Kay’s Keys Writing John’s Jaunt

Dear Woodworkers,

In honor of Fathers Day, I gave John the day off and am writing this edition of John’s Jaunt. You may be still wondering why a guy from Spring Grove, IL is the Guild President. If so, you would have to blame or thank my father Dick Yezek. John has gotten a lot of information from the guild and his family gets to be the recipients of the things he learns in the guild. You have a really neat organization.

John came home from the June meeting wanting to try to build a clock. He talked about building a backwards clock for his brother who is always late. I am not sure this would help, but the clock would be really cool looking. He also has made the band saw boxes for the family, and his Mom really loves hers. I think she really had a hard time believing that John spent that amount of time making a wood box. She could not believe the curves and how the pieces fit together. It is a long way from the clay pots he made in second grade.

In July you will be having a show and tell meeting. I know that both John and my father will gain new ideas for things to try in the shop. I know that the pens have been done a few times, but my dad really enjoys making them. You will need to ask him about the ones he made for the grandkids’ teachers this past June. Let’s just say they were a long way from the usual gifts of candles and apple paper weights. This is just one skill my father gained from being a guild member. When I was a little girl I remember my dad just getting started. We would spend the weekends looking at tools and he began making things at home. When I was in college, Dad found the guild and was able to get his hands on more tools and learned many more project ideas.

Thank you to all the members who share their time and talents with the Guild. No organization can continue without the help of its’ members. Please keep inspiring each other to try new projects, techniques and skills. It is a great way to prevent the loss of quality craftsmanship in the 21st century.

Keep up the good work!
Kay Yezek Johnson

By Dick Butula

The program for the Guilds’ June meeting was a very informative presentation by John Cooper, the Product Development Manager of the Klockit Company. 

Bobbie Beliunas, one of Klockits technical experts, assisted him. The company was formed in 1974, as a clock parts catalog company. Cooper started with the firm in 1980. In 1983 they developed the idea of selling kits for making clocks. They pride themselves in the quality of their customer support.

Cooper brought along samples of different clock movements and cases that they have in their inventory. One was a child’s clock that was redesigned after seeing another at a discount store that could easily tip over because it was top heavy. The Klockit model has a heavy base with drawers for storage.

Envelopes were handed out to the group that contained their catalog, a discount card and a booklet that showed the sizing of cases for their clock movements. Clocks are operated by battery powered quartz or mechanical

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movements that are powered by weights/pendulums. Quartz movements are available with pendulums; some can be controlled by an atomic clock; and a few can also adjust automatically for daylight savings time in the spring and fall.

Clocks can have chimes that are either electronic or with rods or tubes that are struck by small hammers. The Westminster is the most recognized of the chimes, but the Whittington and St. Michaels chimes are available in different movements.

Many people make the mistake of building a case and then try to install a movement to fit it. Cooper strongly recommended that the movement be acquired first and then building the case to fit. The handout booklet has illustrations and dimensions for cases for grandfather clock movements. They show the right height to allow for the weights to drop; width for room for the pendulums to swing freely; and depth to allow the movement to work. It also shows that the chime rods should not be mounted to the case but rather to a separate bridgeboard. This will allow better accessibility for final adjustments of chime hammer/rod alignment.

Some chimes can sound at the quarter, half and three quarter hour as well as sounding the hour. They can also be shut off completely. Some of the more expensive clocks have chimes that automatically turn off at 11PM so that they don’t sound during the sleeping hours.

Bobbie Beliunas spoke a little bit about clock maintenance. Clocks should be oiled once a year. About every three years they should be removed from their case and cleaned. They can do it or there are other people in that business. When asked about parts replacement, she said that they do not do repairs. If your clock starts to loose time, it probably needs to be cleaned.

Cooper mentioned that there are a number of novelty movements such as 24-hour clocks or some that run counter clockwise. They also have many different clock faces available in different material as well as numerous hand styles. Faces can also be personalized.

He also stressed the importance of having the movements mounting boards level, both from side to side as well as front to back. The type of floor that a clock stands on can affect the sound of the chimes. A carpet can make them quieter than when on a wood floor. Cooper suggested placing a piece of plywood, the same size as the clocks base, under it when on carpet.

Beliunas explained how to set the clocks time so that it is consistent with the chimes. Some movements will self-correct if the hands are advanced manually. In the initial setup of a pendulum clock it may need adjustment. Checking with another time source, such as a quartz clock, set the same time. Check again in 24 hours. If it is running fast the pendulum should be lowered, if it is slow, raise it.

When moving a clock, the weights, cables and pendulum should either be taped down or secured with rubber banding. Cardboard should be placed between the chime rods or the tubes removed.

