

OREGON WOOD WORKS

WHAT'S IN YOUR SHOP TODAY

BOB OSWALD, PRESIDENT



Tool of the Month

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It's been a long dry summer, and I don't mean the weather. The shop has been too idle. The exciting part is that each time I enter it these days I'm getting more excited to get back to work on some furniture projects.

There's this sofa table started months ago. It's waiting for a steam bend on the front apron, an upcoming newsletter article I suspect.

This summer saw a back to hammer-and-nails project, a storage building for lawn tools, etc. We've not been able to agree on its location in the yard for years, relegating my truck to often be parked outside while the lawnmower stayed warm and dry. The new location blends unobtrusively into the surrounding forest. I've learned an important lesson on this woodworking project. That is that I'll likely never build another one. It's hard work driving sixteen-penny nails and climbing on ladders. Much more demanding than running a jointer. But, like

all projects we do, once we look beyond the undesirable things that didn't go quite according to plan, there's a great pride in having joined a number of pieces of wood, using many techniques, into something functional and attractive.



That said, we're approaching that time of year in the Guild, election of officers. I'm happy to be able to say that a number of new faces are taking an active role in the Guild. It's only hollow words unless you experience them, that we are each better in many ways for involvement. You meet people, friends and valuable contacts, develop skills in many different areas, and help a very worthy cause, the promotion of woodworking.

It didn't dawn on me until the end of the October meeting and Brian's com-

(Continued on page 2)

NEXT MEETING—NOVEMBER 17, 2009 7:00PM

MULTI-ROUTER: THE ULTIMATE

Franklin High School, 5405 SE Woodward Portland, OR

Join master craftsman Ariel Enriquez, a long time member and long standing contributor to the Guild, in learning what the high tech equivalent of a router can do. Ariel will build a small table in 30 minutes using mortise and tenon joinery, upper aprons for the top and lower aprons for a shelf. They say it can't be done—we'll see !!

Learn from Ariel how you can turn your plunge router and a simple jig into a make-do Multi-router.

Social time begins at 6:30. General meeting at 7:00.

Board meeting at 5:30pm. Members are welcome to attend.

Directions: Crossing the Ross Island Bridge eastbound, take SE Powell to 52nd, turn North to SE Woodward, then right on Woodward; the shop is on the corner on the left.

~Time Critical~

Roger is ordering Guild logo shirts for the Woodworking Show. See Page xx for details

PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

ment "So this was your last meeting wearing the big hat" that it was. I'll be out of town in November. It felt lonely (briefly) but it's time to pass the hat. I can't believe it's been 2 1/2 years in the role. I looked back through the records to be sure. Like all new jobs, I was uncertain and it was new back then. It feels different now, more mature, funny for an older guy to say. Anyway it's been a good season and I have to thank all of you for making that possible. You are a great team to work with and I totally love the new faces joining this

IN THE BEGINNING...

BOB OSWALD

Last month I posed some 'where did we come from' questions. I didn't get any responses, so I guess no one remembers. I find that hard to believe with a few past presidents on our roster. Perhaps they don't read my newsletter? (Sad face here).

BUT, we had an enjoyable guest speaker at this month's meeting (see recap elsewhere in the newsletter). Ed Mattson, who served as president in the late 80's, mentioned that one thing they used to do at meetings is bring a project where the other members would critique it. They were a smaller group then. It struck me about how great that could be. I'm not sure how to implement it in our larger environment but I'll bring it up at the next steering meeting and we'll kick the idea around. What a nice piece of history to hear about.

Another bit of Guild history is a list of past presidents. I see the join date for most of them is 2000. I doubt they all joined at the same time. Was that when the database was born? It would be nice to know the correct order. It would be nice to hear from each of these people, a couple of comments they remember about the 'old Guild'. There have to be some treasures to pass on. Our known past presidents, not in chronological order, are:

Bill Fox	Alan Hernried
Jim Boesel	Ed Mattson
Sam Bush (deceased)	Lee Radtke
Mark Coleman	George DuBois (deceased)
Doug Courtney	John DuBay
Steve Grove	Lee Johnson

To my delight, Ed Mattson of course, was our presenter at this month's meeting. And I met Steve Grove at the August meeting, and he's helping out at the Woodworking show. Thank you very much Steve, for being around.

