



Cedar Valley Woodworkers

Cedar Valley Woodworkers Association

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Dovetail Express

Dovetail Express By Pat Vollbrecht



Having been retired for seven years now, I'm able to investigate and learn new woodworking techniques and proficiencies that I've never tried before, as I'm sure each of you enjoys as well. I look forward to each day and the possibilities that it will bring.

Many of you know that as a retired firefighter, I have had many opportunities in my life away from my actual choice of occupation. Because of a work schedule of 24 hours on duty and 48 hours off duty, I worked at various businesses away from the fire department through out my 34 years. I had the opportunity to be employed at a funeral home here in Waterloo for 5 1/2 years. To many of you, that may seem morbid, but believe it or not it wasn't. Although many of us do not want to think about this, it is a natural part of life that can not be avoided. In reality, the business is for the living to honor and cherish the memories of the deceased. While working simultaneously at the fire department, injury and death were aspects that could not be avoided. So it was a natural transition to be able to offer what skills I possessed and apply them in the funeral service. It allowed me to be and work with the public in their time of need.

This leads me to the point of this article. I am designing a project on Google's SketchUp. It is a **FREE** CAD (computer aided design) 3 dimensional drafting program. If you have a computer, this

FREE program can be downloaded at <http://sketchup.google.com/download.html>. (push the control key and select the above link to go to the site) or ((copy and past it into your web browser)) Popular Woodworking and Fine Woodworking have nothing but praise about the program . The learning curve is a little steep, but they provide wonderful tutorials to learn the program. With a little time and effort, you too can look and be professional at this too. With the winter that we're having this year, this would be a great time to stay warm inside the house and plan for whatever your mind can come up with.

Now your probably wondering why I would spend this much time and effort to take you to the point in this newsletter. Ever since Pope John Paul died several months ago, I have been intrigued with the casket that he was buried in. If you remember, the casket was a simple wooden casket in the old world design and had through dovetails at all corners. The shape and the dovetails have enamored me with design and construction details for several months. So, I researched the internet and have found overall measurements and pictures to inspire me into designing my own casket with the SketchUp program from Google. I know what your thinking, why would he do such a morbid thing as that? No, I'm not sick and I have hope and faith that I'll be able to store it in the attic of my garage for many years. For those

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No ads this month

The Oak Bulletin Board

Scroll saw club meeting Thursday March 27th 6:30 pm at for the Arts. 225 Commercial Street, Waterloo, Art Mehman's shop. His shop is at 1205 Fairview Avenue, IA. Tuesday March 11th at 6:30pm. It will be a table saw tune-up presentation by Tom Bussey.

Remember:

SAFETY FIRST!!! in the shop.

The next Executive Board meeting will be Wednesday March 19th at 7:00pm. At Dick Buchanan's home. 2213 Yorkshire Dr., Cedar Falls.

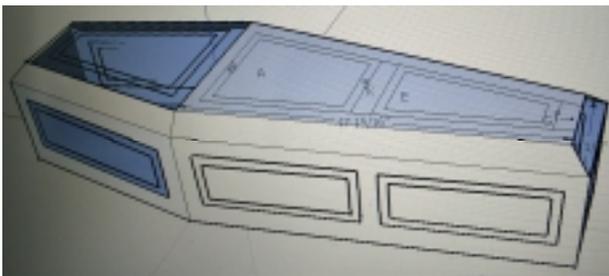
The regular CVWA Meeting at the Waterloo Center

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

If a meeting needs to be canceled due to weather, Pat will contact KWVL- TV and KXEL and KWLO radio. Pat will also send an e-mail to all members who have e-mail and the board will call those without email. If the Waterloo and Cedar Falls Schools are closing early, the wood club meeting will be canceled.

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of you that would be shocked, if I brought it to the Christmas Party for show and tell, be assured that I will not gross you out by doing that. My design is a little different than the Pope's, but similar.



The

SketchUp program lets you do accurate measurements and detail that can be printed. I've yet to find the ability to print a cut list for all the different parts, but if anyone knows of that aspect, let me know. I haven't put the details of the dovetail corners yet into the design and I don't think I will, but I have included the correct dimensions for the cutting and construction of the casket.

You all know that when I mess up on a particular aspect of construction, I just throw it away and start over with a new piece of wood. Occasionally I'll berate myself on not thinking it through enough or

only measuring once when I should have measured twice. But I eventually get it done so that is presentable to the public.

As you were all told at February's meeting, your executive board has set up a tour for Trappist's Caskets near Dubuque for April 18th, 2008. It is The Rule of St. Benedict. These are genuine monk-made caskets with loving hands and prayer put into each one. It should be a very informative and interesting tour for the club. The website for Trappist Caskets is: <http://www.trappistcaskets.com/>.

