

Meeting Notice:

- **January meeting: Tuesday the 15th at 5:00.**
- **Main Plant Cafeteria.**
- **A Discussion of Drawers**
- **January Project: Your New Years Resolution.**
- **Door Prizes!!**



Knot News

COLLINS WOODWORKERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

Drawers

This month we are talking about making and installing drawers. The club recently bought the Kreg Drawer jig and Loras checked it out. He may have thoughts on how it works. There are lots of other jigs, ways to install them without a jig and plenty of ways to install drawers without glides. We're going to get a discussion going about how we all do it.

Drawers are just a box with an open lid that slides into a slot. You run into a few problems. First, you can easily put more in a drawer than it can handle. You need really solid corner joints because you pull on the front and slam it shut. People also tend to overload drawers.

The traditional joint for the corners is a dovetail. It provides a mechanical lock and lots of glue surface. It's traditional because it works and is reasonably easy to cut. It does take a minimal amount of skill but most of us can make it work.

There are a lot of alternatives that take less skill but most of them have serious limits.

The quickest way is probably just to nail the sides. That's great for lightly loaded drawers that don't get used a lot.

Dowels work a little better for small drawers (like jewelry boxes). Most of the glue surface is end grain so it won't stand much stress. Miller Dowels actually

work pretty well.

Slides are great for drawers that will be used a lot. They are in almost all kitchen cabinets.

The down side is that they take an inch of width and a half inch of height. They look bad when the drawer is open and only work with overlay drawers.

Wooden runners on the bottom of the drawer are a very traditional choice and work well with insert or overlay drawers. Most well made dressers use them. They wear but aren't difficult to repair. If you use a dense hardwood (maple) they will last for centuries even if they are used a lot.

January Project:

Ok, you have been putting it off for a while. Maybe a long while, and it's not getting done by it's self. You got kind of a break between Christmas and New Years so you tackled it. Maybe it's not quite done but you can

Your New Years Resolution

see the progress. New years resolutions are the dark side of the Christmas season. Much like a hangover.

And we want to hear about it.

This time every year I spend several days in the shop just getting everything back in shape. Things like this get put off in the push before Christmas to finish projects. December in my house smells of curing finish. Planer noise and pejoratives from the shop are as traditional as carols. The next couple of weeks are spent cleaning everything, sharpening tools, replacing handles, whatever repair needs done.

Besides those things there is always he Honey Do list and some of us try to take on a project that takes more time from that. After all we have some time without a lot of commitments and this is an opportunity. It's a chance to lay hardwood flooring or gut your kitchen if you are ambitious and brave. But it's also a chance to take on smaller projects.

So we want to know about the projects you have taken on during the break. Bring in a picture if it's too big.



Hardwood flooring is practical but it takes time.



Screwdriver handles



November meeting

We finished the toy build in November and several members delivered them to the hospitals. They were well received:



Dear Steve Geurts~

Thank you so very much for your kind donation of wooden airplanes, trucks with crayons and games. Your generosity will help make several little ones stay at the hospital a little bit easier. We truly appre-

ciate you thinking of us and our patients during the holiday season. We hope have a wonderful Christmas!

*Michelle Divoky, RN
PICU/PEDS Supervisor*

St. Lukes Hospital

319-861-6891



Little libraries

Our "Little Free Library" project is back on again. Sarah Reasner will be talking with us about the project at the meeting. She was planning to have an article here but that didn't work out.

This could be fun.

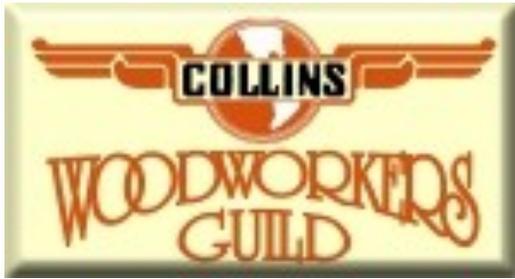


Upcoming projects:

February: Your Honey-do list: Stuff for someone else.

March: It's almost like woodworking... projects that are not strictly wooden.

We need ideas for new projects. Here is an opportunity to show off something that you have made. Suggest it as a project of the month.



The Collins Woodworkers Guild is a club dedicated to preserving the age old practice of creation using the medium of wood. CWG members gather monthly to share tips, ideas and experience to further the knowledge of all members. From creating heirlooms for their families to Toys-For-Tots, members help each other get the most out of their woodworking experience.

Membership in the Collins Woodworkers Guild is open to ALL Rockwell Collins, Inc. Employees, Spouses, Retirees, and Contract Employees, AT ALL ROCKWELL COLLINS LOCATIONS!! Everyone is welcome at our meetings and yearly dues, renewed each September, are \$15.00

GUILD BENEFITS

- Access to our EXTENSIVE library of books, magazines and Tool Collection
- Open exchange of ideas, from project help to house building; and a hand when needed
- Social Activities
- Workshops
- Toys-For-Tots and other Programs to help our Community
- Educational and Informative Presentations
- Open Houses
- Tours

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