

# The York Woodworkers Association

## Newsletter for September 2017

Greetings all and welcome to the September 2017 club newsletter. If you have suggestions for segments you'd like to see added to the newsletter, please drop me an email at ([tom23.browning@gmail.com](mailto:tom23.browning@gmail.com)).

**Christmas Meeting-** We'll be at the York Cooperative building on 2Dec, Cost is \$15 for single and \$25 for couple. This includes dinner, dessert, plates, cups, ice, and tea. Dinner includes pulled pork, bbq chicken, slaw, beans, roll, and dessert (banana pudding). We need to get an accurate count on those planning to attend so we can finalize with the caterer.



**Message from the Prez:** I hope you all got to see the eclipse this week. It was neat wasn't it? I hope you all are enjoying this cooler weather the last few days. It has been a scorcher here in Sharon. Now if we could get some rain.

What projects have you all got going? You have probably seen my unfinished Demilune table in my shop, well I mustered up the energy last week, drug it out and finished it. It now has a spot on my staircase landing. Since then I have played on the lathe turning some nice burl bowls.

We had quite a list of class interest requests. It is my goal to put a schedule together to meet all of these. The club officers will be working on this soon. We have classes scheduled out through January already. If at any time you think of a subject of interest let one of the officers know. Tom is working with the Charlotte and Greenville woodworking clubs in hopes to improve our organization as well as the others. I think this is a win/win for all. Great job Tom and thanks for your efforts.

**The September Meeting:** Jimmy Matthews will be doing a presentation on wood movement, causes and how to eliminate it. This will be at Jimmy's shop on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August. See you all there

### The August Meeting:



Charleston may have the Southeastern Wildlife Expo, but 25 members and guests were treated to a special presentation by Reid Heilig and Donnie Lee at our August meeting. There were carved fish, ducks and birds of all kinds on display and two excellent presentations on how they were created.

Reid started the evening off. He's a student of the animals he carves... studying the animal's form, collecting every picture and scrap of information he can find. Those British sleuths have nothing on Reid when it comes to ferreting out every minute detail.



Fish hold a particular attraction for Reid. They get the full treatment... a carved form of one or more fish, coral background and a soapstone base.

Reid has been carving birds and fish since the 1970's and has hundreds of pieces to his credit.



Donnie also has varied interests in his carving, but clearly his passion is carving ducks.

He uses a variety of carving tools... a torch to clean gum from tools... a wood burner to create both texture and color... a host of carving burrs ... and Lowes polishing pads to finish carving (no sandpaper).

Like many carvers Donnie's training is a mix of formal classes (2, 3-day sessions) and self-teaching through experimentation.

You might note the price tags... yes Donnie sells some of his carvings, but not his ducks.

Reid and Donnie had many of the same tips for the beginner. I've tried to capture a consensience of them below:

- Start with a minimum of tools and learn to use them before building a tool 'collection'
- Stop the tools to sharpen and stop often. You don't need a sharpening stone.
- Transfer the profile of the carving to the wood and begin contouring from there
- Their preferred wood is Tupelo... basswood is second best
- Uses acrylic paint... applied in washes... apply several coats and blow dry to avoid filling texture
- Santa's and humming birds are excellent beginning



projects (perhaps we could get a hands-on class???)

### Who's Making Chips:

**Donnie Lee-** You might remember that in the August newsletter Donnie had roughed out the drawers for his chest of draws and was starting on the detail work... setting locks and inlaying. He completed that over the next three weeks and did a final fit-up (at right) before



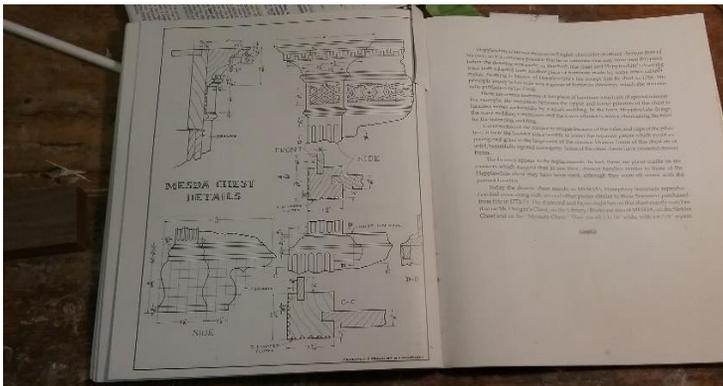
finishing.

### Finishing Schedule:

1. Finish sanding
2. Sealing- BLO/poly mixture, light sanding when dry with 400 grit
3. Filling- 4-6 Coats of Seal Coat Shellac, sanding between coats
4. Top Coat- Shellac is the top coat for the sides and front. 4 Coats of wipe of poly for the top ((wear protection) sanding between coats

When he was done Donnie headed down to the beach for a bit of R&R.

**Bill Wilson-** This past week I visited Bill to do a article on the 7 foot tall Thomas Elfe chest-on-chest he is building. The piece is being build to line drawings of the original piece.



But the revelation of my visit to Bill's shop was how he creatively uses a small shop to produce this and a host of other beautiful pieces. That will be the subject of the "Who's Making Chips" segment of our August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.



**Tom Browning**-Progress on the shop continues between the rain drops. The first problem on the project was removing a tree stump that sat astride the foundation footings. You can see it below on the left. It's a bit on the



large size... about 3 feet across. But to get the bugger out took a hole 6 feet deep and 20 feet across!!

Check out Ryan and Harry down in the hole cutting the spur roots of the stump in the picture at the right.

With the determination of Steven, Ryan and Harry; a Bobcat mini-backhoe, a skip loader, several lengths of chain and a bit of colorful language, the 4000# stump came to rest in the back of the dump truck for its trip to the landfill... just as the rain returned.



**Stuff for Sale:** 16in Craftsman dovetail jig- \$25, Jim Dodson, phone number 803-864-4846  
Grizzly Lathe- \$200, Joe Jackson, Craigslist (Charlotte) number- 6272773138,  
[joejphoto@gmail.com](mailto:joejphoto@gmail.com), 803-412-5067

**New news...** With John Goodson's help I made contact with both the Charlotte Woodworkers Club and the Greenville club. The goal being to increase communications between us and the two other clubs. I got a response from the Charlotte club. They will start receiving our newsletter as of the August edition. I'll distribute their newsletter to you... that is as soon as Trey shows me how the deal with "google groups". Awaiting response from the Greenville club.

**Check this Out:** We had 25 members and guests at the August meeting... not bad for a club with only 30 members. I take that as a good sign of the club's health and future.

Regards,

Tom Browning

864-978-8251

[Tom23.browning@gmail.com](mailto:Tom23.browning@gmail.com)

**New Subscriptions:** If you know of someone I've missed in sending this newsletter out, I do apologize for that. Please get me a name and email address, so I can set the matter straight.

**Names and Email**

**Addresses:**

Names and email address of subscribers of this newsletter are used only for the communication of club business. They are never sold or distributed for any other purpose. Should you receive any unwanted communication that you believe originated from your subscription to this newsletter please advise a club officer so appropriate action can be taken.

**Unsubscribe:**

This initial newsletter is being sent to all members for whom we have an email address. If you desire not to receive future mailings. Please drop me a quick note and I'll unsubscribe you.