**John’s Jaunt**

Welcome to the February edition of the RIPS A W and John’s Jaunt. Our January meeting showcased another one of our members, Vern Eilers and his turning skills. He turned both a mallet and a toy top, under a time constraint no less! It is members, like Vern, that are willing to share their knowledge and experience that make this guild successful. We also had a very good showing with our members’ project gallery. Keep up the good work and see Alan for a raffle ticket if you bring something to show.

On the project front, I continue my ways of having too many projects going at once. In addition to the tack box for my daughter that I mentioned last month, I also got the brilliant idea that I should make some puzzles. Now these aren’t of the jigsaw puzzle variety, rather they are the 3D interlocking pieces kind. After some internet searching, I found some instructions and got to work. I quickly realized that in order to have a good looking puzzle in the end, the cuts making the cubes need to be very precise. I have figured out how to get four of the faces perfect, but I’ll have to refine my techniques for the last two faces!

And finally, I am still looking for someone that would be willing to help out and be my backup for the monthly meeting setup. In particular, understanding the wiring of the microphones, the projector and the video camera would be helpful. If you can help out let me know.

Thanks and happy woodworking!

-John

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**Reflections**

by Liz Rohde

Our January meeting came off without a hitch, no snow, rain or freezing drizzle. Hurrah!!

We were treated to a live demonstration on a mini lathe by Vern Eilers. Vern is a long time member and a long time turner. He has brought in his beautiful work on a fairly regular basis to the meetings.

Vern’s first project was a wooden mallet. The Locust piece of wood was put between centers and secured on the lathe. Then Vern started to shape the head of the mallet with a gouge. Vern took time out to show and describe some of the different tools a turner would use. He started with the roughing gouge. This tool is used to take a lot of stock off. It will convert a square piece into a cylinder quickly. It can also be used for general shaping. The bowl gouge is smaller and generally has a deeper flute. It can have a straight across grind or a fingernail grind.

Vern uses a skew chisel because it can give a smooth finish but it takes time and practice to use properly. If not held properly it will “catch” and tear into the wood. The skew can plane down a square piece to round just like the roughing gouge as well as be used to form beads and coves. Another tool is the parting tool. As its name describes it is used to part the wood by making a narrow deep groove. But all these tools are inefficient if not kept sharp.

Vern finished the mallet that later was raffled off. His next was a chair leg. After setting up the block of wood in the lathe he marked off the top of the leg which will stay square so it can accept the mortise. He then shaped the leg.

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After our break, Vern shaped a small top. He even demonstrated how well it spun. It was a real treat to have one of our very talented members share his knowledge with us.

Thank you, Vern, for a great meeting.
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Board Briefs January, 2009

Attendees: John Johnson, Leila Crandall-Frink, Ed Cessna, Corey Megal, Jay Pilling, Bill Godfrey, George Egenhoefer, Elizabeth Rohde, Bill Smeaton and Jerry Tackes
Membership: 115 paid 2009 members, 23 members from 2008 have not renewed.
Treasurer: Balance $14,262.78.
Publications: The February issue of the Ripsaw, will be the last one sent to 2008 members who have not renewed for 2009.
Publicity: George Egenhoefer reported that 15 new members signed up during the Wood Working Show. He indicated that a new Guild banner would be needed for next year.
Programs/Workshops: 33 members have signed up for the Marc Adams programs. 4 members have signed up for the Shaker box workshop. Sign-up for the May Jeff Miller workshop will begin at the February meeting. The tentative topic for the February Learning Session is CAD (computer assisted design).
Toys: Jay Pilling reported that three shelters have thanked the Guild for the toys.
Other Business:
Post Office Box: Leila Crandall-Frank will check the Guild post office box.

