

# Newsletter

Volume 25 - Issue 5

May 2009

## Meeting Review: April 2009

**Tom Sharp** welcomed members and guests to the April 2009 meeting and introduced us to member **Dave Burk** who has graciously volunteered to serve as our new **Greeter... Welcome Dave!!!**

Our presentation for the night was “**Mishaps & Mistakes**” and was brought to us by number of our members highlighting their personal goof ups!

Those participating, in no particular order, were:

- **Jim Mengler** doing his rendition of “**Router Bit Blues**”
- **Lee Nye** suggests we do your holiday shopping early and that **Push Sticks make great Stocking Stuffers!**
- **Tom Sharp** showed us how to turn a **failure** into a **feature**.
- **Mike Madden** taught us that there is more than one method of making **Mortises & Tenons**.
- **Rich Lentz** proved it does not have to be **square to work!**
- **Jim Simnick** told us a bedtime story called “**When at First You Don't Succeed...!**”
- **Rich Waters** invited us on a slide show of his “**X-cellent Adventure**”.
- **Paul Jablonski** cautioned woodworkers everywhere to “**Hang on till the End!**”
- And, last but not least, **Robin Blair** asked the age old question “**Does Size Really Matter**” in box making.

Robin also showed us a heart stopping video on the new **SawStop** demo where the inventor, **Robert Gass, PHD**, sticks his finger into the path of a spinning table saw blade and gets only a “tickle”! The groans were audible but the demo was awesome!!! Check out the demos at:



<http://www.sawstop.com/>

We rounded out our evening with a stop at the ever popular “**Howard's Corner**” and heard about the latest finds of our own **Howard Van Valzah**. He always has a lot of neat things to share!



*Hope to see you there in May!*

## FVWWC Events Calendar

May 5th .... Tue ....6:00 p.m....FVWWC Shopsmith SIG Meets

May 5th .... Tue ....6:30 p.m....FVWWC Hand Tool SIG Meets

May 5th .... Tue ....7:30 p.m....FVWWC General Meeting:  
Topic "TBA" - Original program  
has been postponed and a new  
one is in the works!

May 15th ... Sat.....9:00 a.m....Sharpening Workshop: Paul  
Jablonski & Karl Scogin teach a  
class on the correct sharpening  
tools and techniques to get that  
perfect edge! *Members can sign  
up at the meetings to participate  
but remember, class size is  
limited!*

May 20th .. Wed....9:00 a.m....FVWWC's Breakfast Club: Red  
Apple Restaurant, 414 S Schmale  
Rd, Carol Stream - *You're Invited  
- Just ask for us by name!!!*



# MEMORIAL DAY

## FVWWC Officers & Staff

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

President	Tom Sharp <a href="mailto:thomas.sharp@sbcglobal.net">thomas.sharp@sbcglobal.net</a>
Past President .....	Ron Gilkerson (630) 879-8756 <a href="mailto:rongilker@hotmail.com">rongilker@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President .....	Matt Gauntt
Treasurer.....	Doug Pfaff
Secretary.....	Jeff Sandkam
Program Committee.....	Robin Blair <a href="mailto:blairr@saic.com">blairr@saic.com</a> Ron Gilkerson Doug Olson
Membership.....	Larry Maher
Editor/Webmaster .....	Linda Christensen <a href="mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org">woodworkers@fvwwc.org</a>
Library Committee .....	Dave Dockstader Rick Moss Tom Zillman
Raffles/Photographer.....	Charlie Christensen
Show & Tell MC .....	Matt Gauntt
Show Chairman .....	Mike Madden
Toy Drive/Club Logo Items....	Gail Madden
Member-at-Large .....	James Nellis
Audio/Visual Tech. ....	Robin Blair
Host .....	Ron Gilkerson
Greeter .....	Dave Burk
Shopsmith SIG Chairman.....	Dave Dockstader (630) 851-8118 <a href="mailto:sourceror@sbcglobal.net">sourceror@sbcglobal.net</a>
Hand Tool SIG Chairmen	Mike Brady <a href="mailto:mbrady25@comcast.net">mbrady25@comcast.net</a> Mike Bridger <a href="mailto:bridger.mike@gmail.com">bridger.mike@gmail.com</a>

