

# ShopTalk

Greenville Woodworkers Guild



April 2018



The April 2nd program will feature Steve Kern discussing correctly setting up and using a Table Saw. It is an inherently safe tool and has even been improved in recent history with better fences and riving knives. If the table saw is a safe tool, then why are there so many accidents with some dire consequences every year? Find out why!

## Steve Kern

I was born and raised in the Shenandoah valley of Virginia. My father was an engineer who had taken shop classes in high school and learned drafting early in his engineering education. He combined his drafting skills with wood-working knowledge to design and build his own furniture. As a young boy, I developed a desire to know what dad was doing in the shop in the evenings. I would watch him select materials, check his tools for their ability to perform a required task and go about milling all the parts for his latest project. It was more than gaining knowledge. It was valuable time spent with dad and seeing him build something that was functional and beautiful from wood. I caught the bug and under dad's guidance, I began learning about woods, power tools, joinery and finishing and built my first project – a bookshelf for a girl I was dating. During the last fifty-five years I have tried to keep learning and increasing my skills. I found that woodworking was a great way to relieve the stress that comes from a career as an air traffic controller and I found that there was great benefit to having fellowship with other men and women who enjoyed the pride of crafting something from wood.

I have designed a lot of what I have built. But sometimes I have taken someone else's design and modified it for my own desires and I learned that repairing furniture made me learn the strengths and weaknesses of other craftsmen's joinery techniques. I also turned to studying finishing techniques that would both protect and bring out the beauty of different species of woods.

Today, I find there is much joy in teaching others some of the skills that I have learned from my own experiences as well as from many other woodworkers. It has been a

great joy to be a member of the Greenville Woodworkers Guild since 1991 and to serve the guild throughout the years. But the greatest benefit has been the strong friendships that have developed with other members.

Don Clarke, GWG Program Chairman, has asked me to focus this presentation on the Table saw. The Table saw is arguably the most versatile and often used stationary tool in the average woodworking shop. It is an inherently safe tool and has even been improved in recent history with better fences and riving knives. If the table saw is a safe tool, then why are there so many accidents with some dire consequences every year? So, I am going to focus on how to properly setup and check the table saw so that the user can get safe and accurate results. I will thoroughly explain parallelism and how to achieve it - for this is essential. There seems to be little understanding about the relationship of the miter slot to the saw blade and the fence, so I will address this need. We will also get into the selection of the appropriate specifications for the saw blade itself. And lastly, we will address the maintenance of a saw including the table top, the blade, and the trunnions. A well prepared and maintained table saw will give you good service for all your woodworking years. I hope to see you at the meeting!

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## **Ken Fissel** President



### T H E P R E S I D E N T S C O R N E R

The time has come to announce the fundraiser you've been awaiting! The fruits of the plan are taking shape already, with the addition of new pieces of equipment in the shop. We've received a new 8" Jointer and an 15" planer for the jobs that don't require the larger equipment. Watch elsewhere in this edition for a more detailed description of what's happening.

I will say that there are several tasks looming in the near future and Mac needs help to accomplish them. We will need some robust help to erect a wall at the new dust collector, and help to revise and expand our dust collection capabilities. See Mac to make yourselves available. The Audio/Visual team has created a video explaining the allocation of that portion of the funds. David Dewease methodically goes through all the study details and research the team considered, in order to develop what we think will provide us with a very functional system, that to meet our needs well into the future. It will also provide us with amazing capability to project our mission into the realm of more modern communications. We can capture seminars, programs, individual and class mentoring, safety presentations etc. to be made available to our members and also as an income source for the guild if we choose.

All this is an effort to position the guild to keep true to our mission. We are looking to continue to provide the same fantastic services that we do now. BUT,,, this requires conscious effort, in order to do so, and the folks who are giving all the time to keep up this pace need you to get involved! We are always on the lookout for qualified mentors who can do a class in the

evenings, or weekends. Folks, these mentors are going to have to rise up from your ranks, or the programs won't happen. You may not think you are up to the challenge, but we will help and you may just find out that you can do more than you think. None of us started out as a master craftsman (and I dare say few of us have attained that status yet), but a willing attitude is all you need to start.

With our growing numbers, comes growing pains. Please be aware of your surroundings while in the shop working. We are very busy, and with the toy program kicking into gear, and Youth classes, the shop is a busy place. We might need to pull in our wings a bit so as to share an assembly table or a cart. Most of all we want to share our "space".

In order to make things equitable, focus on safety, and look to protecting our machinery, we're finding necessary to make decisions "on the fly". Sometimes we need to modify our thoughts and tweak our rudder a bit, but you can rest assured that when a supervisor discusses something, the subject has been well thought out, but, we are human "beans". The point is, if something arises that causes you genuine heartburn, think about a fix that is realistic, and drop me a line. Most likely, I'll be able to meet, and discuss things promptly.

