



San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

Meeting Minutes

by Eitan Ginsburg

SFVW – Minutes March 21, 2024 meeting

Club vice-president Emily Lichtman welcomed members to the meeting. New member Sedi Pak introduced herself. She said she is a self-taught woodworker who makes abstract sculptures and cabinetry.

Announcements



Emily asked for a volunteer to coordinate snacks for the monthly meetings. Greg Golden volunteered, and Dave McClave said he'd bring

snacks to the April meeting.

Emily announced that the challenge for next month's meeting is to bring in something you made from one board-foot of wood. It can be made from different species so long as the total source material is no more than one board-foot. One board-foot is a volumetric measurement equal to 12" x 12" x 1".

Rockler in Pasadena is closing due to losing its lease. Right now, almost everything is 50% off, except for power tools. [Ed. Note: as of April 8th, the shelves are mostly bare. There are a few power tools (which are 10-15% off.)

Dave Feinner is coordinating shop tours, so please let him know if you'd like to offer your shop to be
See "Minutes" on page 2

Our President says...

by Jim Baldrige

Woodworker Havens

Not so many years ago (mid-60s), my daddy took me to a hardware store in Atwater, the neighborhood I grew up in. Baker's Hardware was a "shotgun" hardware store, deep and narrow. More importantly, "old man" Baker was there every day to service his customers and was the "Google" search engine of his time. If he did not stock it, he knew what local vendor had it and how much it would cost.

I realize the article is "Woodworker Havens," so how does an old hardware store no longer in business play into this? In short, big businesses have been around for years, and now the internet is destroying our ability to shop hands-on. Our favorite local woodworking stores, the moms and pops, where one could browse the aisles and feel the tool in our hands, are nearly all gone. The havens of our youth, where hours have been spent trying to decide whether this manufacturer's tool is better than the others, are fading into the sunset. I can

See "President" on page 2



April Presentation:

Hand Tool Demonstrations!

Be sure to join us at April's meeting for a comprehensive hand tool demonstration. Chuck Nickerson, Eitan Ginsburg, Steve Sampietro, and Tyler Stamps will be giving an informative presentation on hand tools, including hand planes, Western saws, and Japanese saws. The demo will include tips on using these foundational tools, as well as measuring and marking tools, to get the most accurate cuts and adjustments. You won't want to miss this "hand-y" presentation!

Who We Are

The club was formed in 1988 for the purpose of enhancing skills, providing information and sharing the joys of working with wood. The membership reflects a cross section of woodworking interests and skill levels - both hobbyist and professionals. Annual dues are \$35. Full-time student dues are \$15.

From "Minutes" on page 1

part of a tour.

Emily thanked the members for filling out the online survey that had been sent out recently. Based on the feedback,

we would like to do some hands-on workshops, so members who are interested in demonstrating or teaching a project, technique, tool, or skill to other



members should contact her. Jeff Bremer said he would do another wooden plane-making workshop. He can accommodate up to 4 people, and it is a two-day project. Jeff also invited members to join him in his shop to help make race cars for the toy giveaway on April 13 and April 20.

Gregg Massini brought in an old toolbox with tools that someone had brought into the Pasadena Rockler. Make an offer on any of the tools during the break!

Jack Robbins, who is moving to northern California, is selling a very nice 8-foot-tall case



clock – contact him if you're interested.

Ed Sheanin said that he is in the process of assembling a doll house kit that will be donated to a charity and asked for suggestions for recipient organizations.

See "Minutes" on page 3

Club Officers

President: Jim Baldrige

Vice President: Emily Lichtman

Secretary: Eitan Ginsburg

Treasurer: Jeff Bremer.

