

BENCHTALK



Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Volume 43: Issue # 3, March 2025

Wednesday, March 19, 7 pm

Our guest presenter for our March meeting is Chris Shoemaker, guild member and clock maker. Chris has been making clocks for approximately 40 years. In the last 20 years every clock except one has involved veneer work. Chris will share his experience and knowledge, both good and bad (what to do and what NOT to do) as part of the session. A discussion of tools needed, where to source the veneer, and a basic understanding of the fundamental knowledge needed for veneer work will be in the presentation.

The differences in plain veneers, burl veneers, as well as sticky backed veneers versus raw veneers will be explained. Veneers are thin, with a range in thickness from .030 to .015 of an inch in thickness. They are many times used to save on cost compared to using solid lumber. They are also advantageous to use on curved surfaces.

Veneer work has been part of woodworking for thousands of years. Doing it successfully is part of traditional furniture making (and clock making). It can add a dimension to your

project that is unachievable in any other way.



Future Programs: Meetings at NWTC, in Room EE201, Great Lakes Energy Ed. Center. Use parking lot G, entrance door E2. See map included with newsletter.

March 19th Chris Shoemaker - Working with veneers

April 16th - Barry Bender - Working with exotic woods

May 21st - Scott Lyons and Heather Berklund - Forestry management in Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

June 18th - Pacey Berken - Constructing Adirondack chairs

Any ideas for topics or references are much appreciated.

Email Barry at 2barryand2ellen@gmail.com if you have suggestions.

Membership Update

Membership Report - Bench Talk March, 2025

Currently we have 165 active members

One new member joined last month. Please welcome:

Ernesto Brauer of Hobart

Recent Membership Activity:

The membership event at Woodcraft on February 8 was very successful with 3 new members joining on the spot and 5 others planning to attend a future meeting. Woodcraft included the guild in emails and Facebook posts prior to the event AND featured the guild in the Demo Day ad in the center of the February sales flier. Thanks to Wes Brown for allowing us to use his store to promote the NEWWG.

Next Event:

Nothing definite on the calendar at this time.

Name Tag Process Change:

Last year our name tag production process was changed to allow for quarterly production of name tags for all the new members in that quarter.

This year, wooden tags with "New Member" in the name position are now being given to people when they sign up. This allows new members to access their Woodcraft discount until their permanent wooden name tag is produced.

When the members official tag is produced, they exchange their "New Member" tag for the tag personalized with their name.

For sale Laguna, 2hp cyclone dust collector,
1 micron filter, 220v, 12 amps, 5" inlet, has double 4" splitter,
30 gal drum, on casters.
\$850.00
Please text 920-360-1160
Thanks
Dan Wieske



NEWWG BOD Meeting February 25, 2025 At NWTC Great Lake Energy Ed. Center meeting room.

Attending: Greg Levenhagen (phone), Eric Hansen, Gerald Jensen, Chuck Druckrey, Barry Bender, Matt Hamblin, Jim Michiels, Randy Hendricks, Maureen Birk, (phone) – Absent: Chuck Leonard

Guest presentation - Julie Tetzlaff, CP Center. CP Center wants to build new garden boxes for vegetables, etc. Current boxes are too high for wheelchair access and are unusable. Board members to schedule a visit, and develop clear expectations and deadlines for further consideration.

Approve November 2024 meeting minutes - Gerald Jensen. Chuck moved to accept, Barry seconded, vote unanimous.

Treasurer's Report - Chuck Druckrey - Balance as of 2/25/25: \$28,792.39.

For period 11/21/24 thru 2/24/25, income: \$1,711.11, expenses: \$6,786.92 (expenses resulting from November show). Insurance has been renewed, and annual raffle license being applied for.

Newsletter - Maureen Birk - Due date for next month's articles: Monday, March 10th. Jim suggested listing businesses who sponsored the annual show in the newsletter. Barry asked that an advisory be sent out to members that Michael Doerr would not be presenting at the March meeting.

Membership - Eric Hansen - Current Membership Count: 165 (27 have yet to renew). New members will now be given a "New Member" badge they can use for discounts at Wood-Craft until their personalized badge is available.

Programs - Barry Bender. Schedule being revised due to Michael Doerr not being available for March..

Library - Chuck Leonard – No report

Website - Matt Hamblin - Microsoft Teams system setup for remote board meetings for the balance of the year.