## FVWWC MONTHLY DRAWING

**We have a Winner!** The **Tormek T-7 Sharpening System** was awarded to Jerry Jobe and Rich Russell (Times 2!), Larry Maher, Rich Waters & Jeff Sandkam took home \$25 Am/Ex Gift Cheques:

**April's Regular Monthly Drawing Winners:**

**Kreg Jig System w/Video..... Joe O'Malley**

**Am/Ex \$25 Gift Cheque..... Rich Lentz**

**Combo Ear Protection/Radio Rich Waters**

In May we will do something a little different for the monthly raffle. **First Prize will be \$200 Visa Gift Card**, good anywhere they accept Visa. If we do real well on sales of tickets, we will also add a **\$75 Visa Gift Card** to the 2nd prize selections!!! Remember, the more tickets we sell, the more items we give away so be sure to get your tickets to be part of the action!!!

**REMEMBER:** These are "Member's ONLY" features to give our members more chances to win!

**Charlie Christensen - FVWWC Raffle Chairman**

## FVWWC's Shopsmith SIG

**Next Meeting: May 5th, 2009**  
**Please Note: New Time & Room**

The **Shopsmith Special Interest Group (SIG)** meets from **6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** each month, just prior to the **FVWWC General meeting** in the **Adult Lounge**, upstairs off the **Bethany Lutheran Church** vestibule. An elevator is also available.

In April we discussed the jigs we made and use for our Shopsmiths and some ideas on how you can make some of your own to make any job quicker and easier.

Come join us for some wide-ranging discussions on everything Shopsmith.

**Dave Dockstader**  
630-851-8118  
sourceror@sbcglobal.net



## FVWWC's Hand Tool SIG



**Next Meeting: May 5th, 2009**  
**Please Note: New Meeting Room**

The **Hand Tool SIG** meets at **6:30**, prior to the regular meeting at **Bethany Lutheran**.

Anyone interested in the use of hand tools is welcome to join us for discussion of this fascinating area of woodworking. We will learn by sharing the experiences of using and caring for traditional hand tools.

FVWWC members and guests are invited to stop by and join our group.

*Hope to see you in there!*

**Mike Brady**  
mbrady25@comcast.net

**Mike Bridger**  
bridger.mike@gmail.com



**WIA Conference** will be held at  
**Pheasant Run Resort - St. Charles, IL**  
**August 14 - 16**

The **WIA: Furniture Construction and Design Conference** – brought to you by *Popular Woodworking* and *Woodworking Magazine* – is an exclusive chance to learn first-hand from the nation's best woodworkers and discover the fundamentals of sound furniture construction and design.

**WIA** provides an exclusive chance for you to get face-to-face instruction from some of the best woodworkers and experts working today. You'll no doubt recognize their names and faces from the pages of *Popular Woodworking*—and many other respected publications devoted to the woodworking craft.

Their precision, authority and insight have made them key figures in the woodworking world, and they'll all be in St. Charles, IL this August to share their unsurpassed wisdom and expert techniques with you.

Complete details at:  
<http://www.woodworkinginamerica.com>

## Sharpening Workshop

**By Paul Jablonski & Karl Scogin**

**Saturday, May 16th 2009**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Max-Torque, LTD.**

**2180 Corporate Lane - Naperville, IL**

Lunch compliments of FVWWC member  
**Jim Donovan, owner of Max-Torque, Ltd.**

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



# Woodsmith Tips

Weekly tips from the editors of *Woodsmith* and *ShopNotes* - <http://woodworkingtips.com/>

## Organizing Drawers

Drawers are a good way to organize tools and other supplies. The problem is, it's all too easy for stuff to get lost in deep drawers. To solve this problem, I like to divide each deep drawer into two layers, as shown in the photo below.

