



Bench Talk

The monthly newsletter for The Northeast Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Volume 27 Issue 9

September 2010

Points of Interest:

- Summer Picnic
- Upcoming events
- September Program Agenda

Inside this issue:

<i>Board of Directors Meeting</i>	2
<i>Member of the Month</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	2
<i>Airborne Particles and Chips ...workbench</i>	3
<i>Gluing perfect panels</i>	4
<i>Too young for woodworking??</i>	6
<i>September Program Agenda</i>	Last

The President's Corner

By Steve Lockhart

Paula's list of questions for "woodworker of the month" includes a very important one (I think): Do you have any mentors?

to ask them for help! (or at least an opinion) That's what guild membership is all about.

Steve

I already know who was my most influential mentor. My uncle Harold, who I palled around with when I was a kid. There was something about how he built things which resonated with me. Through the years I have applied the test many times: How would Uncle Harold do this? I usually don't achieve the excellence that Harold would have but at least I try.

If you weren't lucky enough to have an Uncle Harold during your formative years, the next best thing is the many experts here in the guild. I am sure you all can think of someone who you look up to. Don't be afraid

Picnic Review

By Jane Alesch

Thanks to you and the weather we had a wonderful picnic. Rich Ward got that fabulous grill there early and Mark Brien did his magic with the meat, corn and his very own apple beans. We tried bringing the meat in to make life easier, but next year we are going to reverse and bring the buns and plates out to the

grill!! Special thanks to Steve and Betty Lockhart, Pete and Cindy Schuh, (and they toted the drinks), Marge Charlier and Bob Yancy who started the table and food set up and to the rest...

Continued on page 6

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting held: August 24, 2010

Present: Steve Lockhart, Lyle Martens, Dan Alesch, Jane Alesch, Tom Carlson, Lee Carlson, Fred Juengst, Peter Schuh, Rob Martens, Paula Martens, Tom Charlier

Absent: Mark Brienen, Bob Welhouse

- **Meeting Call to Order:** Steve Lockhart
- **Treasurer's Report:** Lee C.— Current assets are \$8,007.46. Last year assets were \$9,927.24. Tom Carlson reported he has guild clothing which can be added to the raffle going forward. Items include T-shirts, long-sleeve shirts, polo shirts and hats.
- **Membership Report:** Fred J.— Approx. 17 reminder slips for non-payment of dues were sent. If no response, these individuals will be dropped from the membership list.
- **Public relations:** 1) Tom C. will join the guild officers to assist in any capacity that he can, and 2) Suggestion was made to determine if the guild could advertise in the monthly WoodCraft advertising (local section). Dan A. to look into.
- **Programs Review:** The summer picnic was a success with 53 attending, better than last year. See "Upcoming Events" section for program schedules and "Next Guild Meeting" section for specific details. Dan A. to contact Mark Duginske as possible program presenter. Rob M. to contact trades people for possible 2011 presentations. Other ideas include wooden jewelry (Dean Charlier), picture frame making, wooden rings (Rob M), wood hinge boxes (music & jewelry), etc
- **Editor's Report:** Three member's emailed newsletters were returned to sender; paper copies were mailed instead.
- **Special Activities:** Suggestions discussed include shop tours, Mark Duginske presentation, Cerebral Palsy project, possible Christmas party pig roast (Tom Charlier to research).
- **Web Report:** Mark B. —Absent. It was noted that Dean Charlier has agreed to assist Mark with making some improvements to the website.
- **Spring Show:** Jane A. — Anyone who knows of WW magazines with Calendar of Events sections please contact Jane A so we can pursue more advertising for the 2011 spring show.
- **Other Business:** Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, 9-21-10 at Tome and Lee Carlson's home.

Member of the Month: Steve Lockhart

By Paula Martens

1. What is your specialty in woodworking? Everything except carving and turning.
2. How many years have you been woodworking? I started when my dad let me use his tools, which was when I was about 10 years old (which works out to 55 years!!)
3. What is your favorite wood to use and why? As far as ease of working, I would pick walnut. As far as looks, I love the way cherry and walnut look together.
4. What project do you take the most pride in? I guess my

grandfather clock because it is 100% my design (contemporary). I made a full-size mockup out of masonite to work out the size and shape.

