



NEWSLETTER

Vol 30 Issue 5 **May 2024**

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Calendar of Events

May

May 7	NO SIGS	HANDTOOL SIG Bethany Lutheran Annex
May 7	NO SIGS	SCROLLSAW SIG Bethany Lutheran
May 7	NO SIGS	TURNING SIG Bethany Lutheran Basement
May 7	NO SIGS	FUNDAMENTAL SIG Bethany Lutheran
May 7	7:30pm	General Meeting Bethany Lutheran
May 15	9:00 am	FVWWC Breakfast Club Red Apple Restaurant 414 S. Schmale Carol Stream, IL

May 7 Program

ANNUAL TOOL AUCTION

Annual tool auction of donated woodworking equipment with proceeds going to the FVWWC treasury.



NO SIGS Due to the Tool Auction

FVWWC Tool Auction

No No No Silent

No Ice Cream

The annual Fox Valley Woodworkers Tool Auction will be at the May 7th meeting. For those of you who are new to the club, this is our primary fund-raiser. Now is the time to start assessing your shop. Think Marie Kondo. Look around for the tool that “doesn’t bring you joy.” Do you have a tool that takes up too much room for the amount of use you get from it? Do you have some tool attachments that you just “had to have” that aren’t as good as you thought? What about that tool that you’ve used once, or maybe even twice, but never, ever want to use again? Preferably these will not still have blood stains on them. But these are the perfect candidates for donation to the tool auction. Eric Springer will serve as our auctioneer once more this year. The majority of us primarily attend to watch Eric use his “original marketing strategies” to promote the tools. Plus, there are some real bargains to be had.

State Fair Entries

On Wednesday, the 24th, I sent out an email telling everyone where they could find the latest information on Illinois State Fair entries. True to form, that didn't quite work out as I had expected and I had to get Eric Springer, while on vacation heading to Colorado, to fix it up for me. I have decided what my epitaph should be, "Well, that didn't work!" At any rate, it is now available on the HOME tab of the web site. No need to sign in. Just scroll down on that page after the PRESENTERS FOR 2024 to NEWS ITEMS and you will find the Illinois State Fair. Click on READ MORE button, then click on the GO TO 2024 STATE FAIR EVENT button, and finally on the lower left side of the next page you will see a blue "[this document](#)." Click on that to download the latest version of the instructions.

As I said in the email, note all the bright colors on this document. Those are not just there to make it look pretty. Since the 2024 General Premium book has not been published yet, this is based on the 2023 book and what information I have been given by the State Fair. It is all subject to change and we won't be able to verify it until the General Premium book is published sometime in June. I want to make sure everyone knows this is really just my best guess. See my epitaph above. But this is what I am basing my entries on.

Last, but not least, in 2023 we left a lot of ribbons down in Springfield because we had NO entries in those classes. NO ENTRIES means NO COMPETITION. That means ANY entry could win a cash prize. Think long and hard about entering something (anything!) in **Wood Carving, Chip Carving, Inlay and Marquetry, Intarsia, and Any Other Article**. Since **Boxes and Covered Vessels** and **Toys** are new classes this year, they may also be under-represented.

We've Got Places To Go And People To See

**Midwest Tool Collectors Meeting – National
Spring
Marriott West
Middleton, WI
June 12-15, 2024**



**Midwest Tool Collectors Meeting – National Fall
Oasis Hotel
Springfield, MO
September 25-28, 2024
<https://mwtca.org/>**

These folks meet more often than a book club. Talk to Rich Hall-Reppen or Rich Escallier for more information.

**2024 American Association of Woodturners Symposium
Portland, OR
May 23 – 26, 2024
<https://www.aawsymposium.org/>**



Cost: \$375 - \$495

If you can't make it to Portland, I have loaded all the handouts from the demonstrators on to the club web site. Sign in then [RESOURCES > DOCUMENTS > SIG REPORTS > TURNING SIG > 2024 AAW IWS](#).

**Midwest Scroll Saw & Woodworking Trade
Show
The Dubuque County Fairgrounds
14569 Old Hwy Rd
Dubuque, Iowa
August 2 - 3, 2024
<https://midwesttradeshow.com/>**



We've Got Places To Go And People To See

Entrance Fees: \$5 each day / \$8 both days

Two big days filled with classes, seminars, demonstrations, contests, and door prizes. The show offers a unique opportunity to learn about scroll sawing, intarsia, wood turning, wood carving, pyrography and more! Registration opened January 2, 2024. This only happens every other year.

