



TWA Newsletter

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 16, 7:00 pm

Location: Zoom videoconference; use the link,
meeting ID and password below to join.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5360381396?
pwd=OERZOEhLVmlJT2tCclFkaE9ydGVkdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5360381396?pwd=OERZOEhLVmlJT2tCclFkaE9ydGVkdz09)

Meeting ID: 536 038 1396

Password: 465227

Speaker: Hugh Donohue

Topic: Urn and Flag Case projects

Hugh Donohue has been a TWA member since the early 2010's. He will outline various ways to make projects that may be of use for veterans and their families, or as gifts for them, or for your own use. He will discuss the following projects:

1. Burial urns, either for friends and family or for organizations that may need them for veteran funerals
2. Flag cases for display of burial or internment flags
3. Challenge coin display stands

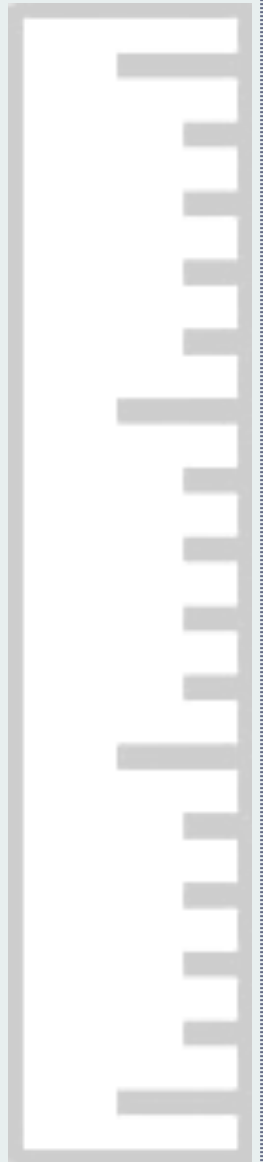
Hugh currently works part-time as a Medical Director for Blue Cross, and is a retired-from-clinical-practice surgeon, as well as a retired army officer. He brings his undergraduate degree and training in engineering, along with his desire to solve problems and to work with his hands to develop his woodworking hobby. He started his woodworking journey shortly before joining TWA, at about the same time he became interested in woodworking as a creative outlet.

Hugh's main goals with his woodworking are to make furniture for home and family, gifts for grandchildren, and to tinker with his garage workshop to make it more productive, with better storage, jigs and other enhancements.

Host: Mark Firley

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TWA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—JANUARY 19, 2021

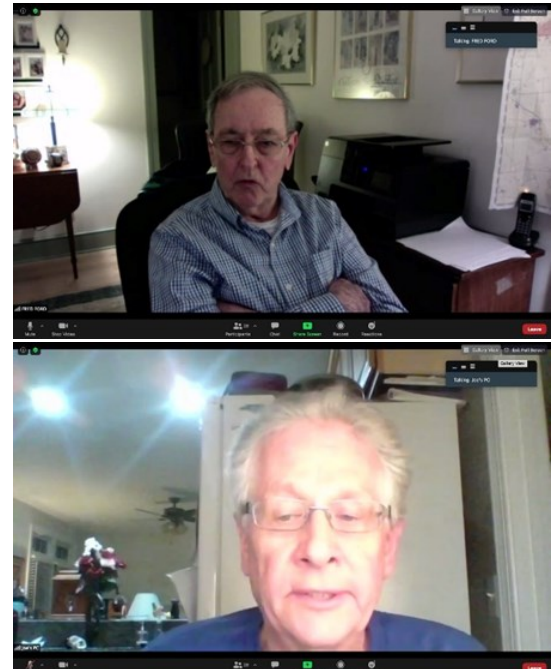
(meeting minutes: James Sapp)

Roy Brookhart opened the general meeting conducted using Zoom virtual technology. There were 29 members in attendance.

Fred Ford recapped last year's Toys for Tots record-breaking number of toys produced by the various crews. Fred is currently planning 2021 activities using pre-Covid work processes. He is currently contacting new members to get them involved with TFT. There are 78 slots to be filled this year. He is also looking for a new crew leader replacement. If interested, please

contact Fred. Joe Sabo is planning to hold the Klingspor workshop on December 4th, assuming that the Covid vaccine will have brought about more normal conditions. The fall-back course of action will be to use the 2020 work process. More will be known as the year progresses.

At the end of the meeting, we were reminded that the February meeting will feature Hugh Donahue, who will discuss his experiences making funeral urns and flag boxes.



