

SOUTH BAY WOODWORKERS'

Volume 30, Issue 8

Sep 2020

President's Column

By Jay Perrine



When discussions arise about finding new members, I have often noted that the 21st century woodworking clubs are really competing with YouTube for members. Our club meetings provide tips and techniques somewhat limited scope by the skill and knowledge of the members and occasional guest presenter. With the advent of the Zoom meetings, this passing of tips and techniques is more difficult. In contrast the YouTube video instructions are quite impressive in diversity and depth. Recognizing that not all of it is correct, accurate or safe. More and more professional and skilled woodworkers are preparing YouTube videos. We are most likely all finding more time to turn to the Internet for woodworking methodology, ideas and how to content.

I admit lately, I have spent less time at the table saw, router, glue bottle and varnish can. I have continued my serious interest in woodworking by attending woodworking classes throughout the US.

Besides watching some YouTube videos myself I also follow a number of woodworkers on Instagram. While attending The Furniture Society Conference, a panelist mentioned a site called Chair_Aware, where Julie posts daily different chairs discussing who designed and manufactured the chair. Most of the chairs are out of production. I really look forward to the verity of chairs and Julie's critiques.

Another site is from Japan covering slab furniture - almost exclusively tables called atelier_mokuba. The word 'atelier' means store in French while Mokuba is the Japanese brand name. When I was planning to go to Japan, I wanted to hit some woodworking sites. I asked a travel agent to contact Mokuba and ask if I could get a tour. The travel agent was dumbfounded by the request that someone would ask such a thing but she made the call. She was even more amazed when someone from Mokuba called back and said okay and set a time. I had a great visit. The biggest thrill was to see a large press that applied steam and then heat and pressure for 8 hours to flatten the slabs that had been air-dried for years.

SBWW members should all feel free to mention good websites or YouTube videos during Show-N-Tell that you find useful. Enrichment during Covid! Enjoy. Share. Jay

September Program

Note;

Bill Henzel will present Laminating Wood in Furniture Construction.

A variety of furniture projects will be used to illustrate various methods of laminating wood.

August's Program



Terry O'Donnell introduced our guest speaker Michael Bray who talked to us about carving all kinds of spoons. Michael is the president of a local spoon carving group.

Spoons can be carved from either green or dry wood. Dipping dry wood in hot water occasionally helps to soften the dry wood making it easier to carve.

Beginners usually make the mistake of making the bowl too deep. The depth should be about 1/8 to 3/8 inches. Using four quarter stock suffices in most cases.

He uses a felt tipped pen for drawing the shape of the spoon on the blank. Mike

suggests that the hand can be used to dimension the spoon. The bowl can be three fingers long by two fingers wide with the handle measuring one hand long and the widest part of the handle would be one thumb wide.

When roughing out the blanks on the bandsaw, Mike reassembles the cut-offs back into a square to make the cutting more stable.

Only two knives are required to carve spoons. He first uses a Mora 164 curved blade knife to form the bowl then uses a Mora 120 straight blade for the remainder of the carving. The use of a cut resistant glove is recommended.

Sanding to 400 grit is sufficient, but sanding to 600 is better. Burnishing also works well. Mike uses flaxseed or walnut oil on his spoons. Tung oil can be used, but is smelly. Mineral oil, olive oil, boiled linseed oil or varnish are not recommended for finishing. He noted that boiled linseed oil is poisonous.

He recommends both youtube and instagram sites for a wealth of information about carving spoons.

Note;

Michael Bray provided an information sheet covering the highlights of his presentation as well as sources for tools and additional information. This addendum is included at the end of the newsletter.

Show and Tell

Note:

If you have a Show & Tell for zoom meetings, please forward the photos to me, takenyon1@gmail.com prior to the meeting. I will prepare a slide show. Thank You – Tom Kenyon



Anne-Mare, a neighbor of Richard Winslow's, joined the session and showed us a spoon that she had carved. The inside needs some additional work and according to Michael Bray the depth of the bowl is too deep.



Bill Henzel created a sculpture that stands about two foot tall out of scraps of cherry, walnut and mahogany left over from making oval jewelry boxes for Christmas. When gluing the pieces together, he rotated each layer about ten or fifteen degrees to form a spiral. After glue-up, he shaped the piece with an angle grinder. He used files, rasps, and a small orbital sander to smooth the surface in preparation for finishing. Bill then applied four coats of wipe-on polyurethane and an oil with wax finish.



Bill Henzel also showed us forks made from strawberrywood harvested from his yard and from walnut. Bill roughed out the shapes on the bandsaw then refined the profiles with files, drawknife, and scrapers from Lee Valley called "chair Devils".

Last month Bill reported on a motorized table lift for his drill press. He replaced the metal table because the two amp power supply wasn't strong enough. He replaced the power supply with a four amp unit that allowed him to put the metal table back on the drill press.



