

John Griffith, President
Patrick LaPoint Treasurer

Officers and Directors

Barry Humphus, Editor, Gary Rock
Steve Thomas, Joe Comeaux

Mentoring Program - If you have a project, a problem in any woodworking area, these members have volunteered to help. Give them a call. Jeff Cormier: 582-3278; John Marcon: 478-0646; Gary Rock: 433-1679; Eltee Thibodeaux: 436-1997; Dick Trouth: 583-2683. Each have years of experience and knowledge.

March Meeting Highlights

Thanks as always to the great folks at Stines for permitting the LCWW to meet in their Lake Charles location. As you leave, please say a thanks to their employees as you check out after the meeting.

We had a guest of Mr. Darren Hood and that was Bill Bruning. It is great to see potential new members. For safety this month, Mr. Eltee Thibodeaux reported a kick-back on a 10" table saw. He let go on the push block just prior to the finish of the cut. As the blade tip on most table saws is traveling at over 100 MPH, you really must focus on your procedures. Someone reminded us that should you need to cut round stock on a band saw, make sure you use a jig to hold the material. In other words, do not cut round

stock on a band saw without using a jig for this purpose.

Another safety issue that we have all heard about recently is that of an Active Shooter. As all of you well know, there have been, it seems, many incidents across the nation and these are very disturbing and scary. In fact, your Newsletter Editor will go through training for Active Shooters this week. But consider this fact: there were some 160 active shooter incidents between 2003 and 2015 in the U.S. in which a thousand people were injured or died. It is a sad fact but

consider this: there were 1,250,000 non-residential fires in the U.S. during that same period. In those, some 22,000 people were injured or perished. Perhaps we should consider more fire drills. Fire safety is likely more important in your life than worrying about an active shooter.

Ryan Navarre did a nice presentation of "poor man's tools" that were home made and useful. Ryan demonstrated the use of a 3/8" Allen key ground to a chisel. He heat treated the tool and mounted in a wooden tool, sharpened and the result was a very nice tool for cutting grooves. Ryan also showed a devil scraper old saw blade can be used for this as the metal is hard and easily shaped. Ryan also showed off a dowel maker plus a scarper made from the hard metal of an old transformer. Very cool.



For Show and Tell, Ray Kebodeaux presented a nice box with a Thunder Bird motif. The wood was from a pallet plus mahogany with three coats of poly. Mr. Thibodeaux brought us a tooth pick holder of maple. Eltee also did a presentation regarding our web site and suggested that the site was not what a few members liked. Eltee did an excellent job of suggesting that some members were dissatisfied with what is done on the web site. Please see the first article on page two.

We also had photos of some great cabinet work from Aurther as well as what he did building a great looking steak knife using a sawsall blade.

Darren Hood discussed his experience with his new Grissley band saw with which he was pleased about the performance. Several folks like the Ridgid products as they have a great warranty program that even covers batteries of their products.

Please join us at the LCWW meeting on Saturday, April 14 at 9:00 A.M at the Stines Store in Lake Charles.



A Note From the Editor

Since June, 1998, Barry Humphus has been writing the monthly Woodworkers Newsletter, producing some 236 issues since that time and over a thousand pages of content. He would like your feedback and participation in this endeavor. Please let him know what you like or do not for the Newsletter. Does it meet your needs, interest with content, layout, design? If it does not, then say so and please be specific. If you want to contribute an article, opinion, photos, design or something else, please send these to him and he will make certain that your ideas, information, thoughts and more are included in the Newsletter. That way, it becomes yours and not just one person's effort.

One more thing . . . the LCWWC Web Site (<https://lcwoodworkers.com>) has been in operation since 2001. In the original configuration, Barry put together pages that had more than 10,000 unique visits. Unfortunately, the original hosting service decided to get out of the hosting business and the site was closed in late 2016. Barry began to research other firms and services to bring back the site and after this search found a reliable and lower cost service. In June, 2017, he began the design of the new site. In December, it was up and running.

Transferring the original content and the thousands of photos of member's work takes a great deal of time and any web site manager understands this process. Each image must be uploaded then transferred to the appropriate page. Then the image must be re-sized to fit the space available. Given that the new site is also mobile device available, care must be made to be certain that the images fit for both a computer as well as a phone or tablet. Should you want to help with this, he would be most appreciative.

