

# THE SAWDUST

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 17, Issue 1

January 2010

## New Newsletter Editor

A big CWA thank you to Tony Profera for the many issues of THE SAWDUST he edited and published. Tony has instructed me on all the facets of publishing this newsletter for CWA members; so here is my first one.

Thanks also to Peter Stoffel, who assists with note taking at the meetings - much appreciated. If anyone would like to contribute articles, information or provide suggestions for the newsletter, please send them to me. We need to make this a group effort.

Roger Callahan ([roger\\_callahan@bellsouth.net](mailto:roger_callahan@bellsouth.net))



## \*\* Reminder \*\*

### It's time to renew membership.

With the New Year underway, it is time to renew your membership for 2010.

Please see Fred Miller during the monthly meeting or mail your dues to Fred at 1208 Salem Drive Charlotte NC 28209

Dues are \$30.00 for new members and \$25.00 for renewals. Make checks payable to "Charlotte Woodworkers Assoc." or "CWA"



## CWA Christmas Dinner

Attending members enjoyed an excellent dinner on December 8 at the Old Smokehouse Restaurant. Bruce Bogust, our President, was the raffle winner.



Attending spouses and guests received beautiful gifts (see some below) made and contributed by members. Mike Smith also provided "push sticks" that he made for each attending member.



## Spoon Carving

At our January meeting, Lorren Koski provided a presentation and demonstration of his spoon carving. As a small business owner of a body shop that does high-end restoration and fabrication, for the last 2 - 3 years he pursues his carvings as a way of relaxing. It also provides him an opportunity to experiment and work with a variety of wood species.

- He has been doing woodworking for about 15 years, doing tables and other practical projects.
- Took a course in Asheville from Country Workshop on Swedish carving of wooden kitchen utensils and bowls.
- The book "Swedish Carving Techniques" by Wille Sundqvist, he recommends.
- From a friend, who is a luthier, he gets a large collection of smaller pieces of scrap wood that he uses.
- The wood is carved when green – easier to carve.
- He now prefers wood with a grain that flows and said "When finished the wood appearance just pops."
- He has made items from tree roots, he calls them "Root Spoons".
- When you are working with power tools to carve, you are much more likely to blow through the wall of the spoon. (A member noted The Wood Turners call them "funnels")
- For hardwood spoons – the waste wood is cut out with forstner bits.

(cont. on page 2)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 30th – 8:30 am – 1:00 pm **BOY SCOUT WOODWORKING MERIT BADGE CLASS**

FEBRUARY 13th – 8:30 am – 1:00 pm **BOY SCOUT WOODWORKING MERIT BADGE CLASS** (*Finish Projects*)

FEBRUARY 16th - 6:30 pm **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION MEETING**

- Planned presentation and instruction on "How to fit a drawer."

### WOODCRAFT STORE IN CHARLOTTE UPCOMING CLASSES:

Jan 30 (Sat.): Beginning Pen Turning - 9:30am - 12:30pm  
 Feb 04 (Thur.): Scroll Saw Box - 6:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Feb 07 (Sun.): Lathe VII: Natural Edge Bowl - 12:30 - 4pm  
 Feb 11 (Thur.): Carve Whimsical "Condos" on Cypress Knee - 6:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Feb 18 (Thur.): Bandsaw Basics - 6:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Feb 20 (Sat.): Picture Framing - 9:30am - 12:30pm  
 Feb 20 (Sat.): Basic Router: Part I - 1:30pm - 4:30pm  
 Feb 25 (Thru.) Carve a Face on a Golf Ball - 6:00 - 9:00pm  
 Feb 27 (Sat.) Box Joint Joinery - 9:30am - 12:30pm  
 Feb 28 (Sun.) Turn a Lidded Box - 12:30pm - 4:30pm



### Treasurer's Report: 12/31/09

Opening balance	2152.30
Deposits	135.00
Checks *	799.82
Closing balance	1487.48

\*Includes raffle prizes, refreshments, splitter for JPM table saw and Christmas Dinner (\$607)



