



# Wood Words

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

Volume 21 Issue 4

May 05

Guild Meetings:  
Jacob's Well Church,  
1617 W. 42nd St.,  
KC Mo. 64111

**All 3 of our new proposals passed!**

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**Books**  
George Rexroad

**Editor/Web:**  
Wayne Wainwright

## May Raffle: Chris will have his usual assortment of fine tools!

Please thank sponsoring members; noted below for supporting our Guild.

**Next Meeting Wed. May 18th, 7 PM**

**Program: Chip Carving with Bill Fitzgibbons**

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Wayne Wainwright*



What are you doing to improve your wood-working skills?

Are you taking training classes, attending Guild programs and practicing the techniques? Are you going to mentor sessions or just becoming friends with another woodworker and sharing techniques with them one on one?

Like most people who do most things, woodworkers need to practice their art if they are going to improve. On the other hand, not everyone is trying to improve

their skills. What is your goal for being a member of the Guild?

Is it a means to learn a new skill or is it a means to socialize with like minded people? Whatever it is, we want to make sure that you can find it here.

Last month, we went a long way to making sure that can happen for many years to come. I'm pleased to announce that all 3 of our new proposals passed in a membership vote.

The 2005/2006 slate of officers brings back almost the entire 2004 team with the addition of Kevin McAndrew as Director of Sponsorship.

Congratulations Kevin, we look forward to your next 2 years of leadership.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORING MEMBERS



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I would like to take this time to thank our outgoing Director of Sponsorship Neal Shoger for his many years of service on the leadership board and his great contributions over the years. I hope that trend continues for many more years to come as we borrow your expertise during your supposed “retirement” from the board. Thanks Neal.

We also introduced 2 new membership types of Senior and Associate. The By-laws will be updated accordingly. Copies will be posted to the web and some will be made available at the June meeting. Senior members will be \$25, Members will be \$35 (starting in 2006), Associates will be \$50 (starting immediately if you like) and Sponsors will be \$100. Associates will receive discounts on items the Guild sells (i.e. trips, classes, merchandise etc.). Details will be available in the by-laws and in the June Newsletter.

This positive vote will improve our Guild. It introduces the opportunity for a new form of Guild sponsored learning. In 2006, we will send a couple of our members on a learning quest. They will take a professional training session given by a nationally known woodworking educator. Why should we pay for this you ask?

Simple, if we are going to increase the knowledge of woodworking here at home, we must bring in a higher level of skill. All of us cannot afford to go to an out of town class, but one or 2 of us can with the help of the whole membership and can bring that skill back to Kansas City. The

people selected will be asked to give a program, open up their shops for mentoring and conduct a training class at one of our sponsors so that they can give back to the Guild as a whole.

We have successfully taken advantage of this in the past with Jim Ramsey and Cliff Bell for example who went to out of state classes (on their own dime) and brought back the techniques to share with the Guild as a whole. Now we have the opportunity to do this on a regular basis.

I appreciate the fact that our membership can think beyond “today” and can see the long term positive impact this can have for us all. Thank you for the positive vote.

This is a great opportunity to expand your skill and I hope many of you will want to take advantage. Over the next couple of months, we will introduce the criteria for selection and a breakout of costs. I hope to have the class dates and the specific programs worked out

**The Guild is looking for 2 people for the following responsibilities:**

**Web Master  
Newsletter Editor.**

**If you have an interest, please contact our Communications Director  
Brian Kemp**

**Program: Jim Ramsey** - Bent Lamination techniques

David Roth

Jim Ramsey gave a demonstration on bent lamination. He started the program by passing around a piece of wood that was planed to 1/8 inch thick. And told us the best way to plane the wood to this thickness without the piece of wood chattering in the planer.

Next he talked about how do you get there? First start out with your curves and what you are going to do - Making a drawing and then enlarge it to the size you want. By either using CAD or a blueprint or by grid or if you are an artist you can do it free hand.

How the Radius is determined. Get some cardboard, transfer it and cut it out close to the line. Transfer the pattern to some hardboard or MDF with double faced tape and rout it out. Drill some holes in your sub base and do a dry run before you start to spread glue on your strips of lumber.

Just to make sure it will work out for you, place wax on the sub base before you start to clamp up. Wax your surface and your edges. Mark your sub base in the middle and mark your stock that you are going to bend in the middle. What you are aiming for is to make sure you are not off on your dimensions. If your not careful were you put your mark on the sub base, your dimensions "are" going to be off.

On the project that Jim was showing us it is a free flowing form and not perfect, but know one will know. If you were building a cabinet, were the pieces are going to match up, you want to be sure everything comes together the way you design it.

Use another piece of backer board that will fit your radius. You can also use steel for your backer. Start in the middle of your piece and clamp it in and then work around your object with the next clamp in both directions of the center clamp. You want to work the glue out and have the last two clamps at the ends.

When you are gluing several pieces together, they move around and "swim", so as you are moving along watch your pieces carefully so they are not shifting on you too much. If you want to accent your

bent lamination. Put a piece of walnut in the middle of it.

Some are glued up with white glue and the other was glued up with Unabond.

Jim has tried epoxy and had some trouble with the epoxy. Jim says to experiment with different types of glues and see what works best for you.

Jim showed a leg that they were making for church. With 8 bent laminations and taper cuts. With four legs it's a lot of laminations and is challenging.

To prevent you your radius from blowing out on tight radius you can use a thin piece of stainless steel. Jim took his form to Metal by the Foot and said I need steel to be able to bend in this shape. After every thing is glued up and clamped, don't put your project on newspaper because all the glue comes out, and then your have a lot of newspaper sticking to your project.

Someone asked about "spring back" and Dave Kraatz mention "It could be the thickness of the glue line. If the glue line is thicker then it needs to be it could spring back."

Jim lets it set up for about 24 hours before the clamps are remove.

**Thanks for an excellent presentation Jim**

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## Shop Safety

### **Accident Description**

I was using my Leigh Dovetail jig and in my haste to get setup I forgot my guide bushing. The router bit tore right into my guide finger on the jig sending out shrapnel from both the router bit and the jig.

Boy was that stupid! No damage done to me. The jig works fine without the ruined guide finger, many to spare for most operations. The bit was a lost cause. About \$40 down the toilet, but a valuable lesson learned!

### **Advice to other Woodworkers**

Take your time and be methodical, especially on setup.

### **Accident Description**

I was using the router table and fence to rout an edge on the short side of a molding. I was almost done and was routing a short length when it became unstable. My hands were pushing downward and in against the fence to stabilize the work.

When the wood slipped, my hand went into the bit. The nail and the skin above the nail on my middle finger of my left hand was chewed up like hamburger.

Fortunately, it was not cut deeply. I ran into the house and applied pressure and ice to help with pain. Never did get stitches. It has healed with some scarring and the nail continues to grow in a little misshapen but all is fine.

### **Advice to other Woodworkers**

I was a bit squeamish around the router table

for a few months. Use a feather board and other support for this type of routing to secure the work. Make sure however you support the work so that in the worst case scenario, your hand will not end up in the turning bit!

### **Accident Description**

A student in woodworking class was using a 3/8 rabbeting bit on the inside of a picture frame to make a recess to hold the picture. The router was mounted in a router table.

The student had already routed the outside edges of the frame and knew the direction of travel was R to L, but talking to a friend, feeling a little cocky, didn't pay attention to direction of travel and went L to R. The bit climbed, the frame shot out pulling the hand with it.

The middle finger was cut through at the finger nail. Ouch, but a great teaching moment for the rest of the class on safety. Student was a prime pianist...but has had to adjust keyboarding technique now.

### **Advice to other Woodworkers**

Two problems here:

- Talking while working = distraction = trouble
- Getting cocky leads to false sense of security

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## Shop Tip

### Glue Clean-Up Tips

Glue squeeze-out on your joint lines (particularly corners) can be a problem on a woodworking project, as it could affect the application of the finish later on.

So I came up with two quick approaches to dealing with glue squeeze-out on an inside corner assembly.

One way to reduce clean-up time is to tape off the joint line with painter's tape before gluing (Photo a). After gluing and clamping, wipe off the excess glue and remove the tape.

You can also use your fingers to crease the end of a plastic straw into a V-shaped scoop. The straw fills up with glue as you push it along the joint line



### Workbench with Lumber Storage

Finding the space for lumber storage has always been a problem for me. So when I built a new workbench recently, I decided to incorporate some lumber storage. The base of the bench is built primarily out of "two-by" stock. It consists of four trestles that support the bench top and provide a place for creating a rack to hold lumber.

Each trestle is made up of two legs and an upper and lower rail. The legs are made by gluing together two 2x4s. Then a series of holes is drilled in the outside face of each leg. These holes hold short lengths of iron pipe that will serve as the lumber rack.

Lap joints connect the upper and lower rails to the legs. The lower rails also have a couple of notches that will hold some stretchers. These stretchers are just a couple of 1x4s that are screwed in place.

