



OFF-CUTS

www.stpetewoodguild.com

QUALITY: Precision In All You Do



Precision is much more than just measuring twice and cutting once. Precision takes deliberate planning and knowledge of your materials, tools and your capabilities and adapting all of them to create a thing of beauty, durability, and function.

Our guest last month William Wegmuller from Switzerland had learned to be very precise as a watchmaker for many of the leading great watch companies and as a flight instructor. Both required absolute precision to obtain the desired results and accuracy they both demand. He applied what he learned in those fields to engineer his results in woodwork and it showed in his meticulous attention to details. William applied himself and took his time. Sometimes he had to invent or make his own tool

to get what he was looking for in his carvings and woodwork.

When working on your next wood project; take the time to plan, and plan a realistic time to get the project done, improve accuracy in measurements and design, use a more accurate caliper or device, and just apply the elbow grease necessary to get the best results that you can do. Call up some of the other guild members that have more experience than you do and ask them to tell you or show you how to better your work. Let them coach you on how how to excel and be more precise. We have a reputation to uphold and another State Fair to win.

Look up a few youtube or Google videos on what it is you are trying to make. I'm sure there are some experts willing to show you how to make exactly what you are doing. We also have a good range of materials in our library. Do some research.

You might want to save up a few more weeks or months to get a better tool that's just right for the job. In the end you'll be glad you did and have more of a precise outcome in all your work.

Joseph Pettit

By concentrating on precision, one arrives at technique, but by concentrating on technique one does not arrive at precision. Bruno Walter

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

SEPTEMBER 2011

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The Tues September 27th program will be presenting "A Shaving Horse" with Lee Smith. 7PM at Grace Lutheran in St Petersburg. Bring your show-n-tell items too!



Guild Meeting Minutes August 23, 2011

President Joe Pettit welcomed visitors John Hufford, Rob and Zoe Bocik and Dave Hershman. He also welcomed new members Dave Cherry and Kevin Clifford, Jr.

Show and Tell: Joe had two notices. One was from a person who sharpens plane irons. The other was a note from someone who wants to sell shop tools. Gary White had pictures of a scroll project that he did for a friend. He also announced that Lowes and Home Depot will be going to Apple iPads and apps in their stores. He showed the "ID Woods" application for iPad. Wayne talked about a project being planned by the "Fantasy of Flight" Museum in Orlando. They are building a replica of the plane that first flew across Tampa Bay. He suggests that the guild be associated with the project. He received permission to speak for the guild. Phil Noto mentioned the need for a guild letterhead. Home Depot wants to donate wood to the Toy Shop for toy projects. He also mentioned that Vicky, at the Toy Shop is willing to assist the guild with our 501c3 application. Pete had a spiney leaf stem from a Mystery Tree which was identified as a "False Monkey Puzzle Pine" or also know as a "Bunya-Bunya Tree." Pete showed a Cuban Mahogany bowl done by Rudy Lopez. Rob had a mystery wood that was identified.

New Project: Pete spoke about a project request from the Dunedin Community Gardens. They need a couple of woodcrafters to provide design and labor to build raised flower boxes so that Wheel Chair bound residents can work in the garden boxes by rolling their chairs under the raised sides. Materials are furnished and laborers are available. Tickets were drawn to add more members to the groups. The groups are listed with new names added.

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.

Bob Meehan answered the question and won the 50/50. The program was done by master carver and craftsman William Wegmuller. Pete conducted an interview and Herr Wegmuller spoke at length about wood carving.



William demonstrated some of his woodcarvings.



Just a few wood carvings from William.



Featured Member of the Month, Don Wooldridge

by Bill Murphy



Recently I had the opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening with Don Wooldridge in his home in the Tyrone area of St Petersburg. Don has been a member of the Guild for about 5 years now, once serving as the head of the Toy Committee. Don's favorite part of the Guild meetings is the "show and tell" portion where he often shares his own projects..



Don says he has always enjoyed building things, but really got started in woodworking when his mother gifted him with her prized Hegner scroll saw, a drill press, a radial arm saw, a band saw, and a combination disc and 1 inch belt sander. Don is an accomplished scroll sawyer, and showed me many examples of things he has built over the years. His passion is toys, holiday projects and ornaments which he cuts with admirable precision. I asked him why the emphasis on holiday projects, and he replied that "Everyone loves the holidays and you don't have to match anyone's particular style or taste". In fact every year he and his wife put out a "friend's tree", which is a Christmas tree decorated with the ornaments Don has made and painted. Holiday visitors to the Wooldridge home are invited to help themselves to an ornament to take home for their own holiday decorating.

Don gives away most of the things he makes. None are made for sale. One of the main reasons he enjoys woodworking is that it allows him to make gifts he can give freely to others which are handmade and individual rather than today's punch out, disposable trinkets. He enjoys fine fretwork and has even had an article published in Scroll saw Magazine detailing how he makes colorful scrollsawn butterflies. He once took third place at the Florida State Fair with a scrolled Easter Basket. Besides his ornaments, some of his favorite projects to date are his scrolled luminaries. He showed me a beautiful example on our visit.

Continued from page 3- Don Wooldridge

Don's shop is in a single car garage with a sort of divider cutting the room in half. His table saw and some other large tools are on one side with his scrollsaw, sander, bandsaw, drill press, and radial arm on the other. Another room in his house is the "painting room". Don's Mother was an accomplished tole painter, and although he tells me he is "learning" to paint, his work far surpasses anything I could ever aspire to. Of course the painting falls right in line with his love of producing ornaments and holiday items as well.

I asked Don if there was anything he would like to share with the Guild members and he said, "The best way to insure your future is to create it yourself." In other words, if you want to do something, just go ahead and do it, and don't hold back. I found Don a very friendly and talented individual with a willingness to share and an enthusiasm for his craft. If you need help with scroll sawing or making holiday ornaments and decorations, I can't think of a better person to ask.



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Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.-- General George S. Patton



Board Meeting 8-31-2011

Members: Bigby, Piech, Richardson, Newton, Stutts.
Chapin absent. Pettit was available by text message.

The new Guild Brochure was approved for printing with a few alterations and should be ready for the next meeting. We agreed to print only 600 two side color copies. That will leave 1200 sheets for future printings.

Agenda: Joe Pettit requested a preliminary cost estimate for the Christmas/Holiday party which will be prepared and served by Maggie Rau. The Board discussed possible officer candidates for 2012 and developed a list of members to be invited to the next Board Meeting. The list was discussed with Chuck. **Anyone wishing to serve as an officer in 2012 is invited to attend the next Board Meeting at the St Pete Diner on 34th St North on October 5th.** We confirmed that Vicky at the Christmas Toy Shop has invited the guild to receive assistance and filing help with the business plan and the application for 501c3. Building plans for the raised wheelchair accessible wooden planters were reviewed. Pete has the plans and the pattern should be sent out in a general email with an invitation to members to get involved with the project for the Dunedin Community Gardens.

The September program will be Lee Smith demonstrating the use of the historical process of using a “shaving horse” in woodworking. The October program will be Jigs and Fixtures. November will be nominations, year in review and presentation of the table gifts for the Holiday Party in December.



A shavehorse... ? See Lee Smith ride one this coming Tuesday Sept 27th.



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ST PETERSBURG WOODCRAFTERS GUILD

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TO:

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