Excelsior!!!

## **Metropolitan Arts Council Show - July 27th thru September 9th of 2018**

**Please contact Ken Fissel if you plan to enter your work in the show at: [pres@greenvillewoodworkers.com](mailto:pres@greenvillewoodworkers.com)**

The Woodworkers Guild has been invited to present another show at the Metropolitan Arts Council.

We will begin accepting display items at the shop on July 17th. Items will be delivered to the MAC gallery on July 24, 2018

So, please, get those creative juices flowing, and target these dates so we can present a show greater than last year's showing, which was received extremely well.

**The Guild has cherry bowl blanks and would appreciate anyone turning a bowl to sell at the show as a contribution to benefit the Guild.**

## **Upgrades to the shop**

The GWG shop has begun a series of changes designed to improve the utilization of the machines available for your woodworking efforts. This will involve the addition of several new pieces of equipment and reconfiguration of other pieces of existing. Here are some of the changes you can expect and where we stand at the present time.

### **Status:**

- Relocation of the panel saw has been moved and connection to the dust collection TBD
- Installed new miter saw along side the radial arm saw. Saw is operational but additional dust collection changes are planned. A big thanks to Jay Leonard for his excellent work on the new tables and the revisions made to the Radial Arm saw dust collection.
- The old "tunnel" that was used to return air back to the shop has been removed. A second bank of filters has been built and installed. Assembly of the third dust collector continues. Building a "WALL" to enclose this collector will begin in about 1-2 weeks. The first shipment of piping is due early in March. A hearty thanks to Mike Sharf for building the new filter rack. It is a work of art.

- Install new 8" jointer and a 15" planer group. These machines will be located on the assembly table side of the Tannewitz/Yates bandsaws) New Jointer has been received and assembled. It has been placed on the floor near its final destination. Dust collection and electrical hookup remain to be completed. The new planer is expected end of March.

- Move the 10" saw several feet to clear room for 51" sander (aka Big Boy). New 51" sander due mid March

- Upgrade the electrical capacity of the shop. An electrical contractor has been engaged. Final design and changes are being worked on.

The goal of the teams working on this project is to not impact the availability of the shop. There however will be times when some areas of the shop will be restricted while changes are in progress. Please keep this in mind when planning to use the shop. As always a call before coming is advisable.

At various times members of the Work groups may request assistance in doing various tasks. Please assist if requested. Remember YOU are part of the shop. Your patience and assistance will undoubtedly be required

## **Mental Health America of Greenville County (MHAGC)**

Mental Health America of Greenville County (MHAGC), would like to thank you and your business for taking the time to build the cabinets and desks for our office. Without such resources, our organization would not be able to serve the community in the capacity that we do. We sincerely appreciate your dedication to quality service, to the community, and to helping organizations such as ours succeed. We look forward to continued partnership with the Woodworkers Guild.

Mental Health America of Greenville County (MHAGC) positively impacts mental health through advocacy, awareness, and service. MHAGC envisions a just, humane, and healthy society in which all people are accorded respect, dignity, and the opportunity to achieve their

full potential free from stigma and prejudice. The organization, which was formerly named the Mental Health Association of Greenville County, was founded in 1955 and is the only broad-based organization in the local community dedicated to addressing all aspects of mental health and mental illness. MHAGC offers representative payee/housing programs for individuals with mental illness and comprehensive educational programming. MHAGC has unique expertise regarding suicide prevention, intervention, and after-care in the Upstate community through its Crisis Intervention Services (CIS programming). CIS programs include 1) CRISISline/TEENline hotline/texting/chatting; 2) Survivors of Suicide support group; 3) Reassurance Line peer support for individuals with chronic mental illness; and 4) Emergency support as part of regional disaster behavioral health framework. Beginning in

2016, MHAGC has taken a leadership role in helping to convene and bolster community partners around the issue of access to behavioral health through creating a coalition and launching an AmeriCorps VISTA program.

In 2017, CRISISline and TEENline responded to 11,693 calls, texts and chat requests, representing approximately a 20% increase in calls from 2016. 939 of these callers were suicidal and we intervened in 33 in-progress suicide attempts. Our Reassurance Line, developed according to a nationally proven evidence-based model of peer-to-peer support, was expanded to approximately 50 more clients in Spartanburg County. Again, with the generosity of your time to provide us with the desk and cabinets, we are able to use these resources to continue to serve our community. So we truly value your time and efforts and want to take the time to say thank you!

## **A word from Ethan Brown - Youth Program**

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." This quote perfectly describes my experience with the Guild's Youth Program. During my time in the Youth Program, I have learned multiple skills by shadowing my many mentors. By working along side my mentors, I am able to be involved in the process of each project, which helps me to learn more effectively

how to handle the tools and plan my projects.

