

# BENCHTALK



**Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild**

**Volume 38: Issue # 2, February 2020**

**Program February 19, 2020, 7pm** By Steve Lockhart-Program Chair

**Urban wood salvage Big log milling and single slab tables** By Brendan Biller

Brendan Biller, owner of the woods unlimited LLC specializes in salvaging large logs from residential settings after removal from storm damage, disease or development. Brendan will share his journey learning the processes, and building a business, from sourcing logs to finishing slab wood furniture, and all the steps and fun in the middle.

Brendan provided the following summary of his presentation:

My introduction to woodworking began in 2007 with a job as a hand peeler for a log home company where I both learned the log building trade and parlayed my access to a production sawmill and wood shop and access to "scrap" to begin building furniture. I started to build outdoor furniture with cedar scrap and rails that I sourced through a local tree service. Soon I would be in need of larger higher quality materials as my projects and skills developed. I had access to a mill for milling small logs but after seeing the large single slab table tops in the homes in the log home magazines I knew what needed to be done. I bought a 120cc chainsaw and an Alaskan mill attachment that would mill up to 52 inches wide. With the connections I had made with a couple local tree services it didn't take long to track down a few logs. Over the last 13 years I have learned a great deal about what goes into proper handling and processing of these rare oversized gems. I have recently set up an LLC and am a member of Wisconsin Urban Wood, a non profit agency dedicated to utilizing the urban forest products that have historically been overlooked as a timber products and been processed into mulch, firewood or landfilled. I will share my philosophy, tools, processes for sourcing, hauling, milling, stacking and drying slabs for the best quality finished product.



*“Artistry In Wood” this year’s Spring Show March 21-22, 2020*

*Spring Show Update* Notes from Pat Williams-Show Chair

Please remember to contact friends and businesses for raffle donations. Deadline is the first week in March.

Also, for members donating items to the bucket raffle, please provide a photo of the item, 3x5 card size, to attach to the bucket. Pat would like them by the upcoming Feb 19 meeting.

Questions? Contact Pat [tranquilbay26@gmail.com](mailto:tranquilbay26@gmail.com) 920-604-0152

From some past shows



**Bench Talk is the newsletter of the Northeast Wisconsin Wood Workers Guild, published prior to regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Submissions from members are welcome (articles, musings, questions, pictures.) Deadline for next newsletter is Monday, March 9, 2020.**

## **MEMBER PAGE**

Ideas, questions, successes, oops's, shared by guild members

Don't be shy! Everyone has a story to share!

### **A New Woodcarving Club**

A new woodcarving club is forming in the Green Bay area.

The first meeting will take place April 16 at 6:30 PM, at the Brown County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) located at 300 S. Adams St. Anyone interested in woodcarving, from beginner to seasoned veteran, is welcome to attend. As of now, the club is limited to those 16 years or older, but that may change in the future. Experienced carvers should bring their own projects and tools. Starter projects and assistance will be provided for beginners. No registration is required. For more information please contact Dan Hemminger at [dlhemminger01@gmail.com](mailto:dlhemminger01@gmail.com) or call 920-433-0141.



### **Update on CP Center project**

Curt Anderson has volunteered to make the changing table for the aquatics program at the CP center. The guild will supply materials.

Thank you Curt!

### **2019 UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT ASHWAUBENON HIGH SCHOOL 7 PM**

Green Bay Ashwaubenon High School 2391 S. Ridge Rd

Enter through the west side of the building; turn Right to the meeting room.

Map available on our web site [newwg.org](http://newwg.org)

Feb. 19 Brendan Biller - Live Edge Slabs

Mar 21 & 22 Spring Show @ Southwest High School, Green Bay

April 15 Joel Boldig - Poured Epoxy Tabletops

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Welsh Chairmaking with Don Weber

June 22-26, 2020, Mt. Horeb WI  
(20 miles from Madison, WI)

**Don Weber**  
**Famous Bodger**  
**Chairmaker**  
**Blacksmith**



**Prior to U.S.**  
**Bodgers Ball**  
**And Greenwood**  
**Festival**



Choice of either Welsh  
Cardigan or Welsh  
Carmarthenshire chair  
  
\$700/student  
\$100 for materials/lunch



Registration: Steven First, 608-239-4326, sfirst@sys-seminar.com



**Stay for The U.S. Bodgers Ball and  
Greenwood Festival**

**Friday June 26-Sunday June 28**  
**Grundahl Park, Mount Horeb, WI**

For more information:  
Facebook: US Bodgers Ball and Green Wood Festival  
Instagram: @usbodgersball  
www.usbodgersball.us  
Email: usbodgersball@gmail.com

