

Collins Woodworkers Guild Newsletter

This is one more attempt to revive the news letter. It's been a few years since we had a regular news letter and it may be kind of a stretch to call this "regular". My approach is going to be to keep it simple and get out what I can before the next meeting. No idea how successful this is going to be but I'm going to give it a shot.

Meeting Notice:

October 17th, 5:00, Main plant Cafeteria.

Subject: Finishing.

I have never really liked finishing. When I work with wood I can spend all day planning the project, cutting joints, turning, carving or throwing sawdust around. I can kill an hour getting the right sequence of boards so I can have a nice looking grain pattern. I like to squeeze out the last inch of a board to lay up a panel without getting a visible knot.

Finishing is always a fussy job that never quite works out the way I want it to. Way too much rubbing out of the inevitable runs and dust nibs. There is always a bug that seems to be attracted to, and then attached to my project when I take a look at the fresh varnish in the morning.

Finish smells bad.

My wife thinks it smells bad too.

Any of us who have worked in Larry Tjaden's shop understand that their lacquer process works really well. There are still a couple of problems because it requires spray equipment and a finishing booth that I don't have.

And it smells bad. But not as bad as my varnish.

This Tuesday we will have Kurk Freundt, the local representative from Pratt & Lambert speak with us about finishing. I have always thought of Pratt & Lambert as a paint company, and they are, but they also make a very wide variety of stains and transparent finishes too. This should be interesting and I hope that I can pick up some information about finishing products and techniques.

Last meeting:

Election of Officers.

In September we held out annual election of officers. After some problems recruiting willing candidates John Cox agreed to accept the President's

responsibilities and Larry Tjaden agreed to be Vice President. Larry Lacy will remain Treasurer another year.

Our elections tend to follow the old Russian model where there is only one candidate on the ballot. That makes counting easier and there aren't endless recounts or that messy debate about a constitutional crisis.

Following the railroading of candidates and subsequent election we ate pizza and drew door prizes.



We had asked people to bring small projects that they had completed and several people did. I went to my son's football game instead of the meeting so I didn't see what people brought. The kids won their game though.

November Meeting:

Next Month Jim Rettig is going to discuss building projects from published plans and show us his wine rack that he built from a plan in Woodsmith.

We would all like to see what other people are working on. Please bring anything that you think might be interesting. Projects, tools, jigs, whatever you would like to show us.

Toy Build:

Later this month and in November we will be holding our annual toy build. We are still trying to get shop space and times set up. There will be an announcement when we have anything that resembles a plan.

November, 2006

Meeting Notice:

- We will hold our regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 21st. We will meet in the Main plant Cafeteria at 5:00.

Knot News

MONTHLY GUILD NEWSLETTER

Toy Build

Well, it's that time of year again. Over the last few weeks several of our members have been working in the Marion High School's Industrial Technologies shop. We now have about four dozen partially finishes toys. This year



we are building crayon trucks and doll beds. They follow the same

design that we have used for the last several years. They seem to be pretty popular so we keep building them.

If you have an idea for other toys please let one of the officers know. We are always looking for something different and have trouble finding something that we can produce in any volume.

Our November meeting will focus on completing these toys. This year we have paid more attention the size of the axles and drilled holes accordingly. If you remember last year we had three different sized holes corresponding to the three different times we or-

dered axles. This time we ordered all of the parts at the same time.



We will be looking for volunteers to help distribute the toys. That would involve setting up the display and watching the table.

New Woodworking Store in Cedar Rapids

Cedar Rapids has a new Woodworking business. The Fine Woodworkers Store is now open.

They are located at 1810 Blairs Ferry Road NE. That's between Center Point and Council on the north side of Blairs Ferry Rd. so it's pretty close for most of us.

They carry the entire Rockler line at the same prices as the catalog. Most of it is in stock and the rest can be ordered with no shipping cost and delivery in a few days.

They have a selection of stationary power tools in stock. Also finishing supplies, carving tools, books and portable power tools.

They have space for meetings and classes and are encouraging us to come in for a tour and possibly hold meetings. It would be really handy when we want to demonstrate techniques that throw dust around.

They will be offering classes as soon as they get them set up.

They are open 7:30 to 5:30 during the week, later on Thursdays and 8:00 to 2:00 on Saturday.

Their Phone number is (866) 417-5990. They have a website at www.thefinewoodworkersstore.com

They are planning on holding a Grand Opening in the next several weeks.

Joel Gillett

October Meeting

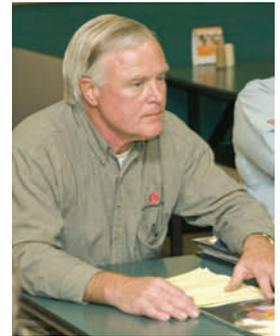
Our October meeting featured a presentation by Kurk Freundt from Pratt & Lambert.

Pratt & Lambert make a very wide variety of finishing products and Kurk is familiar with them all.

One thing they don't make and Kurk seemed down on was the woodworkers old standby: shellac. They do

sell Polyurethanes, several different paints, and lacquers. Kurk answered questions about finishing and how to deal with some of the problems that we have all experienced.

Finishing Presentation



Kurk Freundt

Project

In an effort to get more people in the shop we are going to try something new.

Each month we will try to have people bring in a different project that they have completed. They will all be different.

As part of the January meeting we would like to have anyone who wants to participate bring in a box

that they have made.

Everyone eventually builds a box. It can anything from a finely crafted jewelry chest



Call for boxes

to a simple pine box.

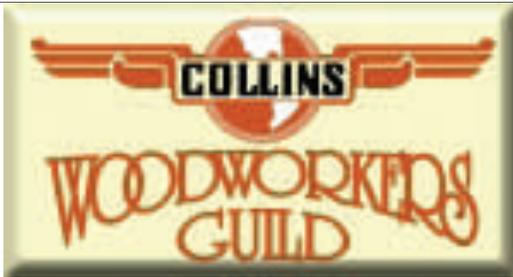


They can be finely dovetailed or duct taped, turned or carved.

It can be something that you just finished making or something that

you have made years ago. Just bring it. If you are willing we will have you talk about it at the meeting.





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WOODWORKERS

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Woodworkers Guild

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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