John's Jaunt

Spring is finally here! My cutting board project had to take a brief rest as I had to rebuild our mailbox stand. Yes, it was one of the many casualties of the heavy snow we had this winter. The new one looks much better now that the white bucket full of sand isn't needed anymore.

I enjoyed our April presentation on organ building. It was interesting to hear about the precision and effort that went into building organs in years past, and how they went through a mass production phase. It was also interesting to learn how changes in the lumber industry have affected the choices of wood.

One of the side effects of being the guild president is all the “stuff” that gets sent my way. One from a couple of weeks ago is particularly interesting. Wood Magazine sent me a link to Joe Harmon's project to build a car from wood. You can check it out at http://www.woodmagazine.com/splinter. I think he might have your “50 mph furniture” beat when he is done, Mark!

Lastly, over the coming months we are going to start experimenting with sending the RIPS A W out via email. This will give us the opportunity to save on postage as well as add a some color to the pictures. Let us know what you think

Happy woodworking!

Reflections

By Leila Crandall-Frink

How to Build an Organ - Presented by Stanton Peters

Mr. Peters talked about the history of organs. The first organs dated back 3000 years and were a complicated mechanical devise made to carry into battle to scare the enemy. Early organs were a set of pipes and a keyboard with a big set of bellows to blow air through the pipe. A pipe can make only one pitch, so you need a separate pipe for each sound. Around 1450, a slider was invented that went under a set of pipes. You would open a valve with mechanical leverage that fed wind into a channel, and the slider allowed them to turn some pipes on and others off. That process became more automated around 1920 with the advent of electric organs. The electromagnet lent itself to mass production.

The type of organ with pipes and sliders turning the air flow off and on is the type of organ Mr. Peters’ company makes. To build an organ, they create a grid on paper and design where they will be placing the pipes and the channel for the air to move through. They tape a piece of paper to a table and draw lines on it to the scale of the organ. It can be as long as 8 feet and from 2-4 feet deep, depending on the space constraints of the placement of the organ. Then they design where the sliders will be placed. The sound of an organ is determined by the diameter and length of the pipes.

After the pattern is determined, they begin by placing it on a piece of plywood and punch holes for each note. This becomes the rack board. They use a drill press with a fine drill to cut the holes. Wherever the holes do not go straight through, they make a sandwich with a slider in the middle that is pulled open by the organist. Then they do the cutting
and placement of the wood on top of the grid. They glue it right on the pattern to make sure it is absolutely airtight. And leakage will make an adjacent note play. Everything has to be dead level, so they use a hand plane. A router alone does not get it smooth enough. There is also a toe board that becomes the toe of pipe placement.

Materials used to make the grid of the organ vary. The 3 woods used to make the grid are yellow poplar, Honduran mahogany and California sugar pine. They were the most stable. Today’s lumber is not as dimensionally stable. Trees twist in the wind and it shows up as spiral grain. Or they are grown faster and that produces rings that are further apart and therefore less stable. So today they usually use plywood which doesn’t keep moving. They use phnobic resin material between the sandwich that sits on the grid, or clear plastic so the sliders can move most easily. The wood is finished on the outside and the entire box is stable and not affected by humidity.

We thank Mr. Peters for his presentation. I am sure I have not accurately represented the process used to make an organ. For that you would probably need to have an apprenticeship for years to learn. But I did learn to appreciate the incredible detail that goes in to making a pipe organ. Mr. Peters and his crew are accomplished craftsmen. And we were pleased to have heard his presentation.

Woodcraft Class Schedule

Woodworking for Women, w. Jason Swanson, Thu, May 1, 6PM - 9PM

Turn a Cigar Pen, w. Melanie Wegner, Sat, May 3, 9:30 AM - 1PM

Turn a baseball bat, w. Jason Swanson, Sun, May 4, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Introduction to Box Making, w. Bob Dickey, Sat, May 10, 9:30 AM - 5PM

Basic Router Techniques, w. Jason Swanson, Wed, May 14, 6PM - 9PM

Create a Jewelry Box, w. Bob Dickey, Thu May 15, 6PM - 9PM

Turning 101: Intro to Lathe Work, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, May 17, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Raised Panel Doors on a Router Table, w. Jason Swanson, Sun, May 18, 9:30 AM - 5PM

Wood Preparation Using the Planer, Jointer & Table, w. Jason Swanson, Wed, May 28, 6PM - 9PM
Learning Session on Intarsia

Notes by Leila Crandall-Frink

I went to the last learning session put on by Jerry Tackes at his shop just west of Waukesha. First I want to express my thanks to Jerry for generously sharing his time, knowledge and his shop. His kind of sharing is what the guild is all about. I counted 21 people in attendance.

