

BenchTalk

Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Volume 44: Issue # 3, March 2026



March Program: March 20, 10:30 am Field Trip to FVTC

We will not be meeting on March 18 at NWTC!

Our meeting this month will be a field trip to Fox Valley Technical College in Oshkosh. This is located in a facility named the Spanbauer Center. Glenn Koerner is the instructor for the Wood Technology program. Glenn will show us an overview of the program and what types of employment students get upon graduation.

There will also be a tour of the lab (shop). It has many state-of-the-art types of woodworking equipment. Some examples are cabinet type table saws, CNC routers, panel saws, and more. Glenn will talk about veneering as well. The school has excess veneer it no longer has a use for and has some available for free.

Directions to the Fox Valley Technical College Spanbauer Center, 3601 Oregon St, Oshkosh

If you are coming from Green Bay or the Fox Valley, take US Highway 41 south. About 1 ½ miles south of the EAA Museum, take exit 113. This exit is for State Highway 26 and County N. Turn left (east) onto County N for 1.7 miles. You will be at a four-way stop intersection. Turn left (north) onto Oregon Street (County Road I). Go 1.3 miles. You will pass a Generac Plant shortly before you get to the Spanbauer Center which will be on your left. As you enter the driveway to the Spanbauer Center, bear left and park on the south side of the building. There will be a sign on the door at the side of the building to tell you to enter there. You will be going directly into the lab (shop).

If you are coming from Fon du Lac, take exit 113 off Highway 41 and follow the directions above. For all others, type in 3601 Oregon Street, Oshkosh 54902 into your GPS.



Spanbauer Center



Table Saw



CNC Router

Review of February Program

Our presenter at the February 18 meeting was NEWWG member, Gerald Jensen, who recapped his journey into segmented woodturning, and provided an overview of his segmented woodturning process. From a humble beginning with his first segmented bowl, combined with a keen interest in developing fixtures and work methods, Gerry's segmented woodturning has evolved into the beautiful pieces he creates today.

Primary reasons for segmented turning are (1) Allows creativity, (2) Can take many forms, (3) Can combine multiple wood species for color and pattern effects, (4) Can use up small leftover pieces (to an extent, limited by the risks associated with holding and cutting small pieces), and (5) Can avoid end grain turning, enhancing the appearance and minimizing risk of tearout.

There are three types of segmented assembly: (1) Ring construction- the most common, small pieces are glued into a ring and the rings then glued together into a cylindrical stack, (2) Stave construction- a more difficult process of gluing vertically oriented pieces into a cylindrical shape (like constructing a barrel), and (3) Open Segment Construction- like ring construction but with gaps between the segments.

Segments have four characteristics: (1) Thickness- determines height of stack, (2) Length- determines outside diameter, (3) Width- determines inside diameter, and (4) Miter angle- varies depending on number of segments forming the ring, and critically important to ring construction. There is some math involved in sizing segments, but software and phone apps are available to crunch the numbers for you. Before starting it's important that you have a plan for the dimensions of the segments, the glue-up order, and workflow. While chop saws and bandsaws can be used to cut the segments, Gerry prefers the table saw and demonstrated the custom jigs he uses to size, hold and cut the segments. Considerable time can be spent sanding each segment, but Gerry has found that simply shaking them together in a can removes any fuzz left from the table saw cut.

Once the segments are glued together, a drum sander is handy for flattening the rings before they are glued into a stack. Some turners use screw presses to assemble the rings into a stack, but Gerry prefers to use a lathe fitted with a centering cone. Gerry assembles the rings in a brick work pattern, ensuring that the segment glue joints of each ring are not aligned with the glue joints of adjacent rings. Using this pattern, he has never experienced a glue-up failure. Gerry cautioned that "segment creep" or "glue joint creep" can occur 2-4 weeks after assembly, when the wood segments have dried and shrunk slightly, while the glue joints haven't shrunk, leaving a rough surface. When sanding, Gerry has experienced good results with Rhynosoft foam sanding pads versus Abranet or conventional sandpaper. Gerry has used various finishes depending on the woods used and purpose of the final piece, but he has found that a couple of coats of Helmsman Spar Urethane works as well as more exotic (and expensive) finishes.

So, if you enjoy woodturning, precision cutting and assembly of small pieces with minimal waste, and are looking to infuse more creativity into your projects, segmented woodturning may be for you. As Gerry describes it, segmented woodturning is "Where woodworking meets Engineering meets Sculpture."



Fraternal Twins



Pet Urn



Yarn Bowl



Zig Zag



Glued & Flattened

NEWWG Board Meeting Minutes March 2, 2026 - 7:00 pm - via Teams

Present: Greg Levenhagen, President; Tom Smith, Vice President; Gerald Jensen, Secretary; Eric Hansen, Membership; Roger McCambridge, Newsletter; Dave Kaus, Library; Barry Bender; Ben Abadeer

Absent: Craig Effertz, Treasurer; Matt Hamblin, Web Site

Minutes: Amend minutes of February 2, 2026 meeting to include board approval of \$1000 check for UCP, additional funds for planter project to be completed in March or April. Moved by Greg, seconded by Eric, vote unanimous.

