

When Last We Met

By Gord Bednard

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday Apr. 19th.

I had written an amazingly clever and devastatingly witty opening paragraph for this month's write-up from my notes for the March meeting. And some day you may actually be favoured with this material - but not today. It's not that I am trying to hold out on you all (we'll leave that activity for the frighteningly underpaid and over-worked NHL players) but it seems that either I have lost that particular write-up or I didn't actually write the intro that I thought I did. So now I am faced with the prospect that either I am going senile, BSE is taking its toll, or my fac-

ulties are on a (hopefully limited) holiday in the south of France somewhere. Thankfully, I did manage to find my notes from the actual meeting; I just wish I could read my writing. So if the following seems unfamiliar to you, either you too are suffering from one of the above, or one of us was at the wrong meeting. At any rate, here we go:

I arrived while the pre-meeting demonstration was in full swing, or in this case I should say full lift, as the topic was garage doors.

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Joaquin Pedrero



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Please direct newsletter submissions to the newsletter editor, Steve Hansen, via email: urquell@shaw.ca or call 604-986-5471.

The Pacific Woodworkers Guild is a non-profit association of British Columbia Craftspeople dedicated to excellence in woodworking. Guild members meet on the third Tuesday of each month (except July and August) in Richmond, B.C.

The newsletter is published monthly, ten times per year, and distributed free to members and associate members. Membership is available to anyone interested in any form of fine woodworking. Membership fees are \$25 for twelve months; Associate membership fees (newsletter only) are \$15 for ten issues.

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<i>Photographer</i>	

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Pacific Woodworkers Guild will be held on Tuesday, April 19th starting at 7:30pm. The April meeting will be held at the Sapperton Pensioners Hall.

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for submissions for the May newsletter is May 2nd. Please send your submission to the editor: Steve Hansen at urquell@shaw.ca or contact by phone for snail mail address.

When Last We Met (con't)

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No longer, it seems, is it satisfactory for your neighbours to suffer by looking at that orange plastic tarp you have so tastefully draped across the entrance to your garage or carport. Now you and your significant other can choose from a plethora of styles, designs, colours, materials and prices in order to keep the municipality from declaring your garage an "unsightly premises" and qualifying as a training ground for tsunami relief volunteers.

Jim McCormack of *J.Mac Doors* led the members through all the various options for replacing the rotted sagging doors that so many have been suffering with. Jim has a binder full of steel door options for all budgets and tastes. These are not the old style swing up single panel doors (like on my shop, sadly) that are as noisy as all heck. Most of the new doors are double layered and full of sound dampening insulation, an extra bonus if you are using the garage as a heated shop as well as storing everything too precious to toss, but not good enough to use (and you all have some of that, don't you!). Doors come in various colours (factory painted and long lasting) but can also be painted with a good quality polyester paint. Windows can also be integrated into the design to help match the style of the house. Costs are comparable to a good wood door, but will likely last longer with less maintenance. Costing example for a 9X7 door, from \$5-600 at the low end to \$1200 at the high end (bells and whistles included no doubt). All in all, the demo was time well spent for those looking to upgrade their garage doors and Jim's presentation was well received by the members.

And so the demo ended and the meeting began with the introduction of new faces in the crowd. We met one lad who's name was not recorded (Shame Shame!! shouted the crowd while the chagrined scribe ran for cover) who took shop in high school and was looking to get back into woodworking, and Andrew who was still in high school and was interested in seeing what goes on at the Guild.

Following introductions a Get Well card for **Lor Pellet** was circulated.

Then followed the evening's highlight: a presentation and discussion of photography as it

applies to woodworking: "How to Photograph Your Work for Portfolios and Presentations".

Joaquin Pedrero is a professional photographer living and working out of his home studio in deepest Lynn Valley in North Vancouver. Oddly enough, his studio is not too far from where your humble scribe turns beautiful wood into objects that look amazingly like firewood. But I digress again. Joaquin is a commercial advertising photographer, taking photos of what people (like woodworkers) want to sell.

Some of the tips Joaquin mentioned at the outset included:

- Take TIFF's not JPEG's as you lose some quality every time you save a JPEG
- Use good software such as Photoshop
- A single light or a flash will give you a "flat" image with no texture or depth
- Photograph the object outside in the shade (diffuse light effect)
- Use a cloth backdrop of contrasting colour for both the floor and background
- Use mirrors or white cards to "bounce" light for highlights and fill-ins
- Set the camera on a tripod at the best angle and leave it there
- Experiment with different effects (i.e. cloth diffusers, shutter speeds and aperture settings)
- Photograph a colour chart and then use that image to adjust the computer to bring back the proper tones
- For conventional photography, use the right kind of film (tungsten or daylight) to match the type of light you have available
- Adjust your f-stop for more depth of field (larger # equals more depth)
- Practice, practice, practice (sounds a lot like learning woodworking, eh?)

