

THE CHARLOTTE SAWDUST

The Official Journal of
The Charlotte Woodworker's Association

www.charlottewoodworkers.org

April Meeting time has changed – April 28th is the date for this month's meeting as the 21st is Easter Monday.

Meeting Time

Meetings of the Charlotte Woodworker's Association are held the third Monday of each month, except for December. Meetings are typically held at THE WOODWORKING SHOP of Charlotte, 116M Freeland Lane, Charlotte, NC. Exceptions will be announced well in advance. If you need directions to the shop, visit their web site at <http://www.woodworkingshop.com> and click on the link to "Store Locations".

Following a social and refreshment time that starts at 5:30pm, our meetings start at 6:00pm. Get to the meeting early and get to know your fellow woodworking enthusiasts. Please refrain from placing food, drinks and trash on worktables and shelves around The Woodworking Shop, they have allowed us to use their facilities and being a good guest is, well just the right thing to do.

CWA Mentor Program

The following members have offered their help to anyone interested in learning skills or new techniques in their area of interest. Contact each person to arrange times to get together if interested.

Name	Area of Interest	Phone	Email
Wayne Cooper	***	704.409.1417	cooper@arconmfg.com
Bill Golden	Shopsmith & Totalshop	704.525.9691	poptoyshop@earthlink.net
Dwight Hartsell	Woodturning	704.598.6029	woodwight@aol.com
Jeff Jacobs	any woodworking	704.309.1263	jacobj@meckco.com
Wayne Manahan	Sharpening	704.768.0768	wmanahan@vnet.net
Gil Milsaps	Windsor chairs	704.875.0758	gad32about@aol.com
Alvin Tench	any woodworking	704.824.7717	alvintench@netzero.com

*** Wayne Cooper has a fairly complete shop and would actually like an experienced woodworker to use it and teach him how to use it properly in exchange for use of the shop. If you are interested in helping Mr. Cooper please contact him directly to make appropriate arrangements.

Email Option for SAWDUST

If you don't already receive THE SAWDUST by email, please consider this option. By receiving the newsletter by email you 1) save the organization money, 2) receive color pictures, and finally 3) quicker delivery. Sign up

today for the email option by sending an email to secretary@charlottewoodworkers.org and your delivery method will be changed immediately.

\$\$\$ Save Money Everyday \$\$\$

As a member of the Charlotte Woodworkers Association you can save 10% off all your purchases from The Woodworking Shop, excluding wood and power tools. Thanks to our hosts at the Woodworking Shop for allowing us to have our monthly meetings and extending 10% off to CWA members.

Upcoming Events

Rustic Windsor Chairmaking – Apr 14-18, 2003 in Marshall, NC 828.656.2280
(www.countryworkshops.org)

Making the Hearth Chair – Apr 28 – May 2, 2003 in Marshall, NC 828.656.2280
(www.countryworkshops.org)

Midwest Tool Collectors Association & Early American Industry Association in Hickory – May 17 @ Hart Square for more information contact CWA member Brent Richardson 704784-8891 or tooldad@vnet.com.

Be sure to check ahead of time and schedule yourself into the classes you want.

Write an article for Sawdust

Why not share some of your knowledge with your fellow CWA woodworkers. Share safety stories, project stories, tool experiences, perhaps even talk about the different tools that you use more often and why. It's your newsletter, why not make it better.

Another thing I thought of, how about sharing your workshop, past, present, and perhaps your future thoughts of a new workshop. Consider presenting ideas as to how you designed it, did you take some graph paper and layout the footprint of the shop, maybe you designed, to scale, drawings of all your workbenches and power tools. If you have some pictures to share, we can spotlight someone's workshop every month. Should we add another category to the gallery on the website for workshops?

Scrapers and Handplanes for Woodworking - Part 1 – Scrapers – March Meeting

By Wayne L. Manahan

At the March meeting of the Charlotte Woodworkers Association I gave a demonstration of some of the fundamental features of scrapers and handplanes and demonstrated how to sharpen and use a hand scraper. This article provides an overview of the material that was covered.

Scrapers

Several types of scrapers were discussed during the presentation including hand scrapers, cabinet scrapers, and scraper planes. Examples of hand scrapers are shown in figure 1A and 1B, a cabinet scraper is shown in figure 2, and a scraper plane is shown in figure 3.



Figure 1A - Rectangular Hand Scraper

Hand Scrapers

Hand scrapers can be very useful for the woodworker who learns how to sharpen them and use them properly. They can be used for almost any finishing task where course or medium sandpaper would otherwise be used. They are good for removing milling marks, cleaning up areas of wild grain in highly figured wood, or blending curves and profiles. While they don't give the clarity and polish that can be achieved with a sharp handplane, they do allow a woodworker to prepare the surface of stock so that it is ready for fine sanding with a minimum of effort, and, if sharpened properly, much less dust than sanding typically generates.



Figure 1B - Curved Hand Scraper

Hand scrapers are simple tools that are cut from thin steel. They can be purchased in various shapes. The most common shapes are rectangular and a Agooseneck \cong shape that is suited for working concave profiles. Special shapes can be made to fit your specific requirements using simple tools found in most shops.

