

John Griffith, President
Patrick LaPoint Treasurer

Officers and Directors

Barry Humphus, Editor, George Kuffel
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; George Kuffel: 478-2707; John Marcon: 478-0646; Gary Rock: 433-1679; Eltee Thibodeaux: 436-1997; Dick Trough: 583-2683. Each have years of experience and knowledge.

October Meeting Highlights

The October meeting was once again at the Stines store on Nelson and as always we really appreciate their hospitality.

While Barry Humphus could not be present because of a conference, John Griffith was kind enough to take photos and identify the content.

Show and Tell brought several nice peices begining with what looks like a realy fine and finished guitar by John



and we hope he continues to build more.

Pie Sonnier has built a sweet dump truck for us that



futher demonstrates his skill. Steve Thomas brought two nice items he has recently turned including a remarkable canister with a wood screw top and a “dog bone”

bowl with a lid. This item featured Scotty breed images around the circumfrence.

Gary Rock was clearly very careful in turning a platter with lots of deformations and bark left on the piece. A remarkably delicate turning. J.W. Anderson brought in a great little walnut box, hinged at the top with a handle.



John Griffit announced that we will have a Side Walk Sale in front of the Stine’s store on Saturday, November 19th from 8:00 A.M. until 12 Noon. Please contact John if you will be attending or showing your work. Several folks sold items for the last sale.

Coming Up ... Saturday, November 12 at 9:00 A.M. at the Stine’s Store. Buy something before you leave.



Ripping Right

Ripping a piece on a radial or table saw is always something to which you must pay careful attention. The worst case is of course kick-back or binding in general.

To avoid this, be sure the blade (a sharp one) is parallel to the fence before you rip. Check the alignment between the blade and the fence often (note that radial-arm saws become misaligned more easily than tablesaws). Here are some other guidelines:

Always stand at the infeed side and out of line with the workpiece. Keep your hands there, as well.

Never reach around the blade to pull at the board.

Always use a pushstick to feed and a feather board to steady the work.

For radial-arm saws, set the nose (infeed side) of the guard to just clear the work. Also set the antikickback fingers and spreader at the outfeed side. For table saws, make certain you use a spreader or cerf knife at the outfeed side of the work.

Along the same line, what is the best thing to do if the wood you're ripping does start to bind. In this case, "best" may be a relative term. Here's what I would do if it happens during a cut: Hold the workpiece firmly in place and don't let it move and then turn off the saw.

When the blade stops, remove the wood and correct the problem. Trying to retrieve a bound board with the saw blade moving only worsens the situation. And remember to always check the blade-to-fence alignment after repositioning your fence. It takes just a few seconds to correct for potential binding.

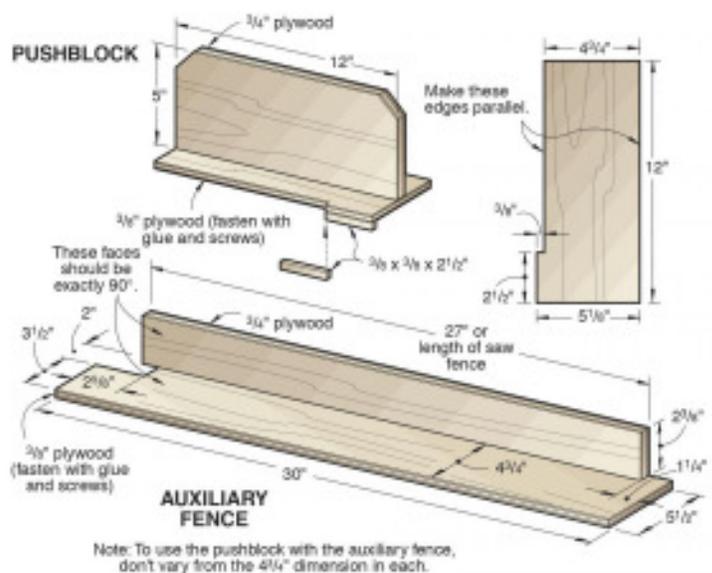
Remember, too, that a binding board might kick back. If you believe it's inevitable, get out of the way! The one great woodworking tragedy is the sacrifice of personal safety for the sake of a piece of wood. No matter what the board costs, it's replaceable. Your fingers (or worse) are not. Safety for the sake of a piece of wood: no matter what the board costs, it's replaceable. Your fingers (or worse) are not.

For ripping, your owner's manual tells you to keep the wider portion of the board between the blade and the fence. That's to encourage you to push that part of the board. Pushing on the part outside the blade can result in kickback. But this requires always readjusting the rip fence. So what is a safe way to make repeated narrow rips without readjusting the fence?

There are several ways. And you can make a number of fixtures to help you, but they mostly require removing the blade guard. Here is one method I like that retains the

blade guard for added safety.

Clamp the auxiliary fence (shown in the drawing below) to the saw's rip fence with C-clamps. Use the pushblock (see Pushblock, shown in drawing, top), resting on a flat part of the auxiliary fence, to do the feeding. With a pushstick in your free hand, guide the board carefully without applying pressure against the blade. Of course, follow all other safety instructions on ripping, too, including using the blade guard and standing out of the line of a possible kickback. Also, use only unwarped, knot-free wood to avoid splintering and binding. And as a rule of thumb, I recommend starting with a board that is less than six rips wide. Stability is harder to maintain with a board wider than that.



Some other ideas for power saw safety include: Do not wear gloves while operating a table saw. There are several reasons, but loss of tactile sense is probably foremost, while a possible loss of gripping power is also close to the top. And some kinds of gloves are loose enough to present an item for the rotating blade to grab.