(cont. from page 1.) **Spoon Carving**

- Riffilers files, small curved files, are also very useful.
- When you are working green wood, try to take an even amount off of the inside and the outside of the spoon.
- Hold the work in your hand. Keep your hand against your chest. With the carving arm tight against your body, try to cut only using the motion in your wrist. This limits the range of travel of the tool and you are less likely to cut yourself.
- I usually start with the bowl first.
- Finish most in Walnut oil. Get the oil from Harris Teeter! It is food safe.
- The spoons that we use a lot sometimes get oiled again.
- What do you do when you have knots in the wood?
  - Sandpaper. I use a lot of sandpaper.
  - Shape the sandpaper to the curve you want to achieve.
  - Sticky-back sand paper is mainly what he uses.
  - With green wood you can't start with sandpaper, but after three or four days of drying you can start with 120 grit.
  - 320 is the finest he uses. Normally 220 for finishing.
- Wear a Kevlar glove and thumb guard for safety
- How much time for a spoon? Depends on the wood. Thirty (30) hours for the best ones.
- Where do you start when you have a block of wood?
  - Look at a piece of split firewood.
  - Check out the grain to see what I like
  - Sketch something on the wood
  - Rough cut on the band saw freehand
  - Then move into hand-tools.
- What tools?
  - Gouge - "baby scorp"
  - Lots and lots of sandpaper
  - Power tools often take off too much material to be useful.
  - Do use a belt sander to shape the wood.



## Boy Scouts of America

### *Woodworking Merit Badge:*

Work will commence Saturday **January 30<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 am till noon or 1:00 PM. On the agenda is projects to help Boy Scout with their merit badge. There are five open slots for additional scouts, if you know of interest. Projects will be completed during another session on **February 13<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 am. (We need additional hands and eyes to help.)

We anticipate another session for 20 scouts sometime in the Spring.

### *Explorers Post:*

We have had keen interest from area Scouts. An Explorer Post (A co-ed teenage division of Boy Scouts for 14 - 21 year olds) has been exploring a variety of areas of wood working in the broadest sense including framing, cabinet making, furniture making, wood turning, etc. They'll meet at JPM on January 23 and generally meet once a month.

Post members that want to also join CWA get a student membership rate of \$15/ year.



## SHOP TOURS

Mike Smith organizes club membership shop tours. The goal is to have shop tours scheduled that are in the same general geographic area to reduce the distances traveled between shops and permit time to adequately tour several shops in a day.

Please sign up even if you don't have a fancy shop

If you would like to put your shop on the shop tour list, please contact Mike at: [mikececilsmith@carolina.rr.com](mailto:mikececilsmith@carolina.rr.com)

Note: all shop tours are for active CWA members only. Please refrain from bringing guests, family members, friends, dogs etc...

Once enough shops are committed a date will be set.



## Some Learned Lessons from Re-sawing by Mike Smith

There is no end to the amount of education I get by making mistakes especially when it comes to woodworking. There is nothing like ruining a good piece of wood and having to do something over to get a lesson on how to "not" do something. In my case I was doing some re-sawing when things did not go right. I had some 8/4 hard maple and I needed some one inch finished, squared stock. Since I did not have any 5/4 stock to use, I was just going to resaw some stock out of my 8/4 maple.

I have a decent 14 inch bandsaw, a good resawing blade and I made an auxiliary tall fence to help with this re-sawing. In my case, the blade was a 1/2", 3 teeth per inch bandsaw blade. This blade is made to be a high tension blade and I have resawn lumber with this blade before and never had any problems. So what could go wrong?

