John’s Jaunt

Welcome to the May issue of the RIPSAW and John’s Jaunt! Due to unforeseen circumstances, the April meeting didn’t go quite as planned. Instead of our featured speaker, we ended up having an open discussion that, in my opinion, was productive on a number of fronts. Some of our members were able to make some connections to help with projects or problems, and we were able to gather some good inputs regarding our facilities and programs. Hopefully we will be able to put some of the ideas in place in the coming months.

Our speaker did make it for the Saturday workshop. From what I have heard from people that attended, it went well and they learned a lot. Special thanks to Chris Kraemer for providing the tools and shop space for this workshop.

At the most recent board meeting it was noted that we haven’t had any “reviews” or member introductions in the RIPSAW recently. If you have a new tool, or recently checked out a library item that you found interesting, give some thought to sharing your findings either in the RIPSAW or at one of our meetings. It doesn’t have to be long. A couple of paragraphs would be great. I recently picked up a few new (to me) tools in the tool auction that Walt Hadcock is facilitating, so perhaps I’ll have some comments in an upcoming issue...

Don’t forget, time is running out to get your raffle tickets for our chainsaw carved eagle. Proceeds will be used for our library.

Happy Woodworking! -John

Reflections

Reflections on April Meeting and Scroll Saw Class

Submitted by Leila Crandall-Frink

Although the speakers had car trouble and did not make it to the April meeting night, the meeting was held anyhow. Our leaders are always ready with a last minute program. A lively discussion was held with topics like:

- What do you need help with from other members?
- What kind of programs and workshops do you want in the future?
- What is your reaction to the facility we meet in and what would help make it better?

- What would you like to ask the WWG Board?

All comments and questions from the membership were discussed and helpful suggestions made. Some of the results of the discussion were:

- People would like to see a shop tour, with perhaps a demonstration being done at the shops. People would like the shop tours to cover a smaller area so they do not have to drive as far.
- Additional lighting and electrical outlets are desirable and the guild should use some of the money we have on hand to help cover the cost of improving the lighting. Appreciation was expressed about the new bulbs Woodcraft installed. They were great and the lighting was much better than previously.
- Other people were paired up with someone who would be able to help them solve a problem.

Thanks to John Johnson our president and Jerry Tackes our vice-president for facilitating the evening. They did a great job.

(Continued on page 2)
Scroll Saw Class Reflections

Dirk and Karen Boelman did make it back to Milwaukee after driving at a limping 30 mph to go back home from Madison and coming in a different car. We sure appreciated the effort they made to come teach the class on Saturday. Dirk and Karen are from Middleton, Wisconsin. They have been scroll sawing for at least 35 years and are co-hosts of the Midwest Scroll Saw Trade Show being held August 6 & 7 in Richland Center. The show has classes, seminars, demonstrations, contests, door prizes and more. This is the oldest continuous scroll saw event in Wisconsin. They invite all people to attend. You can check the show out online at www.midwesttradeshow.com.

The Boelmans started the class by showing quite a few projects that they have made. I have included some of the pictures of their projects in this RIPSAW. Then they talked about the basics of the scroll saw and safety points. They talked about having a variable speed saw. The variable range allows you to adjust to slow for Plexiglas. They told how to adjust the speed to help you stay on the line of a pattern. They talked about using both a dust mask and dust collectors when scroll sawing.

I found it interesting to see their basic tool box to have with your scroll saw. This tool kit helps make your work easier and more accurate. They use squares to make sure the table is square with the blade before starting. Needle nose pliers were included for that pesky time you may need to pull a blade out of wood. A drill gauge is helpful to find the right size drill bit for the entry hole for the blade. Blue painters tape, masking tape and packaging tape were essential to keep the blade from getting too hot and burning the wood. An awl makes a handy tool to make a dent to seat the drill bit in the starting point. Pencils were used to draw the pattern (keep the lead sharp) and the eraser was used to move the wood. They keep a red pen that they use to draw a new line on the pattern. It helps you know which line to follow.

