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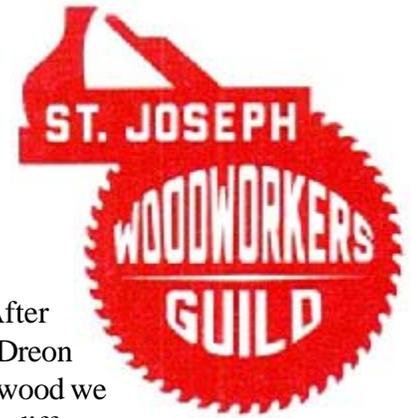
# ST. JOSEPH WOODWORKERS' GUILD

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Volume 17 Issue 5

May 2025



## May Meeting

### Tuesday, May 13 at 7 PM

The May meeting will be at the Guild Shop, the lower level of 302 South 8th. After our Sho-N-Tell and short business meeting, we will have a presentation given by Lou Dreon concerning the metals used in our woodworking tools. We want to know about what wood we use, but we seldom think about the different metals used in woodworking tools and the differences that make our tools work well. Lou is going to give us information on what metal is used and why to help us understand our tools better. Don't forget to bring your latest projects to show the audience! Bring a chair and park in the lot across the alley to the west of the shop.

## April Meeting Notes

There was a good crowd with one visitor at the April meeting. Lynn Anderson welcomed the audience and introduced the visitor. Rusty Cook, Guild treasurer, said our bank account had a good balance and then went on to give a shop update. He thanked the Guild members who have been working two days a week to build wood racks. Ralph Alvarez, Pete Cunningham, Steve Davidson, Ed Roberts, Kevin Crawford, Dave Halter, and Rusty Cook worked on the racks and have been doing many other tasks to make the shop more organized and pleasurable area in which to work. The racks have been completed allowing our wood supply to be sorted and stacked so it can be accessed. It also allows more floor space for seating at meetings. The wood is for sale at \$2 per board foot and \$5 a board foot if the boards need to be planed or resawn. The group also made drawer handles at Ralph Alvarez's shop from pieces of rebar. The handles have been installed on the drawers under one of the workbenches. Rusty also said that Ed Roberts is going to sell his 25" drum sander to the Guild as soon as he gets his new one. That will give us the ability to surface wood in addition to the planer we have now.



*The new look in the shop.*

Lynn talked about the box building project for the Noyes Home graduates. He said that the boxes were about 75% completed. Ed Roberts and Ralph Alvarez are the teachers for the project. Rusty Cook is going to use the Guild laser to engrave the students names on the top of the boxes, a picture of the Noyes Home on the inside of the lid, and the Guild logo on the bottom of the box. The boxes will be finished with boiled linseed oil and polished with the Beall Buffing System. An extra box will be built and donated to the Noyes Home auction in August.

Roger Martin announced that the NWTEAM judging will be on Friday, April 25, from 8:30 to 11:30 AM. There will be projects from Bode and Truman Middle Schools, Benton, Central, and Lafayette High Schools, along with Platte City, Liberty, and Winnetonka High Schools. The Guild furnishes volunteers for the event to judge the projects and choose the best of show. An extra perk is a dinner at Jake's Steak House on the Wednesday evening preceding the judging.

Lynn stated that on Saturday, May 10, from 10 to noon, the Guild will be helping people build planters at Noyes Home. This will be a fund-raiser for the Noyes Home. Lowes donated the lumber for the planters and Moffet Nursery is donating the plants. Twenty spots are available for individuals or families to build the planters. This is also the event where we will present the boxes to the Noyes Home graduates. All are invited to come to the event both to help and to see the box presentation.

Roger mentioned that he had been contacted by the Missouri Conservation Department staff to ask if the Guild would participate again for the Arbor Day tree give away on April 26, Saturday, from 10 to 2 PM. The Guild has participated in

past years by having volunteers showing some of the Guild projects and talking to the event participants. Roger, Ed Roberts, Lynn Anderson, and Rusty Cook agreed to help out at the table for the event.

