



Encouraging all woodworkers in self-expression, craftsmanship and knowledge

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

February 2017

Presidents Message

What's better than good news? More good news. The Board of Directors voted to keep membership dues at \$30, the same as it has been in the past. Thanks to last year's auction and cost cutting measures, the Guild has almost \$20,000 on hand, meaning that the Guild can undertake all the activities we did last year and do even more going forward.



The second piece of good news is that we now have a social media presence. Cary Goltermann created our first social media presence on Facebook! You'll find us at <https://www.facebook.com/ColoradoWoodworkers>. Check out pictures from the Holiday Party and upcoming Guild programs. I encourage you to have a look and contribute. Be sure to Friend us, too.

Our Guild has worked closely with Denver Chapter 1071 of Vietnam Veterans of America on their "Final Roll Call Honors Committal Program." It provides a proper military burial for the unclaimed remains of service members in the Denver area. Through your generous efforts, we've made more than 50 wooden funeral urns for this project. Most of the wood for this project is generously donated by Guild sponsor Mile High Tree Care. We will use the urns on March 24th at 1:30 PM during the next interment ceremony at Ft. Logan. Everyone who's made an urn is cordially invited to attend.

What's On My Mind

How many screwdrivers are too many? In the 1970s I owned a handful of tools. One of them was a screwdriver, the 4-in-ONE, manufactured by the eponymous company of Jamestown, NY. But it was the Swiss Army knife of drivers. It had a transparent yellow plastic handle with a removable hollow shank.



The shank snapped into the handle with a bullet catch mechanism. Each end of the shank held a double-ended bit that snapped into place in a similar fashion. One bit had

1/4 in. and 3/16 in. flat ends while the other had Phillips #1 size and #2 ends. This jack-of-all-drivers

was my go-to tool for years. Not only did it turn machine and wood screws, it removed paint can lids, cleaned up glue squeeze out and chipped blocks of ice until they'd fit into my hippy van's icebox. In another example of tool abuse, Mike Siemsen at his School of Woodworking chops waste from dovetail joints using a straight bladed screwdriver!

As comfortable and handy as it was, there were many jobs it couldn't do. I got a large Phillips screwdriver to turn #12 and larger wood screws. I had to buy a thick flat blade screwdriver to remove chip breakers from plane blades. I needed some smaller screwdrivers to attach tiny hinges to small boxes. When Spax/Torx screws became popular, I purchased five more screwdrivers to deal with them. One of my router jigs had #2 square drive adjusting screws. Other jigs had #1 and #3 square drive screws. So, I added a set of square bit screwdrivers.

Friends believe that this woodworker needs an unusual screwdriver. So, I'll get one or two as presents each year. There's the reversible ratchet screwdriver with assorted tips, the right-angle Phillips/flat blade combo resembling an Allen wrench, a cute one that sports a convenient pocket clip, a set of itsy bitsy jeweler's screwdrivers, an enormous flat blade screwdriver that could double as a pry bar and one that grabs a screw's head so I can drive it one handed. I have so many different screwdrivers now that I'm able to keep the ideal one next to every adjusting screw in my shop. I've got scores of them and that's not counting all those odd IKEA assembly tools, dozens of screwdriver bits for my electric drills or the assortment of hex nut drivers that resemble screwdrivers.

Like a hand plane, there's one task each of my screwdrivers will do best. Unlike planes, screwdrivers are inexpensive, easy to organize and they take up little space in my shop. For those reasons, I can't bear to part with any of my dozens of just-right drivers. Today that trusty 4-in-ONE lives in a pocket of my 5-gal. tool tote and goes with me to every home repair job. I'm sure I'll accumulate more screwdrivers even if they'll only be used once. Having exactly the right tool for the job is just too good a feeling to pass up.

By Jim McNamee

Upcoming Events

February 21, 2017 - Dan Briechle of [Briechle Custom Drums](#) will give us a presentation on steam bending the "shell" of one of his drums. Dan steam bends woods between 1/4" and 1/2" to form his custom drums. If you've ever tried to bend thick pieces of wood this should be of interest to you.



March 21, 2017 - William Manke of Boxwood Pinball will present his wooden pinball machines and discuss how they are made. For more info on these interesting machines check out [BoxWoodPinball.com](#).



