

# Newsletter

Volume 22 - Issue 3

March 2006

## Meeting Review: February 2006

Last month **Bob Mau** taught us the basics of beginning carving and what one needs to get started. As Bob pointed out, carving is the most



inexpensive area of woodworking there is....A hunk of scrap wood and a sharp knife is all one needs to give it a go. In fact, to practice on, a nice

sweet potato or a rutabaga is a much more malleable medium and, if you don't like the results, just add water, salt to taste, and you have soup! (*Suddenly "eating one's mistakes" takes on a whole new meaning!*)

I know I learned a lot and enjoyed Bob's presentation immensely and, judging from the compliments, so did most everyone else in the audience. Great work Bob and thanks for the show!

In March our presenter will be **David Orth**, artist and furniture maker, with a studio in **Marengo, IL.**

His designs (like the side table shown below) are uniquely his and as much art as they are furniture. Should be a most fascinating presentation and one you won't want to miss!!!



## Spring 2006 Lathe/Turning Workshops

with FVWWC's Rich Rossio

Bowls, Pens, Spindles, Etc. -- Whatever your choice, you will get hands-on training and practice. From Beginners just wanting to try turning in a controlled environment to the more Advanced wanting to learn a variety of techniques and everyone in between, these Workshops are the answer! Get the level and type of instruction you seek from Rich and his assistants. Don't miss a chance to learn something new or hone those skills....**Sign up today!!!**

### Workshop I: Beginners to Advanced

Friday, March 10th - 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### Workshop II: Beginners to Advanced

Saturday, March 11th - 8:00 a.m. to Noon

### Workshop III: Beginners to Advanced

Saturday, March 11th - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On Location at Rich Rossio's Shop - 1318 Highland Ave - Lockport, IL (*Map available*)

### Remember:

- No previous experience turning required!
- Students get individual & group instruction.
- Bring your own safety equipment, if possible
- All tools, wood, etc. will be provided.
- Cost is only \$40 per session to members!!! (*Due to insurance restrictions only Members are eligible at that price....Non-members can sign-up for \$65 and get the added bonus of a year's membership!*)
- As usual, spaces are reserved as money is received -- Sign up today!

**Pay at March Meeting or Mail Check/MO to:**

### FVWWC Workshops

PO Box 1041

Batavia, IL 60510-1041

To reserve a space or for more information please contact Linda at (630) 897-4877 or [woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org).

## FVWWC Events Calendar

Mar 7th ....Tue ...7:30 p.m... David Orth – Furniture maker of Marengo, IL

Mar 10th ...Fri ....6:30 p.m... Workshop: Lathe/Turning I - Rich Rossio's in Lockport

Mar 11th ...Fri ....8:30 a.m... Workshop: Lathe/Turning II - Rich Rossio's in Lockport

Mar 11th ...Fri ....1:00 p.m... Workshop: Lathe/Turning III - Rich Rossio's in Lockport

Mar 15th . Wed...9:00 a.m... FVWWC's Breakfast Club: The Red Apple Restaurant at 414 S Schmale Rd - Carol Stream, IL -- All members and friends are is invited to stop by!

Mar 25th .. Sat.....TBA..... Road Trip to Kirkland, IL - Shop Tour: Dick Secrest & Field Trip: Kirkland Sawmill

Apr 4th.....Tue ...7:30 p.m... Bob Willis - Intarsia

Apr 15th... Sat..... TBA..... Field Trip & Wood Sale: Der Holtzmaker's in Sycamore

Apr 19th.. Wed...9:00 a.m... FVWWC's Breakfast Club

Apr 22nd.. Sat.....TBA..... WORKSHOPS: Scroll Sawing with Pat Laporì & Friends - In Batavia Lutheran Gymnasium

May 2nd...Tue ...7:30 p.m... Bob Marino – Festool tools

May 20th.. Sat....9:30 a.m... Shop Tour: Wally Quanstorm's - Big Rock Shop

Jun 6th.....Tue ...7:30 p.m... Terry West - Windsor Chairs

Jul 4th: *Happy Independence Day!* - See you next week!!!

Jul 11th....Tue ...7:30 p.m... Gene Westerberg - Shows us Woodburning Techniques

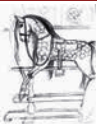
Jul 24th.... Sat.....TBA..... Workshop: Sharpening by "The Chairwright" Bill Gullberg - Kirkwood, IL

## New Link for Woodworkers

Howard Van Valzah sent me a link I think everyone will enjoy checking out:

There are tons of ideas, plans and just general information on woodworking from around the world.

