

# Tidewater Woodworkers Guild



## Notes from the Wood House

Hidy ho fellow woodworkers. I hope everyone is enjoying the much cooler fall temperatures of October? This is a busy month for a lot of us, with gift making for the holidays and in support of the Toys for Tots program. These cooler days should make it more comfortable in your shops, and the lower humidity should help reduce some of the wood movement.

As noted at last month's meeting, and in our September newsletter, those of you who volunteered for the Board and Bowl collaboration should bring your pieces to our October meeting. I want to thank all of you who volunteered, and look forward to seeing some very fine pieces.

I want to thank Bob Waddell for his efforts in coordinating and putting together a plan of action for making toy humvees (based on demo by Corey Larson last month), in support of the Toys for Tots

program. Additionally, special thanks goes to Pat Lester and Ed Bunker for their efforts and assistance to Bob in getting the word out and in obtaining some of our supplies. Bob will provide a short presentation at our October meeting, and will explain how you can help. Plans for the humvee are available on our web site.

If you are still unsure of a project to make for the Toys for Tots program, or any other reason, we have many toy plans available for download at our web site, <http://www.twwwg.com/plans.asp>. If you have other plans you would like to add to your site, please give me a clean copy to scan.

Rob Cossman will visit Woodcraft on Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21. On Friday, Rob will give demonstrations in the store, and Saturday he will give three seminars:

### Sharpening and using hand planes from

8:00AM – 11:00AM

### Hand-cut mortise & tenon joints

11:30AM – 2:00PM

### Hand-cut dovetails

3:00PM – 6:00PM

The cost for each seminar is \$50, or you can attend all three for \$125.

I'm looking for a volunteer to help set up any audio visual equipment and our PA system prior to our meetings. A few members have approached me, stating that using the equipment makes it easier to see and hear the presentations. If you are able to show up about an hour early and are willing to volunteer, please see either Jim Francis or myself.

## October 2009 Issue

### Next Meeting

October 26, 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.

### October

Guest Presenters

Biscuit Joinery

Adrian Marshall

John Moore

### November

Guest Presenters

Chip & Relief Carving

Corey Larson

Yearly Show & Tell

## 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).

## Shop Tips—Beginning to understand why "finishing" is so difficult

I'm still trying to understand the process. I find it incredibly difficult when practically everyone I talk to about finishing use different terms and lingo than the manufacturers of the finishes. So I spent a good 15 to 20 minutes reading the highly recommended "sanding sealer".

The label says "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula". OK, what's that? After obtaining the magnifying glass to read the smaller print and at least a thousand words of cautions and precautions, I still don't know what it is I'm dealing with ... but it **is** highly recommended! So starting over reading the label from the beginning, I note there are two small lines in the upper left side. Back to the magnifying glass and it says: "Contents: Wax-free shellac - 2lb cut." GREAT! At least I know I'm dealing with shellac!

Now, what does 2lb cut mean? I guess that is supposed to "come to ya" as you hold the can in one hand and a magnifying glass in the other! So off to the "interstate" I go ... looking for the definition of "2lb cut". So I Google "2lb cut shellac", and lo-and-behold there was the explanation on the very first line! "A 2-lb. cut of shellac is 2 lb. of shellac resin dissolved in a gallon of alcohol. A 5-lb. cut would be 5 lb. of resin dissolved in a gallon, etc." I'm at least twice as smart about finishing than I was just moments ago! By the end of this Christmas season I should be some sort of an authority on finishing .. at least with shellac!

Well, not so fast ... somewhere back a few hours ago I read something on that "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" can label about soft woods and staining. Now they want me to "thin" this "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Dealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" with denatured alcohol ... to the tune of 3 parts denatured alcohol to 2 parts of "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula". So, I'm "cutting the 2#cut"? Now, my engineering mind is throwing up red flags all over the place ... Is the alcohol used in the 2lb cut the same as the denatured alcohol they want me to "thin" the 2lb cut with? Can I use a jar to make the mixture? Does it matter if I pour the "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" into the denatured alcohol or vice-versa? Should I have a fire extinguisher at the ready? Protective face shield? Gloves?

I'm thinking maybe I should use a "life line" here and call a buddy first. I called Gene George. No answer, and no text messaging either! So, I still have my other "life line" and I call Bret Lancaster. He's up to his elbows in a special project with a thousand hand cut dovetails, plus he's still stroking his new toy ... a Ridgid EB4424 Oscillating Edge Belt Sander and Spindle Sander Combo with a 45° tilting table! I was there an hour and didn't even ask any finishing questions! So much for my "life lines".

