John’s Jaunt

Welcome to the December RIPSAW and John’s Jaunt. The holidays are rapidly approaching and I hope your projects are going well! This year’s toy making workshops at Woodcraft have been very successful and I look forward to seeing the results of your labors at the holiday party December 5th. I am still in the midst of deciding what I need to make for Christmas gifts, nothing like cutting it close!

My latest project is to rebuild the top of a coffee table. The current table is about 20 years old, and the plywood panel in the center has taken some abuse. It has bubbled and been stained by various wet and hot objects placed on it. It would certainly be simpler to replace it with a new one, but we really like the style with its built in storage and partial glass top. The new top has been built and stained and is awaiting a top coat to protect it for the next 20 years!

The big news for the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild is our pending move to a new location. Beginning with our January 2nd monthly program we will be meeting at the Tommy Thompson Youth Center on the State Fair park grounds. The new location is more centralized, has the option of using tools at our monthly meeting and is air conditioned for the hot summer meetings. Hopefully you will find it to be a positive change.

Happy woodworking and best wishes for the holiday season!

John Johnson, Guild President

Health Issues for the Woodworker

(Submitted by Si Farmer)

Our featured speaker at the November Membership Meeting was one of our own active Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild members. Dr. Scott Stanwyck is active in personal woodworking and is a long-time host to numerous Guild workshops. He brings a plethora of personal perspectives and salient observations on the safe/unsafe relationships between the woodworker and his equipment.

Some of his rules are well known to most of us; but we sometimes are less than attentive or take shortcuts that may cause us harm.

Rule #1 was ‘Don't Go Deaf.’ He admonished us to wear hearing protection. Unfortunately to many of us our discernable pitch and acoustic range was shortened before we started practicing this rule.

Rule #2 was ‘Don't Go Blind’ but rather wear eye protection. Fine sawdust under a contact lens has the same feeling as sand. We need to protect our eyes from flying objects, toxic fumes as well.

Rule #3 was ‘Keep Your Lung Clean.’ Every shop should have adequate dust collection and dust filtration. The use of a helmet provides clean filtered air for breathing, protection from dust under contacts and some protection from flying objects. Helmets vary in price depending on the bells and whistles they contain. Scott mentioned a high price of approximately $700 for a top notch helmet. A trip to the

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Reflections  
(Continued from page 1)

emergency room could cost you ten times that amount...or more.

Rule #4 was ‘Don’t Cut off Body Parts.’ Scott recommended that woodworkers should buy a fancy table saw, use the guards that came with the table saw and use push sticks. He illustrated some examples of injuries that result from improper use of tools.

Dr. Stanwyck, orthopedic surgeon, said that some screw-ups are fixable and some are not. Of all of your hand digits, your thumb is the most important. So, be careful when using power of all types; table saws, radial arm saws, chop saws and chain saws. [Dr. Stanwyck] also admonished us to keep loose clothing away from moving parts, citing personal experience to illustrate this point.

Some woodworker’s problems are related to overuse. Among these maladies are:

1) carpal tunnel syndrome, characterized by hand numbness, tingling and pain
2) rotator cuff tendonitis or tear and
3) tennis elbow characterized by lateral pain or elbow pain when gripping and
4) shoulder problems such as bursitis and tendonitis. Illustrated back problems were herniated discs and spinal stenosis. [Dr. Stanwyck] suggested that one should use mechanical assists in transporting large items such as large sheets of plywood, and one should use one's legs rather than one's back in lifting.

Dr. Scott Stanwyck profusely illustrated the various anatomic structures and components that were involved in the above mentioned problems/concerns. Remember, no one is immune to woodworkers’ problems if proper precautions are not used!

Thanx Scott, for a very professional and useful presentation.

Member Projects on display at the November Meeting

| Justin Gasal | Jerry Tackes  
| Wedding Candle Holder | Peppermill |
|----------------|-------------
| Justin Gasal | Jay Pilling  
| Toilet Roll Holder | Pedestal Ring Stand |
|----------------|-------------
| Bill Smeaton | Dr. Lochowitz  
| Rocking Chair | Scroll Saw Boxes |

**Officers**

| President | John Johnson | 815/675-9266 |
| Vice President | Dick Yezek | 414/962-9862 |
| Secretary | Jerry Tackes | 414/431-4242 |
| Treasurer | Liz Rohde | 262/692-6907 |
| Program Co-Chairs | Tom Shuppe | 414/475-5706 |
| Director at Large | Mark Bronkalla | 262/968/5803 |
| Publications | Leila Crandall-Frink | 414/453-4118 |
| Workshop Sign-up | Dick & Kathy Yezek | 414/962-9862 |
Year End Raffle Prizes

Woodcraft and Porter Cable have teamed up to donate the 2007 year-end raffle prize to be awarded at the Holiday Party. A Porter Cable C2002 Pancake style Compressor with a BN200A Brad Nailer will be the grand prize. The compressor is a 6 gallon, 150 PSI unit that includes a 25' air hose with accessories. The die-cast aluminum brad nailer uses 3/4" - 2" 18 gauge nails. A second BN200A nailer will be given away to another ticket holder and Chris Kraemer has donated a $50 gift certificate and two $25 gift certificates to further enhance your chances of winning.

Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
November Board Briefs

Attendees: John Johnson, Dick Yezek, Liz Rohde, George Egenhoefer, Leila Crandall-Frink and Jerry Tackes
Membership: 125 approximately
Treasury Balance: $11,896.73
Programs: Planned through March 2008
The major topic covered was the pending move to the State Fair location. Leila to work with Brian Halligan on the guild web site. George Egenhoefer to check cost and size of a gang box for storage of sensitive guild equipment. Jerry Tackes to check on truck rental for potential move on Dec. 7
Liz Rohde and Mary Anderson to work on a letter to current and recent past members on the new location and upcoming events for 2008

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Tackes

A letter from Paul Meissel

Dear Friends,

On September 5, 2007 I had the pleasure of speaking to your group about my experiences teaching woodworking to kids from 9 to 13 years old. I very much enjoyed visiting with all of you and want to thank you for your hospitality. Getting to talk with so many of you after my talk was enlightening and pleasurable.

My impression of your club was that you have a great deal of good people who enjoy woodworking. I liked the “show and tell” part of the meeting. Letting other people see what you do is important because it is a way of getting to know one another better. I am sure that anyone in your club would receive advice and instruction on almost any area of woodworking if they just asked. You certainly have a pool of very valuable talent and experience.

I mentioned to the group that Meisel Hardware Specialties had been invited to be a sponsor of the club, and that I appreciated that very much. As a sponsor, we provide a 10 percent discount to all club members. Setting up our computer system to reliably add the discount was something new to me as your guild was the first group to be set up for such a discount. Prior to my visit to Milwaukee, I consulted with my son Eric who handles the computers for our company. It was determined that we would insert a special discount code in our computer. In this way, any member of your club, by mentioning the discount code number to the person taking their order, would receive the discount on their order. I provided this discount code to the members present at the September 5th meeting.

I checked our records in late October and was surprised to find that no orders had shown up with a request for discount. Had my system gone wrong? Were we disappointing our friends in Milwaukee? I don’t know.

But I want all club members to know that if you use the code #1128, you will be entitled to a 10% discount on anything in our catalog (except gift certificates and shipping) If you have had any trouble getting the discount please let me know. My direct phone number is 1-952-746-2361 and my e-mail address is paul@meiselwoodhobby.com
Upcoming Programs

December 5 - Holiday party at Meyer’s restaurant
January 2 - Mark Bronkalla - Building an instrument case
February 6 - Jerry Claussen - Setting up a shop
March 5 - Canoe building

Upcoming Workshops

Field trip:
TBD - Amish rocking chair shop

Workshops:
TBD - Hand tool sharpening
TBD - Building a hanging wall shelf
TBD - Building a router table

Program/Workshop committee meeting
Thursday, December 13th, 7 pm on in the church library

Board meeting
Thursday, December 13th, 8 pm in the church library

Know Your Fellow Woodworker
Featuring Hank Yun

Meet Hank, a friendly helpful associate at Rockler’s as well as one of the Guilds Ripsaw editors.

His woodworking began as a youth at Milwaukee Boys Club using hand tools making simple things like a sanding block, and as his skill increased he was given permission to use power tools. Through the years woodworking was a way to save money by doing home repairs, building a rec. room, sewing room, and whatever was needed, thus Hank considers himself a woodworking generalist.

Hank and Gail have been married for 41 years and have two sons and three grandchildren. When away from work they enjoy traveling, camping, and spending time with the family. Prior to his second career at Rockler, Hank worked for the Harnischfeger Corporation for 38 years as a Technical Writer and eventually retired as the Director of Technical Publications.