Other things in the tool kit included a compass that helps when you need to make sure the hole on a pattern is truly round. They keep business cards and old playing cards in the toolbox. With these they can make a hole for the blade to go through and it will keep small pieces from falling through the hole. They kept measuring instruments with straight edges for those times you need to ‘fix’ a pattern. Of course sandpaper is important to take off fuzzies left after sawing the wood. They also included scissors and a small hammer for working with patterns and those starter holes. And they keep an allen wrench and any other tools needed for your saw to keep the parts tight and the saw working well.

Dirk and Karen told us how to work with patterns. If we copy a pattern we need to be aware that there can be distortion, especially if we have to join a pattern that was on two different pages. We may need to redraw lines (in red pen of course) to make sure they are straight or connect correctly. Dirk and Karen use repositionable spray glue to adhere the pattern to the wood. They actually like to put blue painters tape on the wood and then adhere the pattern to the tape. Then they even cover it with packaging tape, especially if cutting multiple pieces at once. The reason for the blue painters tape is that it keeps the blade cooler, and removing the tape from the wood is easier than removing a piece that has been put on with spray glue. But do adhere the pattern to the tape with spray glue. It keeps the pattern where you want it. If you just put the packaging tape over the pattern, those pieces will have a tendency to move and disappear as you cut out the pattern (just ask me, I have experience).

Dirk and Karen talked about the difference in blades, the sizes and tooth configurations. A larger stiffer blade is very useful if you are trying to make a straight cut, but does not work well on turning corners. The smaller the blade the easier it will be to make turns. Just know that a smaller blade can break easier. All blades are sharp and will get hot when cutting wood. The tooth configuration on a blade has different uses. The reverse tooth has a few blades going the opposite direction on the bottom of the blade and cuts down on the tear out of a project. The type of blade to use is a personal choice. They talked about taking a bit of time before starting to saw your project, just getting used to how that blade works. This is especially important when using spiral blades.

Our teachers talked about drilling the blade entry hole near a corner. When we start sawing we should go into the corner first and then saw in a counter clockwise direction. We should cut out inside holes first and do the outside last. They showed us how to do inside corners by cutting into the corner from one side and then coming from the other side to the corner. This makes the corner crisp. The same with a point; we saw out to the point, make a small circle and come back at the point in a straight line. This makes a nice crisp point. Straight lines can usually be cut with the blade running a bit faster. To stay on a straight line you feed the wood in at a slight angle to the right. Karen showed how to make a nice circle by holding your wood down with your finger as a pivot point. Then by keeping your eye just ahead of where
you are sawing, you can follow the arc easier. I tried it and got much better circles than previously.

We all got some patterns and had a grand afternoon of practice and help from Dirk and Karen. It was interesting to watch people sawing their projects. It was amazing to see the different methods of cutting the projects. Some of the students just got right into it and got an amazing amount cut out in no time at all. Others were more tentative with their sawing. The end result was we all got to cut out at least one project and take it home with us. I don’t know about the other students, but I have been practicing what I learned. It has made my scroll sawing more fun. Thank you, Dirk and Karen, for an informative and helpful day.

Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Raffle winners at April 9, 2010 meeting.

The merchandise awards were donated by Rockler. A set of three “All-in-One Clamp Guides” was unpacked so there would be three winners. (The clamps can be viewed on the Rockler website. Search for item number 26718). The winners are:

- Jay Pilling 24 inch clamp, Regular price $33.99
- Vern Eilers 36 inch clamp $35.99
- Larry Teufel 50 inch clamp $42.99

The winners of Woodcraft or Rockler gift cards ($25.00) are:

- Jay Pilling, again
- Paul Scholovich
- Ron Reichert
- John Johnson
- Lewis Enderle

Value of raffle tickets sold $74.00.

