



San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

Meeting Minutes

by Eitan Ginsburg

SFVW – Minutes June 20, 2024 meeting

Club Treasurer Jeff Bremer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that President Jim Baldrige is enjoying a trip in Italy, and Emily Lichtman had a baby – congratulations!

Jeff asked new attendees to introduce themselves. John said he had just moved here, had done some smaller projects, and was a musician. DC has been making pedal boards from resin. Ethan said he has been building some outdoor furniture.

Steve Galb is a luthier who makes steel-string acoustic guitars. He is returning to the hobby and dreams of building a Maloof rocker someday. Don Emerson said he has recently retired and is making many new things but is making no duplicates.

Christian is new to woodworking and asked members for suggestions on the critical tools he should look at getting. Suggestions included a bandsaw and jointer. It is also important to learn how to sharpen things and use hand tools. Another suggestion was to avoid gadgetry (single-purpose tools).

Announcements

Jeff noted that the member tool sale would be during the break and encouraged people to take advantage of some great deals. He also noted that we will need members to make and donate items to sell at the October quilt boutique. Some lumber is available for members who would like to use it for this purpose. Jeff also noted that the build challenge for the July meeting is to make something for the kitchen. The winner gets a \$20 Rockler gift card.

Calvin Sov said he will make a presentation on CO₂ lasers

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Our President says...

Our Editor says...

By Gary Coyne

After getting back from Italy, Jim was swamped, so he hoped he could pass on his monthly message. As I had some actual news to share, it was timely.

Two Woodworking Journals Are Ceasing Operation.

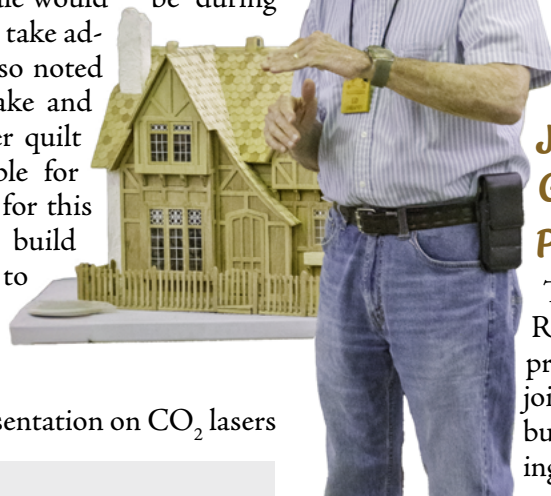
Those who have, or currently subscribe to “Woodworkers Journal” be aware that that publication will cease production by the end of 2024. The Journal, now owned by Rockler, has not formalized plans to create a flash drive of all past issues. There was one; back in 2012, I purchased their collective CD that covered from 1977 – 2012. Thus, they already have a good amount of a “final collection” ready. Meanwhile, you can view all past issues at <https://tinyurl.com/tx5d2ueh>, but this is a flip-page web view, not a PDF you can download. You can search for specific terms, like “tenon.” Wood Magazine, Fine Woodworking, Woodsmith, and others make flash drives available yearly. Hopefully, those at Woodworker’s Journal will realize the value of such a collection and make these available as well.

In addition to Woodworker’s Journal, Woodcraft, an extension of the Wood-

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July Presentation: Gary Rogowski : Joinery— Problems & Solutions

The July program will be Gary Rogowski discussing fixing joinery problems and how to fix them. He will join us by Zoom from the East Coast but it will only be available at the meeting, not remotely from home



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.

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in a few months. He wants to hear what questions people might have to help him structure this presentation. He also brought a few Krenov books that members can have for free.

Jim Kelly brought copies of Woodsmith magazine, which are also free for anyone interested.

Questions, Tips, Tricks

Gary Coyne showed an auxiliary fence he made for his MicroFence. He used setup blocks to drill holes at the precise 2.25" inch distance that was required for the mounting screws. Place setup block against a stop

John Bullock said he received 52" rails for his new cabinet saw, which are too long. It was suggested that he initially try cutting them down to 40", test their use, and cut more if they are still too long.

Jeff Bremer said he would do another wooden hand plane building class. A number of people expressed interest.

Tyler did a short sawing demonstration using Japanese pull saws. He said these have thinner blades than Western-style saws. One saw he brought is a double-sided. It can do rip cuts using one side of the blade



and crosscut/finish cuts with the other side. A second saw is a smaller flush-cut saw he uses to trim off dowels. He uses a small block to guide his initial cut at a right angle. He said it is important to keep your arm

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

in line with the saw when cutting. He also showed off the stand he made to hold all of his instruments.