Like the Newsletter, the web site needs your feedback. Please let Barry know what you like or do not. That way, he can modify the site to meet your needs. If you want something added to the site, should you have an idea to make it better, if you want something more, the only way this will happen is that you let him know. Short of that, it will remain what it is and be updated and modified as needed. Note that the web site is secure and that means the https rather than the old http. This means that should you visit, there is no malware or viruses connected with the web site. Soon, he will build a blog on the site where you may directly contribute

Please, please let Barry know your interests, design ideas, content for the site or anything else. That is the only way that the LCWWC web site is yours. So visit the site, convey your ideas. BTW, in the Links-->Other tab are now more than 22,000 woodworking videos available. Watch a few. Enjoy and learn.

Handsaw Tricks -- by Megan Fitzpatrick

From Carl Bilderback's "Handsaw Essentials"

About 35 years ago I was using a handsaw in what I considered the usual method: Cut, blow the sawdust off my pencil line and then cut some more.

The foreman on the job was watching me work and he came over and stopped me. He said he was told many years ago of a way to cut with a handsaw so you didn't have to blow the dust off the line. He didn't show me the method because he said he'd never been able to do it himself, but the basic idea was as follows:

You cut on the down-stroke and lift the saw a bit out of the kerf on the up-stroke. By developing this slightly orbital stroke, most of the dust falls on the floor.

After practicing this orbital stroke for a while I noticed something else that my foreman had not mentioned. The small amount of dust left on the surface of the work was pulled away from the cut line, like the wake of a boat in water.

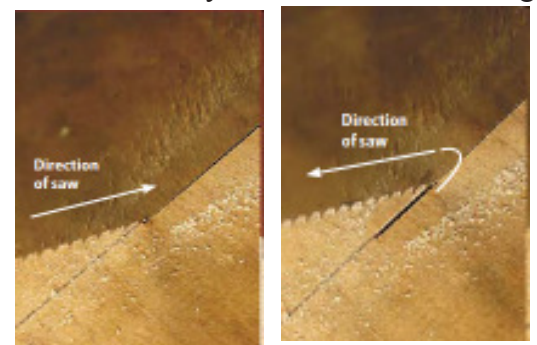
This is really neat to see, and I think it is caused by the regular, rhythmic vibration within the workpiece that is created by this type of saw stroke. Try it – you will like it!

At one time there was a product available that was designed to blow dust away with a hand saw called "Clear-Line." It was attached to the bottom of the saw handle and directed a puff of air onto the surface of the board with each stroke of the saw.

As a tool collector for the past 35 years, I have looked at thousands of handsaws and have never seen one with a Clear-Line unit attached to it. Could it be that most woodworkers of the time knew how to cut without the need to purchase such a device?

One more neat (and sometimes useful) trick is to use a saw as a square. This is done by placing the saw in a vertical position across the face of a board. Observe the reflection of the board in the side of the saw blade. When the reflected edge is straight and in line with the edge of the board, the saw blade is set at 90° to the board's edge.

If you want to mark a 45° angle, move the saw until you see a 90° corner formed by the reflection and the edge of the board.



Folding a Bandsaw Blade

Recently, a student of our President, John Griffith, met me at the shop of the late George Kuffel to pick up a band saw he had purchased. He was impressed when I quickly folded the four or five blades that came with the unit he purchased.

Folding a bandsaw blade can be a bit intimidating when you first attempt it. Armed with sharp teeth and a spring like tension, the blade deserves considerable respect. At the same time it's an easy trick for entertaining your non-woodworking friends!

Be sure to wear leather gloves and eye-protection (but as I was showing off, I did not -- bad, but still, you should always wear gloves and eye protection when doing this).

Stand behind the open blade with the teeth pointing away from you. With one foot, gently step on the blade just enough to keep it secure to the floor (if your floor is cement, use a piece of plywood to protect the blade as this protects the blade from being damaged).

With the palms of your hands facing away from you, grasp the back of the blade at two and ten o'clock. Your thumbs should be pointed away from you. With a firm hold on the blade, roll your wrists inward so your thumbs end up pointing toward each other. At this point you will feel the resistance in the blade give way. Gently push the folding blade toward the floor as you lift your foot off the blade.

This may feel awkward at first but after a few tries you'll be folding blades with the best of them. John's student had me repeat this a few times to be sure that he understood the technique and should you have a few blades you want to fold, give this some practice (wearing gloves and eye protection as well). Barry Humphus.

