This Month’s Meeting - Galen Cassidy

September’s Program:

Back to Basics, the Essentials of Furniture Making

Part one: Material Selection

This month’s program will be the second part in the Back to Basics series and will focus on material selection. The presenter or host for this program is Tom at Holtzen Woodworking, 317 North Osage.

Depending on where you are coming from, the best entry is off of Kellogg on to Seneca, North on Seneca to Douglas, East on Douglas, then left onto Osage. Tom will be giving a tour of his facility and a talk about lumber selection. For those members who are not familiar with Holtzen Woodworking they are a local millwork company that runs thousands of board feet of moulding annually. The lumber that they use is quite varied and includes all of the typical domestic species as well as some exotics. This will be an interesting program and all members should plan on attending it.

President’s Corner – David Fowler

Guild Members,

This month a round of applause goes to both Bernley and Phillip for their presentations on design. Both presentations and designs were impressive to say the least. This was a great kick-off program for the Back to Basics series.
It was interesting to learn about the design process from two varying viewpoints. While the voting was close, Bernley’s design was selected. It effectively incorporates many design and woodworking elements that we will be studying throughout the Back to Basics series.

The logical next program, in the series, is material selection. Now that we have the design it’s time to buy the materials. How do you decide which wood to use? Should you buy something inexpensive or buy only the best? What do you look for in lumber and what should you avoid? This month’s host will be Holtzen Woodworking Inc, manufacturer of all shapes and sizes of hardwood molding. We’ll be treated to a tour of the manufacturing facility, and then Tom will discuss what to look for when choosing hardwood for a project.

The entire Back to Basics series offers excellent opportunities to invite friends, family, in-laws, or anyone interested in learning more about our craft. Some may be hesitant to join a group of “experts,” but would jump right in to learn basic skills. Let’s encourage others to experience our enthusiasm and the joy of woodworking! Don’t forget to tell them about social hour and refreshments.

Thanks goes to Ricky Powell, as well, for his demonstration of rust removal using electrolysis.

Fall is a great time to be out in the garage working on projects. Enjoy.

**Last Month’s Meeting – Mike Hutton**

**Guests-** Penny and Bob Kralicek
Dean Lash
Dan Blair
Harold Snavley

**Business –** The guild passed a motion to authorize the officers to purchase a PA system similar to the one we have been borrowing. The officers may spend up to $500 for the system.

The guild by-laws were published in last month’s newsletter.

**Toy Program –** All painted toys to be decorated by area artists need to be turned in by the end of September. Contact Gary Vreeland or John Belt for painted toys.

**Show and Tell-**

Rose Gibbons discussed her participation in the Sacramento CA Shopsmith program. Included were a poplar shaker pedestal table, walnut bowl, segmented turning and candlestick holders. She learned a lot from that type of programming and is looking forward to the Back-to-Basics program!

Ken Jones showed his Milwaukee drill bit set that he won following the July program, donated by the Big Tool Store in Derby.

Bernley Asel showed his portable whiteboard easel that he made and donated to the guild. He also showed a 16 x 26 walnut nightstand with curly maple drawer pulls.

Vic Bender showed us his ladybug bank and trucks that he and his grandson are building for the toy program. His grandson liked the painting portion!

**Program-**

This month’s program was presented by Bernley Asel, Phillip Baumer from Blake-Clotia’ and Ricky Powell.

As the first program on the Back-to-Basics series, both Bernley and Phillip were given the exact same design features requirements but weren’t told what or how to design a project that incorporated all of those features. Some of the features were it had to incorporate were two drawers, paneled doors, advanced joinery, bent laminations, and veneer work.
Neither designer liked that fixed set of criteria, as it isn’t typically where you start! They both agreed that design is a blend of function and form with the design landing somewhere between the extremes.

Bernley showed his design evolution, where he sketched out his design of a buffet table with the drawers in the middle and doors at each end, but that left little usable space and made little cubbyholes.

His design evolved to where the doors were moved to the middle where a functional storage space was pleasing to the eye. Bernley’s piece was designed with the majority in walnut, with light colored door panels and drawer pulls.

He usually builds a ¼ scale model to aid in visualization and thinking through the build steps before he commits to building the real piece.

He said that darker colored woods add “mass” to a piece whereas light colored tends to make something “lighter or minimized”.

Phillip, a trained architectural interior designer, has been in the business for approximately 20 years, 10 with Blake-Clotia’. He likes art deco type of designs such as pieces by Edward Wormley with the post war simplicity. Phillip designed an entertainment center with the TV area behind doors. By moving the “weight” off of the floor, the design “lightens”. The doors might be done with sandblasted glass, plastic laminates, metal, etc to mix the visualization of the piece. He believes that pieces don’t have to be just wood to be interesting and functional. Phillip thought that his piece would look good in straight grained douglas fir or ash. As a professional, he must balance speed, form, function and cost into each piece he designs for his customers.

Blake-Clotia’ designed, built, and installed the fixtures in the Wichita Family Vision Clinic at 437 N. Tyler Rd. If you want to see some of Phillip’s work in real-life.

Ricky Powell showed us how to remove rust from tools by using electrolysis. He mixed water and laundry washing soda (NOT caustic soda) in a 5-gallon bucket.

Added sacrificial electrodes and showed how to hook up the electrical connections to a battery charger so that nobody gets hurt. And then he plunked in a rusty hedge clipper half. In less than 3 hours, it was amazing how much rust was removed from the clipper and
deposited on the rods. If you want more information, contact Ricky or there are articles on the Internet.

From the Editor – Ray Smith
A visit to Bernley Asel’s home

Bernley’s creations have always impressed me. First he shows us the quarter sized model and then the real thing a month (or so) later. I called Bernley and asked for a tour of the projects that he has made over the years and a tour of his shop. The fine gentleman immediately agreed and invited me over. From here on I think I’ll just let the pictures speak for themselves.

The Models

A bedroom convenience stand

The Desk Chair

Bernley’s 3 stage shop air filter
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woodworker, a member of our guild and can
help with your product needs.
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Wichita, KS 6721

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