



# Wood Words

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

Volume 23 Issue 4

April 07

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

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

Big Ticket Raffle: : **General Tilt-Head Mortiser**

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

**Program: Andre's Table and Bench Project - Jim Bany**

## Sawdust: The Presidents Corner

*Jim Bany*



I've reaffirmed my reasons for belonging to the Guild these past couple of weeks. Recently, I purchased a new Turbanaire HVLP and was looking for a project to try it out on. So when the prototype table for the Andre's Restaurant project was going to be finished, I volunteered the use of my new HVLP to spray the finish.

It was a pure pleasure for me watching Bob King use a spray gun. First, we had to get all the bugs worked out, finding the right tip and nozzle. Watching Bob do this, by feel, I felt I was tapping into years of experience that I couldn't get on my own. What an education!

Being a visually oriented person, I understand a lot easier by watching something being done rather

than reading or hearing. So it was absolutely fascinating to watch Bob adjust the spray and figure out how he was going to proceed with this project. I can remember as a kid watching my mom bake and fix dinner. How she never used a recipe, it was always by taste and feel. A dash of this and a pinch of that. How the feel of the dough would determine what she was going to do with it. I got the same feeling watching Bob with a spray gun. In fact, I got so wrapped up in watching Bob do his thing that I was reluctant to try it on my own when he offered to let me spray a coat of finish on the table. What a way to break in a new tool!

Everyone that was included in the finish stage of the table project was really impressed with the water based polyurethane that we used as a top coat.

It was easy to apply and sanded out very easily. The turn around time was about an hour between coats. Through

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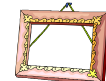
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trial and error we found it necessary to use a very fine spray top. I've spoken with a number of woodworkers and discovered that many are exclusively using water based polyurethane, both for its ease of use and its extreme environmental friendliness. So I'm considering this. I can see the advantage of getting really good at using just one type of finish.

So, what's going on in your shop?

## **Program: Making Raised Panel Doors- Jay Nichols**

Jay Nichols is a retired General Motors Technical trainer and he used his background to teach us an easy way to make raised panel doors. He says you don't need all of the fancy equipment to make them.

Jay says trying to figure out the size of the doors will probably take you longer than it does to actually make the doors. He showed us the different types of raised panel doors that can be made.

You don't have to use number 1 grade wood when making your doors. It's ok to have knots in your lumber when you buy it because you can break down the lumber and find the good wood.

In large commercial shops, raised panel doors are made with shapers. Usually there will be several machines, with each one performing a different task in the process. These machines can cost around \$5000, great if you're making hundreds of doors daily. Jay says for the average woodworker they can be made with a router table for a lot less.

To begin the process you will need to make a pattern for your panel. When laying out your pattern you want to be sure to allow for an overlap between the top rail of the door and the panel. This is necessary for the panel to fit properly.

After you have your pattern made, you'll want to use Masonite to make a template. Jay uses spray adhe-

sive to glue his pattern directly to the Masonite, then at the bandsaw, he cuts it out just a bit proud of the lines. He then sands to the lines to complete his master pattern.

The template is tacked to the panel and a line is drawn around the template. He then removes the template and cuts it close to the line on the band saw. Then he reattaches the template and uses the router with flush cutting bit and cleans up the line by following the template pattern.

Next in the process is using a raised panel set of router bits. The set consists of 3 bits, a coping cutter, a stick cutter, and the raised panel cutter. The coping and stick cutters are used to make the frame for the panel. The stick cutter cuts the grooves in the rails and stiles that the panel sets in. The coping cutter is used on the ends of the rails to make the profile that connects the rails and stiles together.

The panel raising bit is next. There are different types, but Jay prefers one that has a back cutter as part of the bit. The back cutter cuts the back of the panel at the same time to form the tenon that fits the grooves in the rails and stiles.

As with any project, safety is always a priority. Jay suggests you read all instructions that come with your tools and manufacturer recommendations for your router bits. The larger the bit the slower the speed, so a speed control for your router is a must. Also a featherboard is important to make sure your pieces don't raise up as you run them through the router. This can not only be dangerous but mess up your piece.

