

November 2023 Newsletter of the St. Tammany Woodworkers Guild



The sail table at the Children's Boat Building tent at the 2023 Madisonville Boat Festival.



The boat building stations are ready to jump into action.

Next Meeting

<p>Time and Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023 ● 7:00 pm ● St. Joseph Abbey Woodshop ● 75376 River Rd ● St. Benedict, LA 70457 	<p>Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demo on SketchUp by Tom Gustafson ● Show 'n Tell ● Woodworking Questions, Tips, and Safety
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[Map to the Abbey](#)

Minutes

Tom Gustafson called the October 24 meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the St. Joseph Abbey Woodshop.

Wayne Thompson gave the treasurer's report. The bank balance is \$3863.32, after paying a deposit for the banquet and some boat show expenses. He said donations from the boat festival totaled \$2321.99. The number of boats that were made was 1157. We gave away 85 stroller baby boats, for a total of 1242 boats. He noted that we have done the children's boat building event for 31 years.

Tom said that the date and venue for the annual banquet have been changed in order to better utilize our funds. The banquet will be held at the Maritime Museum, on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be \$15 per person. The menu includes Caesar salad, corn and crab bisque, baked ham, brisket, baked macaroni and cheese, au gratin potatoes, roasted vegetables, traditional bread pudding, and an open bar. You may come early or stay late and tour the museum. We will have the gift exchange again and hope more members will participate. Members are encouraged to make something out of wood and put it in a box and bring it to the event.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Event will take place from 9:30 am to noon or 2 pm at John Slidell Park, 105 Robert Blvd, Slidell. John Fisher is the contact person for our participation in this event. He and Warren Dufrene have cut out the parts for bird houses. We will send out more information about this and ask for volunteers to help the children build the bird houses.

The subject of the boat building project was discussed at length at the board meeting and a unanimous decision was made to discontinue our participation. We are not getting the level of participation and interest from the members that we used to get. We will donate left over boat parts, including the trailer, to the museum. We have had a good run with the children's boat building, but it is time to move on to new projects. The boat festival board, it turns out, is ready for a change as well.

Tom called for woodworking questions, tips, and safety items. Joe Perret reported making a mistake at the lathe by not having the tail stock in place when starting on a platter that was attached with a tenon. He increased the speed to reduce the wobble and the tenon broke off and the wood struck his body.

On a more positive note, Joe shared a clever tip for managing a roll of trash bags by inserting a dowel through the center of the roll and attaching the dowel to a holder.

For Show 'n Tell,

Brian Stauss showed the **Rockler bed rail connection system** (#37928) he used for the rails on his headboard. The headboard is assembled with dowel joints and finished with **General Finishes Arm-R-Seal** oil-based urethane. He also brought in a pepper mill he turned. He turned a cover for the Baptismal font at his church.

Craig Bond built a nativity set with scroll saw figures cut from several different species of hardwood. The building is wired with LED lighting. He also showed a **Seyco Scrollers Drill Press** which drills precise 90 degree, or other angle entry holes. It uses drill bits sized #50 to #80.

Rene' Maggio showed a seam ripper and awl that he turned from cylindrical acrylic blanks for his wife's quilting club. He finished them with **One-Step Plastic Polish**.

Monty Hall showed three bowls that he turned and decorated with an epoxy fill.

Tom Gustafson built an urn for a neighbor. The decorative feature was routed with a CNC machine.

Demonstration

Brian Stauss demonstrated the **JessEm Dowelling Jig**. It is used to create 1/4", 3/8", or 1/2" dowel holes on the end or face of the work piece. It has an adjustable fence with a 1/4" to 3 1/2" reach and indexed adjustment in 1/8" increments. It comes with a registration pin and three sets of bushings for the different sized holes. It has an optional miter-joint guide. The system requires a separate clamp. He purchases bags of hardwood dowel pins on Amazon.

Joe Perret showed his **Dowelmax Dowelling Jig** for comparison. It has a bushing for 3/8" holes, a registration pin, a longer-reach registration pin, spacers, is self-clamping, and has an optional miter-joint guide. It has optional bushings for 1/4" and 1/2" holes. It makes holes on the end of the workpiece and can be unscrewed and turned around to make holes on the face, while self-clamping in both cases.