I joined when George was president and have the impression that it was about then, shortly before 2003, that the structure changed to be more open to the public. It changed from a small group meeting in their homes to an organization for beginners also, meeting at Franklin High School.

It was in 2004 that the current board structure came to be. I sat in on many board meetings where there was little accomplished because the whole board would debate, analyze and try

A TIME FOR PRAYERS

BOB OSWALD

A number of you have heard by now about our friend Lee Johnson's plight. Lee was on a vacation to Massachusetts, headed overseas. He started having

some disorientation, some falling episodes, and some loss (and mysterious return) of motor skills. So instead of taking their trip to Europe, they decided to take a trip to Mass General. In subsequent days it has been determined that he has a couple of masses in the brain that have been determined to be cancerous. He's starting a seven-week treatment at Boston General, internationally recognized for its Cancer and Neurology work. You can follow progress on a blog his family has created. The link is



<http://fronkshealth.blogspot.com/>

As it says on the blog, quoted from Lee, "We can't choose the stuff that happens to us, but we can choose how to react to it."

He would like phone calls at 971-219-0839. His email address is leejohnson13@comcast.net

Lee has always had a great and practical sense of humor. We all wish him through this to a fast recovery.

to problem solve every issue.

Gail Haskett took the board off site and used her organizational skills to ultimately create the five committees we use today. Each committee was invested with enough independence to do their job, with approval but not excessive help from the board.

All the committees today play a very active role in Guild operations, acting quite autonomously and productively. The Meetings Committee brings your monthly guest speakers and programs. Membership handles all new members and renewals, address changes and member communications. Education has produced many seminars and also oversees the library. Communications produces the newsletter and maintains the website. Shows used to orchestrate the various art shows in which we participate. Lacking a chair for several years, it's continued in operation by a champion for each show carrying that particular one forward.

I would love to know more about the early days of the Guild. Please contact me.

LAST MEETING: TRADITION OF THE WINDSOR CHAIR

BOB OSWALD

We had the great pleasure of a visit from a past president of the Guild, Ed Mattson. Ed held this position in the late 80's, he wasn't totally sure and our records don't go back that far. That would make it 20 years ago. I am so delighted with the contact with the past. Ed was visiting Portland, an annual trip from his home in the UK, to visit family. His contact and offer to do a presentation rooted in his new home country was met with my instant enthusiasm.



Slides of the area around Windsor and High Wycombe showed that delightful English countryside that I had the opportunity to visit for a week many years ago. Most spectacular were the great Birch forests and the unending fields of Bluebells.

The trees are carefully selected for straight and clear grain qualities. These Birch typically grow tall with little lower limb structure, yielding a high volume of high quality wood.



Ed showed a couple of delightful old videos of factories and the history of the chair. It was fascinating to see production lines making chairs, so different from producing a couple in your shop.



Ed brought back an old memory, of Guild members in

the past bringing a project to a meeting where members would critique it. So he took the folks in our audience back to that time. Holding up a Windsor chair, one of the three specimens he brought, we all did a little critique. "What was so good about this chair? Why was it so popular?"

A few of the ideas discussed included:

- ◆ Well ventilated
- ◆ Attractive
- ◆ Strong and well balanced
- ◆ Comfortable with arms
- ◆ Light weight

There was talk of the old Bodgers who would stake out a plot of forest, fell the trees and make chair parts there in the field. Ed pointed out the incredible accuracy and repeatability, done with no measuring tools.

