

# Newsletter

Volume 24 - Issue 10

October 2008

## Meeting Review: September 2008

Our VP, Matt Gauntt, was in charge of the proceedings and he opened the meeting by welcoming our guests and collecting "fines" from all members who had neglected to wear their name badges. He also reminded us that nominations for next year's Board would take place in October with the election to follow in November. Anyone interested in serving is invited to volunteer.

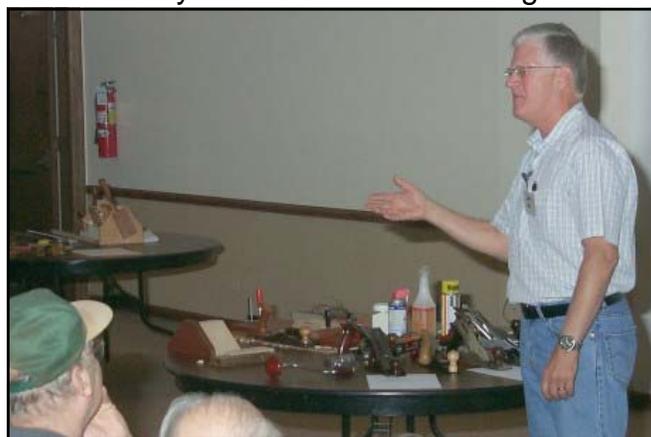
In September we had another group of **FVWWC** members share the limelight and bring us another stellar performance. **Mike Brady**, co-leader of our Hand Tool SIG, lead off by teaching us some tips on acquiring and restoring **Hand Tools**. **Paul Jablonski** and **Jim Vojcek** each added their area of expertise on restoration and using traditional hand tools. **Howard Van Valzah** also showed us some of his favorite tools and added to the discussion.

All four brought in tools, antique to modern, as well as their favorite jigs for display and Q&A before the meeting and during the break.

They packed a lot of information into the time allowed and we look forward to hearing from them all again on the acquisition, care and use of these time honored tools.

In October we will all learn some new turning tricks from member **Rich Rossio**, who is forever honing his skills and sharing his expertise. Rich is a fabulous teacher, as many of us can attest to, and as a turner he is among the most talented.

Anyone wanting to learn to turn should be there and those with experience will want to see the techniques Rich has developed to make turning even more rewarding!



**See you there!**



November 21-23, 2008  
Renaissance Convention Center  
Schaumburg, IL

Mike Madden, FVWWC's Show Chairman, will have details at our October meeting and take names of those who are able to help in the club booth and/or loan projects for display.

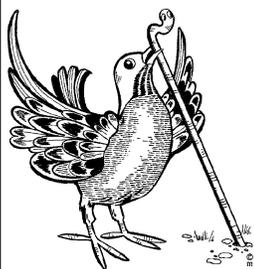
*No experience is needed to apply!* Just wear your FVWWC ID and a smile and tell folks why you belong to the club! Some of our more expert members will be on hand to field technical issues but, for the most part, it is a good way to get acquainted, give your club a hand and talk shop for a while!

<http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com>

## FVWWC Events Calendar

Oct 7th..... Tue.... 6:30 p.m. ... FVWWC Shopsmith SIG Meets  
 Oct 7th..... Tue.... 6:30 p.m. ... FVWWC Hand Tool SIG Meets  
 Oct 7th..... Tue.... 7:30 p.m. ... FVWWC General Meeting: Rich  
 Rossio presents "New Tricks for  
 Turners New & Old"  
 Oct 15th... Wed ... 9:00 a.m. ... FVWWC's Breakfast Club: Red  
 Apple Restaurant - 414 S Schmale  
 Rd - Carol Stream, IL  
 Oct 25-26. S&S ..... "Artistry in Wood" - Wheaton, IL  
 - [woodwizards2@comcast.com](mailto:woodwizards2@comcast.com)  
 Nov 4th..... Tue.... 7:30 p.m. ... FVWWC General Meeting: "Bird  
 Carving" with Bud Knoedler  
 Nov 21-23. F-S... See Sched. The Wood Working Shows -  
 Renaissance Convention Center  
 Schaumburg, IL  
 Dec 2nd.... Tue.... 7:30 p.m. ... FVWWC Christmas Party & Toy  
 Drive 2008

## Project 2008 Update: Birdfeeders



Ron Gilkerson will report on the status of the project and let us know what has been delivered thus far and what response we have gotten on our Birdfeeders to date.

## FVWWC Officers & Staff

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

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



## FVWWC MONTHLY DRAWING

### September's Regular Monthly Drawing:

1st Prize: Work Sharp WS3000 Sharpening System ..... Jerry Jobe

2nd Prize: Craftsman Roto-Tool ..... Mike Triplett

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 the October drawings.