Although Cooper and Beliunas were representing their company, many of their comments and ideas were very useful to those in attendance.

WOODLANDERS GATHER IN WISCONSIN, JULY 14-17, 2006

The 5th Annual Woodlanders Gathering returns July 14-17 to historic Shake Rag Alley in Mineral Point, Wisconsin. This unique rustic event features over 60 hands-on workshops creating projects from natural materials such as chairs, tables, benches, lamps, garden trellises and arbors made from twigs and branches; pine needle and willow baskets, gourd masks and musical instruments; leather journals and containers, and hyper tufa lanterns and garden structures.

Other workshops include working with hand tools, creating jigs and holding devices, woodcarving, creating a community loom, wild edible plants, energy conservation, dyeing with natural plants, nature jewelry, nature imprints in clay, fossil expeditions, nature outings, and much more.

One of the thirty talented instructors is Woodlanders founder, nationally acclaimed rustic designer/author Daniel Mack from New York. Workshops are open to all levels of experience, from beginners to pros. Advance registration is required. For more information: 608-987-3292 or 987-4499 and on the web at http://www.woodlanders.com

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Know your Fellow Woodworker
Featuring Vern Eilers

Meet Vern Eilers one of our senior members at 77 years young, who lives alone in a modest home in Muskego. His wife of 47 years passed away 17 years ago. They had no children. Vern was born in Iowa and moved to Milwaukee with his parents at age 8. He spent 2 years in the Army and took up flying after the service and owned a 1947 Aranca single engine airplane. The glint is still in his eyes when you talk about flying, and in fact just a few weeks ago he went up for a joy ride with a friend. Vern worked for Pate Oil Company/Exxon at various jobs from maintenance to general manager at various locations including Nashville. Vern and his wife returned to Milwaukee after retiring in 1987.

His love of woodworking began, like for many of us, in high school and his interest gravitated mainly to the lathe. Through the years he has made cabinets and tables and has done extensive work on antique restoration and home remodeling. He has also done carving, which he proudly displays in his home, but had to give it up to that nemesis called carpal tunnel. In addition to being a Guild member he is also active in a local turning group.

Vern’s shop is 10 by 24 feet and packed with a lathe, table saw, planer, drill press, bandsaw and a workbench. Overflowing into the next room he has a jointer and jigsaw. His first lathe was a five in one Ehrick Universal Woodwork Power Tool, a tool that predated a similar tool called a ShopSmith. Next he owned a Delta lathe and now turns on a Jet. His shop also holds a good supply of wood as well as does a portion of his garage. Vern is a frugal woodworker who makes many of his own tools like the vacuum chuck system made from a truck air conditioner and wooden chucks. A dust collector is located in his garage with pipes to his basement shop. One shop wall is covered with special jigs and wood fixtures, while the opposite wall is covered with many, many hand tools.

Although turning is Vern’s passion, he specializes in segmented turning, specifically unusual designs and shapes. He loves challenges and designs that beg “How did you do that?” A room divider between his kitchen and living room provides the perfect showcase for his many beautiful bowls. Apart from housework, a daily walk, several fishing trips a year you will find Vern in his shop turning or planning that next “WOW” bowl.

June 2006 Board Briefs

Attendees: John Johnson, Dick Yezek, Jim Fenske, and Jerry Tackes
Membership: No report
Treasurer: No report
Publications: Leila to do layout for July
Workshops: 3 scheduled for fall

John will not be available for either the Aug meeting or the Aug Board meeting. Dick will preside at both.

Jim Fenske and Ed Cessna represented WWG at Rocklers April 22 club recruiting day.

Jim Fenske will head a committee to visit the Ranch and evaluate the Guild’s role in building a tractor powered train to tour guests.

Jerry Tackes will continue seeking CDs and DVDs suitable for addition to the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Tackes

July Raffle Column:

Dan Schultz was the winner of the random orbit Sander last month.
Two raffle winners will walk away with 6” Quick Grip Bar Clamps in July.
A special thank you to Chuck Warzala who has offered to host the July raffle.
**WWG Programs**

### July Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, July 5, 2006  
**Event:** Regular Guild Meeting  
**Topic:** Show & Tell  
**Presenter:** WWG Members  
**Location:** Faith United Church of Christ  
General-Purpose Room  
4240 North 78th Street  
Milwaukee  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** None. First time guests are welcome.  
**Comments:**  
We will invite as many of our members as possible to share something during this meeting – a technique, a special tool, or a completed project.

