



# Wood Words

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

Volume 23 Issue 1

January 07

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

**2007 Dues should  
be paid this  
month**

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**Video**  
Don Kruse

**Books**  
George Rexroad

**Editor/Web:**  
Wayne Wainwright

**Januarry Raffle:** Bill Evans will have his usual assortment of items

**Next Meeting Wed. January 17th, 7 PM**

**Program: Power Tool Safety**

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



This month, the program is about power tool safety. We want to start the new year with the correct mind set every time we set foot in the shop.

Being that I work in the construction trades, I've seen my share of power tool accidents. So even though we take safety for granted, I think it's an extremely important topic.

The first accident that I remember was when I was working as a construction laborer. I was using a sledge hammer to break up some concrete.

The impact from the steel handle squashed my wedding band on my ring finger. I had to bend the band to get it off my finger and I haven't worn any jewelry since.

The second accident happened on my first job as a carpenter. I was using a 9-inch Rockwell miter box to cut a long piece of casing. In the process of cutting the casing, I had to press down hard on the base with my fingers to hold the casing in place.

Just as I was about to make the cut, someone pushed the other end of the casing, moving my fingers into the blade. I lost my fingernail on my left index finger. It could have been a lot worse. I was very lucky. It's been a constant reminder to me to practice safety on my job and in the shop.

Another time I heard my neighbor up the street cutting something on his radial arm saw, so I went over to see what he was doing.

What he was doing was ripping particle board into narrow pieces. I

could hear his saw really working hard as it started to bind up. Just as I was about to turn onto his driveway, a piece of par-

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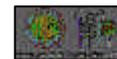
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ticle board came flying through his garage door and landed out on the street. It scared the hell out of both of us. All it takes is one slice lapse of concentration.

For the last couple of years I have practiced making a conscious effort to get myself into a safe frame of mind. Before I start any activity in my shop, I sit on my shop stool for just a few minutes to meditate and get my mind to be totally in the present.

I'm not thinking about work or what's for supper, or my wife's honey-do list, but just what I'm doing right now. I can honestly say it's made a great difference in my desire just to be in my shop. What more could you ask for than wanting to be in the shop and being safe? So what's going on in your shop?

### **Shop Safety**



#### **Accident Description**

I was nailing into oak with an 18 gauge air nailer and the brad curved out of the wood and went into my finger.

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

Don't put your finger where the nail could get it.

#### **Accident Description**

I bought a new framing nailer and did not disconnect the air supply before checking the depth adjustment.

Ended up with a 2 1/2" nail thru my left thumb. Did not hurt at the time but got to throbbing later. Healed up ok with minimal damage to thumbnail.

Had to push the nail out of my thumb by pushing the end of it against a concrete wall. Needless to say, I am a little fearful of my new toy!!!!!!

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

DON'T touch the business end of a nail gun without disconnecting the air supply.

#### **Accident Description**

I was doing a wall frame up section on the ground. While holding two boards together, my 2 1/2" framing gun double shot and the kickback lifted the gun enough to aim the 2nd nail into the palm of my hand.

It entered the fleshy part between the thumb and index finger base joint, going just under the four metatarsal bones, and didn't exit. 1/2" of the nail head was showing as I looked down at what I had done.

I dropped the gun, grabbed the nail with my other hand and yanked it out feeling it graze the underside of those bones as it came out. Unbelievably, after a sore week or two it all healed.

I can barely get myself to imagine if the angle of attack had been a few degrees higher and the nail had crashed through the bones of my hand.....

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

Constantly think about new ways that tool can get you. Given half the chance it will.

#### **Accident Description**

While constructing a frame wall for a shower unit, I was in the process of nailing the wall header to the wall studs on the floor prior to standing the wall up into position.

I was nailing the end stud in place at the time of the accident. I was holding down with my left hand which was about 8" away from the top plate

I was nailing through with my right hand. I pressed the nail gun head into the top plate and fired the gun. The gun was set in the rapid fire position accidentally.

When the gun fired, it recoiled a couple of inches. When the gun went back to the top plate after the recoil, it fired again upon contact. The contact point was on the very edge of the top plate, and the next nail fired into my little finger which was about 8" for the nailer.

The nail went into palm side of my little finger between the knuckle joint, and the middle joint, and came out to the side of the last joint. The nail extended out of my finger about an inch.

### Advice to other Woodworkers

Always check your nail guns, and make sure the gun is not in rapid fire mode if you don't need it to be. Also, most importantly, do not have any part of your body in the "line of sight" of the nail gun when firing.

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## Shop Tip

### Dipped Handles

I've found that stamped wrenches used for changing table saw blades and routers bits are too thin and uncomfortable to grip.

So, I was inspired by a hammer I made in high school shop class that used rope and liquid rubber to make a handle.

