Welcome to the November issue of the RIPSAW and John’s Jaunt. This is an important month for the Wisconsin Woodworker’s Guild: officer elections are this month. This is your opportunity to help shape the future direction of the guild by becoming a part of the board. We are in particular need for people to step up to run the program/workshop committee, but volunteers or nominations for any of the other positions are also welcome. We will also be voting for this year’s Woodworker of the Year recipient. This award is given in recognition of a person’s contributions to the guild and/or the pursuit of woodworking.

Next month will be our Holiday Party at Meyer’s Restaurant. Our year end raffle is for one of two DeWalt routers, so get those tickets! Last year we tried something new by having a door prize drawing. These are donated items from the members, typically small things like ornaments, tops, etc. There is no obligation to bring something, but it was a lot of fun. We will also be asking for a couple of additional people to help deliver our toys to shelters.

Speaking of the holidays, my list of ideas of what to make for gifts is bigger than I am sure my time will allow! I have a few pens in progress and saw some neat flower vase holders in a recent magazine. I have also been busy trying to reclaim some garage space that has been occupied by a sizable pile of wood...

Well, back to work. Happy Woodworking and good luck with those projects! -John

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**Program Notes**

**Music to your ears**

Building a beautiful cello and scroll is Korinthia Klein’s passion. She will demonstrate her skills at our Thursday, November 4th meeting. Guests are invited. She will bring music to your ears.

**Build a small table:** Beginners get first opportunity to take this workshop. The design and meeting dates will be decided by Corey Megal and the participants.

- Bring toys to help bring joy to children at 7 women’s shelters throughout south eastern Wisconsin on Christmas Day.
- Consider donating a present for our Christmas member drawing.
- Eat a great meal, enjoy humorous entrainment, and hopefully win one of the gifts. Cost: $20.00 per person.

Guild Woodworkers make toys: Wisconsin Woodworker Guild members are meeting at 9:00 A.M., on Monday’s at Bill Godfrey’s shop to make toys. They will continue to meet until the toys are completed. Your help will be appreciated. Contact Bill. (continued on page 2)
Basket Weaving is coming to our January 6th 2011 meeting.

Bill Hull is coming back to Milwaukee for a program meeting on March 5th and a veneering workshop on March 5th 6th & 7th, 2011.

Come to vote a new slate of Board Members and woodworker of the year at our November meeting.

Tom Schuppe, The Party is almost over

BILL HULL was first exposed to woodworking as a child through his father’s woodworking shop, then later in a school shop program. After college he started picking up various trades such as masonry, carpentry, and cabinetry. In the early 1980s he started his own business that evolved into finish woodworking, furniture making, and veneering. In the early ’90s Bill started teaching furniture making at Francis Tuttle Vo-Tech, and started a business with two other woodworkers building furniture for the designer market. In 1993, he left that business to co-found Patternwork Veneering Inc., which specializes in high-end patterned and inlaid veneered panels. Bill has lectured throughout the nation for “The Woodworking Shows,” “Woodworks”, the IIDA, guilds, and woodworking clubs. He currently teaches furniture-making classes and woodworking skills classes at Moore-Norman Technology Center in Oklahoma.

The Workshop description:

Friday evening there will be a slide show and presentations on vacuum pressing, sharpening a veneer saw, preparation of other tools, and joining veneer leaves into faces for pressing.

The weekend workshop will explore more advanced techniques, and consist of a series of exercises on basket weave patterns, sand shading, mosaic borders, and demonstrations of curved work and other skills. Bill will include some review of the basics, and woodworkers of various skill levels will discover many ways to enhance their work. Each will complete examples which can be incorporated into projects.

Classified

A friend of mine died and his wife would like to sell the shop smith $300.00 or best offer. A lot of hand tool’s also. Thanks. Call 414-529-1480 Vern Eilers See picture on page 7.

