



OFF-CUTS

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QUALITY: Old School Tools



Last month, Lee Smith demonstrated his shaving horse for the Guild. This was an excellent example of traditional tools which work well despite their rustic appearance. Specifically, he used a draw knife to shape the tenons on chair legs. Note that draw knives are not the same thing as spoke shaves. I also brought in a stone adze, circa 1960's out of New Guinea. It had a simple but sophisticated design which was none the less effective for hollowing out canoes and other more gruesome applications. All of these tools have withstood the test of time even with modern replacements.

The draw knife is basically a blade with two handles which you use to pull the edge across a piece of wood to shave parts off. Normally, the bevel side is down giving more control over the cut.

It is similar to a chisel except you pull it rather than push. The spoke shave is similar, but the armature around the blade acts as a sole to limit the depth of cut. In that aspect, a spoke shave is

similar to a block plane.

Stone tools have been around for thousands of years. The shift from stone tools to metal wasn't so much due to effectiveness, but rather for durability. Stone tools were plenty sharp, but they were brittle and often lost their edge. Metal tools, while sharper, were also able to hold that edge longer. Which brings us to carbide teeth, which are able to hold their edge even longer. In spite of holding an edge longer, carbides are not as sharp as steel knives and they also take specialized tools for sharpening. These old tools were developed over thousands of years, compared to a few years or even months of designing the modern tools. That is why you see antique hand tools polished and ready for use and display, while their modern equivalents got used once and thrown into the junk drawer. It may look like a simple tool, but thousands of craftsmen have contributed to

designing it to be the best it can be.



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The Tues October 25th program will be presenting Jigs & Fixtures, Andy Gibson's ukeleles and more of William Wegmuller's carvings. 7PM at Grace Lutheran in St Petersburg. Bring your friends and show-n-tell items too!



We teach what we know and learn what we don't.

Guild Meeting Minutes September 27, 2011

Joe Pettit called the meeting to order. He repeated our motto. He welcomed visitors Brian Pape who builds cabinets professionally, David Hershman who wants to learn more about woodworking and new member John Hufford who wants to learn more about woodworking.

We had a sign-up to work the 2012 State Fair with an explanation of the days we will cover and the number of workers needed for each shift. Joe had a copy of the rules for the furniture division and explained the advanced categories for all 1st place and Best of Show past winners.

Phil Noto had wooden parts for the Christmas Toy Shop doll bed project which was donated by Home Depot of Clearwater and Dunedin. He had blanks for 96 beds to be made by the membership. Everyone was encouraged to take a number of parts home to make the beds. All beds need to be taken to the Toy Shop on 16 ST N when completed. Jim Smoot is the contact person.

John Jardin and Don Avery had details of 5 wood turning lathes for sale by the Hillsboro Community College. They had photographs and prices.

The work groups for the Christmas Party Table Center Pieces were read and anyone not on the list was encouraged to sign up. The 2012 officer nominating group #5 was announced and prospective officers were asked to contact the committee which is headed by Chuck Bigby. The members are Chris Rau, Chuck Bigby and John Epper.

Gary White showed scroll saw angels that he made from patterns from Steve Good's Scroll Saw Workshop site. He also showed some work that was painted in Toll Work method for the kitchen. He also showed a Seyco Scrollers Drill Press. Joe Pettit showed an old genuine stone age type adze from a cannibal tribe in New Guinea used for hollowing out wooden canoes and going to war. Del Ray Morris sent word that Woodcrafters in Clearwater is having their tent sale Oct 22 and the Jim and Slims sale is Dec 2nd. Joe Piech won the 50/50 by correctly answering the question.

The Program was member Lee Smith demonstrating a "shaving Horse." Other members tried their hand on the old horse and used it effectively to make some legs for a rustic stool.

Christmas work groups: Group #1- Jim Smoot, Frank Demina; Group #2- John Hoke, Richard and Jan Samay, Don Wooldredge; Group #3- Wayne Hyman, Bernie McDonald, Larry Conroy; Group #4- Bob Meehan, Camille Newton, Charlie Webster, Grant Craig; Group #6- Joe Pettit, Phil Noto, Joe Piech, Ted Bateman; Group #7- Al Richmond, Randy and Jo Watson, Kevin Clifford, Jr; Group #8- Steve Stutts, Pete Richardson, Nick Brown,; Group #9- John Seals, Bill Murphy, Jim Flynt, Kevin Clifford, Sr, Gary White; Group #10- John Long, Lee Smith.