Give it a look, you'll be glad you did!



**RICK'S WOODSHOP CREATIONS**

[www.rickswoodshopcreations.com](http://www.rickswoodshopcreations.com)

## FVWWC Officers & Staff

[woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org)

President..... Ron Gilkerson  
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rongilker@hotmail.com

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Host ..... Bill Bailey

Greeter ..... Jim Hildreth

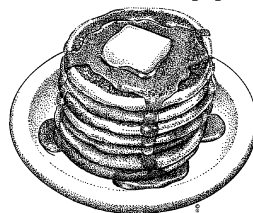
## *FVWWC's Breakfast Club*

On the third Wednesday of each month members are welcome to join "regulars" Bob Burritt, Jim Hildreth, Bud Yackley, the Madden's and others at a informal



get together. Brush off the sawdust and come share some good talk, get acquainted with fellow members at

**The Red Apple Restaurant** at 414 S Schmale Rd - Carol Stream, IL where both the friendship & the food is served warm, with a smile!



## Email Worth Sharing...

...Got the following email note and thought I should share with all to add to their Spring Cleaning shopping lists:

Hi, This could be considered an unsolicited commercial. LOL A male friend (so you know it has got to be good!) recommended **MR. CLEAN MAGIC ERASER**.

I bought a package - 2 in the box & they are the size of a sponge. Inexpensive too. I finally got around to going though the house looking for wall scuffs, fingerprints around the light switches, smudges. Gotta tell you it really is magic! I'll never be without them in my cleaning basket again!

You wet and squeeze it out, wipe spots, rinse it. Eventually it starts to fall apart. I got through my whole house with 1 and a half. Got them on my shopping list again, I can tell you!

The sponge is not soapy - somehow it must have a pumice in it to work so well. They even recommend it for crayons so you can imagine how well it works.

Try it. You'll be amazed.

I had to laugh when I went back and read this message. I should be working for the company. LOL Sheri K.

## FVWWC MONTHLY DRAWING

The participation in February was great and the winners of our drawing went home with some great prizes:

**1st Prize: Grizzly 4" Bench Jointer Jack Krisha**

**2nd Prize: \$25 AM/EX Gift Cheque Ron Ahlberg**

In March we will have a variety of items including 1st Prize choices of: **Wilton Oscillating Spindle Sander, \$50.00 AM/EX Gift Cheque, 45° Miter Trimmer** or a **Bessey KBK2440 K Body Cabinet Door Kit (2 - 24" & 2 - 40" K Body Clamps plus 1 KP Block Set) w/Bonus of 2 - 12" K Body Clamps** plus a number of secondary items too.

This is just a sample of the things we have planned for the year so please show your appreciation by purchasing tickets to help us make this one of the clubs favorite features...

...See you at the meeting!

**Charlie Christensen, FVWWC Raffle Chairman**



# POPULAR Woodworking

## A Jig for Precision Trimming

Turn a laminate trimmer into a tool that flushes surfaces smoothly.

Once upon a time I had the brilliant idea to use a strip of hardwood to trim out the edge of a laminate countertop. And not just any laminate, either. This stuff was so expensive that if you asked how much it cost, the salesperson presumed you could not afford it. So scratching it during installation was not an option.



The challenge, I realized the moment the glue set upon the wood trim, was that I had to plane the top surface of the trim flush with the laminate without touching the laminate itself. If the blade touched the laminate, I would remove the thin layer that held the color, revealing the dull substrate (which the manufacturer thoughtfully made a flat white to provide maximum contrast and advertise my slip-up to the world).

I searched the 40 billion tool catalogs I receive each month (give or take), looking for something that would shave the wood without touching the laminate. I found nothing that would do the trick.

Now, we all know what happens when you have a perfectly good excuse to buy an expensive new tool and you can't find anything suitable – you buy something that's unsuitable and make it work. As a result, I bought a small laminate trimmer and built the jig shown here to turn it into a tool that I hoped would not mar the laminate.

### Making a Router Cut Like a Hand Plane

What I made is sometimes called a "router plane," although it does something quite different from the hand tool of the same name.

An old-time router plane rides on the surface and reaches down into a recess to trim the bottom. This jig lets you adjust the depth of the router bit to cut adjacent surfaces flush to or higher than the surface on which the router is riding.

