

**Meeting Notice:**

January meeting: Tuesday the 19th at 5:00

Location: Main Plant Cafeteria

Subject: Planes

Project: End Grain

Door Prizes!!

# Knot News

COLLINS WOODWORKERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

## Planes

Most of us own at least one plane, whether it's something we inherited or bought on a garage sale. There seems to be a lot of frustration when they don't work like we think they should. The plan this time is to relieve some of that frustration.

Planes are versatile and there is a terrific variety. We are limiting the discussion this time to Stanley style bench and block planes. Those are the ones that most of us have. Everything applies to other brands of the same general design (Sargent, Millers Falls, Lie Nielson and dozens of others).

Stanley numbered their planes by size from #1 through #8. #1 is 5 1/2" long, #8 is a full two feet. Most of us have 4s and 5s and they can be used for almost everything though a 7 or 8 makes a nice jointer for long boards.

A Stanley #1 and 2 are really small and not very useful. They were never popular so they are very collectable. Because there is a collectors market people still make knockoffs that are very good but not all that valuable.

**In Use:** Even those of us that are entirely comfortable with hand tools of us have a selection of power tools that we use for the roughest work. Very few people flatten and thickness rough lumber with a hand plane.

However it's quite reasonable to clean up saw marks and joint long boards with a hand plane. There really isn't a better way to trim pieces to fit or flatten a table top, and unless you really like sanding a freshly planed surface takes a really nice finish.

**Setting up:** How you set up a plane depends on what you need to do.



If you are taking the final smoothing pass on a table top you want a short plane (maybe a 3 or 4) with a tight mouth and a blade with a very slight radius. You want to take very thin shavings that don't stay together. The surface will look burnished and ready to finish. It will be flat enough to write on.

If you're jointing the edge of a long board you want the longest plane you have. The



## January Project

This month we are looking for end grain. Considering that every board has at least some end grain that should be pretty easy.

A lot of designs try to hide the end grain. That's the entire purpose of miter joints. Older designs tried to hide it under moldings or strips of veneer.

Today in the US anyway most people like to show it as a design feature. That's why we

## End Grain

expose dovetails and use through tennons.

If you have made a project that exposes the end grain we want to see it. Maybe it's a feature and maybe it's just the end of a board. Either way bring it in and talk about it.



blade should be ground straight across and the mouth should be moderately open. Shavings will be long even curls. The surface will look flat and crisp but it may have minor tear outs.

If you need to remove a lot of material the blade will have a noticeable radius and the mouth will be wide open. You generally plane 45 degrees to the grain. The shavings will be coarse and the surface will look nasty. You will clean it up later with lighter cuts.

**November Meeting:**

In November we finished off our annual Toy Build. The hospitals appreciate the effort.

In December we had a dozen or so member attend the hands on sharpening session in

**Problems:** If your plane doesn't act the way you think it should there are really only a couple of things that can go wrong. First the blade has to be sharp. Use any technique you like but a dull blade will never cut right. Many knockoff tools and most Stanley's that were made after 1964 have mild steel blades that can't be sharpened. After market blades are available. Hock makes some good ones.

After the blade is sharp the bottom needs to be flat. Set it on a flat surface

and it rocks lap it using a sander belt on a flat table. Layout ink helps but isn't strictly necessary.

The frog needs to hold the blade without rocking. Not generally a problem with old Stanley planes but common in newer Stanley and the cheaper knockoffs. Look for paint on the mating surfaces between the frog and the base.

If you have a plane you want to get working bring it to the meeting. If you

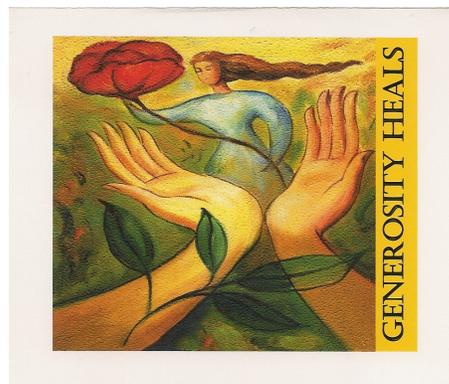
the cafeteria. Members tried out water stones, diamond surfaces, and the carbide sandpaper methods.

**Toy Build completion**



Thank you so much for your generous gift of hand crafted wooden toys to our Pediatric Unit! The kids love receiving these gifts not only at Christmas, but through out the year & it helps brighten their stay with us! Happy Holidays! Mercy Inpatient Pediatrics

GENEROSITY HEALS

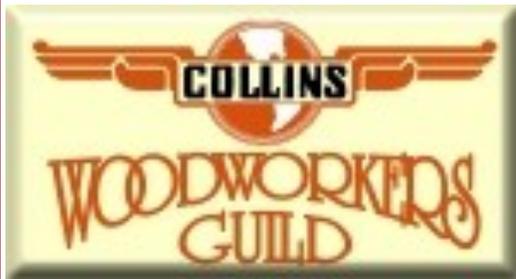


**Upcoming projects:**

February: A set of something.

the month.

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 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

KNOT KNEWS  
Is published monthly by the Collins  
Woodworkers Guild

## Officers and Executive Committee

<b>President:</b>	Ray Collins	<a href="mailto:cwg-president@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-president@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Bryan Wesner	<a href="mailto:cwg-vp@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-vp@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Secretary / Treasurer:</b>	Jerry Roland	<a href="mailto:cwg-treasurer@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-treasurer@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Wayne Hanson	<a href="mailto:cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Guild Photographer:</b>	John Cox	<a href="mailto:cwg-president@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-president@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Library:</b>	Paul Gibbs	<a href="mailto:cwg-librarian@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-librarian@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Website:</b>	Larry Tjaden	<a href="mailto:cwg-webmaster@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-webmaster@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Joel Gillett	<a href="mailto:cwg-editor@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-editor@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
Planning Committee (in addition to the above):		
	Wayne Hanson	<a href="mailto:cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
<b>Toys-For-Tots Committee:</b>		
	Joel Gillett	<a href="mailto:cwg-editor@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-editor@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
	Wayne Hanson	<a href="mailto:cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com">cwg-membership@rockwellcollinsclubs.com</a>
	Ray Collins	