

# Tooth & Nail

May 2023

## Newsletter of the St. Tammany Woodworkers Guild



### Next Meeting

#### Time and Place

- Tuesday, May 23, 2023
- 7:00 pm
- St. Joseph Abbey Woodshop
- 75476 River Rd
- St. Benedict, LA 70457

Note: The west end of River Rd has been under construction. You might need to enter via Airport Rd.

#### Agenda

- Field trip through Abbey Works to see the entire CNC casket building process in action
- Don't bring chairs or Show 'n Tell this month
- Pay dues \$25 for the year

### Minutes

Tom Gustafson opened the Saturday, April 22, 2023 meeting at 10 am at Brian Stauss's workshop. Tom welcomed new member Rene Coil.

Henry Simon reported that the boat festival is on for the second week in October. He said we need to be making boat parts. Drawings for the parts are on the website. Henry also has patterns for some of the boat parts.

Tom said that next month's meeting will be a demonstration at the Abbey by Rene Coil and Joe Perret on the total process of building caskets.

Tom asked for ideas for additional demonstrations at meetings later in the year. John Fisher suggested that Tom and Pat Robbert do a demonstration on using SketchUp.

Tom asked for woodworking tips and questions. Ron Walker said that a good way to remove rust from cast iron equipment is to use WD-40 with a purple Mirka pad on a sander. Tom said he found safety glasses for \$13 on Amazon that have a bifocal close-up lens. Warren Dufrene said that he had a chunk of wood break off at the lathe and hit his safety shield and mark the replaceable covering. His grandson, who was in the shop was wearing safety goggles. Ron Walker had a piece of wood kick back from his table saw and bruise his arm. The cause of the kick-back was discussed. Tom said that his router threw a piece of wood through the siding into the yard. Brian Stauss cautioned that a chewed-up shaft on a router bit does not hold tightly.

For Show 'n Tell, Warren showed a couple of bowls that he decorated using the Lichtenberg process with 10 kV of electrical discharge. He uses the Conestoga Works equipment. He said he has learned that you get better results by not sanding afterwards. Instead he takes the piece to the sink and runs water over it and uses a tooth brush to remove the soot.

Ron Walker showed several mallets. He made the maple and walnut mallet (several of them) as well as a curly maple one with a leather-wrapped handle. He turned a mallet from Hurricane Ida debris. He received a very interesting mallet with a tapered dovetail joint, that, upon disassembly, bore the date and maker: A.L. Knap 1899.

Tom showed some reserved seating signs he made for his church. He noted that he has been finding more uses for CA glue (super glue) with accelerator for instant curing.

Brian Stauss gave us a tour of his shop. He laid a Rust-Oleum Garage Floor Coating over the concrete floor and is happy with how easy it is to clean. He made the mahogany cabinets, the Norm Abram's clamp rack, and a European workbench.

Brian Stauss also demonstrated the use of a **Chef Ware Kits** Sphere Jig that enables him to turn spheres at the lathe. After a stout cylinder is shaped into an approximate sphere, the jig is placed in the banjo and aligned with the center line, where it allows a cutting tool to sweep in a circular arc. Maximum turning speed is 1000 rpm. The sphere with end knobs is then parted off. Then a Live Center Kit with Cups from **Carter Products** is used to hold the sphere with the end knobs protruding, and the cutting tool in the jig is again swept over the surface, this time to remove the end knobs. Joe Perret suggested that a vacuum chuck might also be used in place of the Carter cups.

Tom adjourned the meeting.

For those who need directions to the St. Joseph Abbey Woodshop, once at the Abbey entrance, take the single-lane bridge into the Abbey, turn right, go past the church, and turn left. Then proceed to

the Woodshop, which is in the second block on the left.

-Pat Robbert, Secretary STWG

## Show 'n Tell







## Demo: Turning a Sphere



President: Tom Gustafson  
Vice-President: John Fisher  
Secretary: Patricia Robbert  
Treasurer: Wayne Thompson

Boat Festival Chair: Henry Simon  
Board Member At-Large: Brian  
Stauss  
Board Member At-Large and  
Web- master: Rene' Maggio

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Website

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