While part of the Youth Program, I have learned lathe turning, flat work, handtools, equipment set-up and safety, and how to plan my projects. Some of the things I have made include a shaker-style bench, checkerboard, bowls, pens, knife handle, and currently, I am working on a keepsake box. This program matters a lot to students, because it allows us to

learn skills that could not be learned elsewhere, and enables us to have a well-rounded college portfolio. This program also matters to the mentors, because they see the importance of handing down these skills to what will be the future woodworking community. Greenville Woodworkers Guild !

– Ethan Brown

## Silent auction and tool sale

By Aubrey Rogers

Upon entering the shop we are dazzled by the array of tools and the possibilities this presents for our members. We must, however, never lose sight of why we have the shop: to serve our community through charitable works, and further the education and artistic endeavors of our members. We have an outstanding track record of member's commitment to making these goals a success. Surprisingly, the silent auction and tool sale rank right up with charity and education when it comes to serving our community and the commitment required to make it happen.

The original idea came from the need of spouses to rid themselves of the sawdust and tools left behind by members who could no longer maintain their shop. The Guild moved in, took away all the tools, swept the sawdust, leaving a somewhat clean empty space and presented, in some cases, a badly needed check for the sale proceeds. The relief could be seen on the face of an appreciative spouse. Today this service is extended to non-members, and has expanded to allowing members to dispose of taking up space and unused tools.

Twenty five members were on hand on the day of the sale to register buyers, provide assistance, provide refreshments, record sales, collect cash, checks and credit cards and input the transactions in our computer system, after which they had to restore the room for the Monday meeting. But before that was all the work to establish the computer system, collect and store the items, tag each item with a price, input the data, set up the auditorium, and do a lot of planning that allowed us to smoothly sell about five hundred items in two hours. And after the sale activity was required

to dispose of the unsold goods, issue receipts and commission checks and close the Tags system.

The benefits from this effort are that members and spouses dispose of unwanted tools, receive proceeds and/or make a donation to the Guild, and buyers receive bargains, a win /win for all!

The financial results of this year's sale show a gross proceeds of \$9200.00, and a net to the Guild of \$8500.00. Most of the tools were donated this year and just over \$600.00 was paid in commissions. In addition, approximately \$2000.00 was received from turning blanks, pen blanks, pen kits, and wood sales from donations by those who participated in providing tools for the sale.

Thanks to those who helped, those who provided the tools and to those who turned out to support the sale. An outstanding example of service to our members and the community.

## CHARITABLE PROJECTS / February 6 to March 5 2018

	Hours
Santa's Workshop (Toys) .....	8.5
Conestee Park (Signs) .....	5.5
Military History Club of the Carolinas (Benches) .....	3
Military History Club of the Carolinas (Displays) .....	74
TCMU (Reading Bench) .....	0.5
Metropolitan Arts Council (Bookcase).....	29
Jasmine Rd. ....	10.5
Rafka (Podium).....	23
??????? (Lego and Train Tables) .....	6
??????? (Bolt Holder).....	14.5
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>174.5</b>

## MENTORING CLASSES / February 6 to March 5 2018

	Hours
Combined total hours for adult classes.....	690
Youth Classes .....	205
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>895</b>

As for Charity, we had eleven different ones with activity, for 52 sessions over 185 hours!  
 The MHCC Displays garnered 74 hours over 20 sessions followed by Bookcase MAC and Rafka Podium  
 with combined numbers, 11 sessions over 52 hours!

Mentoring, was led by Youth Mentoring! The mentors gave 205 hours over 44 sessions! Now get this, their  
 students were there for 456 hours over 111 sessions! It's hard to imagine! Lathe mentoring garnered 49 sessions  
 over 249 hours followed by Hand Tool class with 139 hours over 34 sessions!

As for Shop Hours, we had a new heading for "Shop Reutilization"! There were  
 26 sessions over 129 hours for that one, and then there was a CPR class with 20 sessions over 38 hours!  
 The totals for Shop hours were 1039 hours over 278 sessions!

So GWG is a busy place! Mentoring and Shop figures were at a yearly high! Charity, as usual after the first of  
 the year, had a pull back as Santa's toy makers take a well-deserved break!

– Jack McKay

# SHOW & TELL

Serving Tray by Marshall Gaddy



Scrollsawed Indian Spiral,  
Baskets and by Tray  
by Gary Morris



Game Set and Band Saw Box by Karen Sheldon



Yarn Bowl by Paul Pimentel



Tool Chest by Ray Longerbeam



End Table and Ribbon Box by John Arnold





Z Table by Dan Polstra



TV Console by Lee Bedford



**NEXT GUILD MEETING - MONDAY, April 2, 2018**  
**Social time begins 6:00 p.m.**

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For more information  
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