Bowling lane section, Maple, 2 1/4" thick, about 38" X 7’. HEAVY, you’ll need to bring help to move it. $40 Corey Megal 414-331-7175

Holiday Party

Our annual dinner will be Thursday, December 2, at Meyer’s Restaurant, $20 per person. A reservation form is included in this newsletter. In addition to toys, please bring one or two of your small projects for a gift exchange. The gift exchange was one of the highlights of our 2009 party.

After dinner local, comic comedian Glen Gerard will entertain us. Glen has appeared all over the world, on cruise ships, at colleges, comedy clubs, fairs and festivals. He was once the headline act at the Las Vegas Comedy Festival. He is a master at the sleight-of-hand, and has promised to involve the audience. So, Vern beware.

Come and enjoy great food, entertainment and fellowship.

Ed Cessna

Advertisements

BILL HULL

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Woodworking in America by Corey Megal

This past October 1st, 2nd and 3rd I attended Popular Woodworking Magazine’s “Woodworking in America” conference in Cincinnati, OH. I have been looking forward to this conference since May when I signed up for it. This was billed as the ultimate skill building weekend with many lecture sessions followed by an opportunity to try out some of the techniques. They had 8 lecture rooms set up with topics that varied every hour or two. The topics included a nice mix of hand tools, power tools, and design theory taught by some of today’s top craftsmen. There was also a very nice marketplace with the best selection of hand tools available that I have ever seen. Many of the toolmaker’s themselves were there to demonstrate their wares and answer any questions you might have had. Also, I was delighted to run into a fellow Guild member Jerry Strojny who I was able to get to know much better.

I attended the following sessions: intro and advanced Google Sketchup, design using simple shapes and forms, nine planes you need, filing rip saws, use dividers to lay out anything, sliding dovetails without fail, cutting tenons by hand, sharpening a curved plane iron, using shooting boards, planing impossible woods, and chiseling techniques. As you can see, I packed a lot of learning into my two days. I took as many notes as I could and the sessions were small enough that if I had a question, I wasn’t afraid to ask it. I learned a ton from the presenters, many of whom I have been reading and following either through Popular Woodworking, Fine Woodworking, or on internet blogs.

Robert (Bob) Lang presented Google Sketchup and I learned enough to convince me to buy his electronic book on CD. I learned some great tips that will really help speed up my drawing and designing in Sketchup. If you’re not familiar with Sketchup, it’s free 3D modeling software offered by Google. It allows you to draw and create true 3D models very quickly and accurately.

George Walker presented on designing with simple shapes and forms, as well as using dividers to layout furniture and parts. This was a really interesting presentation on how many of the classic buildings of architecture are built around a series of proportions; the base of a column for example is 1/5th of the total height. He pointed out about a half dozen different proportions in an excellent model of a classic column, the column is so many diameters high, the top of the column is 1/5th of the total distance from the base to the top, etc. George has a very good blog at: http://georgewalkerdesign.wordpress.com/

Ron Herman was probably my favorite speaker of the weekend. A Master House Wright and Carpenter, he is a no-nonsense guy that does restoration building using tools that are authentic for the time period of the building. His information on using and sharpening hand saws was very good. Not only does Ron know a ton about the tools he uses on a daily basis, he’s got a great sense of humor and presents things in an easy to understand way. One of the tips I walked away with are that panel saws have a “hang” to them, depending on how they feel in your hand, they can be easy or tiring to use. He showed how two saws with the handles aligned have blades that can tip up or down, think of holding two saws in one hand with your arm straight out, one blade will be pointing straight ahead and the other will be pointing at the ceiling. He said that angle affects how aggressively the saw cuts and how one of those saws would tire him out after one cut and the other he could use all day. Ron also had a very good discussion on shooting boards and how they use them and fine tune them (with a nickel) every day on the job.

I also sat through sessions with Frank Klausz on dovetailing and removing waste (chisel techniques.) Frank is always a pleasure to learn from and listen to. Roy Underhill was there and did a presentation on cutting a rising dovetail. I was able to get to three sessions by Chris Schwarz on nine planes you need, sharpening plane irons, and planning impossible woods. Chris does a great job of explaining the process and reasons for doing things the way he does, his method of sharpening was intriguing and I’ll be giving it a shot as soon as I can.