The Nominating Committee will have other members added. They will be responsible for contacting members and presenting a list of nominations for the 2012 officers of the guild at the October meeting. Group #5- Nominating Committee- John Epper, Chuck Bigby, Chris

Rau.

Treasurer's Report: \$5200 balance and 66 current members



Lee Smith demonstrated his Shaving Horse techniques to make a simple rustic stool.



Randy learned fast shaving a stool leg.



Joe Pettit displays a stone adze from a cannibal tribe in New Guinea and a book about the topic.



Featured Member of the Month, Jim Smoot



Jim Smoot is the liveliest 89 year old woodworker I know. A truly friendly and easy to talk with individual, I spent a little time with Jim recently and got to know one of our members a little better. Jim was a carpenter years ago, and even built his own home back in Michigan. His love of woodworking grew from an evolution of working in carpentry. He says he had always built things, and once built a cradle for his Daughter. Years later he built a race car bed and a rocking horse for his Grandson. He has also built furniture, including the side table shown here above and these lovely tray tables.

Now Jim spends much of his time being the Guild's representative to the Christmas Toy Workshop, where there is always more work to do than workers to do it. He still needs help with doll beds and alligator crayon holders if anyone can help.

Jim has a shop behind his home in St. Petersburg which is where he pursues his main woodworking activity, scrollsawing. Jim is the proud owner of an RBI Hawk 16 inch scrollsaw and makes many different items often as gifts for friends and relatives. His scrollsaw is his favorite tool, although his shop is full of tools, old and new. He makes many of his projects from wood that others have rejected, recycling furniture doors, tabletops and other discards into new and appreciated gifts. Jim's advice to new woodworkers, "scan the classifieds and garage sales and you can find used tools better than the new ones at a better price.



Interviewed and written by Bill Murphy. Contact Bill to suggest or volunteer for an interview.



If you want to help Jim by working to make toys for Christmas, call Jim to meet together, get plans for toys or get materials 727-526-7201



Gary White made this Angel LED candle holder.

Officers And Contact Info

- President - Joe Pettit pettitwoodworks@gmail.com 727-526-3100
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Minuteman Press of St. Petersburg logo and contact information for Barbara Eisenman, including services like Flyers, Postcards, Invitations, Letterheads, Business Cards, Banners, Invoices, Envelopes, Newsletters, and Rubber Stamps.



Board Minutes 10-5-2011

The meeting was attended by VP Chuck Bibgy (presiding), Steve Stutts, Camille Newton and Joe Piech. Visitors were Chris Rau and Dale Neff.

Chris Rau gave a report from his Wife Mrs. Maggie Rau on the cost estimates of the Christmas Dinner set for Dec 13th, 2011. Her menu will be Pot Roast and Gravy, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, drinks, table cloths, condiments, plastic ware, cups and servers. The cost will be around \$350 for 60 people. The board voted unanimously to accept her proposal and agree to give her a \$200 deposit at the next meeting. The tickets for the Christmas Party will be reduced to \$8 per person and any funds left will be give to Mrs. Rau to use as she sees fit. Camille will instruct Richard Samay to print the tickets.

The board voted to move the November meeting date from 11-22 to 11-29-2011 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. The board voted to pay for the meal of the visitors at the Board Meeting.

New officers for 2012 were discussed. Dale Neff has agreed to be the Programs Chairman. He mentioned several professional people whom he knows who he thinks will present for the guild in 2012.



Gary White made this sign for his wife's kitchen using his scrollsaw.



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Guild members, craftsman and artists can display their work for sale at Artful Living in St Petersburg at 1100 1st Ave North





4301 16th Street North on the corner of 16th Street N & Haines Rd. Guild meets every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7PM at the Grace Lutheran



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St Petersburg Woodcrafters Guild

c/o Grace Lutheran Church
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TO:

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