

Valley Woodwork

66 Amy Drive

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LINE-AND-BERRY WITH STEVE LATTA July 28, 2019 (Sunday)

Dear Line-and-berry participant,

Over the past 35 years I've made a great number of blanket chests, chests-of-drawers and spice chests and many of these have been inspired by historical pieces originating in my little neck of the woods which is Chester County, Pennsylvania. At the end of the 17th century and through the beginning of the 18th, William Penn opened up his lands for settlement inviting people from many like-minded cultures to take advantage of all this country had to offer. In Pennsylvania, along the Lancaster and Chester County border, motifs from Germanic and Anglo backgrounds blended together to create a unique form of compass work unlike any inlay found elsewhere in the world. Designs found on Pennsylvania German dower chests mixed with the Welsh traditions of vine-and-berry to create a wonderful style consisting of straight lines and arcs of holly arranged in geometric patterns and typically set into a walnut background. The techniques we will be discussing are applicable to a wide range of inlay styles ranging from the federal period to contemporary designs. In this workshop, we will cover basic designs and techniques. It will be a lot of fun; we'll all learn a great deal and hopefully have a better understanding of the origins of many of today's designs. I'm looking forward to it!



Tool List For Line-and-Berry

In addition to a basic set of tools (chisels, block plane, screwdrivers, hammer, dovetail saw, combination square, dead blow mallet, etc.) ...

- X-acto knives with extra blades #11 REQUIRED
- If you have trouble focusing on very small objects, purchase a set of reading glasses or an Optivisor. Much of our work will be detailed.

Inlay Essentials....

- Swiss made gouge #2-10 or #3-10 or equivalent for cleaning corners. SwissMade, available from Woodcraft has a nice #3 palm chisel that works well. EITHER ONE OF THE #3 IS REQUIRED

For doing inlay by hand:

- Lie-Nielsen radius inlay cutter. IN-RC **and** 3" extensions IN-RC-EXT. Purchasing this tool will save a great deal of workshop time. REQUIRED
- My complete set of inlay tools is available from Lie-Nielsen. Although they would simplify the process for doing inlay by hand, if you are experimenting with inlay, I suggest you hold off buying the complete set. I will have extras that we can share.

For doing inlay with modern tooling:

- Dremel rotary tool with a router base. Any fixed or variable speed dremel unit that spins around 35,000 rpm should work. I use a model 395. **Do not get a cordless version and do not get the model with the quick change collet.**
- Stewart MacDonald router base #5260 from www.Stew-mac.com. This is an excellent tool that is very well made. Although there are others on the market, I feel this is the best quality and value for the money.
- Two small 1" c-clamps to secure a fence to the Stew Mac base.

- Although not required, I would highly recommend purchasing the Deadman Foot Switch # 1301 available at https://www.ptreeusa.com/rtr_power_switch.html This is a good switch selling for a reasonable price. This has multiple uses for all your portable power tools and I cannot recommend it strongly enough.
- I will have endmills for inlay available for use and sale. Do not buy the bits from Stew-Mac. Last time I checked, they were twice my price.

I intend to cover both hand and Dremel inlay techniques because has experience has shown me that most folks enjoy both methods and their many related applications. Although most of my inlay is done by hand, the Dremel and stew-mac router base are used regularly. It is a versatile combination with many applications other than inlay.

If any of the above seem costly and you are not sure if this type of ornamentation will become a regular part of your work, hold off on purchasing and we can share. Since this is only a one-day workshop, I would not feel the need to purchase everything unless it is marked required. I have seen too many instances where great amounts of money were spent on tools that were never used.

If you are taking the spice chest class which runs the following week, I would disregard this list and view the tool list for that class. It is more extensive, as is the project.

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