Committee Reports

Program Committee: The July program will be Gary Rogowski discussing fixing joinery problems. He will join us by Zoom from the East Coast but it will only be available at the meeting, not remotely from home. The August meeting will feature John Fisher demonstrating offset turning.

Toy Committee: Jim Kelly said we are moving along well. He is getting lumber out to people for their project builds. He thanked Swaner Lumber for their donation.

Finance: Jeff Bremer reported that the club is doing fine for the year.



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Balboa Recreation Center Location
Map courtesy of Google Maps

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craft woodworking chain, will also cease operations by the end of the year. In a conversation with them, I was told that they are not likely to create a CD or flash drive of their past issues as they have all their content online. I asked what would happen if they chose to turn off that web section and was told they had no plan to do that. If you wish to see all of their issues, you can see them here: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6n8v83>; click on the “All Issues” link seen on the dark strip to access all of the past issues. They did have a Flash Drive of past issues that went from #1 (Dec-Jan 2005) to issue #100 (Apr-May 2001) but that’s it. The issues online only have the individual content (in a PDF) that can be downloaded and not the whole issue.

Two Companies With Great Customer Support

Tightbond is helping their customers: As many of you have experienced, the cap on Tightbond glues can get gunked up to the point where you need a wrench to open it up to access the glue. If you call Tightbond (Phone: 1.800.877.4583) and ask for some new caps, they will send you several for free. Be prepared to let them know what size bottle so they can send you the right size. And here’s a tip: Glue drying inside glue caps is the leading cause of glue caps being gunked up. With your new caps, you can remove the cap from a container just after use and place it in a jar of water. Then, take a new/clean cap and put that one on the bottle. Next time you use the glue bottle, switch the caps again.

Accuride is helping their customers whose rubber bumpers have done their final bump. As you may know, at the back end of each of their drawer slides is a small piece of rubber that helps the drawer stay closed. Over the years, these can fail. However, it’s fairly easy to replace these bumpers for free. Take a photo of the slide section on the drawer and the cabinet and a shot of the remains of one of the bumpers. (I placed a 6” ruler next to the bumper to establish the size). Within a couple of days, I received an email letting me know they verified my drawer slide (no longer manufactured) and asked for my address and how many of these bumpers I wanted. I needed ten for five drawers, so I asked for 10 (plus a couple extra in case some break prematurely). I received 30. They arrived via FedEx in less than a week from when I first sent my email.

the MicroFence, built here in the LA area, allowing you to work precisely with a router. Rich also builds custom furniture and is a musician. He showed pictures of a magnificent dollhouse he is building with his daughter. It is a very high-end kit but did not have plans and was missing parts. It was incredibly detailed and beautifully finished. Rich has also built custom furniture for many years and showed pictures of several pieces he has done. He said he

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Show & Tell

Ginger brought a walnut wooden body plane she made at Jeff Bremer’s “Wooden Plane” class.

Luke showed the shaped pieces he had spoken about last



month. These were profiled, curved, and mitered inside and outside. The curves were cut on the bandsaw.

A new member brought a chess board he made for his brother and showed a music desk he designed with knockdown joinery.

Ed Sheanin showed a doll house that he assembled with Eitan. It had been purchased by a former club member who recently passed away. He had been building these kits and donating them to a charity. Assembling this doll house took about 100 working hours for Ed and Eitan. Sedi is arranging to have it donated to a charity she knows.



March Program: Rich Wedler and the MicroFence

Rich Wedler is the designer, builder, and seller of

Shop Tours

By David Feinner

The start of summer brought warm weather and another shop tour. Patrick Ramsey graciously invited us to tour his Woodland Hills shop, and it was a comfort to come in from the heat as his shop is air-conditioned! About a dozen club members were lucky enough to attend and were not disappointed.



Patrick has had a few shops over the last forty-plus years, and his experience enabled him to create a very logical and efficient layout for his tools.



Speaking of tools, Patrick has developed a top-notch collection of high-quality machines, including

many accessories, to aid his production. Every station had its own shop-built storage cabinet filled with specific bits and pieces within easy reach. Patrick also maintains several storage cabinets outside his shop, including his woods, finishes, compressor, and large dust collector, making more room for projects inside.



His hand tool collection (chis-

els, planes, etc.) is also impressive. He has a dedicated sharpening station and a separate tool maintenance and repair workbench. Words don't do Patrick's shop justice, as it's a dream shop. I have to say that along with all the visuals, Patrick's most profound comment was regarding "shop friction." "Shop friction" means anything that keeps you from doing work when in your shop. That resonated with me, and as much as I'd love to have a place like Patrick's, I think it's in my, and everyone's best interest, to reduce "shop friction"!

