

# Newsletter

Volume 24 - Issue 11

November 2008

## Meeting Review: October 2008

President Tom Sharp began the meeting by welcoming our guests and collecting "fines" from all members who had neglected to wear their name badges. After making sure our evening's speaker was dressed correctly for the occasion, he reminded us that election for next year's Board will take place in November on, appropriately, Election Day...*Also known as our November meeting night!*

In October member **Rich Rossio**, yet again gave us a fascinating look into the world of turning. While Rich denies being an expert turner, he never fails to provide us with some interesting tips and techniques on the subject. Most of us can only dream of attaining Rich's level of turning skills but it does give one something to strive for!

If you would like some hands-on lessons, Rich is ready to use his years of teaching experience to share the craft with others. If you would like to talk to him about some classes just give him a shout at 815-838-7686 or at [Disorder@aol.com](mailto:Disorder@aol.com)....And don't forget he is FVWWC's source for [Penn State Industries](#) wood turning tools & accessories!

In November we welcome **Bud Knoedler**, a local carver, to come share his techniques and love of bird carving with us. Be sure to check out some of Bud's work on the [club site](#) to see just what beautiful work he does. Stop in, pull up a chair and join the crowd!

*Hope to see you there!*



## The Chicago Woodworking Show Nov 21-23 at the Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center

Mike Madden is looking for items to display, folks to man the booth in two to three hour intervals and volunteers to do some 15 minute talks on some area of woodworking as part this year's "Strolling Seminars". Attendees will be given times and locations of participating clubs featuring

these 15 minute talks, a few times each of day, to help us meet potential members.

Anyone with questions or wishing to volunteer is welcome to contact Mike, our Show Chairman, at 630-759-5119 or [gailmadd@yahoo.com](mailto:gailmadd@yahoo.com) or, better yet, see him at the November meeting!

## FVWWC Events Calendar

Nov 4th..... Tue ... 6:30 p.m... FVWWC Hand Tool SIG Meets  
 Nov 4th..... Tue ... 6:30 p.m... FVWWC Shopsmith SIG Meets  
 Nov 4th..... Tue ... 7:30 p.m... FVWWC General Meeting: "Bird Carving" with Bud Kniedler  
 Nov 19th...Wed....9:00 a.m... FVWWC's Breakfast Club: Red Apple Restaurant - 414 S Schmale Rd - Carol Stream, IL



*Happy  
 Thanksgiving  
 to You &  
 Yours!*

Dec 2nd.... Tue ... 7:30 p.m... FVWWC Christmas Party & Toy Drive 2008 - Potluck Dinner  
 Dec 10th...Wed....9:00 a.m... FVWWC's Breakfast Club: Red Apple Restaurant - 414 S Schmale Rd - Carol Stream *(Special Date!)*  
 Jan 6th ..... Tue ... 6:30 p.m... FVWWC Hand Tool SIG Meets  
 Jan 6th ..... Tue ... 6:30 p.m... FVWWC Shopsmith SIG Meets  
 Jan 6th ..... Tue ... 7:30 p.m... FVWWC General Meeting

## FVWWC Officers & Staff

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

President	Tom Sharp thomas.sharp@sbcglobal.net
Past President .....	Ron Gilkerson (630) 879-8756 rongilker@hotmail.com
Vice President .....	Matt Gauntt
Treasurer.....	Doug Pfaff
Secretary.....	Jeff Sandkam
Program Committee.....	Robin Blair blairr@saic.com Ron Gilkerson Doug Olson
Membership.....	Larry Maher
Editor/Webmaster .....	Linda Christensen woodworkers@fvwwc.org
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 .....	Jim Hildreth
Shopsmith SIG Chairman.....	Dave Dockstader (630) 851-8118 sourceror@sbcglobal.net
Hand Tool SIG Chairmen	Mike Brady mbrady25@comcast.net Mike Bridger bridger.mike@gmail.com