I have everything in place and I'm ready to start cutting. The board I'm using is heavy and the wood I'm using is fairly hard. As I start the cut everything seems okay. The blade is following the cut line, the board is square up against the fence, I'm having to push harder on the stock than I am used to, but the cut seems to be doing just what it is supposed to do. The board I am cutting is about 5 feet long. It takes a little longer to cut this piece than I think it should, but like I say, I'm keeping a close eye on this and my blade is tracking right on the cut line so as far as I can tell everything is okay.

I'm almost done; I'm right at that point where the blade is going to exit my wood. It isn't until the blade exits the back of the wood when I realize there is a problem. This is because when the blade exited the wood, the blade was curved like the side of an orange. I could not believe my eyes. The blade was cutting correctly on the top of the board and the bottom of the board, but in between I had this arch like the one in St. Louis.

This incident happened just before our CWA Christmas Party, so I had lots of people to discuss this with. The first thing out of everybody's mouth was "not enough blade tension" and the second thing was "a dull blade." I probably had both. The next day after our party, I went to my home woodworking library, picked up my copy of "The Bandsaw Book" by Lonnie Bird. Sure enough, on page 96 there was a picture of exactly what my board looked like. It shows a re-sawn board with a big arch in the middle of the board and Mr. Bird says this is caused by low blade tension.

*(cont. on page 4)*

## CWA MEETING PRESENTERS

All members are asked to keep an eye out for anyone that might make be a suitable program presenter for our CWA club meetings. Who knows, it might even be you!

### Recent presentations have included:

- Carving
- Woodworking Project Photography
- Bandsaw Setup and Bandsaw Blades
- Turning an Offset Padfoot Table Leg
- Marquetry
- Sharpening
- Dulcimer making
- Shaker Table Build Workshop
- Wheel making
- Windsor chair making

If you know of someone with a woodworking skill that could be of interest please contact Dave Powles at: (704) 506-0403.



## Some Learned Lessons from Re-Sawing

*(cont. from page 3)*

I set my tension to what my tension gauge on the saw said to set it for and apparently this was good enough when my saw blade was brand new and I was mostly resawing soft woods. Mr. Bell recommended in his book that you raise your tension to almost the maximum tension on a 14 inch bandsaw when you are resawing with a ½ inch blade (which I was). You don't want to completely compress your tension spring because the spring is also used to absorb vibration. Don't forget to reset your tension when you are done resawing.

After my discussions with fellow woodworkers, and my 'read' of "The Bandsaw Book," I tightened up the tension on my saw blade to almost all the way. Resawed a piece of hard stock and it worked just fine, even though my saw blade was a bit dull, it still sawed the test board just fine.

Another lesson learned, another board ruined. Out of my original 8/4 hard maple board I ended up with two boards approximately ½ inch thick. So this mistake cost me an inch out of the center of this board. So, I learned a lesson from this, one of those lessons that I won't forget and maybe after reading this, it will help you out.



## Other Items from the Woodpile

Cindy Bohlen, Product Manager at Irwin Tools, at the January meeting expressed her appreciation and thank you for the survey feedback from those participating in a recent tool test.

**The CWA meeting raffle** could benefit from your donation. If you have any tools (old or new) or shop supplies you would like to donate to be raffled, please bring them in to the meeting and let Mike Smith know.

Please consider getting involved and volunteering your time. These are good causes, and you will be rewarded in many ways



## JPM Shop Use

Any current CWA member who would like to use the shop is welcome to do so! All that is needed is to schedule the time! If you have something specific you need to do and you need our tools or a bigger shop to work in, please do so!

JPM has plans to expand again by adding 3-phase power. Additionally a large classroom will be added. It is planned to accommodate groups of up to 25 people!

CWA will be looking into the acquisition of assorted "Big Iron" (3 phase) shop equipment such as Jointers, Planers, and Table saws. A wide belt thickness sander was noted as good piece of equipment for CWA to have.

To use the shop contact Jim Emory at:

[JimE@JacksonPark.Org](mailto:JimE@JacksonPark.Org).



