



# Wood Words

Kansas City Woodworkers Guild [www.kcwoodworkersguild.org](http://www.kcwoodworkersguild.org)

Volume 22 Issue 8

October 06

Guild Meetings:  
Jacob's Well Church,  
1617 W. 42nd St.,  
KC Mo. 64111

**"By all means read what the experts have to say.**

**Just don't let it get in the way of your woodworking" By John Brown**

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**Editor/Web:**  
Wayne Wainwright

**October Raffle:** Bill Evans will have his usual assortment of items

**Next Meeting Wed. October 18th, 7 PM**

**Program: Wayne Suter: How to make a Band sawn Box**

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



Last month was the 5th year anniversary of the 9/11 disaster.

My guess is that everyone in the Woodworkers Guild can remember that day vividly. I was volunteering on a Habitat for Humanity project and can recall just about every conversation I had that day.

The next three days the only thing I can remember is the fog of anger, confusion, bewilderment and fear that was prevalent everywhere. I was working back on the Habitat house a few days later when we saw and heard the first plane return to the sky.

The joy of seeing that airplane and realizing that we were getting back to normal is a moment I'll always remember. A

group of us were sitting by the side of the house having lunch that day and talking about not taking life for granted like we had in the past.

One of the volunteers was a woodworker and he made the statement: "There have been some projects I have been putting off and 9/11 has taught me that time is precious. There are certain projects that I want to build before I die." I agreed with him and made my own list.

Since that conversation I have always used 9/11 as a reality check of where I'm at with my list of projects. Coming up with my list was not an easy process for me.

I started out with a big list and narrowed it down with my priorities. I wanted to be flexible enough to add to the list if I changed my mind, and at the same time I wanted not to deviate too much

from my priorities. In the five years since 9/11 I've made one consistent goal and that is to improve my skills. I'm not

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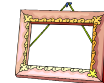
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about making stuff. Quality is the underlying frame of mind, no matter what project I'm working on.

Part of being a woodworker is maintaining a connection to a higher purpose. I don't always accomplish this, but that's my goal. I still don't understand or comprehend 9/11. It still doesn't make any sense to me. I know that I have to make something positive of the tragedy and I'm fortunate to be a woodworker.

So what's going on in your shop?

### **Program: Jet Tools with Randy Johnson**

David Roth

Randy Johnson is the sales manager for Jet Tools and Powermatic for the state of Missouri. Randy's background is as a mechanical engineer and worked for the aero space industry, then in CNC computer programming and is now selling tools.

WMH (Walter Meier Holdings), a Swiss company that owns Jet, sells a lot of metal working items and hand tools. Randy is also a representative for Amana Router bits. Randy likes wood working as well as metal working.

Woodcraft let Randy borrow some clamps for the program tonight. Randy used to be a Bessie rep. for 8 years before switching to Jet. He says they are a good clamp. Randy used to give demonstrations at woodworking shows and used the Bessie clamp when he was gluing up boards.

Randy points out that a lot of people "over" clamp when they glue boards together. That is (they over tighten.) He and his brother were selling a lot of clamps and Bessie asked them "how" they were selling so many. Randy said we are demonstrating with them and people are seeing them and we are selling a lot of clamps. Then Randy and his brother trained the Bessie reps.

Then Randy told us the story about the Bessie clamps and meeting Norm Abrams at a tool show and how

the clamps ended up on the wall on one of Norm Abrams PBS shows.

Bessie clamp sales went up 300 percent. So, as you can see, Randy has a history with the Bessie Clamps.

You have to push the clamp handle in to make it engage. The set screws go in the insertions and sometimes glue gets into them and the clamp will not move when it hits the glue. Also the clamp can smash into your finger if you are not careful.

With their new clamps, Jet went with a Clutch system. The clutch is how you engage the clamp. When you let go of the clutch the clamp won't slide on you. And stays were you put it so it won't smash your finger. Jet also went to a larger handle and with the handle being bigger it is easier for a person with arthritis to tighten down on it and people appreciate that.

Parallel pressure is area pressure (a big selling point for Bessie). Pipe clamps are edge pressure. The Jet clamp has a larger jaw and it is also wider. The jaw has a flat area and is used for a stand when you are ready to glue up your boards - it also has a yardstick on it. So when you are ready for glue up you open your clamp slightly larger than the piece you are going to glue up.

Place your wood in there and clamp it. This yardstick on the clamps saves you time so you don't have to put your project down if the clamps aren't open up far enough.

