



San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

Meeting Minutes

by Jim Kelly

SFVW – Minutes May 16, 2024 meeting

There were no first-time visitors, but Leon Patterson, who had joined us last year, is back in the area full-time now and becoming a member.

Announcements

We have one remaining Rockler gift card, which can be used online. It will be awarded to the winner of a July challenge to make a kitchen item, such as a cutting board or salad tongs—whatever floats your boat.

The Design meetings will start again on the fourth Thursday of each month. There is no specific agenda, but rather an opportunity for club members to get together, present issues they have in their shops, and seek ideas for solutions from other attendees. Eitan offered to host the first meeting, but he will not be here for the fourth Thursday of May so that the first meeting will be in June.

At the June meeting, we will have a tool “garage sale.” Bring in tools you no longer need, set a price, and upon sale, donate all, some, or none of the proceeds to the club to fund our projects, mostly to purchase parts for the toy builds.

Former members can continue to receive the Plane Talk if they wish. However, they will not receive sales, tours, rosters, or anything outside of the newsletter.

A Safety Committee is being formed to vet safety tips before posting them on the website. Bob Behnke will chair the committee, which includes Stefan Dusedau, Chuck Nickerson, John Fisher, and Gary Coyne.

The Toy Build will be at El Camino Charter High School on Saturday and Sunday, October 19th and 20th. All are invited to enjoy some camaraderie and

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Our President says...

by Jim Baldridge

Who Are The Greats?

What constitutes a great woodworker? This is a question for the ages. In one person’s mind, maybe he or she is the best. But what really makes that person the best? Is it the wood one uses, the project’s complexity, the sanding, the finish, or could it be the best and most expensive tools!?

Most may consider those whose notoriety makes them famous, but does that necessarily make them the best and/or greatest? Let us be honest. Many of the greats have apprentices and helpers who do much of the work and who go unnoticed. We should all be so fortunate to have that kind of help, but then what fun would wood-working be at that point?

I have met many craftspeople over the years, and they could do beautiful projects using scrap wood and minimal tools. My paternal grandfather was a poor dirt farmer from Missouri. He moved his family to Southern California in the late ’30s. Still very poor and living on government assistance, his family needed furniture. He gathered scrap wood from the trash piles at construction sites. With this wood, Grandpa

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June Presentation:

What’s Up with Routers with Rich Wedler

Be sure to join us for the June meeting, where speaker Rich Wedler of MicroFence will be in person to discuss “Getting the Most From Your Router.” Rich will review several router-related topics, including inlay techniques and adjusting dados to handle current plywood issues. Don’t miss this informative demonstration!



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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help us with our biggest project of the year.

Reports

Jeff Bremer reports that we are in good shape for funding the extras for this year's Toy Build. If we can't get all we need made and donated, we should be able to buy a few dolls. Jeff also reminded those who haven't yet paid their dues for this year that they are past due.

Jim Kelly reported that the Toy Committee is progressing well on this year's toys. He has gotten two loads of lumber from Swaner Hardwood, which looks like it will be enough, and will be ordering sheet goods from Anderson Plywood in June. He also noted that each year, Swaner donates several thousand dollars worth of hardwood and Anderson several hundred dollars worth of sheet goods, i.e., plywood and marker board.

Without these donations, we couldn't build all the toys we do. He urged members to visit these vendors when next in the market for hardwood or plywood for their own projects. Jeff then sought volunteers to shellac wheels for the race cars he is building. Three



members stepped up.

Greg Golden, the Snack Coordinator, reported that Chuck Nickerson had provided the snacks for May, and Tom Ferkel volunteered to provide June's.

Emily Lichtman reported that the May presentation would be



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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

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created two bedroom sets with night stands, a dining room table with matching chairs, and a corner hutch from this scrap. He had nothing fancy in the way of tools: hand saws, brace and bit, hammer, framing square. I would venture to guess that most nails were reclaimed, straightened, and reused. The man was a virtual genius, simple, humble, but appreciated all that life had to offer him. He never complained because he truly understood his lot in life. Every penny he worked for went to the existence of his wife and children. Could it be I am prejudiced in his favor? Absolutely, he was the greatest woodworker I have known. His persona and love for life and family made him the best!

Trust me when I say the greats of the woodworking genre are definitely at the top of our game. No question and no doubt! But the wonderful part of our calling is that the best walk among us! Our friends, workmates, siblings, parents, and grandparents. It is whom you judge to be the best.