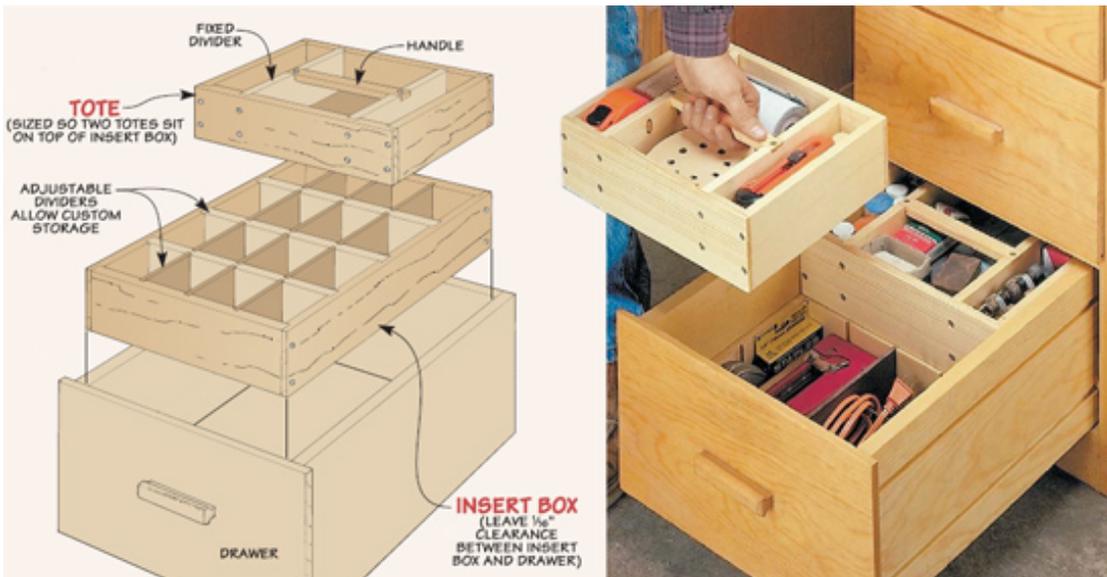
**Dividers.** For the bottom layer, I made a divided box. When you measure for the box, you'll want to leave a 1/16" gap between the box and the drawer. This way you can take the box out if you ever need to.

The dividers are dadoed into the sides of the insert box. They also accept subdividers, so you can customize the box for whatever you need to store (drawing below).

**The Totes.** To take advantage of the space above the box, I made some totes to rest on top. Each tote has a pair of fixed dividers and a handle. Besides making it easy to organize small items, you can remove a tote from the drawer and take it right where it's needed.

Making the totes is similar to making the divided box. But there are some things to keep in mind while building them.

It's a good idea to allow a 1/16" gap between the totes. This makes it easy to slip one tote in place while the other is in the drawer.



You'll also notice that the rabbets and dados for the tote dividers are cut in the front and back pieces, not the sides like in the divided box. And don't forget to cut notches for the wood handle and the groove for the 1/4" hardboard bottom.

Have a nice weekend,

Phil Huber  
Editor, *ShopNotes*

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2200 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50312

## A Better Arbor Wrench

When changing table saw blades, I have two simple goals. First, I like to get the job done with a minimum of time and effort. Second, and more important, I try hard to avoid scraping my knuckles on the blade when removing and reinstalling the arbor nut. A very minor modification I made to my arbor wrench helps on both scores.

The photo at right illustrates this simple alteration. As you can see, I put a slight bend in the wrench near the arbor nut hole. This makes it easier to slip the wrench over the arbor nut while also keeping my fingers out of harms way.



Bending the wrench isn't difficult. I just clamped the end in a vise and applied a little force. And I've definitely seen a good return on this small investment.

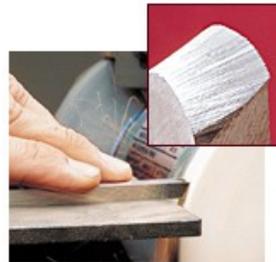
Have a nice weekend,

**Ted Raife**  
Editor, *Woodsmith*  
<http://www.woodworkingtips.com>

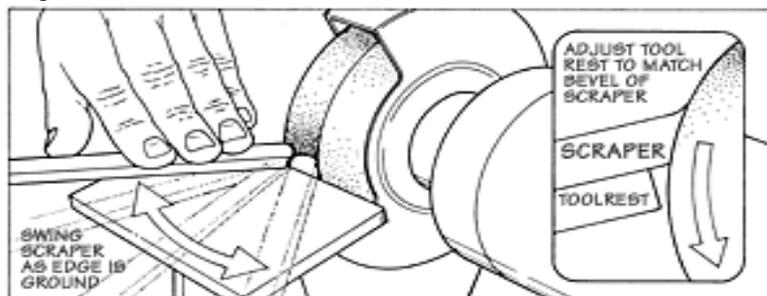
## Sharpening a Scraper for Woodturning

Sharpening a scraper is easy. The first thing you'll need to do is set the tool rest to match the bevel angle on the scraper, see detail below.

