



OFF-CUTS

How much is your time worth?

So often I have a relative (mother in law), sister, cousin or whoever say to me, after viewing a finished product,” you should sell these things. You could make a lot of money!” I suggest you be very careful before listening to such optimists! They have no idea how much toil is invested in a seemingly innocent item. Often my reply to such verbage these days is “but this is my hobby.”I have been a “professional” woodworker for quite some time and now I just want to enjoy the process.

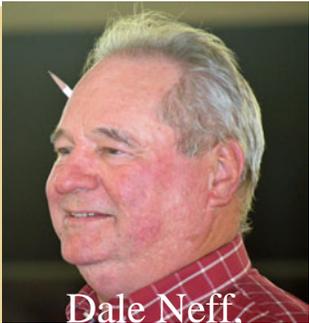
My major complaint about woodworking for money is schedules. Meeting a deadline just sucks the fun out of any project. I used to think that I worked well under pressure. Get the job done and “get the money” was a mantra I embraced. In my maturity I have changed my tune.

I have amassed a fair stock of tasty lumber, tool, skills and with it ideas to use it. Now I have no notion of getting rich from my labors. My personal ambition with the aforementioned assets is to simply take each project a step at a time. Develop a plan and execute as life dictates. No more pressure, no deadlines. I fully understand you who have not yet gained this stage of nirvana. It has always been, and continues to be a temptation to go back into business .

I would caution all ye wannabee profiteers of the trade. Before starting an enterprise of any sort there needs to be a deep soul search. In addition there needs to be a complete forward looking accounting of all that is involved. Just a minor list will include: a business plan, a comprehensive account of all start up costs, consideration to utility costs, wiring, equipment, consumable goods such as finishing materials, raw materials, tooling, and back office costs.

I was astounded when, after being in business for several years, I finally figured out what my real cost of doing business was. Even 15 years ago I found that I needed to bill out at somewhere between \$50 to \$65 per hour in order to cover all the overhead and bring home any bread at all. So many folks think they can undercut this wage by working out of their garage, working in their spare time, using low cost material or thinking that their time is free. Just some basic accounting will bust this myth!

Why would you give away something you cannot recover? Your time! I am not saying “don’t sell your work.” I am only throwing up the red flag for those who might think there is easy money out there to be had in this trade. I want to stress that your time is not free. It is not even cheap! Even if you are retired. Or like me, just tired! So don’t sell yourself short. If you are going to sell your work, take the time to do an objective overview of what it really took to produce what you are selling. Get an appraiser to give you a value just for a real world opinion. It may make you happy, or it may not, but at least you won’t go broke. See you around the woodpile!!



Dale Neff,

In This Issue:

A message from President Dale Neff.....	Front
Board Members, the Picnic & the Build along project.....	pg 2
Upcoming programs.....	pg. 3
Photos from the April Meeting and Show & Tell.....	pg 4
Minutes from the April meeting.....	pg. 5
Two Toms, & Special Interest Groups.....	pg 6

Your Guild Officers for 2013

Dale Neff	President	daleneff@yahoo.com	727-488-8135
Tom Iovino	Vice President	tkiovino@hotmail.com	unpublished
Chris Rau	Treasurer	cwrau@verizon.net	727-522-0839
Jay Marino	Program Director	jaymarino59@gmail.com	727-798-1885
David Ness	Member at large	nessd@tampabay.rr.com	727-421-0146
John Jardin	Member at large	jsjardin@verizon.net	813-446-5740

See you Saturday the Picnic

If you are looking for some food, fun and woodworking, come on out to the St. Petersburg Woodcrafters Guild picnic at noon on Saturday, May 18. We are meeting at shelter 7 at Lake Seminole Park for a great chance to relax and enjoy the company of your fellow guild members.

The guild will provide hot dogs and condiments for everyone to enjoy. Also, for the next two guild meetings, there will be a sign up sheet for potluck items to bring to share with others.

Last year's event had a great carving competition while we were working, and there are plans for more exciting and fun events this year including food, fun, sun, a corn toss & or horseshoes.

--
Tom Iovino



The Great Build Along Project

To be announced at the May Meeting



PRE-GLUE-UP PHOTOS



Box Parts, left to right

- (2) Ends: 7/8" x 7" x 11" with 3/4" x 6 1/2" strip removed from the sides to create a "house" shape. 1/2" x 1/4" dado is 2" from the bottom.
- (1) Bottom: 5/8" x 7" x 16"
- (1) Shelf: 1/2" x 5 13/16" x 15 1/8"
- (1) Side: 3/4" x 6 1/2" x 16" with 1/2" x 1/4" stopped dado, 2" from the bottom.
- (1) Dowel: 3/4" x 15 3/16"
- (1) Side: 3/4" x 4 1/2" x 16" with turnbutton.



