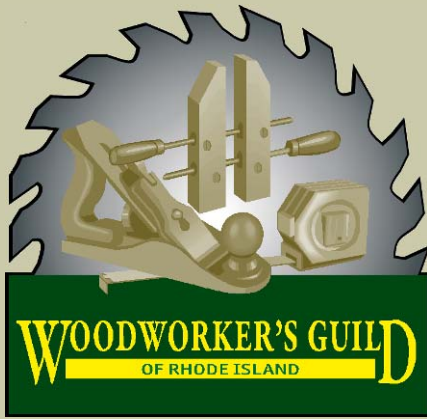


# Shavings

By The  
Woodworker's Guild of Rhode Island  
Volume 15 Issue 4 April 2011  
<http://www.wwgri.org>



"Remember, a chip on the shoulder is a sure sign of wood higher up."

Brigham Young

## Upcoming Events and Announcements

### *Announcements*

- ❖ 2011 Meeting Dates
  - ~April 4<sup>th</sup> - **Rare Monday night meeting**
  - ~May 4th
  - ~June 1st
  - ~August 3rd
  - ~September 7th
  - ~October 5th
  - ~November 2nd
  - ~December 7th

## A Message from the Officers

A group such as ours takes many hands and minds to make it work. It is not too early to start thinking about taking a more active role in the Guild. Nominations start in October and elections in November for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

We also have a lot of needs in the area of committees. In particular we can use contributors for the newsletter, planners for the wood symposium, presentation schedulers, and if you have an idea for a committee, you can initiate your own. In the end the Guild is only as good as the opportunities that we provide to each other to participate, learn and grow. So, jump on board.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS!

Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7 PM, except for the month of July, and are located at the North Scituate Community House, West Greenville Rd, North Scituate, RI 02857

**\*\*\*Due to scheduling April's meeting will be held on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**

Mr. Tom McLaughlin

Tom learned to appreciate the fine arts aspect of woodworking in his teens, but an apprenticeship with 73-year old P.A. "Pug" Moore launched his 17 years of making furniture professionally. Tom's emphasis on combining exceptional materials with traditionally inspired designs has led to his work being acquired by notable museums. Tom has been featured in Traditional Home magazine, The New York Times, and Fine Woodworking magazine, and has received several design awards from the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen.

Guild Officers for 2010-2011			Guild Addresses
President	John Pietrella	<a href="mailto:johnpietrella@gmail.com">johnpietrella@gmail.com</a>	<i>Mailing Address:</i> Woodworker's Guild of RI PO BOX 520 No. Scituate, RI 02857  <i>Web Address:</i> <a href="http://www.wwgri.org">http://www.wwgri.org</a>  <i>Meeting Address:</i> No. Scituate Community House W. Greenville Rd/RI-116 No. Scituate, RI 02857
Vice President	Jeff Arsenault	<a href="mailto:jeffreya223@gmail.com">jeffreya223@gmail.com</a>	
Secretary	Dave Wudyka	<a href="mailto:djwudyka@comcast.net">djwudyka@comcast.net</a>	
Treasurer	Jack Keach	<a href="mailto:keach@cox.net">keach@cox.net</a>	
Past President	Peter Silvestre	<a href="mailto:psilvestre@comcast.net">psilvestre@comcast.net</a>	
Guild Committees and Programs			
Programs Director	Bob Fontenault	<a href="mailto:bfontenault1@cox.net">bfontenault1@cox.net</a>	
Promotions Director	Paul Morrissey	<a href="mailto:pmjr30@verizon.net">pmjr30@verizon.net</a>	
Hospitality	Lynn Hosford	<a href="mailto:tempsleve@cox.net">tempsleve@cox.net</a>	
	David Rinebolt	<a href="mailto:aquent@cox.net">aquent@cox.net</a>	
Newsletter/Website	Henry Allsworth	<a href="mailto:henry@allsworth.com">henry@allsworth.com</a>	

## WWGRI NEWS:

### ❖ Website

The Web site continues to mature and grow. As of this writing we have 38 members signed in, 6 classified ads for items for sale by members. Most recently we have added an option to navigate directly back to the main web site from the social network (upper left corner of social network page). Jim Horn is now our official meeting photographer and we have been posting meeting photos in the gallery after each meeting. Thanks to everyone for your patience during this growing period and please forward any suggestions for improvements to the site to one of the officers (e-mails in the newsletter).

All are reminded that it is a good idea to download a photo of you on the social network. In this way if you have spoken to someone at a meeting but can't remember their name you can find them by their photo and send them a message securely through the social network. In addition feel free to list anything you have for sale in the classified area of the site.

When the site was first started we protected the library and "Share your Shop" behind another member password. We will soon do away with this additional password to make access easier.

### ❖ Membership Dues

It is that time of year again and annual dues can be paid at the meeting. The rate is \$28.00 per year. This year if your dues are not paid by March 31 your name will be removed from the newsletter distribution and your Member Log In will be deleted from the web site. If there is a reason for not having it in by that date please let us know so we can put you on the pending list and retain your member privileges.