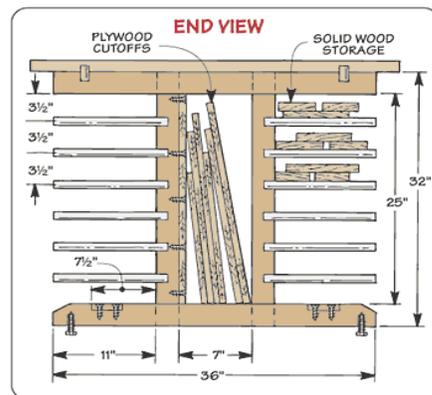
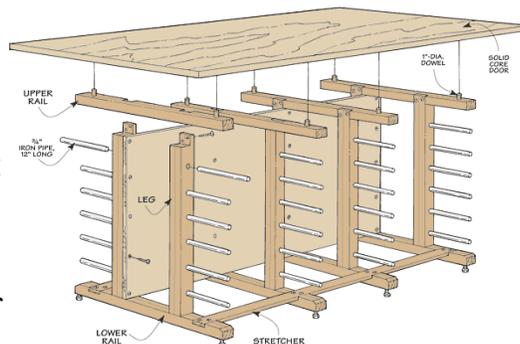
As an extra precaution against racking, a piece of 3/4" plywood is screwed to the inside face of the legs

on one side of the trestles. This serves as a stiffener and also creates a convenient place for storing leftover sheet goods.

The top of the workbench is held in place with dowels.

Simply drill matching holes in the top of the trestles and the underside of the workbench top. Then glue short dowel pins into the trestles and set the top down over them.

Finally, you can insert some foot-long sections of iron pipe into the holes drilled in the sides of the workbench legs. Then the lumber can be placed on top of the racks.



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Want to help cut guild monthly costs? Consider receiving the newsletter via email. It is faster and comes in color. If you are interested, please send an email to Wayne Wainwright at: [wwrig@kc.rr.com](mailto:wwrig@kc.rr.com), or add your email to the Attendance list at the monthly meetings.

**Newsletter Deadline: 1st of the month:**

**Please send all submissions for articles, tips, want ads announcements and anything else to Wayne Wainwright: 816 453-1073 email: [wwrig@kc.rr.com](mailto:wwrig@kc.rr.com)  
4214 N Brighton Ave KC, MO. 64117**

## Member of the Month

Brian Kemp

### James Childress



This month we are trying something a little different from the standard Q & A for the Featured Member. One of the things I enjoy about bringing you this article is that I get to sit down and talk to the

individual in-depth and form a better relationship with a fellow woodworker. This month I spent around 5 hours talking to James Childress and viewing pictures of his completed projects. What a treat it was to host James!

James is 39 years old and lives in the northland, (North of the Missouri River for you out of towners). He started his woodworking career at Oak Park Junior High woodshop 26 years ago. Originally joining the guild back in the days when the meetings were held at the Moose Lodge. After several years of being absent from the guild he rejoined in Apr. 2004. At the tender age of 19 he became a serious woodworking hobbyist, worked in the art of furniture repair and spent 7 years finishing houses. He is currently looking to change careers.

During our conversation it became apparent he does not have a real “specialty” when it come to woodworking, his philosophy is: If I’m interested in it, I’ll build it! From the pictures of his work it is understandable. From Built in book cases, furniture of all kinds, special boxes, complex bird feeders, step stools with very interesting joinery, musical instrument etc.... the list goes on.

When our conversation turned to tools, James said he enjoys using a variety of hand tools and has a love for hand planes. There is something satisfying about seeing “through” shavings you can make with a properly setup hand plane. The table saw is the work horse in his shop and is his favorite power tool. There are so many things you can do with a table saw. My best tool deal? “I try not to think about the cost of a tool, but rather how well does it perform”! If a tool doesn’t work very well, it doesn’t matter how little you paid for it. James takes pleasure in working with a wide variety of woods, the one wood I dislike is Cottonwood! It’s ugly

and smells bad.

It’s hard to pick a favorite project; the F-5 Mandolin I built when I was 19 years old would have to stand out. The reason is that this item required so many skill sets. Considering it was scratch built (not from a kit). It didn’t turn out half bad and the musical instrument repair shop owner was impressed and helped to hone some of my skills.

As far as Guild activities I enjoy Show & Tell. It’s fun to see what other people have been up to.

In conclusion, my shop tip is: Select or design a project that will stretch your skill set. At best you will succeed. At worst you may fail, but more than likely you will learn something from it. I have never made anything perfect, yet each time I strive to do so. Most projects are a success in one aspect and simultaneously a failure in another. In the end, it is like my Junior High Shop Teacher said! “It’s not how good you are, but how well you cover your mistakes”.

