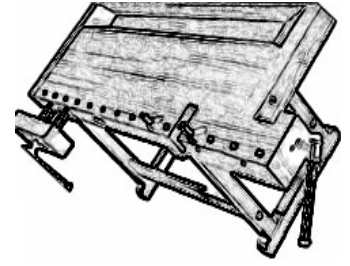


BENCHMARK



Newsletter of the Vancouver Island Woodworkers' Guild

Issue: APRIL 2004

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NEW – BRING A CHAIR PLEASE

The executive has heard many comments about our meetings (most of them good), but for a while we have been thinking of how we could make people more comfortable. We have found a way. We will be setting up on the last row of benches closest to the big doors for our meetings. This setup is subject to change if space is being used by the student's, so we will need to be flexible. We ask that you bring a folding chair to April's meeting, so you can sit in stadium style rows. Benefits of bringing a chair are:

- Sight – You will be close to the action and able to see what is going on
- Sound – Our sound system will be easier to optimize with this arrangement
- Comfort – Take a load off and relax! Just remember to take the chair home with you after the meeting!

Well, what kind of chair are you going to bring? For now, just grab something light and easy to handle. But, drum roll please. We are also announcing the guild's first ever Folding Chair Contest! All self built folding chairs qualify and they will be judged at the September 2004 meeting by a distinguished guild judging panel. Three members will receive their 2005 memberships free as the first, second and third place finishers.

To get you started, have a look at these folding chair links kindly provided by Colin Knecht:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~scouters/chair.html>
<http://www.digiplan.ca/foldingchair.pdf>
<http://www.thewoodcrafter.net/proj/p46.html>

<http://store.yahoo.com/woodstore/foldingchair.html>
<http://www.adirondacksources.com/cgi-bin/store/commerce.cgi?page=jp500.html>

Have fun building one this summer and don't forget your cup holder(s).

Keynote on Carving and More

We all enjoyed our presenter John Jarvis from the Vancouver Island Woodcarving Club. As I write this, the Brant Festival is winding down and it is amazing to think about 500 entries overall with perhaps 200 or so coming from Victoria residents. I am looking forward to a conversation with him to see how the festival went this year. If any of you took part or had a look, step up in show and tell session and gives us a few words.

John is a much decorated carver with a specialty in birds and he displayed over 30 carvings for us (some of them award winners). It is incredible when you hear about 800 hours going into the carving of a single bird – ready for the painstaking process of surface decoration/burning and finally painting. We hope to have John back again to show us a bird in three or four stages of development.

Woodworking is a rich endeavor in many ways, so it is really nice to have a brief look at some of the specialized possibilities. I would enjoy hearing from you if there is something in the carving realm that would interest you in the future.

Keynote Preview - Peter Pierobon

We will be able to do some exploring in the realm of high design furniture. Peter Pierobon has received numerous awards including National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, Canada Council Fellowship and has studied with Wendell Castles for

APRIL MEETING

April 13th. 7:15 pm

Camosun College-Interurban Campus Carpentry Building

two years in the 1980's after a two year course at the Wendell Castle School in Rochester New York. His work is found in the American Craft Museum, the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute and other permanent collections including the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Peter has returned to Canada and now works in North Vancouver. I spent a fast two days with him recently at the AGM of the BC Wood Co-op and he is now a board member as I am. I really enjoyed getting to know him a little and am looking forward to my association with him on the board this year.

Peter enjoys both the creative aspects of designing with wood as a material and also the physical execution of each project. He wants his work to function and have a balance in sculpture and form. Outside of woodworking he loves snowboarding and hiking.

Listen to his definition of a successful object - A successful object for me is one that combines all of the elements of good design, a respect for the material, exquisite execution and is conceptually well conceived. Hear, Hear!

He will give us some insights into the best work he has ever seen and help us understand how he approaches his work and how he has built his business. I can hardly wait.

I suggest you bring a friend to the meeting – and don't forget to bring your folding chairs.

Executive Elections in June

There will be a mainly new slate of executive next year. We are working hard to ensure that there are members who wish to stand for positions. Any current executive member will be happy to talk about the overall requirements of the job. All positions are up for grabs and we hope to have competition for them!

We will be canvassing members who we feel might be a good possibility so when we call, please consider the request. In terms of looking at

the positions, none of them require much more than a two to three hours a week. New and old members (young and old in age also) are most welcome and we don't view any job as requiring a prerequisite – other than enthusiasm and interest.

My plans are to continue on the team as the keynote speaker coordinator and I hope to be an active past president, so there will be assistance and continuity with the current executive.

Web News

Thanks to the hard work of a small team we are making progress towards having a very nice tool for our members.

Our outgoing Web Technical Support person Brian Vallee is in the process of handing this work off to our own John Porter. John is a new member of the guild and came forward to assist the guild – thanks John. We appreciate all the work that Brian has done in the past year and we now have an organizational framework for moving ahead. We ask for assistance from you in filling a position or two to do with the web site. It will be a lot of fun for this team as the web site will become an important tool in the future.

The most pressing requirement is for a web coordinator. In this role, you will assist the executive in compiling information and passing it to John. We believe this role will take about eight hours a month and you would be the chair of the web committee meetings to review direction for the web site, and organize web content events.

We are also looking for another web content person to work with Rob Blondeau to take responsibility for keeping specific areas of the web current plus a little writing, photography and research.

