

BENCHTALK



Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Volume 43: Issue # 4, April 2025

Wednesday, April 16, 7 pm

Our guest presenter for our April meeting is Chris Shoemaker, guild member and clock maker. (*Chris has graciously agreed to reschedule his presentation to this month, after the March meeting was cancelled due to weather issues.*) 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.

Winter Weather Apologies The NEWWG Board apologizes for the last minute cancellation of the March meeting. The severity of the storm was misjudged. A new policy is being developed that will allow members to be notified earlier in the day of any cancelled meetings. Thanks for your understanding.

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.

April 16th - Chris Shoemaker - Working with veneers

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
(See next page for further program listings)

(Upcoming programs, continued)

July 16th - Bob Kloes - Making Custom Furniture

August ? - Guild Summer Picnic

Sept. 17th - Show & Tell & 2025 Show Preparation

Oct 15th - Michael Doerr - Making Contemporary Furniture

November 8th & 9th - Annual Show at Denmark High School

Dec 6th? - Guild Christmas party

January 21st, 2026 - Barry Bender - Working with Exotic Woods

Schedule is subject to change. As always, I am open to suggestions and referrals. About 75% of the presenters we have gotten were from referrals or suggestions from guild members. Thank you for your help! Barry Bender

Treasurers Report March 31, 2025 Financial Activity (Feb 24, through March 31, 2025)

Balance as of 03/31/25 - \$28,612.53

Income:

- \$11.41 – Interest
 - \$125.00 – \$105.00 membership, \$20.00 water sales)
 - \$97.01 – membership fees (Paypal)
 - \$12.14 - Interest
- Total \$254.56

Expenses: Check # Description

- \$130.18 1304 Raffle prizes
- \$100.00 1302 Feb speaker fee
- \$317.00 1301 Insurance Premium
- \$8.42 debit Office supplies

Total (\$555.60)

Respectfully Submitted, Chuck Druckrey –
Treasurer

Membership Report April 2025 Currently we have 163 active members

No new members joined last month

Twenty one members have not renewed or responded to communication asking if they wish to remain in the guild. These members will receive one more issue of Bench Talk with an email reminder to renew. Unless they renew, they will be dropped from our active membership roster.

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.

The next batch of name tags will be available at our April 16th meeting.

Eric Hansen VP & Membership ericjonhansen@gmail.com or 952-567-4625

NEWWG BOD Meeting March 31, 2025 At NWTC Great Lake Energy Ed. Center meeting room. Convened 7:02 pm.

Participants: Eric Hansen, Gerald Jensen, Barry Bender, Maureen Birk, Matt Hamblin

Minutes from last meeting: Move to accept: Barry, 2nd Gerry. Approval unanimous

Treasurer's Report – Not available (Chuck without power due to storm)

Membership - Eric Hansen - Current Membership Count: 165. 25 members have not renewed. Final notice to appear in newsletter.

Programs - Barry reported schedule through January of 2026:

April 16th - Chris Shoemaker - Working with veneers

May 21st - Scott Lyons and Heather Berklund _ Forestry Management

June 18th - Pacey Berken - Constructing Adirondack Chairs

July 16th - Bob Kloes - Making Custom Furniture

August (date TBD) - Guild Summer Picnic

September 17th - Show & Tell & 2025 Show Preparation

October 15th - Michael Doerr - Making Contemporary Furniture

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December (date TBD) - Guild Christmas party

January 21st, 2026 - Barry Bender - Working with Exotic Woods

Schedule is subject to change.

Library - Chuck Leonard granted leave of absence until 12/31/25. Board seeking volunteer to cover the vacancy

Web Site - Matt reported he is in the process of updating website's payment systems. Demonstrated Teams online meeting tool for board meetings.

Newsletter - Maureen Birk - Due date for next month's articles: April 7, 2025

CP Center project update. Barry is reviewing various designs for planters, and will set up a visit to the CP Center for board members to develop better understanding of the project needs and goals.

Other: Please note email with Board dates included as error. The July 7 Board meeting is actually June 30. Date was wrong in Eric's email. Please update your calendar.

Upcoming Meetings: Next Guild Meeting - April 16 at 7:00 p

Next Board meeting - May 5, 2025 at 7:00 pm

June Board meeting – June 30, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Adjourned: 8:14pm

Thank You! **2024 Artistry in Wood Show Sponsors.**

80+ Individuals and businesses sponsored our show last November. Here is a partial list.



More sponsors will be highlighted in future newsletters

Events by other organizations

MID-WIS. CHIPPERS

Woodcarving Show, Competition & Sale



Artistry In Wood

Falconry (Live Falcon)
Presentation by Frank Upadkowski
President, Wisconsin Falconers 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

■ Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel

(Ask for Special Woodcarving Show Room Rate!)



WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS, INC. 21ST ANNUAL WOODCARVING Show, Competition & Sale

Saturday,
Sept. 20th, 2025
9am-5pm

Sunday,
Sept. 21st, 2025
9am-4pm

"Largest Woodcarving
Show in Wisconsin"

FEATURED CARVER
**Diane
Swiggum**

Demonstrations
Throughout
Both Days!

- Whittling Shack
- Badger State Knives
- Moore Wood & Roughouts

Holiday Inn

1001 Amber Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54482

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

\$5 ADMISSION
(12 & UNDER FREE)



For more information, contact:

www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org

Ron O'Kray
715-341-2214
Cell 715-570-2534

Greg Wirtz
715-423-0471
Cell 715-383-5332

Jerald Trzebiatowski
715-310-9900
jeraldtr6@gmail.com

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 Guild website at: newwg.org

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