Keep the floor in front of the saw free of cut-offs and piled up sawdust. Tripping or sliding into a running, or even stopped, saw blade can really create problems, but even slipping and banging your head against the cast iron table can bring on a bad injury.

Wear proper eye and hearing protection. Eyes need to be protected from damage by projectiles--and no, standard eyeglasses will not do the job. Hearing protection is something every woodworker should start with, and continue. Hearing loss creeps up on you without warning, and often without symptoms, until it's too late to reverse the procedure. *Barry Humphus*

More Safety: Tips to Follow

Listen to that little angel on your shoulder. When you hear that voice in the back of your head saying, "this isn't right," listen to it and rethink the operation. Rehearse an unfamiliar cut first, without any spinning steel. If you feel uncomfortable with it, jig-up to make it safer and find another way.

Inspect your tools. Check every tool before you use it, even if you were the last to use it: Look for debris near the cutterhead or blade and any loose or misaligned parts that could become projectiles when you turn on the tool. Keep blades sharp and clean: Forcing a workpiece through a dull and dirty blade increases the risk of a hand slipping (and may cause burns and tearout on your workpiece, as well).

Watch where you stand. Never put your body directly in line with the blade when making rip cuts at the tablesaw or radial arm saw: If the board kicks back, it's coming straight back and at you. Also, never place your pushing hand in direct line with the cutting motion, regardless of the tool.

Tug on the plug When not in use or during blade changes, unplug power tools or, if the tool has one, remove the safety tab from the on/off switch. This prevents both you and shop visitors (young and old) from accidentally turning on a tool. The same principle applies to pneumatic tools: When adding fasteners to a nailer, always disconnect the air hose first.

Stay mentally sharp. Get comfortable, but not too comfortable, with your tools. When a project requires repeated cuts for identical parts, making the same cut 20 times, your mind can wander. Stay focused. Never walk away from a tool when it's running and always wait for the blade to come to a complete stop before reaching for cut-offs near the blade.

Get pushy. Use pushsticks designed with plenty of surface area in contact with the workpiece; they hold the board down while keeping your hand several inches from the blade. A pushstick doesn't have to be pretty, complicated, or expensive. Keep a pushstick at each tool station and always within easy reach.

Keep it clean. If your shop has a layer of sawdust as thick as urethane on a gym floor, that dust presents a slipping hazard. Sweep it up. Also, dispose or store loose cutoffs and tools not in use. Clear off machines before use and make sure there's nothing that may shift into your cutting path or the blade during the machine's operation.

Your Eyes. Protect your eyes with goggles or safety glasses equipped with side shields when using woodworking power tools. Full-face shields give the utmost protection.

For sanding operations, wear a dust mask that makes a tight seal around the nose and mouth.

Your Ears. Wear hearing protection, such as muffs or ear plugs, when tools are running. Whether you are on the gun range or in your shop, wear hearing protection.

Your Clothing. Roll long sleeves above the elbow or wear a short-sleeved shirt. Long hair should be tucked under a cap.

Your Accessories. Remove all jewelry, such as wristwatches, bracelets, or cumbersome rings. Do not wear ties or loose clothing that may catch in moving parts.

Your Shoes. Prevent slipping by wearing shoes with rubber soles.

Four-Jaw Lathe Chucks

With prices ranging from about \$35 up to \$280, you're probably asking yourself why you should buy a four-jaw chuck for your lathe. Here are some of the best reasons:

- Chucks provide quick, accurate, and positive centering of bowl blanks and standard turning squares.
- There's no need to glue a waste block to your turning blank or give up bowl-blank thickness to accommodate the screws needed to fasten it to a faceplate.
- When using a chuck to turn a bowl from green stock, you can rough it out, remove it from the lathe, and then later remount it with greater ease and convenience than with faceplate mounting.
- Accessory chuck jaws are available to hold work as small as a 1/4" -diameter tenon on a miniature vessel and as large as the rim of an 18" -diameter platter.
- You can turn a bowl and finish it inside and out with little or no trace of how it was held on the lathe.

A chuck consists of a body, jaw slides, and jaws. Internal spiral gearing moves all four jaws simultaneously, keeping them equidistant from the center of the chuck body. The jaws operate with twin levers or a single key. Lever action requires either the simultaneous use of both hands, or temporarily locking the lathe spindle to adjust the chuck with one lever. Single-key chucks offer the advantage of one-hand operation without the necessity of locking the lathe spindle. One-hand tightening or loosening leaves the other hand free to control stock when mounting it or a finished piece when removing it from the chuck.

Fall Sidewalk Sale at Stines

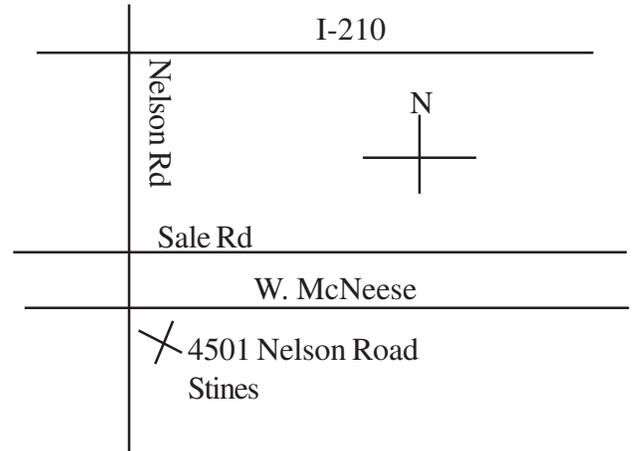
Our Fall Sidewalk Sale this year will be at the front of the Nelson Road Stine's store on 11/19/16 at 8:00. Several members were able to sell items at the one in the Spring. Please let John Griffith know if you will be there with your items.

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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