I spent some time in the Marketplace drooling over some very nice tools. I was able to test drive a few planes, and look over some of Lie-Nielsen’s line of tools. John Sindelar had a small portion of his tool collection on display, these are tools to be marveled at; a plane from the Viking era (seriously, no kidding,) plumb bob’s covered in filigree,
a plow plane in ivory, and hundreds more. John said that less than 1 percent of his total collection was on display.

Finally, I participated in the Hand Tool Olympics in which I was timed and scored for accuracy doing the following: rip a board, crosscut a board, drill a hole with a brace and bit, dovetail 2 pieces of wood together, plane an edge, and cut a tenon to fit an existing mortise. I did OK, but honestly had I known there were nice tools on the line for the top performers, I would have practiced some. I can’t remember if I’ve ever ripped a board by hand before. Overall I had an excellent time learning some new techniques, refreshing my knowledge of others, and just hanging out with some good people.

(continued from page 3)
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Board Briefs October, 2010

Attendees: Ed Cessna, Leila Crandall-Frink, George Egenhoefer, Bob Hillman, John Johnson, Corey Megal, Jay Pilling, Tom Schuppe, and Jerry Tackes

Membership: 130

Treasurer: Balance: $8,143.33 as of October 10, 2010.

Programs/Workshops: The November 13 build a table workshop is full with 5 people signed up. Plans are under way to hold a plane restoration workshop next year.

Toys: Toys are not being made at Woodcraft this year. Instead, a group of members have been making toys at Bill Godfrey’s shop several days each week.

Other Business:

Door Prizes: Beginning in November the prizes will be given out after the break.

Woodcraft Setup: The setup continues to evolve. We are now leaving the chairs in place. We have also decided to leave the sound system set up. These moves mean less work for all of us.

Holiday Party: We will again invite a representative from one of the women’s shelters to give a short talk. Fried chicken and beef tips will be the entrees.

Contest: Jerry Tackes presented the idea of having a contest to see who can produce the most perfect Gottshall practice block. The contest will begin with our November meeting, with blocks being submitted at the June 2011 meeting. The blocks will be judged and the winners announced at the July 2011 meeting. Prizes: 1st. $50, 2nd 30, 3rd $20.

Respectively Submitted
Ed Cessna

Pictures on page 7 of the RIPSAW are from Gary Shadley who participated in the Fall Art Tour in Southwestern Wisconsin. Many talented woodworkers in that area. Thanks Gary, for sharing your pictures.

WWG 2010 Programs

Thursday, November 4, 2010
Build a Cello & carve the scroll
Demonstration of the fine art of building a Cello and carving its scroll
Presenter: Korinthia Klein

Thursday, December 3, 2010
Holiday Party

Thursday, January 6, 2011
Basket Weaving
Learn how wood/wood fiber is used to make baskets
Presenter: Susan Leopold

WWG 2010 Workshops

Saturday, November 13, 2010
Build a Table Workshop
Learn techniques on how to build a small table.
Beginners will have first choice for this workshop.
Presenter: Corey Megal

Raffle & Door Prizes

The following people won door prizes at the October meeting: Bob Gostisha, Larry Teufel, Richard Burke, and Tom Hipsak.

I did not get names of the raffle winners.

Congratulations to all who won prizes.
Basics of Professional Finishing - Series

Five Session Series - Feb 12th, March 5th, April 2nd, April 30th, May 14th, 2011
Sign-up starting: October 2010. Learn the foundational principles and techniques used by professional finishers to achieve beautiful finishes. If you’re tired of seeing your finest woodworking project lost to a substandard finish, or simply want to take the mystery out of finishing, these workshops may be for you.

The Basics of Professional Finishing –Series is a progression of 5 separate but linked workshops - each workshop building upon the previous one. The series provides demonstrations and plenty of hands-on workshop time to learn finishing protocols and techniques.