5. What is the best deal you have ever gotten on a woodworking tool? By far, the recent purchase of a Delta commercial radial arm saw. I am fully aware the reason I got a deal was due to the fact that most people don't want these saws and there are a lot of old ones around. But, I like them and so I paid \$50 for a saw that still sells new for \$2000.00

Continued on page 5

Upcoming Events

Upcoming program events include the following:

Guild Meetings:

- **September 2010**—Andrew Madsen presenting guitar building.
- **October 2010**—Tom Smith and Lyle Martens presenting Part I of Veneering.
- **November 2010**— Tom Smith presenting Part II of Veneering.
- **December 11, 2010**—Guild Christmas party.

Air-Borne Particles and Chips from the Workbench

By Dan Alesch

Bob Decker is recovering nicely from double rotator cuff surgery and is resuming his carving. Bob says he'll be ready to pitch for the Brewers next season. I told him I'd rather see him pitch for the Cubs, the Cards, the Reds, or even Pittsburgh. Life is tough enough for the Brewers.

Speaking of carving, I recently spoke with **Helli Meir** at his home in Austria. Helli is planning a trip to the U.S. this winter and asked me whether I thought there would be any interest in him putting on a three day workshop. The focus would be on carving human hands. Three days, three poses. I'm interested, of course. If you are, too, let me know. No obligation for expressing interest; I'd just like to know whether there is one of us or 15 who might do the workshop. Let me know.

I haven't noticed an end to the recession/depression yet. For a lucky few, the recession spells the difference between a weekend in Paris and a lunch in Lena. For many, however, it means the difference between getting by and not getting by. Try to keep that in mind as you plan your donations of food, clothing, woodworking projects, or money for the rest of the year. There are plenty of really good chari-

table organizations in our area that could use your help. And, don't forget them at Christmas time, either.

And, speaking of difficult economic times, I want to put in a word for supporting those woodworking organizations that support the Guild. Everyone is looking for a good deal and customer loyalty is, at best, a fairly rare commodity. Nevertheless, **Woodworkers Depot** and **Woodcraft** in Appleton have supported the Guild for many years with special deals, great prizes for our shows and Christmas party, Friday night programs, and a lot more. You might be able to save a few cents going somewhere else or shopping on the internet, but those other places don't care about the Guild and don't provide the same high level of professional expertise you can get when shopping with our friends. We're incredibly fortunate to have those merchants in our community. I was in Norfolk, Virginia not long ago and could not find anything remotely close to their quality. Do yourself a favor and support the **Depot** and **Woodcraft**. Life without either of them would be a lot less pleasant.

Continued on page 6

Summer Picnic: Photo Gallery

By Paula Martens



Mark Brien



Joe Ferrier and Rich Ward



Joe and Virginia Martin



DeBroux Picnic Pavilion

Librarian's Report

By Pete Schuh

Reminder- Overdue Library Materials: There are many books and video material past due. Please return any overdue items you may have at the next Guild meeting.

Notices will be sent to guild members to remind them if finished with the materials to

return them to make them available for other guild members who may be interested.

Gluing Perfect Panels

By Lyle Martens

If you want perfect solid wood panels for doors or table tops proper selection and preparation of your wood is absolutely necessary. The number one cause of glue joint failure is ill-fitting joints. Good joints start with a jointer set up properly and with sharp knives.

First, board selection is very important. When purchasing boards look for nice grain selection plus straight grain to eliminate warping. The width of the boards is not important. Some professional woodworkers advocate wide boards for making panels and table tops. More important is the selection of kiln dried boards with about 7% moisture content. It is okay to select wide boards for a variety of grain patterns but if you want glued up panels that will not warp or twist no boards wider than 4 or 5 inches should be used. So if you purchased wide boards you will need to rip them to narrower widths.

Preparing your boards for edge-to-edge gluing should begin

with ripping wide boards to 4 or 5 inch widths. There needs to be sufficient width for jointing and fitting to allow a finished panel to be about 1 inch wider than needed. Once you have your boards rough ripped to 4 to 5 inches the matching process should be done.

Laying your boards out on a table and matching the grain will result in a beautiful panel. However, you will need to reverse each board to eliminate warping. Boards should be laid edge-to-edge with the end grain reversed as shown in the illustration below.

Continued on page 5.



Membership Report

By Fred Juengst

Notices have been sent to members who are late paying their membership dues. It's assumed that those who do not respond do not wish to renew their membership and will be removed from the active membership list.

Reminder: If you do *not* intend to renew, please place your name on the postcard and drop it in the mail. This way I know your intention is to resign. If you choose to send in your dues, do not mark the postcard in any way. Just slip the postcard and your check in an envelope and send it back to me at 846 Cornelius Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311.