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

**Charlie Christensen - FVWWC Raffle Chairman**



simple, yet high-quality woodworking projects that can be completed with a minimum number of tools and skills. To learn more about this concept, visit:

[www.woodmagazine.com/basicbuilt](http://www.woodmagazine.com/basicbuilt)

### Press Release...

As accomplished woodworkers, it's easy to forget about the beginner. But, to ensure our hobby will be around for the next generation, we must all put ourselves in the role of mentor to bring along the aspiring woodworker. To help accomplish that, *WOOD Magazine* has created **Basic-Built**, an initiative to provide

for details. You'll also find a Basic-Built project in nearly every issue of *WOOD Magazine*, with supporting technique articles, how-to videos, and more projects.

Thank you,  
**Marlen Kemmet**  
*WOOD Magazine/WOOD Online Managing Editor*  
[Marlen.kemmet@meredith.com](mailto:Marlen.kemmet@meredith.com)

### Used Tool Sale

Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> - 8a.m. - 2p.m.  
Prairie Millworks Morris, IL

- The Grundy Woodworkers club will sponsor the event and man the sale. For this service the club is asking a fee of \$1.00 for each \$10.00 sold up to \$25.00 limit.
- The sale is open to anyone who wants to sell his or her tools. (Need not be a club member).
- A photo can sell large items too big to bring in.
- Each item should be marked with owner's name & asking price
- Items you wish to sell can be brought to Prairie Millworks no earlier than 1 week before the sale. Items that do not sell must be picked up no later than 1 week after the sale. This is an opportunity for you to benefit the club and yourself by getting rid of the clutter in your shop. Contact Terry Steinbach for more details at [steinb@cbcast.com](mailto:steinb@cbcast.com) or 815-942-8250 or Prairie Millworks 815- 942-5865.



### Where to Go When You Are Facing a "Sticky" Situation



<http://www.thistothat.com/>  
*Because people have a need to glue things to other things*

### FVWWC's Shopsmith SIG Report

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 Report

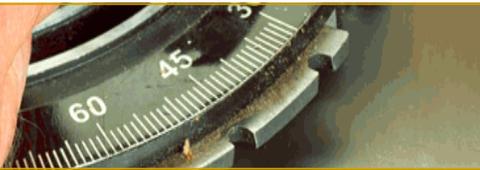
The Hand Tool SIG meets at 6:30, prior to the regular meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, at Bethany Lutheran.

Anyone interested in the use of hand tools is welcome to join us as we 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.

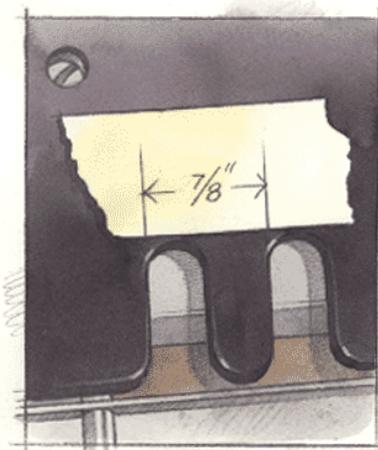
**Mike Brady**  
[mbrady25@comcast.net](mailto:mbrady25@comcast.net)  
**Mike Bridger**  
[bridger.mike@gmail.com](mailto:bridger.mike@gmail.com)





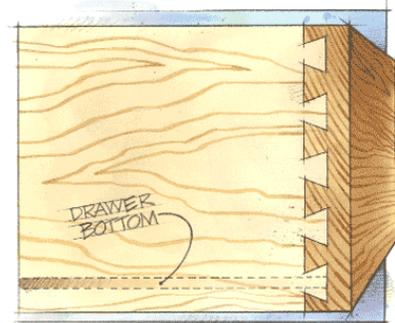
## 9 steps to great-looking Half-Blind Dovetails

Simple dovetail jigs, such as the one here, help you make tight-fitting half-blind dovetails quickly and easily. Follow these key steps and tricks for using your dovetail jig, and you're sure to enjoy success.



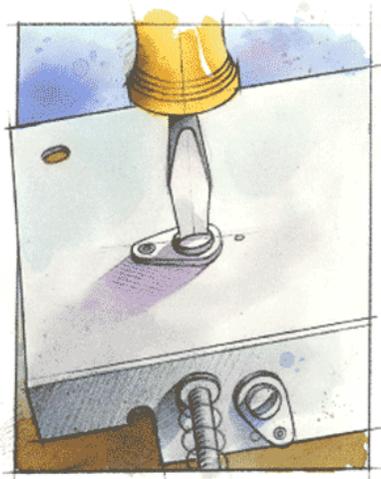
1. Dovetail jigs come with a template or "comb," with a series of "fingers" that you guide a router along to cut the dovetails. A standard 1/2" template works in conjunction with a 1/2" dovetail bit, and typically has fingers spaced 7/8" apart as shown at left. However, we've seen some templates with 1" spacing. And, manufacturers offer optional templates with smaller finger spacing. For example, with our Porter-Cable jig we occasionally use a 1/4" template that has fingers spaced 7/16" apart. Measure the spacing and make note of it.

work nicely with 3-1/2"-, 4-3/8"-, or 5-1/4"-wide pieces. That way, your workpiece will have equal half dovetails at the top and bottom of the joint as shown at right.