Another nice thing about the Jet clamps is there are threads in the foot of the clamp and the head stock to accept bench dogs. Their metal bench dogs are  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. in diameter and 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. long. If you have holes in your work bench that are round it can work as a bench vise. Randy mentioned that if you take a piece of plywood and drill  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch holes in it and attach it to your wall you now have a slant clamping rack and you will have more room on the floor. If it's on the wall you put your boards on and clamp it.

They also beefed up the clamp. The bar, and the mechanism hold up really well compared to the Bessie, Randy says. The serrations and the set screws on the Bessie wears out in time.

The Jet sharpening system is a lot similar to the Tormek and at first they had the price of the jet the same as the Tormek \$399.99. Jet was selling the accessories at a lower price. But during the tool shows, Reps. were saying that if you made it at a lower cost you would have more people buying it. So that is what Jet did and now it sells for \$299.99. If anyone bought one of these at woodcraft for \$399.99 you will get a rebate certificate in the mail.

The difference between the two is:

One the price is now lower,

The Jet is variable speed. That is important because of the wheel wear. You want to increase the wheel speed 10 percent for every inch of wear. (as you wear the wheel down you increase the speed.) So your surface cutting speed is the same. The high speed can take nicks out of hand plane blades and then you can lower the speed and proceed to sharpening.

The Jet also has a tensioning Knob and puts tension on the rubber wheel to control the speed. In time that wheel will get slimy and wear down and it may slip. If that happens, you can adjust the tension.

It also has a larger edge so the water flows better. The base it sits on and the cover is free when the Jet sharpening system is purchased. It also has a round handle for ease of carrying and has drawers to hold accessories and comes with a polishing compound, a straight jig, and an angle measuring device. It also has a wheel for the wood carving chisels.

Tools: The difference between the Powermatic and Jet tool brand is that the Powermatic is more industrial of a tool and the Jet is more of the price conscious line. Wilton is the higher end line.

Example: If you had a 6 inch Jet Jointer and a 6 inch

Powermatic jointer, the difference would be that the Powermatic would have a longer bed on it. and quick change knives.

If we were talking about the bandsaws, the Powermatic would have more power and more features on it. Quick release blades, blowers on the motor, built in lights. Etc. To give the machine a better value.

If you were to buy all of the accessories for the Jet. It would probably cost you more than the Powermatic, so sometimes it is better to pay for everything up front and buy the Powermatic.

Thank You Randy for a great program. Check out their catalogs and check out their tools and table saws.

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## Member of the Month



**Wayne Wainwright**

By Nan Melton

### **What is your specialty in woodworking?**

I have no real specialty, but I have developed an interest in making items by hand. I like to shape, and size wood using hand tools. I cheat a bit using the bandsaw to re-saw and I may use a router to do some specialized shaping, but I enjoy the quiet and dustless environment of hand work.

### **How many years have you been woodworking?**

I have been working with wood for about 15 years. I actually only took 1 year of shop in high school so I am mostly “self taught”. Recently, I began expanding my knowledge by attending classes once or twice a year in Berea Kentucky with Kelly Mehler.

### **What is your favorite hand tool and why?**

I would have to say the hand plane. I like the idea of shaping wood by hand and a good saw is worth its weight in gold, but planning and jointing a board and not creating any dust has a great appeal to me

### **What is your favorite power tool and why?**

The band saw. It is a very useful tool and there are few cuts I cannot make on the band saw.

### **What is your favorite wood to use and why?**

Many of my projects are done using Walnut, but that is because my wife prefers the color. I try not to limit my woodworking to a particular species. If I “had” to pick one, I would say highly figured cherry.

### **What is your most favorite project you have built and why?**

Probably the Flag project we did because of the meaning behind it. Doing something for others highly moti-

vates me.

### **What is the best deal you have gotten on a woodworking tool?**

I suppose that would be my Boss oscillating sander. A \$5 raffle ticket got me that item.

### **What guild activities have you been involved in, how many time/or how long?**

Well, that would be too many to count I suppose. I was involved in the Toy Project, the Flag Project, the Picture Frame project, the Chair project and am currently involved in the Table/Bench project. I am the Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, and past President. I have been involved in the Woodworking Shows, the Remodeling Show and may more over the past 10 years.

