

# Knot Knews

Monthly Newsletter of the Collins Woodworkers

September 1997

Vol. 2, No. 12

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 16, 5:00 p.m. in the Main Plant Cafeteria*

## September Meeting Agenda

By Roger Thompson

The September Guild meeting is on Tuesday the 16th. It is in the cafeteria at the 35th street complex which is Main Plant. 5:00 p.m. is start time.

First on the agenda is election of officers for the next year. Jim McCollum has agreed to be our president. Let's all vote for Jim and give him our support. Emil Krepcik nominated me for president. Again I say lets all vote for Jim and give him our support. I promised Emil I would not get mad at him for nominating me but I *could* get even. I'll continue to be on the steering committee and help behind the scenes.

It is also membership renewal time. A membership application is included with this newsletter. You can turn your in at the meeting. Dues continue to be only \$10.

Door prizes for the September meeting include a 3-piece Incra 6 in. measuring package. There is a flat ruler, a bent ruler and a T-square. Woodpecker sold it to me for \$29.95 after a little persuading and explanation of what it was for. Also be given are a nice pair of safety glasses and a package of 5 dust masks.

"Show and Tell" is the meeting highlight. Bring in your latest project or a jig or fixture you have, a new tool or a favorite tool or neat gadget. How about an example of some wood finishing? If you've had success with a procedure or even a failure, share it with us.

I have a video on making fancy boxes which I can bring. If there is time and interest, we will show it. I will bring the pop.

Through the past months, I have noticed some members staying after the meeting is over. There is a good exchange of ideas and information between these

members. Feel free to stick around and participate in these conversations.

## Annual Membership Drive

Yes, it's time for our annual membership drive once again and that means the club needs your help with a couple of things. First, be sure you get your 1998 dues paid right away. New membership cards will be issued and they look different than last year's. Second, get your friends and co-workers involved in the club. A larger membership means 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 charity program.

As mentioned later in the Knews, you could recoup the cost of membership at our October meeting. Become an ambassador, renew your membership now and bring a friend along.

## August Meeting Report

By Roger Thompson

August 19 was Guild meeting night at 5:00 p.m. in the Main Plant cafeteria. Door prizes were drawn for. A set of "ear muff" type hearing protectors and ear plugs were given for the first two door prizes. Dave Wetzel made four wooden push sticks to give as door prizes also.

The "Router Workshop" television program is back on PBS as of Saturday, August 16, at 12:00 noon.<sup>1</sup> Bob Rosendahl and son Rick do the show. They have just recently completed filming 54 shows and now have a national sponsor. I have been given a verbal commitment for someone from this organization to do a seminar for us. Tentatively, we are look-

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<sup>1</sup> See page 3 for topics and schedule

ing at November. I understand some of the fixturing seen on the television program is available for purchase. There are also two books and two videos.

Nominations for next year's officers were made and some volunteered to fill key positions. Offices and nominees are as follows:

President:	Jim McCollum
	Roger Thompson
Vice President:	Roger Thompson
Budget Committee	Wayne Hanson
	Kelly Kirtz
	John Kraemer
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 Custodian and build the club's first intranet site, and Mark Clark volunteered to serve as editor of the Knot Knews.

Jim Parent showed us two toy cars he made. He had patterns and wood available to make these two items for "Toys-for-Tots."

Emil Krepcik gave a presentation of the Makita power sharpener which the guild recently purchased. The machine comes with a 1000 grit wet stone for sharpening. We have an additional 6000 grit wet stone for honing. The sharpener can be used on chisels, plane irons, jointer and planer blades. This sharpening system is available to all Guild members. It is in the library/tool cabinet at bldg. 105 entrance 2. Show your membership card to the guard for the key to the cabinet. We have 24-hour access 7 days a week. I think this piece of equipment will see a lot of use.

## October Meeting

As promised last month, our October 21 meeting is a field trip to Eastern Iowa Supply Co.; starting time is 5:00 p.m. as usual. They are located at 4601 sixth Street SW (across from Hawkeye Downs) and were previously known as Eastern Iowa Drywall Supply

Todd Dimmer has organized a night with several manufacturer reps in attendance to demonstrate their tool lines and give some discounts. Rep's attending

will likely include Porter Cable, 3M, DeWalt, Milwaukee, and Bessey. Eastern Iowa Supply Co. has been in business a number of years but is just now trying to expand their business in the tool and industrial supply area. This may be an opportunity to get a good deal on that tool you've been wanting.

**Tip:** discounts will be made available to those presenting valid club membership cards at the time of purchase. Be sure your 1998 dues are paid. And don't forget to tell your friends; discounts at this meeting could well cover the cost of club membership.