### August Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2006  
**Event:** Regular Guild Meeting  
**Topic:** Oil Finishes  
**Presenter:** Len Chesney of Velvit Products Company Division Dynamic Development Corporation Neenah, WI 54956  
**Location:** Faith United Church of Christ  
General-Purpose Room  
4240 North 78th Street  
Milwaukee  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** None. First time guests are welcome.  
**Comments:**  
We were introduced to Velvit Oil during our February meeting as a product well-suited for turners. We have since learned Velvit provides a variety of products for both the industrial and general markets. Over half of their shipments are to the log home manufacturers.  
Len will bring a number of samples with him and discuss their use. He will demonstrate how certain woodworking flaws can be rectified in the finishing process. He has personal experience using the products with an Aldo Leopold bench that sits outside on his porch.

### Upcoming WWG Programs

**September 6th, Wednesday Meeting**  
Making a Stained Glass Panel Door  
WWG Members, Mary Anderson, Leila Frink, and Liz Rohde

**October 6th, Friday Meeting**  
Chip Carving  
Wayne Barton, Founder  
Alpine School of Wood Carving Ltd

**November 3rd, Friday Meeting**  
Shaker Oval Boxes  
John Wilson, Boxmaker

### Upcoming WWG Workshops

**September**  
Hands on Workshop  
Stained Glass Panel Candle Holder  
Presented by Liz Rohde, Mary Anderson and Leila Frink

**October 7 & 8, Saturday and Sunday**  
Hands-On Workshop  
Chip Carving  
Presented by Wayne Barton

**November 4, Saturday**  
Hands-On Workshop  
Shaker Oval Boxes and Advanced Techniques  
Presented by John Wilson, Boxmaker, and Eric

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### Woodworking Hints and Tips

Boric Acid powder is an excellent dry lubricant for sticky drawers, saw tables, jigs and the like. Simply sprinkle the powder right on the surface. Boric acid powder is available in any drugstore.
Woodcraft Class Schedule

Carving By Hand: Santa, w. Frank Penne, Thur, July 6, 6pm - 9pm
Wood Preparation Using The Planer, Jointer & Table Saw, w. Doug Slicker, Mon, July 10, 6pm - 9pm
Bandsaw Tune Up Tips, w. Ron Nelson, Wed, July 12, 6pm - 9pm
Introduction To Carving - Basswood Pine Tree, w. Frank Penne, Thur, July 13, 6pm - 9pm
Introduction To The Scroll Saw, w. Dena Kraemer, Sun, July 16, 12pm - 3pm
Woodworking For Women, w. Doug Slicker, Mon, July 17, 6pm - 9pm
Turn A Euro Pen, w. Melanie Wegner, Tue, July 18, 6pm - 9pm
Taming The Skew, Basic Intro To This Tool, w. Ron Nelson, Wed, July 19, 6pm - 9pm
Turning 101: Intro To Lathe Work, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, July 22, 9:30am - 3:30pm
Router Basics, w. Doug Slicker, Mon, July 24, 6pm - 9pm
Turn A Natural Edge Bowl, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Thur, July 27, 6pm - 9pm
Turning: Pepper Mil, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, July 29, 9:30am - 2pm

Editor’s Note:

As you probably noticed, we have added a couple new features for the newsletter. **Know Your Fellow Woodworker** and, as space allows, **Woodworking Hints and Tips**. We encourage you to submit a hint or tip, or to suggest a fellow woodworker that you would like to see featured in the RIPSAY.

Also, if any of you have ideas that you think could be a feature or that can help us all in our woodworking, please see me at a meeting, or email me, or send me a note.

Thanks to all who submit ideas and help with the publication of our WWG Newsletter.

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Rockler Schedule

July 8th  Demonstration Adjustable Clamp-It

July 15th  Sidewalk Days

July 22nd  Demonstration Microplane

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Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

A. Fillinger, Inc.  6750 N. 43rd St, Milwaukee 414/353-8433
Alpine Plywood  12210 W Silver Spring Road, Milwaukee, 414/438-8400
Custom Service Hardware  1170 Wauwatosa Rd, Cedarburg, 262/375-7960 or 800/882-0009
Homestead Finishing Products, Cleveland, OH 216/631-5309 www.homesteadfinishing.com
Neu’s Building Center, Inc.  N95W16915 Richfield Way, Menomonee Falls, WI 262/251-6550 (located near SW corner of Co. Q and Hwy 41/45)
Rockler’s (The Woodworker’s Store)  845 N. Mayfair Rd, Wauwatosa, 414/774-1882
Woodcraft, 1725 S. 108th St, West Allis, 414/607-6164
Woodline USA can be reached at 800-472-6950, www.woodbits.com
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Regular Monthly Meeting
SHOW & TELL
Wednesday July 5, 2006
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at
Faith United Church of Christ
4240 North 78th Street
Milwaukee

Members will share techniques, a special tool or a completed project. Join us for this very popular summer meeting.

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