Treasury: Transitioning account management. Greg to meet with Craig Effertz and Nicolet Bank.

Membership: Currently stands at 181. Expect some fluctuation pending renewals, etc. Eric to participate in upcoming Woodcraft event. Board approved up to \$500 for banners, signage, etc. for public events.

Programs: March 20th field trip to Spanbauer Center in Oshkosh, details to appear in newsletter. Greg volunteered to cover door at NWTC meeting site in event members show up for Wednesday night meeting. Barry Bender has scheduled Titebond glue representative for April. Possible "Beads of Bravery" and/or "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" for May.

Library: Running out of space. Greg and Matt to discuss digitization of DVD assets, and storage on internet to provide user access. Currently have approximately 50 DVD's, 12 VHS tapes, along books and printed material. Discussion of ClubExpress as possible digital assets, social media, and management system.

Newsletter: Deadline for next edition March 9. Still have 7 members who receive printed copies via USPS.

Charity: Working toward the goal of \$10-thousand dollars in annual charitable investments, the board approved \$3000 for Paul's Pantry on a motion by Eric and seconded by multiple board members. Vote unanimous.

Next Guild meeting: March 20 at 10:30am

Next board meeting: March 30 at 7pm (online via Teams)

February Membership Report

Currently we have 181 active members

- Please welcome our newest member, Jerry Joyce of Green Bay
- Thanks for "talking up" the guild to your woodworking friends and neighbors. Many of our new members come from your recommendations to people you know!!

Mark your calendar - March 21 stop in at Woodcraft in Appleton!

- We've been invited by Woodcraft to hold another membership event on the Woodcraft Treasure Chest promotion day. From March 1-21, shoppers can select a key to a treasure chest of prizes. On the 21st, everyone with a key can try their key in the lock to get a chance at

a host of great prizes. I'll be at the store 10-3 telling people about the guild and signing up new members. Demos may also be held. Stop by, say hi, and try your key in the Woodcraft Treasure Chest of prizes! Watch for details online and in the Woodcraft flier or email.

New Meeting Room Arrangement!

- We've experienced great attendance at our meetings this past year. Most meetings have 50-55 people attending. In the last 3 months we've added over 20 new members so we're going to be trying different room arrangements in the next few meetings.
 - The goal of the new arrangement is to provide more seating
 - Expect to help roll tables into the hall to make space for more chairs
 - Plan moving 15 or more chairs from the classroom across the hall to fill in the open space
 - Two tables stay in the room and are put along the wall for Show & Tell items
 - Members can "show" their items and talk about them but we will not pass them around the room as in the past. This is safer for both the items and the health of the people
 - "Garage door" rolls up for better air and people movement
 - Library boxes of books and CDs move to the tables in the hall or back of the room

Membership benefits

- Please remember one of the benefits to your membership is a 10% discount on most items at the Woodcraft store in Appleton. You must show your NEWWG name tag as proof of your membership. Woodcraft moved to their new HUGE store location at 1810 North Casaloma Drive in Appleton. The new location is about one mile north of their old location. Please stop by and check out their new digs at 1810 Casaloma Drive.
- You also can get a 10% discount on high quality figured hardwoods at **Kloes Specialty Hardwoods** at E10885 Eulrich Road in Clintonville. Please call 920-883-1745 to confirm store hours and preview the wood inventory at <https://www.kloesspecialtyhardwoods.com> Thanks to Bob Kloes for this new benefit!
- Another membership benefit is our extensive guild library of books, magazines and DVDs on a wide range of woodworking topics. Browse and borrow at one meeting and return it at a future meeting. Video recordings (DVDs) of most past meetings are available too!

Eric Hansen - Phone: 952-567-4625

Email: ericjonhansen@gmail.com

W6994 Angel Hill Drive, Greenville, WI 54942

Upcoming Programs

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 15th - Bob Behnke- All about glue.

Bob is a rep from Titebond Glue, and will be sharing his knowledge about glue.