So back to the "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" can label and safety precautions. Don't get the stuff in your eyes and AVOID skin contact. So with a clear path to the sink and water, I donned the face shield and some latex gloves. Wow! I managed to thin a 2lb cut without incident! Does that mean I now have a 0.8lb cut or 12.8oz cut of "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" that I can use on a couple of my pine projects?

Feeling pretty good about thinning a 2 lb cut I tested the concoction on a piece of pine scrap. I go back to the "Zinsser Bulls Eye Seal Coat Universal Sanding Sealer 100% Wax-Free Formula" can label and learn after 15 minutes from applying the concoction I need to "rub" the piece of scrap with a "fine synthetic abrasive". What is that supposed to do? Produce the finishing genie? Well, that didn't happen. I'm not really sure what a synthetic abrasive is at this point, or that I even have any such stuff. Seems obvious ... but what do I know.

So back to the "interstate" and Google'd "synthetic abrasive" and learned that "many *synthetic abrasives* are "effectively identical" to a natural mineral, differing only in that the *synthetic* mineral has been manufactured." Well, I have sand paper and I guess I could have gone through with the test on the pine scraps. There comes a point when patience ceases to be a virtue, and I'm sure it is not over yet, but I'm one day closer to Christmas with just 64 days to go!

I'm renewing my healthy respect for those that finish wood with the greatest of ease! My hat's off to ya.

All the best .... Ed Bunker

## TWWWG 2009 Elections

Last month, we mentioned that elections were to be held and the first phase of the elections were to create a nominating committee to select candidates for the various offices.

After some conversation and feedback from the Guild, it has been determined that the membership is quite content with the existing board for another year.

Therefore, due to an approved motion, board members will stay in their current position for the next year.

However, we can always use additional assistance for the various functions that our Guild is involved over the course of the year.

If you have an interest in becoming more involved with the Tidewater Woodworkers Guild, just ask any board member. Or if you would like to start a program, please mention it to any of the board members.

## Program Highlights From Our September 2009 Meeting



At the September meeting, Corey Larson provided a history on the Toys for Tots program. As well, he demonstrated how to craft a toy Humvee for the program. Due to its popularity with our Guild, a group effort is underway to produce more for the program. Contact Pat Lester for more details.

### 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

## September 2009 Meeting Minutes

Tidewater Woodworkers Guild

Date Sept. 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order on 9/28/2009, at 7 pm by the President, Bret Lancaster.

After a short introduction and recognition of new faces, The following announcements and business was presented.:

Treasurer Fred Olds, gave a report stating that we have \$8,150.00 in the club savings account and \$700.00 currently in the checking account. A motion was made to give \$200.00 to the American Heart Association in memory of Martin Carter instead of \$100.00 that was agreed to at the previous Club meeting in August. Motion carried.

Bill Caillet made the following announcements about upcoming events at the Wood Craft Store:

1<sup>st</sup> weekend in Nov there will be a special sale to commemorate the store anniversary

Festool will have a tool demonstration Oct. 17 11am –1pm

Poker Run was a great success

Rob Cosman will be at the store Nov 20-21

New business : A motion was moved and seconded to have the present Club Officers serve a term of 1 additional year from 2010 to 2011, Motion was carried by the members present.

Pat Lester who is in charge of Toys for Tots, requested that the members not paint the toys they are making for donation to Toys for Tots as it is against safety regulations.

The President introduced the featured presenter and program:

Presenter: Corey Larson

Program; History of Toys For Tots since 1948

Corey also talked about using only waterborne urethane coatings on the toys we make for donation. Corey presented a toy Hummer that he had made .

Show and tell projects:

Jeff Biggs, Tool chest

Ed Bunker, Band Saw Box & Doll Cradle Stool

Larry Permenter, mistakes not to make on the Table Saw

Up coming Programs; Oct: Biscuit Joinery Techniques, Nov. Chip Carving

Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm

Submitted, Adrian Marshall, Secretary

## Show and Tell From Our September 2009 Meeting



At the September meeting, Jeff Biggs (top left) brought in his latest creation, a tool chest (middle left) that he learned to make through the class work at Woodcraft. Ed Bunker brought in a band sawn box and a small doll cradle stool. The band sawn box is actually a jewelry box and the doll cradle can be turned over to act as stool for a small child (top right). At the bottom right, Larry Permenter demonstrates a few safety tips when utilizing the table saw. Larry was mitering a board on the table saw when the board shifted. Unfortunately, Larry's hand was steered towards the saw blade. (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.