As the chair migrated to the new world with the colonies, and particularly after independence had been declared and fought for, American variations took hold and included:

- ◆ Rejection of colonialist and royal connections with English Windsor design.
- ◆ Rejection of the climate of guild restrictions with more freedom to cooperate and innovate.
- ◆ Greater variety of designs with freer, lighter, stronger, more elegant and eye-pleasing chairs
- ◆ Greater collaboration in manufacture

Many new styles evolved in the colonies. But they all were obviously traceable by their appearance to their roots in the English Windsor chair.



Ed suggested an invaluable marketing tip—include a piece of the history of what you're building in your product. It will increase its value dramatically. For example, a building Winston Churchill once frequented was being torn down. Some timbers were saved and pieces were used in a Churchill theme chair. It was much more valued than "just a chair" with his name attached.

Thank you Ed, for a very delightful program. Do come visit us again.

Jim Hall dug up this interesting piece:

BODGER—An itinerant chair-leg turner.

This term was once common around the furniture-making town of High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire, between London and Oxford. Bodgers were highly skilled itinerant wood-turners, who worked in the beech woods on the chalk hills of the Chilterns. They cut timber and converted it into chair legs by turning it on a pole lathe, an ancient and very simple tool that uses the spring of a bent sapling to help run it. Their equipment was so easy to move and set up that it was easier to go to the timber and work it there than to transport it to a workshop. The completed chair legs were sold to furniture factories to be married with other chair parts made in the workshop.

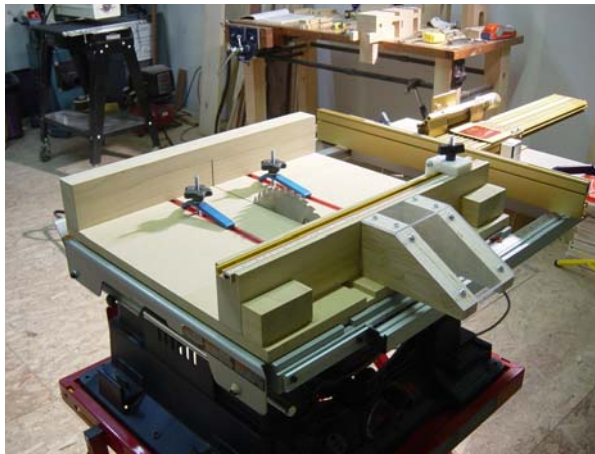
The origin of the Bodger term, in the data that Jim presented but space prohibits from publishing, suggested many other origins, some more nefarious. You might poke around the internet for more detail. Try googling "Bodger Tools".

CADILLAC CROSSCUT SLED

TIM HALLER

This is one of those projects that I wish I had done sooner. I love my little Bosch table saw, but....it's "native" crosscut capacity is about 7", and that's pretty limiting. So, after a bit of research, and a few hours in SketchUp, I came up with this. It's a 'cannibalization' of numerous designs, from various sources. The beauty is that it more than doubled my crosscut capacity, 14" with hold downs or 16" without. Max depth of cut is 2 3/8".

The base is 3/4" MDF, with hard maple runners on the bottom. The fences are 2" x 3 1/2" poplar. You can go taller than 3 1/2", but don't go any shorter. You need a good solid 'bridge' connecting the two sides, after Step 16. The guard is doubled up 3/4" plywood with a 1/4" acrylic cover. The flip stop is 3/4" HDPE from another project, and can be used on either side of the blade. I've got about \$25 in the t-tracks and other hardware. The rest was 'leftovers'.



As you can see in this picture, I extended the guard far enough, that I can run the blade (at max height) completely through the cut, and it's still covered.

You will want to customize the sled to fit your table saw, and your style of woodworking. The primary differences will be in the spacing of the runners, the distance from the runners to the blade, and the size of the base. You can use whatever t-tracks you like. Just size your dados accordingly.

I will harp about squareness, that's what makes this jig work! If it isn't square, you'll never be happy with it. This is especially true of the rear fence (the one closest to the operator).

The process goes something like this:

1) Square up and size the base. I used 3/4" Rangerboard, but any high quality MDF or plywood will do.