Jerry described the 6 steps in making an intarsia piece. He demonstrated the different tools and techniques he uses within the steps. And he shared information on the tools and materials he uses during the process.

Jerry showed us his 1st project, a rose he made for his wife’s birthday in 1997. Further projects he has completed include a duck done during a guild workshop in 1999, a teddy bear, a lion, a ship’s wheel, a lighthouse picture, a saw with woodworking tools and a clock in it, and an oval picture of a ship. His work is beautiful.

The first step in the process is to choose a pattern. He showed us many books with patterns in them. Judy Gale Roberts is the person with the most books with intarsia patterns. He suggested we choose something with big parts and not too many for beginning projects. He suggested making a bunch of copies of the pattern (10-12) including one in color if you can. You can get the copies made at most copy shops, but he suggested taking the book along so you can show the copy shop that you own the right to make copies of the pattern. He then takes 2 patterns and sets them aside.

The second step is to select different colored woods for the different parts of the pattern. The book you get the pattern from will give suggestions on wood to use. He uses left over pieces of wood from other projects and keeps all pieces of wood leftover for possible use at a later date. He showed that sometimes you will just need a very small piece of wood, such as the ebony he had for the eyes of the raccoon he was demonstrating with.

The third step was to place the pattern on a piece of plywood that was larger than the pattern by a bit. Then he tapes down one copy of the pattern to the plywood and tapes a piece of wax paper that is large enough to cover the whole pattern over that. This whole ‘base’ will be used to fit the pieces together and hold them in place while cutting out the next piece. Then he would choose a piece of the project that was close to the center of the design and cut out the pattern piece for that. He always counts 21 people in attendance. He suggested making a bunch of copies of the pattern (10-12) including one in color if you can. You can get the copies made at most copy shops, but he suggested taking the book along so you can show the copy shop that you own the right to make copies of the pattern. He then takes 2 patterns and sets them aside.

Another hint was to use a #9 skip tooth precision ground blade in the scroll saw. It eliminates tear out on the back of the piece. He also showed how using? in plywood cut the size of several of the pieces of the pattern together and ‘lift’ those pieces out from the work a bit and create more dimension. He would not do that on the edges because you could see it there, but on the inside pieces it works great. Another helpful ‘tool’ Jerry created was a small piece of wood with a couple fine holes drilled in it. These were used by snuggling them up to a piece and tapping nails through the holes, to hold the pieces to each other after they were cut out.

Thank you again Jerry for a fine presentation. I wonder how many of the attendees will attempt intarsia now. Jerry made it very clear how to succeed at the projects.
Programs

Tom Schuppe

Spring is in the air and it’s time to clean and to dream about improving our workshops. Jerry Clausen is here to help. Come to our May meeting to hear his ideas for setting up an efficient workspace. He asked that we bring ideas to spring fourth conversation. Once your shop is clean, bring your tools to Bill Godfrey’s on May 16th to build an Adirondack Chair. Bring about 40 board feet of white oak. On May 31st, Bill Smeaton/ Wild Bill, is hosting a Timber Framing workshop. Sign up sheets for both will be available at the meeting.

At our June meeting Wood Craft is bring in a band saw and will explain how to set it up.

At our July meeting we will have professional wood turners and scroll saw artist demonstrate making ornaments that could make great Christmas presents, as well as our normal Show & Tell.

