

2010 Woodworking in America Full Class Descriptions

Oct. 1-3, 2010 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center

For registration information, visit WoodworkinginAmerica.com

Note: These descriptions are as of April 29, 2010, and are subject to change.

Introduction to SketchUp

Robert W. Lang

Room: 2

Google's free SketchUp program has transformed the way that many woodworkers design furniture. With this powerful program you can make design changes quickly (add and subtract doors and drawers), you can see what your project will look like in 3D. And you can solve thorny joinery problems. Robert W. Lang, the author of "Drafting and Design for Woodworkers" and several important books of CAD drawings of Arts & Crafts furniture, has created an introductory class designed specifically for woodworkers who have little or no experience with this program. Bring your laptop so you can work along with Lang and the other SketchUp experts in our design lab.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to put these principles in practice on your own laptop, ask questions of the instructor and our expert volunteers and trouble-shoot any problems you are having with the computer program.

Friday: 8 a.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m.

Advanced SketchUp

Robert W. Lang

Room: 2

Once you have the basics of SketchUp under your belt, you can quickly push your skills to a new level with the help of this seminar and our SketchUp experts in our design lab. Robert W. Lang, the author of "Drafting and Design for Woodworkers," will show you how to draw increasingly complex shapes, such as cabriole legs, learn to make full-size templates with the help of your printer, and create cutting lists and scenes that will make this software program one of your most valuable woodworking tools. Bring your laptop so you can try out these techniques immediately

and get guidance from our SketchUp experts.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to put these principles in practice on your own laptop, ask questions of the instructor and our expert volunteers and trouble-shoot any problems you are having with the computer program.

Friday: 10 a.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m.

Use Dividers to Lay Out Anything, from Dovetails to Casework

George R. Walker

Room: 2

One of the simplest woodworking layout tools is also the most powerful. They are precise. They don't require mathematics to use. And they simplify many layout operations. You can layout dovetails quickly and perfectly with dividers, plus you can use them for many other layout chores that would be tedious and prone to error with numbers and math. George R. Walker, the host of two influential DVDs on design and the "Design Matters" columnist for *Popular Woodworking Magazine*, shows how you can use dividers at every stage of a project, from designing the carcass and mouldings to placing the hardware.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to ask questions of the instructor and attempt some of the layout and design principles with your own dividers (be sure to bring a few sets if you can).

Friday: 9 a.m.

Saturday: noon

Better Design Using Simple Shapes and Forms

George R. Walker

Room: 2

You will understand furniture design in an entirely new way once you are taught to see the simple shapes and forms that are used to design even the most complex piece of furniture. George R. Walker, the host of two influential DVDs on design and the "Design Matters" columnist for *Popular Woodworking Magazine*, will show you the circles, squares and rectangles with whole-number proportions that are the foundation to creating pleasing designs. Walker's insights will open your eyes to a well-understood and ancient way of designing things that has been largely ignored in modern times.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to discuss these principles directly with the instructor and ask any questions about design forms. Students are

encouraged to bring in examples of their own work or planned designs (photos, sketches or CAD renderings) to discuss how they might be improved or refined.

Friday: 11 a.m.

Saturday: 2 p.m.

Designing Strong Mortise-and-Tenon Joints

Robert W. Lang

Room: 2

Mortise-and-tenon joints are the foundation joint for many forms of furniture, including Arts & Crafts. But many woodworkers create joints that have a mortise wall that is too weak, a tenon that is too short and an assembly that will self-destruct if racked. Robert W. Lang, the author of several "Shop Drawings" books of Arts & Crafts furniture, has studied and used this joint his entire professional career. He shows you how to design the many variants – including blind mortises, through-tenons and wedged tenons – so they are proper and strong.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to discuss these joint-design principles one-on-one with the instructor. Get your questions answered about particular joints or applications you are struggling with in your shop.

Friday: noon

Saturday: 1 p.m.

