

# OTOW WOODSHOP NEWS

JULY 2023

## ***Upcoming Shop Activities***

### **Schedule for July**

#### **Woodshop Classes**

The tool education classes will start up  
in mid to late August.

#### **Woodshop Orientations**

Tuesdays July 11th, 18th & Aug 1st - 8am-9am

To attend you must sign up on the  
**shop calendar** posted on this website

#### **Woodshop Cleaning (see page 8)**

Thursdays, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th & Aug 1st - 6pm  
Shop closed during cleaning

#### **Woodshop Board Meeting**

Monday July 17th - 3pm

Have a question?

Use the "Contact Us" page of this website

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*Publishing Team:  
Ed Casper and Susan Yenne*

**Special THANKS**

**to our many volunteers who help  
our shop run  
smoothly and safely  
and to our  
club members and volunteers  
who help keep the shop clean.**

***All woodshop members  
are invited to attend the Board Meetings  
held Monthly  
on the third Monday  
@ 3:00 pm***

***Location - meeting room adjacent to the woodshop***

# **Shop Contents, Order and Arrangement**

## **Shop Rule 14**



Because the shop's 1500 square foot space contains a great number of machines, tools and equipment, the use of the space must be controlled so the most useful, high quality items are held and arranged in an orderly, functional manner. The machine selections and placements, the storage facilities and the range of shop tool contents have evolved over the last 7 or 8 years.

### **Dave Keitz**

Because storage space is now so limited and machine locations impact each other so much, adding or moving things around can have a big effect on the efficiency or effectiveness of using the shop.

To control this situation, Rule 14 was created a couple of years ago.

### **14. Space Allocation.**

*The board must give prior approval for any of the following items that impact the woodshop -:*

- *Actions which alter the space allocation in the shop, including moving or adding machines and other equipment*
- *Actions that add any jigs, hand tools or supplies to the shop inventory*

Some members have made some small jigs and donated them to the shop, but the board was not made aware of them. These will be reviewed and either added to the shop inventory or an attempt will be made to return them to their makers.

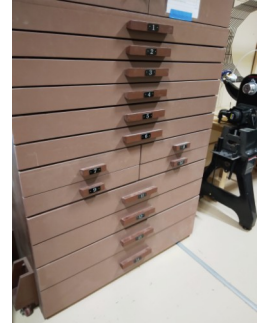
If you want to add a jig or tool or have suggestions on rearrangement of things in the shop, please bring those suggestions to the board for review and agreement .

## ***Three new videos are being emailed and posted on the website.***



### ***1. Lathe Tool Storage*** (of interest to Turners)

The lathe tool storage describes what is in drawers 5 through 14 of the large storage cabinet in the lathe area. This cabinet contains the bulk of our lathe tools and accessories.



***Dave Keitz***

### ***2. New Jig For Resawing*** of stock up to 6 inches high on the table saws

A new Jig that does a good job of resawing stock up to 6 inches high on the table saws versus the bandsaws. This jig with its special tall feather board facilitates a two pass process to resaw slabs of any length down to about one quarter inch thick from stock no taller than 6 inches. The jig produces results more easily and of superior quality than use of the table saw fence alone. The kerf is a little wider than the bandsaw but there is no walking of the blade so one is much more certain to not lose wood in the process.

### ***3. New circle Cutting Jig*** Replacing the two we had in the shop

A new circle cutting jig that is easy to use compared to the previous complicated adjustable jig. This new jig still allows adjusting the radius and cutting

# ***Carving Club*** *by Tom Fuchs*



**Tom**  
**for more information**  
**352-586-1171**

In 1998 my wife and I moved to Williamsburg, Virginia where I became interested in Eighteenth Century American furniture.... sometimes called Chippendale style furniture [ not popular in Florida however]. The construction of the casework seemed to be very basic, but the carved accents looked to me to be impossible and well beyond my skill level.