**Turn-On Chicago
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Northbrook, IL
August 2 - 4, 2024**

<https://www.turnonchicago.com/>



Registration opened January 2, 2024. This only happens every other year.

**International Woodworking Fair – 2024
Georgia World Congress Center
285 Andrew Young International Blvd
Atlanta, GA 30313
August 6 – 9, 2024**

<https://www.iwfatlanta.com/>



Primarily for woodworking and furniture businesses, but this show has every imaginable woodworking tool. Have not been able to determine the cost yet. If anyone knows what it is, let me know.

We've Got Places To Go And People To See

Other Places To Consider When Vacation Planning

AAW Gallery of Wood Art

226 Landmark Center,
75 W 5th St,
St Paul, MN 55102 US

<http://galleryofwoodart.org/>

Phone: 651-484-9094

Email: gallery@woodturner.org



Center for Art in Wood

141 N. 3rd Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19106 US

<https://centerforartinwood.org/>

Phone: (215) 923-8000

Email: info@centerforartinwood.org



Groveswood Gallery and Museum

111 Groveswood Rd,
Asheville, NC 28804 US

<https://www.groveswood.com/>

Phone: (828) 253-7651



Intersections Wood Gallery & Studio

299 10th St East,
Owen Sound, ON, N4K 6P7 Canada

<https://www.intersectionsstudio.com/gallery.html>

(519) 371-4998



Peabody Essex Museum

161 Essex St,
Salem, MA 01970 US

<https://www.pem.org/>

Phone: 866-745-1876



We've Got Places To Go And People To See

Messler Gallery

25 Mill St,
Rockport, ME 04856 US

<https://www.woodschoool.org/wood-school-gallery>

Phone: 207-594-5611

Email: cfc@woodschoool.org



Fuller Craft Museum

455 Oak Street,
Brockton, MA 02301 US

<https://fullercraft.org/>

Phone: (508)588-6000



President's Sawdust

Dave Dockstader, President FVWWC



This Isn't Your Dad's Woodworking Club

Nothing is constant, except change. For instance, in the last year we've added a new SIG to our repertoire. Turning was an area that we hadn't emphasized enough and the SIG was our answer. We've also been thinking about another SIG (if we can find someone to chair it). For those who don't attend one of the SIGs, we have a PowerPoint presentation before the club meeting that outlines club activities and upcoming programs. While our board members have remained fairly constant except when one of them moves to Texas, they mostly seem to shuffle jobs. But that seems to be the most static of any aspect of the club. That doesn't mean we haven't tried to find new blood to back up our positions.

In case you hadn't noticed, we are trying different things, lots of different things, so that the club continues to provide a real value for your dues. We have spent some money to improve our web site. Now it is easier to navigate, has more information, plans, SIGs information, a calendar of club activities, classified ads that any member can post, a membership directory, and a portal to the library - Libib. Roland Kuhn has almost single-handedly expanded the library with 800 books, almost 1000 PDF files, and 500+ discs. Then he has developed a printed Digital Video Directory, with titles, pictures, call numbers, run times, and synopses of the discs in the library. You should check this out at the next meeting. Roland, John Gesiakowski, and Eric Springer were able to connect Libib directly through the web site so you can peruse all our books, our discs, our pamphlets, and articles in the comfort of your home. No looking through the shelves at the meeting. Find something you like? Reserve it on line and pick it up at the next meeting. We've even moved the Share 'N Tell presentations up to the front of the room so Dave Burk can focus on a single spot and everyone can see the projected picture better.

And that's not all! (Apologies to the late-night TV pitchmen.) John Gesiakowski is working on setting up training classes or mentoring opportunities. Eric Springer is working on changes to the web site to improve it. Ed Schalk has a couple of different initiatives in the works for our Community Support committee. The SIG chairs are working on new programs and challenges for their groups and Doc Kotecki is beating the bushes for more shop tours. And though I know some of the things on his agenda, I'm afraid to find out what Roland has up his sleeve. Our club is very active and dynamic and I expect this to continue for quite a while.

What is the purpose of all these activities? Some might think we are trying to grow the club, but that's not really the case. We actually are slightly afraid of growing too much. We could "outgrow" our space and that would be catastrophic. Bethany Lutheran has been a perfect location and finding someplace else could be a giant problem. Just ask the Hickory Hills club. They meet at the Rockler in Orland Park. Unfortunately, that store is closing and they have been unable to find a new place. One place wanted \$20 per person per night. That's insane!