Scrapers are typically made from high carbon tool steel, but any material that can take a sharp edge can be used (perhaps very carefully) as a scraper. A piece of glass will work as a scraper, but you do need to be careful not to cut yourself.

Steel hand scrapers are typically hardened and tempered to RC 49-51, hard enough to hold a good edge, but soft enough to allow the scraper to be sharpened using the traditional burnishing process.

Scraper stock can be fashioned to any desired profile using tin snips (for thinner scraper stock), files, bench grinders, etc. If using a grinder, proceed carefully so as not to overheat the material and draw the temper. Since scraper stock is thin, it is easy to overheat it, so take this cautionary note seriously.

Sharpening a Hand Scraper

Once you have the desired profile, sharpening a hand scraper is a matter of establishing the desired edge geometry, honing and polishing the edge, and, if desired, rolling the burr.



Figure 2 - an Example of a Cabinet Scraper



Figure 3 - Lie-Nielsen No. 112 Scraper Plane

Typically, thicker hand scrapers have the edge at 90 degrees with the sides. Thinner tool steel stock often works better with the edge beveled at 45 degrees, in much the same geometry as the edge of a chisel or plane iron.

Edge geometry is typically established with a file. A small file with a fairly fine cut file is typically used. A six-inch flat mill bastard file, available at most hardware stores and home centers, works well. Secure the scraper in a vise, with enough of the material above the jaws to allow clearance for your file. Setting it too high in the vise will allow the scraper to flex and will make this step more difficult. The proper position is a compromise between clearance and undesired flexing, and you will only learn it by experimenting with your particular

scraper. Don't be afraid to experiment! Use the file in a draw filing motion, with the file perpendicular to the sides of the scraper. I orient the file at approximate 90 degrees to the line of the edge that I'm shaping and with a light touch, gently stroke it from end to end. You can push the file away from you or pull it toward you; whatever direction works for you and seems to cut well is OK. On curved profiles, you will need to follow the curve and ensure that you maintain the desired overall shape of the scraper while forming the edge..

Draw filing removes metal in fine long shavings, and done properly, seems to polish the metal. You'll see the edge quickly coming into shape, and once you've achieved the edge geometry that you were aiming for, stop and move to the next step.

Honing the edge follows draw filing, and truly polishes the edge. Work the edge at the proper angle, cleaning up and polishing the edge left by the file, but also honing and polishing the sides of the scraper until the area next to the edge takes on a similar quality of polish. The initial sharpening will be the most time consuming, after that only minor touch up will be required.

The degree to which you polish the edge and sides establishes the sharpness, and thus the cutting efficiency of your scraper. I recommend polishing to the equivalent of an 8000 grit waterstone, both on the edge and on the sides. When polishing the edge focus on maintaining the edge geometry, and on not rounding over the edge.

Once you're through with honing and polishing, you can use your scraper. However, for more aggressive cutting, you'll want to turn a burr on the edges.

You need a burnishing tool to turn a burr. This is a length of hard material, often round or tri-oval in cross section that is capable of deforming the metal on the edge of the shaper. Burnishers can also be obtained with a triangular cross section, but I personally don't like this shape as well as a somewhat rounded profile.

Using the burnisher at 90° to the length of the scraper's edge, draw (or push) it from one end of the edge to the other in a smooth motion, using only about five pounds of downward pressure. Five pounds is not a lot of force, and may seem too gentle to you. Trust me, it's plenty. It will take a number of passes to accomplish the degree of edge deformation that you're seeking, but it won't take long to achieve the result. Occasionally feel for the burr that should be forming after 10-20 passes, maybe sooner on softer steels. A drop of camellia oil on the edge, or in a pinch, a few drops of water, will make the burnisher slide more smoothly and will help form a more consistent burr. See figure 4 below to get a general idea of what you're trying to achieve.