John Cool said that Mid-City Excellence would like to have some kids build simple bird houses or flower planters and wanted to know if the Guild could help. There was some discussion but no decision as we needed more details to know what was needed and the timing of the activity.

Roger said that the East Side Rotary has a walnut plaque on which they mount the names of the club presidents and the plaque is full. The club asked if the Guild could build some sort of wings that can be mounted on each side so that more names could be added. Roger is going to follow up with measurements and other details to see if we can help.

Jennifer Persell spoke about the Sisters Of Solace and conveyed the thanks of the ladies in their program for all the help the Guild has provided in wood and tools. The ladies have built some projects and will be doing more with Jennifer's help.

Lynn asked if there was interest in having the Guild shop open on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 PM. He said that we could do teaching on projects, and build wagons for the Pony Express Summer Camp activities as some of the ideas. Ed mentioned that he has a plan for a rocking chair that is relatively easy to build and that could be a project. Participants would have to pass the safety course and should have already paid their annual dues. It was finally decided that the rocking chair build would be a good project. The shop will be open beginning on May 1 from 6 to 8 PM. All who are interested can come bringing their own wood or buying wood from the Guild to build a rocker. Each person will build a rocking chair for their own and help to build a rocker for the Noyes Home auction.

Member reports were positive: Rick Tolbert is improving, gaining weight and attending Ralph Alvarez's carving classes again. Darwin St. Myers continues to improve.

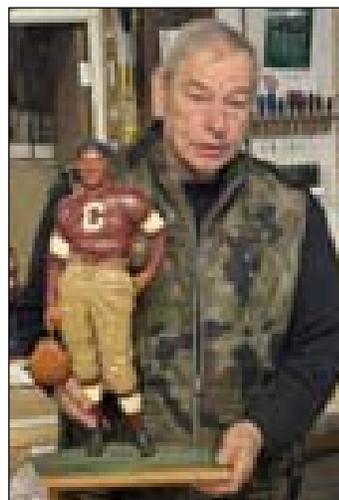
## **Sho-N-Tell**

Ralph Alvarez — two bass-wood deep relief carvings: one of baseball player Babe Ruth and one of football player Jim Thorpe. Both were highly detailed and well painted.

Trish Kulak — scroll sawn stack cut tulips cut from 1/4" plywood and painted Spring colors..



*Ralph holding Babe Ruth.*



*Ralph showing Jim Thorpe.*



*Trish explaining tulip assembly.*



*Kevin and the police badge.*

Kevin Crawford — a police badge made of pine and cut on a CNC for Frank Shores' son-in-law. .

## **Arbor Day**

The Guild was invited to be at the Missouri Conservation Commission's Arbor Day Event on April 26. This event was held at the Conservation office on the Missouri Western Campus. People who attended were able to talk to the Guild volunteers and pick up free trees given away by the staff. The trees were popu-



*Smoky visiting at our table.*



*Lynn and Ed talking to an Arbor Day visitor.*



*Another visitor at our table.*

lar and brought a good number of families into the office. The Guild volunteers were able to talk to a lot of the families and tell people about our activities. We even had a visit from Smoky Bear! Thanks to Ralph Alvarez, Roger Martin, Ed Roberts, Rusty Cook, and Lynn Anderson for manning the tables at the event.

## **April Program**

John DeBey, a former wood shop teacher at Liberty and Benton high schools, came to give us a presentation on the usage of pocket hole screws. He started off showing off the tie he wore to the meeting. The tie was made of wood from a pattern given by Steve Ramsey at Wood Working For Mere Mortals website. John discussed the usage of pocket screws and the companies who make the jigs and devices to drill the holes and install the screws. He mentioned that Kreg Tools is one of the foremost brands of pocket hole tools and screws. He asked the question: "Are pocket screws good for fine woodworking?" Then he held up a beautiful floating top table made from a Wood Magazine plans and assembled completely with pocket screws. He said the secret to pocket hole screw is the way the screw is made with a washer head. There are two types of screw threads: one for soft wood and one for hard wood. He showed the drill bit which is a specially made bit having a small drill attached to the tip of a larger drill bit. Some care is needed to prevent the tip of the drill to be broken off during the pocket hole creation. John discussed