President's Sawdust

Dave Dockstader, President FVWWC

Right now we have a little over 100 members and 60 – 90 show up every meeting. That is a VERY GOOD percentage. We *could* expand a little, but be careful what you wish for. SRO is not our goal. What we really want to do is expand the value of the club to more members. We want to involve more members in our projects, programs, and efforts. In short, we want to give as many members as possible a reason, not for just staying with the club, but actively enjoying what the club offers.

To that end, recognize that all this activity involves a fairly small cadre of people. Hint! That's why there is a "Volunteer" tab on the web site. These folks could all use a little more help and all you have to do is put your name in on the web site. More importantly, you may have some ideas that you think the club should pursue. Grab any one of the board members or what I affectionately call our "minions." (No, they don't wear goggles, yellow t-shirts, and blue denim shorts, but they are vitally important to our success.) We are always looking for new ideas. Maybe it's an area that you would like to have taught or a DVD you would like to see, let someone know. It could even be something we haven't thought of yet. (We haven't cornered the market on good ideas.) Of course, those ideas have a much greater chance of coming to fruition if "someone" is willing to push the idea.

There you have it. That's why the club seems to be in a constant state of flux. We are trying to get better. Not all of our ideas may work out. If they don't, we will scrap them and try something else. But we will continuously try to improve the club for everyone. Feel free to join in on the effort.

Editor's Woodfiller

Are your tools Insured?

Insurance is a necessary evil in life and insurance companies are often viewed with suspicion by the public – with some justification, I think. I was relating my personal experience with homeowner's insurance coverage for wood shop tools and was encouraged to share the story in the newsletter. First of all, I am not an expert on insurance and will not recommend for or against any particular company. Do your homework and seek the best fit for your needs.



I long had a basic operating mode when it comes to auto and homeowners insurance. I get multiple quotes, check the company ratings, and pick the lowest cost company. Often I have found that a company that gives me an attractive initial rate increases the premium after the initial period – kind of a bait and switch strategy. The fact that no claims for loss have occurred does not seem to matter. This does not work with me and rate increases trigger a new rate quote seeking process. A company that keeps its rates stable will keep my business for several years before I check rates again.

A few years ago, my insurance company raised its premiums substantially and I chose a new company that saved me considerable premium cost. This was a large nationally advertised company with a good rating and service reputation and I was pleased to move my policies to them. After getting all the paperwork done, the company mailed me their policies and eventually I got around to scanning through them. Imagine my chagrin to discover that coverage for my shop tools was limited to \$2000 or so in their limits of liability section. It is typical to find limits of one or two thousand dollars for firearms, jewelry, electronic equipment, and such, but not I think for tools. Yes, tools and items used for business purposes are typically limited or excluded from homeowner's policy coverage. But my tools, like most of us, are for personal use only. Given a \$500 or greater deductible, many of us would get no coverage for a partial loss of our tools and woefully insufficient coverage for a total loss. Some of us probably have more than \$2000 in our router bit collection alone! The discovery of this inadequate coverage led to a call to my agent and a request for a rider to add more coverage. Unfortunately, the company did not offer any options for more coverage of tools. I cancelled my policies and picked another company that had no specific limits to loss coverage on my tools.

This experience led to a new procedure in my insurance quote process. Before I sign up with a new company, I ask the agent to email me a pdf file of their policy – not a brochure, but the actual policy. Even though the agent says tools are not limited, I check the policies anyway. This review may reveal other surprises for limitations you were not expecting. While most standard homeowner's policies do not cover loss due to flooding from the outside, they also may exclude losses due to sewer backups or sump pump failures. If you have a basement shop, you might want to add sewer backup and sump pump coverage. A few years ago, Naperville had a "100 years" flood. However, most home basements were not flooded due to the overflowing river, but rather the extended power failure and no sump pump draining of ground water.

Editor's Woodfiller

While we are on the subject of insurance, here's another suggestion. My father was in the property - casualty insurance business for many years. He strongly recommended taking photographs of your personal property and keeping them in a safe place – off premises. Insurance claims adjusters aim to settle fairly but for the minimum cost to their company. They often encounter claims from their insured that exaggerate the quality and value of lost items. For example, an insured claiming the stolen tools are high end “Festool” brand, when all the other tools they see are “Harbor Freight”. Inventory lists of items are helpful but could still be disputed by a skeptical claims adjuster. A digital photo of your tools will help validate your claim and remind you of what you had. And, it is easier to document your tools with pictures than manually listing an inventory. (Just make sure the pictures you take do not reveal unsafe conditions like piles of sawdust or improperly stored flammables!) Take digital photos of your shop tool inventory – maybe once a year, including the contents of cabinets and drawers. Copy the digital files to a flash drive or writeable DVD disk and keep it in your safe deposit box.