Submitted by Jerry Smaglik

Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Board Briefs April, 2010

**Attendees:** Ed Cessna, Lelia Crandall-Frink, George Egenhoefer, Bill Godfrey, Bob Hillman, John Johnson, Corey Megal, Jay Pilling, Bill Smeaton

**Membership:** 120 The 2010 Membership Directory will be issued in the near future.

**Treasurer:** Balance: $10,675 as of 4/14/2010

**Publicity:** Lelia Crandall-Fink and Cory Megal will represent the Guild at the Rockler store open house on Saturday morning April 24.

**Programs/Workshops:** Dirk and Karen Boelman were unable to present the program at our April meeting. However, they were able to conduct the scroll saw workshop on Saturday, April 10. Our monthly meeting became a general discussion of ideas. Among the many suggestions, was that we again arrange tours of member’s shops. Jerry Tackes asked for input on what electrical improvements needed to be made our Woodcraft meeting room and received a lot of suggestions. Do to lack of interest, the broom-making workshop has been canceled.

**Other Business:**

**Library:** Remember the eagle raffle. The drawing will be held at our June meeting, with all proceeds going to the purchase of Library materials. Ed Cessna will look into adding reviews of library items to the newsletter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Cessna

Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

**Homestead Finishing Products,** Cleveland, OH 216/631-5309 www.homesteadfinishing.com

**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
**Woodcraft Class Schedule**

- **Turning for Mothers Day**, Sun, May 2, 10:30 AM - 4 PM
- **Advanced Router Part 1 Hand-Held Operation**, Mon, May 3, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **Advanced Router Part 2-The Router Table**, Mon, May 10, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **Table Saw Fundamentals**, Wed, May 12, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **98 Piece Segmented Peppermill**, Sun, May 16 & 23, 10:30 AM - 4 PM
- **Woodworking for Women**, Wed, May 19, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **Turn a Natural Edge Bowl**, Thu, May 20, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **Turning 101: Intro to Lathe Work**, Sat, May 22, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- **Finishing Your Turned Projects**, Mon, May 24, 6 PM - 9 PM
- **Turn for the Troops**, Sun, May 30, 10:30 AM - 4 PM

Go to the Woodcraft webpage for further details on these classes. [www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)

**Rockler Class Schedule**

- **Leigh Dovetail Jig Demo**, Saturday, May 1, 9:30 AM
- **French Rolling Pin**, Sunday, May 2, 10:30 AM
- **Rockler Dovetail Jig**, Saturday, May 8, 9:30 AM
- **Easy Coper**, Saturday, May 15, 9:30 AM
- **Bird Feeder Turning Class**, Sunday, May 16, 11:30 AM
- **Router Tables & Accessories**, Saturday, May 22, 9:30 AM
- **Router Mortise Jig**, Saturday, May 29, 9:30 AM
- **Tenon Cutting on the Table Saw**, Saturday, June 5, 9:30 AM

Go to the Rockler page for more information about these events. [Rocklernews.blogspot.com](http://Rocklernews.blogspot.com)

**WWG 2010 Programs**

- **Thursday, May 06, 2010**
  The basis for good wood finishing
  William Robillard

- **Thursday, June 03, 2010**
  Variety Show: lath, plane, scroll sawing & chip carving
  Guild members

- **Thursday, July 01, 2010**
  Show/Tell, Open meeting
  Guild members

**No meeting in August 2010**

**WWG 2010 Workshops**

- **Saturday/Sunday, October 9-10, 2010**
  Cabinet Making
  George Von Driska

Other workshops will be added as they are planned.
Pictures of WWG Member Projects

Pictures from Scroll Saw Class
Woodcraft Parking

Woodcraft has requested that Guild members park in the western side of the parking area.

This will leave the area nearest the store for customer parking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In This Issue</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John’s Jaunt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflections</td>
<td>1, 2 &amp; 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Briefs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raffle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guild Programs 2010</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guild Workshops 2010</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockler Class Schedule</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcraft Class Schedule</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2010 Meeting</td>
<td>Back</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WWG Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 6th, 2010

Meeting Location:

Woodcraft
14115 W. Greenfield Ave
(Greenfield and Sunny Slope)

Topic: Good Finishing

Presenter: William Robillard