



# WOOD FORUM

Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

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September 2018

## PRACTICAL FURNITURE MAKING



The much-anticipated evening presentation by woodworker, farmer, and educator Garrett Hack is finally arriving. Note that our next meeting has been moved from the traditional first Tuesday of the month. This month we will meet on

**Friday, September 14,  
7pm**

**180 Studios  
Todd Road, Santa Rosa.**





# SCWA Summer Barbecue

August 11, 2018

by Joe Scannell

Program Chair Don Jereb has once again confirmed what we already knew, that he and his lovely bride Ann really know how to throw a party. The annual summer get-together was enjoyed by a large turnout of SCWA members, including several new faces. Welcome aboard! The food was all inviting and tasty, the drinks welcome in the warm afternoon, and the conversation was lively and interesting. Good show and well done to all who participated.



Walt Doll on grill duty



Photos by Jose Cuervo & Bob Roudman





*Pritesh and Candice*



*Chris and Karin*



*Ann and her bees*



*Sarah*



*Rod, Art, Cathy, Larry*





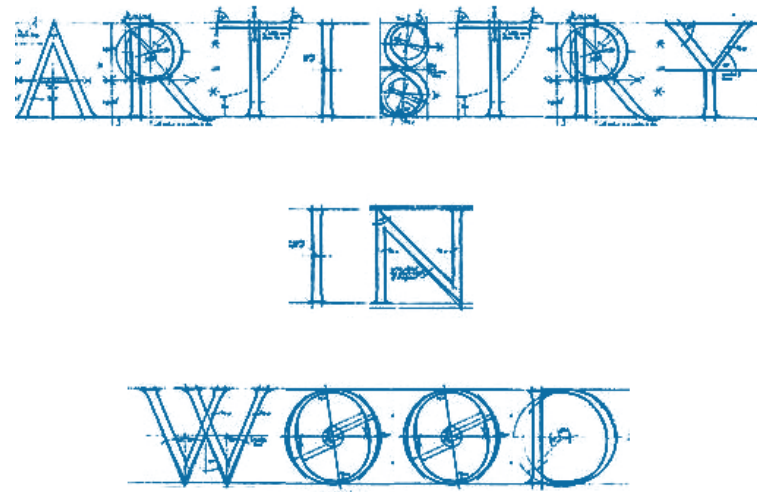
*Life is good!*







*Usu Kasumi Dana* by Thomas Vogel



*Liquid Wood* by John Cobb

...coming soon to the Sonoma County Museum



*Aged to Perfection* by John Cobb



*Demilune Table* by Thomas Stockton

# Old Dog, New Trick

by Joe Scannell

I use an older Powermatic tablesaw in my shop, and over the years a few shortcomings have become apparent. I like the fence for its accuracy, but sometimes thin stock such as 1/8" plywood will get stuck under the HDPE fence face during a rip cut. Occasionally I need a sacrificial fence to partially bury the blade in, as in cutting rabbets or chamfering an edge. The usual solution is to clamp a scrap board to the fence and go to work, but often the clamps will be in the way, or they don't keep the fence perpendicular.

I recently came across an article by Bob Van Dyke, originally published in *Fine Woodworking* in January 2013. In it, he described his solution to the sacrificial fence idea, and it's a good one.

It looked like it might be a useful addition to my tablesaw, but I had no idea how useful it would be. I was mainly interested in the sacrificial

fence aspect of it, and planned on taking it on and off as needed. In fact, I hardly ever take it off, but today I found a new task for it that Bob didn't mention.

I needed a zero-clearance insert for some small pieces I was ripping, but all my inserts were worn out. Then it occurred to me I could raise the Van Dyke fence, slip a piece of 1/8" plywood under it, and drop it back in place. The heavy fence holds everything in place, so



the thin stock can get stuck. Although he built his fence using plywood, I used poplar lumber for the two sides. Here's why: a fence needs to be straight, and perpendicular to the table. So after gluing up the assembly, I ran the face over my jointer to get it truly flat. Then I ran the bottom surfaces over the jointer, with that flattened face against the jointer fence. Voila! I have a fence that is straight and perpendicular all the time. And if that ever changes, another trip to the jointer fixes everything.

As Van Dyke notes in his article, there are some useful attachments that can be added, such as a tall fence, and a tenoning jig. I made several sacrificial faces out of 1/2" MDF, so I always have one available. I really like the quick release mounting offered by the toggle clamps. I used DeStaCo #202 clamps, but you don't need to make extended length pads as Van Dyke suggests. A pair of 1/4" rod couplings will do the job.

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I just raise the blade up through the plywood as high as needed and rip away. To keep the fence sitting vertically, I slipped in another piece of the plywood from the other side. Now I can have a brand new zero-clearance insert for every job.

The fact that it sits right on the table eliminates that little space where



Photos by Jose Cuervo

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*Wood Forum* is the monthly newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association. Please feel free to submit articles and photographs for inclusion in the publication. You can send your submissions to the Wood Forum Editor at [SCWAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SCWAEditor@gmail.com). Advertisements are also accepted with a nominal cost for paid members.

## Membership Application

I would like to join the SCWA to meet other people interested in the craft, the art and the business of fine wood-working. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$35 for the annual dues. I understand that this fee entitles me to attend monthly meetings and to receive the Wood Forum newsletter by email or via the SCWA's website.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

What can you do to help further the organizational goals of our volunteer-run association? Please tell us how you would like to help:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send check and completed application to:

Sonoma County Woodworkers Association, PO Box 4176, Santa Rosa, CA 95402