### Thanks for allowing us to feature you this month.



Cherry & Birch Ply Clock



Curly Maple, Ebony, Rosewood & Mahogany Guitar



Eastern Red Cedar & Black Walnut Chest



Poplar, Pine & Cork Dart Board



Curly Maple, Ebony, Rosewood & Mahogany Mandolin



Red Oak & Ebony CD Holder

Show & Tell - Show Pictures



Russ Amos' router rest, feather board and small parts caddy



Anthony Harris' Honey Locust bowl and Holly / African Blackwood box

Jim Bany's Red Oak cradle with Intarsia Dove



Aaron Menning's Walnut Fly Rod Case

Frank Lane's white oak clock



Norm Rechlin's 30" MDF and Birch Ply. Drum sander



David Roth's carving shell

Michael Ragan's walnut and birds eye maple box



James Childress' Cedar blanket



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

### Meeting Minutes

**New Members:** Stephen Perez, Krista Graham, Fritz Krieger.

#### **News:**

Welcome Kevin McAndrew as our new director of Sponsorship.

All proposals were approved.

**Current Budget:** \$2,105

#### **Tool Talk:**

James Childress recommends you be aware of the Dewalt drill bits. They break easily. Jim Bany asked about a rasp that's comes from France. It was agreed it was worth the \$40 more than a Nicholson rasp. Someone asked if anyone has tried staining over the new tight bond that can be stained. No one has used it yet.

Has anyone used the Akita Dovetail Jig, if they like or don't like it? No one has this Jig yet. Fred Chael likes the Freud Super Dado. They are pricey but they do a fantastic job. Fred also wanted to know were to get a replacement boot pad for his Quick Grip Clamp. The web was suggested.

#### **Name Tag Raffle:**

Bill Kuhlman wins a set of screwdriver bits, Jim Reynolds wins extension cord, Arnold Baker set of screw driver bit set, Russell Clausing wins a set of gloves, Jim Bany Set of screwdriver bit set, George Rexroad wins the cable cuff, Parker Nicholson wins the hand drill, Chris Kunzle wins clamp

**Raffle:** David Roth - Titebond hot glue gun, Frank Lane - large clamps, Parker Nicholson - laser set and plywood saw blade, Aaron Menning - 4-piece bushing set, Russ Amos - set of clamps, Ken Grainger - Forstner Bit set, Jim Reynolds - 19 piece stubby tool set, Chris Kunzle - scraper, Bill Fitzgibbons - old hand saw, Roy Lutes - set of clamps, Russ Amos - shop towels, Jerry Jennings - saw blade.

### Show and Tell:

**Frank Lane** made a clock out of scrap white oak, stained and lacquer finish.

**James Childress** made a Cedar blanket chest with hand cut dovetails and bracket feet. He also showed the clamp he made to clamp the large carcass. Minwax poly oil finish.

**Norm Rechlin** Made a 30" Drum sander from MDF and Birch Plywood. After he went to the woodworking show. It has Latex paint and paste wax.

**Russ Amos** Brought in a router rest. It has two sides to hold 2 different routers. He showed a feather board with extra long travel, a picture of his workbench with ten drawers of ten different types of wood and plans for a small parts caddy (nuts, bolts, screws, etc.) And demonstrated it.

**David Roth** made a Cherry Tabernacle with Box finger joints and a

### Calendar

Executive Meetings, 7:00pm Kansas City Public Library 1410 W 10th St. KC MO 64105

Guild meetings, 7:00 p.m., Jacob's Well Church, 1617 W. 42nd St., To reach us "during the meetings, call: KCMO. (816) 561-8177

#### **Executive Meetings**

#### **Guild Meetings**

**2005**

January 12th  
February 9th  
March 9th  
April 13th  
May 12th  
June 8th  
July 13th  
August 10th  
September 14th  
October 12th  
November 9th  
December 14th

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

All members are welcome at any board meeting. A call to one of the Officers is all that is necessary.

Dove Intarsia piece made from bass-wood. David also showed the carving shell he made intarsia style and plans for one being 31" tall and nearly 51" long and asked the guild members for a critique about this size of carving shell and what could it be used for.

**Jim Bany** built a cradle from red oak. It had pedestal type sides for the cradle and has a urethane finish. Inside the crib is an Intarsia Dove, made by David Roth; Jim was pleased that it incorporated both arts for the cradle.

**Anthony Harris** brought in a bowl and a box made from honey locust. He also turned a box made from Holly and African Blackwood. Tung oil and wax finish. Challenges were using the soft woods. (Holly)

**Michael Ragan** brought in a box made from walnut and birds eye maple.

**Aaron Menning** made a Fly Rod Case made from walnut.