In my case, I wanted the tool to ride on the laminate and shave the top surface of the wood trim ever-so-slightly higher than the laminate it was attached to. The first thing to do is to make a mounting plate from



**1** You can use a piece of paper to position the bit about .003" above the surface. This will look flush but still ensure you don't hurt the surrounding laminate.



clear acrylic. (This lets you see **2** This jig also will trim wooden plugs flush with the surrounding surface without cutting or marring that surface.

what you are planing.) The plate should be rectangular and about twice as long as the laminate trimmer's base is wide.

Mount the router at one end of this plate, centered over a 1"-diameter opening for a bit. On the end of the plate, mount a 3/8"-thick wooden base and a handle, as shown in the drawing at right. The base rests on one surface and lets you cantilever the router over another surface that you want to shave parallel to the first.

The handle not only helps you control the router, it lets you counterbalance the router's weight and keep the base flat on the reference surface as you work.

The fasteners you use to assemble the plate, base and handle must not protrude below the bottom surface of the base – after all, you don't want metal hardware dragging over the surface you're trying not to cut.

### Using the Jig

Mount a straight bit in the router. I commonly use a 3/4"-diameter bit, but any bit smaller than the plate opening will do.

Adjust the depth of cut to the level you want to rout. If you want to trim one surface flush to another, raise or lower the bit until the tip barely touches the surface on which the base rests. If you want to cut slightly above a surface, as I did, simply raise the bit to the proper height.

I used a piece of paper as a feeler gauge to position the tip of the bit about .003" above the surface – close enough to look flush, but far enough away to make sure it wouldn't cut the laminate on which the jig rested. Then make a test cut to check your setup.

As you cut, pay close attention to the direction of rotation and the direction you move the trimmer. I cut with the router so the bit rotation pulled the router through the wood trim and away from the laminate surface I was trying to protect.

If you have to "back-feed" (where you move the router so the bit pulls in a direction you don't want to go), move the router very slowly and keep the base pressed firmly against the guiding surface. For delicate work, cut the wood in several passes, lowering the router a tiny fraction of an inch between each pass. **PW**

## Popular Mechanics... ..More Than Just Automotive Repair!

Everyone has heard of Popular Mechanics magazine but did you know they are a great source for patterns, information and woodworking tips too? Teresa G. said they had some wonderful plans for furniture, etc. so I checked them out and, wow, it was well worth a look!

Here are some of the features currently listed in the home improvement section of their website at:

[http://www.popularmechanics.com/home\\_improvement/furniture](http://www.popularmechanics.com/home_improvement/furniture)

- MythBusters
- PM: Power Sander Comparison Test
- PM: Build Our Arts & Crafts Dresser
- PM: Build A Traditional Blanket Chest
- PM: Master Class - Guitar Builder Wayne Henderson
- PM: Build A Classic Porch Glider w/PM Plans
- PM: Build A Backyard Picnic Table
- PM: Classics - Build A Modern Shaker Step Stool
- Build A Child's Maple Storage Cabinet And Easel
- November 2004 Woodworking Guide
- PM Nov 2004 Woodworking Guide: Build A Classic Arts & Crafts-Style Armchair
- PM November 2004 Woodworking Guide: Build A Mahogany Storage Chest
- PM November 2004 Woodworking Guide: Build A Workbench
- How To Build 3 Basic Hand Planes
- Build A PM Shaker Console Table
- 2 Methods For Recaning Old Chairs
- Great-Looking Furniture You Can Build With Ordinary Tools
- PM Furniture Making: Classic Rocking Chair
- PM Furniture Making: Drop-Front Secretary Desk
- PM Furniture Making: Shaker-Style Table



Reprinted from WoodNet.com's "Tips" section of their 03/2006 website.

**WoodNet.net**  
The Woodworker's Online Resource

### Keep Router Bits Tight



When changing bits, one thing you want to avoid is inserting the bit too far into the collet — the radius (fillet) at the point where the cutting head meets the shank may prevent the collet from gripping the shank tightly.

But it's hard to hold the bit and tighten the collet at the same time. So I slip a common rubber O-ring around the shank of the bit, see photo. It holds the bit at the correct height.