Design a Door With Pleasing Proportions and Good Grain

George R. Walker

Room: 2

Most commercial frame-and-panel doors are simply ugly. They use the wrong cuts of wood for the rails and stiles and the proportions are ungainly. George R. Walker, the host of two influential DVDs on design and the "Design Matters" columnist for *Popular Woodworking Magazine*, shows you how to quickly transform your door-design skills from mundane to excellent. Find out how to use quartersawn and flatsawn woods to their best effect. Learn how to proportion your stiles, rails and panels to create the effect you want.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to explore these concepts further. Get your questions answered about doors you have built or plan to build. Attendees are encouraged to bring in photos or drawings of examples of their work for critique and discussion.

Friday: 1 p.m.

Put Some MoJo in Your Designs

George R. Walker

Room: 2

Does your furniture sing? Even if you can't read music or carry a note, you can learn to use proportions to make your furniture stand out. Eighteenth-century cabinetmakers mastered the art of using proportions to create "music for the eyes." Still sought after and studied, furniture from this Golden Age of cabinetmaking contain insights in proportions that can be applied to modern as well as traditional forms. Join George Walker the host of two influential DVDs on design and the "Design Matters" columnist for *Popular Woodworking Magazine* as he explores the proportional DNA in five iconic American furniture forms. Learn how to uncover the proportional music deep in the bones of masterful work and how to apply this to your own designs.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour for an open discussion of these design principles. If possible, bring sketches of furniture you are planning to build to apply these ideas to your own work with the assistance of the instructor and our volunteers.

Friday: 3 p.m.

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Cutting Tenons by Hand

Roy Underhill

Room: 4 & 5

Roy Underhill, the host of the long-running "The Woodwright's Shop," takes you on a tour of the traditional tools and techniques used by the joiner and cabinetmaker to create this critical woodworking joint. Learn about the different marking tools used to set out the joint and how to prepare them properly. See how a wide variety of saws are used for the cheeks and shoulders of the joint, and how planes serve a vital role in shaping and fitting the mitered bridle and classic breadboard joints. It's a drawboring adventure with kerfed-in shoulders that you don't want to miss!

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to put these principles in practice at our benches. We'll supply the wood, the instructor and volunteers to help you master this critical hand-cutting skill. If possible, bring a tenon saw, a carcass saw, a mortise gauge and a chisel along to ensure you'll get enough time to get in some practice and advice.

Friday: 9 a.m.

Saturday: 3 p.m.

Filing Ripsaws: Tools, Techniques & Basic Strokes

Roy Underhill

or Ron Herman

Room: (see below)

Everyone should file their own saws. And if you want to learn to file a saw, the best thing to do is begin practicing on a rip saw, which has a simpler tooth shape than a crosscut saw. In this session, Roy Underhill and Ron Herman (a professional housewright), show you the tools and jigs necessary for filing your saws – the different files, sawsets and saw vises. And they walk you through the basic strokes: jointing the teeth, setting the teeth and filing fresh ones. Learn how to change the geometry of your teeth to create rip saws that are suited for softwoods, green woods and hardwoods. Plus, be sure to visit Herman's interactive saw-sharpening station where you can get your hands on the files and saws and become a saw sharpener that very day. This station is an absolute must for all attendees.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If you have a rip saw you'd like to sharpen, bring it along and use one of the saw vises to put these principles in practice with the assistance of the instructor and our volunteers.

Friday: 11 a.m. (Underhill) Room: 4 & 5

Saturday: 11 a.m. (Herman) Room: 6

Sunday: 9 a.m. (Herman) Room 6

Filing Crosscut Saws: Feel the Fleam

Roy Underhill

or Ron Herman

Room: See below

After trying your hand at filing a rip saw, it's a short hop to filing your own crosscut saws – all you have to do is add a little fleam or slope to the tooth. Learn all about fleam and how you can radically change the cutting properties (and durability) of your sawteeth by manipulating it. Make a saw that stay sharp through rough work. Make a saw that cuts shockingly smooth through hardwoods. Plus, be sure to visit Ron Herman's interactive saw-sharpening station where you can get your hands on the files and saws and become a saw sharpener that very day. This station is an absolute must for all attendees.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If you have a crosscut saw you'd like to sharpen, bring it along and use one of the saw vises to put these principles in practice with the assistance of the instructor and our volunteers.