## FVWWC MONTHLY DRAWING

### September's Regular Monthly Drawing:

**1st Prize: Makita Circular Saw .....**Jerry Jobe  
**2nd Prize: Bosch Digital Multi-Detector Kit .....**Bud Light

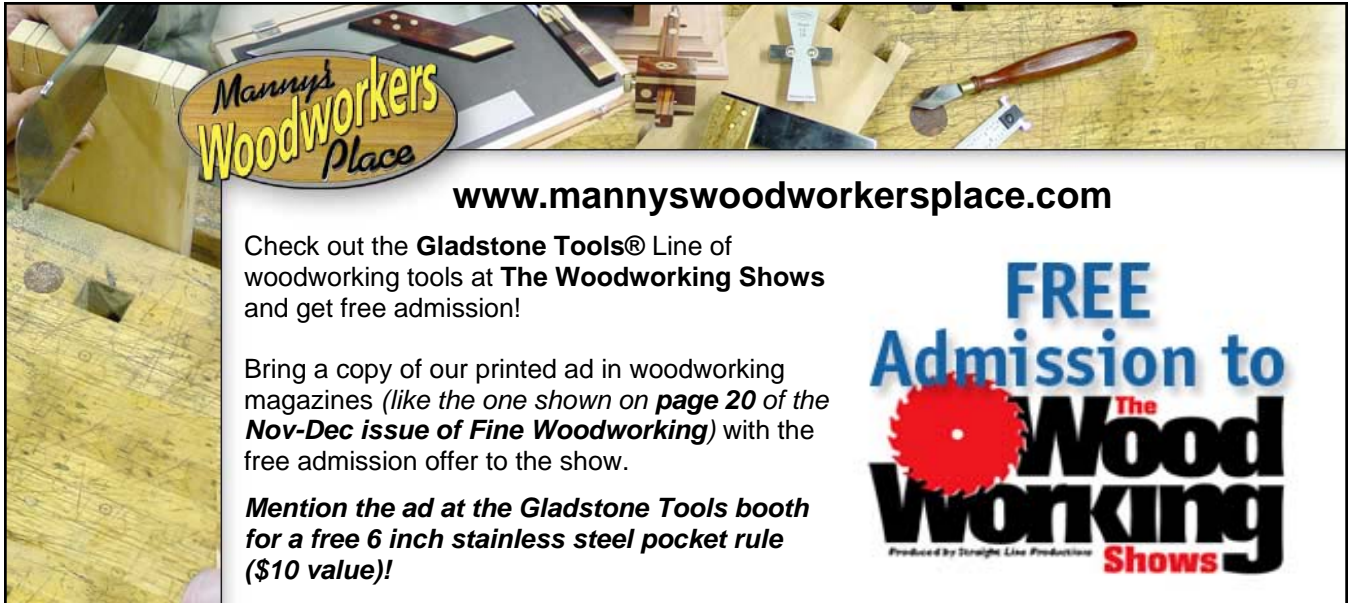
All proceeds go to the general operating fund of FVWWC to enable us to give more back to the membership. *Get your tickets early to be part of the fun & a chance to win!* More great items to choose from in November!

Don't forget to purchase your chances in our latest **Special Raffle** for the **Tormek T-7 Sharpening System** too!!!

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



## Charlie Christensen - FVWWC Raffle Chairman



**www.mannyswoodworkersplace.com**

Check out the **Gladstone Tools®** Line of woodworking tools at **The Woodworking Shows** and get free admission!

Bring a copy of our printed ad in woodworking magazines (like the one shown on **page 20** of the **Nov-Dec issue of Fine Woodworking**) with the free admission offer to the show.

**Mention the ad at the Gladstone Tools booth for a free 6 inch stainless steel pocket rule (\$10 value)!**

**FREE Admission to The Wood Working Shows**  
Produced by Straight Line Productions



## Membership Drive 2009 is going GREAT!

Thanks to everyone who has already renewed!!!

**Renewals for 2009** started in September and must be submitted no later than 01/15/2009 to insure you don't miss a minute of what FVWWC has to offer!

See **Larry Maher**, our Membership Chairman, to renew or mail your check/MO for \$30.00 to:

**FVWWC**

PO Box 1041 - Batavia, IL 60510-1041

*NOTE: Membership/Renewal form available @: [www.fvwwc.org](http://www.fvwwc.org)*

### FVWWC's Shopsmith SIG

The Shopsmith Special Interest Group (SIG) meets at 6:30 on the first Tuesday of the month, just before the FVWWC meeting, in the vestibule of the Bethany Lutheran Church. The purpose of the group is to share experience, ideas, and fun and explore all the possibilities available with the Shopsmith. You don't even have to own a Shopsmith to join us.

If you are interested in the little machine that can, please join us.

**Dave Dockstader**  
630-851-8118  
[sourceror@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sourceror@sbcglobal.net)



### FVWWC's Hand Tool SIG



The Hand Tool SIG meets at 6:30, prior to the regular meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, 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 guest are invited to stop by and join our group.

**Mike Brady**  
[mbrady25@comcast.net](mailto:mbrady25@comcast.net)

**Mike Bridger**  
[bridger.mike@gmail.com](mailto:bridger.mike@gmail.com)

## All About Lumber Storage

by Jim Richey

If there is a universal problem in the woodworking shop, it is the storage of lumber. To work efficiently, you need a good inventory of solid wood and sheet goods. Your inventory of solid wood and sheet goods needs to be stored compactly and efficiently but in a way that allows easy access to every board without having to move the whole stack. Although these attributes sound almost mutually exclusive, many woodworkers have devised storage systems that come close.

