

The Newsletter of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild

NORTHERN WOODS

Volume 121

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2009 Northern Woods Show

Tim Gorman's
Serpentine Chair
Wins Best-In-Show
and the Peer Award



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Northern Woods Show and Awards

May Meeting - Dean Jansa on 18th Century Woodworking Technology

NORTHERN WOODS

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Membership

To become a member, fill out the coupon below, write check to MN Woodworkers Guild, mail both to:

MN Woodworkers Guild
1950 Park Rd. Ct.
Chaska, Mn 55318

You will receive your membership card by return mail.

Address Changes

Please forward address and contact change information to Carole Magnuson at the email address shown to your left.

Newsletter

Send articles, "Buy & Sell" submissions and letters to the editor to:

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President's Notes

by Dick Schultz

First I want to commend Richard Tendick and his Northern Woods Committee for the outstanding job they did on our recent show. Their efforts made it all possible. I also want to thank all of you who participated in the show and those of you who were able to come out and see the exhibition. It is one of our club's fine traditions. We had many excellent pieces and opportunities to socialize with our fellow woodworkers. If you get a chance to recognize Richard and the members of his committee, Joel Ficke, Jim Livers, Charlie Kocourek, Tony Kubalak, Denny Swartz and Rutager West, please do so. This club depends on volunteers to make it a success. Your assistance is always appreciated and necessary to the survival of the guild.



I have also had my own opportunity to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity during the last nine months doing home construction and rehab work. It has been fun, rewarding and educational. I know a lot more about woodworking and furniture building than I do about putting up walls, laying down flooring, hanging cabinets, sheetrocking, taping, installing windows and doors, etc, but I have enjoyed learning how to do all of these things. I would encourage you to try volunteering at Habitat if you have the time. It is a great way to give back to the community by helping to provide housing for those in need. My first day at Habitat I was welcomed by one of our guild members - it was a nice connection for me. I am sure that many of you have the time and skills to make a big contribution. Give it a go!

Finally, I want to recognize our new newsletter editor, Jerry Beutel. This is his first newsletter. As he is beginning, Bob Bridigum is retiring. Bob did a fantastic job during his three years as editor.

Be safe and enjoy your woodworking,

Dick Schultz

New Membership Coupon

Name

Business Name (if any)

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

E-mail Address

Congratulations to all of the award winners from the 2009 Northern Woods Show! The judges, Bruce Kieffer, Glen Elvig and Jim Christopherson had to make some difficult choices from the many beautifully designed and crafted pieces. We appreciate their efforts and present to you their final selections on the next five pages.

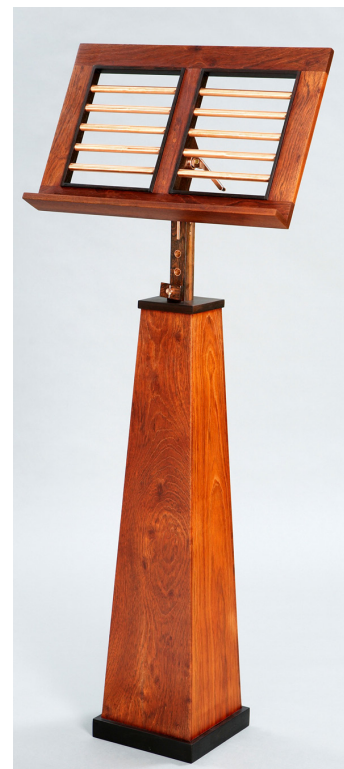


Best Finish Award goes to Jesse Theis for this walnut and cherry coffee table finished with shellac, oil & urethane.



This reproduction of an 18th Century Corner Cupboard by Joel Ficke wins Best Traditional Piece.

Cindy Vargas was awarded Best First Time in Show award. Her metronome inspired music stand is from jatoba, rosewood and copper.





This lidded treasure box is made from cherry and thuya burl with ebony accents. A beautiful piece that earned Chuck Pitschka the award for Best Turning.

Cecilia Schiller garnered two awards for this Monkey Man Automaton - Best Carving and the Paul Lee Award for the best entry with a playful spirit.



Dennis Chilcote wove this basket from handmade black ash splint and turned the lid from birds eye maple. His efforts earned the Best Handwork Award.





Burt Levy designed this cherry and ebony display case to showcase a Chihuly glass Maccchia (a bowl-like form). His cherry and bubinga piece won the Judges Award.

The Best Detail Award went to Richard Gotz for his Shoji lamp. The faux bamboo legs are actually maple. Other materials include ash, lignum vitae, glass and stones.





The Burton and Ruth Elvig Award was presented to Rutager West for his jewelry box made from mappa burl, thuya burl ebony and holly.

Mark Laub's Star Dancer cabinet was widely admired by visitors to the Northern Woods show. He won most votes for the Peoples Choice Award.



The dividers inside this jewelry nest mimic the curves of the inlaid branches on the lids. Dick Schultz earned Best Design Award.



Winner of the Woodworking for Pleasure Award is this piece by Craig Jentz titled Rocket Desk. It is part of a bedroom set built for his sons.

Inspired by the dovetail, Peter Schultzenberg designed this modern Parametric Bench. His work won the award for Most Technically Accomplished.



The May Woodworkers Guild meeting was held at Mike Siemsen's School of Woodworking (<http://schoolofwood.com>) – thanks to Mike for hosting us. The main event for the evening was Dean Jansa's fascinating presentation on the use of hand tools as practiced by 18th century woodworkers.

Dean Jansa is working unplugged. His entire workshop is hand powered. Well, almost, he did admit to owning a 14 inch bandsaw, a bench grinder, and an electric light bulb. The bandsaw is largely justified because cabinetmakers of the 18th century could get rough lumber cut to their desired dimensions. Dean admitted that he has never been comfortable around power tools. But he makes up for this limitation by a deep understanding and skill with hand tools. Dean brought along his replica of an 18th century tool chest complete with a typical set of tools used in that era.

According to Dean, experienced 18th century woodworkers got the job done as efficiently with hand tools as today's craftsman do using modern power tools. Dean quoted from an old price schedule list. Knowing the approximate wages of apprentice, journeymen, and master cabinetmakers and the product costs, he estimated the amount of time invested into projects.

- Chest-on-Frame—approximately 14 days
- Pembroke Table—approximately 3 days

As you can see, these times are on par or better than today's hobbyists working with power tools.

Dean focused much of his talk on hand planes. He broke them into three distinct categories, bench planes, jointer planes, and molding planes. The bench planes are distinguished by a slight curvature to the edge of the cutting iron. This slight curve prevents gouging when used on panels for flattening or smoothing. The cutting iron on jointer planes has a dead straight edge. These are intended to produce flat edges, rabbets, or grooves (dados) for joining pieces together. The molding planes have complex profiles.

Bench Planes

The fore plane (~20" long) is excellent at the initial flattening of stock and panels. The fore name is derived from the fact that it was typically the first plane to touch the stock.

A jack plane (12 to 15 inches long) has a more pronounced camber and the mouth is opened wider. Used to rapidly remove material.

A smoothing plane is approximately seven to ten inches long. The camber (convexity of the cutting edge) is just enough to prevent gouging on flat panels. The mouth opening is as small as possible. They are designed for the final smoothing of flat panels. This is usually the last tool to touch the surface before finishing.

Jointer Planes

A try plane is the approximate length of the fore plane, but the cutting edge is flat instead of cambered.

A jointer plane is generally between 24 to 30 inches in length with a straight cutting edge, which is excellent for making invisible edge joints.

Another type of jointer plane is the rabbet plane, or moving fillister. The moving fillister is a rabbet plane with the addition of an adjustable fence. These planes have a cutting iron and mouth opening that is the width of the body.

Plow planes are capable of cutting grooves, usually with a fence to establish the distance from the edge and a depth stop which automatically sets the desired depth.

Molding Planes

The types and categories of molding planes are too great to go into significant detail here. Because of the complex profiles, there is potentially a specially designed molding plane for every molding contour. These usually have a spring angle, which is the deviation from upright that the user is required to hold the plane.

Because of the expense of creating a plane for each molding shape, the hollow and round set is used to create any



Dean demonstrates another advantage to hand tools. Here he simultaneously molds an edge, gestures and listens to a question. Try that while using power tools!

possible molding profile. It takes 36 planes to create a full set of hollows and rounds. Each is numbered by the 1/16 inch increments in width.

Saws and Chisels

Dean concluded his presentation with information about the types of chisels and saws used by 18th century craftsmen and a few demonstrations on how they were used. Notably, he mentioned that when possible, “ripping” was done with a hatchet rather than a saw. The attendees then had an opportunity to look over Dean’s tool collection and ask questions. A very interesting and well-done presentation by Dean.