### **What has been your favorite guild activity?**

I would have to say the Mentor program. Anything that involves “learning” for Guild members is something I see as valuable and enjoyable. The Mentor program provides learning, but also fellowship with other wood workers.

### **What Shop Tip can you give us?**

Do not be afraid of hand tools. It may take a while to learn their intricacies, but often, they are “faster” than the best power tool you have in your shop.



Cherry and Cedar box

White Oak  
rocker



Cherry, Walnut and Cedar  
lined sweater chest

Maple,  
Rosewood  
and Walnut  
Chessboard  
box



## 2006 2 X 4 Contest

The item made can be anything the craftsperson wants it to be.

The item should be made out of any species of wood that the craftsperson wants to use.

The 2 X 4 used should equate to a measurement of 11/2" X 31/2" X 96".

The voting for the contest will be conducted at the December general "Guild" meeting.

Each person attending the December meeting will be given one marble and after the presentation of the projects by their craftsperson. Throughout the evening, each person will cast one vote by placing their marble in the receptacle by their favorite item.

A designated member of the guild will count the marbles and the winner, 2nd place, and 3rd place contestants will be announced at the end of the evening.

The decision of the Judge is final.

Prizes are as follows:

1st Prize - \$100.00

2nd Prize - \$ 50.00

3rd Prize - \$ 25.00

## Chair Project

*Wayne Wainwright*

The Chair Project (as we are calling it even though it is Tables and Benches) is well on its way. The design team has met twice to begin the development process.

We hope to have a prototype delivered to and approved by the customer before the end of the month.

In some ways, this will be a more challenging project than the chairs. The design calls for a solid wood table and bench set. The table will have a field of some sort of spalted or figured wood in the middle, with an outer band that matches the chairs.

The bench will probably have the same "figured" wood in the band around the outer edges so that they all "tie in" together. The goal is to make sure all 3 pieces look like they "belong" together and were in fact "custom" made.

We will seek volunteers to begin the manufacturing process sometime in early November once the design has been approved and the manufacturing process and locations worked out.

As you can imagine, there are a "million" details to this project and it will take some time, but we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Now the heavy lifting and all that it entails - the coordination, the camaraderie, the worry, the learning (by all of us) - will soon begin.

I look forward to working with you on this incredible Guild journey.

Want to help cut guild monthly costs? Consider receiving the newsletter via email. It is faster and comes in color. If you are interested, please send an email to Wayne Wainwright at: wwig01@mail2web.com, or add your email to the Attendance list at the monthly meetings.

**Newsletter Deadline: 1st of the month:**

**Please send all submissions for articles, tips, want ads announcements and anything else to Wayne Wainwright: 816 635-9815 email: wwig01@mail2web.com  
18424 Plattsburg Rd, Holt MO. 64048**

## Tool of the Month

Don Kruse

### ANTIQUe TOOL OF THE MONTH

October 2006

By Don Kruse

This month's tools are two planes based on William Steers' Sep. 11, 1883 patent. This patent was issued while he was living in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Although he lived in Canada, this was a US patent. He moved to Brattleboro, Vermont that same year and formed the Brattleboro Tool Co. in partnership with James L. Martin. It was this company that manufactured these planes until the company was purchased by C. E. Jennings & Company late in 1887.

The patent for this plane covers the blade depth adjustment, cap iron and mouth adjustment as well as the rosewood strips dovetailed into the soul of the plane. These strips were originally flush with the iron part of the soul and functioned as their version of corrugations. They were well made and must have sold fairly well since they show up quite often. The rosewood strips in the soul are usually beat up and worn and the horn of the tote is usually broken off. You have to look carefully to see the mouth adjustment. It is a thin metal plate at the front of the mouth that may be flexed to close up the mouth. This is done by turning a couple of screws in front of the plate. This can become a problem since shavings may become wedged behind the plate and it will not return to the open position if the pressure from the screws is removed.

These planes were made in sizes 303, 304, 305, 306 and 307. These correspond to the Stanley sizes 3 through 7. The two planes pictured here are marked 307 and are about 22 inches long.

In 1889 when the Bailey patents expired, C. E.

Jennings & Co. redesigned the plane. They still used the rosewood strips but changed the blade adjustment to the Bailey type.

This new variation was not manufactured after 1891 and consequently they are very scarce.

(Warning: When you are plane hunting, what may look like a common Stanley plane may be a Steers, so look at the souls of the planes)

The plane on the left is the 1883 patent and the plane on the right is the redesigned version by C. E. Jennings & Co.



