John’s Jaunt

Welcome to another edition of John’s Jaunt. So far, it has been quite a busy fall, both personally and for the Wisconsin Woodworkers’ Guild. Between my daughters’ marching band performances, horse shows and dance practices I haven’t had a lot of time for woodworking projects. However, when my 8 year old niece, who has been devouring the Harry Potter series, requests a magic wand for her Halloween costume how can I refuse? You may recall I made a bunch of wands last year for a friend’s twins birthday party so one more shouldn’t be to difficult right? Of course it has required a bit of cleanup to get to my lathe...

Our October meeting had an interesting presentation by Tom Loeser on his work and the work of his students. It was neat to see the creative thinking and, like some of the turning and carving work of our members, the precision and level of detail that goes into their projects. I particularly liked the boat building and the derivative projects that have followed. In November, Garrett Hack will be returning for a Friday night presentation and two day workshop on drawer building. As of this writing there are still a couple of spots open. And in December we will be having our annual holiday gathering at Meyer’s. We have invited one of the shelter representatives to come and speak briefly, and this year we have added a comedian for a little entertainment.

At the most recent board meeting, based on a review of our meeting place options and the member feedback (~80 to 20), we have decided to move to the lower level of Woodcraft beginning in 2010. Stay tuned for further details, and in particular, when we will be moving our stuff. It will be sometime in the weeks following the November meeting.

And finally, we are still in need of people to step up and help with running the guild. I have not had a resounding response to last months request for volunteers (exactly one). Unfortunately, items that you have come to expect will start falling through the cracks. Remember, the guild is whatever the membership is willing to make of it.

Regards and happy woodworking! -John

Reflections- October Meeting  by Leila Frink

We were amazed to see the work of Tom Loeser as he visited us for the October meeting. Tom is the professor of the Woodworking and Furniture Making Program at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. The students he teaches are working on their Master of Fine Arts degree. He teaches beginning, intermediate and advanced classes. Students come from all walks of life and can be people with no woodworking knowledge. He teaches a different topic each semester. Tom’s early hero was Garret Reifelt, a Holland woodworker in 1919. Mr. Reifelt’s most famous work was a zigzag chair.

Among Tom’s early work is a series of tables he calls Landscape. He also made a series of reproduction items, a folding chair that is made from one piece of plywood. The chair folds flat and hangs on a wall. He perfected his design from his first effort and finally made 49 of them. He became known as the folding chair guy. I would guess that he is known more now as the innovative guy if you look at his

(continued on page2)
work since those early days. His work is often painted, often has unusual shapes, and hidden hiding spots. He wants his work to make you question the intent of the work and make you think. I would say he definitely accomplishes those goals.

He has made many items since those first works. He showed us many slides of his work, all of it imaginative. Some of them are highlighted here. He made a small dovetail box out of cardboard. He made a frame and panel blanket chest. He made a bench and chest on stainless steel wheels. He made many cabinets with drawers within drawers. He made small wall cabinets that had many drawers, but only 4 openings and you had to slide the cabinet or the cabinet front to access the drawers. He made reversible chairs, with a standard chair on one end and a rocker on the other end. He made one large chest with every size drawer imaginable in it. He made dual rockers where more than one person can sit in it and rock.

He has collaborated with people in Europe to make Art in the Forest. They made chairs in a forest out of materials that were available. Then he did the same kind of art in Wisconsin, only using old chairs, many of them metal. After being surprised to find seating in the forest, people began to use them and were pleased with the result. His students created seating in the round in a Madison bank building. The seating was made around a pillar and was made of large pieces of felt banded together. The intention was to make seating that helps social interaction and collaboration.

More recently Tom has been making boats, specifically a modern version of skin boats. Then with one of his students he has taken the art of boat making to a new level. These boats don’t go anywhere, but create art form that can be sat upon or lain upon. They twist and turn and have no skin, but they are beautiful. These you can see in his picture called Flotilla.

Tom’s presentation was very well done. It stretched our imagination of what you can do with woodworking to make Art. Tom teaches at the UW campus in Madison. The woodworking classroom is on the 7th floor of the Humanities building. We are invited to stop in anytime. If you want to see Tom’s work you can go to www.tomloeser.com. He also recommended 2 other websites www.gaboats.com and www.uwwood.com. I was impressed with all of them.

Please note the picture on page 5 of the RIPSAW.

WWG member Hal Birkey donated three copies of a large format plan for a collapsible/folding Adirondack chair for use by the WWG. We elected to distribute two of the plans as door prizes at the October 7 meeting.

WWG member Tom Hipsak volunteered to take the remaining plan and create a digital copy for distribution to other members as desired, which was completed October 8. The 1.4 MB file(large) is now available via email to interested members. The file may be manipulated by the recipient to print on differing sized papers. Contact me if you are interested. tx

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Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

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, 14115 W. Greenfield Ave New Berlin, WI 53151 Phone: (262) 785-6770
Woodline USA can be reached at 800-472-6950
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Board Briefs October, 2009

Attendees: John Johnson, Ed Cessna, George Egenhoefer, Leila Crandall-Frink, Bill Godfrey, Shane Linskey, Corey Megal, Jay Pilling, Tom Schuppe, Bill Smeaton

Membership: 140 Jerry Tackes has resigned as Vice President and Membership chair.