Friday: 1 p.m. (Underhill) Room: 4 & 5

Saturday: 1 p.m. (Herman) Room 6

Sunday: 11 a.m. (Herman) Room 6

How to Use Bowsaws

Roy Underhill

Room: 4 & 5

Bowsaws are some of the oldest and most useful forms of saws, yet many modern American and English woodworkers don't use them. Roy Underhill shows you all the important details of a good bowsaw, from the twine to the wood to the blade. Learn to tension them properly. And finally, learn to wield them – most modern woodworkers are doing it all wrong. Once you've mastered a bowsaw, you can cut circles around the power-tool woodworkers (and listen to the radio while you do it).

Friday: 3 p.m.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If you have a bowsaw, bring it along. We'll supply the workbenches, wood and hand-on instruction to get you tracking a line.

Dovetailing Drawers: Tails or Pins First?

Roy Underhill

and Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

Roy Underhill, the host of the "Woodwright's Shop," and Master Craftsman Frank Klausz show you how each cuts dovetails by starting with a different part of the joint. Underhill delivers his argument for tails first with wit, grace and a probing camera that takes you right up into the joint, and Klausz delivers his argument for pins first with unerring conviction.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so and ask questions of the instructors about their approaches.

Saturday: 8 a.m.

Understand the Many Forms of Chisels

Roy Underhill or Ron Herman

Room: see below

You need a firmer chisel for that job. Or maybe a registered mortise chisel. No, not a paring chisel. How about a sash mortiser? If you are bewildered by the myriad forms of chisels in tool catalogs and junk stores, then you need to spend some time with Roy Underhill. He'll show you many of the forms you'll encounter and which ones are for making furniture and which ones are for making wheels or other trades. Plus, he'll match the chisel to the job so you don't pare a peg

with a bruzz.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to explore this topic with the instructor. If you have a chisel or two that you have wondered about, bring it along to show to the instructor and the other attendees. We'll also have wood and benches available for those attendees who want to put some of the chisels to work.

Saturday: noon (Roy Underhill:) Room 4&5

Friday: 10 a.m. (Ron Herman) Room 6

Dovetailing Drawers: Pins First

Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

Master Craftsman Frank Klausz has spent his life dovetailing drawers and studying the process all over the world. His firm conclusion: The best way to do it is to cut the pins first. Klausz shows you all the details of how he lays out the joint (using minimal marking) and cuts the pins and tails with unerring accuracy and efficiency. All the while, he'll explain how he was taught to cut dovetails so you can return to your shop with a plan and the right mindset.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If possible, bring a dovetail saw, a couple chisels and the marking equipment needed to cut this joint. We'll supply the wood and instructors to help you get the most out of your time in this session.

Friday: 8 a.m.

Secret Mitered Dovetail

Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

One of the most elegant corner joints is the secret mitered dovetail, which offers all the strength of the mighty dovetail with the clean lines of a miter joint. In this demonstration, Master Craftsman Frank Klausz shows how he lays out, saws, chisels and fits the joint with perfection. This is a rare chance to see a traditionally trained master at the top of his game while cutting one of the most challenging joints.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If possible, bring a dovetail saw, a couple chisels and the marking equipment needed to cut this joint. We'll supply the wood and instructors to help you get the most out of your time in this session.

Friday: 10 a.m.

Cutting Mortises Quickly

Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

When hand-cutting mortises, many woodworkers use the wrong tools and the wrong methods. The result? The process takes entirely too long and results in a sloppy joint. Master Craftsman Frank Klausz shows you the time-honored and well-understood way to cut a mortise with a gauge, chisel and mallet. He discusses the important details of the tools, the ergonomics of the act and the tricks to becoming fast and accurate.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If possible, bring a 1/4" mortise chisel, mallet and the marking equipment needed to cut this joint. We'll supply the wood and instructors to help you get the most out of your time in this session.

Friday: noon

Saturday: 10 a.m.