Brian built a shoe rack and bench for his daughter and son-in-law using Abbey cutoffs and the JessEm Dowelling Jig. The assembly uses dowels and glue. The only hardware is in the bench-lid hinge.

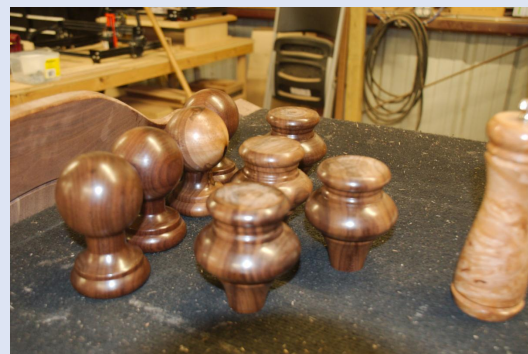
On Saturday, Nov. 4, John Fisher and Dale Mahnke represented the guild at the Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Event in Slidell. They helped children build bird houses from wood parts that Warren Dufrene cut and drilled ahead of time in his shop. The children built twenty bird houses and had a great time.

-Pat Robbert
Secretary STWG

Show 'n Tell



Brian Stauss shows the Rockler bed connection system he uses to attach the rails. The headboard is built using dowel joinery.



Brian turned the finials for the headboards. All are finished with General Finishes Arm-R-Seal, which is an oil-based urethane.



Brian turned a pepper mill.



Brian turned a cover for the Baptismal font at his church.



Craig Bond built a nativity set with scroll saw figures cut from several different species of hardwood.



Here is the set complete with LED lighting.



Craig shows a Seyco Scrollers Drill Press which uses drill bits sized from #50 to #80.



Rene' Maggio shows a seam ripper and awl that he turned for his wife's quilting club.



These are the cylindrical acrylic



Monty Hall show a bowl that he

blanks he used, along with the One-Step Plastic Polish.



Monty explains how he contained the epoxy on the convex surfaces.

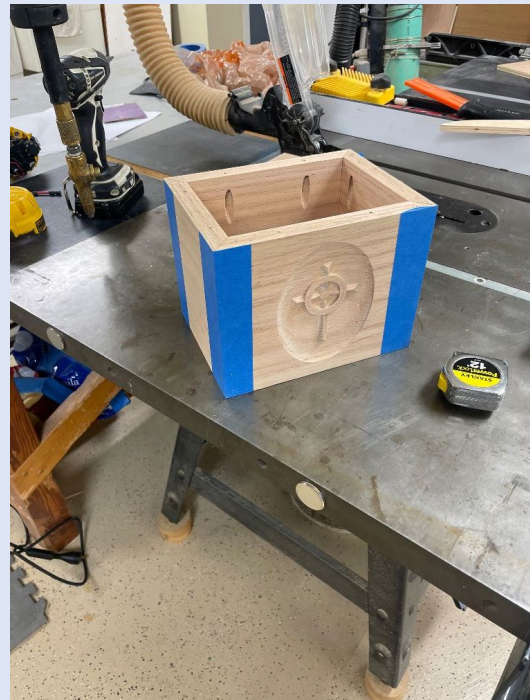
turned and decorated it with an epoxy fill.



Three of Monty's turned bowls.



Tom Gustafson carves the design for his urn with a CNC router.



Tom uses tape as a clamp for the miter joints.



Here is the urn, 1 cu-in per lb, before the top is attached.



The completed urn.

Demonstration



Brian Stauss gave a presentation on the JessEm Dowelling Jig, an improvement over the old one shown.



The jig has an adjustable fence with a 1/4" to 3 1/2" reach and indexed adjustment in 1/8" increments.



It is used to create 1/4", 3/8", or 1/2" dowel holes on the end or face of



The jig comes with a registration pin and three sets of bushings for the

the work piece.



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Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Event



Dale Mahnke assists a little girl with building a birdhouse at the Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Event in Slidell. Dale and John Fisher helped children build birdhouses from wood parts that Warren Dufrene cut and drilled ahead of time in his shop.



John Fisher helps a little girl build her birdhouse. The children built

twenty bird houses and had a great time.

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 Webmaster: Rene' Maggio

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