Volume 29 No. 10

A monthly publication of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

October 2010

John’s Jaunt

Welcome to the October issue of the RIPSAW and John’s Jaunt! Since the last issue, I had the opportunity to participate in Turn-On! Chicago 2010. If you are not familiar with this event, it is hosted by the Chicago Woodturners and features a number of big names in turning over three days. For a novice turner like me, it was a good venue for me to see the wide range of what is possible in wood turning, from multi-axis hollow form turning to segmented sculptures. A number of your fellow members also went and some provided very nice items for display in the gallery. On Friday night I participated in the pens for troops hands on event, which allowed me to try out some new tools that I ended up purchasing. If you get the chance to attend one of these types of events I highly recommend it.

In the ongoing saga of toy making and CPSIA compliance, we have made some progress. Franklin International has replied to us that their Titebond I, II, and III are ok, and General Finishes has also responded. If you would like more specifics, let me know.

As the year winds down, there are a few items of business to take care of. First, we will be taking nominations for Woodworker of the Year at the October meeting and voting at the November meeting. Second, we will be having elections for 2011 at our November meeting. With that, it is time for me to turn over the role of President to someone else. Corey Megal has agreed to be a candidate for President, and I will be a candidate for Treasurer. We are also in need of two people to take on the roles of Program and Workshop chairs. If you are interested in these or any of the other positions, please talk to a current board member for more information. Remember, the Wisconsin Woodworker’s Guild is only as good as the members choose to make it!

Happy woodworking! -John

September Meeting

We were privileged to have Dr. Robert Nolan as our speaker at the September meeting. He is a woodcarver who lives in South Milwaukee. He showed slides and talked about his work with carving 2 totem poles, one can be found at the entrance to South Milwaukee High School and the other at Discovery World at the lakefront in downtown Milwaukee. He also talked about his participation in carving a log canoe.

Dr. Nolan is a retired dentist who is a member of Badger State Carvers. He had 2 large trees, an Elm and an Ash, both growing out of the same base. He used them for the 2 totem poles. The trees had been alive since the 1870’s outside the building that housed his dental practice. Each tree was carved by a group of people. They depicted items that were historically specific for the space they were planned to occupy.

(continued on page 2)
The South Milwaukee High School totem pole contains a 16 year old Native American girl in native dress, an airplane, a steam shovel, an eagle, a raccoon and a pileated woodpecker, as well as other carvings. It is installed in front of the high school and represents items that are part of the history of the area. Students helped in the making of the totem pole. Students also use it as a place to meet with their friends. My granddaughter, a student there, recently told me she often tells friends she will meet them by the totem pole. It is a source of pride for South Milwaukee residents and students alike.

The 2nd totem pole can be found at Discovery World Wisconsin. This pole’s carvings center around the Great lakes and the history of the Lake Michigan area. I has a carving of the schooner the Dennis Sullivan which was hit by another ship and all on board were killed. Also carved on it are a turtle, a water bug, a white pelican, a Celtic boat, an eagle, a Native American Hogan and canoe, and a sturgeon. It also has a carved face that people can touch as they board the tall ship which is kept near Discovery World. There are many other things carved on it. It would be well worth the effort to go visit either totem pole to see the craftsmanship.

Finally, Dr. Nolan spoke about the authentic whole log dugout canoe that a group of people carved. Dr. Nolan found a tree that was to be removed from a church yard in Elm Grove. The tree was a green ash about 170 years old. After cutting the tree down they were left with a log 27 feet long and 24 inches in diameter that weighed 8,000 pounds. They had to let it dry for a year before starting to carve it out. Many people helped carve out the dugout canoe. They used chisels from 1890. It took approximately 850 hours of carving to completer the project. The finished canoe is 24 feet 2 inches long with walls 1 ½ inches thick. The canoe was launched and it actually floated. It was given to the 11 Indian tribes that call Wisconsin home. I believe Dr. Nolan said it was currently on display at the Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee.

We appreciated the informative presentation and were impressed with Dr. Nolan’s knowledge of both wood carving and the history of this part of Wisconsin.

Sorry, we have no picture of the canoe.
Elliptical Turning: an Introduction DVD, by David Springett

Tackling an often-confounding trick of the trade, this visual guide to elliptical turning shows in great detail how to create an oval frame with a molded edge. You first learn how to build the necessary home-made chuck to fit your lathe. Englishman David Springett demonstrates each step in the creation process. He advises to only turn at 500 rpm, and to always make certain that you set the height tool rest so that your cutting tool makes contact at the center line of the piece.

Although I found his presentation style to be rather dry, the information presented is excellent. Any turner wishing to try oval turning should watch this video.

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

Classified

Shopsmith Full Featured Router Table. Like new condition. $150/offer. Interested in purchasing/trade for Shopsmith jointer accessories.

