

AUGUST 2025

STWG

SUSQUEHANNA TRAIL WOODWORKERS GUILD

FROM THE EDITORS DESK

My wife and I recently traveled to Seattle, and while taking in the sights, I was impressed with skill and imagination of the local craftsmen, and artisans. The Northwest portion of the country get plentiful rain, mixed with sunny days, and a temperate climate. The perfect weather for tree growth. Because Seattle has ocean access, there is long heritage of boat building. Everything from small boats meant for inland waterways, to large ocean-going ships.

However, there is more to woodworking than ship building. There are some amazing craftsmen out there, and some of the creations were incredible. — Drew



JULY MEETING

Bottle stops for all your drinking needs.



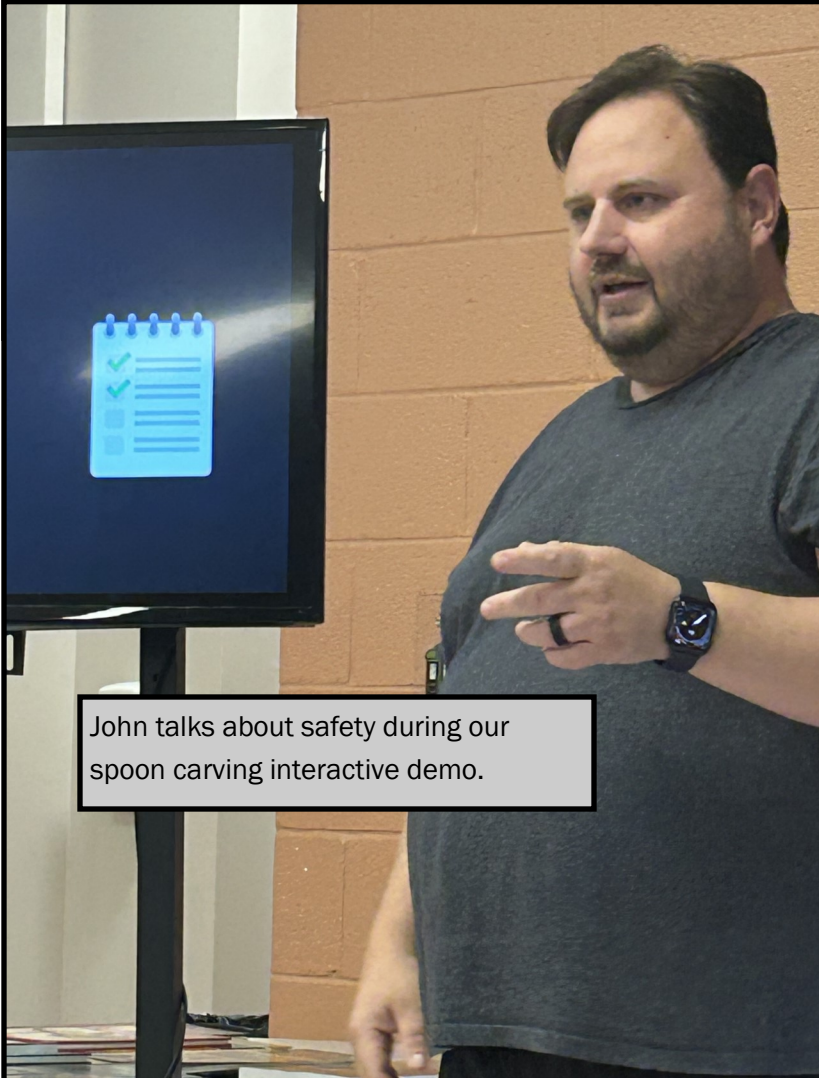
A corner, hand operated, drill.



A dice roller.



A vintage wire puller



John talks about safety during our spoon carving interactive demo.



STWG.ORG

Wood Carving:

Noun: The action or skill of carving wood, to make functional or ornamental objects.

Wood carving (or woodcarving) is a form of woodworking by means of a cutting tool (knife) in one hand or a chisel by two hands, or with one hand on a chisel.