The web site will soon have a membership form that can be accessed without involvement from the VP of membership. How about having our members sign up and pay membership dues on our web site – that is just one of the ideas being considered. If you are interested in these positions, just give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

TOOL REVIEW - BOSCH 1617EVS-PK

In a nutshell, these are the first impressions that I've got from this 12 Amp. Mid-size router:

It's lightweight and very, very smooth. Ingenious height adjustment system with built-in micro (literally) adjustment knob even though this is not a plunge router. (Optional—worth \$5.00- plastic extension knob makes it even easier to use!) Body remains in the same position at all times. Heavy duty collet, designed to take rugged use. Collet passes its base by 1/4". Large base opening, which is a very basic but nice & appreciated feature. (Small base openings can be very cumbersome for bits larger than 1-1/2" in diameter.) A nice touch, maple knobs, placed low for maximum stability. Long, very flexible cord, not a cheap stiff cord that user has to wrestle with it! Powerful and QUIET motor. A very wide speed range from 8k-25k. Available (optional) standard template bushing adaptor that is easiest and most convenient to use.

After using this router for almost 4 years, none of my opinions about it has changed. It has proved itself time after time. Even its height adjustment system has been copied by Porter-Cable. It's plunge base though, is another story. It still has very smooth action, but its depth setting gauge is not up to the par as in its fixed base version. Nothing is jiggly or coming loose by any means, but it's built cheaply and it's designed like an afterthought. Overall it's a perfect table router with plenty of power that is enough to run large panel bits with small bites at a time. Its plunge base has smooth action and tool-less base changing is very convenient and fast. It's \$359.- @ Island Saw.

HC "Chico" Sakman

CALENDER of EVENTS

We present the Guild's educational, and meeting plans. We attempt to provide dates on future events of interest to Guild members. If you have event information, please contact Chico Sakman to arrange for publication.

Explorations In Wood Show	May 25 – August 20 2004!
Drop Off Dates	May 17 and 18
Jurying	May 19
Judging	May 20
Grand Opening	May 27
Artists Symposium	June 6
Guild Meeting	June 8 (at the Maltwood Gallery)
Contact: Show Chairperson	Mike Kattler 592-4938

Great Guild Project Wouldn't it be Nice – Send Ideas to Harry Verstraaten

Continuing Meetings (Held Monthly)

Open to any interested guild member. Just call to confirm or to have an item added to the agenda.
Executive/Committee Chairs Meet - Tuesday week following Guild Meeting
Contact: Phil Makin 592-4053

Show Committee Meets First Tuesday of the Month
Contact: Mike Kattler 592-4938

Education Clinics for Members (Times, locations and requirements vary)

Normally held the Saturday following Guild meeting
Cost Varies \$10. to \$20. per member payable to the instructor

EDITOR'S NOTE

We're waiting to receive REAL LIFE & SHOP tested tool reviews, warnings and/or fine points that can only be discovered by using a tool after some period of time. It doesn't have to be long, very detailed or scientific, just your own experiences. Please e-mail your submissions to "sakman@shaw.ca" address.

We also welcome your requests on specific brand/model tool that you may want to obtain more information about it. This will also make the review writers' job easier. Any tool, any make and model. We would like to hear from you! Thanks!

Hikmet C. Sakman

***** **FOR SALE** *****

Robland X31 European Combination Machine. Tablesaw, planer, jointer, mortiser and shaper w/ 3 individual 3hp motors wired 220V. Great for small space. Excellent condition. 3,5 years old. Lots of extras. \$7,000 Call **Grant Parker @ 250-738-0111** parady@pacificcoast.net

2HP Busy Bee Planer, Contractor Saw with 1-1/2 HP Baldor Motor + numerous bench & hand tools. Call **Mrs. Mason @ 655-5264**

Wood Recovery group Wood sale

Fir @ 50 cents per bdft. Call **Wayne Holmes @ 479 4694** or wgholmes@shaw.ca

B&D Radial Arm Saw with stand & dust hood - all in very good shape and I am asking \$250. Call **David "Archie" Riddell @ 250 592-9369**

Delta Contractor Table Saw w/ 50" Biesemeyer & Outfeed table \$850. Freud router table w/fence \$200 Call **Jason Good @ 882-5100**

TOOLS'n SPACE WOODWORKING is accepting applications for part-time work, assisting with retail sales, various wood-working tasks, small custom jobs and courses. Call **Charlie Middleton @ 383-9600**

TOOLS'n SPACE WOODWORKING is expecting new shipment of **Lie-Nielsen** handplanes and other **new fine woodwork-ing tools** in MAY! Call **383-9600** 338 Catherine Street

Sears 10" tablesaw, 1970. More iron and heavier construction than new ones. Replaced blade arbour, upgraded to 1 hp tefc motor, mobile base. \$400. Call **Michael Harvey @ 652-1278**

WESTERN MAPLE for sale 2x8, 2x10 from Guild wood recovery (2001), about 250 FBM @\$1 per board foot. Call **John Denison @595-5582**

WESTWIND HARDWOODS announcing their new arrivals: Red & White OAK Quartersawn, all dimensions. 4/4 Lacewood, Makore, Wenge and Purpleheart. New Quartersawn Garry Oak and Quilted Western Maple is expected to arrive next week. As usual, we still have our over-stuffed inventory. We welcome Guild members and we will continue to honour your discount. Please attempt to acknowledge Guild membership prior to completion of the invoice!! **656-0848**

T-shirt orders are IN! Cash or cheque are accepted .

T-shirts M,L XL	\$ 12.25
T-shirts XXL,XXXL	\$ 14.00
Grey Crew neck M,L,XL	\$41.00
XXL,XXXL	\$43.25
Blue Collared M,L,XL	\$44.25
XXL,XXXL	\$46.75

See Gordon Thompson at the meetings.

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The Guild is a non-profit organization of woodworkers, professional and amateur, dedicated to the promotion of woodworking and appreciation of fine craftsmanship. A one-year membership is \$45.

OUR SPONSORS

Show your appreciation for the following companies which support the Guild by membership discounts.

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Mother Computers (See Tony Scott, Card Required!)
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Richelieu Panel Products
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