### Show & Tell



**Bill Evans's** Example of the picture frame project



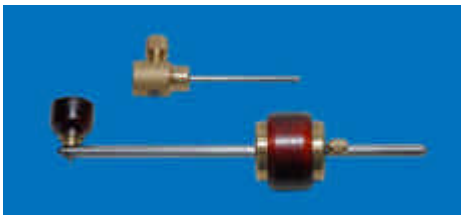
**Wayne Wainwright's** cherry and cedar boxes



**Anthony Harris'** New box designs made of cocobolo and a hedge bowl.



**Bob LaDue's** Pecan nut Nutcracker



**Will Johnston's** Paduk marking Guages



**Frank Lanes** Cherry Ottoman with thirty mortises.



**Jim Reynolds** Oak end table with an oil based stain



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### Meeting Minutes

#### **News / Business:**

Jim Bany talked about the new Festool Sander and it worked great on bird's eye maple, but it cost \$350 bucks compared to a Porter Cable sander for \$80 bucks. Jim did mention that the Festool sander has a vacuum set up and it really sucks up the dust out of the sand paper very well.

Wayne Wainwright went to visit John Morrison who lives in Lexington Missouri. In addition to being a town icon and all around good guy, John is an excellent woodworker. Wayne went to see the Grandfather clock John displayed 2 months ago and reports that the pictures do not do it justice. You have to go and visit to see this excellent example of craftsmanship.

The Picture Frame project is complete and 201 frames were delivered to the VFW. A representative will be at the Guild meeting next month to formally accept the gift.

#### **TICKET RAFFLE**

Kevin Thomas won the box clamps, David Roth won a clamp set, Bill Evans won a set of clamps, David won a Knight Brad nailer stapler kit, Jay Nichols won the Dremmel contour sander, Steve Erickson won a set of clamps, Bill Graham won the Forstner bits, Joe Lesko won a set of clamps, Russ Amos won the meter tester, Ken Sokol won a set of clamps, Roger Grout won the hole saw the table saw gauge and a set of clamps

### Show and Tell:

**Bill Webb** showed a picture of a wooded frame to mount his Grandsons, Eagle scout award and his merit badges. The frame is put together with biscuits.

**Frank Lane** made an Ottoman out of cherry for his coffee table. It has a Urethane finish with a honey stain. He has thirty mortises in his project.

**Wayne Wainwright** made a figured cherry box with just hand tools except that he did re-saw the wood on the band saw. It was flattened and jointed with a hand plane and has hand cut dovetails. He used square head nails to fasten the bottom and lined the interior with cedar. Wayne said it was shaped in a day and the hand cut dovetails were done in a hour and hand sanded. It was finished with boil linseed oil, Orange Shellac and wax.

**Anthony Harris** made some new designs for his boxes to cut against the wood threads but is worried that the threads won't line up later if the wood moves. He made these boxes out of cocobolo. The bowl was made from hedge and he took the bark off because the bark hides the beauty of the sap wood.

### Calendar

Executive Meetings, 7:00pm Kansas City Public Library 1410 W 10th St. KC MO 64105

Guild meetings, 7:00 p.m., Jacob's Well Church, 1617 W. 42nd St., To reach us "during the meetings, call: KCMO. (816) 561-8177

#### **Executive Meetings**

#### **Guild Meetings**

**2006**

January 4th  
February 1st  
March 1st  
April 5th  
May 3rd  
June 7th  
July 5th  
August 2nd  
September 6th  
October 4th  
November 1st  
December 6th

January 18th  
February 15th  
March 15th  
April 19th  
May 17th  
June 21st  
July 19th  
August 16th  
September 20th  
October 18th  
November 15th  
December 20th

All members are welcome at any board meeting. A call to one of the Officers is all that is necessary.

**Jim Reynolds** brought in his end table that is made out of oak and has an oil based stain and a urethane top coat. Jim gave the guild credit for their help in helping Jim and the others with the end table project.

**Will Johnston** made a pair of marking gauges out of Paduk and drill rod brass.

The thumb screw is on the top and when it is moved at a quarter turn it moves to the desired length and when it is tighten a quarter turn it is tighten again once it is tighten it also rotates. The second marking gauge has a circular cutter on it. This one has a nut on it to tight the gauge.

**Bob Ladue** brought in a jig and was trying to see if the guild members knew what it is and some of the guild members figured it out. It was for cracking pecans.