

BENCHMARK

Newsletter of the Vancouver Island Woodworkers' Guild
VISIT US AT - WWW.VIWG.COM

Issue: DEC-2005



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November Guild Meeting Highlights: The meeting started off with a presentation by *James Lucas from Triton Logging*. Triton specializes in underwater logging in areas that have been flooded for hydroelectric power. In this province alone, there are millions of cubic metres of wood still standing underwater. For more details on this fascinating talk, please see Phil Makin's report.

Phil Smith took the floor next to kick off the main theme for the night – veneering. Phil gave us all a history and description of veneering including the economic and artistic advantages of using veneer. Thanks Phil! Phil Makin then called for a volunteer to try their hand at a fan pattern made from various veneers. The volunteer (I'm sorry, I've forgotten your name!) had to have little or no experience with inlay or veneer. Phil used this as a way of highlighting how easy veneering can be with proper instruction and preparation. After about 45 minutes, the final result was a beautiful and flawless fan. Thanks again to the member who volunteered!

Karen Trickett was up next and in her signature teaching method – concise and clear – she gave us all a thorough lesson in marquetry and inlay. She went over a few different techniques and tricks that only experience can teach. This is the Guild functioning at its best when capable, skilled professionals step-up and teach us all their hard won knowledge. This serves to shorten our learning curve, and in turn, allows us to discover and explore areas of woodworking we otherwise might not have tried. Karen then announced that she would be holding a clinic, going deeper into the techniques she has perfected. This clinic for eight lucky people filled instantly! Again, read more about this in Phil's article. Thanks Karen.

There was one *show and tell* item for the night – Mike Fulop's Krenov-style cabinet. This cabinet was made from recycled grainery wood, which Mike salvaged from the demolition of a grain elevator in Saskatchewan. The wood had interesting wear due to the abrasive nature of grain in the elevator, with the wood taking on a sandblasted appearance over the years. A very creative use of wood. Thanks Mike for sharing your work with us.

Out of Hand Show – November 26 & 27: I volunteered at the Guild's display in this year's Out of Hand Show at the Victoria Conference Centre. The feedback from the public was once again very positive. The members that participated by displaying their work did a very fine job on all of their projects making it very easy for volunteers to represent both individual woodworkers and the Guild. It is very inspiring to be associated with such talented members. Thank you to all who participated by entering pieces or volunteering your time at the show.

Upcoming Events and Reminders:

Contest Winner - On-Line Membership Sign-Up: the winner of the contest which ended on November 30 was *Gary Day*. Gary wins an antique, Stanley Bailey #5 Type-11 jack plane. Thanks to all who took the step of using the technology of our new website. Eventually this will make it much easier for the VP Membership to serve both you and the Guild.

New Guild Sponsor: Windsor Plywood at 2120 Keating X Road is a new sponsor of the Guild. They are offering a 10% discount to all members on presentation of a membership card. Thank you Windsor Plywood.

Show and Tell Next Meeting: I received a phone call from a member, Murrough O'Brien, about a Danish craftsman named Bent Reinecker. Bent is a very accomplished kayak builder and is willing to share his expertise with Guild members. Check out his work at this month's show and tell.

Next Meeting's Theme: In keeping with our plan to have our meetings focus on a theme presented by specialists from within the Guild, *the wood turners are going to give us all a lesson on their craft* at the next meeting. I hope you can join us. I know, it will be very interesting.

If I don't see you at the December meeting, I hope you enjoy the holiday season.

Russ Franson,
President

DECEMBER MEETING

Camosun College - Fine Furniture Program Building
Tuesday, December 13th. 7:15 PM

SEASON'S BEST WISHES & GREETINGS TO YOU ALL!

PHIL'S NOTES from the LAST MEETING

James Lucas from Triton Logging presented to us. Thanks to Matt Kirkwood for this suggestion and for his work on providing and setting up the audiovisual system. It all worked nicely. Triton is located right here on the island and their work involves the design and building of an underwater wood recovery system as well as the marketing of the amazing wood which is recovered. Their system is used all across North America in reservoirs and lakes created by man. Essentially, the wood is cut off very near the bottom and then floated to the surface with a balloon attachment. It is all controlled by an operator on the surface – very spaceage. The wood is used for many purposes including flooring, post and beam and architectural millwork. Because it has been submerged it is in superb condition (no oxygen has touched it). The wood needs to be milled and air or kiln dried. Give James a call at Triton 652-4033 if you need information on availability and pricing.

