

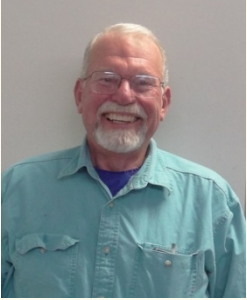
SOUTH BAY

WOODWORKERS' NEWS

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April 2026

President's Column



Gang, greetings from Portugal! I am looking forward to Steve's presentation on April 28th (I'll be back just in time for that regular monthly meeting) on 3-D Printing for Woodworkers. A fresh new topic. I know Darrell Peart (Green & Green style furniture and classes) uses

3-D printing for fixtures and clamping help with curved surfaces. No idea what applications Steve is using it for but interested to hear!

For those of you interested in signing up for Rebuilding together on April 25 Luz Carey the Volunteer Coordinator for the project said: the form is long and laborious but they only need the starred items and T-Shirt size.

Cheers from Porto!

Jay

Meeting Location

Saratoga Federated Church Postal Annex Building
14376 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga, CA
Click [here](#) for map and directions.
4th Tuesday of every month except December.

March Meeting in Review

Meishan Ullerich presented a kitchen island she designed and built with her husband, Curtis. The countertop was repurposed from a salvaged quartz slab; the lumber was all salvaged or left over from earlier projects.



They began by laying out all their small appliances and modeling the design in SketchUp to determine the ideal dimensions. Since the length and width were basically constrained by the size of the quartz, they focused especially on getting the height to match the rest of the kitchen counter.

The most time-consuming part of the build was the joinery. They intentionally avoided using screws (though they did end up using 12 for the countertop plywood layer), opting instead for traditional mortise-and-tenon joints. The rails for the two shelf layers were fitted into the posts using this method. Because the legs weren't thick enough to accommodate everything, they incorporated half-lap joints where the short and long rails intersected.

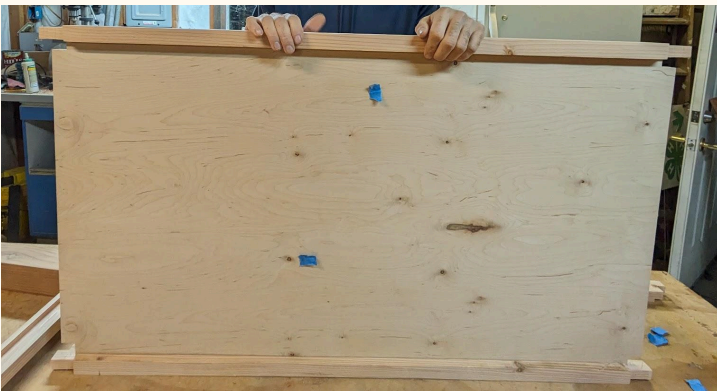


The half-flap in the mortise space



Joinery in detail

Another challenge was finding the right casters; ones that were appropriately sized but also strong enough to support the heavy quartz countertop along with all the appliances. Assembly turned out to be one of the most enjoyable parts of the project, though it required some creative problem-solving. They started by attaching the longer rails to form the two shelves. Then they assembled two separate leg frames using pairs of legs connected by shorter rails. Next, they slid the shelves into one of the leg frames, and finally connected the second leg frame to complete the structure.



The first step of the assembly process-inserting the shelves onto the rails

The final steps involved installing a plywood base for the countertop, followed by carefully placing the quartz slab on top. They also added a custom trim around the plywood, an extra, slightly unnecessary but satisfying detail that elevated the overall finish.

To secure the countertop, they used Liquid Nails adhesive. Because of the weight of the quartz, this step required speed and precision; once placed, there was very little room for adjustment.

Overall, it was a great learning experience and a great project!

March 2026 Show'n Tell

Milind Joshi presented two book display shelves as well as a photo stand/holder.



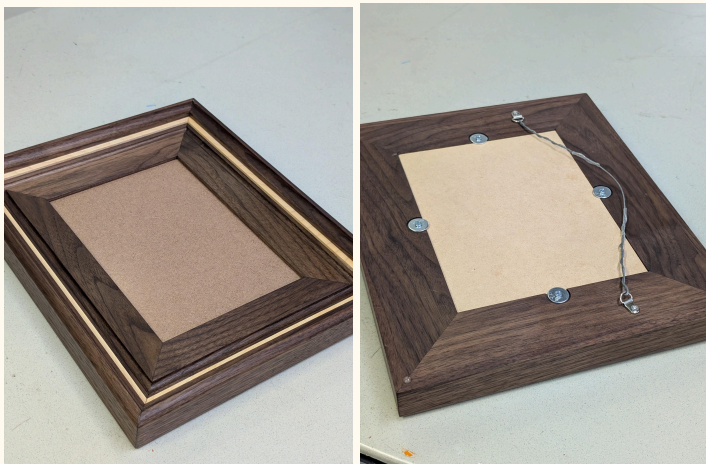
Greg Spencer showed a picture frame he made. The picture frame was made as a gift for an artist. It's made of black walnut and a contrasting accent in maple. It was

designed to be made out of two pieces of 3/4" stock arranged in an "L" shape to give the frame more depth. The contours were made on the router. The art piece is held in with fender washers and screws.



the insert has holes for 1/2" bolts that extend into a slot in the window frame so that the frame and fan cannot be removed from the outside. The fan can be set to go on when the shop temperature is too hot or too cold, on set on a timer. When the fan not running, the louvers lower and block most of the air flow. When really not in use, I can retract the bolts, remove the fixture, lower the sash and lock the window.

I use the fan when my CNC's vacuum table generates too much heat, and also when applying smelly finishes to a workpiece. I still have to wear a respirator when applying the finishes, but the VOC's don't go into the rest of my house!"



The front and back side of the frame

Steve Kelem talked about a cool solution to removing heat and/or VOC's from his shop.

"I bought a Vevor fan (Amazon ~\$90) and built an insert for my shop window. The insert fits perfectly in the space when the bottom sash is opened all the way. The frame for

Calendar/Programs

2026: 4th Tuesday, except December	
January 27th	New Year's Pizza Party & Slide Show
February 24th	Greg's Sea Chest
March 24rd	Meishan's Rolling Kitchen Island
April 28th	Steve - 3D Printing
May 26th	Bob's New Kind of Drum
June th 27	Meet on Santa Cruz Board Walk at 10am to tour "Woodies on the Wharf"
July 28th	Dave's Standalone Bathroom Vanity Chest
August 25th	
September 22nd	
October 27th	
November 24th?	

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