

# TRADITIONAL JAPANESE DAIKU WOODWORKING

With Jay van ARSDALE

August 20-24, 2012

## MONDAY:

Introduction to the history, philosophy, traditional tools and their evolution in Japanese Woodworking. Discussion will outline types and styles of major woodworking professions-housing, temples, Sukiya/tea house garden construction, and tansu (furniture), with focus on joinery construction and appropriate hand tools.

Videos shown will outline traditional tool making processes. Safe working processes with these extremely sharp cutting edge tools will be stressed at all times. Demonstrations on efficient tool sharpening processes and selection of appropriate water stones to help develop skillful strategy to maintain edge tools. Discussion of “pull saw” mechanics and proper techniques to get the most accuracy and production out of the ryoba-two toothed edge saw. Begin layout and sawing exercises.

## TUESDAY:

More work on layout strategies and tool use; exploring the ‘5 reductive processes’ for creating the basic shapes useful for making joinery. Lap joints and bridle joinery from simple to more complex. Continue sharpening practice.

## WEDNESDAY:

We will spend the day with the ubiquitous mortise and tenon joint looking at the basic ‘compression fit’ and the almost limitless combinations possible with these fundamental compound/complex shapes. We will spend time looking at frame and panel corner options.

## THURSDAY:

This day will be spent learning about ‘KANNA’ Japanese wooden body hand planes. Selection, preparation, and other set-ups that facilitate the efficient use of this most sophisticated antique tool. Understanding these simple adjustments will open up this tool and transform it into a more useful process than you might be used to.

## FRIDAY:

This is wrap-up day where we will put all the parts together to create joinery combinations that are beautiful, engineered and fundamentally useful. We will finish the week with exploring the joy of splicing joinery and the more compound/complex configurations necessary for joinery construction of any scale and any time.

## Tools Needed –

1000-2000G rough and 5-10,000 polishing water stone

Hammer and Sashigane (square), pencil

3/8”, 5/8” and 1 1/2” chisels

210-240 mm Ryoba (replaceable)

Kanna, 48mm, 45 degree. There are many price ranges – which reflect a lot of features and qualities.

Purchase what fits your budget. Scraper plane- 36mm – used to condition the bottom on the Kanna.

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