

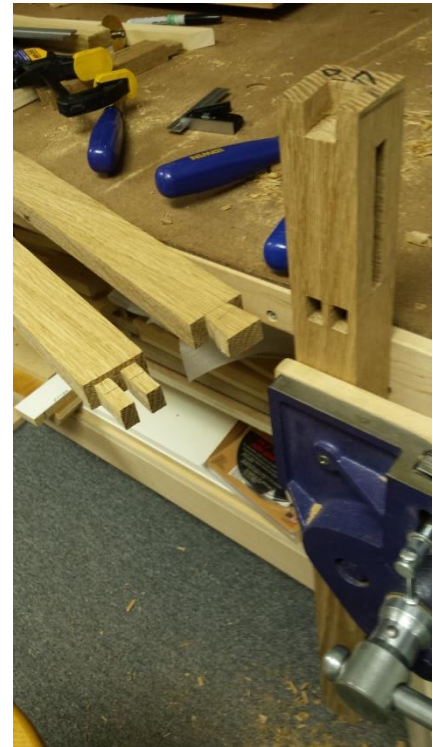
Featured Piece of the Month - Stickley Sofa Table by Ken Zoller
June, 2018



Arts and Craft, Craftsman, Stickley etc. furniture is all about clean lines and exposed joinery. This table was based on a Stickley Company piece we saw in a furniture store. Of course, as a

woodworker, I said, “I can make that” and, of course, it took six months of very part-time work and an extensive learning curve (both on SketchUp and in the shop).

The primary wood used was quarter-sawn white oak. I learned oak is not a friend to sharp chisels! The basic table construction was typical with aprons mortised into the legs and the drawer blades connected with double tenons (lower) and dovetails (upper).



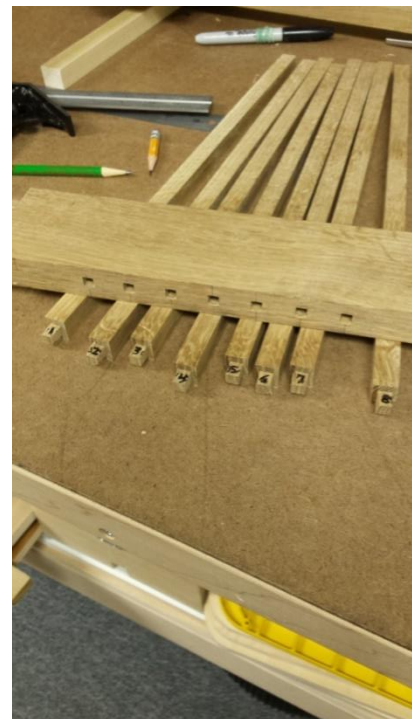
The new techniques for me were through pinned tenons on the lower stretchers. I used a Powermatic benchtop mortiser. The mortises were made with a 3/8th inch chisel/auger bit drilled from both sides of the legs, making sure the same reference face was against the machine fence and the mortise length set with a pair of marking gauges.



The tenon was fitted from the outside (show) face of the leg so any irregularity in the opposing mortises was hidden by the tenon shoulders on the inside face. The profile on the exposed tenon was a simple chamfer sanded on all four sides. The tenon was pinned with a 3/8 inch oak dowel.



I again used the mortising machine (quarter inch bit) to place the total of twenty-eight 1/4" by 3/8th inch mortises for the seven spindles on each side.



The wood was colored with a water based dye and a gel stain, and then film finished with wipe-on polyurethane. It is a slight modification of the Mission style finish described here:

<http://homesteadfinishingproducts.com/stickley.pdf>