Drawer Parts, left to right

- (2) Sides: 1/2" x 2" x 5 3/4" with 1/2" x 1/4" rabbets for drawer back and 1/4" x 1/4" grooves for bottom.
- (1) Front: 3/4" x 2" x 16" with 1/2" x 1/4" dados for drawer sides (3/4" in from the ends) and 1/4" x 1/4" groove for bottom.
- (1) Back: 1/2" x 2" x 14" with 1/4" x 1/4" groove for drawer bottom.
- (1) Bottom: 1/4" x 5 5/16" x 13 7/8"

Upcoming Programs

May Program: Lock Miter Joint with Bill Murphy and Jay Marino

The May program will be about the Lock Miter Joint. Originally intended for the February meeting, this program was re-scheduled due to a lack of time for the presentation. The first thing we will cover will be the analysis of the Lock Miter Joint router bit, how it is designed, how it works, and what the results should be.

Bill went to the Internet for information on how to use the lock miter router bit and put together information from many videos and instructions sites. He approaches the Lock Miter Joint from the technique point of view and will show the techniques he uses on the router table, while Jay solved the problem with jigs. He will show how to construct and use the jigs.

JUNE 2013 PROGRAM

How to build a ukulele.

A luthier builds stringed instruments. Andy Gibson builds stringed instruments in his workshop. Andy will explain how the different components contribute to the sound of the instrument. He will go through the steps of choosing, milling, cutting, and bending the wood for the instrument. Andy will take us through the assembly process with the different techniques, jigs, and tools needed to complete this step. He will show the different embellishments that can be used in the instrument including inlays, bindings, and hardware. He will explain some of the different finishing techniques that can be used to complete this musical instrument

July 2013 Program TOP 10 WOODS!

Dale Neff our own wood guy will cover the woods most used for wood working.

What is the science behind these woods, for their weight, what is their tensile strength?

How to pick the right wood for the right job. How to store wood. Milling the wood: Why mill the wood? How to joint and plane the wood? When to joint and plane the wood?

August 2013 Program the most common used joints

Tom Iovino and Joe Petit will cover the most common used joints.

The use of dowels, splines, and biscuits to support these joints and why.

What is the strength of the joint or the weakness.

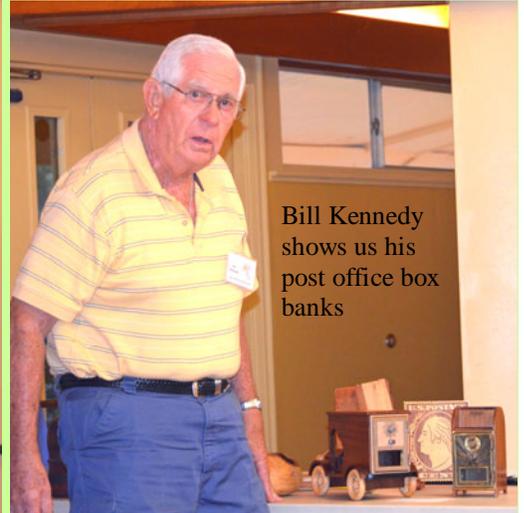
The types of woods that each joint is best suited for and maybe some woods that cannot do very well with certain joints.

Some Pictures from the April Meeting & Show & Tell

John Long shows his turned bowl



Mike Lucile presents the April Meeting



Bill Kennedy shows us his post office box banks

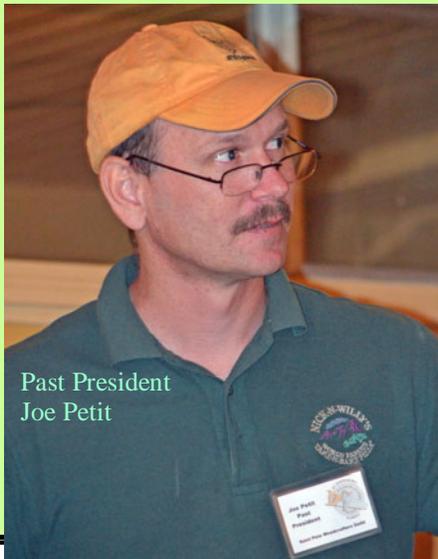
Jay Marino makes a point



David Ness in rapt attention



Charlie Kested with yet another marvelous piece



Past President Joe Petit

Vice President Tom Iovino offers a pistol grip checkering set donated by a neighbor



**St. Petersburg Wood Crafters Guild Meeting Minutes
April 2013
By Chris Rau**

Dale brought the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. He welcomed members and guests and opened with the Guild's motto: "Teach what we know and learn what we don't."

