Hello, fellow woodworkers! The weather has finally gotten nice: the flowers are up, the trees are leafing out, which means I have plenty of yard work to do. Between dead bush removal, mowing and getting the trailer ready for our summer adventure, there hasn’t been a lot of time left for woodworking, but plenty of ideas. Tonight, before I even had my jacket off, my wife was adding to the project list. It seems we need a computer desk for the computer in a common area. Good thing I keep all those back issues to go hunting for a plan!

After a few technical difficulties with our facilities, we had a good presentation in May by Jerry Claussen on his shop experiences. Jerry uses his garage as his shop and has done a number of things to make full use of his space. I like some of his storage ideas and I am feeling inspired to get my small basement shop back into shape. He also showcased a number of his projects over the years which have held up quite nicely. I also learned from his example of wood movement in the mitered corner table he built.

It has been great the number of projects that you all have brought in to the monthly meetings. Don’t think though that this lets you off the hook for the July show and tell meeting. We need your projects, jigs, tools, etc. to make the meeting a success!

Happy woodworking!

Learning Sessions News

By Kevin Seigworth

Approximately fifteen WWG members met at Jerry Tackes’ shop on May 21 to talk about and demonstrate techniques and gadgets for measuring. The only thing that really matters is the end result. So measure after the cut and see how you did. Another observation was to creep up on a cut if one is fitting two pieces together. It will be more accurate than just making the cut to your measurement. All stock that is to be the same size or thickness should be machined at the same time with the same setup.

Walt Hadcock brought a murse (man purse) full of measuring gadgets. The most used item in the bag was the combination square. He also finds the new fractional digital calipers to be an outstanding value for $30. They are great for those of us with fading eyesight as the numbers are big and easy to read. They are very accurate as well.

Walt also discussed how to check your carpenter’s square for accuracy and to adjust it if necessary. Strike a mark off a straight edge, flip the square and strike another mark over the first. Any error will be doubled and show as a divergence of the lines. The adjustment is done with a center punch. A punch on the inside of the leg will spread them, for example increase the angle from 89 degrees to 90 degrees. A punch on the outside of the leg will push the tips together and decrease the angle.

A level can be checked by taking a reading, then spinning the level end for end and comparing the bubble placement.
Kevin Seigworth displayed a wooden gage made to evenly space holes using a drill press. A dowel the same size as the hole is placed in the first hole drilled, then used to space the next hole and so on. Sometimes the best measurement is no measurement. He also talked about how he uses a Vernier caliper for measuring thickness both inside and outside as well as depth. He had no idea how to read the Vernier scale, but still found many uses for the tool. Later, Walt provided the advanced education on how to actually read it and interpret all the lines and scales.

Vern Eilers demonstrated a jig he made to find the center of a board. It is a screw in between two dowels inset in a board. He also displayed several antique measuring tools.

Jerry Kashmerick talked about the uses for automotive feeler gages to measure gaps.

Bob Hillman demonstrated his dial indicator and discussed how it can be used to move a fence by an increment in the thousandths.

Jerry Tackes then demonstrated and talked about the approximately forty measuring gadgets he has accumulated. The starting point for a woodworker should be a quality engraved, not printed ruler. He also emphasized that each woodworker should have a standard/accurate device for each measurement needed. One should have an accurate straight edge, ruler, angle gage, brass gage blocks etc. Cheap plastic drafting squares are very accurate. The Wixey electronic angle devise is also accurate and costs about $40. The Bridge City Toolworks bevel protractor is very accurate and comes with a personal recommendation from Andy Rooney from 60 minutes fame, also a fellow woodworker. The Veritas angle finder is not very accurate. Drill bits are not always accurately sized either.

A marking knife is the most accurate way to make a mark, followed by the .05 mm mechanical pencil. When placing your board to be cut, line the correct tooth (they alternate) on the blade to your mark. One can also set the tooth to the ruler, then a stop block to the other end of the ruler to get an accurate measure.