Photographer: Luke Wyatt

Publisher: Gary Coyne

Librarian: Grant Christensen

Web Master: Ed Sheanin

Toy Chair: Jim Kelly

Toy Distribution: Sheila Rosenthal

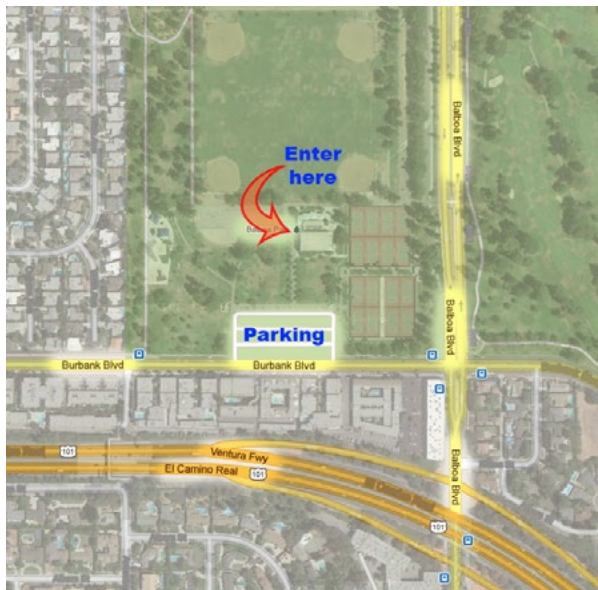
Refreshments: Greg Golden

"President" from page 1

recall going to a local store and purchasing my first and only worm-drive saw. There were only two manufacturers in those days. But because I could hold them and compare them side by side, I bought the black one. The red one was too expensive. I still own and use my worm-drive saw forty years later.

We are in the throes of saying goodbye to another old friend in Pasadena. Rockler is shuttering its doors, and I highly doubt they will reopen in another location. In the last several years, we also lost the last Woodcraft in our area. It is unlikely ever to return as well. For many reasons, including the cost of leases, internet sales, reduced foot traffic, etc., many of us are being relegated to shopping online. However, this will never replace one's ability to browse the aisles.

So, I am encouraging all of us to keep an eye out for those last fond memories of our "havens." When looking to make that purchase for your next tool inquire from them if they can get it. You know, if it costs a bit more than an internet purchase, with free delivery, pay that extra cost. The shopkeeper will appreciate it, and you will feel a lot more satisfied!



Balboa Recreation Center Location
Map courtesy of Google Maps

"Minutes" from page 2

Reports



Finance: Jeff Bremer asked members to pay their dues if they haven't yet done so. Club dues remain \$35 a year, \$15 for students. He can take payment by cash, check, Venmo or Zelle. There is wood donated by Swaner Lumber that

members can take home and make things that we can sell at the gift boutiques we participate in a few times a year. Our finances are OK.

Toy Committee: Jim Kelly said we are making slow but steady progress on our toy projects. We are losing a couple of toy-build coordinators due to moves and need some new volunteers to help coordinate these, as well as the quilt-making for the doll cradles.

Program Committee: Emily Lichtman said the upcoming monthly programs are:

- **April:** Hand tools demonstrations
- **May:** Project planning using SketchUp and



See "Minutes" on page 4

From the Web

----- Tips, Tricks, and How Tos -----

🔪 Crafting a Mahogany Side Table | WoodWorks with David J. Marks [91 episodes of David Marks's WoodWorks, are now available on YouTube.]

<https://tinyurl.com/yxy72pz2>

🔪 Restoration Genius The Genius Boy Restores The Hitachi 3 In 1 Woodworking A 1500A For Carpenter [check out the 54-minute mark.]

<https://tinyurl.com/e2srwy4x>

🔪 Selecting Table Saw Blades - Types, Uses and Buying Advice

<https://tinyurl.com/snn8mxf9>

🔪 Build Stronger, Sag-Proof Shelves

<https://tinyurl.com/39hch2zk>

🔪 What finish should you choose? [Note: You can download the chart after the information paragraph.]

<https://tinyurl.com/2s4awtxt>

🔪 What Finish Is That Anyway?

<https://tinyurl.com/5r5fc7he>

🔪 Finishing Touch: sandpaper

<https://tinyurl.com/mw4erzd2>

🔪 Making a Chessboard from Wood Veneer with Tom McLaughlin

<https://tinyurl.com/57h2fk9r>

🔪 Stop Making Joinery Mistakes, Make This Planning Jig

<https://tinyurl.com/c7wdy45y>

🔪 I Almost Didn't Post This Video | Lazy Susan | The Wood Whisperer

<https://tinyurl.com/w35dxs44>

🔪 Precision in the Woodshop

<https://tinyurl.com/4p7ffxya>

🔪 Why your Shooting Board won't work | and how to fix it!

<https://tinyurl.com/2369xvfz>

🔪 Predicting wood movement before resawing

<https://tinyurl.com/29fh43s6>

🔪 The 25 Most Defining Pieces of Furniture From the Last 100 Years

<https://tinyurl.com/4y9mte62>

🔪 How This Guy Makes the World's Best Puzzle Boxes | Obsessed | WIRED

<https://tinyurl.com/3amz3wxx>

🔪 Man narrowly misses being killed by runaway saw blade

<https://tinyurl.com/3zaddpk2>

----- Reviews -----

🔪 I Got a New Tool! [vacuum bags]

<https://tinyurl.com/3xnn2rkk>

Dues are now Due!