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Lfrink@wi.rr.com

Workshop Signup  Jack Whitstone

Woodcraft Class Schedule

Basic Router Techniques, Thu, Oct 07, 6-9 PM
Basic Bowl Turning, Mon, Oct 11, 6-9 PM
Power Carve an African Bee Eater, Tue, Oct 12, 6-9 PM
Turning 101: Intro to Lathe Work, Sat, Oct 16, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Turn a Duck Call, Thu, Oct 21, 6-9 PM
Make A Sack Back Windsor Chair, Fri, Oct 22, 9:30 AM - 5 PM, Sat, Oct 23, 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Sun, Oct 24, 10:30 AM – 4 PM
Turn for the Troops, Sat, Oct 30, 9:30 AM – 5 PM

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Rockler is having a special demonstration day on Saturday Oct. 9th. They are having Wisconsin Wood Harvesters there with their portable saw mill to cut logs into boards. It is usually between 9 AM and 2 PM depending on how many people want their logs sawn. They will also have a company there that does laser engraving. He will demonstrate how it works and will also do laser engraving on items people bring in for a fee. Pens will start at $8. They will also have free demonstrations on steam bending, scroll saw ornaments, turning and a few other Rockler products.

Raffle & Door Prizes

The following people won door prizes at the September meeting: George Henderson, Jim Fenske, Tom Hipsak, Pete Reichmann and Klaus Zunker.

The following people won raffle prizes at the September meeting: Lenard Mumm, Ed Cessna, and Earl Binczak.

Congratulations to all who won prizes.

Gallery

Thank you to all who brought items for show and tell. Jerry Anson Segmented bowl, Tom Schupe, segmented bowl, Klaus Zunker, Carved scroll work, turned bowl from redwood burl. Remember you get one free raffle ticket when you bring something to show at the meeting.

Rockler Class Schedule

Sat, Oct 2, 9:30am Deltas New Omni Jig
Sun, Oct 3, 11:30am Bowl Turning Class
Sat, Oct 9, All day Open House
Sun, Oct 10, 10:30am Pizza Cutter Turning Class
Sat, Oct 16, 9:30am Kreg Pocket Hole Jig, featuring Rockler’s Pock-It Hole Clamp
Sun, Oct 17, 11:30am Ice Cream Scoop Turning Class
Sat, Oct 23, 9:30am Drill Doctor XPA Sharpening
Sun, Oct 24, 11:30am Inlay Pen Turning Class
Sat, Oct 30, 9:30am SawStop
Sun, Oct 31, 11:30am Duck Call Turning Class

To view more details on these classes go to http://rocklernews.blogspot.com/ or call the store for more information, 414/774-1882
PRORAM NOTES
Tis a party for one who lives between live and dead centers

Spindle turning & repair, Thursday, October 7th, Ron Oldegard lives between live and dead centers on his lathe to turn a leg. He will show you how to fix that broken piece of furniture. Bring your questions and experiences to share with Ron.

Fall Art Tour, Friday, Oct 15th; contact Jay 414-425-5692. Join Guild members on a fun filled day touring woodworker studios all the way from Baraboo to Spring Green, Wisconsin. It’s fun, don’t miss the opportunity.

Build a Cello and carve its’ scroll, Thursday, Nov 4th, Korinthia Klein will demonstrate her artistic skill building a Cello and carving its scroll. You’ll be spellbound the entire evening.

Build a table… Saturday, Nov 13th, beginners will get the first opportunity to take part in a 4 session workshop. Corey Megal will present and teach the techniques. He welcomes everyone, but hopes beginners sign up.

1. Bring toys to support our clubs’ mission: Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild helps to bring Christmas joy to children living in battered women shelters. Guild members & wives bring toys to the party and the club hands them out to shelters throughout southeastern Wisconsin.
2. Also, Bring a woodworkers present for a drawing at our Christmas party. Eat a great meal, enjoy quality entrainment, and hopefully win a gift. Cost: $20.00 per person.

Guild Woodworkers make toys: Wisconsin Woodworker Guild members started meeting at 9:00 A.M., on Monday, September 20th, 2010, at Woodcraft to make toys. We will continue to meet Mondays until the toys are completed. Your help will be appreciated. Materials provided.

Basket Weaving is coming to our club at our January 6th, 2011 meeting. Watch for details.

Tom Schuppe,
The Party is almost over

WWG 2010 Programs

Thursday, October 7, 2010
Spindle turning & repair
Learn how to fix that broken piece of furniture
Presenter: Ron Oldegard

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

WWG 2010 Workshops

Friday, October 15, 2010
Fall Art Tour
Travel to woodworker studios from Baraboo to Spring Green, Wisconsin.

