

John Griffith, President
Patrick LaPoint Treasurer

Officers and Directors

Barry Humphus, Editor, Eltee Thibodeaux
Daren Hood, John Marcon, Rob Richard

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; Eltee Thibodeaux: 436-1997; Dick Trough: 583-2683. Each have years of experience and knowledge.

October Meeting Highlights

LCWW President John Griffith was out of town this month and Patrick LaPoint stepped in to run the meeting. Member Bill Levy was out because of a back problem and Mike Dupuis is dealing with cancer. Please keep Mike in your thoughts and prayers.

Bill got his back issue by improper lifting, we understand. This has likely happened to many folks over the years.

Always lift with your legs and not bend over to lift anything of weight. Better yet, get some help. When you use smart lifting practices and work in your "power zone," you are less likely to suffer from back sprains, muscle pulls, wrist injuries, elbow injuries, spinal injuries, and other injuries caused by lifting heavy objects. The power zone for lifting is close to the body, between mid-thigh and mid-chest height. Comparable to the strike zone in baseball, this zone is where arms and back can lift the most with the least amount of effort.

Bending while lifting forces the back to support the weight of the upper body in addition to the weight you are lifting. Bending while lifting places strain on the back even when lifting something as light as a screwdriver. Bending moves the load away from the body and allows leverage to significantly increase the effective load on the back.

There was some discussion about the length of presentations and the suggestion was made to try to limit these to no more than 15 or so minutes. We also want to try to get some guest speakers in the future.



Mr. Eltee Thibodeaux started off the Show and Tell with rabbit shaped candy dispenser. You push down the tail to pop out the candy. Ray Kebodeaux carved a Swedish style butter knife of hickory and mahogany plus really neat roux spoons from hickory. Ray mentioned that he made a total of ten of the roux spoons. Ray also had a nice little mahogany box



with contrasting corner pins. Ray will also show us how to flock at the next meeting.

Steve McCorquodale showed photos of a large coffee table made from a slab of pecan with live edges. The



table is 6 feet long, two feet wide and three inches thick. To properly remove bark from a live edge, Steve uses a series of chisels, tapping lightly with a rubber mallet. There was one area of punky wood in the slab and Steve filled this area with malicite rocks and clear epoxy. Steve used about seven coats of wide-on poly, sanding with 220 grit between each coat. A finer sandpaper will reduce the adhesion of subsequent coats.

George Carr brought us a sweet chip carved box with a humming bird motif with a built-in music box. Unfinished at the moment, he will complete the box with spray-on poly. Darren Hood had a lovely cutting board built from oak, African mahogany (aka mansonia), and padauk. Darren mentioned that he uses parafin cut with mineral spirits to coat billet ends.

Jack Stegall announced that he finally got an air conditioner in his shop (just in time for the cool weather) and Eltee won the S&T Stines gift card.

Comming Up . . . Saturday, November 10, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. at the Stines store on Nelson in Lake Charles

What's Your Angle?

Laying out accurate angles on your work is critical. So it is a surprise to me that we spend \$100 on a Starrett square for 90°, then spend \$1.59 at Walmart for a plastic school protractor for every angle that isn't 90°.

Luckily for us, we don't have to spend \$100 to get a protractor that is accurate enough for woodwork. (I have used a machinist dial protractor and found that they make you chase errors that aren't really there.)

The answer is a chalkboard protractor – the large protractors that geometry teachers use to lay out constructions on the chalkboard. These are still made today for teachers who use chalkboards or large dry-erase boards. These large protractors are also common on the secondary market.

My dad bought me an old Acme protractor years ago that is my favorite. It's 15-3/4" wide and has a wooden handle that helps me hold it in place on the work. The best part about the tool is that the individual degree marks are 1/8" away from each other. This allows me to dial in to a fraction of a degree with ease.

On a typical plastic protractor that is 6" wide, the degree marks are about 1/32" apart. That's a huge difference – especially for my over 70-year-old eyes.

So what if you can't find a vintage one like mine? Amazon has an ETA brand for about \$15.

One last note: I know there are lots of ways to set angles accurately. Heck, I used to do it with a framing square. And I've tried a lot of gizmos through the years. For some reason my brain is most compatible with the 180° half-circle protractor. If you have a favorite method, that's cool.