Thanks, Patrick, for a worthwhile outing!

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developed the MicroFence because there wasn't any way to do certain operations precisely; rather, it was just hit-and-miss with existing router fences.

The MicroFence is based on the use of a 20-pitch threaded rod. It gives precise control because each full turn equals 50/1000 of an inch. He demonstrated using the MicroFence and a router to cut a groove for a piece of inlay banding. He measured the width of the inlay with a micrometer and said you can use any very sharp bit smaller than the desired width. He measured the width of the bit's cut, explaining that there is variation from the nominal width in real life. He measured the banding as 0.408". This router bit cut was 0.375", which left a difference of 0.033". Therefore, after making the initial cut with the router, he adjusted the dial 33 one-thousandths of an inch plus two more thousandths of the inch for clearance. After the second cut, the inlay fitted perfectly into the groove.



He also made a circle jig and an ellipse jig for the MicroFence. These attachments run above the surface of the workpiece.

He has also made a plunge base for laminate trimmers, Dremels, and handheld routers. The plunge base measures the depth of the cut with the same precision as the MicroFence. It also has a circuit board with six LEDs that shine on the cut to eliminate shadows. He demonstrated the use of the plunge base.

He said there are 30 – 40 tutorials about using MicroFence and related jigs available on the [MicroFence website](#).

From the Web

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

📌 Why don't people make kitchen cabinets like this? (SO SIMPLE!)

- ♦ This video shows how to make a cabinet door <https://tinyurl.com/8cf48hh4>

📌 Have You Been Scammed with a Counterfeit Tool Battery?

- ♦ Maybe you've seen "Genuine (x-brand) batteries for almost half the price. Are these counterfeit batteries? Probably. Should you get them anyway? Probably not. See why by Project Farm. <https://tinyurl.com/yey6xpu3>

📌 The process of Kumiko, an Amazing technique of assembling pieces of wood without using nails!

- ♦ A lot of automation with big machines followed by hand work. Do turn on Closed Captioning because there are explanatory information as you watch. <https://tinyurl.com/mmf4dw5v>

📌 How to make "Kumiko" | Wood Bending | Japanese Traditional Woodwork | TANIHATA

- ♦ Wood-bent rosettes decorate the Kumiko designs. <https://tinyurl.com/dhwyw6j2>

📌 How to make "Kumiko" | Tategoshi, Kudegoshi | Japanese Traditional Woodwork | TANIHATA

- ♦ I've seen this joinery assembled in Britain and did not know how it was accomplished. Now I've seen it assembled, but I want to know how the wood was prepared. <https://tinyurl.com/4r3z56hy>

📌 How to make "Kumiko" | Tategoshi, Sugumi, Osakumi ko, Nukigoshi | Traditional Woodwork | TANIHATA

- ♦ Various ways that door lattices are assembled. Unfortunately, they do not show how the wood was prepared. <https://tinyurl.com/4spac2sy>

📌 How to make "Kumiko" | Kagome, Nejigumi | Japanese Traditional Woodwork | TANIHATA

- ♦ How a star lattice is assembled. Again, only the assembly is shown, not how the wood was prepared. <https://tinyurl.com/yc49hjps>

📌 How to Make KUMIKO Grids - New Kumiko Sleds

- ♦ Here's how you can prepare the wood was raised earlier. Sleds for sale or to copy and the process is shown. <https://tinyurl.com/4n4unypf>

📌 Make Kumiko Grids Easier! - V2 Kumiko Sled

- ♦ How to make the Kumiko Sled (v. 2) from above. <https://tinyurl.com/46vx7emt>

📌 NO ONE HAS EVER TRIED THIS!! Bent Kumiko Chandelier

- ♦ Bending Kumiko. Suffice it to say, it's exciting. <https://tinyurl.com/3enn5rn2>

📌 Making a Tambour Box & Embracing Imperfections

- ♦ The imperfections are in the wood, not the construction. <https://tinyurl.com/yfhhbztmu>

📌 Preventing Rust

- ♦ Things that can be purchased to prevent rust so that you do not have to get rid of the damage, and a few solution on how to get rid of any rust that does develop. <https://tinyurl.com/24ukp44a>

📌 Spreading Glue for Excellent Assembly of Glue Joints

- ♦ A good review of some basic stuff covers various possible gluing opportunities. <https://tinyurl.com/2p9kfd2x>

📌 Chisel Storage

- ♦ A reflection on various approaches used to store chisels <https://tinyurl.com/4vyrtvx4>

📌 Fitting flush hinges for cabinets [video #314]

- ♦ An excellent video showing how to install no-mortise hinges <https://tinyurl.com/42vbevsk>

📌 How to Choose a Finish, by Bob Flexner

- ♦ An easy-to-understand breakdown for choosing a finish <https://tinyurl.com/4tx5ahnm>

📌 DIY The Perfect Shooting Board (2024)

- ♦ Bob Cosman shows his construction approach." <https://tinyurl.com/2dw23vud>

📌 You've never seen a wood finish like this! (Cures in 2-Minutes!)

