



# Wood Words

Kansas City Woodworkers Guild [www.kcwoodworkersguild.org](http://www.kcwoodworkersguild.org)

Volume 19 Issue 3

March 2001

**March Raffle: 4 Quick Clamp hand clamps, 1500 piece fastener kit with storage box, Task Doweling Jig**

Please thank associate members; Paxton's and Woodcraft, for supporting our toy project.

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**Next Meeting Wed. April 18th, 7 PM**  
**Program: Making a Work Bench**

**Wear your name badge,  
Win a prize!**

**Sawdust:  
The Presidents Corner**

Dave Kraatz

The weather certainly sneaked in and put a dent in our meeting attendance for February, but I was pleased to welcome five new members that we met at the tool show.



I am happy you have decided to join our guild and I am looking forward to knowing each of you and sharing our mutual appreciation for woodworking.

I think we made a fine start on our skill building programs with the presentations on tuning up four basic woodworking tools. The chisel, handplane, spokeshave and scraper are, in my mind, essential tools for all of us and I cannot think of not having them to use on my projects. I questioned, "Can we do woodworking without them?". Then I realized that one of the

world's most famous woodworkers demonstrates our craft on public TV weekly and I have never seen him use these tools.

We know that many fine projects have been made by our members and acquaintances without these tools which may lead some of us to wonder why we should bother learning how to tune and use them. I believe that gaining skill and experience with these and other basic tools extends the range of projects that we can do and adds to our overall knowledge of woodworking.

For instance, We can buy more than a dozen types of jigs for our routers to cut dovetails and with practice, they do a fine job. Some even cut "bear's ear" joints. However, if you want to reproduce the stepped dovetail brace of an antique table, cut the dovetail on the shoulder of a Shaker step stool or make the corners of a colonial rocking cradle, with both the sides and ends canted and the dovetails aligned properly with the grain, then you must get out

your saw, bevel, cutting guage and chisel to do it.

It is true that the manufactured chairs we have in our homes were made without a spokeshave and thankfully so,

otherwise it would take years to get a set and they would cost a thousand dollars per chair! However I cannot imagine that you would make a Windsor chair or a Queen Anne table without using a spokeshave.

When we have a desire to build a dining table, we could equip our workshop

*(Continued on page 2)*

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

	<b>Clarence Teed Memorial</b>
	<b>Paxton Woodcrafters</b> 816 483-0659
	<b>Woodcraft Supply</b> 913 599-2800
	<b>Strasser Hardware</b> 913 236-5858

(Continued from page 1) *Presidents Corner*

with a widebelt sander to surface the top, but we could also do a fine job with a well tuned #7 handplane and even eliminate much of the sanding.

The wide range of our projects is likely to require us at some point to explore the use of the basic handtools. I encourage you to learn about their tuning and use and try them on a project. You will find that you probably wouldn't want to work with them exclusively, but it is probable that when you extend your skills to include them that you will not want to be without them.

I look forward to our March meeting when we discuss the building of a workbench. I know that you will find, as I have, that this is a very helpful tool. Please come and share workbench experiences and

### REMEMBER

to bring your Show-n-Tell project.

### Program:

Bill Webb

The program covered more of the woodworking basics:

Bill Webb talked about sharpening a chisel. Two methods were presented.

- The system suggested by Frank Klaus, which used a 60-grit grinder to make a hollow grind pattern in the bevel of the chisel. The toe and the heel of the remaining

surface is then sharpened, first on a 600 or 800 grit stone and then finished on a 6000 or 8000 grit stone. For heavy metal removal or to remove deep grind marks, a 1000 or 2000 grit stone can be used first. A mirror finish right down to the tip is needed. The backside of the chisel also needs to be finished to a mirror finish, at least from the tip to 1/8" from the tip.

- The other system uses the "Veritas" sharpening system consisting of a precision honing guide and an angle-setting jig. The chisel is clamped in the honing guide, which has a roller.

**I cannot imagine that you would make a Windsor chair or a Queen Anne table without using a spokeshave!**

It is adjusted at the desired angle and squared so the stone finishes all the way across the bevel surface. Finish the whole bevel surface, first on the rough stone and then finish on the fine stone. The guide is then raised 1 or 2 degrees to make possible the secondary bevel surface finishing, first on the coarse stone and then on the finish stone. A mirror finish should be achieved over the whole secondary bevel width for about 1/16" from the tip.

Frank Klaus prefers water stones but oilstones also work. Please bear in mind that there are many different ways of sharpening chisels. For a review of these see the May/June 2001 issue of the "Woodworkers Journal" which has an article by Ian Kirby on sharpening.

