

THE SAWDUST

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 17, Issue 3

March 2010

Newsletter

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.

Thanks also to Peter Stoffel, who assists with note taking at the meetings, and to Mike Smith for the photos - much appreciated.

Roger Callahan (roger_callahan@bellsouth.net) - Secretary



** Reminder **

It's time to renew membership.

Have you renewed your membership? If not, 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".

We welcome our returning and new members and encourage you to bring your woodworking friends to our meetings, so they can also join CWA.



FOR THE MAY CWA MEETING ONLY PLEASE NOTE

**Meeting will be on May 11, 2010
The Second Tuesday**

(Instead of the normal third Tuesday of the month)

During this meeting Eugene Thorndahl will provide a presentation and demonstration on 'hide glue'.



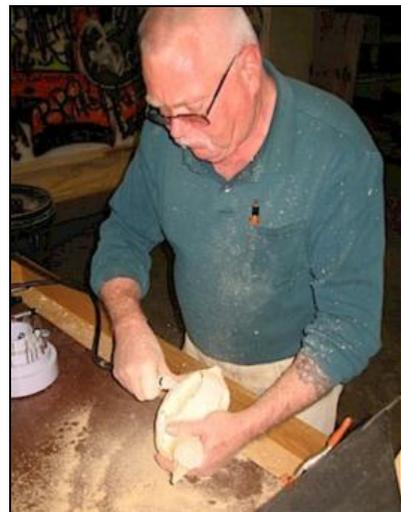
Power Carving

At our March CWA meeting Dave Wood provided a demonstration and described important techniques when 'power carving'. Dave is a professional carver of 15 years. We see Dave at WoodCraft of Charlotte; as he also works there.



Safety

- Dave immediately emphasized safety; noting that the power carving tools can take wood away real quick and they take your skin (hide) away even faster.
 - Use your thumb as your anchor (note the placement of his thumb in the picture below). Place the thumb on the piece being carved and pull the tool towards you.
 - Holding the tool properly is key.



(cont. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 17 - Start 10:00am **CHARLOTTE WOODTURNERS SPRING FLING and swap meet** at Jackson Park Ministries (JPM) - our CWA meeting site. (food will be available.)

April 20th - 6:30 pm **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION MEETING**
 - Tony Profera to discuss making "Bandsaw Boxes"
 - Bring your 2x4 project - see page 6 .

May 11th - 6:30 pm **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION MEETING**
 (This is a change to the normal third Tuesday meeting date)

WOODCRAFT STORE IN CHARLOTTE UPCOMING CLASSES:

Mar 25 (Thur.) Basic Finishing - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Mar 27 (Sat.) Pen Turning - Acrylics - 9:30am-12:30pm
 Mar 28 (Sun.) Bowl Turning - 12:30pm - 4:30pm
 Apr 1 (Thur.) Finishing-French Polish - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Apr 8 (Thur.) Carve a Collectible Country Swan - 6pm - 9pm
 Apr 11 (Sun.) Lathe VII: Natural Edge Bowl - 12:30pm - 4:30pm
 Apr 15 (Thur.) Introduction to Scroll Saw: Hummingbird Plaque - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Apr 17 (Sat.) Working with Veneer - 9:30am-12:30pm
 Apr 17 (Sat.) Hand Plane Tune Up - 1:30pm - 4:30pm
 Apr 22 (Thur.) Table Saw Use - Beyond the Basics - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Apr 24 (Sat.) Turn a Wall Street Pen - 9:30am-12:30pm
 Apr 25 (Sun.) Lidded Bowl - 12:30pm - 4:30pm

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Treasurer's Report: as of 2/26/10

Opening balance	1771.93
Deposits	427.00
Checks	179.45
Closing balance	2019.48

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

- The bits come in all different grits
 - Best bits to buy are the cones
 - You can cut on the flat, the tip, the back edge, etc. The only tool you can cut in five different ways.
 - A no-cut bit is a barrel that only cuts on the side, but not at the tip. So it won't go deeper once you get to the right depth.
 - Bits come in different diameters, from 1/2" to 3"
 - If the carbide bits get stopped up you can burn out the dust with a torch.



- The flex shaft
 - Grease it up when you get it. It will heat up!
 - Don't bend the flex shaft too much. It will eat trough it.
 - When you are not using your tool, let it hang down from the edge of the bench. Don't set it on the bench.
 -
- Fordham rotating flex shaft tool. Costs about \$350 - 400.
 - If you can't afford one, a Dremel tool with a flex shaft is the next best thing.
 - You can get a flex head for 90 degrees for about \$60.00
- Carve at 18,000 RPM. Don't cut slower because it will kick on you.
 - But understand how dangerous it is!
 - It will pull your shirt right off you if it catches your sleeve!
 -
- When you buy stone bits
 - Buy Swiss made diamond bit (sapphire lasts the longest) or don't waste your money on diamond bits. If you are doing a lot, get carbide bits.
 - Stump Cutter is a carbide that is crisscrossed pattern on the bit. Doesn't cut too fast. Good for a finished pass.
- Drum sanders are available too.