Even though I'm not in the cold weather as most of you are, I'm in sunny and warm California at this time, I'm thinking about you and getting back to my shop to get my hands in the sawdust again.

Show and Tell



Left: Boxes by Mark Dutton

Right: Graylee's plaque and rocking horse



Left: Jeanine's Shaker box



Left: Tray and baskets by Jerry Krug
Bottom left: Wooden fruit by Richard Haggin
Bottom right: Cabinets by Bob Colby



Making a Shaker Box with Mark Dutton



Above: Start with one of these and a top



Left: Squeeze together and.....

Voila!



Cedar Valley Woodworkers Association- February 12, 2008 Club Meeting Minutes

The February meeting was called to order by Jeannine Begalske at 6:30 p.m. A welcome was given to the 46 members present, a new member- Jeff Coen and guest for the night- Kurt Wollin. There were two new members last month who we would like to welcome also. They were Dave Mixdorf and Tom Duffy. Welcome to everyone! Acting President for this meeting, Jeannine Begalske asked all members to **turn off cell phones** or put them on vibrate in consideration of the other attendees at the meeting. This is a reminder that the Northeast Iowa Food Bank will be collecting bowls for the **Empty Bowl Fund Raiser** at our March meeting. There will also be an auction, so let's really support this organization and show what the CVWA can make!! Kevin Bierman reminded us of the **Cedar Rapids Turning Club** coming up on Thursday, February 14th. If you have paid your dues, please remember to pick your **membership card** from Paul Bailey. Bill Neal is in charge of planning a **Swap Meet** in the fall. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Bill. **Don and Barb Gurney** were presented with certificates of appreciation for their work in the club. Thanks for all you have done!! Jeannine will be updating the club members on the **501 C3 status**. We should be hearing in 60 days or so if we qualify. A \$5.00 raffle ticket could get you (2) 30" Bessey Clamps. The Club will be raffling off the clamps when (20) tickets have been sold. The proceeds from the raffle will go toward the tool fund for Christmas Tool Giveaway. Also, this was the first time we have offered \$25.00 Gift Certificates for the Raffle Exchange. These certificates are from Menards-Lowe's and Fine Woodworking Store in Cedar Rapids. This is on a trial basis to see how they go over. As always, there will also be other fine tools to choose from for the Raffle. **Harold Marrow** won this month and chose a combination square and **Carl Tunwall** was the lucky tape measure winner. Congrats guys. Kevin Bierman mentioned that Cedar Rapids will be starting a Woodworkers Club. Reed Craft was looking for someone that might be interested in doing a **service project**- someone willing to make a train approximately 3 feet by 11 feet to put up on a wall

where children will be playing. Materials will be supplied. Please contact Reed Craft. **Show and Tell** for February are: Scroll saw plaque-Garylee Thurm, Rocking Horse- Garylee Thurm, Wooden fruit-Richard Haggin, Shaker Boxes- Mark Dutton, Baskets, Bowls and Platter- Jerry Krug, Round Shaker box- Jeannine Begalske, and pictures of kitchen cabinets- Bob Colby. Thanks to the members who brought treats for our meeting- Roger Butts, Larry Knavel, Del Schaffer, Bill Neal, and Dave Turner. The **CVWA board meeting** will be held February 20, 2008 at Dick Buchanan's home at 7:00 p.m. Chip Schmidt will be our board meeting volunteer. Thanks Chip for volunteering- we appreciate it. Next month, our demonstration will be **Table Saw tune up** by Tom Bussey. Our presentation for this meeting was **Making Shaker Boxes** with Mark Dutton. A name was drawn for a **Shaker Box Kit**. The lucky winner was Paul Bailey. Thanks Mark for supplying the grand prize.!

Respectfully Submitted: Wanda Bailey- Secretary

I am not too sure what happen to the board meeting minutes.

Please remember to patronize our Sponsors!



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319-232-1923
PatV35@mchsi.com

1st Vice President

Reed Craft or Jeanine Begalske

2nd Vice President

Reed Craft or Jeanine Begalske

Secretary

Wanda Bailey
319-239-9182
wbailey@cfu.net

Treasurer

Paul Bailey
319-239-9180
pbailey@cfu.net

Appointed Committee Members

Committee Member

Robert Hewlitt
319-266-8622
bdhewlitt@aol.com

Committee Member

Jeanine Begalske
563-422-5513
Taxwagon@fbx.com

Committee Member

Dennis Gilroy
319-277-3013
d.s.gilroy@cfu.net

Club photographer

John Mason
563-425-5753
masonj@uiu.edu

Refreshment Chairman

Bob Anderson
319-232-9813
wtoys@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Martin Chin
319-833-7284
martin.chin@uni.edu

Martin Chin
2020 Wembley Rd
Waterloo IA 50701