April 30, 2017 Gathering of the Guilds – 2017

Just a reminder that this year's Gathering of the Guilds will be on Sunday, April 30th. The location as always will be at the Boettcher Mansion on Lookout Mountain. The event runs from 10:00 to 4:00 and for those interested in the Arts and Crafts movement, it is the best event of the year. The event hosts a wide variety of participants that, like our group, consist of people deeply interested in their craft. In the past, they have included bookbinders, printers, various metal workers, potters, calligraphers, weavers, leatherworkers, distillers, and more. Held in the historic Arts & Crafts style Boettcher mansion, it makes for a wonderful event.

The Guild will have a table at the Gathering again this year. I will be attending/volunteering the full day of the Gathering, but would appreciate some company. If you want to volunteer to help cover the day, please let me know. We could use some Craftsman and Greene and Greene style pieces to display. While this is an event put on by the Arts and Crafts Society, the pieces need not be strictly in the Arts and Crafts style. If you want to and are willing to display your work, please contact me directly. Thank you.

Membership

Membership Problems??? Send an email to programs@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

Happy February!

Here is the membership status as of this writing:

151 Members paid through the end of 2016

122 Members paid through the end of 2017

273 Active memberships total

Total 273 **active** memberships. About 44 per cent of our members are current through the end of 2017. What is an active membership? A membership is valid through the end of the calendar year. If you have not renewed for 2017, your membership is still considered active until April 1, 2017.

Now is a great time to renew your membership!

The 2017 member cards look like this (member name/expiration in Red text on a White background). If your member card does not look like this it, has expired.



How can you renew?
For me the best way you can renew is on-line. When you fill in

one of our on-line forms,

I do not have to decipher your handwriting (no offense),

The data is machine-readable, meaning I do not have to enter it manually!

You can renew on-line using PayPal or you can print out the form and mail it with a check, or you can bring the form/check to a meeting.

To renew on-line using PayPal, you do not need a PayPal account.

Click [here](#)

To renew on-line and mail the form with a check, Click [here](#)

If you log in first, your name, address, etc. will automatically be filled in! If you don't know how to log in OR are unable to log in, drop me an email at programs@coloradowoodworkersguild.org and I'll help you out.

Cary Goltermann - Assistant to the Membership Chair

January Presentation



A Pearl of an Idea

Dan Rieple of Fine Ideas Furniture gave a presentation on a process he dubs "Oyster Veneering." Because of the way Dan manufactures his homemade veneers, they look very much like a bed of shucked oysters. He achieves this shellfish appearance by painstakingly assembling wafers of tree offcuts. Their size and shape make them resemble wooden cookies.

Rieple begins by crosscutting the tree trunks of small scrub oaks into wafers less than 3/16-inch thick. These wafers consist of end grain wood, so are highly susceptible to modest changes in humidity even after trunks have been dried to 6 per cent moisture content. Dan tries to minimize dimensional changes by treating the wafers with Pentacryl, a wood stabilizer. Pentacryl is expensive but Dan feels this is a worthwhile step because it reduces checking and cracking. Then he presses the treated wafers to keep them flat and let excess stabilizer drain from them.

After a day or so, they're ready for use. He recommends using a vacuum bag to anyone doing much veneering. Rieple offers two caveats. You'll need a good quality vacuum pump. Furthermore, the ability of all vacuum presses is diminished by altitude. Pressure at 5,000 feet is 83 per cent of its value at sea level and falls to less than 69 per cent at 10,000 feet.

Next, wafers are trimmed to a uniform size and shape so they can be neatly glued together to form a continuous piece of veneer. Dan uses a router, and flush trim and pattern bits, along with matching male and female templates to trim each wafer and carve out a slightly overlapping area into which it will fit. He uses a PVA glue to stick adjacent wafers together. He also sticks them to a backer board with a dab of glue.

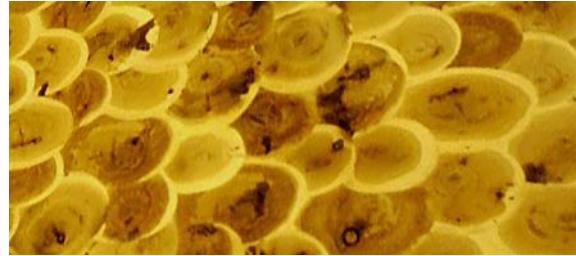
Dan repeats this process perhaps hundreds of times until the veneer reaches the desired size. With the glue dried, he runs the wafer/backer combination through his wide belt sander to level the wafer tops. After carefully prying the sheet of wafers from the backer board, Dan sands the veneer's opposite side to remove glue residue. The veneer is now ready to apply to the furniture core of which it will ultimately be part.