Guests: Norm (Tampa Guild) Banazak, Bill Neff, Paul Carrol (Sp.?)

Announcements: The **Annual Picnic** will be held on Saturday, May 18, at Seminole Lake Park (Pavilion # 7) 10:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Bring a dish to share. Activities: whittling, games, swap meet

There was discussion regarding holding the picnic earlier for the benefit of winter visitors.

2 x 4 Contest deadline is the June meeting. Plan ahead!

S.I.G.s (Small Interest Groups) signup sheets were circulated and information was also on the internet.

Heritage Village Boat House work continues to be on hold.

King of the Woods Challenge by Dale. The discussion centered on mahogany.

50/50: \$ 29 plus a \$ 5 donation and \$ 20 from the sale of a Checking Kit.

Remember that the Guild portion goes to pay for Christmas Party gifts for members.

Show and Tell:

Tom Iovino showed a carving with a router and displayed various carving knives.

John Long showed a Camphor bowl

Bill Kennedy displayed wagons, etc. that were made from recycled post office boxes. Also an 8 x 11 inch 1 cent stamp using a scroll saw.

Jay Marino had a Wells Fargo Urn box with an inlaid top.

Bill Neff - Humidor

Charles Kested - model of a 1900 tractor made with 1500 pieces of wood. He used walnut, birch and ebony.

Dale Neff showed an alternate to how Mike bent wood during last month's program. He constructed his own bending jig.

For Value: Suggestions for a project one can be proud of: Use fine material, Take your time and Plan it out well

Program: "The Design Process" by Mike Fucile.

Mike demonstrated through the use of a power point presentation how to plan out a project from conception. You can figure out what you want to make by making models from foam board. When you rearrange the pieces you may see a different concept than one you were originally thinking of. It also helps to make a full scale drawing of your project.

Wood Magazine Recognizes 2 Tampa Bay Toms

In the latest issue (#219 July 2013) Wood Magazine recognized 2 of our local Toms by publishing an article authored by our VP, Tom Iovino, as well as a note from Tom Jones, President of the Tampa Woodcrafter's Club.

Tom Jones wrote "Honoring veterans one urn at a time" explaining the efforts to provide cremation urns for veterans and the work being done.

Tom Iovino wrote an article, "Plug into the woodwork network" highlighting the availability of networking on the internet with other woodworkers and woodworking groups and forums. He should know as Tom is a prolific blogger and the author of www.tomsworkbench.com.

Congratulations to both Toms!

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

An idea other guilds have developed is SIGS or Special Interest Groups. Sigs would give people a chance to get a deeper understanding and learn refinements to the different areas of interest. You would have pretty much freedom to do whatever you felt like in the SIG. You would choose where to meet and what to cover. It would really be more of a get together of people with similar interests who want to refine their techniques, and learn more about that particular facet of woodworking. You could have show and tell at the SIGs that could be more in depth and get into greater detail than you might the Show and Tell at the general meeting. Those refinements and extra details might go over the heads of, and seem boring, to the general membership, but in the SIG it would be priceless.

We presented sign-up sheets at the April meeting for the SIGs and will continue to do so. Sign up for as many as you think you might be interested in. Signing up does not mean that you are committed to joining and attending any of the meetings.

What we're really trying to accomplish at this point is to see the level of interest in the different facets of woodworking. The SIG members themselves will establish their group's objectives, the frequency of meetings and what, if any expenses there may be. Possible SIGS include scroll saw, Intarsia, routers, carving, box making, furniture making, hand tools, joinery, finishing, toy making, musical instruments, band saw, and jigs.



ST PETERSBURG WOODCRAFTERS GUILD

c/o Grace Lutheran Church
4301 16th Street North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33762

TO:

This publication sponsored by:

WOODCRAFT[®]
Helping You Make Wood Work[®]
Independently Owned and Operated by
Narwani's Shopping Center USA LLC

18891 US Highway 19 North
Clearwater, FL 33764
Email: clearwater@mywoodcraft.com

Phone: 727-532-6888
Fax: 727-499-7866
Toll Free: 866-580-8893



The Guild meets every 4th Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7PM in the Grace Lutheran Meeting Hall. 4301 16th Street North on the corner of 16th Street N & Haines Rd.