A few years later I became involved in a project to reconstruct an historic building in Pennsylvania. The project required a great deal of hand carved moldings and accent pieces. Fortunately, around this same time I became acquainted with Roger Hall a master carver and furniture maker. We became good friends and remain so to this day. Roger worked part time at the Hay Cabinet shop in Colonial Williamsburg and was very instrumental in teaching me a lot of the carving techniques of 18th century furniture carving. Through Roger I was introduced to other

master carvers such as Mack Headley the Master Cabinetmaker at Colonial Williamsburg, Kaare Loftheim, Bill Pavlak, Oscar Wells and other master furniture makers.

These people sparked my interest in what is sometimes called architectural carving. I discovered that what looked to be extremely complicated was actually very simple when broken down into the basic elements. For example, one of the classic elements of this style is the "cabriole leg". However, the basic leg is simply shaped by four bandsaw cuts on two adjacent faces. The leg is then just rounded off. It can be further enhanced by the type of foot selected such as a "ball and claw" as



shown in the attached photo. The "knee" section can also be embellished with a shell carving or acanthus foliage which is just a simple relief carving.



I have found this type of carving to be relaxing and very rewarding once one has mastered a few basic skills and a few carving tools. If anyone is interested in this or any other type of carving, I encourage you to stop by the Carving Club.

We meet every Thursday between 3:00 and 5:30 pm in the Arts Room opposite the Woodshop. Or contact Rich Aber [404-558-3855] or Tom Fuchs [352-586-1171] for information.



# ***WOODSHOP RULE FOR THE MONTH***

Only 15 rules and it is expected woodshop members be familiar with all 15

[Click here to view all 15 shop rules](#)

## ***Rule # 7 — Used wood.***

### ***Wood that contains foreign objects***

Used wood that may have nails, screws, staples, etc. embedded should not be worked on the Wood Shop machines.

### ***Warped wood***

Wood that is warped requires special techniques to work it on the machines to avoid personal injuries and damage to the machines.

### ***Removing existing finished***

Only handheld sanders should be used to remove paint, varnishes, glue, or other finishes.

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# Using Shop Jigs to Make Splines for Miter Joints

by John O'Brien

Many of us use miter joints for all kinds of projects such as picture frames and boxes. However, a miter joint is not very strong because of the amount of end grain to end grain contact.

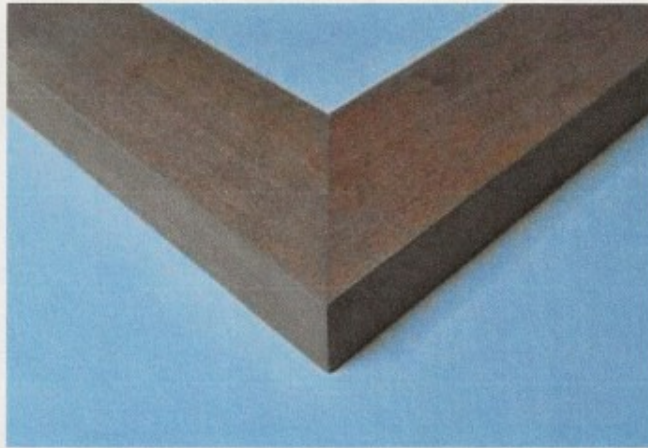


Photo 1 - Miter Joint – Picture Frame Orientation

Therefore, the miter joint must be reinforced somehow and we do this with a spline. A spline is a piece of wood or a biscuit that is glued into a recess made in the joint.



Photo 2 - Spline placed into a groove cut into the miters

There are several orientations where a miter joint can go together as shown below. The shop has a jig that helps to create the groove in your miter joint. To assist with cutting the groove for the picture frame miter joint shown above, you can use this jig.



Photo 3- Spline Jig #1

Simply place the wood against the fence with the miter face down and close the clamp to hold it in place. Adjust the fence so that the table saw blade cuts where you want it (typically in the center of your miter) and slide the jig along the fence.

To cut the spline grooves for this orientation of a miter joint, you must use one of our other jigs.