The Basics:

- Storing solid wood: Horizontal racks keep lumber at the ready.
- Easy-access sheet goods: These heavy materials shouldn't be hard to reach.



### Storing solid wood

For solid wood, many woodworkers prefer solutions based on [horizontal racks](#). The racks must be engineered to carry the cumulative weight of many pieces of lumber. Various solutions employ iron pipes as shelf standards or a heavy framework made from 2x4s or 2x6s. Virtually all storage racks utilize the inherent strength of the shop walls and the strength of wood under compression.



This inventive rack by Chris Gochnour lets you [stack and saw lumber](#) in the same spot.

### Storing sheet goods

[Sheet goods](#) present another set of storage problems. If you just lean the sheet goods against the wall, the sheet you need will invariably be at the back of the stack. Most of the creative solutions to storing sheet goods I've seen through the years provide some way to partition the pieces or to flip through them easily to pick out the piece you need.

Some of us will have the opportunity at some stage of our woodworking odyssey to design and build a shop from the ground up, and the storage of lumber is, of course, an important element of shop design that must be considered. Solutions can range from shops designed around wood storage to rolling carts that carry lumber of all shapes and dimensions.

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## Padauk

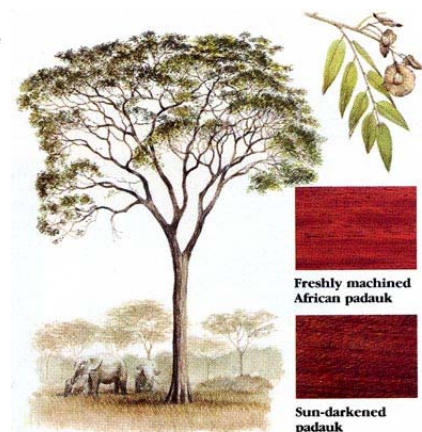
### The wood of kings, railroad trains, and many names

King Solomon, proverbial for his wisdom in governing the Israelites during the 10th century B.C., must have really known his wood, too. He chose stalwart padauk for the pillars of his temple.

French Kings Louis XV and Louis XVI were separated from Solomon by thousands of years. Yet, these 17th-century rulers also favored a red-orange padauk they called narra. With it, royal woodworkers crafted kingly cups and chalices. Because water placed in these vessels turned yellow, royalty believed the "potion" had medicinal properties.

A century later, the colorful wood of Solomon and the Louis attracted even wider acclaim. As a veneer named amboyna, padauk was featured in Empire-style furniture.

Far removed from European pomp and furniture fashion of the 1800s, convicts sent to British penal colonies in the Andaman islands off Burma labored to supply the padauk sought by world craftsmen. In fact, Chicago's Pullman Company imported much of this exotically beautiful and durable "Andaman" padauk to panel railroad passenger cars.



### Wood identification

All seven species we recognize as padauk belong to the genus *Pterocarpus*. African padauk (*P. soyauxii*), sometimes referred to as vermillion, is the only padauk species readily available today. Others occasionally sold include Andaman padauk (*P. dalbergioides*), Angola padauk or muniga, kiat (*P. angolensis*), Burmese padauk (*P. macrocarpus*), narra (*P. indicus*), and sandalwood padauk (*P. santalinus*).

Padauk grows in tropical climates, although the geography changes from rain forest to dry, nearly treeless plains with each species. You'll find padauk in India, Indochina, the South Pacific, West Africa, and even southern Florida.

Except for squatty African muninga, most padauk trees look like elms, with large, spreading crowns reaching to a height of 120'. Averaging 7' in girth, their slightly irregular, fluted trunks have smooth, yellow-tinted bark. Trunks often have no branches for the first 65'.

The leaves of some padauk species provide protein in human diets as a substitute for green vegetables. All padauks bear distinctive, round, inedible fruit banded by a flat wing that gives them a flying saucer-like appearance. In fact, *pterocarpus* means "winged fruit."

Depending on the species, padauk's coarse-grained heartwood varies in color from a lustrous purple-red to orange-red. With age and exposure to sunlight, it turns deep maroon. Quartersawn wood features a pronounced ribbon stripe. Sapwood never reaches market.

### Working properties

About as heavy, but stronger than oak, padauk generally works exceptionally well with either hand or power tools. You'll have no trouble gluing padauk, and screws remain secure.

The wood sands easily, but for a glass-smooth finish, we recommend a paste wood filler or sealer to even out its open grain. Clear finishes should contain an ultraviolet inhibitor to reduce padauk's tendency to darken. Sanding dust may stain your hands and clothes, and may even irritate your nose. And, padauk's bright dust can discolor adjacent unfinished stock if it's of a lighter shade.

### Uses in woodworking

A first-class furniture and cabinet wood, padauk also makes fine turnings, carvings, and musical instruments. Because it has a high resistance to abrasion has great strength, and it doesn't readily decay, it adapts well to cutting board stock. Seaworthy boats have even been made of padauk.

### Cost and availability

Due to freight costs, padauk prices run higher inland than on the East, West, and southern coasts. Except for Amboyna burl and vermillion, little padauk becomes veneer.

African padauk costs about the same as top-grade black walnut. Other padauks demand higher prices, as do veneers.

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## Workshop Tips

### Biscuit Gauge

by Serge Duclos

I use my biscuit joiner all the time to quickly make strong joints. With narrow boards like face frames, I used to spend a lot of time figuring out which biscuit size to use so the slots wouldn't be too wide and show. To avoid all that recalculation, I made a permanent reference block.

I cut slots for No. 0, No. 10 and No. 20 biscuits in a block of wood and recorded all the information I need: the slots' exact widths, depths and centerlines. When locating slots for mitering, I insert a biscuit and note its curvature. This way I avoid cutting slots too close to the miter's tip. I drilled a 1/2-in. hole through the block to hang it over my bench, but I often keep this handy tool in my apron pocket.



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**American**  
**Woodworker** EXTRA

Tips, Techniques and Projects  
from the editors of American Woodworker magazine.

## Show & Tell via eMail

Submitted by FVWWC Member,  
Dan Miller

My schedule prohibits my attending meetings but I wish to participate in the "Show & Tell" portion of our newsletter.



Please add the before and after pictures of my old house balustrade for all to see:

This shows six sections. I made ten total and a newel post. The balustrade is made

# Show & Tell

## October 2008

We had another good turnout in October and it showed in our S&T display! Participating Member were:

- **Ken Ebner:** Engaging **Wood Washer Puzzle** made of unfinished Poplar.
- **Bob Dahlstrom:** **Mug Holder** made of Cherry with Early American Minwax Stain and Polyethylene finish, **Santa** made of Cedar with water based Varnish and sampling of the 135 **Christmas Ornaments** made of Luhan, painted and finished in Deft Spray. This was a family project of gifts for friends, family and co-workers. Bob did the cutting and priming and the Mrs. did the decorating!
- **Roger Vachon:** **Portable Dovetail Jig** made from scraps with a poly finish.
- **Joe O'Malley:** **Legs for Dining Room Table** made of Mahogany...is a *Work in Progress!*
- **Tom Sprain:** **Box for Transfer Punches** made of Oak and Ginkgo with varnish finish.
- **Dave Dockstader:** **"Zelda's Sword"** made from a scrap Fir 2x4 finished in Zinsor Bullseye Sealcoat and painted decoration done by Zelda's Dad.
- **Dave Van Norman:** **Country Style Bookcase & Coffee Table** each done in Poplar with Milk Paint finish.

**See you all again next month!**





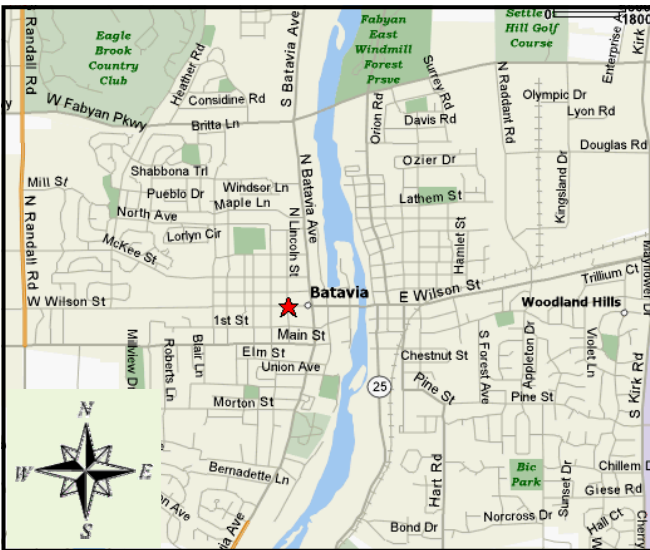
**Fox Valley Woodworkers Club, Inc.**

**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, Nov. 4th, 2008**

**6:30 p.m.: Shopsmith SIG**

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

*All interested FVWWC Members invited to attend!*

**7:30 p.m.: General Meeting**

**“Bird Carving” by**

**Bud Knoedler**