If you haven't paid yet, *it's time*. Our dues are \$35 per year (\$15 for students), and our esteemed Treasurer, Jeff Bremer, can take your dues many ways:

- Cash (pay at a meeting)
- Check (make out to SFVW)
- Zelle (jabremer@msn.com)
- Venmo (@jeffrey-bremer-2, (Last 4 digits of phone No: 6892))

If you need to contact Jeff for any questions, his email and phone number or on the Page 2 in the Club Officers.

"Minutes" from page 3

other methods

- **John Fisher:** will be doing a turning demonstration at one of the summer meetings.

Tips & Tricks

Mark Ashley recommend-



ed installing surge protectors on all electric-powered tools. He recently lost many tools due to a surge. A surge protector only lasts about a year due

to frequently handling micro-surges, so it needs to be replaced periodically. 220-volt protectors are also available.

Dave Feinner said that he changed the battery on his DeWalt cordless circular saw from one amp to 4 amps, which made a huge difference (he used the same voltage).

Jim Kelly said that you can take old batteries to Home Depot and AutoZone for disposal. There are also hazmat collection centers at UCLA, in the North Valley at Balboa and Devonshire, and in East LA at Washington and Soto.



Greg Golden presented several napkin holders he made from donated scrap to sell in our boutique events.

Jeff Bremer made a chisel plane from an extra 1" blade. He also showed a coffee scoop he made from scrap and a jig he's made to batch them out.

Emily Lichtman showed a chessboard she made out of walnut and birch.

It has a sliding top that reveals storage for the pieces underneath.

Tom Ferkel showed two idiophones (wooden percussion instruments) he made from various half to three-quarter-inch scrap.

Calvin Sov showed a "saw that doesn't cut" art piece he made on his CO₂ laser. He also brought parts of a box project to give to an interested person.



Eitan Ginsburg showed three bowls he turned recently from poplar and sycamore at a class that John Fisher taught at the Community Workshop in Glendale.

Presentation

Stefan Dusedau and Dave Feinner gave a presentation on stained glass.

Dave spoke about the history of stained glass. Stained glass began to be blown into sheets about 1500 years ago, and rolled glass began to be made almost 200 years ago. Colored glass is made by adding various metal oxides, but can also be painted. Techniques go back to the medieval

Show & Tell

See "Minutes" on page 5



era. It was used mostly in churches in Europe but also in some wealthy homes.

There are several types of stained glass:

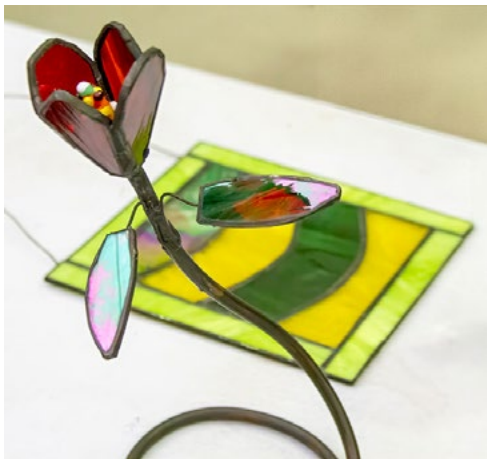
- **Opalescent glass:** is usually opaque, has one or mixed colors, and sometimes has an iridescent coating.
- **Cathedral glass:** is more transparent and sometimes textured.
- **Bevels:** are pre-cut pieces that form prisms.
- **Mirror glass:**
- **Nuggets of glass:** like flattened marbles.

Most stained glass is around 1/8" thick – using caning between pieces allows for variation in thicknesses.

There are dangers inherent in working on stained glass projects. Safety equipment includes eye protection, a first aid kit for cuts, a brush and pan for clean up, and a mask/respirator if you are doing a lot of soldering.

Some stained glass manufacturers now in the United States include Bulls-eye, Kokomo, Oceanside, and Wissmach. Bullseye Glass in Portland offers factory tours.

