This month's meeting

The December program is being presented by Dennis Laird of the Big Tool Store showing woodworking related goodies for 2016.

From the President’s Corner – December 2015

The Holidays are quickly approaching and like many of you, I have a lot to get finished up. I have six gifts made but I still need to get a finish applied, let them cure, and then get them wrapped (maybe I can get Carolyn to do that part?). The biggest Holiday project will probably not get completed before guests start showing up. Since Oct. 30th, when Carolyn and I found out that our kids and grandkids were coming back to Kansas for the Holidays, we’ve been working on remodeling our upstairs bathroom. The tub/shower finally arrived Wed. of last week, which really threw a wrench in the works. I finished installing the new plumbing requirements, got the tub installed and got the stem wall and soffit for the new linen cabinet made yesterday (Dec. 13). Now I’m ready for the sheetrock over the old lath and plaster walls. Oh, I forgot, I also had to rebuild a sash for the window. Hopefully I get the sheetrock up today, and then get the taping done tomorrow and Wed.

Of course, I still have to set the linen cabinet, set the vanity and install the sink, paint the walls and trim, install the new floating wood floor, and re-install the stool. I’ve told Carolyn that if everything isn’t done by the 22nd (the day everyone arrives) the bathroom will at least be in a useable condition. Did I mention that Carolyn really has helped in this process!

Enough about me and my “problems”. I really am looking forward to being your President. I wish you all the very best and please have a save and Happy Holidays!

Clark D. Shultz

From the Out Going President,

Well, my year as President of the Guild is up. And I’ve enjoyed it. (It’s way better than being vice-president!)

As the year started I was hoping that we could put together some kind of shop for our members. Because of Make ICT there is now a wood shop available for those don’t have a place, or the big equipment. It does require a monthly Make ICT membership, but the cost is not excessive. And the club has no liability.
I want to thank all who made this year so enjoyable. Those who presented programs. The members who shared their projects with us. Even the members who attended the meetings.

I especially want to thank Mike Hutton for arranging for Mark Adams to be here. I hope that we will have another expert come this next year.

Your Past President,

Burt Unruh

Old Business and Regular Monthly Announcements

Sunflower Woodworkers Guild Minutes 11-24-2015
GUEST: Glen White

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS: Jerry Keen Knot Hole editor; Bill Patton Membership; Kenny Hill Toy Chairman; Eric Lamp Librarian; Mike Hutton Treasurer; Ron Jackson Secretary; Vince Meyer Vice Pres; Clark Shultz Vice Pres; Burt Unruh President

NEW OFFICERS SLATE VOTED INTO OFFICE FOR 2016: President – Clark Shultz; Vice Pres – Larry Bakula; Vice Pres – Vince Meyer; Treasurer – Jerry Carpenter; Secretary – Dale Dutcher; Editor – Jerry Keen; Membership – Les Kahler; Librarian - Eric Lamp.

SHOW N TELL: Jerry Keen brought a live edge table made from Ponderosa pine. The tree was felled dead in NW Iowa, sawn into boards, dried 10 yrs. When Jerry laid eyes on these boards he knew he had to make something from them due to their distinctive figure and colors.

Bill Tumbleson brought a striking mitered-corner box with contrasting splines and topped with a beautiful Walnut lid.

Larry Roth makes beautiful walnut and maple crosses. He brought one to show and then demonstrated the method he uses to get the routed bevel edges on the small parts. He showed a custom clamp he made to hold his router into the position needed.
Kathryn Vernom made an exercise step from a maple tree cut down in her yard.

Kenny Hill brought a toy wagon example of some that he made and donated to the Salvation Army for their Christmas toy event. He reminded us that nearly 500 toys have been made and donated this year. He also showed a sled he used to cut out the round wheels on his bandsaw.

**TABLE SAW SLEDS: Program by Eric Lamp**

Eric discussed that many special purpose sleds are used on the table saw. The most common, and usually the first sled for most of us to use, is the Cross Sled Sled. But, others were listed: miter sled, spline sled, cutoff sled, dado sled, sharpening jig sled, off cut sled box joint sled, dove tail sled and tapering sled are examples of some.

He listed some of the advantages of sleds as – safety, accuracy, and repeatability of cuts, resulting in a more relaxed enjoyment of using your saw.

Most sleds use a variety of materials in their construction, such as MDF, plywood, hardwood, plastic, and metal. Eric likes engineered flooring to make runners to fit the miter slots in the saw or router table. Some materials swell with moisture or temperature changes and may affect the ease of movement through the miter slots. Eric reminded us to not let the runners bottom out in the slots. Some sleds use a single runner and some use doubles.

Sled jigs can be very complicated or very simple. A very simple example is a single piece
sled to which you attach a piece of wood that you then guide through the saw to create a taper or just a straight edge. That simple sled does not need runners as it can reference against the fence. A more complicated example is one that uses multiple adjustable pieces to perform a special purpose, such as a Precision Adjustable Box Joint Sled.

Eric showed how he made one of his cut-off sleds. He used two pieces for his base, but indicated you can use one piece. The final size you can obtain from your available pieces is the main factor in your choice.

Aligning the back sled fence square to the saw blade is key. That fence is first attached without glue and set, using a known square, such as draftsman triangle, square to the saw blade. He discussed the William Ng method of making 5 successive cuts on your sled, rotating the part so the fresh cut is against your back reference fence. The 5th cut off should be approximately 1 inch wide strip. Then measure the difference in the actual width of the two ends with calipers. Divide that by 4 since each cut increased error measured. Then divide that result by the length of your cut off piece. This gives you the error per inch. Next measure from the mounting screw on one end of the sled fence to the other end. Multiply that length by the change per inch you previously found to determine the amount needed to move the sled. Then by use of feeler gauges you can move the sled fence to make it perfectly square to the saw blade. This system does away with the trial and error systems.

Eric also made the case for setting up your 90 degree miter sled differently than most of us have. Instead of where the 90 degree angle is split by sawing straight into it, he made the sled 90 degrees from that. You then cut the parts that overhang the sled edge. He feels this is safer and does not require a saw kerf into your sled.

Eric encouraged us to make and use sleds. He hopes to see some at our Show-N-Tell in the future.
Due to Christmas being on Friday this year I WILL NOT BE HAVING Burt's Barn this month. January’s meeting will be making router template jigs like the ones Mark Adam's showed us.

If you are new to the “Guild”, Burt’s Barn is for hands on learning, creating, and problem solving lead by Burt Unruh. Burt’s Barn is held the Saturday following the general Guild meeting.

The morning is dedicated to a project or to learning tools and techniques. The afternoon is about solving problems and working on our projects. We sharpen tools and help set up equipment. We also do a fair amount of swapping stories.

Burt’s Barn starts at 9:00 Am and runs till Noon. The afternoon starts at 1:00 and runs till 5:00 PM. There is usually a group that goes to lunch together. There is no cost, you buy your own lunch, and you can come when you can and leave when you want to.

Burt’s Barn is located at 2506 W 15th St N, Wichita, KS. 2506 is the first house on the north side of 15th St N west of Meridian. The “barn” is the detached garage at the end of the drive on the south side of the house. The entry door is on the west side.

If you have questions about Burt’s Barn or other woodworking questions feel free to call me at 316-655-4151.

**Book Review**

Most of us guild members work in small shops. There are a few exceptions, however, even our professional members would enjoy and benefit from some of the ideas presented in this book. It is divided into seven sections and each section is comprised of reprinted fine woodworking articles. I suppose, that is the only drawback with a format like this, if you have been a long time subscriber and faithful reader of fine woodworking magazine you would have already read this book.

The sections include "locating and organizing the shop" along with "outfitting with essential tools" which were the sections I found the most useful. Lighting, dust control, Shop safety, mobility, and accessories make up the rest of the sections, each of which have some helpful insights. After reading this book I found myself wanting to improve my shop organization, heating and layout. One philosophy that was prevalent throughout was that your shop is going to be suited specifically to your needs and type of woodworking you enjoy. I had checked this book out from the guild library years ago and I was able to recognize some of the influence it had on my shop, which is still a work in progress.

Eric Lamp
Librarian

A special Thank You to the Sunflower Woodworker's Guild and the Kansas Woodturners for their help in transforming the Neighbor's Store window into an Old Elves' Workshop for the season. We have already received so many compliments, and it has turned a bleak corner of Halstead into a rather magical sight.

For those coming to Halstead to view the window,
it is located on the corner of Third and Main across from City Hall. While here, be sure to visit The Old Hardware Store, owned by Margaret Kreisinger who spoke about cattle trails at the get together at Jerry Carpenters in the fall. Another interesting spot for antique buffs is Halstead Floral, just a couple buildings south of The Old Hardware Store. Halstead Market has absolutely wonderful home-baked breads and cookies--and doughnuts if you get there early enough. For lunch, try Al's Place which features wonderful sandwiches, Golden Harvest, or DiAngelo's Pizza. There is also a Subway restaurant at the end of Main Street. Across the rr tracks the northern end of Main Street you can view the park with the span bridge made popular in the movie Picnic. We hope you will enjoy your time in our little town.

Thank all of you who so generously donated your talent and your props to help us make this special window. We will return all items at the January meeting.