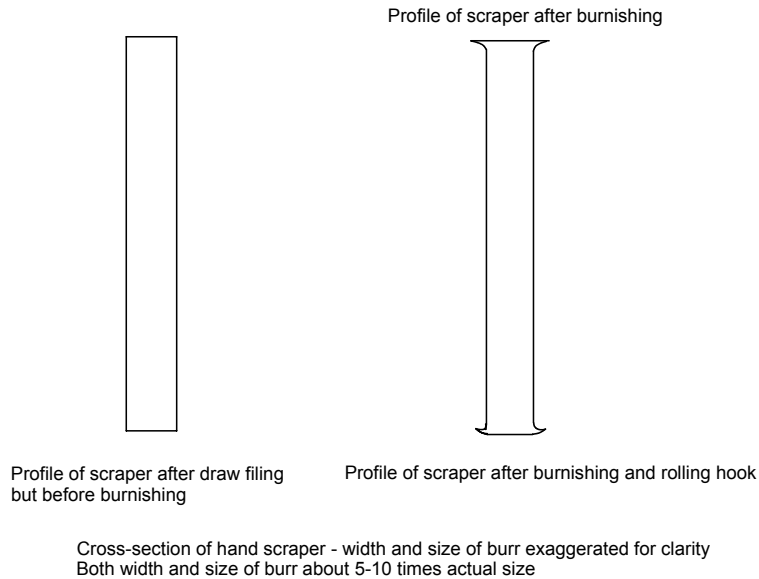


Figure 4 - Stages in Sharpening a Hand Scraper

Re-sharpening Hand Scrapers

To re-sharpen, hone off the burr, and burnish on a new one per the instructions above. Depending on how smooth your previous burnishing left the very edge, you may want to draw file again, or you may go directly to the sharpening stone to put the new edge on before burnishing. Use your own good judgment, and learn from experience. There is no substitute for practice and observing what improves the process and what does not.

Care of Hand Scrapers

High carbon steel is prone to rust. Camellia oil, applied in a thin film over your scraper will prevent rust, and will not cause problems with the finishing process. Petroleum based oils and silicone lubricants will both interfere with finishes and are not recommended.

To Be Continued - Part 2 - Handplanes in next month's issue of Sawdust

Share your lumber sources

Do you have a good lumber supplier you can share with your fellow CWA members? Let's get a list together and share that information on the web site and in the newsletter, everyone likes to save a dime.

Classified Section

\$\$ For Sale \$\$



Vertical/Horizontal metal cutting bandsaw with 80" cutting depth by Carolina of Traveler's Rest, SC. Saw has a new motor with less than 10 hours of use. Blade is 115 1/2" x 3/4". The unit is 41" tall and 51" wide. Will sell for \$500.00.

Contact Rick Hartsell @ 704.238.0682



Craftsman 10" radial arm saw with 1 month old motor, with 1 year warranty. Can be wired for 110 or 220 volt. New this would cost \$800.00, will sell for \$375.00.

Contact Dwight Hartsell @ 704.617.0188



Multico Mortising Press, Model # PM12. Purchased from Garrett Wade and has never been used. New this would cost \$375.00, will sell for \$225.00.

Contact Dwight Hartsell @ 704.617.0188

Approximately 150 board feet of one-inch thick Heart Pine – various widths from 3 to 8 inches. This wood is approximately 100 years old. Asking \$100.00 for all. Contact Mike Patterson # 704.435.5179.

Craftsman 6" jointer with extras \$250.00 and a Belsaw 12 1/4" 3 hp planer with extras, \$600.00. Contact Bill Skinner at btskinr@worldnet.att.net or 704.364.5168 (before 6pm)

Wanted

Help with the JessEm ROUT-R-SLIDE™

- Patrick Perry needs a tutor who can help him learn to use the JessEm ROUT-R-Slide™ to make dovetails. He is willing to pay for your time, or swap some exotic lumber for your help. If you are able to help you can contact Patrick @ 803.366.6080. You may call collect.
- A UNCC student, Jordan Moore, is looking for a job as an apprentice or whatever would be available to learn some woodworking skills. He is looking for about 20 hours of work a week. You can contact Jordan at jordanmoorels@yahoo.com or 704.907.1877.
- Sandy MacDonald is looking for woodworking course or seminars the week of 14-18 July 2003, anywhere in NC, SC, GA or TN. Sandy's wife is taking a class in Greenville, SC and he would like to take a class during the same week. They are from Canada so a trip together would be ideal. You can contact Sandy at ajmacd39@hotmail.com.
- The Boy Scouts are looking for a woodworker to assist in setting up a woodworking shop at Camp Grimes (located south of Marion, NC). The shop will be used by Boy Scouts and camp counselors, only hand tools will be allowed, no power tools. Contact Mark R. Thompson @ 704.536.0784 if you are interested in helping.
- Fine Woodworking magazine is offering 10% off if 10 or more people renew or get a new subscription.

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H & S Lumber

Mr. Robert Boland, Manager
4115 Monroe Road
Charlotte, NC 28205
704.333.3130 (sponsor)

Harbor Freight USA

Mr. Martin Treadwell, Manager
3852 E. Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28205
704.569.0182 (contributor)

The Woodworking Shop of Charlotte

Mr. Tony Collums, Manager
116M Freeland Lane
Charlotte, NC 28217
704.521.8886 (contributing/sponsor – except power tools
and wood)

2003 CWA Officers

President	Wayne L. Manahan pres@charlottewoodworking.org	704.786.0768
Vice President	Bruce P. Bradford vp@charlottewoodworkers.org	704.399.7004
Treasurer	Jaye Paterman treasurer@charlottewoodworkers.org	704.527.8768
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The Charlotte Woodworking Association

John Cahill, Editor
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Upcoming Meetings:

April 28, 2003

May 19, 2003

At The Woodworking Shop

Woodcraft

Mr. David Boyuka
1725 Windsor Square Drive
Matthews, NC 28105
704.847.8300 (contributing)

Show your CWA membership card at any of the listed places and receive benefits (except for Woodcraft and Harbor Freight USA, which are not able to provide sponsorship in the form of discounts).