Treasurer's Report

Note: Transfer of the Treasurer position responsibilities is still in progress, so an updated report for the March newsletter is not available. Therefore, we are including last month's report:

Treasurer's Report February 2, 2026 Balance as of 02/02/26 = \$33,833.58
Financial Activity (January 5, 2025 to February 2, 2026)

Income:	Expenses:	Check #	Description
\$56.84 – PayPal, Membership dues	• \$1000.00	1340	CP Center Donation
\$30.00 - Membership dues	• \$2000.00	1339	Ricks Toybox
\$140.00 - Membership dues	Donation		
\$14.59 - Interest	• \$105.00	1341	Show expenses
Total \$241.43	• \$100.00	1343	2026 Show Facility
Respectfully Submitted,	Deposit		
Chuck Druckrey – Treasurer	Total (\$2,205.00)		

Woodworking Tools For Sale

Following is a list of woodworking tools available for sale. If interested in any of these items, please call Pat at 920-655-2735 to discuss and/or make an appointment to see:

Jet 12x21" EVS woodworking lathe model JWL-1221VS

Robert Sorby lathe tools

Wood River Lathe chuck

Under mount drawer slider jig

Uvex bionic face shield

caliper

DMT diamond sharpener

Olympia 4 drawer wooden workbench

Woodlathe faceplate

8" Bench drill press, 11-950

Rigid, 18-gauge ,2-1/8" brad nailer model R213BNE, with case

Dewalt DW734, 12-1/2" Heavy-Duty Portable Thickness Planer on stand

Ridgid AC9940 Miter Saw Utility Vehicle stand

DeWalt DWS782, 12" Double Bevel Sliding Compound Miter Saw

Ridgid 10" Contractor Series Belt Driven Saw, TS2424

Delta 4" Belt/6" Disc Sander Model 31-460 Type 2

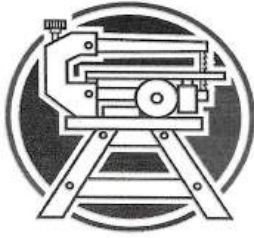
Ridgid Oscillating Edge Belt Spindle Sander EB44242

News from Other Woodworking Clubs

Be sure to check out the flyer at the end of this newsletter for the Midwest Scroll Saw and Woodworking Trade Show 2026, which will be held August 7-8 at the Dubuque County Fairgrounds in Dubuque, Iowa.

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, members, check out the Guild website at: newwg.org

<p>NORTHEAST WISCONSIN WOODWORKERS GUILD</p> <p>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 NE Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild, contact: Eric J. Hansen ericjonhansen@gmail.com 952-567-4625 or any other Board or committee member. Newsletter: Roger McCambridge roger@mccambridge.org 920-660-4462 Web Site: Matt Hamblin mhamblin6703@gmail.com 920-419-3910</p>	<p>Officers: President - Greg Levenhagen Vice Pres - Tom Smith Secretary - Gerald Jensen Treasurer - Craig Effertz Other Board Members: Membership -Eric Hansen Programs—Tom Smith & Greg Levenhagen (temp) Newsletter— Roger McCambridge Library -Dave Kaus Website- Matt Hamblin Other committees: Annual Show: Randy Hendricks, Jim Michiels Event Facilitator: open</p>
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Midwest Scroll Saw and Woodworking Trade Show 2026

Friday, August 7, 2026 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday August 8, 2026 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Dubuque County Fairgrounds

14569 Old Hwy Rd, Dubuque, Iowa, 52002

Join us for the Midwest's premier woodworking event, where enthusiasts of all skill levels come together to share ideas, learn new techniques, and celebrate the art of woodworking.

Admission: \$15 for both days, \$10 for one day (children under 18 free when accompanied by a paid adult)

Food available on-site throughout the show

Learn

Classes, Seminars and Demos: Attend free on-floor demonstrations and a full line-up of pay-as-you-go hands-on classes and seminars. Details will be posted on the website, shown below, as they are finalized.

Scroll Sawing and Pen Turning: Try your hand at scroll sawing or pen turning with guidance from Veterans Freedom Center volunteers. Take home your creations!

Connect

Contests: Enter or admire projects in contests for scroll sawing (fretwork, intarsia, and open class), wood turning, and wood carving. Ribbons and prizes awarded! Rules and information on the website, shown below.

Show and Tell Tables: Display, or be inspired by, outstanding projects from any woodworking discipline, swap ideas, share tips & techniques and visit with woodworkers. Items may be displayed for a few hours or during the entire show.

Friday Evening Dinner: Enjoy Midwest cuisine and connect with fellow show attendees. Many people make lifelong friends at this show. Registration form will be available on the website, shown below.

Discover

Vendor Marketplace and Crafts for Sale: Browse a line-up of large and small businesses generally offering tools, lumber, patterns, supplies and finished projects. Unique handmade crafts, ornaments, and specialty items from local artisans and vendors will also be available for purchase.

Veterans Freedom Center Tours: Stop by the Veterans Freedom Center Thursday, Aug. 6 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. to learn more about woodworking and other resources available for veterans in the tri-state area.

Win

Door Prizes and Grand Prizes: Submit your admission ticket to enter drawings for loads of door prizes for attendees! Grand prizes awarded at 4:30 p.m. Friday and 3:30 p.m. Saturday. **You must be present to win.**

Learn more at www.midwesttradeshow.com or on Facebook: Midwest Scroll Saw Trade Show.
Questions? Email Karen at dirkdrows2@gmail.com or call 608-348-8332.