Making Cabriole Legs

I've read that this shape leg can be traced back to Ancient Egypt. As far as us westerners are concerned it really came to its' hey day during the Queen Anne period. This is just a short explanation of laying out and cutting a simple version of this type of table leg, though this leg does not have the club or pad foot common to the Queen Anne style.





First a pattern is made and traced on the leg blanks. The shape is drawn on two faces at 90 degrees to one another. The back edge of the pattern will touch on what will be the inside corner of the leg. Next I bandsaw to the line.





Once the blank has been sawn on one face, tape the parts back together and saw the other face. You can see in the photo at right the leg and all the waste removed.





The next two photos show the bandsawn legs. Noticed the mortices were cut before the bandsaw work was done.



