

Free Friday

Instructor: Bob Simmons; The Hand Tool Guy

Prerequisites: None

Schedule: Friday afternoons from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Fee: Free

Enrollment: 10 Students (we will accept overflows)

Bob Simmons, The Hand Tool Guy, will revive a regular study of hand tools in the SCW Woodshop. The series is called "Free Friday Demonstrations" and will be presented on the third Friday of each month, starting on October 20th 2023, in the afternoon from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

The Woodclub was recently gifted a collection of vintage hand tools; including, Stanley-Bailey bench planes, Stanley block planes, Stanley spokeshaves, and a wide selection of auger bits for use in a hand bit-brace. All these gifted tools are like the tools one might find at a garage sale, swap meet, thrift shop, or on-line sources. They are in serious need of rehabilitation and restoration; but, they all have good bones and can easily be converted into a treasured user tool.

The demonstrations will present the process of cleaning, tuning, and using each of these different classes of tools. Then, Bob will demonstrate a process of learning to use the tool to perform basic woodworking activities. However, demonstrations are usually insufficient for an individual to obtain a "swap meet find" and convert it to a good user. Following each demonstration, Woodclub members will be able to schedule hands-on time with Bob to gain practice with an old tool they might want to tune up. The Free Friday sessions will be listed on the Woodclub schedule web page. Even though there is no fee, Woodclub members are encouraged to sign up so we know how many participants might attend. The demonstrations will be held around the large table at the rear of the Woodshop.

Look for the sessions posted on the schedule web page.

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