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 Mail: 1793 Templeton Lane
 Virginia Beach, VA 23454
 Dues: \$15 yr- To: TWW W Guild

Tidewater Woodworkers Guild



Meeting Host Plywood & Plastics

3307 Chesapeake Blvd.
 Norfolk, Va. 23513
 Ph:855-3908

Monthly Meetings
 4th Monday/month~ 7 PM

Newsletter January 2002

Well, weeeeere Baaaack! Another year and we are still at it...making sawdust ...that is! Welcome "home" to the WW Guild for '02...I think there are a few in our ranks that recall we started up in the back room of the Shopsmith Store some 20 years ago...a few new tools since then, and maybe a couple of new aches and pains...but every one of us (plankowners) still have all ten digits on the upper limbs.

Just to get the "mundane" out of the way right up front...we will start collecting our dues for the year at Monday nite's meeting...28 January...That's still \$15 a year...and please make it a check to Tidewater Woodworkers...it makes it much easier on Gene George as he records "dues paid" ...without having to make change and record names during the collection. Our membership cards are green this year...and will be issued on receipt.

One line item we hope to have up and running soon is our video lending library. Boyd Fletcher has engineered a data base listing of nearly a gross of woodworking tapes -(that's 144 movies

..for those of you counting on fingers). We have a start on double dust-proof stowage that we plan to retain on the lower shelf of our workbench at our meeting place; that lower area to be enclosed and opened for lend-lease at each meeting. No charge...but a limit of 3 tapes per person-per visit, and we would ask that they be rewound and returned at the following meeting. A simple Log to indicate the borrower, the tape Number (#39 -Wood Finishing by Michael Dresdne, #118 -Wood Finishing by Scott Phillips), and Date Out/Date In. We will operate our Tool Kit Library same fashion: at the present we have a moisture meter and an alignment jig w/dial indicator and master plate for fine tuning planers, saws, jointers and the drill press. Sign-out and in...and take care with these expensive instruments, please. Gene Suggs has volunteered to take a turn as our Librarian; we'll back him up with a supernumerary or two to insure we can operate in the absence of anyone.

Tips Corner

ROUTER SPEED LIMITS			
24000			
	18000		
		16000	
			12000
1"	2"	2-1/2"	3-1/2"

*These are MAX safe router speeds for bit size

More on router bits...yes, you can sharpen your carbide bits ...hone the flat surfaces with a diamond paddle, lubed with water. About 5 laps should provide adequate touch up. If they are nicked, get an evaluation from Billy out at SureSet Saw in Chesapeake.

SAWDUST AS GARDEN MULCH~ Contrary to popular belief, sawdust will not leach nitrogen from your garden soil. Just take care not to spread Cedar or Walnut (or pressure treated wood shavings) in the garden.

GLUE BOTTLE/HOLDER~ I use old plastic mustard bottles-the kind with the twist close tip. A neat storage trick is to mount your glue container(s) with a 99-cent coffee cup holder-the kind that fits on your car door; mount one on a block of wood and to your pegboard; a second one to hold your coffee or soda away from your table tops?

YES...You can thin the new water-based polyurethanes; Bob Flexner cautions tho- thin the first coat with only one-fourth water, second & following coats ,,thin sparingly. Test your product- some polys will accept a little more thinning on the follow on coats.

A BETTER WOOD PUTTY- better than sawdust and glue, that is. Use Sanding sealer and the sawdust from your project to make your putty;once dry, sand and use the same sealer on your project. (It should take a stain too).

WOODWORKING SOFTWARE~ try Wood Online-at www.woodmagazine.com/software. There is a neat sheet goods layout program that saves a lot of time and maybe \$\$ by laying out project pieces and cutting patterns on your 4 x 8 sheet goods.

SHELVING SPANS AND LIMITS ~
Maximum Span for MDF Shelves

Load lbs/sq ft	1/2" thickness	3/4" thickness	**Supporting along the entire back edge or applying a solid wood front edging will allow increasing the shelf span to almost double.
50	15"	22"	
40	16"	24"	
30	18"	26"	
20	20"	30"	

A FREEBIE! Again- for the Woodworker OnLine: Called *The Finishing Touch*, a CD-ROM fit for both Windows and Mac; features 21 North American hardwoods -photos to assist in applying stain to these species; Provides physical and working properties of woods, finishing specs, tips and techniques on project building. Worth looking at for FREE- Visit www.hardwoodcouncil.com, or call 412-281-4980.

Finishing Pine- Because of the fast growing nature of softwoods, the earlywood (spring growth) is much more porous than the dense latewood. To preclude the splotchy effect that a stain might normally cause on pine and fir- use a wipe on Gel Stain...they don't penetrate like other oil stains. I prefer to give pine a "wash coat" of shellac (white or orange shellac cut 50-50 with alcohol)- which will dry within an hour or so...then stain with either a wipe-on or brushed pigment or dye stain. Give the end grain a couple of coats of that sealing shellac to keep the exposed end boards from sucking up and going 3 shades darker than desired.

Prevent RUST? One chap from Ontario writes in that he (lightly) sprays his machine table tops with spar varnish! He then "lightly" sands his saw table and jointer with 400 grit paper...says he has a shiny smooth rust-free surface 6 months later in his uninsulated shop! Whaddya think?

FOOD SAFE FINISH~ I think most of you know never to use salad oil as your finish/refinish for butcher block wood surfaces used for food preparation. Vegetable oils - by their very nature, will turn rancid when left to penetrate wood surfaces. I've always used drugstore brand mineral oil; a new butcher block will enjoy a wipe down once a month for the first six months; every other month for the next six months, and then twice a year thereafter...a wipedown with paper towel and mineral oil. Now, the newest recipe calls for scraping a few paraffin wax shavings into the mineral oil, let the shaving dissolve by placing the container with your 10/1 mix in a pan of hot water. After 15 minutes, with wax melted in the oil, apply by wiping on a coat or two...Reapply additional finish "periodically".

Tidewater Woodworkers
1793 Templeton Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23454



~ *Shop at our Friends* ~

Plywood and Plastics-Norfolk
Sure Set Saw -Chesapeake
Blue Ridge Hardwoods-Va Beach

Now - as to Monday night's fare...a lot of Show and Tell is called for...hoping that members will share something they might have made over the past holiday and gift giving season. A tough part is borrowing it off the dresser top/counter/wall/etc. where your significant other has placed her prize!). Please bring in whatever you enjoyed making- we really enjoy

We'll spend some time allowing for dues collection, and ask for inputs from the members on what they would like the club to undertake this year. If we want to storm the portals out of town woodworking pros in for weekend seminars- we need a small committee spearhead that effort. If we want in-house demos in certain facets of woodworking, bandsaw boxes, lathe turning projects, a tool sharpening session, dust collection in the shop or tapering table legs...we hope to hear your input and then hope we have the players in our group willing to teach us a lesson. If there are new members or long standing members that would be interested in small workshop demos on tool alignments, or setting up a dovetail jig with a hand held router...watching a scrollsaw project, making a cabinet, etc. do we have any among us willing to host 5 or 6 in their shop/garage to teach/demonstrate? This January kickoff is intended to sort of outline a place we'd like to go these next few months...so be thinking up some ideas of your own- and consider pitching in to share your idea or area of interest with the rest of us.

Keep it with the Grain- see you Monday nite- Pat

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