Toothsome tips for bandsaw blades

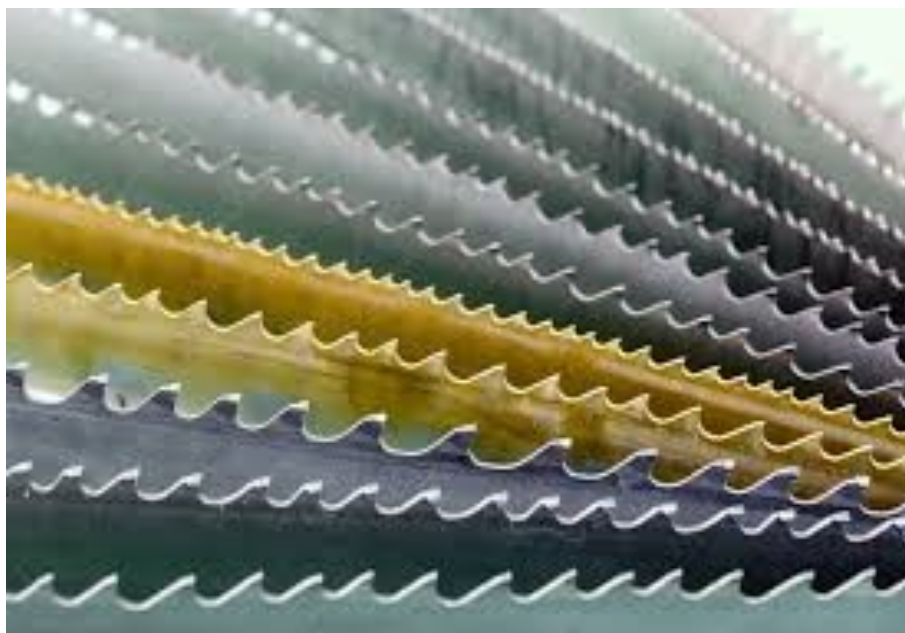
How do I determine how many teeth per inch my bandsaw blades should have? More is better, right?

Wood Magazine staff

When it comes to teeth and bandsaw blades, more isn't always better. The thickness of the material you're cutting, as well as the desired quality of cut, determine the optimum teeth per inch (tpi). One simple rule of thumb is to keep a minimum of three teeth engaged in the wood at all times. So for cutting 3/4"-thick stock, select a blade with at least 4 tpi. For 1/2"-thick material, choose a blade with at least 6 tpi, and so on.

Going beyond this three-tooth rule, a blade with fewer teeth allows you to cut faster because it has larger, deeper gullets (the spaces between the teeth) to carry away sawdust quickly and efficiently. A blade with a slightly higher tooth count leaves a smoother surface requiring less sanding, but is more prone to loading up with sawdust. You'll need to adjust your feed rate to prevent heat buildup and burning.

Keep in mind that tpi is only one factor that goes into selecting a blade. To match the job at hand, you'll also need to consider blade width and tooth geometry. For general cutting, a 3/8"- or 1/2"-wide skip- or hook-tooth blade with 4 to 6 tpi is a good balance between speed and cut quality. For resawing, choose the widest blade your saw can handle with the fewest number of teeth (usually 2 or 3 tpi) in either a hook or variable-pitch tooth style. For cutting curves, scrollwork, or intricate cuts, select a narrow (1/4" or less) regular or hook-tooth blade with more teeth (6 to 12 tpi) to minimize the amount of finish-sanding needed.



If choosing the correct tpi still seems like a daunting proposition, know that most blade suppliers stock a limited range of tpi choices for each width of blade, so you'll most likely only have to choose between two or three options. But if you're still stuck, don't be afraid to contact your supplier. Most bandsaw blade sellers are knowledgeable about their products and happy to help you choose the best blade for your intended purpose.

DRAKE HARDWOODS

A shout-out to Drake Hardwoods for their generous donation of Pine boards. Their gift will be used to create bird-houses for upcoming STWG events. From domestic species to exotic woods, they've got it all!



A portion of Drake Hardwoods inventory.