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

Hint:
Do you use a number of small, sharp tools for scribing, marking, and cutting work pieces. It’s hard to protect the blades of these tools if they’re stored loose in a drawer or toolbox.

To protect the sharp edges but still keep each tool close at hand, make a small knife and tool holder. It’s nothing more than a piece of dense foam insulation (blue board). And to keep my block anchored to a workbench, build a wood frame to fit around the foam. When the foam gets too chewed up, just flip it over. Easy to replace too.
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. The series strives to build a solid foundation of the skills needed to achieve a professional looking finish.

Workshops: Maximum of 15 students with workshops held about 1 month apart. All finishing materials and sample boards are supplied. Students will work on sample boards made of the most common furniture woods (Oak, Walnut, Maple and Pine). 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

Prang Color System. The prang color system lays the foundation for the manipulation of color in finishing. Students will be introduced to “color space” and how to use this concept throughout the workshops. Students will learn the meaning of hue, chroma, shade and tint and how to adjust their finishes accordingly. Students will learn how color theory is used to achieve color “depth” by building up “layers” of colors. The relationship between color theory and the common earth tone colors available as stains will be discussed and put into practice

Dyes and stains. Students will learn the practical difference between dyes and stains and how to select them. Students will explore creating their own “custom” stains.

Workshop: Students will work on various color exercises to include creating their own Prang color space wheel. Students will create a series of stained color samples for their own use. Students will practice “color matching” using color theory concepts.

Class 2. The Basics: Properties of Wood / Sanding / Brushing / Spray Cans

Wood - Understanding the properties of wood and how they will radically affect your finish. Why some woods must be sealed and techniques for sealing.

Sanding - Students learn how to select sandpaper and the proper way to sand. It is amazing how many projects are doomed from the start due to improper sanding. Making friends with sandpaper - which grit to start with, which type of paper to use, when to replace the paper. Identifying and avoiding common sanding problems

Brushing - How to select the correct brush for the type of finish that you’ve selected. Tips and techniques to achieve excellent results when brushing various finishes. Students learn how to select a cleaning solvent and the proper way to clean a brush.

Spraying Cans – Spray can techniques. Spray cans are a great way to expand your finishing arsenal at a very modest cost.

Workshop: Multiple sanding; brushing and spraying exercises. Students will complete the surface preparation and seal all sample boards.

Class 3 Advanced Application techniques - Spray Guns

Spraying basics: Students will learn the differences between the various sprayers on the market. (HVLP, Conventional, etc) and how to select one. Tips for success are discussed and demonstrated. How to select the correct Air Cap / Needle Nozzle assembly based on the finish. Understanding
the impact of humidity and temperature when using spray equipment.

**Cleaning a Spray Gun** - How to dismantle and clean a spray gun and why this is a critical maintenance item. Selecting a cleaning solvent.

**Spraying Technique** – Understanding the key control elements when spraying (Fan pattern, cadence and distance) and adopting a method of control. Common spraying mistakes and how to identify and correct those mistakes by analyzing the result.

**Workshop** - Each student will be spraying and be given individual instruction. Students will also dye and stain their sample boards.

**Class 4 Selecting and applying a protective film or penetrating finish**

**Top Coat Choices:** Pros and cons of waterbase, shellac, lacquer and varnish/polyurethane topcoats. Which topcoats to spray and which topcoats to brush. Performance considerations when selecting a coating. When/why to use multiple topcoats on the same piece.

**Penetrating oils and Oil/Varnish blends.** Pros /cons and performance considerations. Best application methods.

**Decorative elements:** How to create decorative effects. How to create fly specking. Using oils to highlight figure in wood

**Workshop:** Students will top coat their sample boards via a spray gun and/or brushing. Students will make their own toner and use it on at least one sample board.

**Class 5 Putting it all together. - Finishing the Finish**

**Rubbing out a finish:** The importance of rubbing out a finish. Review of various rub out techniques to include using, water, oil, rubbing compounds, pumice and rottenstone. Why you have to use a different approach and tools to rub out a waterbase finish versus other finishes.

**Leveling:** What does it mean to “level” a surface and what to look for when you’re doing it. How to adjust the “sheen” of the finish to what you want.

**Polishes and waxes:** - Students learn the difference in products and how to apply them

**Workshop:** Students will level and rub out their sample boards using a variety of application techniques and products. Optional review of student’s proposed finishing schedule for student projects.
The Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild
Box 137
Milwaukee, WI 53201

First Class Mail

**Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild**

**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.

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**WWG Monthly Meeting**

**Thursday, October 7th, 2010**

**Meeting Location:**

**Woodcraft**

14115 W. Greenfield Ave

(Greenfield and Sunny Slope)

**Spindle Turning and Repair**

**Presenter:**

**Ron Oldegard**

Ron will show you how to fix that broken piece of furniture. Bring your questions and experiences to share with Ron.