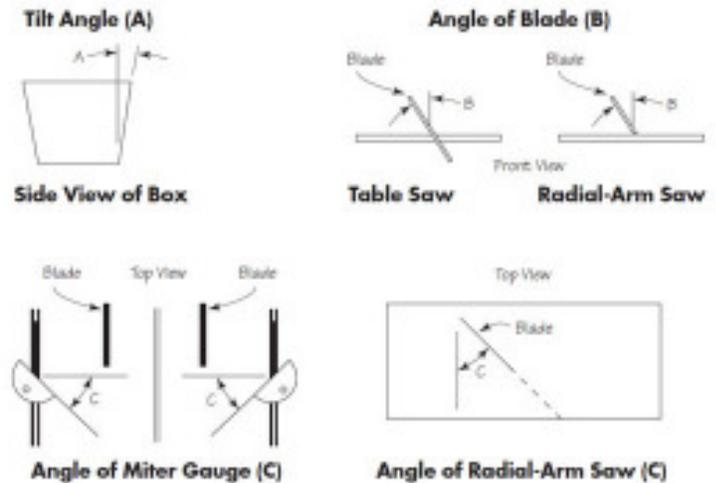
Speaking of Angles: Compound

A compound angle is created by cutting a workpiece at an angle using a saw blade that is also tilted at an angle. The compound angle is commonly used to create tapered-sided boxes and containers. The tilt angle (A) of the box side is measured from a vertical line. Compound angles can be cut on the table saw or the radial-arm saw. Keep in mind, however, that saw gauges are notoriously inaccurate, so it's always best to make test-cuts on scrap stock.

The saw blade angle (B) is measured from a vertical line for both the table saw and radial-arm saw. The angle of the table saw miter gauge (C) is measured from a line perpendicular to the saw blade. The angle of the radialarm saw (C) is measured from a line perpendicular to the fence.

Not all manufacturers use the same points of reference when establishing the blade tilt and cutting angles shown

on their saw gauges. Therefore, the angles marked on your saw gauge might not correspond with the angles shown in the table. To avoid confusion, always set the saw based on Angles B and C shown below.



Flattening Slabs

Steve McCorquodale apparently loves to make beautiful furniture using large slabs of wood. His recent project with a several hundred pound slab of pecan really shows off his ability to select and then beautifully finish these monsters.

Martin Goebel, in his new book, *Working with Live Edge Tops*, tells how to get two perfectly parallel sides from these beauties.

When flattening a live-edge slab, first you need to determine the high and low spots. The most traditional, labor intensive way to flatten a slab is with a hand plane. For live-edge slabs you will use a low angled jack plane (takes off a large section of material) and a scrub plane (used specifically for removing material).

In order to flatten crowned surfaces, you will need to work at a 45-degree angle with a scrub plane. This is the most effective way to do it with planing motions because the scrub plane will remove a lot of material in a crude fashion. Then, clean up your crowned surface with the low angles jack plane. It would be possible to do some of the first grunt work with a power plane should you have one. But there is another way.

However, many woodworkers find using hand planes to be inefficient and time-consuming. If you want to avoid inefficiencies, try using a router with a handmade jig instead! This technique will allow you to do side-by-side passes to get an even, flat plane with less effort. Your first pass with the router will be a skim pass. Then increase by 1/4" with each pass to get your even plane. Finally flip over your live-edge slab and do the same on the other side to get a parallel surface. Edited from an excerpt from *Working with Live Edge Tops*.

Stanley Tool Works: Odd Job Tool

At the end of the 19th century, any carpenter worth his salt had a Stanley Tools "Odd Job" in the top pocket of his bibs.

The Stanley Tool Works introduced Odd Job in 1888 and it remained the standard job site and cabinet shop layout tool until the Great Depression led to its demise in the 1930s.

Woodworkers loved it because there's hardly anything you might need to do in terms of measuring and marking that you can't do with an Odd Job. The Woodpeckers company has taken the basic design, improved a couple features, brought 21st century manufacturing accuracy and metallurgy into play, and scaled it up to give you two sizes... Woodpeckers Odd Job and Odd Job XL.

The Woodpeckers Odd Job bodies are precision machined from a solid block of aircraft grade aluminum. The rule and knurled knobs are stainless steel. The scratch awl/scribe is made from hardened stainless steel so the points stay sharp through years of rugged use. The rule is laser engraved in 1/32" increments on both sides. Their product development team improved the Odd Job beam compass feature by adding two precision-bored sleeves that lock into the blade of the rule. One is a perfect fit for the scratch awl and the other is a perfect fit for the included Woodpeckers .9mm mechanical pencil.