If you have any questions or if you don't get your Bench Talk, let me know by sending me an e-mail at mdjuengst@aol.com or call me at 920-469-1919. I will do my best to correct any mistakes or answer your membership questions. If you change either your home address or e-mail address, please e-mail or call and I can enter the change on my master membership list.

Strengths and Passions

By Paula Martens

Some are carvers, some are scroll sawers. Some are novices while others are veterans with years of woodworking experience. But when you run into a problem or have a question on a project, who better to ask than a fellow guild member who shares the same passion.

Goal: While these kinds of requests are very infrequent, our goal is to make it easier for guild members to contact one another for help or advice.

Plan: Along with our master membership list, we'd like to identify

what each guild member's area of expertise is. When guild members contact us to find out if there is anyone who might be able to help him/her with a woodworking question or problem, we'd like to give him/her the name(s) and phone number(s) of some fellow guild members to contact.

If you are interested in being a resource for guild members, please contact me, Paula Martens, at 920-845-9395 or RobertPaula-Mart@centurytel.net to let me know your area(s) of specialty. This is voluntary...but a great opportunity to help someone who needs a little help or advice.

Gluing Perfect Panels, continued from Page 4

By Lyle Martens

Once your boards are matched make sure you have about 2 inches of extra stock for machining purposes. Make your stock about 2 inches longer for final matching and cutting to length.

The best joints for edge-to-edge gluing are those when placed edge-to-edge will not pivot but be perfectly tight the entire length of the boards. The ends should NEVER be open. If the boards fit perfectly and you are satisfied that you have a good joint they are ready for gluing. I personally advocate using a "spring joint" which is somewhat more difficult to achieve but a perfect joint. If glue joints are going to fail it will happen at the ends of the panel or table top.

Setting the jointer for the "spring joint" can be done and left in place as it will not effect other cuts. To set your jointer for a "spring joint" the out feed table needs to be lower than the traditional setting level with the jointer blades. The table should be lowered about .015 or about the thickness of

a sheet of 40# paper. Some set the table lower on the out side edge of the jointer only. To finally make this joint hand placement is a little different than standard jointing. Place the board on the jointer and start as usual and as the board meets the half-way point put your pressure on the front of the board. When placing two boards edge-to-edge you should see light in the middle of the pieces and not on the ends. One other benefit is that on boards of less than 24 inches need only clamp.

Dry clamp all your boards before final gluing to ensure all good joints. Place glue on both edges (I recommend Tite-bond 2 or 3). Apply enough pressure to squeeze out a bead of glue. Placing too much pressure can "starve" a joint.

Good luck on gluing up panels and table tops.

Member of the Month: Steve Lockhart, continued from page 2

By Paula Martens

6. Do you have any tips you can give us? Don't buy a tool unless you are sure you will use it. The tools I have purchased which I thought I would use "sometime" turned out to be white elephants.

7. Do you have any mentors? There are lots of guild members I look up to, but my original mentor was my uncle Harold. Everything he did was perfect and well designed. He, like me, worked wood and metal. He was a machinist by trade so he used his precision skills on home made metal and wood items.

8. What does membership in the Guild mean to you? It has been great to be a part of the guild both as a member at large and member of the board in various capacities. Being on the board is especially rewarding because I have gotten to know the other members better.

9. Have you ever made a mistake you swore you'd never tell another living soul about? I will never tell. There are too many to remember.

You can laugh about it now, but...

By Paula Martens

Everyone makes mistakes, it's human nature and it's how we learn not to "do it again". When it happens you are in disbelief you could ever do such a thing. But after time.....you can laugh at yourself. A search of the internet resulted in finding a few brave souls willing to make public admissions:

- 1) A carpenter's assistant put a board on a swivel chair to cut it. What goes around comes around. (Source: www.dekalbsaw.com/bloopers.html)
- 2) A do-it-yourself-er put on a big blade, but neglected to change the height adjustment before sawing the workbench in half.

(Source: www.dekalbsaw.com/bloopers.html)

- 3) Gunsmith & woodworker Ron Odum special ordered Desert Ironwood, a very rare and expensive wood native to the southwest desert to make new handgrips for his .45 gun. He carefully re-sawed, cut and shaped the first grip panel to 2/3 completion, then started the 2nd handgrip. Halfway thru the 2nd handgrip he realized he was making two LEFT grip panels. With no more wood left to make the matching RIGHT panel, his project is on hold until he can find another piece of the same rare, Desert Ironwood to make that right panel. (Source: http://sawdusters.org/blunders_files/funwithguns.html)

Air-Borne Particles.... *Continued from Page 3*

By Dan Alesch

By the way, Woodcraft is bringing **Mark Duginske** in for three classes in October. On October 8, he will teach Fixtures in the Workshop from 10:30 to 4:30. Only eight people will be allowed in the class. On Saturday and Sunday, the 9th and 10th, he will teach cabinet making, with emphasis on using the Kreg jig. Only six people per class from 10 to 5 on Saturday and 10 to 3 on Sunday. Call Woodcraft for more information.