2) Joint and plane the fences to size, and crosscut cut them to length. The rear fence **MUST** have one face (the front) and one edge (the bottom) that are straight, and square. The front fence is not as critical, but should still be close.

3) Cut a dado in the top edge of the rear fence

(keep in mind which faces are square), centered and sized to fit whatever t-track you choose. Mine (Incra) is 1 1/4" x 1/2" x 24". I cut the dado a hair deep, so that the flip stop is resting on the wood, not the t-track. Screw the t-track in place.

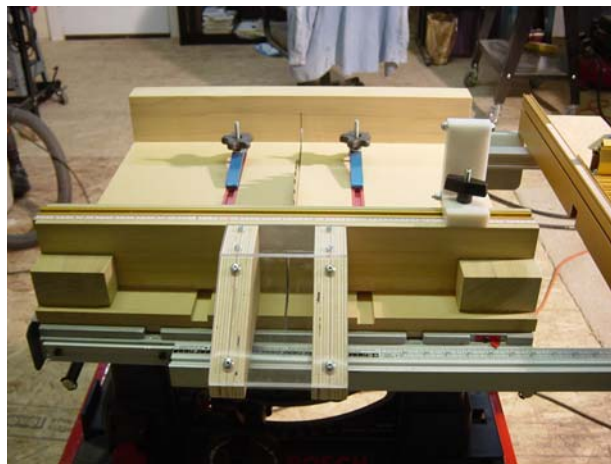
4) Joint and plane/sand the runners to size, cross-cut them to length, and drill and countersink 3 – 4 screw holes in each. **DO NOT** assume that they need to be 3/4" wide. Cut them to fit **YOUR** miter slots. They're all a little different. You need to be able to slide the runner all the way through the miter slot easily, but with no side-to-side play.

5) Cut a 1/16" deep dado in the bottom of the base, for the left runner. Make the width of the dado the same as that of the runners – remember, that may or may not be exactly 3/4".

6) Cut the dados in the top of the base, for the t-tracks you've chosen. I placed mine just far enough from the blade that my hold-downs can't tangle with it.

7) Glue and screw the left runner into the dado from step 5.

8) Place a thin spacer (~1/16") in the bottom of the right miter slot -- make it just thick enough that when you put the runner on top of it, it sits 1/16" proud of the table. Spread glue on the runner and place it, glue side up, on top of the spacer in the right miter slot. Carefully place the base on the table, with the left runner in its slot, and lower it onto the right runner, so that the runner is flush with the rear edge of the base. If possible, clamp the base in place while the glue dries. If not, put something heavy on it. You can add the screws after the glue dries.



9) Align the front fence flush

with the front edge of the base and glue/clamp in place. Allow the assembly to dry overnight. Optional: You can add a few screws through the base and up into the

fence if you want.

Now is a good time to make sure that the base slides easily across the table, but has no side-to-side play. A light coat of wax on the bottom of the base and the runners will help. If the fit is too tight, you can lightly sand or file the sides of the runners to make it slide more easily. This is also a good time to double-check that your blade is dead square to the table, and parallel to the miter slot. Again, adjust if needed.

There are several schools of thought on the best way to square up the rear fence to the blade. Here's how I did it.

10) Mark the location of both faces of the rear fence, on the base. Raise the blade about an inch. With the runners in their slots, carefully run the sled through until the blade almost reaches the line where the front face of the rear fence will be. **DO NOT GO ALL THE WAY ACROSS!** Back off slightly and stop the blade, then raise it all the way up. Spread glue on the bottom edge of the fence and, using the best and longest square you have, set the fence in place between your lines, and carefully square it to the body of the blade. Be sure that your square is resting only on the body of the blade, and not on one or more of the carbide tips. **DO NOT** push the square against the blade too hard. It **WILL** flex, and then your fence **WILL NOT** be square. Clamp it in place, re-check square, and let it dry overnight.

11) Optional: The next morning, I glued a couple of blocks behind the rear fence for added stability.