### 2020 U.S. Bodgers Ball and Green Wood Festival

Friday, June 26 - Sunday, June 28, 2020



*This weekend gathering for bodgers (craftsmen who turn green wood into chairs, bowls, cups and spoons, traditionally doing all their work in the woods with hand tools) will provide inspiration and learning opportunities for beginners and experts alike!*



**We hope you can join us!**

**Friday, Noon-5:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Grundahl Park, Mount Horeb, WI**  
20 miles west of Madison WI



For more information:  
Facebook: US Bodgers Ball and Green Wood Festival  
Instagram: @usbodgersball  
www.usbodgersball.us  
Email: usbodgersball@gmail.com

## Midwest Tool Collectors National Meeting

Spring 2020, Jun 17-20, 2020, Green Bay, Radisson Motel and Conference Center

Local program chair, Larry Thorson (608) 779-0966

Midwest Tool is a national group whose members use, collect and trade vintage tools, primarily woodworking tools but also other specialty tools. The group also has compiled volumes of vintage tool information. The demonstrations and trade table will feature 100's of vintage tools. If you would like to find the value of granddads tool(s) this would be a likely group to help.

With a modest membership fee and daily attendance fee, new members are able to "shop for tools" or participate in any other activities. Attending spouses are also required to register. A badge issued at registration is required to attend all meeting activities and is strictly enforced.

The fee is typically on the order of \$60 for all three days. Saturday is the only day a member can register (\$25) for a single day. Individuals who would like to join at the meeting can pay the \$25 membership fee and receive complimentary registration for the Saturday only portion of the meeting.

## **Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild Directors Meeting**

Date: January 21, 2020 7:07 pm Location: Home of Steve Lockhart

Members Present: Pete Schuh, Chuck Druckrey, Steve Lockhart, Paul Murphy, Pat Williams, Bob Welhouse, Ted Zabel, Matt Hamblin. Guests present: Kristin Dart, Barry Bender Absent: Maureen Birk

Meeting was called to order 7:07pm.

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer Report – no report due to computer issues

Membership Report - A few new members, but there may have been a drop of 30 due to once-a-year membership renewal, which will be re-evaluated.

Monthly Programs - January 2020 - trial video on a custom furniture maker - very well-received, very humbling

Feb 2020 - Brendan Biller - Live Edge Slabs

March 2020 - Spring Show

April 2020 - Joel Boldig - Poured Epoxy Tabletops

Editors Report – Articles due by January ?, 2020 (Maureen was absent)

Web Report – website is looking good and constantly being updated. Way to go Matt - we'll see if we can get you a few more projects!

Librarian Report – nothing new.

Public Relations – Curt Anderson has agreed to make a new changing table for the CP Center and the guild will supply material.

New Business: discussed particulars of the Spring Show.

Date and place for Next Directors meeting - February 25, 2020 at Paul Murphy & Pat Williams home.

Adjourn

Bob Welhouse

bobwelhouse08@gmail.com

### **NORTHEAST WISCONSIN WOODWORKING GUILD**

**MEETINGS** (Guests and prospective members welcome)

3rd Wednesday of each month, unless specified otherwise.

Time: 7:00 p.m. Where: Ashwaubenon High School

Visit our web site at: [www.newwg.org](http://www.newwg.org)

How to Get Involved: For inquiries regarding joining The Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild, contact: Paul Murphy: [paulmurphywoodb@gmail.com](mailto:paulmurphywoodb@gmail.com) 920-604-0152 Or any other Board or committee member.

Re: newsletter, Maureen Birk: 920-755-3404

[birkmr@yahoo.com](mailto:birkmr@yahoo.com)

Re: web site: Matt Hamblin: [froggy6703@gmail.com](mailto:froggy6703@gmail.com) 920-419-3910

### **Guild Officers**

President: Paul Murphy

Vice President Programs, Steve Lockhart

Vice President Publicity/Membership, Ted Zabel

Vice President, Pat Williams

Treasurer, Chuck Druckrey

Secretary, Bob Welhouse

**Committee Chairs & Project Coordinators**