**Mike Smith announced at the January 2010 meeting an exciting new contest for CWA Members**

**"MAKE SOMETHING OUT OF A SINGLE 2x4"**

**Details:**

We are having a contest for the CWA members. It's a contest where each person who enters makes something out of a single 2x4 board.

I'm really excited about this contest, said Mike, and I sure hope we get lots of participation. There is plenty of time to do this contest, it's not like you have to have your project done next month. Contest entries will be judged at our April meeting by the members present at the meeting.

**Here is the contest.**

From a recently purchased single construction grade, #2 common, 2"x4"x96" board make whatever you want to make. Do whatever project you want to do. The constraint is that you must use this single board to make your project. A board purchased after the announcement of this project. The reason for making you purchase a board is to give everybody the same type of board to work with. Nobody should have an advantage by having an older dryer board or by using something besides a recently purchased board. This is just meant to give everybody the same thing to work with.

These are the specific rules.

Projects can be submitted by Charlotte Woodworker Members only:

- **Each project must use the Maximum of only one 2" X 4" X 96" long construction grade lumber (#2 common). However, it is not necessary to use the entire board. (this means we are working with a 1 ½" X 3 ½" X 96" board that has been recently purchased at Home Depot or Lowes.)**
- **The single 2"X4" board can be cut into any shape, thickness or number of pieces in order to make the project.**
- **Any hardware is allowed in the construction of the project. However, the project should maximize the use of wood.**
- **A maximum of two projects may be submitted by each participant, of which only one can win a prize.**
- **Projects may have any type of finish or be unfinished.**
- **All projects will be judged by the members present in our April 2010 meeting.**
- **There will be a prize for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place, we do not have the prizes worked out yet, but will announce soon. You have three months to work on your project.**



Which one do I pick?

## CWA Google Groups

### There is a new method for CWA membership to communicate!

With a single email we can let you know what's happening. You can also view all the 2009 published club newsletters.

### Note: You Can Join This Group on Your Own!

To join:

Paste the entire line below in your web browser's address bar:

<http://groups.google.com/group/charlotte-woodworkers?hl=en>

- Hit "enter", Click the link "Join this Group" (on the right).
- Create a Google account if necessary (all they want is an email address and password). Please save your password in a secure place for future use.
- Once "signed in" select the radio button "Email" at the bottom and enter a nickname.
- Send an email out to the group to introduce yourself!
- Use "charlotte-woodworkers@googlegroups.com" as the "send to" in any email communication to all members of the group.



## Boy Scout Woodworking Merit Badge

JPM has been holding shop sessions for 20 Boy Scouts to work towards receiving a woodworking merit badge. (see info on page 3)

Jim Emery is seeking volunteers from CWA membership to assist with Saturday workshops, as another session will be offered this Spring. Workshop sessions are anticipated to be held as morning and afternoon sessions.

This is an outstanding way to introduce young people to woodworking. With many school shop programs being phased out this may be the only contact our youth have to a woodshop and the craft of woodworking.

If you would like to put your name on that list to help or would like to find out more please contact Fred Miller at: [fredmiller2@gmail.com](mailto:fredmiller2@gmail.com).

Watch for additional information to be published to the CWA Google group.



## CWA Meeting Time and Place

Meetings of the Charlotte Woodworker's Association are held the third Tuesday of each month, except for December. Meetings are held at Jackson Park Ministries Woodshop at Sentry Post Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Please check the web site

([www.charlottewoodworkers.org](http://www.charlottewoodworkers.org)) for directions.

Note: you may see construction on Sentry Post Drive as they have been working the area of late.

A social and refreshment time starts at 5:30pm; our meeting starts at 6:30pm. Come to the meeting early and get to know your fellow woodworking enthusiasts!