With regard to the previous note, we're working with **Mary Rowland** at Woodcraft to see whether we can get Mark up here on Friday the 8th to provide us with a program. More information in the next *Benchtalk* or by e-mail in September.

We're working on publicity for the show next March. We will be in the Woodcraft flyer mailed to thousands in the area and we'll be listed in the calendar section of woodworking and carving magazines with calendars. We're still looking for ideas.

My new Trend Airshield Pro, mentioned last month, is working fantastically well. It is a full helmet that uses a strong battery-operated air filter and circulation system. The battery holds an eight hour

charge. The system keeps the dust out from my nose and lungs without obstructing my vision or fogging up my glasses. Unfortunately, I cannot sip coffee through the face shield. It is also expensive, running close to \$400, but it may be the best money I've ever spent. I purchased it from Chris at Woodcraft but to see it you can look it up on the web.

And finally, our faithful and energetic president, **Steve Lockhart**, is working with the Cerebral Palsy people to learn what the Guild might be able to make for them that will ease their job and the lives of the afflicted. Other charitable organizations may also be able to benefit from a Guild project. If you know one, give a board member a call or an e-mail.

Too young to learn woodworking??

By Paula Martens

While browsing the internet, I found an article on Fine Woodworking.com written by Doug Stowe about woodworking programs in schools. But.... when is a child too young for woodworking? It appears from the article there is no set age. As with anything, it depends on the child.

If you are thinking of inviting a child (or grandchild) to the workshop to plant a seed of creativity, the author reminds us that kids don't have a concept of "cause and effect". Therefore, he suggests these three important rules:

1. No woodworking without adult supervision. **Regard-**

less of age, whether the child is a preschooler or a high schooler, an adult must always be present to maintain a safe working environment.

2. Always use clamps or a bench vise. Since most injuries occur to the non-dominant hand, teaching good clamping methods are a must to maintain safety.
3. Introduce tools gradually and logically. Keep in mind the child's maturity and level of attention and introduce tools that are appropriate for that level.

(Source: <http://www.finewoodworking.com/SkillsAndTechniques/SkillsAndTechniquesArticle.aspx?id=29548>)

Picnic Review, *continued from page 1*

By Jane Alesch

of you for joining in when you arrived.

Trudy Ferrier brought sliced home grown tomatoes, so tasty and no work for me! As usual, the food was fabulous, even without deviled eggs. (and we get to do it all again in less than 4 months, Dec 11, at the Holiday Party.) Mary Haen survived her



“sting” without going to the ER. There were 53 of us this year, let's make it even bigger next year.

Many of you saw Tom Smith's Shop Cabinet Door in his trunk. He is going to share his veneering techniques at two meetings later this year.

NORTHEAST WISCONSIN WOODWORKERS GUILD

When: Every 3rd Friday of the month, unless specified otherwise.

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Maryann Cofrin Hall, UW-Green Bay



Visit us on the web at:
www.newwg.org

Guild Officers

President, Steve Lockhart

Vice President Programs, Rob Martens

Vice President, Publicity, Lyle Martens

Treasurer, Lee Carlson

Secretary, Bob Welhouse

Member at Large, Lyle Martens

Committee Chairpersons & Project Coordinators

Librarian, Pete Schuh

Membership, Fred Juengst

Special Events, Dan Alesch

Spring Show, Jane Alesch

Web Site, Mark Brien

Newsletter, Paula Martens

September Meeting Agenda: Friday, 9-17-2010 By Paula Martens

For those who are interested in, or a bit intrigued with, the construction of custom guitars, the September program will not disappoint you.

Andrew Madsen has been building custom guitars since 1997. His program is packed to include whole construction of the guitar, from start to finish.

The presentation is scheduled to include the following:

- Modern Acoustic Construction Methods
- Discussion surrounding the inside of the guitar, as well as the bending process
- Creating custom electric guitars
- Modern finishing techniques

Next Meeting::

Where: Room 107—MaryAnn Cofrin Hall, UWGB

When: Friday, September 17

Time: 7 p.m.—9 p.m.