Dave Kraatz then gave us an instructive talk on planes. He says plane blades can be sharpened similarly to chisels but does not recommend the hollow grinding approach because of the thinning and consequent weakening of the blade tip. He got all the way down to the adjustment of the frog, which must be parallel with the gap edge. The gap width should be about 1/16". The chip breaker must fit tightly and squarely on the blade and be placed very close to the tip of the blade. The

blade needs to be adjusted so it can just be felt barely protruding from the plane. A .001 "or .002" chip thickness is desirable. (measure it with your calipers). A chip thickness of .003" or .004" would be considered very heavy. A chip thickness of a half thousandth inch (.0005") is also possible and very desirable for certain kinds of finish work.

To prevent rusting, the chips need to be cleaned out from inside the frog and around the blade since they accumulate moisture. Dave uses 3 in 1 oil very sparingly on all surfaces to prevent rust. Never use WD40 for this purpose.

George Griess had two spoke shaves, one with a wood handle and one all metal. He demonstrated how to take these apart and sharpen the blades. This is not easy and requires a lot of patience. More straight forward was the sharpening of the cabinet scraper blade. This is a flat piece of metal, which must be straight and flat on the edge and on each side of the edge. This is achieved with some simple fixtures, which sequentially either holds the blade or the mill file. The edges are then turned over with the burnishing tool, first along the flat sides to extrude the corner very slightly, then on the thin edge to turn that extruded edge out and away from the center of the thin dimension of the blade. The other edge is treated the same way but in the opposite direction. No more than two or three strokes are needed for each part of the operation.

- For further references on sharpening see "fine woodworking" July/August 1989, issue #77 in the question and answer section.
- Also an article "sharpening a scraper" may be found in

## Shop Safety

Jim Ramsey

### **Accident description:**

We were working on a deck and with poor judgment, at the time, I chocked open the guard. After a few cuts I forgot about the chock and put the saw down.

After putting it on the deck, the saw ran across my leg. I cut open my pants and saw that it had just nicked me. I also had to replace 4 cedar boards. do not try this at home.

**Advice to other Woodworkers:** always keep the guard on the saw.

### **Accident description:**

*Very trite, but true*

I had reached the last piece of T&G Oak [3' long] on a floor on my first job as a carpenter [1969].

The piece needed to be ripped so it could be rolled in next to the wall. I scribed the line of cut on the piece and set it up on a low work bench. I used my left hand on the far end of the piece to hold it to the bench.

I then cut the line up to the bench and stopped the saw. Then I picked up the piece, saw and all, and moved it forward so the saw blade was on the far side of the bench. I shook the saw and moved it back and forth in the kerf until I was certain it was loose, with my left hand now clamping it to the bench behind the saw. Then I pulled the trigger. The saw came backwards out of the kerf so fast, there was no time to react.

Result? The cut began between my thumb and forefinger and proceeded to sever all tendons and nerves and cut nearly halfway through the radius and ulna. A bad deal all around!

### **Advice to other Woodworkers:**

The saw turned out to have a deliberately stiffened blade guard because

the carpenter it belonged to did a lot of mitering with it. It is a pain in the (a##) to miter with that guard forcing you off line-- do it that way anyway!!!! When they say NEVER put a part of your body in harm's way, THEY MEAN NEVER!!!!

Good luck, and be careful.

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## **Custom Dado**

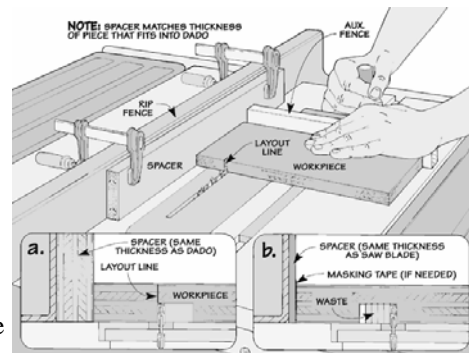
Here's a quick way to cut a dado on a table saw. It requires a combination saw blade and



two spacers. The spacers are used to establish the two sides of the dado. Then the material *between* the sides is wasted out.

**Spacer Thickness** – The key to making this work is the thickness of the spacers. The first spacer matches the thickness of the work piece that fits into the dado. (A scrap piece from the project works just fine.) And the second spacer equals the thickness of the blade. (I use a piece of 1/8" hardboard with a single strip of masking tape.)

**First Side** – To cut the first side of the dado, start by clamping one spacer (the scrap from the project) to the rip fence, as you can see in the drawing at right. Then position the fence so the saw blade aligns with the near side of the dado (see detail 'a'). After locking the fence in place, butt the work piece against the spacer and use the miter gauge to push it through the blade. Note: You can use this same technique for cutting grooves. The only thing to keep in mind is that the spacers need to be the same

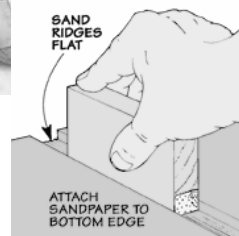


length as the fence.

**Second Side** – The second side of the dado is cut with the rip fence in the same exact position. Only this time, you'll need to replace the first spacer with one that matches the thickness of the blade, as shown in the photo above. With this spacer clamped in place, it's just a matter of making a second pass (see detail 'b').