(cont. on page 3)

(cont. from page 2) **Power Carving**

- If you carve slow it is going to chatter on you.
- Rest your thumb on the piece, the tool also has a spot for your thumb to rest on the tool.
- Hint
 - Don't put your bit all the way down into the bottom of your chuck. If there is any paint on the bit it is hard to get them to release.
- Having good dust collection helps a bunch.
- Tonight's duck sample is being carved out of bass wood.
- If you need to carve left-handed, put the motor in reverse and go.
- Dave works his way through the bits. Typically:
 - Start with a coarse cone,
 - fine cone, then
 - sanders



- Laying out the item to be carved:
 - For novices, buy a blueprint!
 - Lay it out on the block of wood
 - Cut it out on the bandsaw

One of Dave's pieces:



CHECK YOUR GRAIN FROM ALL DIRECTIONS BEFORE GLUE UP

Article by Mike C. Smith, CWA member

An interesting thing happened to me the other day when I was gluing up a table top. I had some nice looking wood for a table top and I was about to glue it up. I had taken a careful look at the grain of the wood and how both pieces were going to match up. I was standing in front of the boards with the grain moving from left to right. I was carefully moving the board an inch to the left, then an inch to the right trying to make it match up.

I got it just the way I wanted it and was about to glue the pieces together when Mike Plesco (who was working with me in my shop) said that I might want to look at that board from the side rather than just from the front. I could not imagine what Mike was talking about, since I had these boards looking just perfect (See Photo 1 below).

PHOTO 1



When I took a look from the side you could see how the grains of the two pieces of wood were different (See photo 2 below) when viewed from the side, while looking from the front the two pieces of wood looked the same.

PHOTO 2



(cont. on page 4)

Boy Scouts of America

Woodworking Merit Badge:

We anticipate another session for 20 scouts sometime in the Spring. Please be prepared to assist.

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' meet at JPM generally meet once a month on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

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

Bruce Bogust mentioned the Post is finishing up portable tool boxes. Next the Explorers will be working on a 'three legged stool' project, which will give them simple turning, wood planning, and jointing experience.



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

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.



(cont. from page 3)

CHECK YOUR GRAIN FROM ALL DIRECTIONS BEFORE GLUE UP

I reversed one of my pieces of wood and behold they grain looked good from all sides (see picture 3). I would have been very disappointed had I glued my table top together and then seen how the grain did not match when viewed from the side. I'm so glad that Mike Plesco was in the shop with me that day. So remember, no matter how good it looks from the one direction, make sure you take a look from all sides before you do your glue up

PHOTO 3



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 to the meeting and let Mike Smith know.



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
- Spoon Carving
- Fitting a Drawer
- Power Carving

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



Other Items from the Woodpile (cont'd)

David Powles plans a discussion of the most important piece of equipment in your shop.

In support of that discussion a survey is available online, which Pete Stoffel sent out by email to the Google group distribution. If you missed that email go to:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HWR9BWS>

Enter the password: sawdust

and take the short 10 question survey. The results will be presented at the April meeting.

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Plans for the June CWA meeting includes a discussion and presentation on the Google "Sketch Up" computer drafting tool.





Other Items from the Woodpile

Bruce mentioned that Lie-Nielsen would like to host a presentation and demonstrations, which he noted was well worth attending when hosted by Greenville, SC woodworkers last year. Would be May 14 and 15 here in Charlotte at JPM. Will require some CWA assistance setting up tables, cleaning the shop and advertising. Bruce will firm up the details. (Note: CWA members already can get a 10% discount with Lie-Nielsen.)

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Fred Miller mentioned a friend of CWA is looking for help building a Murphy bed. They will supply plans from Rockler and lumber. Contact Fred Miller (fredmiller2@gmail.com), if interested in assisting.

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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.



**Mike Smith announced at recent meetings 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 1st and 2nd place.**





Which one do I pick?

What project do I make?

**BRING Projects to April 20th
CWA Meeting**

Two Prizes:

- 9 piece Irwin Marples chisel set donated by Irwin, and
- \$50 prize from CWA

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 (Spring Session)

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.

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



Regular 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) 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

"Don't set a rotary tool on the bench top. Let it hang off the side. Otherwise, when you step on the pedal, it will pass you!"
Dave Wood

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

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)



The Classified Section

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)

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



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



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Maurice Blackburn
Librarian
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MBlackburn1@Carolina.RR.Com



Wayne Manahan
Web Site
(704) 786-0768
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.

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.

FARRIS BELT & SAW

235 Foster Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28203
704-527-6166
complete sharpening services and abrasives

HORIZON FOREST PRODUCTS

...has left Charlotte. We look forward to their return
in another year or two.
Chad Mitchell, Manager
704-369-0485

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

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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