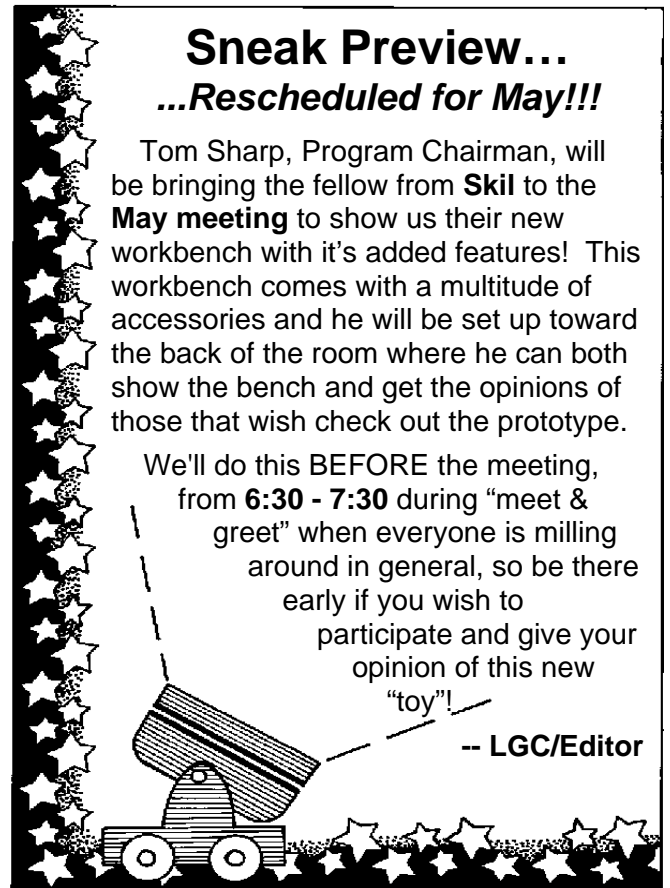
### Sneak Preview...

...Rescheduled for May!!!

Tom Sharp, Program Chairman, will be bringing the fellow from **Skil** to the **May meeting** to show us their new workbench with it's added features! This workbench comes with a multitude of accessories and he will be set up toward the back of the room where he can both show the bench and get the opinions of those that wish check out the prototype.

We'll do this **BEFORE** the meeting, from **6:30 - 7:30** during "meet & greet" when everyone is milling around in general, so be there early if you wish to participate and give your opinion of this new "toy"!

-- LGC/Editor



# CLASSIFIED

## FOR SALE

- Stained Mahogany: Various Window, Wall, Base and Door trim in a variety of widths and lengths, etc.

Great for small projects or rehabbers.

**Mark Baum**

Fax: (630) 544-3607

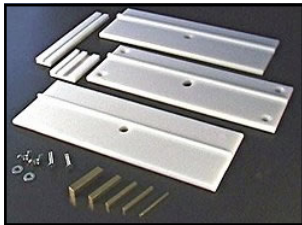
Cell: (630) 336-5280



## DONATION: FVWWC Silent Auction

- At the March meeting we will have more items donated by members for a Silent Auction (or 2 or more!) and we will also have, donated by Woodline USA, a Spacer Fence System (valued at \$129) and bidding will start at only \$15.

There are numerous joints that can be made with the Woodline Spacer Fence System. Box joints with no



limitation on the length of the project. Stock can be as thick as 1-1/4". The Woodline Spacer Fence System also allows you to make Combination Joints, Rabbets, Dados, Spline Dovetails, Double Dovetails, and Sliding Dovetails.

### Kit Includes:

- 1/4", 3/8", 1/2" Spacer Fences
- Positive Stop Set Up Block
- Dovetail Liner Offset Fence
- 5 Piece Set of Brass Measuring Bars
- Mounting Hardware
- Instructional Video

- **To donate** see Charlie at the meeting or contact via [woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org)

## INFO NEEDED

Have had requests for information from a number of members and would like your help in finding the answers. Please contact the club at [woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org) or call (630) 897-4877 with leads and ideas:

- **Budding Inventor** is looking for someone with experience doing own patent (that does not require hiring an attorney). If you have done this, with either positive or negative experience, please let us know!
- **Archival level book repair** for antique books and other paper items that comes recommended and, of possible, is in the Fox Valley area.
- **Source for Cabinet Doors** in choice of styles and wood while still reasonably priced is of interest to many. Seconds, overruns, etc. acceptable too.
- **Stereo Repairman** who works on older equipment to fix/replace turntable.
- **Glass/Crystal/Pottery Repair** for collectible items. Able to do ungluing and re-gluing of items.

