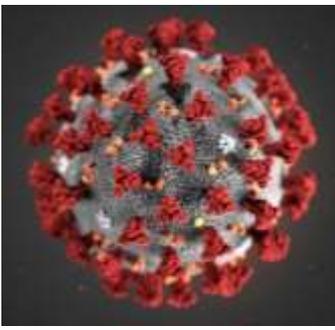


Crosscut



◀ Visualisation of the coronavirus showing the characteristic crown structure

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No meetings are scheduled until further notice due to the national SARS-CoV-2 virus shutdown.

Please keep in touch via email and WhatsApp for developments.

News

Club Notices / Committee Matters

Renaming of Wits Woodworking Association?

Only one suggestion was received from Winston Klein:

- *The Chapel for The Divine Upliftment of Fallen Trees*

After some Googling and substitutions here are few more suggestions:

- *Eternal Sacred Order of the Wild Olive* (For Herman who does a lot of work in Wild Olive)
- *Universal Foundation for Better Woodworking*
- *Ancient Teachings of the Masters* (For Bobby who is doing sterling work teaching beginners)
- *Association for Research and Enlightenment in Wood* (for the editor of Crosscut who writes the highbrow stuff)
- *Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Woodworkers* (for those of us into all things such as turning, cabinet making, carpentry, carving, etc.)
- *New Reformed Orthodox Order of the Workers in Wood* (if you are embracing new technologies such as CNC – for David Smith)

The rest of you have no imagination!

Wine Raffle

The wine raffle draw took place on Wednesday, 17th June 2020 at Albertskroon. The winner was Peter Bourne (right) who generously bought five tickets. 124 tickets were sold, raising R12400- for the club. Thanks to the 49 members and friends and family, who bought tickets to support the club. Special thanks must go in particular to Eugene (left), who donated the wine and organised the raffle.

(Thanks to Gray for the picture.)



GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Greg Hirschson has opened a retail shop and is inviting members to sell their creations through the shop. Should you be interested please contact Greg on 083 450 8025 or greg.capewindowsgroup@absamail.co.za This is a truly great opportunity to earn extra cash! Greg has also suggested that you make a donation to WWA funds for every item sold.

MEMBERSHIP

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions are overdue with the deadline for payments being 31 JULY 2020.

Regular Events:

These have all been suspended for the duration of the lockdown. Please monitor your emails for notice of when they will be resumed.

Members' Work

(Taken from Alistair's email newsletter.)

Douw's Latest 170 Hour Project!



Barry Ripping 10 Planks by Hand - He needs a 450mm Bandsaw!!!!

- Roy Gibbs' Pyrography Enhanced Bowls



Of Dry Rot and Laminating

Trevor Pope

Fungal decay of wood usually stops when the moisture content drops below about 16%, which is why it is important to dry wood promptly after it has been harvested. However, when wood is outside and periodically gets wet, it is possible for fungal growth to restart and eventually the wood is compromised. This is so-called dry rot, where the wood appears dry, but is wet enough internally for the fungus to continue growing.

I have seen a number of cases of this over the years, most recently, on our garage door. The door is quite old – it was looking a bit worn when we moved in 12 years ago, so it hasn't done too badly.

On the right, you can see a view of the bottom of the door which is in the open position, showing the rotten bottom member. The frame of the door is made from laminated pine, 60 x 80mm. Over many years, moisture has permeated the bottom member from the face side. The rest of the door is sound, so I decided to make a new bottom member.



One defence against dry rot is wood preservatives, such as CCA, which make the wood too toxic for the fungi to grow. To prevent a recurrence, I made the new bottom member from CCA treated pine, that I laminated myself. CCA treated pine is available in 38 and 50mm nominal thicknesses, so I picked a plank of 38mm x 225mm x 3.6m to start with. I

know from experience, that the CCA pine you buy is not usually very dry, so you can expect some movement as it dries. At the yard, I picked out the straightest piece I could see, and even that was not as straight as I would have liked.

I ripped the plank into two pieces of 85mm wide with the intention of gluing them together towards a final size of 60 x 80. To do this, I hand planed a straight edge using a chalk line to set it out. Then I used my track saw with a home-made ripping guide to follow the straight edge. To laminate the two pieces, I planed two faces flat to make a glue surface. This was done with a scrub plane (see right) and a No6 jointer.



I couldn't use my planer thicknesser, as the bed is only about a meter long and the length of the laminated member is just under 3.6m. Pine is easy to work, and most of the time was spent adjusting and fitting the two pieces together. There was some twist in the two boards, but I was able to fit them together to make a glued-up size of about 70 x 85mm. This oversize allowed me plane it down to the final 60 x 80mm size. Using a chalk line, a straight edge and winding sticks I was able get down to the final size within a couple of millimetres, except at one end. There the twist was too much, so I laminated an extra piece of about 6mm thick onto the side and then planed it flush. I did fill an 80-litre bin with the shavings afterwards.

Then, to match the existing vertical members, I cut finger joints to fit. The left-hand joint was not very straight, due to difficulties I was having with a rip-filed tenon saw. This didn't matter in the end, as the wood in the vertical members was also rather soft, so the joint went together OK. (See picture on the right.)

(I had previously refilled and reset the tenon saw for rip teeth from the standard crosscut. But the saw-set didn't work properly and only one side was set, so it wouldn't cut straight. Once I reset the saw, it cut straight, so the joint on the other end was straight.)

Fitting the new member was straight forward, except some of the wood at the bottom of the vertical members was compromised, so I had to add in some extra bits as well. The picture below shows an end view of the installed bottom member. The door has a steel frame that internally braces the wooden frame, so I wasn't too worried about the structural integrity of the lap joint.

Due to the size of the work, most the work was done using hand tools, and basic layout techniques with a chalk-line, straight edge, squares, and winding sticks. This took a bit longer, and required more physical effort, but for a once-off job, I thought this was the best approach.