## Best Quote of Last Few Months

*"When you give a Boy Scout a glue bottle, stand back."*

**Bob Fields**

## *The CWA Library*

Books and DVDs are available from the CWA library for a buck a month. Contact Maurice Blackburn at [MBlackburn1@Carolina.RR.Com](mailto:MBlackburn1@Carolina.RR.Com)

Also, please help your fellow woodworker and make your club newsletter even better by contributing a short book review.

Remember, your review is redeemable for a free DVD rental from the CWA library!

Send your book review to Roger Callahan ([roger\\_callahan@bellsouth.net](mailto:roger_callahan@bellsouth.net))



## **The Classified Section**

There is still a Dewalt scroll saw for sale for \$350. If interested contact Fred Miller at: [fredmiller2@gmail.com](mailto:fredmiller2@gmail.com).

Other tools may be posted on the JPM shop bulletin board, so check the board at meetings.

This space is reserved for classified ads! If you have any woodworking items for sale that you think would be of interest to the membership please contact: Roger Callahan ([roger\\_callahan@bellsouth.net](mailto:roger_callahan@bellsouth.net))

Include a complete description of the items(s) and a picture or 2 (if possible).



## 2010 CWA Officers



Bruce Bogust  
President  
(704) 321-0979  
[bbogust@carolina.rr.com](mailto:bbogust@carolina.rr.com)



David Powles  
Vice President, in-charge of programming  
(704) 506-0403  
Sorry, no e-mail available



Fred Miller  
Treasurer  
(704) 650-8520  
[fredmiller2@gmail.com](mailto:fredmiller2@gmail.com)



Roger Callahan  
(704) 236-2385  
Secretary  
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Maurice Blackburn  
Librarian  
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Wayne Manahan  
Web Site  
(704) 786-0768  
[WManahan@VNet.Net](mailto:WManahan@VNet.Net)

# Directions to Jackson Park Ministries



From the intersection of I-85 and Billy Graham Parkway:

- 1.) Take Billy Graham Parkway South.
- 2.) Turn Right on Paul Brown Blvd / West Blvd. (this will be after the main entrance to the airport)
- 3.) Turn Right on Airport Drive.
- 4.) First left on Sentry Post Drive.
- 5.) At the end of Sentry Post Drive there is driveway on the left. Enter here. Using the photo above, drive down the driveway and around to the warehouse with the "x" on the top.

From the intersection of South Tryon Street and Billy Graham Parkway (where Woodlawn turns in to Billy Graham). Also exit 6 from I-77.):

- 1.) Take Billy Graham Parkway North.
- 2.) Turn Left on Paul Brown Blvd / West Blvd. (this will be at the light after the Tyvola Road exit)
- 3.) Follow from Step 3 above...

## CWA SPONSORS

*Please thank them every time you use their services.*

### **HORIZON FOREST PRODUCTS**

...has left Charlotte. We look forward to their return in another year or two.

Chad Mitchell, Manager  
704-369-0485

### **WOODCRAFT**

Mr. David Boyuka  
1725 Windsor Square Drive  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(704) 847-8300

### **THE WOODWORKING SHOP OF CHARLOTTE**

Jim Rivers, Manager  
4728 South Blvd.  
Charlotte, NC 28217  
(704) 521-8886  
Notice: this shop has **closed**.

### **WHOLESALE TOOLS**

4200 Barringer Drive  
Charlotte NC 28217  
**1-800-438-3580 (Service)**  
Web link: <http://www.wttool.com/>  
5% - 20% discount with current membership card.

## CWA MENTOR PROGRAM

The following members have offered their help to anyone interested in learning skills or new techniques in their area of interest. Contact each person to arrange times to get together if interested.

Wayne Manahan  
Sharpening  
704.786.0768  
[wmanahan@vnet.net](mailto:wmanahan@vnet.net)

If you are willing to mentor new woodworkers please let us know. Thank you! 🛠️

*"I have a lightning hammer –never strikes the same place twice.*

*-John Leake*

Roger Callahan  
3334 Whistley Green Dr..  
Charlotte, NC 28269

BUILD RATE  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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