The first step is to cover the handles with rope. (You may need to use a thinner twine for wrapping router



wrenches so that they can still pass by each other while changing bits.)

I used hot glue to keep the rope from slipping off the handle, as you can see in the top photo. The trick is to apply a small amount of glue at a time so that it doesn't harden before you finish wrapping the handle.

Finally, after wrapping the handle, simply dunk it in a liquid rubber dip that's available at most hardware stores, as you can see in the bottom photo. It only takes a few minutes for the rubber to dry and the wrench is ready to use.

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[www.WoodworkingTips.com](http://www.WoodworkingTips.com)

## 2 BY 4 CONTEST

John Johnson made a puzzle box from cherry and pear wood that had over 300 cuts to make this puzzle.

Ken Sokol made a shaker table similar to the one we made in class. Ken made this table out of a 2 by 4 stud from Home Depot. The table top is 1/8 inch thick and the legs are hollow, and are 3/16 inch thick.

Third Place was Arnold Baker. He made a large box with dividers in it with a wolf head design that he angled with his scroll saw at 5 degrees; and made the relief for the lid. 1/2 inch top, 1/4 inch bottom, and 5/8 inch on the sides.

Second Place was James Childress. James sister asked him to make a frame holder for the needle point project she made and also asked him to make a necklace holder for her.

So James made this project to hold the needle point on the front of the door. He also incorporated a necklace holder as well when you open the door. It is made from cherry and the secondary wood is pine. The corners are made from maple.

First Place was David Roth. He made a wooden gear clock out of a 2 by 4 piece of alder.

David explained the procedure of making his clock and also talked about how the clock runs by a weight mechanism.

The weight pulls down on the winding mechanism that moves the gears to the escape lever and that is how it gets it's "tic and it's tock". It also gives you the time. The pattern for this project came from wooden gears.com

## Wayne retires!

After almost 10 years, Wayne Wainwright is putting down the pen on the Newsletter and the website for the Guild and is seeking two candidates to take over these responsibilities.

This work has proven very rewarding and in many ways has helped me to grow as a Guild member. I believe it can do the same for you.

It was the precursor for me becoming an officer and eventually President of this great organization. It has given me a very different perspective on what "can" be done and I think together as a group, we have seen our accomplishments grow over the years.

The growth I have personally experienced over the past 10+ years of membership has indeed given me a new appreciation for the craft and is the genesis for my desire to move on. I would like to focus on my skills in wood-working.

As many of you know, my wife and I recently built a new house and there is much I would like to accomplish with it, and time is never on "your" side.

From experience, I can tell you that each of these tasks (newsletter and website) by themselves does not take a great deal of time - most articles are actually written by someone else for example, so your job as the newsletter editor, will be to mostly "manage" the time for getting everything coordinated on time, although there is plenty of room to input your own thoughts and ideas - you "are"

the "Editor" after all.

You will have an opportunity to influence what "all" the members of the Guild see, read and even "think" about our organization. It can be a lot of fun.

We have already "split" the newsletter responsibilities and although I "write" it, someone else actually folds and mails the newsletters. This arrangement has proven to be quite satisfactory over time although it helps for the 2 people to be "geographically" near one another (but not critical). The current "mailer" lives in the Olathe area but works with me at Sprint.

As the webmaster, you will have a great deal of leeway to determine what does / does not go to the website and once you get over the initial shock of how easy it really is, you will quickly be able to define your own methods of work.

I have contemplated this for some time and now am ready to "give up the strings" so to speak. To that end, the turnover for the next round of leadership - April / May will be my last publication so I trust someone will step up to the plate by then. The May newsletter will be my last and the May updates to the newsletter will be my last.

Now is the time for you to step up so you have time to learn and develop a comfortable routine so I would not hesitate. If you "think" you have an interest, now is the time to say so.

These responsibilities are important to the Guild and they do require a time commitment so please consider that when you volunteer. The time is not onerous, I spend about 2.5 hrs on the newsletter and 1hr on the website each month. Initially, it may take you an hr more each, but once you develop a routine, you too will find the time will fly by.

I will be available over the next 5 months to help with transition, then I will take a sabbatical for several months before returning to the Guild - hopefully with new found skills and more to contribute.

If no one volunteers, I am sad to say the Guild will be without a newsletter after May so I trust someone will step up soon to this very important role.

## Member of the Month

Nan Melton

### George Rexroad



Our January member of the month, George Rexroad, was a reluctant choice, saying that he was honored and flattered but really didn't think he deserved it - "I'm just a sawdust maker." We all, of course, disagree!

George relates that he came late to woodworking, about ten years ago, at first out of necessity - he needed some shelving for the basement. Then he got the bug - just felt like making things out of wood was something he liked doing - the reward of working through all the steps to create a finished project.

