

Northern Woods

The Newsletter of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild, Est. 1982

Volume: 138

Issue: April - May 2012

What's On Your Bench? - Spice Box and more

Dean Jansa is a time traveler. He likes to build furniture in the style of 18th century pieces. What's more, he builds them using only hand tools similar to those used in that same period. And when he needs a special saw, he makes it!



[Full Story](#)

March Meeting: Pinewood Derby

Young woodworkers and young-at-heart woodworkers had a great time at the March meeting - a Pinewood Derby competition held at The Mill. Attendees built and decorated a car. Then Derby aficionado Greg Flanagan set up his track and the race was on. Video footage included....



[Full Story](#)

February Meeting: Hand Tool Olympics 2012

Guild members enthusiastically participated in the 2012 Hand Tool Olympics. With saws, chisels, planes and braces our olympians competed for speed and accuracy in traditional woodworking skills. Only the best made it to the virtual podium, but everyone had a great time.



[Full Story](#)

President's Notes

One of many Guild benefits is access to the video library administered by John Griffin-Weisner. Charlie Kocourek talks about the video library and elaborates on a Rob Cosman video he has been watching recently about making invisible wooden hinges.

[Full Story](#)

Rupert Murdoch takes over Northern Woods Newsletter

Newscorp, the scandal ridden organization run by Rupert Murdoch has been pursuing a hostile takeover of this newsletter.

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Learn from the Masters

Forty Guild members attended the six Learn from the Masters classes held in February and March. They were very inexpensive, unless you got carried away like the author.

[Full Story](#)

Bonus Meeting at Gabberts - Stickley Furniture

Guild members received a special invitation to Gabberts Furniture for a presentation from two representatives of the Stickley Company, a large US manufacturer of Arts and Crafts style furniture.



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Classifieds

Advertising in the classifieds is provided to members of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild free of charge. Ads placed should be for goods or services of general interest to the woodworkers who make up the guild community. Ads for services will run until cancelled. Other ads will run for one issue unless renewed. Submit ads to [Jerry Beutel](mailto:Jerry.Beutel)

Wood

Unfinished hardwood picture frame molding, in lengths. Liquidating my inventory. Beautiful, various woods: cherry, maple, walnut, ash, poplar, birch. Several profiles including floater moulding. Moulding is unfinished and sold by the stick, average length 8 - 10 feet. See profile examples at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1455897894148.42875.1734387448&l=4c7d9cbea4&type=1>

Prices vary depending on wood and profile, start at \$1.30/foot. Contact me for more info at: info@sheralynbarnes.com

Shop Space

The Mill is a new educational industrial arts/maker space in Minneapolis, Minnesota that celebrates the do-it-yourself culture and creative communities by providing members with access to tools, equipment and instruction. From woodworking to metalworking and electronics, members of the Mill will work on individual or collaborative projects in a well-stocked, industrial grade fabrication workshop. The Mill offers a unique solution to address the knowledge, space, storage and social constraints of building projects at home.

The Mill is community resource. Beyond its identity as workshop, the specific purpose of the Mill is to encourage technical, scientific and artistic skills through individual projects, social collaboration and education. The Mill is conceived as an infrastructure provider for technical-creative projects. We will also fulfill our role as a community resource by hosting classes in a number of areas including electronics, woodworking, digital fabrication, metal fabrication, artistic use of industrial equipment and any other skills that our members or guests are willing to share.

The mission of the Mill is to serve as an incubator of ideas; to foster a collaborative community where members utilize industrial arts concepts, cutting edge technology and time tested fabrication equipment to create

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innovative solutions to technical issues in fabrication and making. Through classes, group interaction, and an inclusive environment, the Mill is a space where innovation and creativity can be fostered for novice and expert alike.

www.mnmill.org

The Mill

2300 Kennedy St NE

Suite #130

Minneapolis, MN 55413

Dream Workshop Space for rent /to share (several areas to pick from): 2303 Kennedy Street NE. 4500 s.f. total shop space. Industrial building with mushroom pillars. 12' high ceilings and concrete floors. 10 hp Quincy air compressor. Heavy power - 3 phase and single phase. Private build/work space. Heat/electricity included. Loading dock. Easy parking. Spray booth available on second floor. Room for your own tools/machines. Internet available. Southern exposure/natural light. Many possibilities for the serious hobbyist or professional. Affordable. No curfew.

Optional use of Altendorf sliding table saw, 10" Unisaw, Holzher edgebander, edge sander, pocket drill, system drills, pallet rack, drill presses, lathe, panel carts, 36" wide steel storage lockers, etc. Private office/drafting table available. Contact: **Dale 612.812.5331 for viewing.**

North Country Woodshop – Woodshop Open to the Public. The easiest way to describe North Country Woodshop would be this: It's a health club for woodworkers. But, instead of treadmills, we have table saws...instead of dumbbells, we have drill presses, lathes, joiners, sanders, and so on. If it belongs in a woodworking shop, North Country Woodshop has it. And the best part, all the tools are available to use with a simple membership to North Country Woodshop.

Have your own hand tools? Bring'em! Don't have your own hand tools? Rent ours. Our staff of veteran woodworkers will show you how to swing that hammer without hurting yourself...or others. If you need lumber for your project, but don't have time to pick it up yourself, give us a call and we will have it waiting for you when you get there. And when your project is done, we can deliver it for you as well.

North Country Woodshop offers a wide variety of classes for all levels of woodworking ability. We offer classes from beginner to advanced with a large variety of projects and techniques. Our classes are taught by our team of expert woodworkers as well as local and world renowned guest instructors. Contact info at [North Country Woodshop](http://NorthCountryWoodshop.com).

Space available to rent in Bespoke Minneapolis'/St. Paul workshop.

Rental costs include: full use of shop facilities, finishing room, and all utilities and trash. Shop equipment includes Altendorf sliding table saw, Format cnc shaper, Format digital 20" planer, SCM 16" jointer, Laguna cnc lathe, as well as

16" disc sander, belt sander, moulder, router tables, hydraulic veneer 4' x 8' cold press; 5' x 14' veneer bag press, Laguna 16" capacity re-saw bandsaw, Powermatic 14" bandsaw, drill press, dovetail jigs and etc. Please view our website www.bespokeminneapolis.com to see the type of work which is produced in our shop. Total rent is \$925.00 per month.

Services

Mike Siemsen's School of Woodworking. Woodworking with a hand tool focus. We have a great line up this year including some tool sharpening and tool tuning classes. Our Workbench Class was a huge success and will be offered again in the future. Take a look at my website, improve your sharpening or furniture making skills! Classes are held in my shop on a quiet rural setting 35 miles North of the Twin Cities. The shop is heated and air conditioned for your comfort year around. Reserve your spot now! Visit my [website at www.schoolofwood.com](http://www.schoolofwood.com), e-mail mike@schoolofwood.com or call [651-257-9166](tel:651-257-9166) for more information.

Woodcraft Education Program. Located in Bloomington, we offer the Twin Cities most complete selection of woodworking classes. Our classes cover furniture making, carving, turning, hand and power tools, and finishing. We also offer free demonstrations every month. Close by, small class sizes and the best local and national instructors make it a great place to bring your skills to the next level. Website: [Woodcraft Bloomington Store](http://WoodcraftBloomingtonStore.com) *Phone: 952-884-3634*

Workbench Plans. Plans now available for Adjustable Height Workbench with a built in Mobile Base. Email Charlie Kocourek at Charlie@Jack-Bench.com or visit my [website www.Jack-Bench.com](http://www.Jack-Bench.com)

Plane soles milled flat, price ranges from \$12 for a block plane to \$40 for a #8. Sides can be milled square to the sole for \$15-\$20. Contact Chuck Pitschka at [952-935-0660](tel:952-935-0660), or by e-mail at cepitschka@yahoo.com

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What's On Your Bench? - Spice Box and more

Story by Dean Jansa

Photos by Dean Jansa

A Pennsylvania Spice Box

Having just finished a tall post bed for a friend I was looking for a new project to tackle. I was considering a case piece as a change of pace from the post-and-apron work I had just completed on the bed and began gathering ideas for a tall chest. In the midst of collecting information on tall chests an issue of Popular Woodworking arrived with a cover photograph of a unique spice box. The box featured a double arch door, which immediately caught my attention, and my next project was found. Armed with the double arch door motif I decided to work out the design of the rest of the project on my own.

History

Spice boxes were used in England in the 17th and early 18th century but faded out of favor by the mid-18th century. However, they remained popular throughout the 18th century in Pennsylvania, with Chester County as the epicenter of production.

The early English forms were used to store spices, but over time their use changed yet the name remained. Spice boxes were a luxury item; used to store small valuables such as glasses, needlework pocket books, sugar tongs, and yes, sometimes spices. Being a luxury item they were not found in every home, but those who did own them wanted them to be seen. Period estate inventories show spice boxes were most commonly found in parlours, the "best" room in the house. There were no indications from these inventories that spices boxes were ever found in kitchens nor that they ever were associated with cooking utensils or pots and pans.

Sidetracked

I began pouring over all the photos of period spice boxes I could find, both online and in books. I was lucky to have access to a copy of [The Pennsylvania Spice Box](#), which contains examples of spice boxes spanning from 1682 to 1780. There are common themes within each major stylistic period and I began to pick and choose the ones that appealed to me. The Queen Anne and early Chippendale periods are my primary interest and I naturally gravitated to those spice boxes and their details and proportions.

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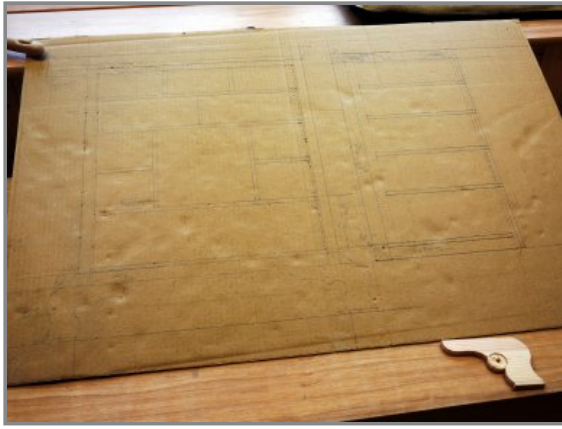
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Scaled plan and ogee bracket template



Basic carcass from cherry, pine

With a basic plan sketched up on some cardboard construction began. The basic dovetailed carcass, of cherry with white pine secondary woods, came together quickly. It was when I began working on the drawer blades I spotted the first hurdle this little project had to offer. My prior work has been full sized case pieces, and my tools were suited to stock used in such work. I was now faced with ripping lots of 1/4" - 3/8" thick stock, much thinner than the usual 1/2" drawer sides and 7/8" drawer blades I am used to working with. My rip saws were too coarse for such work -- I needed to make a new saw if I was going to efficiently work with this thin stock. So I built this 26" rip saw with a 9ppi-12ppi progressive pitch that handles the thin stock admirably.



Meanwhile the spring season of demonstrations was fast approaching. I was scheduled to do demos for [Mike Siemsen's School of Wood](#), for the [Society of American Period Furniture Makers](#) (at the Lie-Nielson Hand Tool Event) and for the [Mid-West Tool Collectors](#) Media Cabin Fever event. I really needed a tool chest better suited for traveling to shows. Once again the spice chest got bumped off the bench, and in its place this Joiner's Chest was built.

Back on the horse

I'm happy to say I'm back to work on the spice chest, the carcass is awaiting the last of its vertical drawer blades, the drawers (there are 11 of them) and its six hidden compartments. The ogee feet profiles are drawn, and I'm busy working out the profiles of the case mouldings. Finding the best way to stick the case profiles with hollows and rounds has been fun! One thing I can say: While a

spice box may be small, the amount of work is not. There is as much joinery as in a full sized case, and the smaller scale details are a new challenge for someone used to working in full sized furniture. I'm looking forward to discovering what new lessons this little box has to teach!



What's on my bench? A spice box, a joiner's chest, and newly made saw

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March Meeting: Pinewood Derby

Story by Ron Corradin

Photos by Jeff Hand

For the March Guild meeting, Guild members got to do some woodworking instead of just learning about it. The meeting was a Pinewood Derby held at The Mill in northeast Minneapolis (www.mnmill.org), a small scale production facility and maker shop for Mill members and people taking classes there. The Mill has finished setting up shop, and their first community open house is Saturday April 21, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon, so attendance was sparse, with about a dozen Guild members taking part. Mike Thomas brought his three young sons, who added just the right level of enthusiasm.

Pinewood Derby car kits were available free to Guild members. Each one had a block of pine 7" x 1 x 1-3/4" wide, with four plastic wheels and four nails for axles. Each block had two slots in the bottom to hold the axles. Guild members used their own hand tools, Mill tools, and bench top power tools brought by Guild member Jeff Hand.

While Pinewood Derby rules limit car length to 7", width to 1-3/4", and weight to no more than 5 ounces, with no added bearings or mechanical devices, that still leaves a lot of room for creativity.

Car designs varied a lot among the eleven competitors. The simplest was an unadorned block with wheels. Mike Siensen shaped his car with a very sharp hatchet on a chopping block the size of a 3-pound coffee can made from a section of tree branch on three splayed legs.

The curves of another car suggested a Formula I car, and needed only a coat of British racing green paint to look like one of Jackie Stewart's Grand Prix winners. The cars had names like The Rock, The Mill, Packer Backer (in green and gold livery), Axe Minister, The Basic Beast, Hammer Head, and Bling (done up in black and gold).

Members learned about the fine points of Pinewood Derby car construction. The first and most important thing is to keep all four axles parallel to the ground, perpendicular to the sides of the car, and the same distance from the ground. Second, sand or file off any ridges on the axles to reduce friction. Powdered graphite can be used as a lubricant on the axles. Third, make sure the wheels are not too close to or too far from the car body; otherwise they will bind or wobble.

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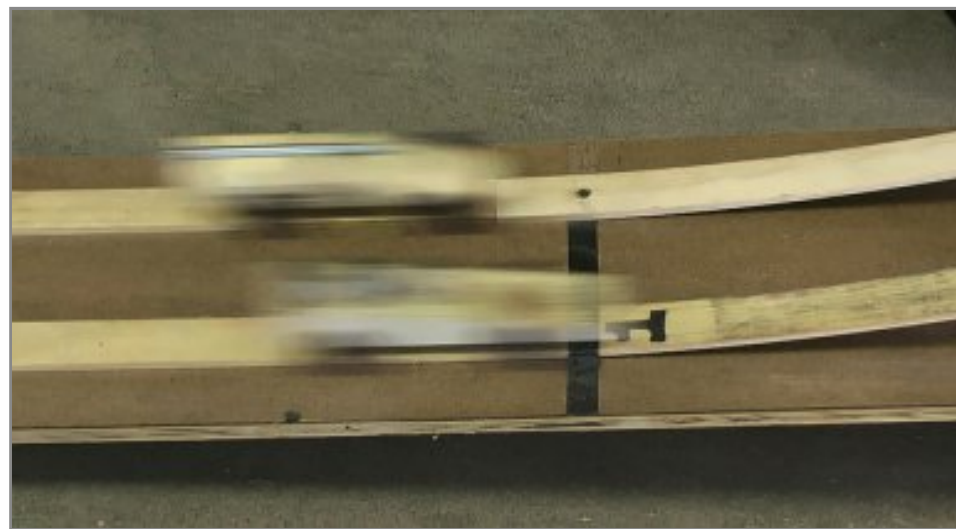




Air drag is not that big of a deal. For you technical types, drag mainly depends on the square of the car's velocity, and Pinewood Derby cars don't go that fast. A smooth car will look better, but other factors are more important than being aerodynamic.

The biggest factor is weight. Even though Galileo proved that heavier objects don't fall any faster than lighter ones (and Jim Irwin demonstrated it on Apollo 15, when he dropped a falcon feather and a hammer on the airless surface of the moon and they hit the ground at the same time), a car that just reaches the 5 oz. limit will have an advantage. It probably has to do

with better traction on a heavier car, or less bounce along the track. Whatever the explanation, it works, and The Mill had plenty of cabinet hardware, nuts, and washers to use as weights on the cars.



Two cars race to the finish line in a close heat

The two-lane wood track had a car release at the top of a downhill section four feet high, ran for about 32 feet, then had an uplift at the end where the lane guides continued upward but the track surface did not, bringing the cars to a safe stop. All the races were captured on video.

After several exciting heats, the winners were:

First Place – Greg Flanagan

Second Place – Mike Siemsen

Third Place – Kyle Thomas (son of Mike Thomas)

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Greg Flanagan



Mike Siemsen's Car, Trophy
and Prize



Kyle Thomas

A splendid time was had by all.

Click the play button below to watch a one minute YouTube video of several heats.

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February Meeting: Hand Tool Olympics 2012

Story by David Mitchell

Photos by Jerry Beutel



The February meeting of the MN Woodworkers Guild was a repeat of last year's meeting - the popular Hand Tool Olympics held at Forest Products in Maplewood. This was a hands-on event. None of the usual prepared presentations - at this meeting four teams were formed to compete in six woodworking events.

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Event	Description
Ripping	Each contestant is given a two foot long pine board to rip straight and square.
Crosscutting	Crosscutting a foot wide board straight and square
Jointing	Joint the edge of a two foot pine board using a wooden try plane.
Boring	Bore a 3/4 inch hole using a brace and bit.
Tenoning	Cut a single tenon to fit an existing mortise
Dovetailing	Create a single two tail/three pin dovetail using supplied hand tools



The first four winners of door-prizes were immediately appointed as team-captains. Team members were then drawn from the remaining door prize tickets to create six member teams. Judging was done by official timers and judges. A number of people stepped forward to volunteer their time and effort to make this a successful event.

Each event was timed and judged for fit or straightness. The number of cards that fit into any crack or void that should be tight was counted as penalty points.



Greg's Gorrillas: Greg Kleese, Captain

EVENT	Team Member	Time	Cards	Rating
Ripping	Pete Molinaro	46:6	5	Best
Crosscutting	Blake Nelson	17:7	3	Best
Jointing	Jeff Anderson	44:0	4	
Boring	Stew McKenna	11:37	5	
Tenoning	Jon Perko	7:34	7	
Dovetailing	Ed Neu	5:41	14	
Totals		915	38	

The Wood Nots: Robert Schulke, Captain

EVENT	Team Member	Time	Cards	Rating
Ripping	Bob Flynn	39.7	5	Best
Crosscutting	Ron Kvass	19.0	9	
Jointing	Mike Davis	32.0	3	

Boring	Dan Syverson	10.9	2	Fastest Best
Tenoning	Robert Schulke	11:16	2	Best
Dovetailing	Bruce Johnson	13:00	5	Best
Totals		1558	26	Best

Team Charlie: Charlie Kocourek, Captain

EVENT	Team Member	Time	Cards	Rating
Ripping	Ross Larson	21.0	14	Fastest
Crosscutting	David Root	13.3	4	
Jointing	Fran Peterson	25.0	3	
Boring	Charlie Kocourek	12.9	5	
Tenoning	John Walkowiak	6:40	2	
Dovetailing	Steve Schwabacher	4:49	8	Fastest
Totals		761	36	Fastest

Bill's Butchers: Bill Wegwerth, Captain

EVENT	Team Member	Time	Cards	Rating
Ripping	Andy Holst	22	11	
Crosscutting	Bill Wegwerth	9.8	3	
Jointing	Ben Manderfeld	12.0	2	
Boring	Gary Blanch	12.75	9	
Tenoning	Alberto Catarino	4:32	10	Fastest
Dovetailing	Roy Werve	7:51	9	
Totals		800	44	

Team Standings	Time	Cards	Comment
Team Charlie	761	36	Best time
Bill's Butchers	800	44	
Greg's Gorillas	915	38	
The Wood Nots	1558	26	Best Quality

The Guild wants to thank Mike Siemsen of Mike Siemsen's School of Woodworking (schoolofwood.com) for supplying the benches and tooling, as well as the organization and scoring methodology. We also thank Forest Products (www.forestproductssupply.com) for hosting this event.

More detailed information about the olympic activities including bench setup for each event is available on Mike Siemsen's web site

[. \(schoolofwood.com/node/41\).](http://schoolofwood.com/node/41)

Special thanks to all of the volunteers and support people who made this meeting possible.

Visit the MNWG Web Site:

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New Members

Weclome to these new members!

Brace Johnson	Arlie Brandt	Chris Westby
Mark Herigstad	Laurence Polys	Dennis Grabowski
Paul Holte	Frank Summers	Rodney Osgood
Mike Reznicek	Roland Angvall	Jerry Smith
Bill Catlin	Laurie McNeil	Christopher Kalland
Paul Holte	Floyd Ingersoll	Dana Haefner
Gary Mann	Laird Sourdif	Steven Larson
Steve Flaten	Paul Gordon	Stephen Renk
Mitchell Rabideau	Antonio Lara	Brett Palmberg
Steve Yanish	John Fraser	Dean & Therese Peterson
Mike Recht	Nick Green	Harry Hearn
Cliff Borgerding	Keith Larson	Richard Almen
Dave Wise	Robert Berens	Chris Lindloff
Joseph Dowd	Mike Liberato	Andrew Klein
Cory Schulz	Kenneth Davey	Duff Thury
John Oien	Richard Amy	Michael Dekarski
Tom Pacquette	Peter Carlsen	Linda Ferber
Jonathan Morales	Daniel White	Henry Retka
John Goulett	Robert Slotterback	

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President's Notes

President's Notes By Charlie Kocourek



The Guild has a fantastic video library. What's more, as a member you can borrow any video for free! We do ask for a deposit, but you get it back when you are done watching the video.

One of my favorites is Rob Cosman's Wood-Hinge Box video. I recently watched it for the second time and I am just as impressed as I was the first time I viewed it. Basically, he shows you how to build a piece with an invisible wooden hinge. It is so cool! I have seen many pieces with wooden hinges, but I have never seen a hinge like the one in this video.

The video takes you through Rob's box making process. He uses a combination of machine and hand tools for stock preparation. He then shows you a router table he developed for making nice friction fit box joints. This is a bit different than the usual jig for box joints because it produces different size pins and tails.

Finally he gets to the wood hinge. It consists of a few very short dowels. These are joined together with small bits of 1/16" welding rod. In the video he used five dowels. He glued three of the dowels to the lid and two of them to the carcass. The dowels don't come apart because they are all pinned together with the welding rod. The lid stays on the box because alternating sections of dowel are glued to either the top or to the carcass.

Of course, there are some tricks! Like how to get a perfectly round dowel that is made from the same wood as the box itself. And, how to drill a 1/16" hole that is perfectly centered in the end of a 1/4" dowel.

I hope my description is not too confusing. Regardless, I highly recommend this video. Rob Cosman is a master with hand tools, and the library has several other Cosman videos that are definitely worth watching.

You can find the [list of all of the videos in our library](#) at this link, and read the [checkout rules here](#). John Griffin-Wiesner is at every meeting with the complete library for you to browse through and check-out.

While I am on the subject of Guild benefits I want to thank Rich Gotz, Craig Johnson and Mark Laub for doing the small group demonstration classes. I

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hope you were one of the lucky ones who got to attend. Each of these classes was so popular that we were able to fill two sessions. I also want to thank Jerry Beutel for his hard work and determination in organizing these classes.

Hope to see you at Northern Woods,

Charlie Kocourek

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Bonus Meeting at Gabberts - Stickley Furniture

Guild members received a special invitation to [Gabberts](#) Furniture for a presentation from two representatives of the Stickley Company, a large US manufacturer of Arts and Crafts style furniture.

The presentation was partly a historical overview of the Stickley brothers and the Stickley furniture company which nearly closed shop in the 1970's before a successful revival by the Audi family. Stickley now employs 1600 people in a new factory in Manlius NY. More details on Stickley's history can be found here: [Stickley history](#)

George Webster discussed the techniques and joinery used by the Stickley company in their current furniture. These include pinned mortise and tenon joints, keyed tenons, quadralinear posts, and dovetailed cross rails among others. He also described the various departments in the factory that each furniture piece goes through. The plant purchases six million board feet of oak lumber per year but discards about 50% of that as unsuitable for their furniture.

After the presentation attendees viewed the partially assembled furniture pieces that George had on display and asked questions. He can be seen in the left crowd shot below wearing a tie and a light colored dress shirt.



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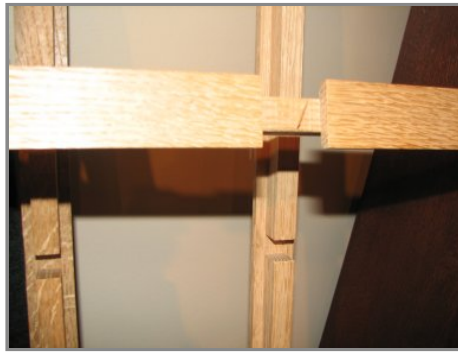
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Sara Lanagan is Director of the Stickley Museum. She showed slides of some of the museum pieces and invited everyone to visit when in the area of Manlius N.Y.



The Guild would like to thank Gabberts for inviting us to this special presentation. It was well received by our members and it appeared that over 100 of the attendees were from the MWWG.

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Learn from the Masters

Story by Jerry Beutel

Guild members are always looking for educational opportunities. Note the popularity of the Fall Seminar. We also like small classes that allow getting in close to watch a demo and more one-on-one interaction with the instructor.

Aware of your interest in learning about woodworking tools, techniques and processes a few Guild members got together to see how to meet that demand.

In a meeting held at Al Frank's house three master woodworkers, Craig Johnson, Rich Gotz and Mark Laub offered to put on small group demo classes in their home workshops. It was agreed that the classes would be held on Saturday mornings in the early spring and the cost would be a minimal \$30 per person. I volunteered to handle the administrative duties.

Craig taught a class on handcut dovetails, Rich on three way miter joints and Mark on inlay embellishments. Our initial plan was to offer one session of each class, with 6-8 participants per class. One day after the announcement went out it became apparent that demand was outstripping supply. Fortunately all three instructors were willing to run two sessions. That allowed everyone who requested one class to attend it, and almost everyone who wanted to attend 2 or 3 classes also got in.

The classes were held in February and March, and afterwards Mark, Craig and Rich received quite a bit of positive feedback. Each instructor has also said they enjoyed the experience. Discussions have started about a repeat performance. The details could change, but something similar is being discussed. Please let us know what you would be of interest to you. Send your comments to [Jerry Beutel](#).

I personally attended the Inlay Embellishment class and found it fascinating. It is always helpful for average woodworkers like myself to see inside someone else's shop and find out about the tools and techniques they use. And when that shop belongs to someone of Mark Laub's caliber there is an awful lot to learn.

My brain hit the full point way before Mark finished talking, but still the day after the class I was scouring Craigslist for a scrollsaw. Darned if I didn't find one that was way better than what I need. For better or worse, the excitement of trying some of the scrollsaw techniques Mark demonstrated overcame my usually tight pocketbook. Now, I just need to practice, practice, practice.

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The Newsletter of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild, Est. 1982

Volume: 138

Issue: April - May 2012

Rupert Murdoch takes over Northern Woods Newsletter

Story by Jerry Beutel

Newscorp, the scandal ridden organization run by Rupert Murdoch has been pursuing a hostile takeover of this newsletter.

Well not really, just a delayed April Fools joke. But seriously we do need someone to take over as newsletter editor. I have agreed to be Guild president at the start of 2013, so someone new is needed for this assignment. You'll get lots of transition support and enjoy being a member of the Guild's Board of Directors. Contact [Jerry](#) for more details

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OSAC Gallery opens in Sandstone

Story by Roger Knudson

Photos by Roger Knudson

The Old School Arts Center
Sandstone, Minnesota

The grand opening of the Old School Arts Center (OSAC) in Sandstone, Minnesota took place Feb. 17 - 18 in the old high school in Sandstone. The planning, dreaming and hard work of many volunteers resulted in a very successful event.

We have, arguably, the best gallery space between the Twin Cities and Duluth with, among other things, a hanging system for paintings and photographs, open floor space for sculpture, woodwork, and large self-standing items, and lengths of open shelf space for pottery, small sculptures, small woodwork pieces, and carvings. One to two hour demonstrations are offered free, Saturdays at 1 PM and have included mosaics and drawing techniques so far - with virtually any art topic open for consideration. Sunday afternoons are acoustic music jams open to all. We have additional classroom space available for longer term classes with intent to include pottery and woodworking (hand tools), so MWG members wishing to offer such would be most welcome.



While artists in this region will be featured, we invite artists from all over the state to show their work for sale (or display only, if preferred). Art shows will be kept in place for about three months, with artists submitting up to five pieces each for display. OSAC takes a 20% commission on all sold pieces.

In the coming year the OSAC board intends to expand the scope of its activities to result in a more comprehensive arts resource for the enjoyment of the residents of the east central region as well as to anyone in the state who "happens by".

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We invite each of the members of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild to consider putting a piece or two in our NEXT SHOW, beginning May 11. You can keep that piece you just had in the Northern Woods show on continuous display and perhaps even sell it! You are also quite welcome to stop in any weekend (open Saturdays and Sundays, 10 - 5, free), to peruse the gallery or participate in a music jam. Just pull off the freeway on your way to or from Duluth and hang out for a bit.

Call or email Roger Knudson if you are interested putting a piece or two in our show opening May 11.

Phone: 320-233-6543

email: rwknudson@frontiernet.net

Directions to OSAC- take I 35 exit "Sandstone"

east off the exit, bear right (stay right)

cross the RR tracks, turn right at first street after RR tracks

continue one "block", take first left. You will see the old school just ahead

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Upcoming Meetings

The April meeting is superseded by the Guild's annual exhibition of work.

Northern Woods Show, April 26-29

Southdale Center.

More details and catalogs from previous shows may be found [here](#).

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