2. Make the width of your workpieces an increment of the finger spacing. For example, a template with 7/8" spacing will

This also leaves a full tail correctly positioned for a drawer bottom. Plan to center a 1/4"-wide, 1/4"-deep bottom-holding groove on this tail after you machine the dovetails.

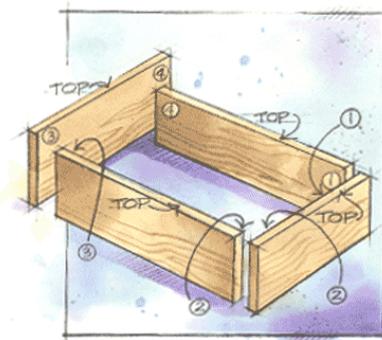


3. Most likely, your dovetail jig will have a set of stops on both ends that the edges of the workpieces butt against. Set these according to which template you are using as shown at left.

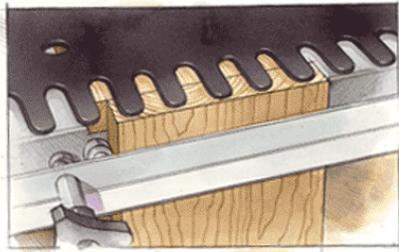
4. Now, select your stock and plane or resaw it if necessary. Drawers typically have 1/2"-thick fronts and 1/2"-thick sides and backs. With our Porter-Cable jig, the 1/2" template requires workpieces at least 1/2" thick. The

1/4" template works with drawer fronts at least 3/8" thick, and sides at least 5/16" thick.

Cut your workpieces to size, making sure they are square, and arrange them as shown at right. Mark the top edges and number all of the matching



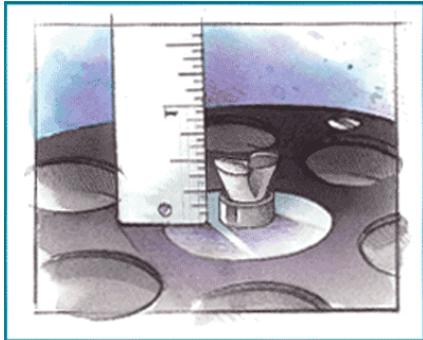
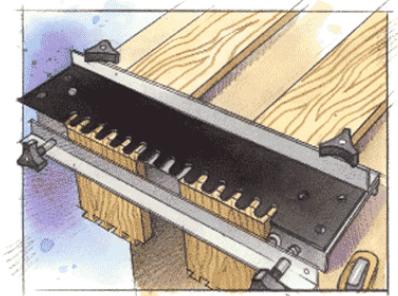
5. Grab two workpieces with same-numbered corners. Place them into the jig with the numbered ends together, the drawer side positioned vertically, and



the front or back sitting horizontally as shown at left.

The inside (numbered) surface of the drawer parts should be facing away from the jig, visible to you. The workpieces should be in contact with the stops, and tight against each other, with the face grain of the horizontal workpiece flush with the end grain of the vertical piece.

To speed things up, place workpieces on both ends of the jig as shown right. This only works if the width of your pieces is less than half of the jig's capacity.



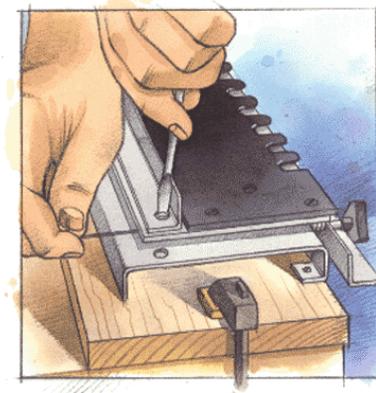
6. Mount the correct guide bushing into your router's base. Our jig requires a bushing with a 7/16" outside diameter (O.D.) when using a 1/2" template, and 5/16" O.D. bushing for its 1/4" template. Secure the necessary dovetail bit, and use a metal rule to adjust its height according to the instruction manual as shown at left.

*Note: Perform the following steps in scrap stock that's of the same dimensions as your workpieces. After you're satisfied with the results, cut your actual workpieces as described in Step 7.*

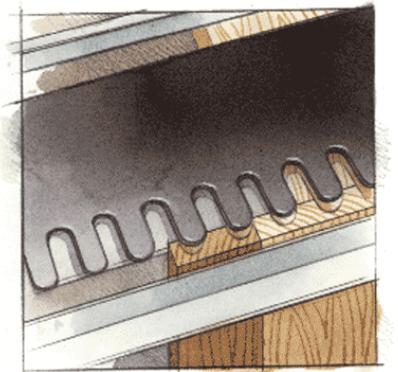
7. Working from left to right, move the router in and out of each of the template fingers. Go slowly, especially near the ends of the cut, to ensure clean results.

