

# SOUTH BAY WOODWORKERS' NEWS

Volume 33, Issue 2

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## President's Column

By Jay Perrine



### Memories.

What memories do we cherish and costs related to those memories. I treasure the hammer and saw that came from a tool set my maternal

grandfather won as a result of some promotion when he was the manager of the local American Stores grocery store in my little town of Cranbury growing up. BUT, frankly he didn't use the tools and after begging for them I was finally given them. So, I have no memory of him using them - just that I got them via him.

I am writing this brief letter on my laptop but sitting on the dining table I made from madrone slabs and I have great memories of making it - both the wooden portion and the welded steel Z-shaped legs made also. And I recall assembling it right here and it took like 4 of us to flip it over to its present position. I have pretty good memories of mixing epoxy, sanding, drilling the Domino mortises and so forth.

I contrast these memories with what I am about to spend for my daughter's wedding which is costing more than all my power tools together and possibly the shop I built to house them. So I am getting philosophical about how much some memories cost. Surely I will treasure the memories of her wedding as it's my only

child but gosh will I have HUGE HIGH CLASS memories to go with its big price tag? Probably not, but I also suspect as time passes the pain of spending that amount of money will fade.



I also have many good memories of club meetings - particularly the ones where I THOUGHT the topic would be boring and left the meeting in awe of the craft that went into that evening's speaker's work. Musical instruments come to mind - I don't play an instrument and never attempted to make one but I've now heard at least three presentations on making musical instruments that were very interesting and informative. The last was in Puerto Rico where the speaker mentioned his father suggested or begged him to cut down a tree and make a guitar. He never got to it until the week AFTER his father died; he proceeded and taught himself how to make one which was quite beautiful and sounded great. Subsequently he's made numerous stringed instruments - and he also learned to play them.

Hopefully your efforts lead to good memories (besides good tools) and that is only enhanced with the memories of hearing about other's efforts at projects presented at our SBWW club meetings. Here's to the good memories regardless of project costs!

## Bill Henzel Building a Baby's Crib

For February's meeting, **Bill Henzel** will explain the trials and tribulations of building a babies crib.

## Meeting Location

Saratoga Federated Church  
Postal Annex Building  
14376 Saratoga Ave.  
Saratoga, CA

## Map and directions:

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

## January Program in Review

### How Sharp is Enough?



**Chuck Aring** gave his version of tool sharpening. He reviewed various forms of tool guides used in sharpening chisels and



plane blades. He talked about the General brand of guide that is hard to use because of how long it is.

The Veritas Mark II honing guide was discussed as well.

He advocates using a guide of some sort as opposed to holding the blade free hand.



At a woodworking meeting at the Anderson ranch, he discovered the Sharpton Sharpening system that varies from 500 to 16,000 grit.



He found that this system works much better than the regimen he was previously using. He uses the 500 grit only when the

edge is extremely dull and usually starts resharping with the 1000 grit stone.

Chuck visited a retired ophthalmologist who had a setup for viewing microscopic images. He came away with photos of blade edges ground by various grits so that we could compare the results. These magnified images were unique, but did not provide useful information. After that experiment, Chuck believes that a jewelers loupe serves very well when viewing blade surfaces, and works much better than a magnifying glass.

Chuck says "Sharpening needs to be task-specific, meticulous only when needed, quick and one - or two-staged when not."

## January Show n' Tell

**Rodney Jenny** and **Ken Roberge** joined us as guests this month.

One of our guests, **Ken Robarge** showed us two examples of his carving skills; a unique cane and a practice piece in a basket weave pattern.



They were carved with basic tools including a box cutter, X-acto knife, and chisels. The cane started as a piece of 2 X 2 inch poplar.



The blond spiral on the cane is a snake inching its way upward. The walnut handle is doweled to the shaft. The piece is stained and then coated with polyurethane. The poplar dowel is a practice exercise in a basket weave pattern.



**Ken** drew the pattern on a piece of paper and then wrapped it around the dowel to transfer the pattern onto the dowel.

**Ron Gerard** brought in an oddity of nature. It's a cross section of a tree branch that has been bent around 180 degrees.





## 2023 Program Responsibilities

If there are conflicts or need for changes, please contact **Tracie Johnson**.

February 28	Bill Henzel Building a Baby's Crib Jeff Lukanc
March 28	Tracie Johnson Guest Jim Bender - Boat Builder
April 25	Steve Kelem - CNC project Laura Marshall Ben Karni
May 23	Jay Perrine Alter Table for Church Rich Winslow
June 27	Bob Konigsberg Update on the house build Matteo McCullough
July 27	Tom Petzoldt Mike Castellanos
August 22	Allan Kutach Terry O'Donnell
September 26	Bill Turner Norm Burns
October 24	Dave Burkett Allen Glesser
November 28	Ron Gerard Dennis Yamamoto
December	Christmas Winter Holiday Party TBD

## 2022 Officers

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January 24 Meeting