A look inside Dean’s replica of an 18th century tool cabinet.



“For real? You can teach me how to cut tenons without a table saw and an \$85 tenoning jig?”

Reference Books and Websites mentioned by Dean Jansa:

Tool Chest of Benjamin Seaton: 1797

- Publisher: Tool & Trades History Society; 1st edition (April 1994)

Mechanick Exercises of the Doctrine of Handy-Works Applied To the Arts of Smithing Joinery, Carpentry, Turning, Bricklaying

- Author: Joseph Moxon
- Publisher: Praeger Publishers (1970)

The Cabinet Maker and Upholsterer’s Guide

- Publisher: Dover Publications Inc.; New impression edition (2 Mar 1970)
- ISBN-10: 0486221830

The Gentleman and Cabinet-Maker’s Directory (Thomas Chippendale)

- Publisher: Connoisseur (1957)

The Hay Shop of Colonial Williamsburg

<http://www.history.org/almanack/life/trades/tradecab.cfm>

<http://www.history.org/Foundation/journal/summer03/cabinet.cfm>

Pennsbury Manor

400 Pennsburg Memorial Road,
Morrisville, PA

<http://www.pennsburymanor.org/>

Nicholson Bench

<http://schoolofwood.com/node/27>

Clark & Williams – Traditional Wooden Hand Planes

<http://www.planemaker.com/index.html>

DISCOUNT SUPPLIERS

The following suppliers offer special discounts to Guild members. To receive a discount you must be a member in good standing and show the merchant your current membership card.

Abrasive Resources

900 Lund Blvd #400, Anoka, MN
(763) 586-9595 or (800) 814-7358
Sandpaper, coated abrasives, rolls, clearance items - 20% discount.

Art Betterley Co.

11160 Central Ave NE (Hwy. 65)
Blaine (763) 755-3425
Various discounts depending on product.

Eide Saw Service

Dave Heidtke <daveh@eidesaw.com>
1329 Tyler St. NE (Behind Youngblood Lbr.) Minneapolis
612-789-3288
Saw blades, router bits, planer knives, and band saw blades welded to length. 10% discount on all items, sharpening included.

Forest Products Supply

2650 Hwy 61, Maplewood, MN
55109 (651) 770-2834. 10% discount on all lumber purchases.
www.forestproductssupply.com

Gardner Hardware

515 Washington Ave N,
Minneapolis (612) 333-3393.
Contractors standard discount with MWG card.

Hirshfield/Lathrop Decorating Centers

20+ metro locations, Rochester, St. Cloud. Discounts on all items including stains, varnishes, application tools, etc. Must show membership card. Ask for MN Woodworkers Guild account. www.hirshfields.com

Holdahl Company

1925 Annapolis Lane, Plymouth
(612) 333-7111 or (800) 777-8992. Commercial cabinetmaker's supplier but will sell at wholesale to Guild members - router bits, saw blades, abrasives, tools for laminating, laminate, decorative and functional hardware.

Nob Hill Decorative Hardware

3027 Holmes Avenue South,
Minneapolis (612) 824-7424.
Decorative hardware for doors, cabinets and bathrooms. 10% discount, 15% on orders over \$1000.
www.nobhillhardware.com

Rockler Woodworking

Minneapolis, 3025 Lyndale Ave S
(612) 822-3338; Burnsville, 2020 W Cty Rd 42 (952) 892-7999;
Maplewood, 1935 Beam Ave (651) 773-5285; Minnetonka, 12995 Ridgedale Drive (952) 542-0111
10% discount on all regularly priced items except power tools.
www.rockler.com

Savitt Brothers

1515 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis
(612) 871-1155. Everything in paints & stains, accessory items. Contractor discount to net price.

Swanson Hardware

7501 W 27th St, St. Louis Park
(952) 925-4083. Cabinet shop supplies, hinges, handles - Wholesale to Guild members.
www.swansonhardwareco.com

Valspar Paint

Plymouth, 2984 Niagara Lane
(763) 557-1361; St. Paul, 106 Water St W (651) 222-8435; 20% discount to Guild members.
www.valspar.com

Woodcraft

9125 Lyndale Ave S, Bloomington
(952) 884-3634. 10% on all items except power tools. www.woodcraft.com

Woodcarvers Store & School

3056 Excelsior Blvd, Minneapolis
(612) 927-7491. Books, tools, classes, supplies. 10% discount on all items (except electrics 5%).
www.woodcarversstore.com

Youngblood Lumber Co.