### ❖ Trip to Barrett's Lumber

Many members do business with Barrett's which is a lumber mill in Thompson CT. It is located only a ½ hour drive from Scituate where we have our meetings and is worth the trip for anyone interested in buying domestic hardwood, milled lumber. Barrett's is family owned and mills all lumber from logging to end, sawing, and kiln drying and dimensioning the wood on site.

Tentatively we will plan the trip out to Barrett's on the morning of Saturday April 23. If enough people are available we will get Ben Barrett to give us a tour. The plan will be to meet at the parking area across from the No. Scituate Community House where we meet at 9:00AM and whoever is interested can catch a lunch together after our tour.

If you would like to plan to attend send John Pietrella an e-mail at [johnpietrella@comcast.net](mailto:johnpietrella@comcast.net) and be sure to leave a telephone number and best time to call so we can reach you to confirm.

**❖ April Business Agenda Items**

1. Minutes from last meeting
2. Trip to Barrett's on Saturday April 23, 9AM
3. All membership payments due, not paid will be removed from the roles
4. Keeseh Studio moving looking for help and will provide free lessons or shop time in return (separate e-mail sent to all members)
5. June meeting presentation will be a jigs and fixtures demo meeting by members.
6. Symposium will be worked on after Keeseh move to coordinate with co-sponsors.
7. Financial report 53 members, \$2918.15 in treasury. Payment made to Red Dog Studio for Web maintenance.

## March Meeting Recap:

### March Meeting Presentation Summary

Nick Holcomb was our presenter for the March meeting. Nick is an artistic creator of custom guitars. He is a graduate of RISD in art and got interested in Guitar making through the desire to create new and interesting forms and designs for instruments. Nick also attended an intensive school in guitar construction in Atlanta and operates a business space and teaches from Keeseh Studio in Pawtucket Rhode Island. Nick shared his methodology in creating segmented blanks for guitar bodies and necks and shared a presentation of guitars he has created including a "Captain Crunch" themed guitar. Many of the unusual guitars Nick has created include making a door, a window and an Ouija board into guitars.

During the presentation Nick shared some of his adventures in guitar making and gave many suggestions on how to get started and sources for parts and tools. Overall the presentation was an encouragement to anyone thinking they might like to give instrument making a try.



### March Show and Tell



By John Heaney



By Paul Morrissey



By Chris Horn



By Don Horn



By Don Horn

## What a Tool!

By Henry Allsworth – [henry@allsworth.com](mailto:henry@allsworth.com)

Early last Fall, I upgraded my cell phone to a new Android cell phone and loaded some of the Craigslist and EBay applications on the phone. At the time I didn't know what the result would be, but was just looking for a way to find deals sooner than my pre-bed time surfing was yielding. The result is some awesome finds on tools and antiques. This article is the first of several to show off a new or new-to-me tool that I have come across.



The first tool to be reviewed is a wooden Moving Fillister Plane made by Varvill & Sons of York England who were located in at the Ebor Works from 1873 through 1904. I purchased the moving fillister from Patrick Leach of Supertool.com for much less than I could ever get off of EBay. The moving fillister is a plane for cutting rebates in both long grain and end grain. Its primary cutting edge is a skewed iron and is aided by a nicker iron for use on the end grain cuts. The plan also features a brass depth stop and has been inset with boxwood for increased wear resistance.



The plain arrived in great condition and took only a little sharpening and a couple light adjustments and I was off and planning. If you're interested in seeing a video on how these things work, go to YouTube and search for "Bensen and Crannell Moving Fillister Wooden Plane". Next time, I'll review the Stanley #55 I got for 45 bucks...

## Super Sanding Block

By John Heaney

### What's the problem?

I find that sometimes I can't get the flatness or smoothness I want solely with hand planes and scrapers. This is usually because the wood is prone to tearout. Another difficult situation occurs when grain matching boards in a panel force me to have adjacent boards with the grain going in opposite directions. This is very difficult to plane perfectly.

This is where I resort to sanding. Now, I do own a random orbital sander, but I really don't like to use it; especially if I'm after a dead flat surface. Instead, I use a really big sanding block.