Photo 4 - Splined Miter Joint used in Boxmaking



In order to safely cut this groove in your miter joint, use the jig in the photo below.



Photo 5 - Spline Jig #2

Simply place your piece of wood with the miter joint face down and close the clamp which will safely hold it in place. Move the fence appropriately so that the groove will be cut where you want it to be. I recommend making some test cuts on a practice piece to be sure the groove is correctly positioned. Then slide the jig along the fence while applying slight pressure towards the fence. Cut all your pieces in this manner. This jig can also be used on the router table if you wish to have a spline that is a different thickness than a table saw blade.

The third orientation of a spline in a miter joint is shown in the photo below. This type of spline is typically decorative and can be made to show off the spline as well as the beauty of the box.



Photo 6 - Spline placed 90 degrees to the Miter

Although this spline is not as strong as the other type, it does offer some reinforcement of the joint and may be appropriate for small boxes. Using a contrasting spline will really show off the joint.



Photo 7 - Box Making Spline Jig #3

To use this jig, first mark where you want your splines. Use some thought to place them accurately along the corners of the top and bottom. Place the glued-up box on the jig and raise the blade enough to cut through both sides of the joint but not through to the inside of the box. Make some test cuts to determine the depth is correct. Then move the fence and jig so that the blade aligns with your marks on the box where you want the splines to go. Make the cut by sliding the jig through the blade while holding the box down into the jig. Rotate the box and cut the other corner. Do this for all 4 corners. To cut another spline into the box, add a spacer between the box and the edge of the jig. **DO NOT MOVE THE FENCE**, as this will cause the saw to cut multiple grooves in the jig which we don't want. Think this all out ahead of time so you can have your spacers ready to go. This jig can also be used on the router table.



Photo 8 - Decorative use of inserting splines

By using contrasting woods or veneers, one can make an ordinary box extraordinary. Placement and the size of the splines can make for a very pleasing joint.

The material for the splines can be just about anything as long as the orientation of the grain opposes that of the groove it is being placed into. Set up the table saw, or band saw to cut the splines. The spline should fit snugly into place yet freely move in and out without falling out of the joint. When glue is applied, the spline will swell and will not be able to be moved so be sure it is gently hammered home on both edges. After an hour, the excess splines can be cut off with a bandsaw or by hand. The splines can then be hand planed smooth with the sides or sanded smooth.

All 3 of the spline jigs are on the shelf behind the drill presses.

John O'Brien



***Would you like to share  
a project or tip of yours  
with the members?***

***See next page***

## ***Sharing a project or tip of yours with the members?***

***A recent wood shop survey indicated woodshop members  
would be willing to share project information and  
tips to shop members.***

***For those willing to share  
we offer the following suggested format for each:***

### ***For Project Info:***

If possible - try to keep your article to two or three pages.

If you have them - pictures throughout the project would be great to include.

Discuss any issues during the process - “good”, “bad” and “ugly”

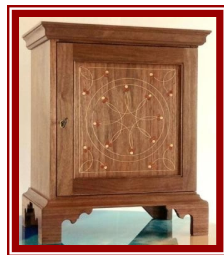
Picture of final project and any final thoughts.

### ***For Woodworking tips:***

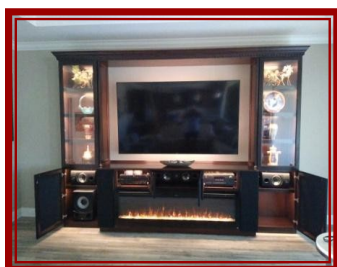
Try to keep you article to three pages maximum.

Along with your text - As the old saying goes - “pictures are worth a 1000 words”

***Sample of projects submitted by members in previous issues of the WOODSHOP***



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*For more information  
about the shop*

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[www.otowwoodshop.com](http://www.otowwoodshop.com)*

*questions/comments/  
suggested topics/ projects etc  
Use the "Comments" page of the shops website  
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