond, VA	804-788-6466
Dare County High School Arts Show	3-24				Manteo, NC	252-475-1500
Merlefest	27-30				Wilkesboro, NC	800-343-7857
Fayetteville Dogwood Festival	28-30				Fayetteville, NC	910-323-1934
Sugarloaf Craft Festival	7-9				Gaithersburg, MD	800-210-9900
Tarpon Springs Fine Arts Festival	8-9				Tarpon Springs, FL	727-937-6109
Rivers & Spines Festival	20-22				Clarkville, TN	931-552-9006
Artishere International Arts Festival	21-23				Greenville, SC	864-271-9398
<b>MAY</b>						
Art on the Halfshell Fine Arts & Crafts Festival	14	4-15	\$100	10x10	Urbanna, VA	804-758-1605
Chesapeake Jubilee	20-21	4-1	\$125*	10x10	Chesapeake, VA	757-482-4848
Kellam High School Spring Market Fling	1		\$25	10x10	Va. Beach, VA	757-563-9467
Matthew Whaley School Spring Craft Show	1		\$25	10x10	Williamsburg, VA	
Pungo Strawberry Festival	27-28	3-1	\$125*	10x10	Pungo, VA	757-721-6001
Stockley Garden Art Show	20-21	2-4	\$200	10x10	Norfolk, VA	757-625-6161
Annual Mothers Day Craft Show	11-13				Statesville, NC	828-437-5002
Celtic Fest & Highland Games	12-13				Winston-Salem, NC	336-924-8191
Shenandoah Apple Blossom Fest	2-7				Winchester, VA	540-722-8700
Sugarloaf Craft Festival	5-7				Chantilly, VA	800-210-9900
Annual Virginia Wine & Craft Fest	20				Front Royal, VA	540-635-3185
Annual River Show	12-28				Fayetteville, NC	910-323-4234
All American Week Fort Bragg	22-26				Fort Bragg, NC	910-436-4440
Taste of Durham Festival	27				Durham, NC	910-401-2926
Low Country Shrimp Fest & Blessin	6				McClellanville, SC	843-452-7811
Chestertown Teaparty Festival	26-28				Chestertown, MD	410-778-7237
<b>JUNE</b>						
Dare Day	5	4-1	\$50	10x10	Manteo, NC	252-475-5629
Bayou Boogaloo & Cajun Food Fest	23-25	2-24	\$100*	10x10	Norfolk, VA	757-441-2345
Church of the Ascension Spring Festival	5-6		\$30	8x8	Virginia Beach, VA	
Harborfest (coincides w/ Pts Seawall Fest)	9-11	2-24	\$100*	10x10	Norfolk, VA	757-441-2345
Juneteenth Celebration	18	1-1			Elizabeth City, NC	252-331-2925
Portsmouth Seawall Festival	10-12				Portsmouth, Va	757-393-5111
Va Beach Boardwalk Art Show & Festival	16-19		\$365*	10x10	Virginia Beach, VA	
Croaker Festival	30-1				Oriental, NC	252-675-1411
Hampton Blackbeard Festival	3-4				Hampton, VA	757-288-8632

For those of you interested in attending a show and require more information, please feel free to call the number listed or contact .

Debbie Glaze (mnshine38@aol.com or 535-0754) for more information.