

# Knot Knews

Monthly Newsletter of the Collins Woodworkers Guild

October 1997

Vol. 3, No. 1

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 5:00 p.m. at Eastern Iowa Supply Co.*

## October Meeting Agenda

The October meeting will be at Eastern Iowa Supply Co located at 4601 sixth Street SW, Cedar Rapids (across from Hawkeye Downs). Eastern Iowa Supply was previously know as Eastern Iowa Drywall Supply. They still sell a bunch of drywall but have expanded into the construction and industrial supply area.

The store has on hand most of the items in the DeWalt line, the Porter Cable line and the Milwaukee line. When Dave Wetzel and I visited earlier in the year, we saw the power tools just mentioned and all varieties of 3M sanding materials, Stanley tools, painter's masking tapes, a concrete mixer, rows and rows of nuts and bolts, ladders, extension cords and even a few woodworking things (Amana router bits, Starrett tools, dust masks, hearing protectors, power tool accessories).

This meeting will be a sort of open house for us with several manufacturer reps in attendance to demonstrate their tool lines and give some discounts. Rep's attending include Porter Cable, 3M (abrasives), DeWalt, Milwaukee, Amana (bits) and Bessey (clamps). Todd Dimmer has indicated he will give us the wholesale price (probably more accurately the contractor's discount) which is the price he gives his best customers (excluding building material such as drywall and insulation). The discount is available to club members that show their membership card at the time of purchase. Additionally, the manufacturer reps will be providing additional discounts for some of the tools the are bringing. Todd indicated that Eastern Iowa Supply will provide sodas and sandwiches and maybe even a few door prizes.

## Annual Membership Drive

As you read this, take a look at the distribution sheet stapled to your copy of KK. If you see an asterisk (\*) by your name this could be your final issue of

Knot Knews. Only current members are kept on the newsletter distribution.

Be sure to get your 1998 dues paid as soon as possible. New membership cards are being issued and they look different than last year's. You'll need a new one to take advantage of discounts at our October meeting.

If you enjoy the Collins Woodworkers Guild, get your friends and co-workers involved in the club. A larger membership means more new ideas, more leverage when we ask businesses for discounts, a larger treasury when we buy a tool or library materials, and of course more hands can produce more toys for our annual *Toys For Tots* charity program.

## New Officers Elected

Report by Roger Thompson

As one of his last official acts as outgoing president, Emil Krepcik presided over the election of officers and here are the results.

### New Officers for 1997-1998

President:	Jim McCollum
Vice President:	Roger Thompson
Budget Committee	Wayne Hanson Kelly Kirtz
Planning Committee	Dennis Beaman Gerry Showman

In addition to the elected offices, Larry Lacy volunteered to serve as Librarian, Larry Tjaden volunteered to act as Web page developer (if you haven't seen Larry's work at our new A&C *Intranet* Web site, check it out), and Mark Clark volunteered to serve as editor of the Knot Knews. Emil Krepcik, Jim Parent,

Dean Robison, Dave Wetzel and Curt Brown continue on the Steering Committee.

## September Meeting Report

By Roger Thompson

We had several door prizes to give away so, before the meeting started, I handed out tickets for everyone to write their name on to be used in the drawing for door prizes later.

*Show and Tell* was the program for this meeting. Emil showed us a “saw handle” type of push stick block for use on a table saw fence. Bob Flood brought a shop-made fixture for mortising with a router. He also presented a finished product made with the fixture. Scott Nessler demonstrated the advantage of using a hammer-drill over a regular drill/screwdriver when driving deck screws. He buried a 4” long screw into a 6 x 8 with a 12 volt cordless Makita hammer-drill. This tool had a quick-disconnect chuck rather than the standard Jacobs chuck.

Mark Clark brought a Record #405 Multi-Plane, a British reproduction of the old Stanley 45, and a Union #41 *matching* plane. The #41 is a metal-bodied plane with a fence that rotates into two pre-set positions so the same tool can be used to cut perfectly matched tongue and groove joints without changing the setup.

I made an aluminum channel fence for my table saw. It is a real improvement over the factory original. I demonstrated this piece. From within my load of things, I showed an old Stanley #41 Yankee push drill, a tape measure which reads from right to left and a dish detergent bottle full of Elmer’s Carpenter’s Glue. The point of showing this bottle was its push-pull cap. Also, I had two styles of miter fences and two miter fence adjustable stops.

At last we got around to the drawing for the door prizes. Randy Schons won the dish detergent bottle of Elmer’s Carpenter’s Glue as a door prize. Kelly Kirtz won a set of four 2” wood wheels with axles. Curt Brown won a package of five dust masks. Steve Maher won the Polycarbonate safety glasses. The 3 pc. 6” Inca Precision Marking Rule set with mechanical pencil was won by Ed Sokoloski.

## Addendum

The Saturday following our meeting, I went to Gilcrest-Jewett Lumber in Marion. This is the former Great Plains Lumber. The manager arranged to set aside cut-off materials for me to pick up for the Guild to make *Toys for Tots*. If you would like some materials, call me and we will make connections.

## A word from the President

I am looking forward to a very good year for the ‘Rockwell Woodworkers GUILD’. If you hadn’t noticed our name has changed from CLUB to GUILD. How does this sound to you? I like it.

I went to Janda’s Tool Center late last month to check on pricing. I presented a copy of Tool Crib of the North catalog and ask how their price compared on a specific item. John took the catalog to the back room and came back with a price that was 7% lower, (It also beat the 7 Corners sale price). John indicated he will do his best to match or beat any local or catalog price. To get this kind of pricing ask for John and show him your GUILD card.

Remember our meeting next Tuesday at Eastern Iowa Supply Inc. on south 6th street across for Hawk-eye Downs. I am looking forward to seeing what they have to offer in the way of woodworking tools and supplies. Maybe we will find another source that will give special GUILD pricing. I understand there will be several suppliers there to display their equipment and maybe offer special discounts. Lets all be there and show our support for the effort they are putting forth for our benefit.

## Budget Committee

By Wayne Hanson

Greetings from the Budget committee—Kelly Kirtz and Wayne Hanson. We’re starting a new year this month so it’s a good time to recap what we did last year and talk about what our plans are for this year. First lets talk about last year. We spent 32% of our funds on books, videos, and project plans. When you review our library list, I’m sure you’ll agree we have the beginnings of a fine library. The Library List will be published several times a year in the *KNOT KNEWS* and is always available on the Guild homepage. Secondly, we spent 53% of our funds on tools.

These include the A-Line-It measurement set, the Makita sharpener, and the 40-inch straight edge. Thirdly, we spent 9% of our funds on food for meetings and fourth, 6% on misc. The miscellaneous category includes our business cards, wheels and axles for toy projects and door prizes for meetings. What's the plan for next year? We plan on continuing our purchases of books for the library and tools for member's use. Because of corporate liability issues we cannot purchase items such as router bits, saw blades or "cutting tools". We would appreciate any suggestions for book and tool purchases. Currently, we are considering the purchase of a wood moisture meter and a pair of BESSEY clamps for member use. The last few months, we have been providing door prizes and will be continuing since it has been well received. We will be giving away one or two low cost items each month and a more expensive item a few times a year. We expect to provide food and sodas for several meetings during the year also. If you have suggestions feel free to contact Kelly or Wayne by phone, mail, EMAIL or at the meeting. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

## Notes from the Library

By Larry Lacy

Have you been wondering if anyone ever uses the Woodworkers Library? A quick look at the checkout sheets recently indicates that since Aug. 1 there have been 24 books checked out by 9 different people and there are currently 19 books out somewhere being used. (Please use the checkout sheets for anything removed from the cabinet!! Don't forget to "check in" returned materials.)

Another note—someone backed into the cabinet with a truck of some kind it appears-- the door is now harder to close and get locked. Please check the cabinet carefully as you leave to be sure it's really locked.

And finally—If you have books you would be willing to loan to the guild members, please forward the following information to Larry Lacy (124-217, or E-Mail [lldlacy@collins.rockwell.com](mailto:lldlacy@collins.rockwell.com)).

Title, author, copyright date, owner's name, preferred method of owner contact (home phone, work phone, E-Mail, etc).

The Library Data Base will be updated with this information. The owner will retain possession (books won't be in the cabinet). If a member wants to borrow the book he contacts the owner and arranges for the loan. The Woodworkers Guild assumes no responsibility for these materials and only provides information on their availability.

Updated library material lists will be posted on the web page periodically and perhaps published in the KK as well.

## Midwest Tool Collectors Show

By Roger Thompson

The Mid-West Tool Collectors' Association (MWTCA) held a show on Sunday, September 21. This show was at the Cosgrove Community Center. Cosgrove, Iowa is maybe five miles west of Iowa City.

Larry Lacy told us about this show at our Guild meeting the previous Tuesday evening. This antique tool show was of interest to me because I am interested in woodworking tools and also an antique dealer. My wife Margie and I arrived at the show about 9:30 in the morning. The show was from 8:00 a.m. until after noon. Larry Lacy and Wayne Hanson were already there. Coffee, orange juice, and rolls were free. The hosts prepared a nice lunch for everyone.

There was quite a variety of tools and related collectibles. Most of it was woodworking related. Also there was a wide range of quality and things were priced accordingly. I did not think anything was overpriced, for the most part. I picked up a great little Bailey series Stanley #2 smoothing plane. The piece looked to be in mint condition. As I was looking this little beauty over, enjoying the moment, I saw the little price tag with the not-so-little price of \$500. I carefully returned it to its place in the display on the table and apologized to the older gentleman sitting on the other side of the table. He just smiled. I think he understood.

People from several states come to the event. Host Chuck Gartzke said 85 members were there. After lunch, several door prizes were drawn for. Larry won a great sign saying "You can ask to borrow my dog, but not my tools—my dog can find his way back home."

Membership dues for the Mid-West Tool Collectors' Association are \$20 annually. Four quarterly magazines and a number of other things are included.

### November Guild Meeting

Our November meeting will be something really special. Roger Thompson has made arrangements with the staff of the PBS Television series *Router Workshop* to give our members a special "private showing" here in Cedar Rapids. In November, our regular meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 29 instead of the third Tuesday as normally scheduled. This schedule change is required to accommodate the schedule of the *Router Workshop* staff.

Larry Tjaden has graciously agreed to host the event in his shop. More details will be available in the November KK but be sure to set that day aside for the meeting. It should be one to remember.

### How About Weekend "Classes"?

A suggestion was made that some members would like to see more instruction with hands-on practice than is possible during our monthly meetings. Other clubs such as ours supplement meeting schedules with in-depth classes conducted once a week for a small number of interested students. The "instructor" is reimbursed for his or her effort by charging a nominal fee for the class.

Mark Clark has agreed to develop a series of classes on hand tool technique if enough members are interested. The cost would be around \$15-20 for six three-hour classes. Any tools or materials would be extra. Classes would begin in January and, owing to space considerations in Mark's shop, class size would be limited to six.

Handwork is just one of many subjects that interest our members. If you would like to participate in such an instructional program—on any woodworking subject—please contact Roger Thompson or Jim McCollum.

**For Sale: 3-hp. 10" Craftsman table saw** 3 years old. Cast Iron table, set up for dust collection. Adj. Blade trunnion equipped with P.A.L.S. custom made aluminum fence. Machined steel performance pulleys, red "link-belt." On stand with retractable casters. Zero clearance blade insert, precision tuned with "Align-it System" ± .000. Used very little. \$425  
 Roger Thompson, Springville. 854-7229

**For Sale: older 4" jointer.** Belt driven, works well, on sturdy wooden stand. Mobile, equipped with light, \$75  
 Roger Thompson, Springville. 854-7229

**For Sale: Cyclone,** a dust collection add-on device that traps particles before they reach the impeller. Curt Brown's son-in-law who has blueprints and access to a laser cutter makes the unit. Price depends on interest, but expect less than the \$200 price of a commercial unit.  
 Any interest, contact Dave Wetzel or Roger Thompson.

**For Sale: dust collection system.** Home made from furnace blower. Good starter for one machine. Best offer.  
 Curt Brown, 393-5752. After 4:00 p.m.

**GUILD OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
 President: Jim McCollum, x53067, [jhmccoll@crnotes.cca...](mailto:jhmccoll@crnotes.cca...)  
 VP: Roger Thompson, x52211  
 Budget Committee:  
     Pres. & VP  
     Kelley Kirtz, x3554, [klkirtz@crnotes.cca...](mailto:klkirtz@crnotes.cca...)  
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     Dennis Beaman, x51838, [dbeaman@crnotes.cca...](mailto:dbeaman@crnotes.cca...)  
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 Toys Committee:  
     Curt Brown, 393-5752 (home)  
     Dean Robison, x51981, [fdrobiso@crnotes.cca...](mailto:fdrobiso@crnotes.cca...)