He's done a lot of different projects, including a birdcage and a vase flower bed, about two feet off the ground, but claims no specialty - he does a little of everything. His favorite hand tool is a hammer - it's something you always need. For power tool, it's a toss-up between the cordless drill and a router. Like a hammer, the drill is something that useful in a variety of settings - but seeing the changes a router produces in wood fascinates him. Like a sculptor bringing out forms that are hidden within a block of stone, a router transforms wood into shapes that we only imagine before starting.

His favorite woods are pine, since he finds it easy and inexpensive to work with, and cedar, because of its suitability for outside projects.

His favorite project is a quilt ladder he made for his wife, about six feet tall and with five rungs. He found it challenging, being the first time he had worked in oak. It's used to display quilts made by his wife and her mother, so it has a special family significance.

The best deal on a woodworking tool was receiving a lathe and a 48" belt sander, which came to him after the passing of his wife's great uncle. Using the lathe much, for the time being, remains in that realm of good intentions that we all inhabit.

He served as librarian when Earl was president, and his favorite parts of guild meeting are the show and tell, and the socializing. His favorite activities are the wood-working show, and especially working for Habitat for Humanity. He likes meeting the people who receive the homes, seeing their smiles, and feeling the rewards that come with participating in such an important community service. He mentioned that Jim Bany does an excellent job of organizing our efforts, and deserves special credit as well.

Good work, George! And congratulations for being our January member of the month!



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: wwrig01@mail2web.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: 816 635-9815 email: wwrig01@mail2web.com  
18424 Plattsburg Rd, Holt MO. 64048

## Tool of the Month

Don Kruse

### ANTIQUe TOOL OF THE MONTH

January 2007

This month's tool is actually a set of tools that is not necessarily used for woodworking. I am presenting it this month to inspire us to get outside this spring and plant a tree or two.

Although this is a set of garden tools, it does however, include a saw, a gouge and hatchet. It is a 'gentleman's garden tool set'. Each tool in this set is stamped with the James Howarth name of Sheffield. The stamp used can be dated to between 1835 and 1856. The names given to the individual tools are:

Top row: rake, hoe, Dutch hoe and fork  
Bottom row: pruning saw, gouge, spud, spud/pruning hook, hatchet and daisy grubber

These tool all share the same handle and were part of a boxed set (not the box they are currently in) that also probably included at least a pruning shear. There are listings of such sets in an 1875 catalogue but they are from a different manufacturer, so it is not known exactly what was originally included with this set.

Get out and plant those walnut trees so your grandkids will have some actual wood to work with.





**Arnold Baker's** McCord inspired Walnut and Maple box

**Show & Tell**



**Anthony Harris' Pipe** made mearsha with a palm nut bowl.



**Anthony Harris' Ash** Baby rattles



**James Childress'** frame holder



**Arnold Baker's** wolf head design box



**Arnold Baker's** box open



**unknown**



Contributor of the year Bill Evans



Life Time member Roy Lutes



**John Johnson's** puzzle box



Member of the Year Wayne Wainwright.



**Ken Sokol's** shaker table

**David Roth's** Wooden gear clock





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### Meeting Minutes

#### News / Business:

Jim Bany Thanked some people who helped on the December Christmas meeting. Rick, Wayne, Nan, and Terry Stair. Most of all Jim wanted to thank Chuck and Shannon Slagle for all of the hard work and the catering that they provided. Jim wished everyone a merry Christmas and see you next year.

#### Awards passed out.

Contributor of the year award goes to Bill Evans.

Life Time member award goes to Roy Lutes.

Member of the Year award goes to Wayne Wainwright.

#### Wanted:

#### Newsletter Editor.

Skills desired:

- ?? Helpful if you can string together a coherent thought, but not a requirement
- ?? 2.5 - 3.5 hrs per month
- ?? Task requires coordinating articles from several members and updating monthly articles from the editor
- ?? Teaching available

#### Webmaster.

Skills desired:

- ?? Knowledge of Microsoft products
- ?? Knowledge of web management software (helpful but not required)
- ?? 1+ hrs per month
- ?? Task requires posting monthly newsletter and updating on-line articles each month
- ?? Teaching available

### 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

2007

January 3rd  
February 7th  
March 7th  
April 4th  
May 2nd  
June 6th  
July 4th  
August 1st  
September 5th  
October 3rd  
November 7th  
December 5th

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

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

### Show and Tell:

**Arnold Baker** brought in a box that he made him self learning the box making technique from Jim Mc Cord.

It is made from two tones of maple and trim out in walnut.  
And has a Tung-oil finish.

**Anthony Harris** brought in some baby rattles that he has been making for many years. They are soaked in walnut oil so it doesn't turn rancid. And are made from Ash.

**Anthony** also brought in a pipe that he made out of mearsha that he turned and refurbished. The Bowl he made is from a palm nut.