Are you one of the greats!?

Let the sawdust fly,

Jim Baldrige



Balboa Recreation Center Location
Map courtesy of Google Maps

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on Sketchup by Luke Wyatt; June will either be a presentation on finishing or a presentation on using handsaws by Chuck Nickerson (Update: June's meeting will be "Getting the Most from your Router" by Rich Wedler); July will be a presentation on fixing joinery mistakes by Gary Rogowski via ZOOM; August will be a presentation on turning by John Fisher; September will be jigs and fixtures by everyone; October will be a presentation on the CO₂ Laser by Calvin Sov; November will be a super show and tell; and December will be our annual holiday party.



Q&A

Chuck Nickerson has a project requiring him to do some brazing, and he asked if someone could teach him how. It was suggested he contact Mike Wells, who was not present.

Tips & Tricks

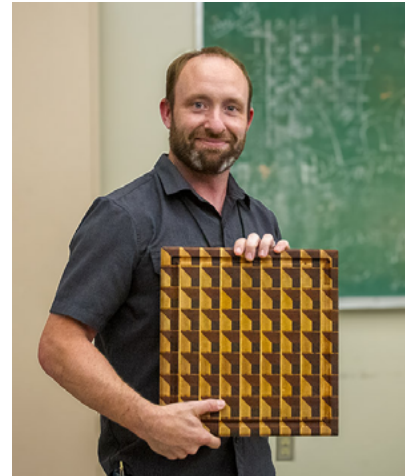
Jim Kelly suggested that all the measuring tools be compared before starting a project to ensure their scales match. This is particularly critical when using a tape measure, as the tab on the end is easily deformed, and over time, it moves more than just its thickness per design.

Show and Tell

David Feinner showed us a three-string instrument he found while cleaning his mother-in-law's house. Tom

Ferkel identified it as a Strum Stick or a Strumbly. It is a kind of dulcimer.

Luke Wyatt showed us an end grain cutting board he had made from contrasting woods. This gave it a 3-D



appearance while keeping its surface perfectly flat.

Sammy Azaren showed us a wooden hand plane he had made at one of Jeff's classes.

Marc Collins showed us some videos of a light show he sets up outside his home during the holidays. It was an outgrowth of the LED lamp that he made some

time back and shared at an earlier Show and Tell.

Before we broke, Jim Baldridge presented Jack Robbins with a plaque to thank him for his years of service to the group. He and his wife are getting ready to move to Santa Rosa to be closer to family. Inset into the plaque was a miniature, functional, low-angle jack plane.



Presentation

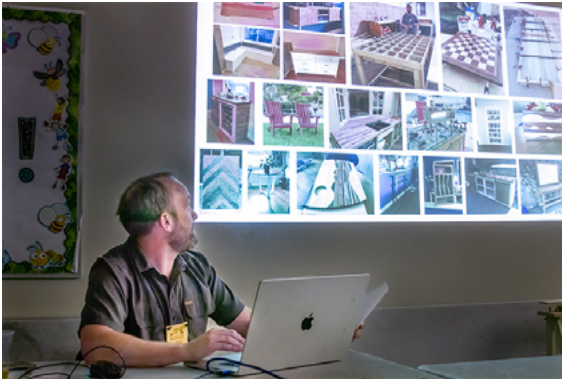
Luke Wyatt gave a presentation on how he has used SketchUp. He taught himself how to use SketchUp by watching many YouTube videos and trial and error. He told us that there is a free pre-2017 version and a newer version available for different monthly fees, depending on the features you desire.

Luke showed us multiple three-dimensional drawings he created while working to design an entertainment center for a friend's living room. He started by carefully measuring the space in which the entertainment center would go and then making a visual scale mock-up of the space. He could then add shelves, cabinets, and so forth. After several

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iterations, all parties agreed upon the final design. The features of SketchUp provided him with cut lists, layouts of different components on individual pieces of lumber, and a listing of the lumber he needed to purchase to fabricate the finished product.

He found that by bringing along a print-out of the layout drawings and some chalk, he



could lay out the individual parts on the boards he bought and, when back in the shop, do all the rough milling without a bunch of head scratching as to what parts go on which boards. He figured he spent about 20 hours doing the Sketchup work and 80 hours building the final product. By getting a buy-off on the computer renderings, there were no surprises to the friend when the finished product was brought over and installed.