Getting Some Lube

Ever since Roy Underhill wrote about the joys of mutton tallow as a tool lubricant in Popular Woodworking Magazine in the August 2010 issue, folks may have asked where they may purchase this product.

The good news is that Lee Valley Tools has started to carry McQueen's Pure Mutton Tallow for \$2.95 for a 1 oz. tin. That's quite a bargain – on the mutton tallow black market I've seen it go for as much as \$11 on Amazon.

So what's it good for? Well just about everything in the shop. It can be used on saw blades in particular. Tallow is slicker than paraffin and doesn't seem to wear off the blade as quickly. (OK, it's greasier.)

It also works well on plane soles. And Roy explained that the black coating you will find on some old wooden-

bodied tools was likely from tallow.

But doesn't it interfere with glue adhesion, finish penetration and cause sunspots? The short answer: is no. I applied some directly to some cherry a few months ago and then applied oil-based stain and finishes over it. Even though I had smeared on a good bit of the stuff, the stain still penetrated and the finish still stuck. There you go.

When you apply any lubricant to your tools, chances are that little or none of it will remain when you get to the gluing and finishing stage of your project. Remember: The cutting tool is removing the wood that you just lubricated. So it's a non-issue, unless you abuse the stuff.

By the way, mutton tallow is also a traditional remedy for chapped skin and is the foundation for a variety of traditional ointments. You also can slick up that mustache after a day in the shop. I hear nothing is more attractive to some than the smell of cooking lamb chops. Yum. Barry Humphus.

Band Saw Tire Tune-Up

While you can get new tires for your bandsaw, you can always do a cleaning to try to get them back into shape. Obviously, you need to turn off and unplug the saw and remove the cover. Remove the bandsaw blade. Inspect the condition of the tire and remove any obvious debris that has accumulated on the tire. Using a bit of worn sandpaper does a good job as you give the main wheel a spin. Should this not do the trick, continue with what I suggest below.

Truing the hard rubber tire that goes around the rim of each bandsaw wheel should solve your problem. There are several ways to do this, but the one I like to use comes from my turning experience.

First, unplug your saw and remove the bandsaw blade. Clamp a block of wood to the frame of the bandsaw, near the tire's outside edge and perpendicular to the wheel, to serve as a tool rest. Spin the wheel to make sure it doesn't rub against your tool rest.

You can then have an assistant slowly turn the bandsaw wheel by hand while you hold a sharp chisel on the wooden tool rest. However, you may be able to do the turning yourself, but carefully as you use the scraping turning tool (or a wide chisel). Very lightly shave the tire true, making a scraping cut with the chisel. Remember that you want a slight crown in the tire for best blade tracking. Watch your fingers so they don't get caught in the spinning wheel.

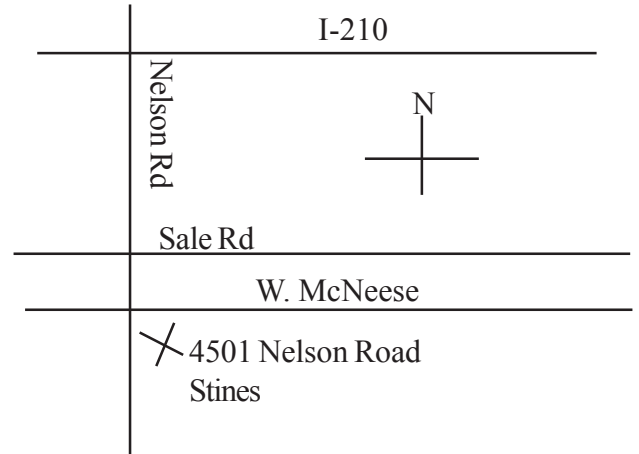
Now replace your blade and true it with standard practice and turn it on, checking the run-up and adjusting the true as needed. If you have no bumps or issues, you are likely good to go. Barry Humphus.

April Meeting Location

We once again have the wonderful opportunity to meet at the Stines Lake Charles kocation at 4501 Nelson Road Please enter the store and go to the back left in the store to the meeting room.

To get there go South on Nelson Road in Lake Charles going from I-10 or I-210 and tuen into the parking lot. Go to the back of the main entrance to the very back to the meeting room to find us.

Please take an opportunity to explore Stines before you leave to find the items for your shop or home that you may need. As always, thank the folks at Stines as you check out.



April 2018