The smaller Odd Job body is 4" high x 2-3/8" wide x 3/4" thick... very close to the dimensions of the original 19th century Stanley. It comes with a 6" rule with an optional 8" rule available.

The Odd Job XL is substantially larger at 6" tall x 3-5/8" wide x 1-1/4" thick. The XL comes standard with a 12"



rule and the optional 8" rule fits as well.

Every Odd Job and Odd Job XL comes in a protective case with a custom-cut foam liner. They also include one heavy duty American made mechanical pencils, with replacement lead and erasers. The Deluxe Set comes in a molded case like the individuals, or you can get it in a Systainer to stack and lock with your other valuable tools.

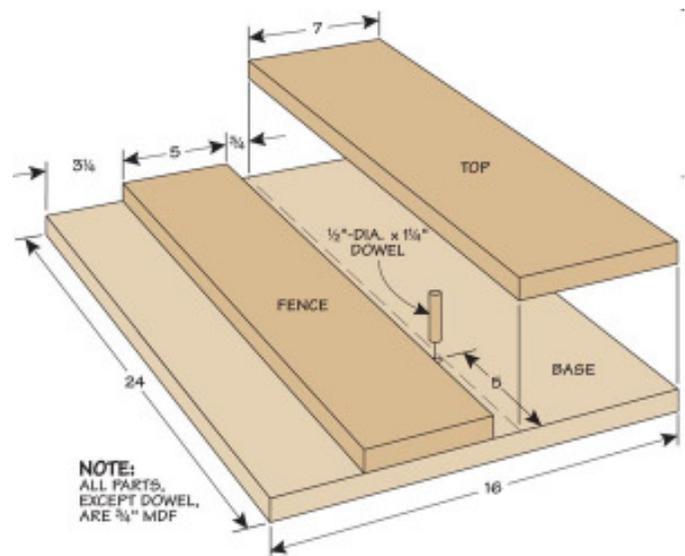
Like all Woodpeckers OneTIME Tools, the Odd Job and Odd Job XL are only made to order, manufactured

in our Strongsville, Ohio, production facility. You can start ordering on Monday October 22, 2018 and delivery is scheduled for January, 2019. See them at www.woodpeck.com.

Shooting Board for Accurate Miters

When it comes to getting gap-free joints, nothing beats using a hand plane and a shooting board. The shooting board supports the workpiece as you trim the end. I've used a shooting board for miter joints. This shooting board is unique because it accommodates a workpiece cut to any angle. It uses a miter gauge as the fence instead of the fixed fence found on a traditional shooting board.

You start with a large piece of MDF to create the bottom layer for the base. Two narrower pieces are glued on top. The first serves as the fence for the plane to ride against. The other piece is spaced away from the first to form a slot for the miter gauge bar. You can use your miter gauge as a spacer to position this second piece while gluing it down. Finally, a dowel acts as a stop to keep the miter gauge



in place during use.

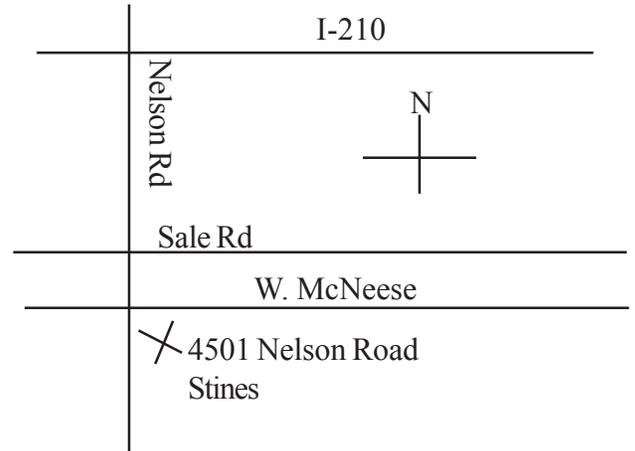
It also works great for squaring up the end of a workpiece. Before trimming the end of a piece, attach an auxiliary fence to the miter gauge. This backs up the cut to prevent tearout as the plane exits the back side of the workpiece. The end of the fence is beveled to match the angle of the workpiece. And to keep the workpiece securely in place, it helps to fasten pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) sandpaper to the fence. After applying a little paste wax to the base and fence, you're ready to put the shooting board to use.

November Meeting Location

We have the wonderful opportunity to meet at the Stines Lake Charles location 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 turn 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.



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