Workshops: Maximum of 15 students with workshops held about 1 month apart. All finishing materials and sample boards are supplied. Students start with raw unfinished wood and end with various attractive finishes using a variety of application techniques, stains, dyes, toners and top coats. Upon completion, students keep their documented sample boards as future reference guides for finishing.

Participation: No previous finishing experience is necessary. The program is optimized around students taking all 5 classes. If vacancies do occur, it may be possible to add students to receive a portion of the training.

Instructor - Bill Robillard is a graduate of the National Institute of Wood Finishing as well as a member of the International Professional Finishers Group. Bill was an assistant finishing instructor at Marc Adam’s School of Woodworking in 2009. Bill is the owner of Encore Restorations (www.encore-restores.com) and actively participates in restoration technique workshops held by a lead Smithsonian conservator.

Class 1. Getting Started - Color Theory for Woodworkers,
Class 2. The Basics: Properties of Wood / Sanding / Brushing / Spray Cans
Class 3. Advanced Application techniques - Spray Guns
Class 4. Selecting and applying a protective film or penetrating finish
Class 5. Putting it all together - Finishing the Finish

Recent Additions to the WWG Library

Twelve books and one videotape were recently donated to the Guild library.
Donated by Jerianne Feiten is the book; The Art of Marquetry by Craig Vandall Stevens.
Donated by Walt Hadcock are the following:
1. Fine Woodworking on Joinery
2. Fine Woodworking on Finishing and Refinishing
3. The Complete Illustrated Guide to Everything Sold in Hardware Stores
4. Advanced Woodwork and Furniture Making
5. Wooden Toys and Games
6. 44 Terrific Woodworking Plans and Projects
7. 58 Home Shelving and Storage Projects
8. 53 Space-saving, built-in Furniture Projects
9. Santa Carving: a carving primer for beginners and advanced carvers
10. Carving Santas with Special Interests
11. Swedish Carving Techniques
12. Carving Swedish Woodenware video

Thank you to these members for thinking of the Guild Library.

Lost WWG Library Books

It has been determined that three books are missing with no record of who checked them out from the library. These are:
1. The Art of Making Elegant Jewelry Boxes by Tony Lydgate
2. The Complete Guide to Sharpening by Leonard Lee
3. Sam Maloof, Woodworker by Same Maloof and Jonathan Pollock

Please check at your home, in your vehicle and under your workbench and see if you have any of these. Just bring them back and place them in the Returns Box at the next Guild meeting. No questions asked. Other members are requesting these books and it will be of considerable expense to replace them.

Submitted by, Pat Kashmerick Librarian
Membership Challenge

During the 1800’s, furniture makers gave their apprentices practice boards to hone their skills. One such board is found in an antique furniture book, and is the subject of the members challenge. The board is 3” by 7” by 3.4” with a number of common woodworking cuts. The challenge is to make all of the cuts as accurately and neatly as your skill allows. Drawings of the practice board will be available at guild meetings for the next several months. One board per member can be submitted no later than the June 2011 meeting and three gift certificates of $50, $30 and $20 will be awarded on the basis of overall appearance and accuracy to the drawing dimensions at the July 2011 meeting.

Besides the chance of a gift certificate, this challenge is intended to give each of us a chance to hone our woodworking skills. Don’t take this challenge lightly, get started early, and plan on making more than one practice board, in fact, you might consider getting together with other guild members and working together. Good Luck and have fun.

Rules

- Each guild member in good standing may submit one practice board on or before the June 2011 meeting.
- Any wood species may be used.
- No finish shall be applied to the board.
- All elements shown on the drawing must be present on the submitted board.
- Any and all tools except CNC machines may be used.
- Each board must contain the members name to be eligible for a gift certificate.
- Judging will be based on overall appearance and adherence to the provided dimensions.
- Gift certificates of $50, $30, and $20 will be awarded at the July 2011 meeting.
- The judges decision will be final.

If you want information about Kelly Mehler’s School of Woodworking with the schedule of classes you can access the information on the internet at: http://www.kellymehler.com. Kelly has been a speaker at our guild in the past.
Korinthia Klein, a Wisconsin native, will discuss building a cello and demonstrate building the scroll.