Chopping Waste: Don't Overcut Your Line

Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

For some of us, sawing dovetails is the easy part. It's chopping out the waste that gives us fits. The No. 1 problem? We cross the baseline when chopping out the waste with a chisel. Avoiding this problem is one part practice and one part know-how. In this session, Master Craftsman Frank Klausz shows you how he chops waste out. He's astonishingly fast at it, but for this session, he is going to slow the entire process and break it down into basic steps so you can understand the principles and apply them to your work.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to put these principles in practice. If possible, bring a couple bench chisels, mallet and the marking equipment needed to mark out baselines to practice with. We'll supply the wood and instructors to help you get the most out of your time in this session.

Friday: 2 p.m.

Saturday: 1 p.m.

Design Dovetails for Beauty or Strength

Frank Klausz

Room: 4 & 5

Master Craftsman Frank Klausz has collected and studied dovetails from cultures all over the world. And he has spent his life cutting this joint for a variety of applications, from coffins to

boxes to exquisite furniture. In this session, Klausz shows you how he spaces the joint when he needs strength vs. how he sets out to create a joint that is as decorative as any inlay or carving on the piece. Klausz will also discuss the role of the slope of the joint and its role in the strength, including what are the practical slopes and which ones you should use depending on the wood and the work ahead.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to discuss these principles in detail with the instructor. We'll also have wood and layout tools available so you can try your hand at some of the principles discussed in the class.

Friday: 4 p.m.

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sharpening & Using Chisels and Card Scrapers

Marc Adams

Room: 6

Forget all the conflicting advice you've heard about sharpening chisels and card scrapers when you come to this class. Marc Adams, the founder of the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, shows you the quick and practical way he sharpens these two critical tools and explains the unconventional (but extremely effective) ways he holds and drives these tools to get predictable results.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to discuss these principles in detail with the instructor. If possible, bring a couple chisels and card scrapers to sharpen up and use. We'll have wood and benches available so you can try your hand at some of the principles discussed in the class.

Friday: 9 a.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.

The Misunderstood Router

Marc Adams

Room: 6 (hands-on session in Room 8)

Routers are some of the most useful modern power tools -- but they are also sorely misunderstood by woodworkers. In this session, Marc Adams, of the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, will turn your world upside-down as he explains everything you need to know about routers and cutters to get clean cuts.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to discuss these ideas in detail with the instructor. We'll also have routers, wood and worksurfaces available for you to try out some of these ideas under the watchful eye of the instructor and volunteers. If

possible, bring hearing and eye protection as you will not be allowed to run the tools without them.

Friday: 11 a.m.

Advanced Cuts With a Japanese Saw

Marc Adams

Room: 6

Armed with the right Japanese saw and the right techniques, you can produce beautifully tight and crisp joinery. Marc Adams, who teaches classes in joinery that are almost always sold out, walks you through the tools and techniques he uses to achieve these results. Learn to tune up your saw out of the wrapper, lay out the joints with precision and make the cuts. Adams is a master (and we don't use this word lightly) with the Japanese saw and applying it to Western joinery. Come and find out why.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to discuss these ideas in detail with the instructor and put them into practice. We'll have benches and wood available. Bring your dozuki and some marking tools to try out some of these ideas under the watchful eye of the instructor and volunteers.

Friday: 12 p.m.

Saturday: noon

Amazing Router Jigs for Inlay, Ellipses and 'Faux' Dovetails

Marc Adams

Room: 6 (hands-on session in Room 8)

By themselves, routers are amazing tools. But when paired with a simple jig or two, they can be used to produce results that are nothing less than astonishing. Marc Adams, founder of the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, has developed three router jigs that will vastly expand what you can do with this handheld tool. Use a router to create crisp inlay, rout perfect ellipses and even make "faux" dovetails that will have your hand-dovetailing friends green with envy.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to discuss these ideas in detail with the instructor and even try your hand with the jigs under the watchful eye of the instructor and volunteers. If possible, bring hearing and eye protection as you will not be allowed to run the tools without them.

Friday: 10 a.m.

Boullework: An Introduction & Demonstration

Don Williams

Room: 6

Some of the most stunning early furniture incorporates boullework – a two part marquetry composition that uses brass sheet and tortoiseshell. This skill -- largely lost -- is well worth exploring and learning. We're bringing in Don Williams, an expert in boullework, to spend an afternoon explaining and demonstrating this craft using a simple set of tools and techniques. Plus, there will be work stations as well as tools and materials for those who want to try it themselves. Do not miss this rare glimpse into a traditional craft that can take your finished surfaces to a whole new level.

Saturday: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Set Up a Band Saw for Ultimate Precision

Michael Fortune

Room 7 & 8

Without exception, band saws are one of the most poorly set up tools in any workshop. As a result, band saws are used for rough cuts instead of the incredible precision they are capable of. In this amazing demonstration, band saw maestro Michael Fortune shows how to take a run-of-the-mill 14" band saw and set it up from scratch. He'll address all the fine details of this important machine, from the guides to the wheels to the blade to the tension. And then he'll show you what a perfectly set up tool is capable of.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to get your hands on a 14" band saw and set it up yourself with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. If possible, bring hearing and eye protection as you will not be allowed to run the tools without them.

Friday: 8 a.m., 4 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.

Contemporary Design by Michael Fortune

Michael Fortune

Room 7 & 8

Canadian woodworker Michael Fortune is one of the most celebrated woodworkers and designers alive today. His flair for design and skill in the shop has earned him customers, students and admirers all over the globe. In this session, Fortune shows how he develops a design from the initial ideas and sketches to the finished piece. Using pieces culled from more than 30 years of work, he'll show how his designs have evolved and matured and offer suggestions for your own development as a furniture designer.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions

of the instructor. Feel free to bring photos or sketches of your own work for discussion with the instructor and other attendees.

Friday: 10 a.m.

Saturday: 2 p.m.

Resawing Veneer

Michael Fortune

Room 7 & 8

Sawing your own veneer is rewarding and gives you an immense amount of control over the design of your projects. In this session, Michael Fortune shows how he tunes up a band saw for resawing veneers and the techniques he uses to achieve accurate and clean cuts. Fortune is a master of both the bend saw and veneer work, so this session is a rare opportunity to learn the technical and design skills necessary for accurate resawing.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor or try your hand at resawing veneer on our equipment with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We'll supply the wood. Please bring hearing and eye protection as you will not be allowed to operate the machines without them.

Friday: noon

Inlay and Banding

Michael Fortune

Room 7 & 8

Like veneer work, adding inlay or banding to your skill set can take your furniture designs in a new direction. In this session, Michael Fortune shows you the tools and techniques he uses to create and install inlay into his contemporary work.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and explore the topic in more detail and watch the instructor work.

Friday: 2 p.m.

Eliminate Drift on the Band Saw

Michael Fortune

Room 7 & 8

One of the most frustrating aspects of the band saw is the tendency of the cut to drift as you advance the work into the blade. There are a variety of ways to compensate for the drift, but no one seems to agree on the best technique. Band saw maestro Michael Fortune shows you how he tunes his saw to compensate for blade drift and demonstrates the results he gets.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and put these ideas into practice with a 14" band saw and the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. If possible, bring hearing and eye protection as you will not be allowed to run the tools without them.

Saturday: noon

Tenons on the Table Saw: The Two Best Methods

Glen D. Huey

Room 7 & 8

Many methods for making tenons on the table saw are inaccurate, dangerous or require complex jigs. Glen D. Huey's professional approach to making tenons uses a simple, three-piece jig, is safe and ensures accurate results (with little or no tweaking). The two methods he'll be demonstrating allow you to cover virtually all your tenon-making needs, from short rails for doors up to long rails for beds. Huey will show you how he sets up and tests his cuts so you can be making tenons with a minimal amount of waste of material or time.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and put these ideas into practice with a table saw and the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. Be sure to bring hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the machinery without it.

Friday: noon

Sunday: 10 a.m.

Drawers With One Table Saw Setup

Glen D. Huey

Room 7 & 8

When you need to make a lot of drawers in different sizes, we have the technique that will allow you to set your table saw to one setting and cut all the joinery to join the sides and back – even the drawer groove. We use this professional trick all the time when making drawers for shop cabinets and contemporary furniture – these drawers are strong.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at making a drawer using a table saw and the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the wood. Be sure to bring hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the machinery without it.

Friday: 11 a.m.

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: noon

Super-simple Half-laps With a Router

Glen D. Huey

Room 7 & 8

There is no easier way to make half-laps and mitered half-laps than Glen D. Huey's technique. Do you need a router table? Nope. Fancy jig? No – just one piece of wood. This technique works on pieces short, long, wide and narrow. And the resulting surface is super smooth – improving your glue's strength.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at making these joints with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the wood. Be sure to bring hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the tools without it.

Friday: 1 p.m.

Sliding Dovetails Without Fail

Glen D. Huey

Room 7 & 8

One of the best all-around joints for building casework is the sliding dovetail. Yet many woodworkers struggle with cutting it, fitting it and diagnosing their problems. Glen D. Huey, the senior editor of *Popular Woodworking Magazine* and author of "Building 18th-century American Furniture," can show you how to make this joint without jigs or fixtures. With a dovetail bit, router and small router table you can make airtight sliding dovetails. Huey also shows you how – with one small tweak – you can make sliding dovetails that tighten up as you drive them home – a great trick for shelving.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at making these joints with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the wood. Be sure to bring hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the tools without it.

Friday: 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m.

Router Stringing and Inlay

Glen D. Huey

Room 7 & 8

Have you ever seen the beautiful inlay on a typical spice box? It looks hard – but it's not. In fact

it can be your first inlay project ever. Glen D. Huey, the senior editor of *Popular Woodworking Magazine* and author of "Building 18th-century American Furniture," shows you how to make these beautiful inlay patterns using simple hand-held power tools and quick shopmade templates. Then he shows you how to make the stringing and glue it into place. You will be shocked at how straightforward it is.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at this inlay technique with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the wood. Be sure to bring hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the tools without it.

Saturday: 1 p.m.

How to Grind Your Tools

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

Learning to grind your tools properly will save you hours of sharpening time. In this session, Christopher Schwarz, the author of "Handplane Essentials" and editor of *Popular Woodworking Magazine*, shows you how to grind curved and straight edges on a standard dry grinder, plus how to make straight edges on an ingenious and very inexpensive sandpaper jig.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at grinding with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the grinders. Be sure to bring a couple practice tools plus hearing and eye protection with you because you will not be allowed to operate the tools without it.

Friday: 8 a.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.

Handplaning Boards: From Rough to Finished

Jim Tolpin or

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

Every woodworker should know how to flatten boards by hand. Even if you have excellent machines, there are times that you'll have wood that is just too wide to machine and too beautiful to slice into narrow stock. Jim Tolpin, one of the world's bestselling woodworking authors, or Christopher Schwarz will show you how to take a rough board and get it flat and then ready for finish using handplanes, a little muscle and a lot of long-forgotten tricks.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand dressing boards with the assistance of the instructor and

volunteers. We supply the wood and benches. Be sure to bring a jack plane or scrub plane and a smoothing plane so you can learn to apply these principles to your own tools.

Friday: 9 a.m. (Jim Tolpin)

Saturday: 11 a.m. (Jim Tolpin)

Sunday: 10 a.m. (Christopher Schwarz)

Honing Straight or Curved Plane Irons

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

There are two kinds of edges in the handplane world: straight and curved. In this session, Christopher Schwarz, the author of "Handplane Essentials," shows you how to hone either shape on your sharpening stones. He'll also discuss the different curves used with different tools and how to get those shapes using a variety of techniques or commercial jigs.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at sharpening with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the benches. Be sure to bring your sharpening stones and a tool to sharpen so you can learn to apply these principles to your own tools.

Friday: 10 a.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m.

Why Everyone Needs a Drawknife

Jim Tolpin

Room 3

The drawknife is a sorely misunderstood and misused tool. And in the wrong hands it can be dangerous. Jim Tolpin, one of the world's bestselling woodworking authors, shows you how to sharpen and use a drawknife, which is handy for a variety of shop chores, from hogging material off to finely cutting stopped chamfers that end with long curve or a lamb's tongue. Even if you never build a single chair you'll be glad to have a drawknife at times. And, he'll show you how to clean up your drawknife cuts with a spokeshave.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand with a drawknife with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the benches. Be sure to bring your drawknife so you can learn to apply these principles to your own tool.