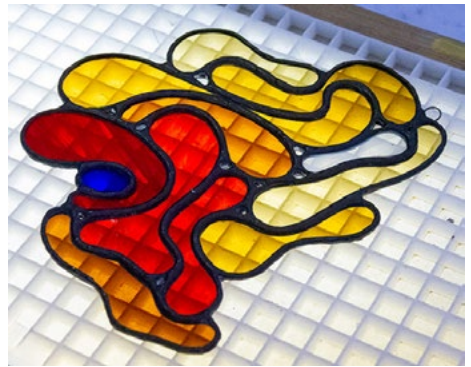
Stefan and Dave showed and explained the use of various



tools in stained glass cutting, prep, and assembly. They prepared a list that they gave to interested people.

They demonstrated cutting and assembling a couple of pieces of stained glass, both straight and curved. They noted that when cutting, you should score the glass only once to break the surface

tension, not twice or more. Then, putting pressure on the opposite side of the scratch, flex the glass as if you were breaking a carrot. Once cut, the edges of the piece are wrapped



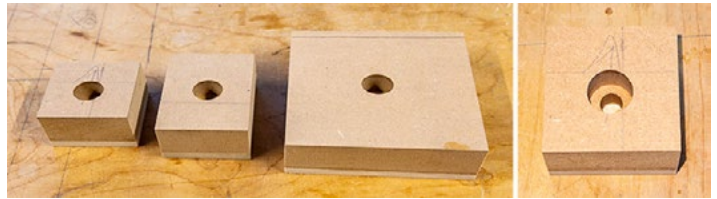
with copper foil, then burnished and soldered. These individual pieces are then soldered together as part of the whole artwork. The joints hold the pieces together but aren't structurally strong – a frame or support structure is needed. Stained glass assemblies can be incorporated into woodworking by making frames for assemblies or as inlays in other wood projects.



My version of a router bit storage system

By Gary Coyne

When you've been collecting router bits for as long as I have, you have too many. I've seen a variety of ways to store them, but there was something about all of the approaches I've seen that had something that put me off from using their idea. So, in the interest of sharing, here is "my" approach.



provide enough depth to support both sized bit shanks. In addition, I used a 13 mm Forstner bit because the pitch of the end of a 13 mm drill caused me to lose a bit of potential depth for the 1/2" shaft. The Forstner bit gave me a flat bottom.

[BTW, 13mm = 0.512", which is 0.004" smaller than 33/64", but no one sells a 33/64" Forstner bit. I bought this bit from Amazon (<https://tinyurl.com/48czrdct>).]

When I first started drilling the holes in plywood, I was doing fine, but soon, the Forstner bit grabbed the wood, which in turn whacked my thumb. So, I made this jig to hold each one when drilling. This did slow me down a bit, but no more whacked thumbs.

Once I had all the pieces ready, I arranged them in the drawer, using strips of about 1/4" wood across the width to



prevent them from sliding. (These were screwed in place from underneath the drawer.) The different widths of the blocks allowed me to

organize the router bits effectively. Now, I have my straight bits separated from pattern bits, flush trim bits, dual bearing bits, spiral bits, and specialty bits. As I replace bits or get new unique bits, I can slide things and move them around as needed. As you can see in the photo, I've got room for more, and the arrangement accommodates my various ring sizes and my Freehand Guard. All this makes for a versatile and efficient storage system.



To show what I had been using, check out the image of my router drawer before this new approach. What I did was to take small sheets of plywood and drill holes of "just over 1/4" and just over 1/2". The problem here was that if I wanted to or needed to move them around, my drilled holes may or may not work with the selected router bit.

One thing people use is Rockler's Storage Bit Inserts

(<https://tinyurl.com/2su25mm2>), a plastic plug with two concentric holes that can take either size router shaft. However, in my book, they made one mistake: the holes are a bit snug. You pull a bit out with one hand and hold whatever's holding the insert with the other. For my purposes, that's not good. Alternatively, Lee Valley has plastic bit-holding plugs, but they cannot hold both 1/2" and 1/4". You need to get one or the other. (<https://tinyurl.com/ybddd5j>). Again, that's not good for my purposes.



What I finally came up with were small blocks of MDF (with 1/4" plywood bases, I'll explain in a moment), of various sets of sizes. These were 1" x 1-1/2", 1-1/2" x 1-1/2", 2" x 2", and 3" x 3". These were concentrically drilled with both a 17/64" drill bit almost all the way down and a 13mm Forstner bit about halfway down.

The reason for the 1/4" sheet of plywood on the bottom is that I found I needed "just" a bit more drilling depth to

