

WOODWORKERS NEWS



April 2024

March Meeting When All Else Fails, Plan

There is an old saying in the construction business that the two hardest parts of a job are getting started and getting finished. Whether true or not, members learned some pointers for the first step at the March meeting. Part of a seven-part series, the presentation covered envisioning and planning a project. Those are often troublesome or neglected steps.



which someone pays for a legitimate expense with personal funds. The Board could approve a reimbursement for such an expense.

Other clarifications involve the date of the annual meeting, payment of dues, and keeping of minutes.

Members have received a draft of the proposed bylaws via email and they are also available on the association website. Members may vote on adoption at the April meeting.

Good Tool - Bad Tool

Mel Petty offered his opinion on roofing squares, angle guides and the use of "Silly Winks for attaching to sandpaper.



But First - Business

Ater the opening preliminaries, Board member Rob Middleton announced to the the group that the officers and directors have developed updates to the bylaws that govern the operation of the association. Of the existing bylaws, he said, "Much of them didn't make sense."

While sticking with the original intent, the Board suggests changes to clarify definitions and better describe the roles of directors.



He also mentioned that while no elected member draws a salary, there might be instances in

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at:

Park Hill Presbyterian Church

Steen Hall

3510 John F Kennedy Blvd

North Little Rock, AR 72116

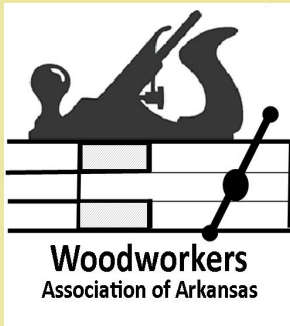
April 2, 2024—Planning A Project - Parts Two and Three

\$\$ DUES \$\$\$

For new or tardy members, annual dues are \$25.00, payable to our Secretary-Treasurer, Gary Williamson.

The Treasurer's report is now available online at:

www.arkansaswoodworkers.org/member-login



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of ARKANSAS**

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Show and Tell

Rich Sherman offered two projects, both generated by requests. First, he exhibited two examples of what he called “a quilter’s clapper.” Originally called a “Tailor’s Clapper,” it is a wooden tool for flattening seams and creases in fabrics.



Rich used a combination of maple, walnut, bubinga. He finished the clappers with polyurethane. He provided a helpful hint for those in attendance. This involved a way to produce a small checkerboard pattern. For



this he used maple and walnut. Next Rich presented a work called a infinity block. This is a fidget device for stress and anxiety relief. He produced it from walnut with high density plastic strips.



The Program

Part one of a projected seven-part series began at this meeting. Over the next several months, presentations will cover the following aspects of completing a woodworking project:

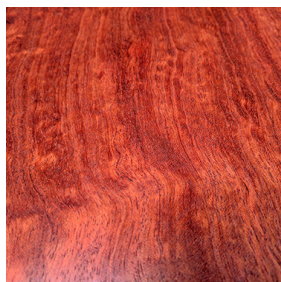
- Design One
- Design Two
- Selection of Wood
- Wood Preparation
- Building and Assembly
- Sanding
- Apply Finish

Design refers to something that is or has been intentionally created by a thinking agent. So who might be the one to kick off the first session? Yep.

(Continued on Page 3)

FUN FACTS

The imported African hardwood, bubinga is sometimes called kevazingo. It has a close resemblance to rosewood, and is sometimes called African rosewood. —though this name is more commonly applied to another Guibourtia species, *Guibourtia coleosperma*.



Moe Hansen began the program by detailing how he designed a “cat outhouse” at the request of his daughter.

This project consisted of a cabinet with the bottom opened to accommodate a kitty litter container. Parts included a face frame and raised panels.

Moe walked through his planning process that included scaled drawings of the construction elements.

His parting advice, “If you can design it, you should be able to assemble it.”



Next: Karen Mack presented another method of envisioning projects. But first she divulged her primary motivation for getting involved in woodworking adventures.

“There are things I want and can’t buy so I build them,” she said.

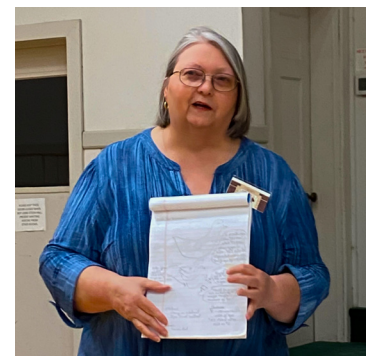
Her design ideas come when she may or may not expect them so she carries a pad of white notebook paper wherever she goes. When inspiration strikes, such as during a convention she once attended, she is prepared.



“Things like closets that work for other people may not work for me,” she said. “What works for me and what I can build is what happens.”

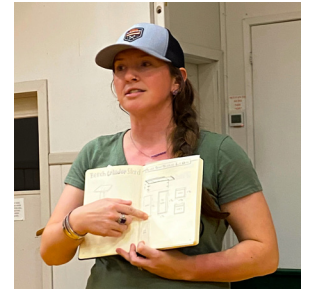
To illustrate the process, she described a recent project, along with its inspiration. It was a piece designed to hold a common toilet plunger. She

described its various design requirements, including the need for pre-painting. “I have short arms,” she said, and couldn’t have reached to paint the inside once assembled.”

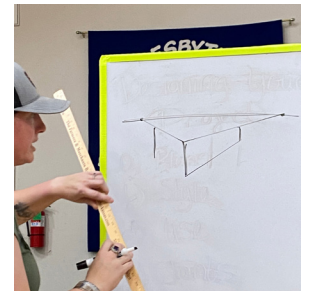


In closing, she offered these three bits of advice: “Simplify, simplify, simplify.”

Wrap up: Rachelle Logan completed the program by demonstrating the planning of a project from an artist’s viewpoint. She uses a small notebook, available from Walmart, with pages containing rectangular arrays of dots.



From these she can visualize her project by means of two point perspectives. She proceeded to demonstrate that technique while visualizing a small rectangular cabinet.



Someone asked about using the so-called “golden mean” in designing projects. This is the mathematical ratio commonly found in nature—the ratio of 1 to 1.618. Many regard it as a principle of good structure and design. Rachelle agreed with its form, but pointed out that forcing the ratio on a project could interfere with the function of the project.



That’s how the program ended, with an homage to famous architect Louis Sullivan’s axiom that “form follows function.”

The last item on the meeting’s agenda was an announcement by President Kim Fifer of the winner of a drawing. An anonymous church member donated a router and Carl McCormack performed maintenance on it. Pictured here is the happy winner Dr. Peyton Rice.



NEXT MONTH

April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Still plagued with the hassle of setting up a project? you’re in luck.

Two more phases of project planning are in store.

Do you use whatever wood is available for a particular project or do you select wood because a piece caught your eye and you just know there’s a project in there somewhere?

Maybe there’s a better way. See you in April.

Ask Sandi and Woody

This issue we meet our state’s most lovable woodworking family, Woody, Sandi, son Splinter, and dog Dusty.

On this day, Dusty was observing from underneath the worktable and Splinter was watching woodworking videos on Tik Tok, least he said he was.

We stopped in to hear the latest instance of “Ask Sandi and Woody.”

Sandi held a letter. “This reader asks if it is proper to name a person’s woodworking tools. She worried about her husband becoming daffy.” She paused. “That one strikes a chord.”

Woody thought a few seconds before responding. “Naming wookworking tools? Sure, I do it all the time.”

“Oh?” said Sandi.

“Yep. The table saw delivers such great lines that I call her ‘Lucille’ after B.B. King’s guitar and I call our bandsaw ‘Bambi’ naturally. That’s because of all the

smooth curves she ...”

Sandi cut him off like an old Craftsman chop saw handling a piece of knotty pine. “That’s enough about that. Any others?”

“There’s ‘Beyonce,’ the thickness planer.”

“Why?”

“She’s just the right size. That’s what planers do, make things the right size. Don’t you ever name our tools?”

“Just the wood chisels. I name them after men I’ve known.”

“Why?”

“Because you have to know just how hard to smack them to get the job done right.”

It was quiet in the shop when we left, just the soft sound of Dusty snoring.

Woodworking question for Sandi or Woody? Contact an officer or board member.

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