

SOUTH BAY WOODWORKERS' NEWS

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President's Column

By Jay Perrine



The year of rising prices. Gasoline at the pump went up to what nearly \$7/gallon for premium (well, at least my Lexus sips that flavor) and plywood has risen to more than the cost of a tank of gasoline.

I am involved in a church project that involved 10 sheets of 4x8 Baltic Birch plywood. I believe I made a good move the day AFTER Russia invaded Ukraine; I bought 10 sheets from Aura Hardwoods (now Hardwoods Inc, new owner) and he told me he had 15 sheets; and when they were gone he was not sure when he would get more. Best information I have from others is the supply of Baltic Birch coming in has either stopped or is quite iffy.

Supply, where do we buy it, how can we save? Does that stop SBWW members from working on projects? No indeed it does not!

I just checked Craigslist for hardwood lumber and there are several places that are offering slabs, an offer for wood from an estate, and various left over lots.

There are still many hardwood flooring suppliers and I have seen small projects using their scraps.

I believe between the various sales through clubs and word of mouth, we pick up wood here and there; including nice plywood scraps discounted or sometimes free. (well compared to today's plywood prices almost free even if we paid \$0.50/bd ft for plywood at a yard./shop sale).

And I suspect I am NOT the only one who has bought wood in the past with specific project in mind; then years later finds the wood in the back of the shop but no memory of that project. But a new idea is born to use that material! So we might have enough wood on hand to complete a new project after all.

Several members, including Bill Henzel, have made a series of Covid Projects to use up scraps in the shop during the semi-dormant time. A good source without high cost.

Sometimes you have to pay full retail. I just got 'commissioned' to build a new Altar Table for my church. I popped into Moore & Newton and picked out some good looking 12/4 walnut stock. I payed about \$16/bd ft. - but in this project I will be reimbursed for the materials.

All-in-all we are a resourceful lot and the creating and building continues in spite of the high costs of materials.

Upcoming Program August 23 7pm

Steve Kelem will be talking about cabinet design software.



Meeting Location

Saratoga Federated Church
Postal Annex Building
14376 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga

Map and directions:

<https://www.southbaywoodworkers.org/>

SBWW Fall Picnic September 10th

I hope we are all looking forward to seeing even the shyest among us have our mouths drop when Bill gives us a tour of his slightly-larger-than-modest shop at the upcoming picnic. We will provide the traditional ham, and rumor has it Norm will be manning the grill! Looking forward to seeing you all there!
Jay Perrine

July Program in Review

Tom Petzoldt, an occupational therapist specializing in hand therapy, gave us a talk about routine back care and safety in the shop.

Using a model of a person's spine, Tom demonstrated what the disks look like



when the back is leaning forward or backward. There was a demonstration of how to lift and carry objects.

Several lumbar pillows were passed around to the club and the benefit of using them was discussed. Two books were on display that are available for purchase at www.mckensiemethod.com. One titled "Treat Your Own Back" and the other titled "Treat Your Neck". Both books are available on Amazon.

We then had a group discussion about accidents while operating equipment and what could be done to prevent the accident from happening in the future.

July's Show & Tell

Bob Konigberg brought in two projects to show the club. The first one was an 8" X 8" chessboard made of OSB plywood.



The dark and light squares were run through the belt sander before being stained and finished with an oil-based polyurethane and then assembled. A border of Douglas fir was attached to complete the project.

The second project was a small OSB pie-wedge circular shaped occasional table. Twenty-four wedges were cut at 15 degrees to complete a circle. It was initially made as a proof of concept for creating as large a table as possible using wedges. The edging consists of thin strips of Douglas fir cut from a 2 by 4.



Ron Gerard described some of the tools that he has made in the past. Using spoke shave blades manufactured by Hock Tools, he made the bodies that contained them.



Both bodies are made from apricot wood with ebony end caps for contrast. The larger tool has an ironwood insert behind the blade to deal with wear. The smaller shave's body is still in the roughed out stage. It has a brass strip imbedded behind the blade to deal with wear.



There was a chisel plane made from brass channel with an apricot and ebony inlay. The O-1 tool steel blade is bedded at 12.5 degrees.

Ron also made a knock-off version of the Bridge City Tools try square according to the how-to article in the October 2011 issue of the Popular Woodworking magazine. It's made of 360 brass and cocobolo with drill rod pins.



2022 Program Responsibilities

If there are conflicts or need for changes, please contact Rich Winslow.

August 23	Eugene Gulko Steve Kelem
September 27	Richard Winslow
October 25	Allen Glesser Mark Flanagan
November	TBD Jay Perrine

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