Treasurer: Balance: $12,865.85 We have decided not to have an audit of the 2008 Guild financial records. Instead the 2009 financial records will be audited in 2010.

Programs/Workshops: So far, 8 people have signed up for the Garrett Hack drawer workshop on November 7-8. There is room for 2 more people. You may sign up at the November meeting, or by contacting John Anderson. A workshop will be held in late January to build the Stickley bookcase that was in the November 2009 issue of Popular Woodworking. The only cost for the workshop is a $7 shop fee. The workshop is limited to 10 people, and a sign-up sheet will be available at the November meeting.

2010 Meeting Location – The poll of the membership was 4 to 1 in favor of Woodcraft. After a discussion of all options, the Board voted unanimously in favor of moving our meeting location to the lower level of the Woodcraft store at 14115 000west Greenfield Ave, New Berlin. Also, our monthly meeting date will be changed from the first Wednesday to the first Thursday of the month. This move is being made because Woodcraft closes at 7 PM Wednesdays, but 9 PM Thursdays.

Eagle Raffle – Our State raffle license allows only 1 multi-month raffle per year. That has always been our holiday raffle. Therefore, the eagle raffle has been moved to early 2010. We had planed to sell tickets at $5 each or 3 for $10. However, our license does not allow for discount tickets. Therefore, eagle ticket will be $5 each.

Christmas Party – Diane Ripples from the Waukesha Women’s Shelter will attend the Holiday Party and tell us about their shelter and how the toys are used. It was decided to keep the ticket price at $20 for this year. Chicago comic Paul Frisbie will do a half-hour show following the dinner.

Woodworker of the Year – Bill Godfrey, Leila Crandall-Frink, Corey Megal and Jerry Tackes have been nominated for the honor. The vote will take place at the November meeting.

Election of Officers – Guild officers for 2010 will be elected at the November meeting. Anyone wishing to serve is asked to contact John Johnson. We are also looking for persons willing to take over membership, raffle, and toys. The Guild needs your involvement.

Respectfully Submitted, Ed Cessna

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SILKY SMOOTH DRAWERS
Garrett Hack will be at our next meeting. On Saturday and sunday there will be a two day workshop to build drawers and fit them into a small case. Have you ever tried to open a drawer to find it skittering along, binding, and just plain being stubborn? That’s because the drawer doesn’t fit right.

How would you like to learn the secrets of good fitting drawers? Garrett will cover types of drawers and ways to support them, typical construction details, bottoms, thickness of parts, how to build the runners, guides and kickers into a case. Read that last sentence again, there is a LOT to be discussed when it comes to drawers. He will discuss dovetails, but as I think most of us have had enough “how to” on doing dovetails, the focus will be on construction and fitting drawers and the openings they go in.

We may discuss other things, such as face details, beads or strings, dovetails, half blind dovetails, etc.. Overall, it should be a fun learning experience. The workshop will be held at Corey Megal’s place with a maximum of 10 signups. More information regarding the cost of the workshop will be in the next RIPS, and there will be signup sheets at the next meeting.

Greetings from a cold and wet Door County. I was asked to write an article for Woodshop News and thought you may have an interest, the link is below.
Best, Michael Doerr
http://www.woodshopnews.com/columns-blogs/pro-shop

The following people have been meeting on Mondays at Woodcraft to make toys for the Women’s Shelter. Thank you for your service guys!

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Tom Schuppe   George Engenhoefer   Vern Eilers   Jerry Smaglik   Paul Scholovich

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PROGRAM NOTES

Thomas Schuppe, the Turducken man

It is November and it’s time to rake our leaves, appreciate and give thanks for the variety of programs, workshops & field trips that were presented to our Guild in 2009 and eat a little Turducken.

It is November, and it’s time to give thanks to Guild members, such as Jerry Tackes, and Klaus Zunker who have volunteered their time and effort to mentor and encourage us throughout the year to improve our woodworking skills.

It is November, it is time to give thanks to our Guild members who volunteered time and effort toward the Guild’s success. I hope you were one of them.

It is November and it’s time for nominations for officers. We need new blood to keep the club vibrant. Your help can create success for our club in the future. Your involvement is critical. Some members say, we have about twenty active woodworkers in our Guild. I’d like for them to say we have 140 active woodworkers. Now wouldn’t that be great?

Speaking of great, we are having one of the top trainers in the country, Garrett Hack back for our November 6th meeting –(remember its on Friday evening). He is also presenting a two day workshop on Nov 7th & 8th. There is one slot available for the weekend.