Regular Monthly Meetings:
May Meeting, Wednesday 7th, Ideas to setting up a small shop, Slide Presentation, Presenter, Jerry Clausen
June Meeting, Wednesday 4th, Band Saw set up and Porter Cable tools Demo, Presenters: Wood Craft & Bill Godfrey
July Meeting, Wednesday 2nd, Lath & scroll saw ornaments, show & tell, meeting, Presenters: Members
August, No Meeting
September Meeting, Wednesday 3rd, Carving Demonstration, Presenter: Klaus M. Zunker

Workshop Coming in May

Jerry Tackes

May 21 Learning Session

Measure twice and cut once and it’s still wrong-- then this learning session is for you. Bring your measuring problems and also bring your measuring solutions to share with other Guild members. We will also discuss shop standards, the tool you use to check the accuracy of other tools. Other topics will include special measuring tools, using measuring tools in special ways, and how to get the most accuracy from a given tool. Measuring angles and epoxy mixtures will also be covered.

I challenged all the April learning sessions attendees that I will buy them a soda at the next guild meeting if they don’t learn a new measuring technique. Join in on the challenge and the usual lively exchange of ideas at this May 21st session.

Workshops:
May 16 & 17th, Build an Adirondack Chair Workshop, Presenters: Bill Godfrey & Ron Hinderman, Cost: $10 and bring your own materials from materials list.
May 31st, Timber Framing Seminar/Workshop, Bill Smeaton, Presenter: Bill Smeaton, 15 People, no cost

Table 1: Adirondack Chair Material List

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<td>Arms (2)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Back Arm Support (1)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Front Legs (2)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Side Lounging Legs</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Under Brace (1)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Rear Cross Slat (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Front Cross Slat (1)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Seat Slats (7)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Back Outside Slats (2)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Back Narrow Slats (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Back Center Slat (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Back Top Brace (1)</td>
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May Raffle Column:

by Alan Clapp

The winners of the April raffle prizes were Bob Duchek, George Egenhoefer and Jay Pilling. Mesa Vista Design has donated the April raffle prizes. A Grip-Tite 2000 magnetic featherboard holds tight to any steel or cast iron surface of your woodworking equipment. Sub-Fence clamps to hold an auxiliary fence to your rectangular table saw fence will also be given away. Other Grip-Tite products are available at www.grip-tite.com or 800-475-0293.

I am Wesley Hellen, member 99 of the WWG. I would like to sell a complete collection of Fine Woodworking magazine from issue No. 32 (J/F, 1982) to the current issue. Asking $100. My phone number is 414-762-3081.
April Board Briefs

*by Jerry Tackes*

**Attendees:** John Johnson, Dick Yezek, George Egenhoefer, Leila Crandall-Frink, Liz Rohde, Tom Schuppe, Bill Godfrey, Bill Smeaton, Jay Pilling, and Jerry Tackes

**Membership:** 106

**Treasury Balance:** $12,345.13

**Programs:** All meeting programs through 2008 have been determined. Confirmation on Oct and Nov programs need yet to be completed. The board approved bringing Marc Adams in for a program on February 6, 7, and 8th of 2009. These programs will be members only and free. Lunch will be available at $10 per day. Corey Megal will work with Garrett Hack on an October program/workshop. Jay Pilling will invite a toy recipient to the May meeting. 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.

**Other board actions:** The board approved bringing in one vendor to the June meeting to inform the guild members of new products. This action will be coordinated with the speaker.

Jerry Tackes has been authorized to purchase several new books for the library.

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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 Sprng Road, Milwaukee, 414/438-8400

**Custom Service Hardware** 1170 Wauwatosa Rd., Cedarburg, 262/375-7960 or 800/882-0009


**Neu’s Building Center, Inc.** River Court, Hwy 41 & Q, Germantown, 262/251-6550

**Rockler’s (The Woodworker’s Store)** 845 N. Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, 414/774-1882

**WoodCraft,** 1725 So. 108th St., West Allis, 414/607-6164

**Woodline USA,** can be reached at 800-472-6950, www.woodbits.com

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You may also send email to:
wiscwoodworkersguild@wiscwoodworkersguild.org
(no hyphen in email address)
May Program
Wednesday, May 7, 2008, 6:15 till 9:30 PM
Tommy G. Thompson Youth Center
624 S 84th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53225

Ideas To Setting Up A Small Shop

Presented by

Jerry Claussen
First Time Guest are Welcome