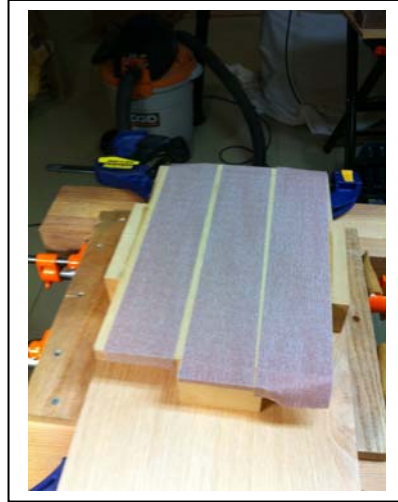
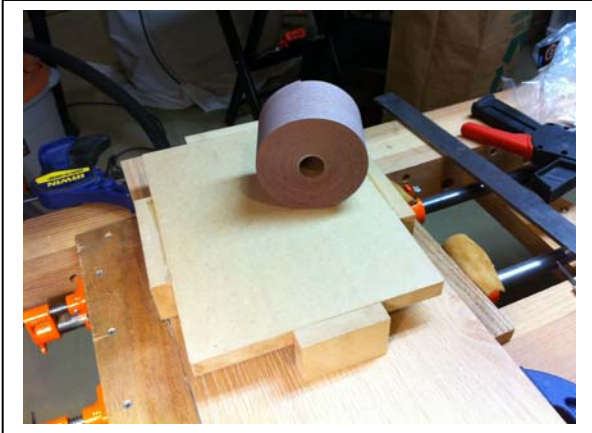
I have a granite block that I picked up at Woodcraft. It's listed as a Granite Surface Plate. Its dimensions are 9x12x2". Its corners are not perfectly square, but it is dead flat. I use it as a foundation for my sharpening station, although I generally do not use sandpaper on it.

My sanding block begins with 3/4" MDF, cut slightly larger than the granite block. I then double stick tape that to the granite block and use a flush trim bit in my router to size the MDF exactly the same size. I did it this way because the granite block is not perfectly rectangular.

Other small blocks of MDF are glued at the center of each of the four edges such that they protrude below the surface by an inch or so. Note that the tops of the four blocks in the picture are slightly below the surface of the large block.

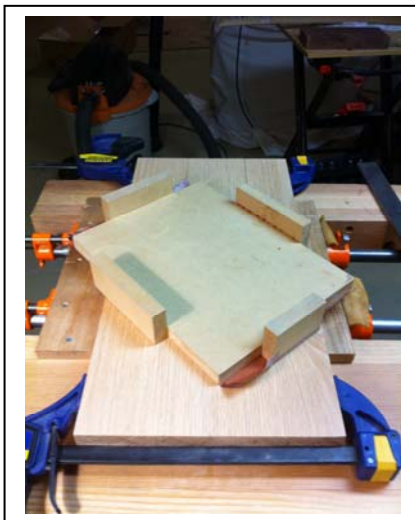


The active ingredient comes from a roll of adhesive-backed sandpaper; in this case made by Norton. I purchased it at an auto parts supply store. I applied three strips of it to the surface of the MDF. I intentionally left gaps between the strips because I think it provides channels for clearing the sawdust.



In this orientation, I find the sanding block is very useful. Typically, I will clamp it in my Jawhorse, but one could as easily clamp it between a couple of bench dogs. It provides a great sanding surface for small parts. It's much easier to bring small parts to the sanding surface than to clamp the small part and attack it with a small sanding block.

For sanding large areas, flip it over. In this orientation, you can now drop the granite block into the holder. If the fit is a little loose, simply insert business cards as needed.



Using the sanding block can be a pretty good workout, depending on your task. Keep in mind, though, that the granite block is providing the nice even downward pressure, so the focus is on just sliding it back and forth. I tend to grab opposing corners of the granite block.

The sandpaper actually lasts a good long while, so I recommend making one for each grit you need to use. An 80 or 120 grit can really take off material fairly quickly, which is great for creating a dead flat surface without tearout. You can then go through as many grits as you like to achieve a surface that's ready for a finish. Note that MDF is pretty hard, so using a fine grit with a surface that isn't flat will leave low areas untouched. Start with a low grit first.

Eventually, the sandpaper will need to be changed. Removing it from the MDF is not difficult, though. Even sandpaper that has been on for a long time comes off without much trouble.

## Off-Cuts:

### ❖ **Woodworking Classes Available at Keeseh Studio – Courses Now Available**

The following classes are available at Keeseh Studio. For full class details go to [http://keeseh.com/?page\\_id=9](http://keeseh.com/?page_id=9) Keeseh Studio is located at 999 Main Street, Suite 701 Pawtucket, RI (248) 877-4425 - <http://www.keesehstudio.com> , email: [info@keesehstudio.com](mailto:info@keesehstudio.com).  
Blog: [www.keesh.com](http://www.keesh.com)  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Keeseh-Studio/356389934172>  
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/keeseh>

## CURRENT COURSES

### **Furniture Design**

Mondays Apr 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9 / 7-930pm / \$215+25 Material Fee / Instructor Asher Dunn

### **Jump Start Woodworking**

Spring - Sat May 28 / 1-5pm / \$75 / Instructor Asher Dunn

### **Small Table Design & Construction**

Tuesdays Apr 5, 12, 19, May 3, 10, 17, 24 / 7-930pm / \$285+60 Material Fee / Instructor John Pietrella

### **Constructing From Technical Drawings**

Sundays May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 / 2-5pm / \$245+40 Material Fee / Instructor John Pietrella

### **Digital Fabrication**

Spring - Tuesdays Apr 5 & 12 / 7-10pm / \$125+25 Material Fee / Instructor Asher Dunn

### **Mold Making**

Winter - Mondays Apr 4, 11, 18 / 7-10pm / \$150+95 Material Fee / Instructor Matt Cavallaro