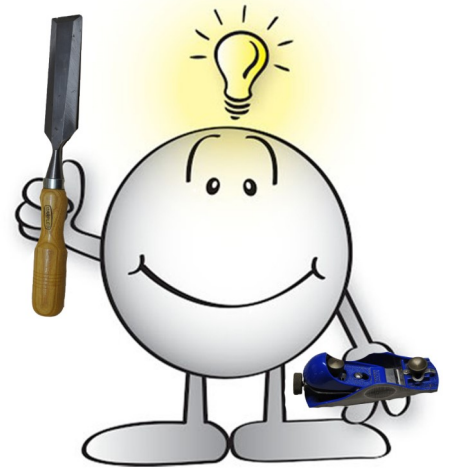
I hope this helps and that you will never need to use your insurance.

I try to run this column every so often in the hope that another member's shop tools would not be lost due to a basement flood or fire loss.

FVWWC Shop Tips Contest 2024

SHOP TIPS

An award, **Most Shop Tips**, will be given to the club member who submits the most shop tips from December 2024 through the month of November 2024. **Top Vote Getters** awards will be given to the member whose tip receives the most and second-most votes from Club members – voting for 2024 tips will be taken in January 2025. Candidates for the award are an accumulation of members whose tip was selected by the BOD as the “tip of the month”. 2024 winners will receive a yet-to-be determined award at the January 2025 general meeting. All three awards will be of equal value.



Monthly 2024 BOD Shop Tip Picks

December (2023) - None

January 2024 - Matt Ross - Vice Paper Towel Pad

February 2024 - Lee Nye - A Clever Bandsaw Fence Idea

March 2024 - Lee Nye - Stacking Sawhorses

April 2024 - Michael Fross - Cleaning cast iron table tops

May 2024 - TBD

Send in your shop tips for June Newsletter

Photos of the topic are the easiest way to illustrate and explain it. Use your smart phone and take a couple of photos of the topic. You needn't write a long essay to describe it – just a short paragraph or two will usually suffice. An added benefit of being a monthly shop tip winner is three free raffle tickets from Matt Ross! Even an idea you have used that was published in a woodworking magazine is acceptable as long as you give the magazine credit. Just as you do for share and tell projects, send your Shop Tips ideas to the newsletter editor, Lee Nye. **Email to woodworkers@fvwwc.org or roadbiker123@gmail.com.**



Laminate Sample Uses

Pick up a few free laminate samples on your next trip to the big box store and put them to use. Don't be shy. Pick up 8 or 10 of them, all different colors (that way they will think you are actually in the market). I use them as glue spreaders, nailing shields, shims, scrapers, and spacers. They spread glue evenly and putting the hole around the nail keeps you from marring the wood as you drive it home. Strangely, the first time I used them was on a turning. They do much better at burning lines by rubbing the edge against the turning. The old wire between two dowels works, but I somehow always end up grabbing the wire in the middle. The samples end up with a nice round burn mark on the edge (See picture) and I know better than to grab that.





3 Blade Sandpaper Cutter



I have several electrical sanders that take a $\frac{1}{4}$ sheet of sandpaper. I even have one that takes a $\frac{1}{2}$ sheet. So, I built a jig that works to cut the sheet to whatever size I need. It works well, but it takes up a bunch of space in my sandpaper storage box. Then I happened on a simpler idea that is small, transportable, and allows me to cut whatever size or shape I want.

I just put 3 hacksaw blades held together by a small bolt and nut. I then mark where I want to cut the sandpaper and slip it between blades 1 and 2, roll it back over and slip it between blades 2 and 3, and align my marks under the third blade teeth. Holding down on the end of the blades the don't have the bolt, I can easily cut the sandpaper and slide the hacksaw blades back into the bottom of my box.





Neat Through Mortise Technique

I enjoy reading woodworking magazine construction articles even if I am not interested in building the project. They often illustrate some neat little trick to simplify a difficult task. A few years ago I built an arts and craft style sideboard for the kitchen dining area. One of the prominent features of the piece is large through mortises and tenons on the sides. Getting through mortises cut accurately and cleanly without chipout has always been a challenge for me. Screwing up a large piece of figured hardwood by messing up the mortises is a big worry. Hollow-chisel mortisers or hand chopped mortises can end up with ragged edges and serious chipout on the face down side.

A construction article in Fine Woodworking magazine offered a great idea for constructing these mortises with a minimum of risk. Here's how they did it:



Step 1 – a template made of MDF is used with a straight router bit and guide bushing to rout the mortises to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the thickness of the material. In other words, not a through mortise.