When I followed up to thank James for his presentation, he expressed interest in other areas of the guild such as our upcoming student show at the Community Arts Council and the Furniture Society Convention in June of 2007. I believe that James and his company are very compatible with the guild and we look forward to working with them in the future. The folks at Triton want to learn some woodworking and are looking for a way to do that as a group of about ten. Perhaps we can assist in some way.

For more information see www.tritonlogging.com.

Weekend Clinic –Karen Trickett

It was wonderful for me to be part of Karen's clinic held Saturday 19 on her bevelled marquetry technique which she so ably demonstrated at our meeting. Nine members learned the basic methods from Karen in a session that was so much fun. We got to do it! Thanks to Ted Rowley for bringing in additional scroll saws. With three saws in total we were able to try them all. I came away with a simple leaf and a stem consisting of four pieces of marquetry in total. I very soon learned the meaning of "waste side up" and this slogan became a battle cry in the workshop. If you cut it waste side down, the piece coming in from below fits - well let's just say loosely, very loosely. But this is how you learn and we can all thank Karen for a motivational and enjoyable workshop. As part of our normal practice, each member paid \$10 and \$50 was paid to Karen as instructor. Karen also donated a good deal of veneer for us to use. How lucky can you get with guild members like her.

December Meeting

Our December meeting will focus on the magic of wood turning. Our guild has two turning groups in it now with a third in the works and Brian Kemper has taken on the challenge of putting the education together for December. We have some amazing turners in our guild – their work is really first class. Brian has been a great help in working with myself on the guild program in general (along with Karen Trickett). I know our president is a frustrated turner and wants to know the basics – well Russ you

are in luck. Brian assures me that and much more will be covered. I will be thinking of you all from Hawaii, but will see you in January. Have a wonderful Christmas season.

Phil Makin

INLAY OR MARQUETRY

As demonstrated by Karen Trickett – and thanks to Karen for reviewing this prior to printing.

Darkening the veneer - if you want to darken the edges of the veneer you can put the veneer in silver sand (at 400°F.) for 10 min.

Patch pad method

Put pattern on mylar with a 0.1 drafting pen.

Use the mylar over carbon paper to trace onto the wood.

Have a cardboard backer for the veneer when tracing.

Make a window in cardboard for each piece of veneer to be cut. That is, place the veneer under the window of the cardboard (cardboard like the back of a writing pad) Use the window in the cardboard to trace the size on the veneer and then cut the veneer with a pair of scissors. Ensure the grain is in the direction you wish to have on the finished pattern. Ensure the veneer fits exactly in the window and then tape it in place. (The use of this method was explained in "The Tool box book" by Taunton Press.)

Orient all the pieces in the correct way – that is have all the pieces in the same rectangular shape.

Cement all the pieces together using rubber cement. Clamp between pieces of wood overnight to let cement set.

Use a pin vise, exacto knife will hold pin or small drill, to hold #68 drill bit.

Use a 2.0 jewellers blade (skip tooth) on the scroll saw to cut out shapes. Use a slow speed on the scroll saw of 3.5 to 4. Once all the parts are cut, remove each relevant piece and place in the piece of veneer being used as the background. Use veneer tape to hold in place.

There is a good article in a FWW magazine from Nov/Dec 1987 on the patch pad technique.

Developing a pattern

Get a good picture of the item you wish to show and trace onto mylar. You can now increase or decrease the size with a photocopier with the final size you want being put on mylar. Always trace the picture to keep the lines simple.

Once you have the size you want, draw this on the item you want it on – do both front and back. You can use the mylar on either side as you can see the pattern on both sides of mylar.

Bevel technique

Put veneer on 1/16" plywood. All pieces of veneer, both the male and female part must be the same thickness. Tape pattern veneer onto background veneer. Use pin vise to drill hole for scroll saw blade and then countersink back side of hole. Cut out with scroll saw putting table at 5°. Always have waste part on upside of blade. That is, if the waste of the top piece is the outside of the pattern, then ensure the outside is on the high side of the blade.

Use bondrite (brown glue) to glue piece into place on background veneer.

In summary the main points include:

- 1) your face or good piece must be the same thickness as all the inlay pieces
- 2) all inlay pieces are taped on the backside of the good face piece
- 3) patterns must have some sort of reference line, cross or corner to be able to reposition patterns and trace pattern on backside of good piece (makes alignment of inlay pieces easier).
- 4) always do some test pieces to ensure saw bevel is at correct angle prior to cutting into good face. Tools N space has 3 copies of Craig Vandal Stevens marquetry book in stock.

Wayne Holmes

The guild shirts and hats

Mainly I would like people to confirm their orders at our meeting next Tuesday, and give me a cheque to pay for their selections. I will have the catalogs and prices at the meeting, so members can review their choices, and those who may have missed the last meeting could make some orders. This will allow me to get the order in to Shenanigans on the 14th, and we could have the items by Christmas if people so wish.

Phil Cottell

Guild's Toy Workshop

The highly successful Toy Workshop held on Nov 12 had more than eighteen people busily making a variety of toys. Thanks to Cam Russel for the use of the shop and to all the volunteers who helped with the toy making. A special thanks to all those who constructed toys in their own shops and to those who helped in the final painting and finishing. Remember it is not too late to bring additional toys to the December meeting.

Doug Watson



KAREN IS ON!



TOOLS OF THE TRADE



STEEL RULER & OLFA CUTTER

CLASSIFIEDS

**Special Guild Members' Shop Tour
Saturday, Dec. 17th. 9am-to-1pm**

Exclusive in store specials for the guild members.

Skookum Edge 46 Crease Avenue 475-8818

WOOD RECOVERY

We have some cedar and garry oak available to anyone who would like to buy some. The cedar is \$0.80 and the garry oak \$1.60 per board foot. Contact Wayne Holmes @ 479 4694.

TOOLS'N SPACE WOODWORKING

**Lie-Nielsen handplanes, spokeshaves and saws are
ON SALE UNTIL CHRISTMAS 10% OFF**

Woodfast Lathes

16" long bed model \$2495 (one only)

39" long bed model \$2695 (one only)

**Both models have 20" swing and come with
Free Oneway Stronghold chuck.**

Enroll Now for 2-day Lathe workshops.

Beginners January 6&7 9am-to-5pm \$259

**Intermediate January 17&18 9am-to-5pm \$299
\$30 OFF to Guild MEMBERS!**

4" Myford Jointer: This is a solidly made cast iron jointer made in the UK with ¾ hp 220v motor and stand; true in & outfeed beds (total of 37 inches with extensions); and a newly machined 24" aluminum fence. \$250.00

Delta "Sidekick 10" compound Miter Saw with brand new 60 tooth zero degree blade. \$150.00.

Reclaimed fir etc. - free to a good home!

Call Graham Dragushan @ 592-9474

Mortiser attachment for drill press, Delta model for 10" to 16.5" machines, never used. Will bring to next meeting. \$50.

Call Jim Bell @ jim09b@yahoo.com or 390-9353

OUR SPONSORS

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

- Aarrow Safety Inc.
- Altech Machining
- Columbia Fire & Safety LTD. (10% off Card Required!)
- Island Imports
- Island Saw & Tool Co.
- Mother Computers (See Tony Scott, Card Required!)
- PJ White Hardwoods LTD.
- Reimer Hardwoods LTD.
- Richelieu Panel Products
- Skookum Tools LTD.
- Slegg Lumber LTD.
- Tools'n Space Woodworking
- Troy Electric Sales & Service
- Victoria Speciality Hardware LTD.
- West Wind Hardwoods Inc.
- Windsor Plywood LANGFORD

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COMMITTEE & PROJECT CHAIRPERSONS:

- Monthly Clinics – V O L U N T E E R N E E D E D
- Toy Workshop Project – Doug Watson 477-0701
- Keynote Speaker Committee— Phil Makin 592-4053.....pmakin@shaw.ca
- Show Committee – Darren Bertuccio 250-213-7795.....darren@woodfly.com
- Library Committee – Ed Krakowski 656-6727.....edshop@shaw.ca
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- Guild Merchandise Committee - Gordon Thompson 655-1318.....
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- Webmaster - John Porter 642-4480.....john.k.porter@shaw.ca
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STUDENT LIASON REPS :

- Camosun College – To Be Determined
- Belmont High - Brad Tikk 391-1992
- Other High Schools—To Be Determined

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Please use *e-mail* for your classified submissions. If you must phone to submit your ad, please do so after 8:00 pm any day of the week. Cut-off time is exactly one week prior to the guild meeting.