

President's Message

By Ivan Antoniw

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday Dec. 20th.



I'd like to talk about tool abuse and the difference between continuing to use a chisel when it gets dull as opposed to not taking care to sharpen the chisel in the first place. Woodworking is an exercise in planning and execution and like most creative pursuits offers plenty of opportunity for spontaneous expression, however unlike painting for example, it requires a great deal of preparedness in order to be able to affect spontaneity.

You need to have a ready supply of materials (mostly wood I bet), appropriate tools and of course, those same tools with sharp, honed cutting edges. You go through the process of honing your tools to perfection, (or not) and you go hard at her. At some point your tool will loose its edge and that is when you decide, do I continue using this chisel or to I stop and rehone. My decision was helped by the fact that I knew I was going to be chopping around nails and that no matter how careful I was, I would more than likely hit one (at this point I have a 1

¼ inch Marples that I'm going to have to grind back between 2 to 3 millimetres).

All this came about while I was working on a skookum workbench for my shop. It's a torsion box bench and I didn't quite think the attachment of the bench vises through thoroughly... such is the nature or spontaneity. I had a decision to make, do I trash a router bit or do damage to a chisel. In the end the chisel won (or lost as it were) and I made the necessary alterations to my bench. I learned that when you are designing on the fly, you should have all the hardware you need on hand, it saves time and money in the end.

Now you might be wondering what's the point of this story? There isn't any really, It's just that I told Steve I'd put something for the newsletter and this is all I could come up with.

Merry Christmas.



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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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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Pacific Woodworkers Guild will be held on Tuesday, Dec 20th starting at 7:00pm. Pre-meeting wood sale at 6:15.

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for submissions for the January newsletter is January 10th. Please send your submission to the editor: Steve Hansen at urquell@shaw.ca or contact by phone for snail mail address.

Calendar Of Events

- * **January 17, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **February 21, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **March 21, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **April 18, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- * **May 16, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting