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# The Journal

of the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers

earle rich

**Wine Stoppers**

steve coello

**Dining Chair Project**

claud dupuis

**My Signature Piece**

mike dunbar

**Continuous Arm Windsor**

jon siegel

**Balusters**

steve branam

**Four Stroke  
Mortise & Tenon**

bob couch

**Simple Cove Jig**

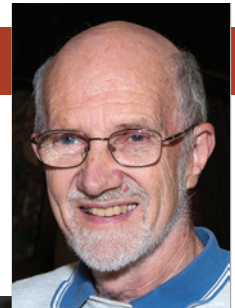
alan saffron

**Chisel Paring Guide**



Ted Blachly

## Walnut Dining Table



by Earle Rich

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## Wine Stoppers

I like to make practical items. When I first tried woodturning, I made bowls and a few bottle openers and other simple items. Then, limited in size by the tools I could make and take with me on our volunteering activities in Florida in the winter, I made lots of pens. That kept me busy for a couple of years but I decided that since everyone else is making pens, I would like to try something else.

A friend was attending a crafts show in a nearby town and he bought a seam ripper—a tool used to rip out seams in clothing. It was pretty bad, poor ergonomics, rough finish and the design was very simple. My first attempts were a great success. The first five shown to a quilting group were claimed and refused to be returned.

I made a few hundred of these and then tried bottle stoppers as the next phase of my hobby. These are relatively simple but, as with the seam rippers, could be made with a great variety of design elements. The larger diameter made it easier to add elements such as dyed dots, veneer, coins and jewels.

As an engineer, creating efficient

processes gives me great satisfaction. I like the fact that I can add jigs and fixtures to make every step as easy and repeatable as possible. If I'm going to set up to drill and tap the bottle stopper blanks, I'm not going to do one or two, I'm going to do a bunch at a time. When I find a piece of firewood that has interesting figure or color, I make 1½" or 2" diameter dowels from the square blanks as long as possible and then cut to finished length on the table saw—photos 1 & 2.

The 12" metal lathe is great for this, creating a uniform diameter from one end to the other—photos 3 & 4.

Most of my wood comes right off the tree, converted to blanks and stored properly to reduce loss at the lathe. We live in Florida for three months of the year. That state has possibly more invasive plants and animals than any other place. It's great for woodturners because exotic woods that might be expensive in a wood store are usually cut down and burned in landfills. If we can get to them before this happens, it's a great score—photo 5.

Oddly enough, some wood varieties are usually not considered and ignored

# Member Gallery

## Mike Korsak Pittsburgh, PA

**In Time**—Cherry, rosewood, secondary woods. The curves on this curvy clock were made using a variety of methods—steam bending, bent lamination, stave construction and hot pipe bending. Hidden behind the curved door on the left side are four tiny drawers meant to hold those meaningful little things we all pick up over time. The finish is tung oil, shellac and wax.



## Steve Colello Sanbornville, NH

**Expanding Game Table**—Game table that expands from 18" x 36" to 36" square. The base is cherry. The top is a figured cherry veneer with quarter sawn cherry border and ebony trim. Finished with five spray coats of General Finishes Enduro-Var water base varnish.

## Peter James Grantham, NH

**Chest of Drawers**—We acquired this chest about 40 years ago to use as storage. It was originally covered in flaking green paint. When we looked closer, we discovered that it is solid mahogany. Many years later when we were creating Verna's quilting studio, I stripped all the paint off and added the riser to the top to bring the height up to a comfortable level for a work table. The wood for the riser is red oak from our lot that I cut the trees and had sawn. The chest is now the center of activity in her studio providing lots of storage in the four large drawers below and room for sewing tools in the four drawers in the new riser section.