## Future Meetings

Your executive board needs to know what sort of programs and activities you would like to see. Don't worry that others may not share your interests, the executive board wants to know what YOU would like to see. Let your thoughts go. Imagine what it would take to keep you at a meeting long past its scheduled conclusion. What would it take to make you call home to say you'll be late for dinner?

How about giving us a demonstration? Hands-on demonstrations and tutorials by club members have been especially well received in the past. Get over your stage fright long enough to show your friends what you've been up to. Preparing a demonstration for the club is as much a learning experience as one of teaching.

Warning! Failure to respond to the preceding request may result in another survey.

## From the President's Desk

By Emil Krepcik

I tried our new Makita system. Using only the attached guide, I sharpened several chisels to the extent of the appearance of a small wire edge. Then using a leather on plywood strop, I polished off the wire edge. WOW! I then sharpened a small rabbit plane in the same manner. WOW again.

The noise that it produces is a bit of annoyance, but it functions just fine. I'll try Planer blades tonight. The water tank has a 90 degree on off valve, actually a plastic shaft with a slot through it. I had to have over 1/2 inch water in the tank to get a proper flow. Too fast a rate of water flow will put the water in the cen-

ter of the stone holder rather than on the stone. I let water run onto the turning stone for a while to get it wet all over, then sharpened with it. Be sure to put a bowl or cool whip tub under the overflow tube on the left side. I think the stone should be wet when using, but not stored in a bag to keep wet, as it may get mildew or some other groundies growing on it due to the nature of the water.

## New Library Materials

New book arrivals:

- Build your own Entertainment Centers
- The Woodwright's Apprentice - 20 projects
- How to sharpen Carving Tools - Butz
- Mastering Woodworking: Making Joints - Ian Kirby

New video:

- Router Jigs and Techniques B. Maas & M. Fortune ( not *Maka Fortune* )

## Tip of the Month

One of the easiest ways to cut a rabbet which is exactly half of the thickness of the stock is to use a piece of scrap the same thickness to test the height of the router bit. Make a short cut on the piece of scrap, then flip it over and make the same cut at the same place on the other side. Where the two cuts come together will show clearly if the bit is set correctly to produce a half-thickness.

## “The Router Workshop” Schedule

Wayne Hanson contributed this description of each episode of the PBS series *The Router Workshop*. Episode #4 was shown last week (Sept. 6) so you can expect to see #5 next Saturday (Sept. 13) at 12:00 noon Wayne found the descriptions on The Router Workshop home page at [www.routerworkshop.com](http://www.routerworkshop.com)

### Series 200 - Shop Made Jigs

Episode #1, Tape #201 - Bob and Rick demonstrate just how easy it is to make a wooden-framed, full length mirror. Your router produces perfectly-matched taper cuts and case fitting joints.

Episode #2, Tape #202 - Replace that tacky looking tissue box cover with a genuine wood box that features showy box joints and perfectly routed tissue cut outs. It is easy to do, and fun too.

Episode #3, Tape #203 - Just one piece of wood makes two circle frames, one with scalloped edges. Your router can cut perfect circles with finished edges. Rick and Bob show you how.

Episode #4, Tape #204 - Serve candies and nuts from playing card shaped wooden dishes that will be the talk of the bridge table. It's easy using your router with patterns. A great one evening project.

Episode #5, Tape #205 - Make yourself a coat rack with character. No plain Jane rack, this is made with a shop made repeating pattern jig. Bob and Rick show you how to do it perfectly every time.

Episode #6, Tape #206 - Pattern joints are perfect every time with your router and some simple jigs. Bob and Rick show you how to make the complex liner joint and great corner joints. This cookie box will get more attention than the cookies.

Episodes #7, Tape # 207 and #8 , Tape #208 - The first segment shows you Bob's tin can geometry to lay out and cut circles and curves with your router. Both are used to produce the top of an attractive end table. In the second segment (208) you see how to produce curved tapered legs for the table and another unique way to use the dovetail.

Episodes # 9, Tape #209; #10, Tape #210; #11, Tape #211; #12, Tape #212 and #13, Tape #213 In this five part series a professional bathroom vanity is built using router techniques. The first segment (209) shows how the vanity case is made, (210) deals with the decorative facings using a mortise and tenon joint, the (211) demonstrates a simple but effective way to make drawers. The fourth segment ( show 212) demonstrates how to build doors and the easy way to make the material list. The last show in the series (213) deals with the assembly, including things to look for in hardware, using the router for hardware/drawer front installation and the finishing touches on the vanity.

## Wreck Dot Woodworking

(Great thoughts from the Net)

A morticing attachment for a brace? That's the rumor. Check out this URL (web site) and see.