Jay also shared with us about his router table. He made it himself and has used it for 15 years now. It has a MDF table top with a 1/4 inch aluminum plate that has a very slight curve to it instead of being completely flat. He says that if your board is not perfectly flat, that using the curved plate will still put your joint right in the middle of the stiles, rails, and panels.

Jay recommended that you should Google “Raised Panel Doors”. You will get a lot of different websites that will explain about the procedure and the different types that are out there. Also, almost every company that sells router bits will offer instructions on how to make them. He says some companies are better than others when it comes to the process for making the doors. He, for example, uses Freud router bits and has for about 4 years now.

Jay also offered tips on hardware for your cabinet doors. He suggest using European hinges. They don't require you to make a rabbet on the door for it to close properly. He recommends the Locks Pulls store at 10330 Metcalf for your hinges.

Jay also showed a slide on **Shop Notes** portable fold up router table in issue #45. Plans are also available for \$6 at **Shop Notes** website.

Thanks Jay for a great program tonight and all of the knowledge that you shared with us.

## Shop Safety

### .Tool Type: Router

#### Accident Description

I was working in a wood shop at a military base in the Middle East while stationed there. The tools were old and poorly maintained which sometimes made for less than ideal conditions.

I was working with a small hand router that had worn collets and sometimes made bit changes difficult. On this day I had just replaced a bit and had started routing a profile on the base of the cabinet I was working on. I had tightened the bit as best I could, but apparently this was not enough with this particular collet.

There was a small explosion of noise, and pieces of

wood and metal fragments flew everywhere. The bit had come loose and disintegrated, taking along part of the base of the router and a Section of the cabinet I was routing.

I had some small metal and wood fragments imbedded in my hand and face, but luckily was wearing safety glasses and a dust mask which very obviously protected me from further harm.

#### Advice to Woodworkers

Don't use tools beyond their useful limits. Replace worn or damaged items and always, always wear proper protective equipment!

#### Accident Description

It was late at night and I had cut two pieces of plywood for a project and one was slightly out of square. I clamped the two pieces together and installed a straight-cutting bit on a 2.5 HP router. This bit had a ball bearing that would let me ride the good piece and shave the other piece into square.

I was using a new router that I had never turned on before. I was used to working with routers, but not this particular one. The first thing that happened was that the bit jumped out of the collet as I had not put the bit far enough into the router for it to get a good grip.

Fortunately, I was just holding the router to make sure that the thing worked. The bit jumped out of the collet and hit me just below the chest. I was not hurt... then.

I should have stopped at this point to evaluate what I was trying to do. I put the bit back into the router and torqued it down. That sucker was not coming out now!

Unfortunately, I then tried to use the router 90 degrees from horizontal and the darn thing jumped back at me when the plywood that I was working with started to tip. I had thought

that I could hold the plywood standing upright and do the routing at the same time. STUPID! I kept the router in my hands, but the torque spun the router around and put the bit towards my chest.

The bit drilled through a cotton shop coat, an apron that I was wearing, and then through my shirt. It then proceeded to start to drill its way into my chest just below my heart! Fortunately, it just left three crescent-shaped grooves in my skin with a little blood... nothing that a band aid would not fix.

### Advice to other Woodworkers

Lessons... don't work when tired (where have I heard this one before?!), make sure that your work piece is not going to move on you, don't work with a router that you don't have under complete control and are not familiar with, and finally, don't try to take shortcuts. If it looks unsafe or stupid, it almost certainly is!

### Accident Description

I had been working for 12 hours and came home to work in the shop. I was setting up the router table to cut some tenons on walnut stock. I was running the stock through on the last piece when I lost control of the piece.

The router threw out the stock and my right index finger into the 3/4" carbide bit. I was extremely lucky. I was able to bandage up the wound and keep my finger. I did not require an ER visit.

### Advice to other Woodworkers

**DO NOT WORK WHEN TIRED.** it only took a second of inattention to have this happen. I could have lost my finger. When you're tired, quit working and do some finishing

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## Shop Tip

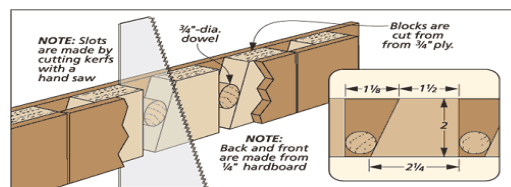
### Handsaw Rack

I own a small but very useful collection of handsaws. My problem was finding a handy and safe place to store them. The answer was a simple wall storage rack that keeps the saws out of the way but still easily accessible, as you can see in the photo.