There was a lot of discussion about using templates, stop blocks or story sticks for repeat cuts. This will provide repeatable accuracy.

Some measures are more accurate by weight. An inexpensive food scale can be used to measure out precise quantities of epoxy or finish. American Science and Surplus on approximately 60th and Oklahoma is a good source for measuring containers for liquids.

The gadgets and advise on display were too numerous to all be included here. You had to be there. The next session at Jerry’s will be in September. He is going fishing.
Raffle Column

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware has donated a professional caliper for this month's raffle prize. A Darson IP54 Fractional Caliper will be raffled. The six-inch caliper has three display modes: fractional, SAE, and metric. Jack Whitstone has offered to host the June raffle. Rockler is located at 845 North Mayfair Road, 414-774-1882.

Alan

Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
May 15, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes

Attendees: John Johnson, Dick Yezek, Liz Rohde, Tom Schuppe, Bill Godfrey, Bill Smeaton, Jay Pilling, and Jerry Tackes

Membership: 121
Treasury Balance: $12,331.83

Programs: All meeting programs through 2008 have been determined. Other board actions:
Corey Megal has worked with Garrett Hack and a tentative program has been scheduled for November 7th thru the 13th. The final decision on go ahead will be determined at the September board meeting based on signups.
Future program plans included: Build a canoe workshop, Log Fest in 2009, trip to the Forest Products Lab., trip to an Amish furniture factory, and build a Bow presentation/workshop.
Jerry Tackes will make large labels to identify guild property in storage.

Respectively Submitted
Jerry Tackes

Ripsaw by E-mail

At this time of rising cost, the Guild board has again addressed the issue of sending the Ripsaw newsletter by e-mail to those members who have e-mail capabilities. The advantages include saving the printing and mailing costs so those savings can be used for other member benefits such as national speakers, and more library books and DVD's. The e-mail version will have pictures in color and may contain more pages and special features. It will be sent on a more timely basis because printing and mailing time will be eliminated. You can also print your own copy if a hard copy is desired.

Until now e-mail addresses have been optional and have not always been kept current. A recent e-mail test message has been sent to all those who have provided an e-mail address. If you received that message and responded, you need to do no more. On the other hand if you did not receive the test message and want to receive the Ripsaw by e-mail, please send a message to that affect to Jerry Tackes at brewwood@wi.rr.com.

This is an ad from Klaus Zunker for the Ripsaw
Jet 10" mini lathe, variable speed, w/extension, bed and stand.
Talon woodturning chuck plus most accessories, including mini jumbo jaws.
Custom made spindle steady
2 years old
Perfect Condition…….$275
Ken ….414-727-0548…….Klkingfisher@aol.com
Upcoming meetings and workshops:

Have you ever wanted to know how to set up a band saw? Come to our June 4th meeting to learn how. Chris, owner of Woodcraft, will bring a Band Saw to show us how.

We want to thank Gerald Claussen for his presentation, setting up a small workshop. He did a great job and offered many ideas. I also want to thank Dick Yezek for helping with the slide show.

Bill Smeaton is doing his second session of Timber Framing at his workshop. The date has been changed to Saturday June 7th. Contact Bill for directions.

In July, we will have Show and Tell. Please bring in all your projects, even those that you might have brought in at previous meetings. If it’s too large, bring a DVD to put on the computer or bring photos. We all want to learn from your successes and failures.

** You are reminded: No meeting in August due to the State Fair using our space.

We will do a seminar at the US Forestry Lab in Madison, Wisconsin, August 18th between 1:00 -3:00pm. You can get information and directions at our meetings. There is a 20 person limit.

Trainer Garrett Hack is coming to town November 6 - 12th, 2008. He will present at our regular meeting, do a two-day design seminar, and a workshop on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. We need 20 members for the weekend and 10 members for the weekday sessions. Don’t miss this great opportunity; your cost will be about half of what it normally costs.