Much discussion broke out at this point which either involved colour balancing monitors or the impending wedding of Charles and Camilla, neither of which your scribe knows much about, so the detail was lost in translation. I suggest you get the Photoshop manual, and then do like everyone else does - use the manual for a door stop and call a techno-friend who knows about this stuff.

Joaquin had some practical advice as well:

- To get rid of your reflection in the object, light it from a side angle and then shoot

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it through a slot made of two pieces of card which you bring in close to the lens from either side until your reflection is gone. It's easier to see demonstrated than to describe – trust me.

- Watch out for reflections of other objects on a shiny surface – change your angle to the surface to ensure you don't have a reflection from the ground that can change the character of the light and distract from the details of the piece.
- Always use a lens hood to eliminate flare (internal reflections in the lens), or use a UV filter to limit its effect (and protect your lens!)
- Polarizing filters remove flare as well as stopping the fading of colours – remember to open up your aperture as this kind of filter reduces film speed by 2 f-stops.

While not getting into the details of which cameras were better than others, Joaquin did recommend the Nikon D-70 as a good camera with a good lens.

Joaquin then went on to demonstrate the setup and use of a "light tent". Basically it is a box made out of light-diffusing material with the object placed inside for photographing. He recommends one main light with many accompaniments for embellishment (remember the mirrors and reflector cards?). Light intensity can be adjusted by moving the source towards or away from the tent, from sharp (closer) to more diffuse.

The presentation and demonstration were soundly applauded by the members who immediately wanted to know more. A potential date for a more intensive workshop was given as April 23rd at Bill's shop but has now been scheduled for May 7th. See elsewhere in the newsletter for details.

In other news, both old and new:

The *2X4 Challenge* was again mentioned – 318 Keary Street, New Westminster. Setup at 6:00, start at 7:00. Details on website. Theme: Plain old SPF stud.

The use of demo and/or sales table at the

Richmond Carvers Show was discussed. The show is the 28 and 29 of May.

"Trailer Guy" was identified as **Gerry Ciriani**. (spelling of name may be suspect – scribe)

No new information was available regarding the "Richmond Trees". Your scribe, however has heard that the trees may be traveling to Whistler for the Olympics and may have entered a team in the new demonstration sport – the "Standing Perfectly Still" competition. The unofficial record is presently contested between a large sugar maple in Quebec and several Senators in Ottawa.

Dan Lemire will be looking into scanning and posting the archives of the Guild on the website.

The Toy Workshop was brought up with the call for a coordinator and the focus on creating more toys which led to a philosophical discussion regarding the direction and objectives of the Guild and its profile in the community at large. Should we be making tons of toys, or should we be enhancing our skills with the production of toys as a sideline? More discussion on this topic will undoubtedly be forthcoming at subsequent meetings.

Steve Fairbairn called for a workshop to make gifts for presenters and **Marco** volunteered to instruct in woodturning at such a workshop. The May meeting was given as the time to formalize the time and place. Also, Steve suggested a series of "shop crawls" over the summer wherein the members would have a sort of "open house" in their shops for members to visit. Your scribe thinks this is a great idea.

Bring back the videos and suggest new ones for purchase!

Finally, the meeting ended (that doesn't sound quite right, does it?) with Show and Tell featuring a finial box by **Marco**, pelican intarsia by **Peter**, dogwood carvings by **Phil**, and a snake alphabet puzzle by **Kati**.

Meeting ended at 9:55

Next Meeting: 2005 2x4 Challenge

The next meeting of the Pacific Woodworkers Guild will be held on Tuesday April 19th, starting at 7:30 pm. This meeting features the presentation and judging of the **2005 2x4 Challenge**.

The guild heartily encourages you to bring along your friends, neighbours and family to join in on the fun of this year's 2x4 Challenge. The venue is *Sapperton Pensioners Hall, 318 Keary Street, New Westminster* (see map at right). Keary runs between Royal Columbian Hospital and Labatts Brewery. The Hall is across the street from RCH and the brewery, just a few paces up Keary. Parking is available mostly along Columbia street and some on Keary. Be mindful of the residents only parking restrictions on Keary. Hope to see you all there with a handful of buddies.

Note: If you are bringing a project to display or enter, please be at the hall by 6:00 p.m.



Photo Workshop

Joaquin Pedrero, our March speaker, will be giving a photo workshop on May 7th at 10am in Bill's shop. The workshop is limited to 10 people and there will be a cost of \$10. Attendees are asked to bring your camera and something that you would like to photograph. If you have a tripod, please bring it along as well.

There are still a couple of seats left. Those who signed up at the last meeting are asked to confirm your attendance with Steve Fairbairn as soon as possible.

Calendar Of Events

- * **April 19, 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting and 2x4 Challenge at Sapperton Pensioner's Hall.
- * **May 17, 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **May 2005**—Richmond Carvers Show
- * **June 21, 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **August 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Summer Picnic
- * **September 20, 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **October 18, 2005**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting

