Corey’s Corner

Learning how to work with wood is an interesting journey. How you go about it can make a big difference in how much fun you have in the craft. I suspect most of us picked up a magazine or book and saw something we wanted to build, then went about attempting to make that thing. Very few of us practiced making cuts, sharpening, measuring and really thinking about the process of woodworking. We just plowed through the project and learned (maybe) from our mistakes.

For me, some of my first projects were disasters, bad joinery, not thought out at all, and I struggled with every aspect of building. I struggled with dull chisels and planes, I struggled with how to hold my wood so I could work on it, I struggled with laying out the joints I wanted to cut, I struggled and struggled and struggled. Looking back, I’m a little surprised I stuck with it.

However, there is an easier way…. Things changed for me when I started to take the time to learn some basic skills and took some classes to learn even more. I learned how to sharpen and the importance of a good bench. I learned how to look at wood critically (a skill I still work on) to tell the difference between a piece of wood fit for my current project and one that is not. I learned that when it comes to joinery, as Marc Adams says, “Layout is everything.”

I learned a lot over the last 20 or so years of working with wood, and part of the process for me has always been to take notes and draw pictures. I try to take notes at every meeting the guild has, and there’s been very few meetings when I’ve had nothing I wanted to write down and remember. I’m a bit surprised to see the number of members that don’t take notes during the meetings. My challenge to the Guild is this: bring a pencil and notebook to the next meeting and take some notes. I think you’ll be glad you did.

Work Safe, Corey Megal

Our guild is lucky to have talented people who share their ideas freely. We thank Corey Megal, Len & Irene Mumm and Jay Pilling for sharing their talents at the last build meeting. Please enjoy the pictures that give a visual presentation of the meeting highlights. Many people learned from Jay how to sharpen the drill bit. (Just the tip was news to me.) There was a constant cluster of people around both Cory who showed how he created the string inlay for projects. Len & Irene Mumm graciously showed how they made their beautiful wood burned projects. They make a great team.

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Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild  
Board Briefs February, 2011

Attendees: Ed Cessna, Bob Hillman, Jerry Kashmerick, Corey Megal, Jay Pilling, Jerry Strojny, and Jerry Tackes

Membership: 92 paid for 2011. The 2011 membership directory will be distributed at the March meeting.

Treasurer: Balance: $10,982.45 as of February 9, 2011.

Programs/Workshops: There are only 4 people signed up for the March 5 and 6 Bill Hull workshop. The minimum number of people for the workshop to be held is 8. Corey Megal will send an email to the membership encouraging people to attend the workshop. Unless 8 people have signed up by Monday, February 14, the workshop will be canceled.  
(Ed. Note: The required number of people signed up and the workshop is a go!)
The plane restoration workshop scheduled for Saturday, April 16 has been canceled. The speaker at our June meeting will be Mark Harrell of Bad Axe Tool Works, La Crosse. Mark sharpens handsaws and makes some beautiful new ones. The meeting will be Friday, June 3, followed by a saw-sharpening workshop on Saturday June 4.

Other Business:

Library: Librarian Pat Kashmerick is planning to do a complete inventory of the library. She estimates that it will take 8 people approximately 2-4 hours to complete the task. She will be looking for volunteers in the near future.

Guild Logo: Jay Pilling presented several designs for a new logo done by a neighbor of his. The Board decided that one of the designs, with some minor changes, would be a very nice logo Jay will bring the revised design to the next Board meeting.

Respectively Submitted  
Ed Cessna

Membership Renewal
For those of you who have not already done so, you can renew your yearly dues by bringing a check for $35 to the March meeting or mailing a check made out to Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild with a note saying membership dues to:
Bob Hillman
S71 W24780 Wildwood Dr.
Waukesha, WI 53189

Toys, Toys, Toys
Planning for 2011 group toy making will begin at a meeting to be held at 9 AM, Saturday, March 19, at Bill Godfrey’s shop, S53 W26445 Foxvale Ct. Waukesha 53189. Members interested in making toys as part of a group are encouraged to attend. Since we will be selecting which toys to make, bring your favorite toys and plans along. A tentative schedule of sessions will be decided on.

Toy Co-Chairs
Bill Godfrey
Paul Scholovich

Raffle & Door Prizes
February winner of the raffle was Craig Baltz. Congratulations Craig!
February winners of the door prizes were: Jim Kees, Jerry Kashmerick, John Johnson, Justin Gasal, and Randall Jacques. Congratulations to all the winners!

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Basics of Professional Finishing - Series

**Five Session Series**: Feb 12th, March 12th, 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.

**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.

**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**

Bill is the owner of Encore Restorations (www.encore-restores.com) and actively participates in restoration technique workshops held by a lead Smithsonian conservator. A recent article titled “Robillard restoring furniture for House of Representatives” can be found on www.postcrescent.com, or by going to: http://www.postcrescent.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201101070422/APC03/301070061

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How are you coming on this Challenge??

**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.

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.

See Jerry Tackes, Vice President for more information on the challenge!

