



# Woodchips Newsletter

News from and about the Arizona Association of Fine Woodworkers

### Mark Your Calendar

#### **January General Meeting**

7:00 pm Wed. Jan 18

Woodworkers Source North

18115 N. Black Canyon Highway  
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#### **Board Meeting**

6:00 pm Wed. Feb. 1

Contempo Rec Center

2509 W. Southern Ave Tempe  
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#### **February Meeting**

7:00pm Wed. Feb. 15

Timbers

935 E. Southern Ave. Mesa, AZ  
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### *Presidents Letter*

Dear Members:

I have reflected over the past year and 2011 was a pretty good year. For the 2012 calendar year my goal is to have an even better year. This year there are several events that are taking place in the first quarter. The Lie-Nielsen Tool Event will be held at Timber the dates are Jan. 27 & 28 with Jan 26<sup>th</sup> the guild night held especially for our members. Lie-Nielsen will be giving a 10% discount to AAFW showing a current membership card.

On Jan 28<sup>th</sup> Woodcraft is holding their annual Craft Fair, bring your exhibits for judging there will be really nice prizes.

The AAFW annual Excellence in Woodworking Show will be held Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, please see our website [www.excellenceinwoodworking.org](http://www.excellenceinwoodworking.org) for details. Entry forms must be submitted by Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. This is open to members and non-members alike.

And on March 17<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> Paul Schurch will be giving a class on Marquetry and Veneering (this class is full).

We are working diligently to fill the remainder of the year with activities that will be of interest to all woodworkers.

Our Toy/Gift program went well this year and our goal is to be even better in 2012. We should plan and start making toys now for the coming year now. If you missed the news story about the AAFW toy program there is a link to it on our website.

Happy Woodworking

Raul Ramirez

### **AAFW Officers & Committees**

President: Raul Ramirez 480-734-0274

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Vice President: Marco Cecala

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[secretary@azfinewoodworkers.org](mailto:secretary@azfinewoodworkers.org)

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[treasurer@azfinewoodworkers.org](mailto:treasurer@azfinewoodworkers.org)

Program Chairman: Matt Vredenburg

Membership Chairman: Vern Monson

[membership@azfinewoodworkers.org](mailto:membership@azfinewoodworkers.org)

Toy Committee: Ralph Gumbert & Jim Altman

[americanheritagerest@cableone.net](mailto:americanheritagerest@cableone.net)

### Please patronize our sponsors



For additional information about the club or on becoming a member visit our website at:

[www.azfinewoodworkers.org](http://www.azfinewoodworkers.org)

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# Garrett Hack Seminar & Workshop



From Bob Simmons on the Garrett Hack Workshop

### What did I learn?

- 1 Including decorative detail into my designs is well within my skill set. IF I had not been shown, I would never have tried it.
- 2 Making small tools to do decorative detail is not magic! Since the Garrett Hack event I have used the skills learned in making scratch stock to make a wooden body router plane. It works like a champ.
- 3 There is much to be learned from each other. Making the time to get together and all work on a similar project causes an infusion of ideas.

Would I do it again? Absolutely. Investing in myself allows me to work more comfortably and broaden my skill set.

# Christmas Potluck



Dinner & Music



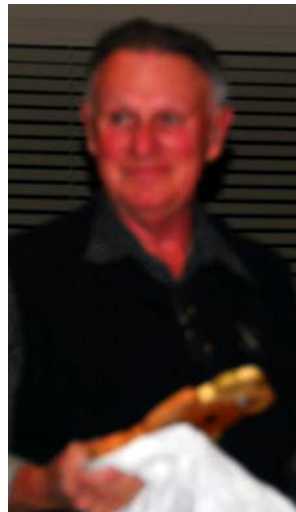
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Show & Tell



Gift Exchange



**The Finish Line**

By: Jim Altman

Sanding. Is it part of the building process or the finishing process? It depends on who you ask. In my 35 years of restoration and custom high end furniture building, I've heard it's the "cabinet maker" who has the skill to sand his project "the proper way". Of course any finisher with any experience at all, would never start the finishing process without sanding, even though the project had already, supposedly, been sanded. My opinion is the sanding is the responsibility of both the cabinetmaker and the finisher. Sanding is a shared process through building and finishing. I have found through the years that cabinet makers don't sand as well as they should, because they are not the finisher."

Through the Finish Line" it is my hope that I can help each craftsman to "think" his way to a better finish. The first step to a good finish is to make sure the surface the finish will be applied to a surface that is free of all defects such as dents, gouges, scratches and milling marks. Most finishes bring out the natural grain and beauty of the wood. Unfortunately, they may also magnify any defects that may have gone unnoticed. What appears to be a minor defect on raw wood will stand out like a sore thumb when a stain or finish is applied.

Surface preparation should begin before the project is assembled. A fair amount of common sense should be used during construction. For example: any surface that can't be easily reached after assembly should be sanded before assembly. Attention to detail such as tight joint lines and excess glue squeeze out should be addressed during construction. Excess stain will accumulate between poorly fitted joints and will appear as unsightly dark lines when the finish has been applied. The glue squeeze out should be left to dry for a couple hours and removed with a scraper or sharp chisel (bevel up).

During construction I am constantly asking myself, "How will this affect the surface when I apply a stain or finish"? Ask yourself this through each step of the building process.

There are several types of sand paper, some are designed for sanding finishes like lacquers and varnishes, while others are best for sanding raw wood. Garnet paper and aluminum oxide (known as production paper) are best for sanding raw wood. Stay away from silicon carbide (wet & dry) and the light gray papers which are lubricated and are used to sand lacquers and varnish. Keep the sanding process ever present during your projects construction and finishing. Sanding is the fundamental base of a great finish. Without well executed sanding, you cannot achieve the high quality finish your project deserves. I have never heard anyone say they like to sand, but I sure have heard, "I sure wish I had done a better job of sanding".

Remember..... make a sample, make a sample, make a sample,(this includes your sanding technique). You will cross the Finish Line, not sags, no drips, no runs, no errors. Next month: sanding sequence, sanding method and choosing a sander

**Arizona Association of Fine Woodworkers** invites anyone interested in woodworking to become a member, regardless of age, experience, or skill level. Guests are welcome to attend a General Meeting without charge or obligation.

Annual membership fees are \$25 for one person and \$30 for a family. There is a one-time enrollment fee of \$5 that must be included with your first-year dues.

**Arizona Association of Fine Woodworkers**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Membership**

Send with check or money order to: **AAFW**, PO Box 1905, Gilbert, AZ 85299-1905

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Membership: single\_\_ family\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Woodworking interests/experience \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use:** Rec'd by: \_\_\_\_\_ Paymt: chk \_\_\_ mon ord \_\_\_ cash \_\_\_; Process date: Treas.