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~dtb/mortice.jpg>

### Air Drying Your Own Hardwood

Date: 21 Nov 96 14:37:33 EDT  
 From: Steve\_Bussell/Iris.IRIS@iris.com  
 To: oldtools@listserv.law.cornell.edu  
 Subject: AIR DRYING - RH and MC Numbers  
 Message-ID: <9611212314.AA1810@moe.iris.com>

A few years ago, I started to collect and dry my own hardwood. Mainly I started doing this because I'm frugal (cheap). In starting this little venture I began to do some research as to how to go about drying and caring for air dried stock. As for reference in the art of air drying I used "Wood: How to dry it.", a paperback by Taunton Press and Hoadley's, "Understanding Wood". As to where to put your effort, someone else already stated that it's better to pay attention to how the pile is stacked and stickered than to worry about losing a few inches from each end due to checking. For storing lumber in your basement, I use a chart that I believe is in Hoadley's book (I have a copy of the chart and not the book in front of me) and a digital RH gauge from Radio Shack. These numbers are for white spruce, but most species fall close to these. At 50% Relative Humidity (RH) the Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) is about 9%. These figures will vary depending upon the species FSP, fiber saturation point. For white spruce, this is about 30%. Here's some basic numbers;

40% RH = 7.5% EMC  
 50% RH = 9% EMC  
 60% RH = 11% EMC  
 70% RH = 13% EMC

So in order to maintain that 6% KD lumber at 6% your shop would have to at about 30% RH almost constantly.

BTW, when I say I'm cheap, I don't mean I'm saving \$.10 per bf. I mean I can get green hardwood at \$.65/bf for cherry, \$.35 or birch, and \$.40 to \$.50/bf for oak and maple. Sometimes it pays to be patient.

Steve

### Then Again... Maybe Not

*Editor's note: the following post was sent from the oldtools list server. In that group of old tools enthusiasts, they refer to themselves as galoots (GG's) or Neanderthals and to their wives as "she who must be obeyed" or SWMBO.*

Date: Mon, 25 Nov 1996 16:40:32 -0500 (EST)  
 From: eugene@ns.technonet.com  
 To: oldtools@listserv.law.cornell.edu  
 Subject: Oak tree (was air drying)-LONG  
 Message-ID:  
 <199611252140.QAA27257@ns.technonet.com>

GG's:

I couldn't decide whether to call the subject "Oak" or "Don't try this at home" or "Galoot/Wimp?" Seems like long ago (700 posts or so) I was seeking advice on making use of a big oak trunk. I've followed the collective wisdom of the porch denizens in stickering it up. But it has been a bit more of an ordeal than I expected. In a year we will know how it comes out.

Meanwhile, I want to add, for those who might be encouraged by my stupidity - Don't try this at home without supervision. Nice chunks of wood are available for worthwhile projects! Who needs to take the role of a gyppo logger?

Trying my best \*not\* to start at the beginning, I'll spare Y'all and start near the end: I never thought I was a wimp. I used to have my only source of heat delivered in full log-truck loads. I know how to use a monster chainsaw and sledge and splitting maul. I enjoy it. Macho-Macho y'know.

Last weekend I had chopped off a hunk of oak trunk I thought I could handle. (The local sawmills had refused to saw it so I decided I would). It took 3 hours to do those two crosscuts. I cut up some pieces (for a galoot who wanted to play with it) and weighed it. Extrapolating, the trunk piece weighs 2300 pounds. Not something I can roll over to get a better saw angle.

So I chopped a 4' long piece and quartered it. I really wanted to roll the small length over, so I put the truck bumper on it (carefully pushing with the frame part, not the edges. The log moved an inch and the bumper brace moved 3. A quarter was more than I could lever up into the truck. It mathematically comes out to 580#. The best I have done is a slab of granite that I believe weighed less. I got lucky when a family

of YB tourists came around saying, " Hey, how's it going?" Ha! I didn't even respond, except for, "How's your back?" Together, that man with the bad timing and I got this piece into the truck.

At home I chopped more. Slice,slice. Then a 3" slab I rested on my foot for a second crunched it. I was walking it along to get it to the pile and needed to get a better grip. \$150 for a doctor to say, "Yup, you crunched those little bones into much smaller bones. How did you do that?". I decided it was none of his business.

This weekend I went to the place where this log rested, toting my SS reworked chainsaw. Friday PM I felt very galootish ripping this thing into slices out in the woods, just me and the buzzards circling overhead. Within an hour, I made the wrong move and let the running chain touch an iron wedge. Hmmm. Immediately after, I noticed that some of the saw hardware was falling apart. Luckily, I found the loose bits in the sawdust pile with a huge magnet I carry. But they were Torx screws. Do I carry Torx drivers everywhere I go? Quit!