Len carves the bird and Irene does the woodburning.
**Officers**

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Workshop Signup  
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815/575-9266  
jcjkyj@gmail.com

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**Woodcraft Class Schedule**

Basic Router Techniques, Wed, March 2, 6 - 9 PM
Turn a Bottle Stopper, Thu, March 3, 6 - 9 PM
It ain’t finished until its FINISHED!, Sun, March 6, 10:30 AM - 3 PM
Bandsaw Basics, Mon, March 7, 5 - 9 PM
Power Carve Great Crested Flycatcher, Tue, March 8, 6 - 9 PM
Wood Preparation Using The Planer, Jointer & Table, Wed, March 9, 6- 9 PM
Turn a Goblet, Thu, March 10, 6 - 9 PM
Intarsia Basics, Sun, March 13, 11 AM - 4 PM
Table Saw 101, Wed, March 16, 6 - 9 PM
Turn Captive Rings, Thu, March 17, 6 - 9 PM
Band Saw Box Making , Sun, March 20, 11 AM - 3 PM
Sharpening with the Wolverine, Mon, March 21, 6 - 9 PM
Router Table Basics, Wed, March 23, 6 - 9 PM
Wood burning basics with the Detail Master, Thu, March 24, 6 - 9 PM
Turning 101: Intro To Lathe Work, Sat, March 26, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Turn A Euro Pen, Sun, March 27, 11 PM - 3:30 PM

For more information on these classes go to http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=506 or call them at 262-785-6770

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**Rockler Class Schedule**

Saturday, March 5, 9:30am, Drawer Slide Installation
12:00pm, Banksia Pod Candle Holder Turning
Sunday, March 6, 11:30am, Acrylic Pen Turning
Saturday, March 12, 9:00am, Freud Truck
12:00pm, St. Patrick’s Day Pen Turning
Sunday, March 13, 11:30am, Ice Cream Scoop Turning
Saturday, March 19, 9:00am, Demos all day
Sunday, March 20, 11:30am, Lidded Box Turning
Sunday, March 27, 11:30am, Wooden Plate Turning
Saturday, April 2, 9:30am, Use & Caring for Hand Planes 1:00pm, Exotic Burl Turning

To view more details on these classes go to http://rocklernews.blogspot.com/ or call the store for more information, 414/774-1882

There is a new guild club discount at Rockler Woodworking and Hardware. On the **first Thursday of every month we will be offering a 15% discount** on regular price merchandise. It would not be good on sale items, powertools, Festool products, CNC Shark, Leigh jigs, Porter-Cable Dovetail jigs and purchasing gift cards. The current discount program is 10% off to members with the same restrictions. All the members will need to do is show their membership card to receive this discount.

On Saturday 3/12, George Malley from the Freud company is here with his truck, demonstrating and discussing tips and tricks when using sawblades, dados and router bits. We will have some specials on the Freud product that day. On Saturday 3/19 we will be having a Customer Appreciation sale and Sal d’Acquisto from DBD Woodworking Specialties will be here with his laser engraver. He will be demonstrating how the laser engraver works and what it does.

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**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
Program Notes

With warm weather fast approaching, it’s time to emerge from your workshop and head out to some of our spring events.

March Program

- Friday March 4th Bill Hull will be in to present on veneering. 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.

For those of you not familiar with BILL HULL, he 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.

March Workshops

- Saturday and Sunday (March 5th & 6th) Bill’s weekend workshop will explore more advanced veneering techniques, and consist of a series of exercises on veneering 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.

- Saturday March 12th will be the Part 2 of the 5 part series called The Basics of Professional Finishing with Bill Robillard. (Each of these workshops are stand alone, please remember to sign up for them individually.)

April Program

- Thursday the 7th will be a presentation from one of our members, Kevin Seigworth. He built a Sam Maloof inspired rocking chair based on plans from Charles Brock. Charles estimates this is a 150 to 200 hour project. The Maloof rocker is legendary for its Maloof joint, curves, flowing hard and soft lines and laminated reverse curve rockers. Kevin documented the build process with photos that he will show. He will bring the rocking chair as well as many of the tools and jigs used in the build. There will be plenty of time to discuss lessons learned as well.

April Workshops

- Saturday April 2nd will be Part 3 of the 5 part series called The Basics of Professional Finishing with Bill Robillard. (Each of these workshops are stand alone, please remember to sign up for them individually.)

- Saturday April 30th will be Part 4 of the 5 part series called The Basics of Professional Finishing with Bill Robillard. (Each of these workshops are stand alone, please remember to sign up for them individually.)

Submitted by, Jerry Strojny

Contact information for WWG Workshops

John Johnson
9409 Nicholas Lane
Spring Grove, IL 60081-8286
815/575-9266
Email: jcekyj@gmail.com
Jay Pilling shows how to hold the drill bit so just the tip gets sharpened. Members had a chance to sharpen their old dull drills.

Pictures below are from the WWG booth at the Woodworkers Show! Thanks for all who volunteered their time for the show and for those who brought projects!
Corey made the cutting tool he uses to cut a thin line in the stock for the string inlay. He pulls the tool toward him cutting close to the edge.

Here you can see a piece of wood with the string inlay edge cut into it. See how tiny the shavings are that are removed.
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

WWG Monthly Meeting

Friday, March 4th, 2011

6:30 PM Gathering
7:00 PM Meeting

Meeting Location:
Woodcraft
14115 W. Greenfield Ave
(Greenfield and Sunny Slope)

Topic: Venering
Speaker: Bill Hull

Please note change from Thursday to Friday for March!

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