Rieple prefers to use epoxy to adhere his oyster veneers to furniture cores. Epoxy spread this thin has a long open time compared to most other adhesives. Another advantage is that epoxy's viscous nature means it doesn't bleed through wafer end grain. And since epoxy doesn't contain water, it does not loosen the glue bonds between wafer edges.

Layers of finish give the wafers the appearance of fresh shucked oysters. Dan Rieple's work is visually appealing and stunning at the same time. It may be labor intensive but the results, when done with care, are certainly worth the time invested.

By Jim McNamee

[Click here to view January Presentation video](#)



Show and Tell

Following a holiday break, our January meeting included a good group of members bringing their latest creations to share. First off was **Bill Knoll** with a collection of stitching awls that he made to support his oldest son's handiwork of making masks and costumes. He first needed to learn how to use an awl and the best way is to have a collection of stitches handled by dad. For this task Bill used some walnut from his mother-in-law's homestead. Bill made the shelf to hold them from the edge of the board.

Next was **Don Proark** with a few items. Don brought a sewing ruler rack that he made for his wife, as well as a couple of turnings that were variations of the triangular bowl, as well as an off-center turning. Don noted that the off-center piece was his first attempt at the quirky asymmetrical turning style.

Following Don, was **Jesse Anthony** with his grandmother's-style mantle clock. A friend gave Jesse a clock from a WW2 merchant marine vessel. To do it justice, Jesse made the body out of walnut and maple to hold the large movement, though he had to do quite a bit of trimming and fitting to the wood casement to allow the face cover to fully open.

Arnold Silverman followed with his cove and pin joinery examples. Arnold brought the sample and test pieces that he made to show what the early industrialized American industry came up with to mechanize the process of joinery previously accomplished with hand-cut dovetails. Arnold noted that the experienced joiner could knock out 20 dovetail joints a day, but this system could produce up to 100 per day. While the system can be very quick, it is also very fussy, requiring considerable time to calibrate and align, but once set up the production is very quick. Arnold also noted that this was popular during the Eastlake period of furniture production, having been invented in 1867.

Another guy by the name of **Kevin Loyd** shamelessly put a plane in the show and tell. Kevin made the plane from maple and birds-eye maple. He made it for the holiday party white elephant gift exchange, and it somehow made its way to the January meeting.

Thank you to everyone who brought their work to be seen by the rest of the group. Remember that show and tell is one of the staples of each meeting, so please continue to bring your pieces and tell the rest of us what you've been doing.



About Wood

This month, we consider **Russian Olive**. **Russian Olive** (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), is a small to medium size tree from the family **Elaeagnaceae**. Russian Olive is not in the same family as the cultivated olive from the family Oleaceae. **Russian Olive** is also called oleaster.

Recall that in previous columns, we have defined the Modulus of Rupture (MOR), the Modulus of Elasticity (MOE), Crush Strength, and Janka Hardness. We will continue to use those terms. Most of the other terms are generally well understood and will not be defined further. If you have questions about other terms or questions about a specific wood, contact wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

Russian Olive



Here is a summary of the characteristics of **Russian Olive**:

Distribution: Native to eastern Europe and western and central Asia; naturalized throughout North America as an invasive species

Tree size: 20-35 ft (6-10 m) tall; 1 ft (0.3 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 43 lbs/ft³ (685 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity: (Basic, 12% MC): .55, .69

Modulus of Rupture (MOR): no data available

Modulus of Elasticity (MOE): no data available

Crush Strength: no data available

Janka Hardness: 1240 lb_f (5,530 N)

Shrinkage: no data available; difficult to dry; will ring check

Heartwood Appearance: ranges from light yellowish-brown to darker golden brown
Sapwood Appearance: yellow-white

Grain/Texture: porous and of an uneven grain texture

Stability: no data available

Relative strength: no data available

Decay Resistance: no data available

Workability: little data available; somewhat comparable to black ash; will take a fine polish; glues and finishes well; will split with nailing

Odor: no characteristic odor

Toxicity: none; regular concerns for wood dust

Potency: low

Toxicity Source: wood dust

Reaction: ordinary respiratory issues with dust

Sustainability: an invasive species; some regions working to eradicate; not threatened

Uses: turning and carving; small pieces of furniture

Typical Cost: inexpensive where available; generally only available in small pieces; generally not available through commercial sources

Comments: brought to North America in 1800s for windbreaks and erosion control; now considered invasive; competes with native species

If you have questions about a specific wood, don't hesitate to send a note to wood@coloradowoodworkersguild.org.