With the rest locked in place, creating the burr is just a matter of setting the scraper flat on the rest and sliding the cutting edge along the edge of the wheel, see photo. As you grind the scraper, a burr forms along the top edge, see inset photo.



For curved edges, the technique is a little different. To avoid grinding a flat spot, you'll need to swing the handle to the side as you move the cutting edge across the edge of the wheel, see drawing.



<http://www.woodnet.net/>

## Cut a Mortise in Minutes

Drill out the waste, then use a unique chiseling technique to handle the rest by Christian Becksvoort



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

The time-honored practice of cutting mortises with a drill and chisel can be frustrating, mainly because the process of chiseling out the waste between drilled holes takes time and can easily go awry. Furniture maker Christian Becksvoort has refined the technique over the years to a four-step process that delivers clean, accurate mortises in no time at all. He begins with careful layout, then drills out the waste. Third—and this is key—he uses a mortising chisel and an unconventional technique to lever out most of the waste. And finally, he cleans up the mortise with a bench chisel. Simple, effective, and consistent.

From *Fine Woodworking* #200



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<http://www.taunton.com>

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# WOOD PLANS Online™



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MODULAR AND MOBILE

## Classic Planter & Bench

*Fluted legs and a pastel color scheme bring Victorian-era charm to this patio-pleaser. Build a pair of planters and link them with a bench, as shown in the photo above—or reach out with additional modules, as shown by the illustrations on the next page.*

#DP-00109

Page 1 of 11



## Show & Tell

April 2009

Matt Gauntt, MC

Participating members were:

- **Dave Dockstader: Circle Sanding Jig** made of unfinished MDF.
- **Alan Jonckheere: Child's Height Gauge** made of Aspen with a clear & Mahogany hand rubbed finish with glued on figures from Michaels.
- **Jim Mengler: Boxes** made of Walnut, Oak and Maple all with done in General Finish.
- **Don Carkhuff: Featherboard** of unknown origin... *"Tapered boards are no problem!"*
- **Howard Van Valzah: Scrap Sculpture**, cut from a picture frame, made of Walnut and Ash with a lacquer finish. To be donated to the Klehm Arboretum in Rockford for their fund raising activities.
- **Robin Blair: Tire Maker** of Oak and Baltic Birch with a varnish finish.

*...Hope to see your creations next month!*





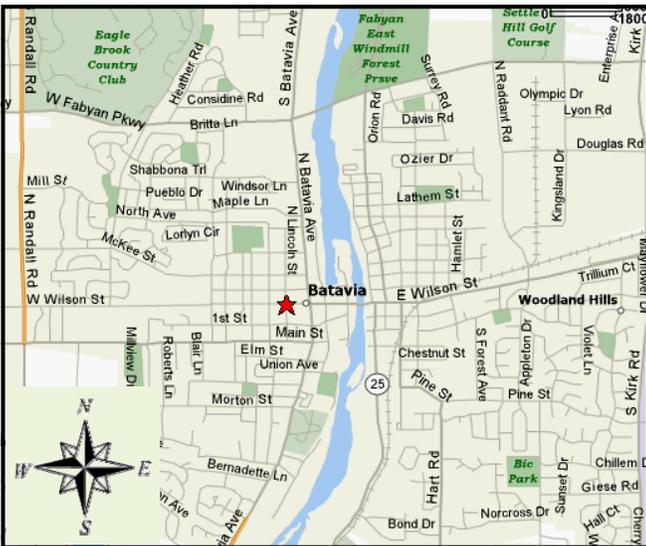
**Fox Valley Woodworkers Club, Inc.**

**PO Box 1041**

**Batavia, IL 60510-1041**

<http://www.fvwwc.org> - [woodworkers@fvwwc.org](mailto:woodworkers@fvwwc.org)

**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!*

## **FVWWC Agenda**

**Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**6:00 p.m.: Shopsmith SIG**

Upstairs in the Adult Lounge

**6:30 p.m.: Hand Tool SIG**

Lower Conference Room

**May 5<sup>th</sup> Presentation:**

***"To Be Announced"***

As of Press Time our originally scheduled presenter has had to postpone and no new topic or presenter has been chosen, but, whatever the subject, we always find plenty to keep us entertained!!!!