Board Meetings to be the 1st Monday of the month thru August. Moved by Matt, seconded by Greg, unanimous approval.

Designate CP Center of Green Bay as the charity to receive donation from the 2025 Artistry in Wood Show. Moved by Gerry, seconded by Chuck, unanimous approval.

Jim suggested NEWWG establish a scholarship program for NWTC to encourage youth to go into trades. Barry will invite the new dean to a future meeting to explore.

Next Guild Meeting - March 19 / Next Board meeting - March 31

Events by other organizations

MID-WIS. CHIPPERS
Woodcarving Show, Competition & Sale

49th Annual Artistry In Wood

Falconry (Live Falcon)
Presentation by Frank Ujaskowski
President, Wisconsin Falconry Association

Bird Carvings, Fish, Caricatures & More
Over 70 Woodcarvers, Pyrographers,
Carved Art for Sale!

Local Carving Clubs, Chainsaw Carver
Wood, Tools, Books & More!

Sunday, May 4, 2025
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bucket Raffle! Food Concession! Free Parking!
Everything you need to get started in Woodcarving!

Open to Public Admission: \$5 (Ages 12 & Under free)

The Oshkosh Convention Center
2 North Main Street, Oshkosh, WI

For more show info: www.midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com
or contact Paul Wolters (920) 903-4215

Enjoy the Oldest Annual Woodcarving Show in Wisconsin!
☆ The Oshkosh Convention Center (OCC) P=Free Parking
B Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel
(Ask for Special Woodcarving Show Room Rate)

From Stevens Point: Take Rt 45 to OCC

From Green Bay, Fox Cities Appleton, Neenah, Monona: Take Rt 45 to OCC

From Oshkosh: Take Rt 45 to OCC

From Ripon: Take Rt 45 to OCC

From Fond du Lac, Madison & Milwaukee: Take Rt 45 to OCC

From Oshkosh: Easy Route: Exit on 9th, Left on Main to OCC

Review of February program

Our speaker was Wes Brown, manager of the Woodcraft store in Appleton. He detailed Woodcraft's history, starting as a mail order company in 1928, now expanded to include 65 retail stores in 35 states. The Appleton store has been owned by Klay and Sara Heise since 2016, and employs 11 staff, many of whom are woodworkers.



Wes explained "franchise" and "corporate" business models, and that Woodcraft follows a hybrid model, allowing for greater flexibility. This allows the option of providing some "local" products, not carried corporately, such as Tenryu saw blades and Star Bond CA. Emphasis is on quality in the products they sell. Though Woodcraft does not have a service department, they are able to provide customer support, dealing with manufacturers, if customers are not getting satisfactory service.

Woodcraft is the exclusive provider for several lines: Pfeil Swiss made (only U.S. dealer) and Woodpecker products (only brick and mortar retailer.)

Unique Woodcraft house brands include: Wood River, High Point (hardware), and Pinnacle (marking & measuring)

Benefits of local retailer include monthly promotions, in-store demos, and guest instructors, as well as discounts for veterans, Guild members, and birthdays. Also the option to order online, and pick up on-store, saving shipping charges.

The Appleton store is also active locally, working with Habitat for Humanity and hosting an annual Family Day.

[Editors note: Appleton Woodcraft has been actively supporting our Guild, not only with the discount, but posting and distributing our Show literature.

Bench Talk is the newsletter of the Northeast Wisconsin Wood Workers Guild, published prior to regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

For more information on activities, meetings and members, check out the

NORTHEAST WISCONSIN WOODWORKING GUILD

MEETINGS (Guests and prospective members welcome)
3rd Wednesday of each month, Time: 7:00 p.m. Visit our web site at: www.newwg.org

How to Get Involved: For inquiries regarding joining The Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild, contact:

Eric J. Hansener ericjonhansen@yahoo.com 952-567-4625

Or any other Board or committee member.

Re: newsletter, Maureen Birk: birkmr2@gmail.com

Re: web site: Matt Hamblin: froggy6703@gmail.com
920-419-3910

Officers:

President - Greg Levenhagen
VP & Membership - Eric Hansen
Secretary - Gerald Jensen
Treasurer - Chuck Druckrey

Board Members:

Barry Bender - Programs
Maureen Birk - Newsletter
Chuck Leonard - Library
Matt Hamblin - Website

Other committees:

Annual Show: Randy Hendricks, Jim Michiels
Event Facilitator: open