Friend of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Woodcraft Class Schedule

Power Carve a Northern Oriole, w. Roger Wilson, Tue, Feb 03, 10, 17, 24, & Mar 2 & 10 6 PM-9 PM
Woodworking For Women, w. Jason Swanson, Wed, Feb 04, 5 PM-9 PM
Turn a Valentine Perfume Atomizer, w. Melanie Wegner, Sat, Feb 07, 9:30 AM-1 PM
Raised Panel Doors on a Router Table, w. Jason Swanson, Sun, Feb 08, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM
Table Saw Fundamentals, w. Bob Dickey, Monday, Feb 09, 2009 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Basic Router Techniques, w. Jason Swanson, Wed, Feb 11, 6-9 PM
Introduction to Segmented Turning, w. Jason Swanson, Sun, Feb 15 & 22, 9:30 AM-4 PM
Advanced Router, w. Bob Dickey, Wed, Feb 18, 6 PM-9PM
Carve a Cypress Knee, w. Kevin Wolff, Sat, Feb 21, 9:30 AM–5 PM
Bandsaw 101, w. Bob Dickey, Mon, Feb 23, 6 PM-9 PM
Turning 101: Intro to Lathe Work, w. Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, Feb 28, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

Membership Dues
Dues for guild membership is $35 annually and is now due. You can pay either by check to Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild, mailed to Jerry Tackes at 120 Ferris Dr North Prairie WI 53153, or at the January meeting. Membership cards for those paying by mail are available for pickup at guild meetings.

Respectfully Submitted
Ed Cessna

Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

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,
January Plane Learning Session

Submitted by Jerry Tackes

On January 21 about 20 guild members met at Cory Megal’s basement shop to learn all about planes, planning techniques, sharpening, and what to buy both on the new and used market. Cory has an extensive collection of planes and showed us the characteristics of each one and what it was used for. The bottom line, buy the best plane that you can afford. His favorite was a collection of Lee Neilson planes. He also demonstrated a number of techniques from flattening a board to joining the edges of two boards in preparation for glue up. Cory ended with a demonstration of his method for sharpening planes. Several members brought along their tools for comments and evaluation. Others had the opportunity to try out Cory’s planes.

As a bonus we got to see the shop of another member and get a peek at the projects in the works. If you would like to have a group of members over at your shop for a demo or if you would rather do a demo at someone else shop, see Jerry Tackes or any of the board members.

Thanks, Jerry T

For Sale Ad:

February Raffle:

The winners of the January raffle were Jerry Clausen and Ron Reuter.

Woodline USA has donated a 5-piece Round Over bit set for the February 6th raffle. Each bit includes a 1/2" OD bearing or 3/8" OD bearing and has a 1/2" shank. Woodline is a friend of the WWG so mention that you are a guild member when you contact them for your next set of bits or blades. Woodline is in Tennessee at 1-800-472-6950 or visit their website - Woodline.com.

Thanks, Alan

Wisconsin Woodworkers Show

May Program
Friday May 8, 2009
Regular Monthly Meeting
Chair Making and Design
Presenter: Jeff Miller
Comments:
Jeff Miller is a furniture designer, craftsman, teacher, and author of woodworking books and articles (he’s also a former classical musician and a dad). Jeff’s furniture has been shown in galleries and shows nationwide, and has won numerous awards. His furniture is in the Decorative Arts Collection of the Chicago History Museum.


In this Friday night presentation, Jeff will review the considerations and techniques used to make chairs. Jeff will talk about design, structure and techniques in chair building. He will also review some examples of his work.

May Workshop
Chair making Workshop with Jeff Miller
Saturday, May 9, 2009  Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Presenter: Jeff Miller

In this chair making demonstration workshop, Jeff will not only demonstrate the skills and techniques required to build a chair, but also demystify the chair building process. There will be some hands-on work with curves, angled mortise and tenon joinery, as well as joinery with curves involved. There are also some other interesting joints that can work on chairs. Building a chair is often considered the pinnacle of the woodworking art. Jeff will cover design, structure, comfort, shaping parts, cutting angled mortise and tenons, joinery for curved parts, assembly and finishing. Many of the techniques demonstrated can be used in other general woodworking applications as well. This workshop will introduce you to the pleasures and rewards of making chairs.

Registration forms will be available at the February meeting.

Thank You

I would like to thank all the people that made Christmas toys for the women’s shelters. We have received letter of thanks and appreciation. Thanks for all your great work.

Jay Pilling
Regular Monthly Meeting

Friday, February 6th, 2009
6:30 to 9:30 PM
Tommy Thompson Youth Center
at State Fair Park
640 South 84th Street
Presenter: Marc Adams
Topic:
Design and Construction of Fine Furniture

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