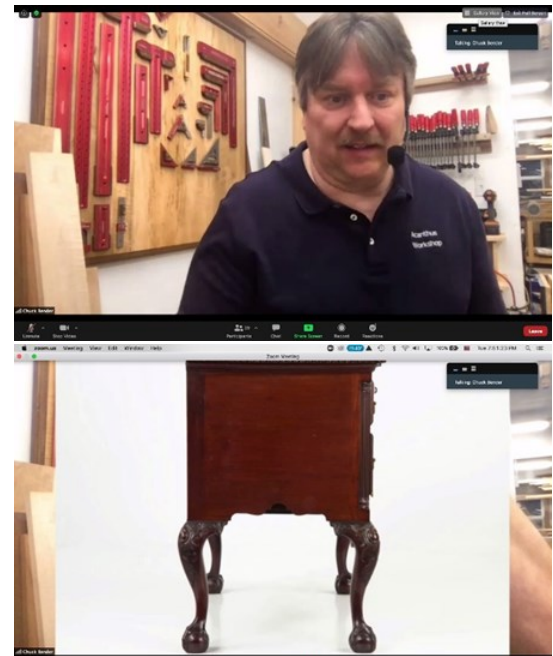
Fred and Joe discuss plans for this year's Toys for Tots workshops (photos: Mark Firley)

17TH & 18TH CENTURY WOODWORKING - EVOLUTION OF WOODWORKING TECHNIQUES

(meeting minutes: James Sapp)

The featured speaker, Chuck Bender, is one of the most highly regarded furniture makers in the country and the founder of the Acanthus Workshop. He began woodworking at the age of 12, making pieces of furniture for friends and family. Chuck studied under Werner Duerr at the Central Chester County Vocational Technical School in Pennsylvania. The students were instructed to blend hand tool use with power tools. Chuck teaches that same philosophy today. After high school, Chuck began working for other cabinet makers to hone his skills. Having spent nearly ten years working with Irion Company Furnituremakers, working his way up to head of case and chair production, Chuck decided to branch off on his own. Since 1991 Chuck has built a reputation for

making the highest quality 18th Century furniture. In 2007, Chuck started the Acanthus Workshop (a school for avocational woodworkers). Also, in 2007, he began sharing his knowledge publicly by writing articles for Popular Woodworking Magazine and teaching skill-driven classes at woodworking shows across the country. In 2013, Chuck joined the staff of Popular Woodworking Magazine as Senior Editor but left nearly two years later to start an online magazine. Realizing his true passion resides in the workshop, either building furniture or teaching others, he exited the online venture and re-established himself as a teacher and furniture maker in 2017. His current shop/



Chuck Bender discusses 18th century furniture (photos: Mark Firley)

school is located in Jim Thorpe, PA, which is near the Pocono Mountains.

17TH & 18TH CENTURY WOODWORKING - EVOLUTION OF WOODWORKING TECHNIQUES—CONTINUED

(meeting minutes: James Sapp)

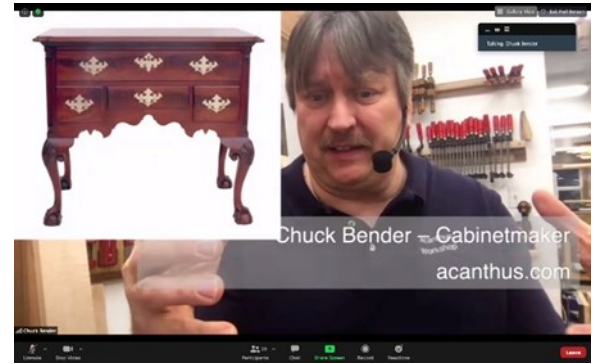
Chuck's prefers making 18th century furniture reproductions because of the beauty, challenge and complexity of this genre of furniture. He noted that originally 18th century furniture went into homes and places where large temperature changes often occurred due to poor heating systems of the times. Cooling was done by ventilation provided by wind supplied by nature. With today's modern heating and cooling systems, producing 18th century furniture offers different challenges than originally faced by early furniture makers. He explained that wood movement is primarily affected by the amount of moisture in the surrounding air or humidity. So, in this presentation, Chuck highlighted some of the things he has done to adapt the design and construction of 18th century to modern times.

First, he presented his method of attaching top panels to furniture pieces such as a low boy table. Originally these tops were secured with glue blocks to the underside of the top and the aprons. Chuck's revision to this method was to modify the glue block by making it into two separate pieces. One piece has a rabbeted edge while the other is a rectangular block that matches the size of rabbet.

One leg of the rabbeted block (ell-shaped when looking at the end) is glued to the top panel. The other rectangular block is glued to the apron at its top edge. When assembled the block appears as a single block when viewed from underneath the table top. One of the meeting members suggested naming these Bender Blocks.