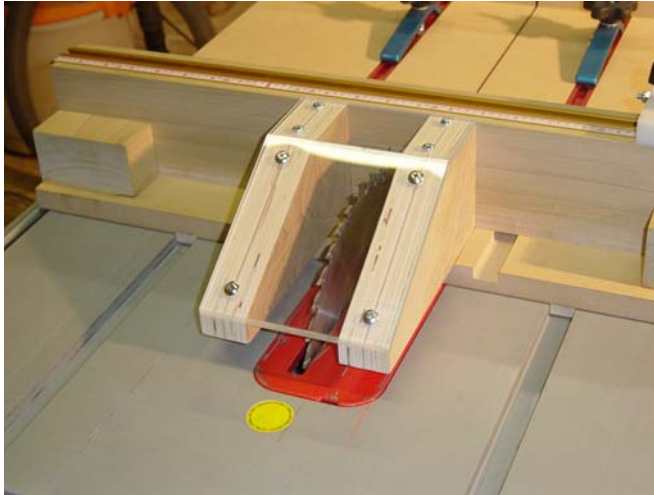
12) Glue up two layers of 3/4" plywood for the sides of the rear guard. Square them up and cut them to size/shape.

13) Cut the 1/4" acrylic (or polycarbonate, if you prefer) to size and bevel the ends of the angled piece as needed. Drill the mounting holes.

14) Glue the sides of guard in place and clamp until the glue dries.

15) Drill pilot holes in the guard sides, using the acrylic as a template, and screw it into place.

16) Re-check squareness one last time and then, with the blade raised to full height, run the sled through until the trailing edge of the blade clears the fence. You should still be well short of the guard.



17) You need to remove the top 'lip' of the t-slot for an inch behind the front fence, so that you can get the t-bolts in and out. Screw the t-slots in place.

The flip stop is basically a simple hinge. Cut the pieces from the material of your choice (I used 3/4" HDPE). Round the ends with a 3/8" round-over bit in the router table. (Editorial Note: There are excellent machined flip-stops available at our sponsors also)

You want a fairly snug fit between the two pieces. Clamp the interlaced pieces to your drill press fence, leaving a .005" - .010" gap where they meet. Carefully drill a 13/64" hole all the way through both pieces, for a #10-32 machine screw. Drill the mounting hole through the top piece. Drill and tap holes on either side, near the bottom of the stop, for #10-32 fine adjustment screws (optional). Install the #10-32 machine screw/hinge pin, secure with a nylok nut and adjust the hinge friction as

needed. Copies of the SketchUp file are available

TITLE WAVE

GARY MOSHOFSKY

Where did I buy my bookcase full of woodworking and home renovation books? The Title Wave Used Bookstore of course. The Multnomah County Library buys new books all the time. They have a finite space to house them, so they are constantly culling the collection. They sell the books pulled from circulation at the Title Wave, located at 216 NE Knott Street, just off of MLK. Their hours are 10-4 Monday through Saturday. They have books on many subjects, and magazines too. All of the books are very inexpensive, usually \$2 for hardbacks, and \$0.75 for paperbacks. DVDs run \$1 to \$5. Rare or very expensive books can range up to \$15. The magazines range from ten cents to a dollar. The merchandise is constantly changing, and you have to go there often to see what has come in, since you never know what they have in stock.

DAINTY INLAYS

BOB & FRANK

Frank called the other day looking for a way to do some short inlays, 1/32" wide and 1/16" deep. By the time I got home, he and Lee Johnson had already worked it out. You ought to know how. Break an old hacksaw blade and use it as a scraper/chisel. Exactly 1/32" wide and easy to cut curves for inlays.

Thanks to the wise guys in the group.

