

THE MISSION OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The mission of the Education Committee is to provide members with ways to increase their knowledge and to develop their skills to become better at fine woodworking, utilizing systematic educational opportunities. While the scope of the Association may be broader, the education program generally is focused on fine woodworking construction projects, including furniture, boxes and other casework, musical instruments, toys, and other constructed products. Wood turning, carving, and cabinet making are included only as they contribute to the creation of fine wood constructions.

Methodology of Instruction

I. Introduction to woodworking courses (first level)

This is a series of short, introductory courses dealing with the bare, essential elements of fine woodworking. As an entire series, it is intended for those who have limited woodworking experience. The courses typically will be taught by members, with each course requiring about two days or less.

II. Intermediate woodworking courses (second level)

These courses shall focus on preparation for fine woodworking --- the making of finely constructed wood projects. Knowledge and skill equal to or better than that offered in the "first level" program are required to be successful. Courses might reasonably be classed as advanced apprentice to beginning journeyman. The courses typically will be taught by members, with each course requiring about four days or less.

III. Advanced woodworking courses (level three and beyond)

Courses oriented toward actually building a fine woodworking project will require more facility than we have. It also will require a true master wood crafter, with good ability to teach a person who is ready for that level of instruction. For this, we should make arrangements to permit this level of achievement to be reached without needing to travel for over-night stay. This will demand cooperation with some outside organization. Ideal Saw Works may create the facility for this type of program. They have a master in Chuck Argo. And Ideal Saw Works has proved interest in SJFWA through support over a long period.