Some of the toys made at the toy workshops. Thank you to all of the guild members who helped make the toys for our toy drive. These and others will be on display at the Holiday Party at Meyers Restaurant on December 5th.

Publications Committee

Editor
Leila Crandall-Frink  414/453-4118
Lfrink@wi.rr.com

Associate Editors
Si Farmer  414/464-6021
sfarmer1@wi.rr.com

Henry Yun  262/786-3149
henryyun@aol.com

Editorial Staff
Elizabeth Rohde  262/692-6907
rohde@milwpc.com

Dick Butula  262/255-7669
bu2La@wi.rr.com

Circulation Editor
Mary Anderson  262/268-8857
andrewandmary@sbcglobal.net

Web Master
Brian Halligan  414/771-9835
halligan@mcw.edu

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bu2La@wi.rr.com

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Mary Anderson  262/268-8857
andrewandmary@sbcglobal.net

Web Master
Brian Halligan  414/771-9835
halligan@mcw.edu

You may also send email to:
wisewoodworkersguild@wisewoodworkersguild.org
Learning Session Report

Nineteen fellow woodworkers were present on November 14 for a learning experience on creating various inlays into solid wood. Vern Eilers demonstrated the technique he uses for creating a pewter inlay in a turned bowl. He melted the pewter and poured it into a recess that he turned. When cool he returned the bowl. Mark Bronkalla demonstrated his method of incorporating an inlay in a cutting board/serving tray. He used a plastic template and a router to cut the grooves for walnut strips in a maple base. He explained how he cuts and bends the walnut inlays, and then he demonstrated how to insert and level the inlay. Jerry Tackes demonstrated techniques for cutting and inserting geometric inlays both using hand and power tools. Jerry went thorough the steps in creating a sofa table showing the various templates and techniques for the inlays used in his table.

The next learning session will be on December 19 at 7 PM at Jerry Tackes’ shop. The topic will be veneering. There will be demonstrations on handling, cutting and creating a veneer inlay within a veneer background. Both press and vacuum bag veneering will be shown. Time permitting, turned inlays will be also be demonstrated.

For Sale: Black Walnut Trees

I have some Black Walnut trees that need cutting down: I will work out a package deal or piece them out.

I have:
3 Trees with a 60” circumference-19” Diameter
5 Trees with a 54” circumference- 17” Diameter
1 Tree with a 72” circumference- 23” Diameter
2 Trees with a 45” circumference- 15” Diameter
1 Tree with a 39” circumference- 12” Diameter

Please call 262-691-0144 ask for Jeff if you would like to take a look or discuss these trees. They are located in Pewaukee, WI.

Thanks,
Ron Pederson

Woodcraft Class Schedule

Carving by Hand - Christmas Ornaments, w. Kevin Wolff, Sat., Dec 1, 9:30AM – 5PM
GIFT TURNING DAY, w. Woodcraft Staff, Sat., Dec 1, 9:30AM - 5:30PM
Woodworking for Women - Build a Clock with Greene, w. Jason Swanson, Sun, Dec 2 & 9 AM - 5 PM
Stain & Topcoat with General Finish, w. Jason Swanson, Wed, Dec 5, 6PM - 9PM
Woodburn - Polar Bear, w. Kevin Wolff, Sat., Dec 8, 9:30AM - 5PM
Woodworking For Women, w. Jason Swanson, Mon, Dec 10, 6PM - 9PM
Power Carve A Northern Shoveler Drake, w. Roger Wilson, Tuesdays, Dec 11, 18, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5, 6PM - 9PM
Turn a Pepper Mill, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Wed, Dec 12, 6PM - 9PM
Turning 101: Intro to Lathe Work, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Sat., Dec 15, 9:30AM - 3:30PM
Carve a Stylized Angel, w. Kevin Wolff, Sunday, Dec 16, 9:30AM - 5PM
Wood Preparation Using The Planer, Jointer & Table, w. Jason Swanson, Monday, Dec 17, 6PM - 9PM
84th Street is HWY 181

Stay **LEFT** of the GATE 5 KIOSK to make the LEFT TURN into the YOUTH CENTER.
WISCONSIN STATE FAIR PARK
YOUTH CENTER

NOTE:
STORAGE FOR ALL GUILD EQUIPMENT AND LIBRARY MATERIAL IS A ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR.

Dick Yezek Member 450