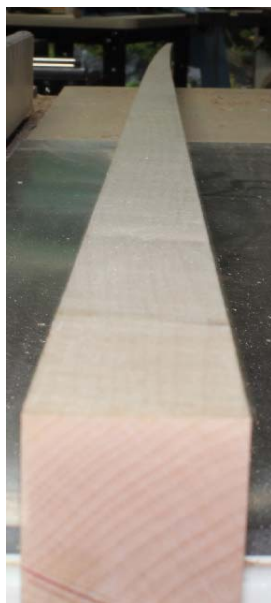
THE STRESS OF STRESS

BOB OSWALD

A little job came along requiring a slim taper, six-foot long, 1.25 inches square tapering to one-quarter inch at the far end. The too easy way was to pick a piece of 6/4 maple and run it through the saw with the taper jig. Knowing there was a high risk of the internal stresses of that big board causing a 'bent' result, it was worth the effort to find out.

And sure enough, as the photo shows, it bent quite a lot. In the final application it would be acceptable but dignity demanded an attempt at a better solution. Plywood comes to mind.

So a glue-up of some three-quarter oak, left to cure overnight, ripped the following day, was straight as an arrow. I pretty much knew this all going in but it made for a worthwhile experiment.



A VERY BAD CLIMB CUT

BOB OSWALD

Although not the kind you probably had in mind, here's something that has not happened in quite a while. A simple matter of the router bit, a three-quarter round over set of a double bead cut, not being tight in the collet. Funny but you sort of know you didn't do it right



but you do it anyway? Little voice we choose to ignore? But this was such a TINY little voice. As the photo shows (board turned upside down for visibility), the cut made it perhaps eight inches before this big yellow gopher was poking through the top of the boards.

Resetting the height, a couple of wrenches pulled to the 'normal' level made the rest of the cuts just fine. There goeth pride and three feet of Birch.

\$\$\$ FOR SALE \$\$\$

DELTA 37-190 6" JOINTER

Open base, new knives, accurately calibrated, very light use, Portland area. \$250 obo. Call Mike 503-722-9977 or cell 503-756-8218.

CRAFTSMAN TABLE SAW

Electronic (digital) saw with Biesemeyer fence added. Good condition. \$300. Call Jim Hall at 503-655-1716 or ochall@comcast.net

ASSORTED MACHINERY

Would like to sell all for \$1200.00 but will sell items individually.

Dewalt Planer DW 733, 12" This planer looks like new.

- ◆ Delta floor standing drill press 16 1/2"
 - ◆ Craftsman 12" Bandsaw
 - ◆ Craftsman Joiner Planer 6 1/8"
 - ◆ 10" Ryobi Table saw w/router table. Model # BT 3000
- John Bradford 360-253-5027.

EDGE BANDING MACHINE

Rockler Item 13705 new is \$269. Asking \$175. Used about five times Ted Anderson - 503-348-6801

MODEL 1800 LEGACY

Health forces sale. Ornamental milling machine, very well equipped including the following:

- * Linear drive system
- * .25 reduction gear set
- * 2x multiplier gear set
- * Double Locking Collar
- * All standard gears including left and right directional gears
- * Expanded indexing system (120,96,80,72 indexes on one wheel)
- * Circle cut attachment
- * Pilaster dog kit
- * Never installed z axis upgrade (no router or digital scale)
- * Linear molding table
- * Porter cable 7539 router
- * 45 magnate router bits, most never used
- * Capable of milling a post 8" x 11" in diameter

All \$4500. Cost about \$10,000. Looks nearly new, used about 10 hours. Not willing to part out the machine. Shipping, if necessary, paid by purchaser

Rick Lyle 503-428-2703 or lyle805@msn.com,
Pictures at: <http://www.ornamentalmills.com/forsale/r11800.html>

CABINET SHOP SPACE AVAILABLE

\$300-600/month depending on use.

Utilities, wifi and loading dock. Use of a lot of equipment inc. 2 table saws, miter saw, wide belt sander, planer, jointer, shaper, table routers, spray room and more. Ready to use. 1835 NE 3rd Ave, Portland. Eric 503-880-8903

SAWSTOP STORY

GIG LEWIS

I was making a new bookcase out of quarter sawn white oak and using some Purple Heart as a trim detail. The plan was to have each shelf attached to the sides with a wedged through mortise and tenon, and then having each of the mortises trimmed with the Purple Heart.