Friday: 11 a.m.

Saturday: 1 p.m.

Planing Impossible Woods

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

Some boards are so difficult to handplane that we want to throw them into the burn pile. But before you do that (or buy a wide-belt sander), check out this session with Christopher Schwarz, the author of "Handplane Essentials." He'll show you the strategies he uses to deal with cantankerous boards, including the special tools, cutters and cutting geometry that can give you a hand. If struggle with tear-out find out the simple steps you can take to get gleaming and smooth surfaces.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand at planing some difficult woods with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the benches. Be sure to bring your smoothing plane. And if you have a small sample of a wood that has been un-planable, bring it along.

Friday: noon

Saturday: 2 p.m.

The Essential Router Plane

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

Router planes aren't like electric routers. They do different chores, and many woodworkers have no idea how incredibly useful they are. The router plane is the single-most powerful tool in making dados, trimming tenons and lap joints so they are perfect, and making hinge recesses. In fact, router planes are the one joinery plane that every shop should have – even if you are a machine-based woodworker.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand with a router plane with the assistance of the instructor and volunteers. We supply the benches and the wood. Be sure to bring a router plane if you have one.

Friday: 2 p.m.

Nine Planes You Need

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

You don't need hundreds of planes to build nice furniture. In fact, I think you need only nine to handle all the smoothing and joinery chores for most furniture (the moulding planes are a different story....). During this session you'll learn how to get up and running with all the

essential planes – sharpening, setup and use.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand with some of the essential shop planes. We supply the benches and the wood.

Friday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: noon

Scraping Planes

Christopher Schwarz

Room 3

Scraping planes can save your bacon, especially when dealing with wide tabletops. In this session, Christopher Schwarz, the author of "Handplane Essentials," shows you how to select the right scraper plane for your work (everything from a No. 80 to a No. 212), how to sharpen it and how to use it. He'll even answer the fundamental question most woodworkers ask: If you are good with handplanes, when do you need a scraping plane?

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and try your hand with a scraper plane. We supply the benches and the wood. If you can, bring a scraper plane so you can apply these principles to your work.

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Chisels: The Good, the Bad and the Garbage

Ron Herman

Room 6

You can find vintage chisels at almost any flea market, garage sale or junk store. But how can you tell a good one from a bad one while you're in the "wild." Housewright Ron Herman has years of experience buying, restoring and setting up vintage chisels. He shows you how he evaluates chisels to decide if they are worth taking a chance on. Plus, he offers tips on how to rehab old chisels, even the soft ones.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour or so to ask questions of the instructor and plumb his immense knowledge of chisels.

Friday: 8 a.m., 3 p.m.

Professional & Practical Shooting Boards

Ron Herman

Room 6

You can make fancy shooting boards, or you can make shooting boards using shop scraps. Both

will do the work just as well, but the scrapwood shooting boards can be assembled in minutes instead of hours. Housewright Ron Herman takes you on a tour of the shooting boards he and his employees use everyday on the job to shoot airtight miters in difficult situations. Learn the best planes for the operation and how to micro-adjust your shooting boards with a nickel.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to explore and test drive shooting boards with the instructor. We'll have wood and benches available.

Friday: 1 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.

Everything You Need to Know About Auger Bits

Ron Herman

Room 6

The wrong auger bit in your brace will be too slow (at best) – or make a mess of things. There are an astonishing number of forms available out there that have developed since this amazing invention appeared in the 19th century. Housewright Ron Herman has spent years cataloging, purchasing, researching, tuning and using auger bits in his professional life. In this session you'll learn to identify the most useful bits in the wild, be able to tell what they were designed for and determine if they are worth buying or not.

Hands-on Component: After this session, stick around for the next hour to explore auger bits with the instructor and put them to use to learn their differences. We'll have wood and benches available.

Friday: 5 p.m.