Step 2 – drill a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch through hole in the middle of the mortise. I used some painters tape to help minimize chipout.



Step 3 – use a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch flush trimming router bit (with a bearing on the end) through the hole to track the mortise and complete the through cut. The result is a nice sharp edge and no chipout.



Step 4 – square the corners in the usual way with a chisel.

April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Ed Schalk

Project: Antiwue Rocker Repari

Wood: Oak



Old leg used as template for
drilling holes (below)



2024

FVWWC—PO Box 1041—Batavia, IL 60510-1047
<http://www.fvwwc.org> — woodworkers@fvwwc.org

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April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Bruce Metzdorf

Project: 12" Bowl

Wood: Maple

Finish: Odies Oil



April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Michael Fross

Project: Dovetail Saw

Wood: Padauk

Finish: Tru-Oil



April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Gary Fuller

Project: Table

Wood: Red Cedar

Finish: Polyurethane

Note: Present to Gary's granddaughter for her doctorate in PT



April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Joe McMahon

Project: Acorn Bird House

Wood: Cedar

Finish: Polyurethane



April 2 SHARE AND TELL

Steve Krave

Project:Tray

Wood: Toasted Maple

Finish: Tried & True

Note: Checking filled with epoxy



April 2 SHARE AND TELL

John Rusnak

Project: Turned wooden boxes

Wood: Walnut & Ash

Finish: Shellac & BLO



2024 FVWWC Officers & Staff

President:	Dave Dockstader president@fvwwc.org
Vice President:	Dave Burk vicepresident@fvwwc.org
Treasurer:	Rich Hall-Reppen finances@fvwwc.org
Secretary:	Michael Fross secretary@fvwwc.org
Programs:	Bruce Metzdorf programs@fvwwc.org
Membership:	Art Santoya membership@fvwwc.org
Website Director	Eric Springer webmaster@fvwwc.org
Resources:	Roland Kuhn resource@fvwwc.org
Member-at-Large:	John Gesiakowski memberatlarge@fvwwc.org
Communications Director:	Lee Nye woodworkers@fvwwc.org
Raffles:	Matt Ross
Show & Tell MC:	Rich Russel
Audio/Visual Tech:	Dave Burk
Host:	Rex Dailey
Shop Tour Chair:	Doc Kotecki

Special Interest Groups

Scrollsaw
SIG Chair: Dave Dockstader

ScrollsawSIG@FVWWC.ORG

Hand Tool
SIG Chair: Michael Fross
HandToolSIG@FVWWC.ORG

Turning SIG Jeff Walsma
Chair: TurningSIG@FVWWC.ORG

Woodworking Fundamentals
SIG Chair: Michael Rauchmiller
WWFundamentalsig@FVWWC.ORG

2024 Membership Dues

Dues for 2024 - With our new ClubExpress website, we can pay our dues online. Or print out the form and mail it in.

[http://www.foxvalleywoodworkers.com/
Documents/MemCard 11 Online.pdf](http://www.foxvalleywoodworkers.com/Documents/MemCard%2011%20Online.pdf)

Mail it in:

FVWWC Membership Chair
PO Box 1041

Batavia, IL 60510-1041

Make your checks payable to the Fox Valley Woodworkers Club.

No SIGS in May

Fundamentals SIG

The Fundamentals SIG will meet June 4th, 2024 at 6:30 pm. Don Carkhuff is filling in for Rocky for the next couple of months. He will be here to answer your woodworking questions and help you with any problems you find.



FVWWC Scroll Saw SIG



The next Scroll Saw SIG meeting will be June 4th, 2024 at 6:30 pm. Obviously that isn't this month because this month is the Tool Auction and there are no SIG meetings with the Tool Auction. However, that is no excuse for letting your scroll saw skills languish. You can start getting ready for the June meeting by looking for some interlocking 3-dimensional puzzles. Kind of like this:



We'll be looking at puzzles like this and how to make them. Since it involves compound cutting, there are all sorts of fine points to consider. I have a couple patterns and sources I'll send you before the meeting. At the same time, you should be working on your State Fair entries and Lee Nye still needs new Share 'N Tell pictures, so please forward pictures of your projects to him at roadbiker123@gmail.com.

Fox Valley Woodworkers Club

General Meetings held at:

Bethany Lutheran Church

8 S Lincoln St. - Batavia, IL

On the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

Auction starts at 7:30pm .

Bring your old stuff and come early

Visitors Always Welcome!

FVWWC Website <http://www.fvwwc.org>

May 7, 2024

ANNUAL TOOL AUCTION