*John showing off his wood tie!*



*The floating top table.*



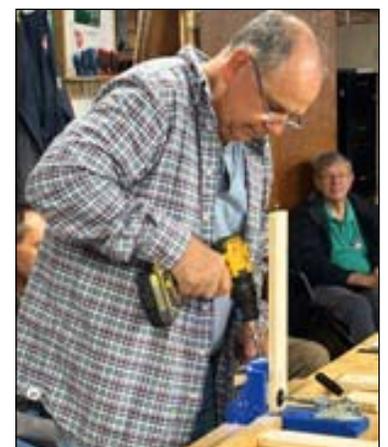
*A Civil War camp chair made using pocket screws.*



*Showing the Kreg jig.*



*Showing how to make a pocket hole.*



*Lynn using the jig.*

John discussed

the different tools used for creating pocket holes: a pocket hole jig, drill, and drill bit, and special screwdriver are used for creating the holes and installing the screws. A special clamp made by Kreg is very useful to clamp the parts together to install the screws. John cautioned that there are some projects that are so small that can not be assembled with pocket screws due to the length of the special screwdriver.



*Clamping parts together.*



*Using a pocket hole plug cutter.*



*Installing the last stretcher.*

John then went on to show the use of pocket hole screws in real time by building a small table from parts that he brought with him.



*Assembling the top.*



*Installing the top.*



*The final test!*

Lynn Anderson volunteered to assist by drilling some of the holes. He and John worked together to assemble the parts after the pocket holes were drilled starting with the legs and stretchers. The top was made of several pine boards held together with pocket hole screws. At the end of the assembly, Lynn tested the table by sitting on it... and it did not collapse! Thanks to John for taking the time to prepare for and present an excellent demonstration for our Guild.

## **NWTEAM Judging**

The Guild had the honor of judging wood working projects for the NWTEAM on Friday morning, April 25th, at Missouri Western State University's Houlne Center for Convergent Technology. These are the projects completed by students at Benton, Lafayette, and Central High Schools, Truman and Bode Middle Schools, and Liberty, Platte City, and Winnetonka High Schools from the Kansas City area. Projects ranged from a large game table and tall clock to cutting boards. We judged each project for a number of specific things so all judging was consistent between projects.

We had to confer at the close of the judging to choose the best of show.



*Bob and Lynn judging projects.*



*Tracy and John in the judging process.*



*Jay and Jen judging tables.*



*Ralph, Lynn and Jay at work.*



*A view of some of the tables and projects that were judged.*

There were some really nice projects and some that needed a little more work. A big thank you to the volunteers: Ed Roberts, Jennifer Persell, Jay Hales, Tracy Smith, Lynn Anderson, Ralph Alvarez, Bob Donaldson, John DeBey, and Roger Martin.

## **Upcoming Events**

- Noyes Home Flower Pot Building - 10 AM to Noon at Noyes Home
- Pony Express Museum Day Camp - July 14-17 and 21-23

## **Membership**

**January is renewal month for the Guild annual membership dues of \$30.** The membership helps cover the costs of our shop, the treats at most meetings, and this newsletter and to maintain our website and mailing list. Paid membership provides you with a card that allows you to get a discount at Metro Hardwoods, Woodcraft, and possibly at the new Rockler store. Guild Life Memberships (\$100) are for those 70 and above and that amount covers your dues forever! Treasurer Rusty Cook will be happy take your dues at meetings. If you are unable to attend, you can mail the check to him at the address at the end of this newsletter. If you would like the discount card mailed to you, please include a stamped, self addressed envelope when sending the dues to Rusty.



*What we judges Best in Show.*

## **Social Media**

Don't forget that the Guild has a Facebook page, [St. Joseph Woodworkers Guild](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephwoodguild), and a website, [www.stjosephwoodguild.com](http://www.stjosephwoodguild.com), that you can use to let others know about your hobby.

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