The design of the rack is shown in the drawing below. Basically, it consists of a couple of pieces of hardboard that sandwich a series of beveled blocks. The spaces between the blocks hold loose sections of 3/4"-dia. dowel. And a kerf cut through the outer face allows entrance of the saw blade

The rack works by pinching the saw blade between the loose section of dowel and the fixed block. To hang up a saw, you simply slip it into the kerf from below and then let the saw drop until the dowel grabs it. To remove a saw, you push it up and out of the kerf



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

Please send all submissions for articles, tips, want ads announcements and anything else to Kevin Thomas: 816 941-8865 email: [kv1014@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kv1014@sbcglobal.net)  
100 W. 96th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114

# Sale Items

Larry Nelson has some really nice Red Meranti lumber from Malaysia. This is a very interesting wood with coloration in the range of red-brown. All pieces are perfectly clear with no knots or other flaws. These are shorts that range in length from 36" to 12". Board widths are all about 3 3/4". Thickness is 3/4 inch.

Larry says "I have made a number of pieces from this stock and it is a joy to work. There is a real depth to this lumber variety that comes out nicely with just a coat of varnish. Price is only \$2.85 per board foot."

Larry has bundled it up into 28 packs, each with 7 boards in it. This is a small enough quantity that anyone interested can buy a bundle to see how they like working it. A fair amount of the packs are priced at under \$10 so it is a low risk way for them to try out this wood type.

He is planning on bringing about half to the next guild meeting. If interest seems strong, he can throw more in the car. So you may want to contact him ahead of time if you want some quantity. Larry may also have some, hickory, ash, and red oak. He is moving soon and needs to sell the wood.

Larry Nelson may be reached at:

[lnelsondelafield@hotmail.com](mailto:lnelsondelafield@hotmail.com)

### Some detail from the internet:

Malaysian Dark Red Meranti (DRM) is a well known timber in Europe particularly in countries like The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and the UK where it has gained a reputation as an excellent material for the production of high class joinery products especially door and window frames, facades and doors.

Over the last 25 years these countries have been regu-

lar buyers of Malaysian DRM and it is not surprising that European architects, interior designers and specifiers who are very familiar with this reddish brown timber and its inherent ideal properties continue to recommend this timber.

Dark Red Meranti has a density ranging from 580 to 770 kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 12% moisture content and an average of 670 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. The timber has good machining properties as it can be easily sawn, planed, bored or turned giving smooth machined surfaces. It also has good nailing and screw-holding properties and is easy to stain and glue.

Kiln-dried Dark Red Meranti is a stable timber and moves very little in service, an important requirement for joinery timber. It also meets the strength requirements and has strength properties superior or comparable to other joinery timbers



Guild Member Ron Lomax has a 1970 Craftsman Contractor Saw 10 inch, cast iron wings, some jigs and blades. Price \$70. Contact Ron at:

[ronlomax@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ronlomax@sbcglobal.net) 913-491-6489

**Check out our Webpage for more items for sale.** <http://www.kcwoodworkersguild.org/>

## Tool of the Month

**Don Kruse**

splint planes but also slits the shaving into pieces about 1/8 inch wide. The shavings generated by it are straight and could be used for either weaving baskets or spills. The two close up pictures show the details of the slitters.

This month's set of tools is planes which have a reversed purpose. The important product of these planes is not the piece of wood being planed, but the shaving that is generated. These planes are called "splint" or "spill" planes.