San Fernando Valley Woodworkers Tool Garage Sale – Thursday, June 20, 7pm

Be sure to attend our June meeting if you have tools that you want to sell. This is a great opportunity to clear out tools, hardware, or other woodworking supplies that you aren't using and just take up space. Which means there will be some great deals for other club members!

Please plan to come early so you have your things set up before the meeting begins at 7 PM. All unsold items must be taken home with you. **Sellers may want to label their items with blue tape or other tag with the price, and with your name** (in case it gets moved, or someone wants to ask you a question, etc.). Each person will handle their own sales and some will be donating a portion of their proceeds to the club to fund our toy builds and other activities.

If you are planning on bringing items to sell, please email Eitan at eitan.ginsburg@gmail.com at least a few days ahead of the meeting so we'll know how many tables to set up for this.



From the Web

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

Wish I Knew About These 40 "Zip Tie" Ideas Earlier, I Would Have Saved A Lot Of Time

- ♦ Some of these are clever, others not so much. If you like royalty-free music, keep the sound on.

<https://tinyurl.com/yc7fc9sn>

The Incredible Technology Behind Sandpaper

- ♦ Self-explanatory

<https://tinyurl.com/3j4ptddv>

Craft Video Dictionary

- ♦ A collection of videos showing how to do a variety of techniques for a variety of crafts.

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

Craft in America

- ♦ A website that evolved from the Craft in America show from PBS (they have a Los Angeles museum on 3rd). This site has links to many of their TV episodes.

<https://tinyurl.com/2z6yjaui>

Hand Cut Dovetails | How to Tweak your Dovetails for a Better Fit

- ♦ Although Cosman is indirectly selling his jig, he also clearly explains the dynamics of getting a perfect fit for hand-made dovetails.

<https://tinyurl.com/2uv4fp6f>

The Plywood Primer: Beginner's Guide to Building with Plywood

- ♦ A general good review of dealing with plywood

<https://tinyurl.com/4psb39db>

HIDARI (Pilot Film) - The Stop-Motion Samurai Film

- ♦ Stop-motion, woodworking, and Samurai. This is just fun.

<https://tinyurl.com/2kfz3kex>

Full version: Behind the scenes of HIDARI: The Stop-motion Samurai Film

- ♦ If you enjoyed the film above, this one shows how it was made. Settle back to be amazed.

<https://tinyurl.com/yjw5p5m>

7 Things you didn't know your workshop needed

- ♦ A presentation of seven products that may help you in your shop.

<https://tinyurl.com/yrvned7>

Modern Woodworking Bench

- ♦ One man's creation for a great woodworking bench with some clever solutions to a variety of potential issues.

<https://tinyurl.com/mryjnxu2>

The Risk With Buying DeWalt Tools & Accessories on Amazon

- ♦ The catch presented is that Amazon is not an official online retailer for DeWalt Tools

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

Mortise and Tenon | Through Wedged (New Method)

- ♦ A different way of making a wedged mortice. This does save you a couple of steps.

<https://tinyurl.com/2v56bmmh>

Here's How You Build A Router Sled

- ♦ This guy came up with a fairly inexpensive router sled design that can be adapted to different sized boards.

<https://tinyurl.com/mpfw97p5>

Illusions in wood

- ♦ The author shows how he used veneer to cover up a different wood for a base to a dresser

<https://tinyurl.com/4xj352hp>

Joel's Blog; Manufacturing Specialization

- ♦ The author puts an interesting perspective on customization and specialization regarding how businesses can function and how we hobbyists can be different.

<https://tinyurl.com/52ph59z5>

Framed

- ♦ A collection of mistakes, Murphy's Law issues, and general amusing events we've all experienced.

<https://tinyurl.com/3jz84mmc>

My Yard Bench

by Greg, Golden

In April, I built Paula a very simple redwood planter box for backyard veggies. Halfway into construction, she increased its size, and we purchased more lumber. Then I had a bunch of short redwood 2 X 4s left over. SO..., I made this bench just for fun.



I did take the trouble to joint and edge-glue four planks together for the top, using Titebond II. The runners and legs are all just ordinary 2 X 4s. I fastened everything with pocket screws to keep a clean appearance on top.

My finish is a Varathane oil-based exterior satin polyurethane. I had used the same product in "gloss" sheen last time, but the weather beats up the finish. I'm hoping the "satin" sheen will survive better without showing the wear as fast.