Chuck went on to describe how he modified making the curved back splats for his Chippendale chairs. Rather making the splat out of a single $\frac{3}{4}$ " thickness of wood and shaping and carving it down to the final $\frac{1}{2}$ " thickness, he chooses to make a $\frac{1}{2}$ " laminated splat by bending on a form to achieve the curvature needed for the splat. This technique reduces the tendency of splitting and cracking that a single thickness splat might undergo due to stresses and changing humidity conditions.

Wrapping up his presentation, Chuck showed the members his shop. It's roughly 1300 to 1400 square feet. Besides carrying out his work, Chuck holds courses for 3 to 5 individuals at various times of the year. Further information may be found on Chuck's website: <https://acanthus.com>. Chuck said he welcomes questions through his email address cbender@acanthus.com.



Chuck described his methods for constructing 18th century furniture, including the use of glue blocks (photos: Mark Firley)

UPCOMING MEETING

Meeting Topic: Sanding for Woodturning Bowls

Speaker: Meryl Valnes

Date: Tuesday, March 16

The March speaker is Klingspor's own Meryl Valnes, who will be discussing his methods for sanding bowls on the lathe. Mr. Valnes is a turner, chip carver and owner of Norwegian Woodworks. He will discuss the different types of sandpapers that he uses and will do a demonstration on his sanding process. He will sand the inside of a bowl and then turn it around and sand the outside of the bowl. There will be opportunities during and after the demonstration to ask questions.

Meryl first started woodworking in high school shop in 1968. Although his main passions are wood turning and chip carving, he also likes to build Arts and Crafts furniture. In the early 90s he started turning bowls. He now turns mostly utilitarian items, but also artistic bowls. He sells his turnings on line, and in a couple of galleries. He teaches woodturning at Klingspor, where he has worked since 2014. When not working at Klingspor, he spends a lot of time in the shop, and of course as much time as he can spoiling his two granddaughters.

TREASURER'S REPORT (DECEMBER)

Beginning Balance: \$8,781.95

Income: \$345.00

Expense: \$12.86

Ending Balance: \$9,114.09

Does not include Petty Cash of \$86.00

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send newsletter content for future newsletters to Fred Ford (fredford22@ gmail.com) or Karin Pihel (karin.pihel@ gmail.com).

Contributions for each newsletter are due by the last day of the previous month.

MENTORS

Mentor	Service/Skill Offered	Phone Number	Email Address
Bernie Bogdon	Relief Carving	(919) 850-0739	sabile_27615@yahoo.com
Hugh Fish	Chairs, Joinery, Machinery & Power Tools, Mantles, Routers, Tables and TV Cabinets, Turning	(919) 467-5696	hughpatfish@yahoo.com
John Margeson	Baby Furniture, Beds, Bookcase, Chairs, Chest, Decks, Tables	(919) 876-3476	jmalice@bellsouth.net
Mike Resar	Baby furniture, Beds, Bookcase, Cabinets, Chest, Drafting, Dressers, Tables, TV Cabinets	(919) 876-1664	atwaterla@ncleg.net
Allen Campbell	Simple inlay, Staining/dyeing, Pen turning, Cabriole legs	(919) 772-4551	aacjr@nc.rr.com
Cecil Raynor	Joinery, Finishing, Tables, Chairs	(919) 815-9155	cecil_raynor@yahoo.com
Amy Dowden James Sapp	Google SketchUp	(919) 932-6252 (919) 586-7280	amydowden1@gmail.com james.b.sapp@gmail.com
Ken Serdar	CNC woodworking		ken.serdar@gmail.com

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Vice President
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At Large Board Member
At-Large Board Member
At-Large Board Member

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Jack Kite
Leon Harkins
Dick Raup
Joe Sabo

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Toys-for-Tots Committee

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Mentor Committee
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Raffle Committee
TWA Duties and Responsibilities Editor

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Mark Firley - Judy Sanwald, Fred Ford, Terry Tenhouse, Allen Campbell, Jeff Leimberger, Terry Brown, Hal Brown, Mike Payst, Bob Nauman, Bob Andrews, Jerry Rhoades

Fred Ford/Cecil Raynor — Pete Hodges, Bob Gabor, Terry Tenhouse, Hugh Fish and Judy Sanwald, Jim Rhodes, Mark Firley, Les Hall, Joe Sabo, Alex Knittel, Bill Burton, Bob Guenther; Bob Andrews, Ken Serdar, Roy Brookhart, Tom Hegele

Fred Ford
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Jerry Rhoades
Roy Brookhart
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Paul Holzworth
Allen Campbell
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Tom Revelle - Leon Abbas, James Chamberlain
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