Splint planes:

I have also heard these called "spelk: planes, but usually in British literature. These are used to cut shavings that may be used for making baskets etc. They are generally craftsman made and rather crude. Since the shavings or splints created are to be used, the blades are almost horizontal and the shaving exits through the rear of the plane to keep them from being cracked and curled as they would be with a normal plane. They require a lot of force since they may be used to cut wide and fairly thick shavings. About 25 years ago, I tried to use the plane in the center on a piece of green hickory that I was using for some other project and with a running start I was only able to cut a three inch long splint about 1/8 inch thick by 1 1/2 wide. To help with this extra force required, they may have extra handles or some means of attaching a rope. The two examples shown here have extra handles and one even has an iron eye mounted on the front of it. This rope can be pulled by a well trained animal, apprentices or a winch. It is then the responsibility of the master to hold the plane in position and guide it through the wood while the help supplied the force required to cut the splint. It also requires a well anchored work bench.

This method is also used with large molding planes to make their wide cuts.

Spill planes:

These planes generate shavings called spills that are used to transfer a flame from the fireplace to light a cigar, pipe or candle. These are also usually user made, but there are some commercially made examples found. They usually cut at a skew so the spill is spiraled. There are even containers made to set on the mantel to hold extra spills.

The plane on the right is factory made in England by Buck about 1830. It cuts a straight shaving like the



### Show & Tell



**Russ Amos**– Blanket Chest



**Raymond Graham**– Cane



**Ken Grainger**– Guitar Clamps



**David Roth**– Celtic Cross



**John Van Goethem**– Roller Stand



**William Johnston**- Leather cutter



**Anthony Harris**– pipe



**Jim Bany.**– Andre's prototype table



**Jerry Jennings**– Jig



**Anthony Harris**– Bowl



**Anthony Harris**– Bowl



**Anthony Harris**– Bowl



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### Meeting Minutes

#### News / Business:

Jim Bany brought in the prototype for the table we will be making for Andre's Restaurant. More on that at the April meeting. Jim also announced that shirts and sweatshirts were in and we have extra. Roger Grout announced plans to put a group together to attend the AWFSA show in Las Vegas, July 18th through the 21st. The package should run between \$500 and \$700. Let Roger or Jim know if you're interested.

The Guild was recognized in **Wood Magazine** for our work on the VFW picture frame project. The Guild made 200 of more than 350 made nationally. Way to go guys and gals!

#### Raffle.

**Bill Evans** wins a set of box clamps. **Adam Zuchowski** and **David Roth** won a four set of clamps from E. Emerson tool co. **Huber Wilburn** won a set of Irwin clamps. **Ken Sokol** won a set of for-ester bits. **Roger Grout** won the dead blow hammers. **Bill Bessel** won a saw and a screwdriver set. **Martin Imber** won the sanding blocks

### Show and Tell:

**Russ Amos** brought in a Blanket chest. It is made of maple and the panels were made from an unknown wood. It has a lacquer finish.

**Ken Grainger** brought in some guitar clamps that he made out of cherry.

**Jerry Jennings** brought in a jig that he made from some scrape lumber.

**Raymond Graham** brought in two canes that he made from oak. They have a handsaw handle. He is planning on putting a walnut stain on them.

**Ken Sokol** showed a picture of Laundry Room Cabinets that he built out of MDF. It has a Latex and enamel and primer finish. The weight was the biggest challenge to this project.

**Anthony Harris** brought in 3 bowls and a pipe. Two of the bowls were made from Ash and the other from Maple. The Maple bowl required lacing with rawhide to prevent further splitting. The finish was Watco. The pipe was made of Boxwood and vulcanite with a wax finish. The biggest challenge was to drill a long draft hole and to keep it straight.

### 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

2007

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

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

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

**David Roth** brought in a Celtic Cross that he, his father in law, and his cousin made. It is made from Burl Pecan Wood, Cardinal wood also known as Bloodwood, Cherry, and Curly Maple. The finish was Glyptol.

**John Van Goethem** brought in a roller stand he made from 4 inch diameter Schedule 40 PVC pipe, 1 Inch and 1 ¼ in square steel tubing and an 80 pound bag of quickcrete. It also is on wheels with levelers.

**William Johnston** brought in a leather cutter he made from a hand saw. It was inspired by a picture in "Tools Rare and Ingenious" by Nagyszalanczy. According to the book this type of knife was used to cut sailcloth. William uses it to cut leather. It is beveled on the left so that the flat side can go against a fence or straight edge. Also because he is left-handed.