**Remove Waste** – All that's left to complete the dado is to remove the rest of the waste. To do this, just "nibble" away the waste by making as many passes as needed .

**Ridges** – One thing you'll notice about a combination blade is it leaves ridges on the bottom of the dado. If the end of the dado is going to be covered up, you can just leave the ridges. But if it's exposed, you may want to sand the bottom of the dado flat. For a handy way to do this, take a look at the drawing at left.



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## **Items for Sale:**

- Someone has a walnut tree available. They will cut it down. - see Wayne Wainwright.
- Dave Kraatz has a 10" table saw for sale. See Dave
- Someone has a crotch cut 10" walnut turning square. See Dave.



P.O. Box 413922  
Kansas City, MO. 64141

### Upcoming Programs

- March:** Making a Work Bench  
**April:** Basic Wood Joinery  
**May:** Dovetail Joints  
**June:** Making and Fitting Drawers  
**July:** Choosing wood for your projects  
**August:** Saws: Band Saw, Table Saw, Scroll Saw

### Minutes

#### **New Members & Visitors;**

- Welcome; Lee Simmons, Randy Simmons, George rexroad, Terry Stair, Bob Wilson, Jack Besco and Brian Kemp.

#### **News items:**

- Erl Poulin needs someone to chair the toy project. Can any one help?
- Dave knows of a furniture maker who wants someone to make his smaller jobs for him.
- Grainger (catalog) has repair parts for some Black and Decker tools not available from Black and Decker.
- Dewalt has announced a recall for certain battery chargers. Check on their web site. (<http://www.dewalt.com/us/core/>)
- Harbor freight, here in Kansas City, has low cost pipe clamps.

#### **Raffle:**

**Wayne Wainwright** takes the 14-piece drill set.

**Frank Layne** chooses the sound control earmuffs.

**Barry brightwell** won the diamond whetstone sharpener.

### Calendar

Executive Meetings, 7:30 pm At Fred Chael's home, 4821 State Line Road, KCMO.

Guild meetings, 7:00 p.m., Roanoke Presbyterian Church, 1617 W. 42nd St., KCMO.

#### **Executive Meetings**

#### **Guild Meetings**

#### **2001**

January 16th	January 17th
February 20th	February 21st
March 20th	March 21st
April 17th	April 18th
May 15th	May 16th
June 19th	June 20th
July 17th	July 18th
August 14th	August 15th
September 18th	September 19th
October 16th	October 17th
November 20th	November 21st
December 18th	December 19th

Fred has agreed to lend his home for the monthly board meetings. All members are welcome at any board meeting. A call to Dave Kraatz or Bob LaDue is all that is necessary.

### Show and Tell

**Wayne Wainwright** had two entries:

- He made a nine place Candle Holder out of Aromatic Cedar on a Curly Maple base, finished with tung oil. He reports that it was easy to make. He also noted that if doing it again, he would not use curly maple on the bottom since it will not be seen.
- He also showed his first major project, a potting bench, made of cedar finished with Floods' UV wood finish. This was a "honey do" project with a major challenge of time to do it.
- Art Howell found an interesting want ad, which read: "radio alarm saw for sale". Sounds like the blind trying to lead the blind.





## Editors Notes

### Grab bag

As was announced in last months meeting we are going to try and have a grab bag event in our June meeting.

We are looking for items from guild members to make this a successful event. We do not have a lot of rules for donated items but please try and follow these guidelines:

- Complete items
- If liquid (stain, glue) the container should be at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  full and usable.
- No broken items.

Contact Jim Ramsey (913 764-8983) to make arrangements on where to deliver donated items.

### Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Gene Bell

Habit for Humanity has a facility located at 4701 Deramus that helps to "restore" the community. ReStore accepts salvaged building materials from contractors doing demolition work, individual homeowners and from retail building material stores.

These materials are then made available at substantial discounts.

The facility has over 30,000 square feet of space that is open to

the public. They have many household and business related items for sale. Recently, they had thousands of feet of millwork made of white pine and oak.

The revenue from the sale of these materials will be used for the construction of new Habitat for Humanity homes. Your donation of material or purchase of supplies will help provide quality homes for low income families, encouraging home ownership in the neighborhood community and making the city a better place to live.

ReStore operates largely on volunteer power. Opportunities range from running the sales counter or helping with public relations to building storage racks or organizing a department. If you are interested in helping, go to the store and see the manager.

Store hours are:  
Tuesday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday 9:00am - 4:00pm.

### **Battery Recall!**

Jim Ramsey

DeWalt battery chargers Dw9107 & Dw9108, Black & Decker models 97015 & 97016 can fail to shut off automatically after the battery is fully charged.

Contact the nearest service center or call 866-543-3401, 888-388-3273, or visit:

[Http://www.dewalt.com](http://www.dewalt.com)

### More member pictures