December 2nd is our annual Christmas Toy Party. Last month I stated the cost as $25.00. My misprint, it should have read $20.00 per person. Please send in your check ASAP. We have added entertainment to our evening. We invited a comedian to put on a skit right after our dinner. We also will have a speaker from one of the shelters talk about the importance of our toy gifts to the children. We will also have raffles.

Then it’s Happy New Year 2010. Our January meeting featuring presenter William Galisky will be all about building clocks. Tick Tock it’s off to another turducken year.

“The dates for the 2010 Woodworkers Show” is set for February 5, 6 & 7th. Signup sheets will be available at the up coming meetings. If you want to reserve your same time as last year, call George Egenhoefer at 262-786-6814 or signup at our next meeting. Something new at next years show is the “Show Off.” They gave us the following description: “Please let your members know that we have something new going on this year. We will be having a competition, Show Off, at each show for local artists/craftsmen. We are asking for area craftsmen/women to bring in a piece of their work to compete with others. There will be individual prizes given at the show, and a grand prize at the end of the season. Voting is done by show attendees, over the course of the weekend. Registration is done online, at our website (first page, scroll down), and Entries Are Limited. Please encourage your members/friends to “Show Off” their skill at The Woodworking Shows!”

Year End Raffle

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware has donated the year end raffle prizes. A $100 gift certificate and two $50 gift certificates will be given away during the December 2nd Holiday Party. Rockler is located at 845 N Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa 414-774-1882. Stop in this holiday season for your woodworking needs and to thank the Rockler team for their continued support of your Guild.

November Raffle

Jack Grothaus was the winner of the October raffle. There will be two raffle prizes for the November raffle. The first prize is a Roman Ogee rail and stile router bit donated by Woodline USA. The second prize is a Porter Cable BN200A Brad Nailler capable of driving 3/4" to 2" 18 gauge brads.

The full Woodline USA catalog is available on-line at www.Woodline.com or you can contact Woodline by phone at 1-800-472-6950. Woodline is a friend of the Guild so mention that you are a Guild member when you contact them with your next order.
Holiday Dinner Entertainment

The Holiday Dinner this year will have something new. We will have a half hour of entertainment following the dinner. Chicago Comedian Paul Frisbie had been hired to provide the show.

Paul is a regular at Chicago clubs like Zanies’, the Improv and the Funny Bone. He appears at clubs, casinos, colleges and corporate events all across the United States, and also worked the cruise lines. He has performed in all 50 states and in six foreign countries.

In addition to being a standup comedian, He is also an author and songwriter. He is best known for his comic songs, which have been popularized through comedy radio programming like the Bob and Tom Show. Favorites include “Thank God You Broke My Heart,” “Christmas Letter” and “Gaining One Pound Per Day.”

Paul has been entertaining people since the early 1980’s. He has worked with such comics as Adam Sandler, Michael Bolton, Pauly Shore and Tommy Chong to name just a few. Visit Paul’s web site http://www.paulfrisbie.com to see this funny man in action. After his show, please tell a Board member your impressions. We will only do this in future years if people enjoyed it.

Woodcraft Class Schedule
October 2009

Carve a Northern Sawnet Owl, Tuesdays, Nov 3, 10, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

98 PIECE SEGMENTED PEPPERMILL, Sunday, Nov 8, 15 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Garrett Hack, Monday, November 09, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Dust Collection Basics & Shop Set Up, Wednesday, Nov 11, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sharpen your turning tools, Thursday, Nov 12, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Power carve - Mallard Drake Duck - Animated Pattern, Tuesdays, Nov 17, 24, Dec 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Turn an Inside Out Ornament, Thursday, Nov 19, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Make a Crown Molding Wall Shelf, Sunday, Nov 22, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Woodcraft is located at 14115 W Greenfield Ave, New Berlin. Check out their website for more information on the classes at www.woodcraft.com or call them at 262-785-6770.

Sharpening and Hand Tools Workshop

Date: March 27, 2010, Saturday 8:30 AM to Noon
Topic: Sharpening and Hand Tools
Presenter: Walt Hadcock
Location: Bill Godfrey’s Shop
Fee: Members only, Maximum 20 participants $20

Many of us continue to use dull planes and chisels, perhaps because we have not yet learned simple, inexpensive, and effective techniques to make tools sharp. It may seem contradictory, but a sharp tool is easier to use and therefore safer to use than a dull tool. It requires less force, so it is more easily controlled, and therefore less likely to slip. A sharp tool allows us to do better work.

This workshop is one that we try to offer every year or so. It provides an excellent opportunity to acquire a basic skill and interact with other members of the Guild.
Regular Monthly Meeting
Friday, November 6th, 2009
Meeting 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Tommy Thompson Youth Center
at State Fair Park
640 South 84th Street
Presenter: Garrett Hack

Nationally known and master woodworker will be speaking at the Friday night meeting and presenting a 2 day workshop on drawer making on Saturday and Sunday.