How did you like the quality of our Rip Saw on the computer? I thought the colored pictures were a great addition. If you choose to receive the newsletter via e-mail, we’d save a ton of wood chips to help save the environment and hundreds of dollars out of our annual dues.

We thank Jerry Tackes for setting up the e-mail membership list. If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail contact: Jerry Tackes brewwood@wi.rr.com

To all members that have volunteered behind the scenes to bring guests to our meetings, thanks.

Your help is appreciated.

Tom Schuppe

Garrett Hack to visit WWG!

The Guild is very excited to announce that Garrett Hack will be here for the November meeting. The last time Garrett was with us was May of 2002, those of you with online access can look up the reports of that meeting and workshop in the June and July 2002 RipSaw. He is a Contributing Editor for Fine Woodworking Magazine, the author of The Handplane Book (Taunton Press, 1997) and Classic Hand Tools (Taunton Press, 1999) and teaches at a number of woodworking schools throughout the country. He will be with us for a Friday night slideshow and discussion of his work, followed by a two day hand tools and details workshop AND a three day splay legged table workshop. For those of you that haven’t had a chance to see Garrett’s work, this is a rare treat. If you appreciate well made, truly fine furniture, you should not miss this guild event.

Saturday: Details

Garrett will spend 3/5 of the time demonstrating, and the rest of the time we can make scratchstocks, try inlay, and do some beads. Participants will need to bring a flat mill file, sharpening stones (if they have them), and wood for scratchstocks. Scratchstock blanks are best about 1" X 3 or 4" long, but anything close to this is fine.

Sunday: Hand Tools

Many techniques will be discussed and demonstrated, sharpening, tuning, which tools to own. This will be an open discussion and Garrett will demonstrate as much as he can and have materials for.

Monday – Wednesday: Build a splay legged table

We will explore proportion, design (we’ll draw the table we’ll build), splayed legs and angled joints, making a set of tapered legs efficiently, height of top, width and depth, under bevel on edge of top or other edge details, beads on apron, a drawer if some are so adventurous (or at least how to go about it and make the necessary structure), toes, finish, details such as inlay on legs. Garrett has done this table many times and still finds ways to make each one different and fun. The one pictured has Garrett’s Morse Code signature on the right leg.

Costs for guild members:

The weekend workshop (2 days) $80 (Max of 20 participants)
The three day Splay legged table workshop: $225 (max of 10 participants)
Woodcraft Class Schedule

Stain & Topcoat with General Finish w: Jason Swanson, Thu, June 5, 6PM - 9PM

Gift Turning Day, w: Melanie Wegner, Sat, June 07, 10AM - 5PM

Wood Preparation Using the Planer, Jointer & Table, w: Jason Swanson, Thu, June 19, 6PM - 9PM

Turn a Natural Edge Bowl, w: Hank Bardenhagen, Tue, June 24, 6PM - 9PM

Basic Router Techniques, w: Jason Swanson, Thu, June 26, 6PM - 9PM

Turning 101: Intro To Lathe Work, w: Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, June 28, 9:30AM - 3:30PM

WWG Regular Monthly Meetings:

June Meeting, Wednesday 4th, Band Saw set up and Porter Cable Demo, Presenters: Wood Craft & Bill Godfrey

July Meeting, Wednesday 2nd, Lathe & scroll saw ornaments, show & tell, meeting, Presenters: Members

August, No Meeting

September Meeting, Wednesday 3rd, Carving Demonstration, Presenter: Klaus M. Zunker

Workshops: June 7th, Timber Framing Seminar/Workshop, Bill Smeaton, Presenter: Bill Smeaton, 15 People, no cost. August 18th, US Forestry Lab field trip, 1 - 3 pm plus time for travel to Madison and back

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
Regular Monthly Meeting

Band Saw set up and Porter Cable tools Demo
presented by Woodcraft & Bill Godfrey

Wednesday, June 4th, 2008

Gathering at 6:30 PM

Meeting from 7 to 9:30 PM

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