- ♦ This is a UV-curing finish. Since Stumpy is hawking it, he's either oversimplifying things, or the MSDS sheets at the company are overworrying things. Overall, though, it seems to be a potentially fantastic thing for those for whom it fits their workflow. <https://tinyurl.com/yjexmhcj>

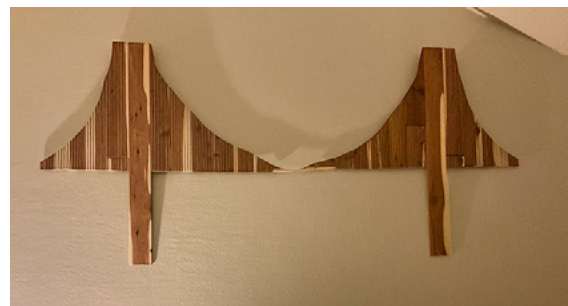
📌 The Sagulator

- ♦ If you want help figuring out how much a shelf is going to sag, this website (part of Woodbin.com) will help you calculate how wide, thick, and long a board needs to be to avoid sagging. <https://tinyurl.com/484wadcw>

My Continuing Projects

By Dave McClave

I'm crazy about suspension bridges. I guess my favorites are the Brooklyn Bridge, the Golden Gate, and the Verrazano Narrows Bridge connecting Staten Island to Brooklyn.



I call this my Eastern Red Cedar Bridge. It is suspended over my bed in the apartment in Oxnard. May it stay suspended as long as the Brooklyn Bridge.

Carrying a Torchiere

By Greg Golden

My sister had commented that her torchiere floor lamp was not very effective in her living room. It was a cheap one anyway. She was browsing online for new ones, but none seemed to interest her. I offered to build her one of wood. This was around January, and I started penciling out ideas from time to time. There was no deadline.



By March, I had done enough designing to make a prototype. The prototype is pine at full scale (approx 6' tall). Here is a photo of me giving it some thought and looking for any changes I would make before building the real thing.

Sis had done some woodwork very briefly in the 1980s and knew enough about lumber to avoid pine. She specified cherry, and so cherry it would be.

During the prototype's assembly, I also experimented with several different LED assemblies for the top. I settled on a unit from Amazon that emits 3400 lumens and has switchable light colors: 3000K, 4000K, and 5000 K. It's dimmable, too, which was one of the features I wanted to include. It requires 120 volts AC, so I would need to bring the wiring all the way up top.

Each leg of the lamp is 1x8 cherry, a tapered trapezoid, 1" wide on top, 6" wide on the bottom, with both long sides being the same length (approx 72"). I had to construct a jig just to cut these pieces.

I also had to bury the wiring in one of the legs, so I used a router to cut a groove 5/16" wide by 3/8" deep all the way down the leg, from top to bottom. I used SPT-1 wire and laid it in the groove, then secured it by pressing and gluing a 5/16" dowel over the groove to cover it up. After the glue had set, I planed off the excess part of



the dowel.

Originally, I had placed the power switch in a standard outlet box, cut into one leg near the bottom. This can be seen in the photo of the prototype. However, I did not want the box to show its ugly blue back behind the leg. I never came up with a solution to improve that feature, so I eliminated it before doing the finished product. (We ended up placing a pass-thru switch on the line cord.)

The base is a 16" diameter circle in two layers. The two circular boards are the same, attached to each other, but the top board has four rectangular openings to accept the bottom ends of the legs. The bottom board got four felt feet just for good measure.

The lamp's top has three pieces:

First, two circular discs, 3/4" thick by 12" diameter. The LED assembly is centered on top of this, and the third piece of wood is a ring of OD 14" and an inner diameter of 9.5". This ring directs the light upward only, blocking it from side glare.

I finished the round pieces with two-inch cherry edge banding. All the pieces were assembled for fit testing and then taken apart again.

Sanding was done in four stages to a final grit of 500, then finished with Watco Danish Oil. Once reassembled, I installed the LED unit at the top and the cord and switch at the bottom. Despite a six-month evolution from concept to finished product, my sister is extremely happy with the result.