As I was trimming the 1/8 inch Purple Heart into a 3/4 inch width it started flapping around on the saw's table top, without thinking too much I reached down to stop the flapping of the wood. I had previously set the saw blade a little higher than the wood, maybe an 1/8 inch. The Purple Heart sawdust that was sitting on the table and the Purple Heart itself, the low blade height and my not thinking too much created an opportunity for me to experience the wonders of SawStop technology. WOW. In just 1/1000th of a second the SawStop was able to recognize that my thumb had touched the saw blade, lowered it out of the way and had stopped the blade from spinning. There was a loud noise and initially I thought that the saw had broken. It actually took us about 20 seconds to realize that I had cut myself. The cut resembled a bad paper-cut and there seemed to be a little bit of bruising. My high school math said that the blade was running at about 115 MPH when it touched me. There were a total of 2 teeth that actually cut me before the activation of the braking system.

I purchased my Contractors model Sawstop in the fall of 2009 and was impressed immediately. It arrived in several boxes, each one was labeled with its contents. On opening the first box I found the instructions and started reading them. The instructions were in "Normal American English" and not in some technical jargon that would take a machinist or an engineer to understand. Included in the first box were some "Blister Packs" supplying the various screws, bolts, nuts, and washers that were needed to put the saw together. Each of the "Blisters" was numbered and coordinated exactly with the instructions. THE INSTRUCTIONS WORKED GREAT. We put the saw together and turned it on for the first time in the 4 hours that the instructions said that it would take, WOW. As we put the various parts together they all fit, just like the instructions said that they would. I have helped a few of my friends put together new saws and all of them required some modifications and persuasion techniques, especially the cast-iron wings, usually a combination of jacks, 2 x 4's, shims, and some of my "Technical" words I learned in the Marines. In less than 10 minutes we had both the wings installed and on the same plane as the table-top. WOW. Additionally, all of our test cuts for checking accuracy were dead on right out of the box. WOW

I have been around a lot of tools, both floor models and portable ones, and the Sawstop's finish is the best that I have seen. There was no flashing to cut your hands, no paint runs, no overspray, edges were straight that should be straight. Frankly, things were even better than the advertisements. WOW.

OK, to me an important big question comes up here. **Does it do the job accurately or does it just get by?** Well, the results of my woodworking are better than with my previous saw. My joints are tighter without using clamps, my glue lines are less visible, and the accuracy of my cuts is better. For me the Saw does very good work, even without the finger saving technology I would buy it again. With the finger saving technology it is a great value. For a few hundred dollars more than the competitive contractor saws you get something that simply is in its own excellent class.

In my visit with SawStop they shared that they know that this technology has save at least 900 fingers, and by extrapolation are estimating another 1000+ that the user is too embarrassed to record. The cost of a new brake is only \$69, and SawStop will exchange a new brake at no charge when someone gets cut. They use the stored information to measure over 200 different items over a time period of less than 2 seconds. Things like the RPM of the blade, how long it has been running since it was turned on, how large the gap is between the blade and brake, and if it was in the "By-Pass" mode or not.

Yes, I know that no tool is perfect. What's wrong with the Sawstop? I have the Contractors' model and the dust collection could be better. I have a 4 inch duct leading to a large vacuum system and it gets most of the saw dust, maybe 3 to 5 percent of the dust escapes and lands on the floor. I certainly can live with that.

So what am I going to do in the future about my own safety? I have installed another light above the saw for better visibility. I will do a better job of keeping the sawdust off the table top so I can see the blade. And I will do a better job of thinking before jumping.

I know that continuing to have the use of my thumb is a result of my decision to purchase the SawStop.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

BOB OSWALD

Hello to Stephen Walton, Ken Vetterick,

We're happy to have you with us. Please introduce yourself to me at the next meeting. I'd like to know who you are.