*Thanks for any help you can give! Will post results in next newsletter so keep watching!!!*

-- LGC

## WANTED: WOOD

- Looking to buy from 1 pc. to bulk lot of hardwood lumber, shorts, blanks and cut-offs in walnut, cherry, mahogany, redwood, etc.

**Ron Gilkerson**

Phone: (630) 879-8756 (Voice Mail)

E-mail: [rongilker@hotmail.com](mailto:rongilker@hotmail.com)

## Attention FVWWC Members

List your For Sale/Wanted Items Free!

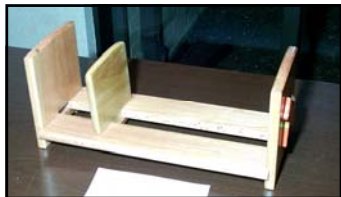
**Contact FVWWC Editor/Webmaster**  
(630)897-4877 or [woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org)

# Show & Tell

## January 2006

We had another impressive turnout for February with all the marvelous projects members brought to share. Those on display were:

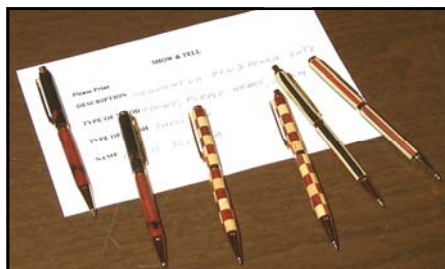
- Stan Anderson: Book Rack - Red Oak - Poly Satin.
- Len Swanson: Weed Pots - Maple, Walnut, Mahogany & Platter - Lyptus & Bowl - Mahogany - Shellac & Oil.
- Fred Rizza: Segmented Pen & Pencil Sets - Ebony, Purple Heart & Elm with Shellwax.
- Dale Rankin: Band Sawn Jewel Boxes - Cedar, Cherry, Mahogany & Walnut with Tung Oil.



- Rich Rossio: Salt & Pepper Grinders - Maple & Osage Orange with Shellwax.
- Darrel Anderson: Hall Table - Jatoba (Brazilian Cherry) with Tung Oil & Poly.
- Ken Runyan: Cue & Ball Rack - Curly Red Oak with General Finish.
- Ron Gilkerson: Armoire' - Cherry with General Finish.
- Don Bouchard: Kaleidoscope - Maple & Purpleheart with Varnish.



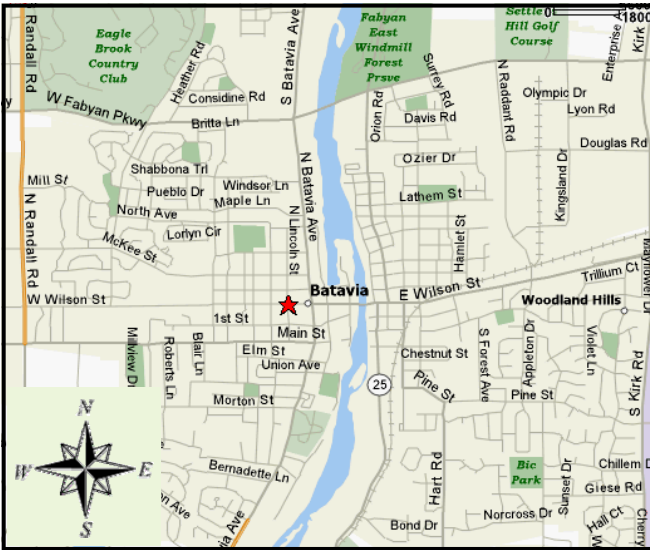
- John Winton: Microwave Shelf in new kitchen - Painted Pine.
- Bill Turk: Wine Bottle Holders - Oak & Cherry with Wipe on Poly.
- Chris Vavrinek: Radiator Cover - Walnut - Unfinished.
- Jon Wolfe: Music Stand - Maple with Danish Oil.





**Fox Valley Woodworkers Club, Inc.**  
**PO Box 1041**  
**Batavia, IL 60510-1041**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



**Fox Valley Woodworkers Club**  
General Meetings held at:  
**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
8 S Lincoln St.  
Batavia, IL  
1st Tuesday of each Month at 7:30 p.m.  
Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.  
*Visitors Always Welcome!*

**General Meeting Agenda:**  
**March 7th, 2006**

We welcome:  
**David Orth,**  
of Orth Furniture in Marengo, IL  
[www.orthfurniture.com](http://www.orthfurniture.com)  
*Hope to see you there!!!*