David and Doris vanSlyke
Annual report from the Guild Board of Directors

A recap of 2015

The following is an excerpt from the Guild’s by-laws. The guild has three primary purposes:

A. Education. Above all else, the guild was established to provide educational opportunities to its members. Through programs, seminars, projects, and workshops the guild attempts to develop and advance the woodworking skills and abilities of its members, no matter their level of proficiency.

B. Social. The guild exists to bring together people who share a common interest in woodworking so that they can develop friendships and work relationships that will advance their woodworking endeavors.

C. Community Service. The guild attempts through various types of public activities to provide meaningful service to the community, while at the same time informing the public of the woodworking capabilities of its members.

Stated more simply – share the skill, share the knowledge, share the fun.

The Guild’s elected officers, appointed positions and board of directors guide and lead the Guild’s activities. Some in a very public format and others in the background. At the November meeting these individuals were recognized.

During 2015 the Sunflower Woodworkers Guild met these challenges in many ways. Whether at our regular meetings or off site during the month these activities are worth noting as they reflect the vibrancy of the organization.

Newsletter - Reports the Guild’s activities through photos and articles, of and by our members - sent to all members and available to anyone via our website

Monthly Meetings @ the Wichita Downtown Senior Center

Meeting – we average over 50% of our membership in attendance - an agenda item is to identify and welcome visitors

Show & Tell – a variety of projects by members; from simple to complex

Programs – Each month members step forward to share

  January – Half-a-Sheet ‘O’ Plywood contest judging
  February – Tool sale
  March - How to go from a picture/photo to dimensions for a project
  April - Fasteners
  May – Math in the shop
  June – Making of scrapers
  July – Sharpening of turning tools
  August – Creating curved doors
  September – Building a checker board
  October - Making a trivet with circle cutting jig & router, LED light
  November – Tablesaw jigs
  December – New tools for 2016

Off site activities:

4-H

Over several months a 4-H club built tool totes at a members shop

A one day event with 4-H members building a simple box at a members shop
A one day event with 4-H members learning design and layout at a members shop
Girl Scouts
A half day event at the Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland facility with 7 interactive displays
Brickstreet Arts & Craft Festival
An all day event with 6 interactive displays and over 50 projects
The Big Tool Store
A half day event with 6 interactive displays and several projects
Tablesaw Class
An evening at a members shop demonstrating techniques and safety – run twice
Hand Tool Group
Meets once a month at various members shops
Pembroke Table Class
A series of classes offered by a member for other members to build a classic table
Marc Adams Seminar
Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday
Numerous one on one visits to members shops
Burt's Barn
Saturday after monthly meetings to learn and try techniques
Mid Winter Supper
Members and spouses meet just to get to know one another
Summer & Fall Barbecue
Members and spouses meet just to get to know one another
MakeICT
Several members are involved with setting-up and running this organization's woodworking facility
Halstead High School Shop
Member taught a class on hand planes to students
Maker Faire @ Exploration Place
Interactive displays and projects at this one day event
Halstead Main Street Christmas Window Display
Various Guild members contributed projects

Part of the excerpt used at the beginning of this article reads “no matter their level of proficiency”. Our members projects and the skills and knowledge in creating them exemplify this philosophy. The pride of their creators and the appreciation of their fellow Guild members bring these words - and your Guild - to life.
President
Burt Unruh
burtunruh@cox.net

Vice Presidents
Clark Shultz
cshultz2@cox.net
Vince Meyer
woodhobbyest@aol.com

Secretary
Ron Jackson
rmjacksonod@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Mike Hutton (316)-744-3036
ictwoodworker@cox.net

Librarian
Eric Lamp
ericlamp66@gmail.com

Toy Chairman
Kenny Hill (316) 683-6406

Membership Chairman
Bill Patton threads1@cox.net

Editor: The Knot Hole
Jerry Keen (316) 722-2735
jmkeen118@gmail.com

Sponsor Chairman
Dennis Laird
dalaird@cox.net

Area Guilds and Clubs
South Kansas Wood-turners
Royce Wallace, contact
ho601 Wetmore Drive
Wichita, Kansas 67209-1322
(316) 722-6749
wallburl@att.net

Great Plains Woodcarvers
Wichita Kansas President Walt Kuykendall
wkuykendall@msn.com

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month, ???
sjclarke@juno.com

SPONSORS

The Sunflower Woodworkers’ Guild of
Wichita Kansas publishes
the Knot Hole newsletter
monthly. Deadline for
articles and information is
the 2nd Monday of each
month. Mailing date is the
3rd week of each month.
Permission to reprint
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Jerry Keen
811 Norman

Wichita, KS 67212
E-mail
jmkeen118@gmail.com

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Sunflower Woodworkers Guild membership is voluntary. Our paid dues list are consolidated after the June meeting, eliminating from that list all those who have not paid their 2015 dues. This list determines who gets the Knothole. New and previous members will need to submit new applications when joining.