Saturday went into saw repair and a massive chain sharpening job. Sunday evening I visited again. Now the 4' length is a half trunk and I have another 600# at home. And another dull saw blade, just from the hours of ripping. I have a return call in to the mill operator this evening to ask if he won't reconsider slicing up this little hunk.

"Body all achin' and racked with pain..." (Richard: that's an applicable line from a slave song in the 'merican Southern colonies).

SWMBO has labeled this TLHBI (The Latest Hair Brained Idea). Never underestimate the wisdom of SWMBO.

Gene, (who once refused to join gyppo logger ex-FIL in the woods) ???

### **CLUB OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President: Emil Krepcik, X2999, eekrepci (email)

VP: Jim Parent, X3012, jhparent (email)

Budget Committee:

Pres. & VP

Dave Wetzel , 393-6763 (home)

Wayne Hanson, X5893, wghanson (email)

Planning Committee:

Pres. & VP

Roger Thompson, X2211

Library: Larry Lacy, X8471, ldlacy (email)

Toys Committee:

Curt Brown, 393-5752(home)

Dean Robison, X1981, fdrobiso (email)

## Club Library

Author	Title / Name / Item
	48" Straight Edge
	A-Line-It System
	Build Your Own Entertainment Centers
	Intro to A-Lign-It System (Video)
Abrams, Norm	The New Yankee Workshop Router Table (Video and plans)
American Woodworker	American Woodworker (Volume 17 (12/90) - 53 (12/93))
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood-- Classic Woodworking Woods and How to Use Them
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood--Basic Woodworking Tips and Techniques
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood--Country Woodcraft You Can Make
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood--Small Furniture You Can Make
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood--Woodcrafted Gifts You Can Make
Better Homes & Gardens	Wood--Woodworking Tools You Can Make
Bowen, Hilary	Decorative Techniques for Woodturners
Butz	How to Sharpen Carving Tools
Carpenter, Tom	Summer Furniture, Practical Designs for the Backyard
Conover, Ernie	The Lathe Book
Dresdner, Michael	The Woodfinishing Book
Dresdner, Michael	The Woodfinishing Video with Michael Dresdner
Engler, Nick	The Woodshop Companion, Finishing
Engler, Nick	The Woodshop Companion, Sanding and Planing
Engler, Nick	The Workshop Companion, Making Build In Cabinets
Engler, Nick	The Workshop Companion, Sharpening
Engler, Nick	Woodworking Wisdom
Fine Woodworking	Fine Woodworking Magazine (Volume 32 - 43 & 86 - 118)
Fine Woodworking	Fine Woodworking on Planes and Chisels
Fine Woodworking	Fine Woodworking on the Small Workshop
Flexner, Bob	Finishing Facts
Kean / Pollak	Price Guide to Antique Tools
Kirby, Ian	Mastering Woodworking - Making Joints
Klausz, Frank	Wood Finishing With Frank Klausz (Video)
Krenov, James	The Fine Art of Cabinet Making
Maccarone, Sal	Tuning Up Your Tools
Mass, B. & Fortune, M.	Router Jigs and Techniques (Video)
Nagyszalanczy, Sandor	Fixing and Avoiding Woodworking Mistakes
Nagyszalanczy, Sandor	Woodshop Dust Control
Pye, Chris	Woodcarving Tools, Materials, and Equipment
Roberts / Booher	Easy to Make Inlay Wood Projects Intarsia
Rogowski, Gary	Router Joinery with Gary Rogowski (Video)
Self	Creating Your own Woodshop
Shanesy, Steve	Measure Once, Cut Once
Spielman, Patrick	Scroll Saw Handbook
Sunset Books	How to Plan and Build Decks

Author	Title / Name / Item
Sunset Books	Picture Framing and Wall Display
Sunset Books	Things to Make for Children
Sunset Books	Woodworking Projects
Toplin, Jim	The Toolbox Book
Underhill, Roy	The Woodwright's Apprentice - 20 Projects
Wood Books	The Home Workshop Planner
Woodsmith	Shopnotes (Issues 31 thru current)
Woodsmith	Woodsmith (Issues 109 thru current)
Woodsmith	Woodsmith (Issues 48,49, 51-58, 68, 69, 71-91)
Woodworkers Journal	Woodworkers Journal Magazine (11-79 to 12-82 (-9/10-81)
Yates, Simon	An Encyclopedia of Chairs
Yates, Simon	An Encyclopedia of Desks
Yates, Simon	An Encyclopedia of Tables