NEW INTRA-GUILD SHOW

BOB OSWALD

Len Walko suggested an enhancement to the annual Intra-Guild show, to provide an opportunity for students from local high schools with a wood shop to enter the show. With some discussion at and outside the board meetings, another change emerged.

Big changes are in store for this year's 7th annual Intra-Guild show. The event will take place at the Oregon Convention Center in May, during the Spring Showcase sponsored by the Potters Association.

Guild entries will be on display in our Guild booth during the show, and there will be an awards ceremony where all members get the chance to describe their work.

In addition to our members showcase, we are inviting high school shop students from the greater Portland and S.W. Washington area to enter into a student competition. This effort by the guild is an attempt to expose young woodworkers to a better understanding of woodworking and the potential for advanced training. They will be judged separately from our members and an awards plaque for best in show will be presented to the winning entry, and to the school.

We would like to see Guild-wide support and participation in this show, and ask our members to "get the word out" to teachers and students in their communities.

For more information about the show, contact Gig Lewis in Oregon at 503 646 7056 or giglinda@comcast.net

In Washington: Len Walko at 360 256 1825 or lenwalko@hotmail.com

Ed Note: Gig, Len and Sid have started visiting high schools to extend that invitation in person. The few visited at this time have expressed a good level of interest.

501(C)3 FEEDBACK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The subject of changing our status to a non-profit 501(c)(3) status was raised a few months ago. We are not today organized under that chapter. We are a not-for-profit organization but a different category was chosen years ago. There is only one category the (c)(3) that allows donors the opportunity to take a tax deduction for contributions. In my seven years as a member of the board it has come up occasionally where it would have been beneficial to be in this class.

So the subject was raised again recently and we've decided to pursue it more actively, primarily through the active thoughts and of the newly formed Steering Committee.

The advantage is to allow donors to have a tax write-off in making donations to the Guild. The reverse side is the cost of application and good attention to detail in accounting and business practices.

Some members of the steering committee met with an attorney (10/20/2010) to discuss and assess the requirements. Cost to make this happen will run around \$3000 including federal application and professional assistance. Different organizations have had varying expenses but this is a ballpark estimate.

The board decision in the October meeting was to take the first steps without committing large expenses. The first will be activating our corporate status with the State of Oregon. The attorney also advised us that we can take many small steps rather than commit to 'do it all now'. So we will ease into this process to be sure it is what makes sense for the Guild.

The board also wanted to remind all of you members that we will not make commitments to structure change, building topics or anything that involves significant cash outlay without your approval. So fret not when you read about discussions like this column. We do have the best interests of the Guild at stake and are moving cautiously.

But to move forward, to offer more, to make the Guild an even greater place to be, we have to talk, speculate, test waters, dream. As a good friend decades ago reflected to me one day, "You've got to have a dream to have a dream come true."

More details will follow as they develop.

THE OTHER HAND

BOB OSWALD

The July newsletter "The 'Real Hand' Tool" by Bill Wood had a photo of the glove the editor thought was intended. This was an error. The glove Bill was referring to is a Black Nitrile Glove that he purchases at Harbor Freight. This glove is 'stickier' and makes for better gripping. That glove is pictured here, taken from the Harbor Freight website. Frank LaRoque adds that they are also available from hardware stores and lumber yards.

Subsequent to that article there has been a little discussion about whether gloves are safe around rotating machinery.

When it comes to safety, there are a number of ways to improve your odds, but in the end responsibility belongs to you. The best safe practices begin in your brain, not in the equipment that improves the odds or minimizes the damage in the event of a mistake.

As the posters say, "Safety begins with you."



The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is a group of professional and amateur woodworkers like you, committed to developing our craftsmanship and woodworking business skills. The Guild offers many benefits for members, including:

- monthly educational meetings
- monthly newsletter
- mentoring program to help members develop their skills in specific areas
- discounts
- woodworking shows
- network of business partners (the key to our development as members and as a Guild, providing additional learning opportunities)
- and a network of support.

For information on how you can become a member, see the Guild website listed below.

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS

P.O. Box 13744, Portland, OR 97213-0744

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