Remove the two workpieces and check their fit with one another. The dovetailed ends should slide together with firm hand pressure or light tapping with a rubber mallet. If the joint requires more force than that, or won't go together at all, decrease the height of the bit and repeat your test cuts. If the dovetails fit together too sloppily, increase the bit height.

8. If you run into grain splintering near the end of the cut, add a scrap piece as shown at right. The scrap may splinter, but it will help keep the workpiece clean if the two are tightly butted together.



9. Now, check if the dovetails go together so that the face grain of the drawer sides aligns flush with the end grain of the front or back. If they won't align flush, you need to increase the length of the dovetail cuts by adjusting the templates in, away from the router. If the dovetail cuts are too long and the workpieces go more than a hair past flush, adjust the templates out, toward the router. With our Porter-Cable jig, we do this by loosening a holding screw and micro-adjusting a setscrew in or out with a hex key as shown at left.



**Written by: Bill Krier with Chuck Hedlund**  
**Illustrations: Brian Jensen**

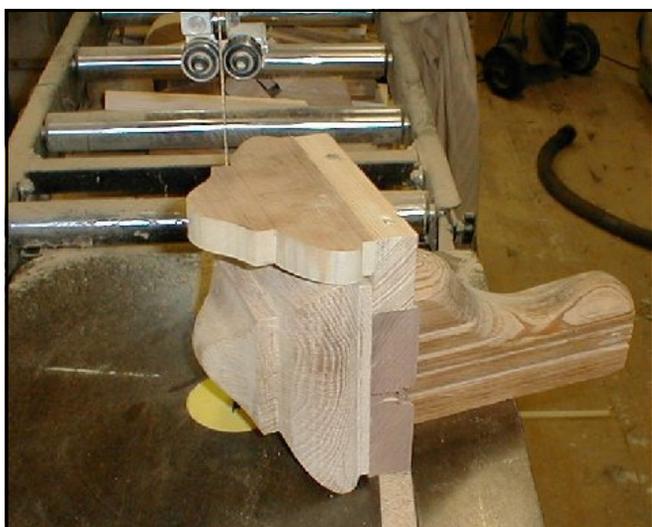
## Band Saw Trick

by Dan Miller

The traditional way to make a finial on a band saw is to mark the pattern on one side of the wood, cut it out and save the waste to be taped back on to cut the other sides. With an intricate pattern, this was difficult and when I wanted to cut two from one piece of wood, it was impossible. I found a better way to do it. I screwed the block of wood to a little sled that insures it is kept perpendicular to the bed of the band saw. Above the wood, I screwed a pattern to the sled. Now, I simply followed the pattern to cut the wood. When one side was finished, I unscrewed it, rotated the wood and screwed it back on the sled. I think the method is better than the old tape it back together way. It worked well for me to make a pedant and finial for an 1890's newel post as seen below.



**Finished finial**



**Bandsaw following the pattern**



**Finished pendant**

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## Membership Drive 2009 is Off and Running!



***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 on club website:*

***www.fvwwc.org***





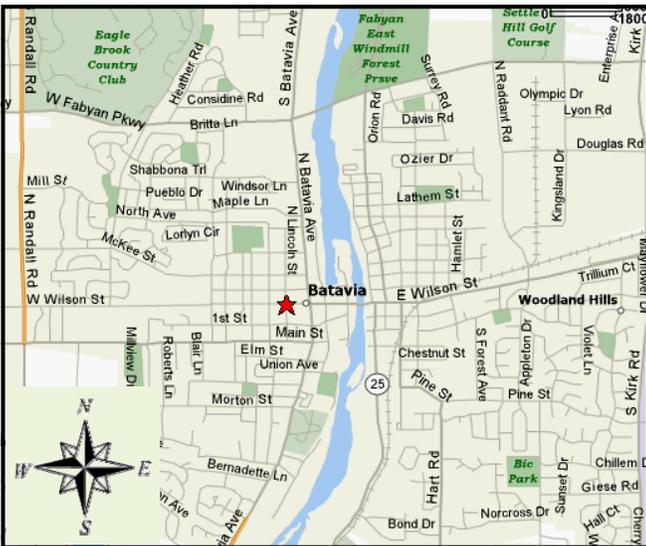
**Fox Valley Woodworkers Club, Inc.**

**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, Oct. 7th, 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**

**Rich Rossio**

PRESENTS

**“New Tricks for  
Turners New & Old”**