Frank Paxton Lumber Wood of the Month

The featured Wood of the Month for February 2017 from Frank Paxton Lumber is four quarter (4Q), S3S (clear) Alder in random widths and lengths to 8'.

As always, call 303-399-6047 for pricing.

2017 Guild Officers



Jim McNamee— President
president@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

Clifford Whitehouse—Vice President
vice-president@coloradowoodworkersguild.org



Laura Peterson – Treasurer
treasurer@coloradowoodworkersguild.org

Gary Glatthar – Secretary
secretary@coloradowoodworkersguild.org



Bob Kleinfeldt – Board Member at Large
email address pending

Guild Committee Chairs

William Knoll—Audio – Video – Committee
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Stan Wolpert—Classes Chair
classes@coloradowoodworkersguild.org



Charles Kuechenmeister—Community Service
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Al Limiero—Newsletter Editor
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Cary Goltermann—Programs
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Jack Brock—Publicity and Public Relations
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Kevin Loyd—Shows and Exhibits
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Chuck Hix—Librarian
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Dick Daily—Refreshments
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Dennis Machlica—Membership
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Michael Cunningham—Classified Ads
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Wilbur Goltermann—Webmaster –
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CWG Sponsors

The Colorado Woodworkers Guild is fortunate to have several companies as Sponsors. Our Sponsors help the Guild with programs, materials, supplies, facilities, display space, financial, and other means. In many cases, Guild members are able to obtain discounts from our Sponsors (except for power tools and sale items). Please note: the Guild discounts only apply to in-person purchases in the store (except where noted) and are not available at any sponsor's online store. You must show a current membership card to obtain the discount

Sponsor Update: Mountain View Window and Door

The Newsletter was going to include a profile on Mountain View Window and Door but in the process of discussing the profile with Mountain View they informed the Guild that they were withdrawing their sponsorship of the Guild for the time being because they did not see sufficient benefit from the sponsorship.

The Guild appreciates their participation with us and will welcome them back if and when it fits their business prospects.

Guild Liaison for Mountain View Window and Door had been Fred Schmidt

Jack Brock—Publicity and Public Relations

A Cut Above 16512 Arminta Street Van Nuys, CA 91406 Phone: 800-444-2999

Website: www.acutabove.com

Austin Hardwoods of Denver, Inc. 975 W. Mississippi Denver, CO 80223 Phone: 303-733-1292

Website: www.austinhardwoods.com

B & B Rare Woods 871 Brickyard Circle, Unit C4, Golden, CO 80403 Phone: 303-986-2585

Website: www.wood-veneers.com

Charlie's 2nd Hand Store, Inc. 2227 Larimer Street Denver, CO 80205 Phone: 303-295-1781

Website: www.usedtoolsplus.com

Collector's Specialty Woods 4355 Monaco Street, Unit A, Denver, CO 80216 (this is their Denver show-room and warehouse) and 8055 County Road 570 Gardner, CO 81040 (this is their southern Colorado wood yard, kiln drying facility, woodshop, and another show-room) Phone: 800-746-2413

Denver Woodworking Company 2062 S. Bannock Street Denver, CO 80223 Phone: 303-733-3130 Website: www.denverwoodworking.com

EZ Dado 5220 E. 130th Circle Thornton, CO 80241 Phone: 303-902-8134

Website: www.ezdado.com

Mile High Tree Care, Inc. 6010 W. 56th Avenue, Arvada, CO 80002 Phone: 303-292-9393

Website: www.milehightreecare.com

Frank Paxton Lumber Company 4837 Jackson Street Denver, CO 80216 Phone: 303-399-6047

Website: www.paxtonwood.com/denver.aspx

Reclaimed Boxcar Flooring Phone: 303-913-6373

Website: www.reclaimedboxcarflooring.com

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware 2553 S. Colorado Blvd Denver, CO 80222 Phone: 303-782-0588

Website: www.rockler.com/retail/denver-colorado-hardware-store.cfm

Signature Medallions 4218 Ponce De Leon Drive La Mesa, CA 91941 Phone: 619-303-2876

Website: www.signaturemedallions.com

TC Woods 5406 County Road 23 Ft. Lupton, CO 80621 Phone: 3-666-8989

Website: www.tcwoods.com

Tool Zone, Inc. 8651 Grant Street, Unit 1A Thornton, CO 80229 Phone: 303-252-8500

Website: www.toolzone.com

Woodcraft of Denver 6770 S. Peoria Street Centennial, CO 80112 Phone: 303-290-0007

Website: <http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=305>

2/12/2017