Tom Gaston thinly sliced and dried some apricot tree branches to form a table top using a technique called "oyster marquetry". Each segment has walnut on the outside, apricot in the middle, and burnished cherry in the center.



Tom Kenyon made an eight inch diameter by three or three and a quarter inch tall yarn bowl for a friend of his daughter's. The bottom and top rings are made from maple. The body is sixteen walnut segments interspersed with maple. Using a clever jig and router, Tom cut a gash for a right-handed person down the side for the yarn to pass through.



Steve Kelem brightened his shop with two LED strip lights. The lights come in 20 foot rolls, but he only used 16 feet of each strip. The strips are rated 24 volts, and consumes 6.6 watts of power per foot.

The lights can be adjusted for brightness to a maximum of 806 lumens per foot. Color accuracy is rated at CRI97. He sank the strips into the ceiling so that they are flush with the ceiling.

Program Responsibilities

<i>September 22</i>	<i>Bill Henzel Ed Vincent</i>
<i>October 27</i>	<i>Allen Glessner Norm Burns</i>
<i>November 24</i>	<i>Eugene Gulko Richard Winslow</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Officers</i>
<i>Contact Richard Winslow for any changes to the committee schedule</i>	

2020 Officers

President	Jay Perrine perrinedazign@gmail.com
Vice-President	Richard Winslow Yukon106@comcast.net
Secretary	Ron Gerard Jst4rig@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Syd Dunton syd@tridentdesigns.com
Newsletter Editor	Tom Kenyon takenyon1@gmail.com
Photographer	Richard Winslow Yukon106@comcast.net
Librarian	Dennis Yamamoto dennisnmnyamamoto@yahoo.com
Web Master	Tom Kenyon takenyon1@gmail.com

Next Program Committee

Please take the ice chest home after the meeting

Refreshment Suggestions

Variety of Soft Drinks
Water, Regular, Diet, Caffeine-Free,
Juices

Varied Snacks: Donuts, Cookies, Chips,
Nuts



Hand carved wooden spoons.

for more about me www.michaelbraydesign.com

Thank you for inviting me to talk about spoons on your Zoom meeting. There was a lot I didn't have time to say, and stuff I went over quite quickly. I figured that a follow-up list would fill in the gaps. So in no particular order here is a recap of stuff I covered, and stuff I skipped for time.

Spoons can be made from any kiln dried lumber, especially if you soak the wood for a moment every ten minutes or so - it softens the surface. So the wood will be easier to carve, and will dull your tools less.

Green wood is easier to carve, and is literally growing on trees. So you never have to pay for it.

A basic carving set is a Mora #120 slojd knife, and a #164 bowl knife. They are about \$50 bought together. The bowl knife needs to be altered a bit to work well. It takes about 15 minutes with a Dremel and sand paper. Or you can buy much more expensive knives that work better right away.

Tool makers: Robin Wood in the UK; Nic Westerman in the UK; Matt White in the US; Del Stubbs / Pinewood Forge in the US; Deepwoods Ventures in the US.

Books: "Swedish Carving Techniques" by Wille Sundqvist; "Spoon" by Barnaby Carder (aka Barn the Spoon); "Slojd In Wood" by Jogge Sundqvist (Wille's son).

Youtube (there is a lot)

Morakniv channel has a series of basic knife-work videos by Jogge. **Highly recommended!!!!**

Ben Orford has good low tech sharpening videos.

Jill Swan has videos on carving, one of which is an hour long. Very good, if slow paced.

JoJo Wood is a young spoon carving expert.

"Spoonfest 2017" its a video shot by Hazeoutdoors at Spoonfest when my daughter and I were there.

Classes: I teach one-on-one or small groups (4-6 people). I could teach maybe 4 right now, what with the need for social distancing; Melanie Abrantes teaches online at the moment, is based in Berkeley; The Crucible in Oakland teaches a two-day class, I will be teaching that in October. It sold out instantly, sorry.

Clubs and Gatherings: **Rise Up And Carve** - this is technically just a Zoom room that is left perpetually running, but right now is a defect international spoon carving club; **The Bay Area Spoon Carvers** - Meets once a month online for now, but around the Bay typically. It is intended for carvers with some experience to get together, but we get noobs so often that we now charge \$20 for a half-hour primer on safety with the knives. We usually insist they watch the Jogge Sundqvist videos put out by Morakniv first; **The Portland Spoon Club**; **The Seattle Spoon Club**; **The New York Spoon Club**

Happenings: **The Spoon Gathering** in Minnesota; **Spoonfest** in England; **The Great Scottish Spoon Hoolie** in Scotland; **The Irregular Spoon Gathering** east coast USA (cant remember where exactly)