1335 Central Ave., Minneapolis
(612) 789-3521, or (800) 933-1335. Wholesale prices to Guild members.
www.youngbloodlumber.com

New Members

Tim Murphy
Nick Godin
Scott Grossman
Walter Swentko
Bob Zalaznik
Richard Nelson
Mike Stott
Doreen Wallace
Kevin Malleck
Kirk McElhinney
Warren Poole

THE CLASSIFIEDS

Materials

Black Walnut, suitable for small craft projects. Trunk stems resulting from improving growing forest. Blanks up-to 8' in length, 1" 4" diameters. Wood is highly dense as a result of slow growth. Contact: Brian 218-327-0814 or outpost@2z.net

Logs To Lumber Domestic and exotic kiln dried rough sawn hardwood lumber. (651)387-5647

Inver Grove Heights
By appointment only.
10% discount to guild members
www.logs-to-lumber.com

Black locust lumber for sale. Originally purchased about 4 years ago in Wisconsin green and has been air dried since. Black locust is hard, durable, and is very very rot resistance, hence common in boat construction. Nice grain and coloring. I can email pics of some furniture made from the locust that I've done. The wood is available for pick up at zip code 55407. The size varies: approximately 80 bf S3S 1x6-1x8 - 9' long (S3S was milled to 1" actual), 375 bf rough, 1x4 to 1x8 7-9' long (rough varies from 1-1/8" to 1-1/4" in some boards), 800 bf 1x6 to 2x8 7-9' long (again, nominal sizes). Can be purchased in any quantity.

Prices:

S3S 4/4 \$2.75 per bf
rough 4/4 \$2.50 per bf
rough 6/4 \$3.00 per bf
80+ BF, \$2.00 per bf
All, \$2,300.

email me (tan@nguyenarchitects.com) or call 612.644.4369.

Walnut, cherry and oak lumber for sale. 200 lineal feet of Walnut in 1 x6 and 1 x 8
175 lineal feet of Cherry, 1x4 to 1x12
20 lineal feet of oak 1x6.

Located in NE Minneapolis. Please call for prices. 612 789-6122.

Tools

For Sale: Complete woodworking shop: tools (floor power, hand power and hand tools), benches, wood, supplies (includes some supplies for remodeling contractors), and office equipment. Estimated current replacement value of over \$17,000 (mostly per Seven Corners 2009 catalog). Bulk sale for \$4,000. Starting June 15 all items individually priced @ 70% below replacement cost; then 6/17, 80% off; 6/19, 90% off; 6/22, OBO. Located in Minneapolis @ 1620 Central Ave. NE, Suite 123. Cash only. For list of major items email to gwhands@yahoo.com. Call Jeff for more information and/or appointment to see and/or take (shop is not normally occupied). Home 612-379-0752; cell 612-227-9910.

Restored trade and collector tools from early 1800's to 1950's. Large assortment of quality planes, chisels, saws and hand tools. Grey Wolf Antiques will provide current guild members with a 15% discount on all tools. You must present your membership card. Located at Midtown Antique Mall, 301 South Main Street, Stillwater, MN or Email: gwa@lighthousebay.us

Personal & Services

Share a large fully equipped woodworking shop with 2 or 3 other woodworkers. Conveniently located in the former Singer building at the corner of University and Hampden St. Shop has total of 1820 ft.² with 1000 ft in common space and 18' X 20' personal space in separate rooms. Office space with kitchen facilities included. Stationary tools include:

- 10" Delta Unisaw with 50" Biesemeyer fence
- Rockler router table with JessEm router lift - - your bits
- 12" Band saw
- 10" Delta radial arm saw
- 10" Milwaukee miter box saw with table
- 12.5" Delta surface planer

- 6" jointer with 4' bed
- 12" Delta drill press
- Kreg pocket hole jig setup

Price (utilities included) \$230 month to month rental. Contact Dave Skogstrom at 612-822-1937

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, or by e-mail at cpitschka@mn.rr.com.

Spring and summer weekend workshop retreats with Mark Laub.

Once again this summer Mark will be hosting weekend retreats at his studio on the wooded banks of the Rum River. Topics will include original furniture design, traditional 18th century carving, advanced joinery, and, another session of last summer's very popular Parlor Trick retreat. All retreats include lunch and fireside dinner and beverages. Contact Mark Laub for more information. boardroomstudios@gmail.com or 612.210.7793

Mike Siemsen's School of

Woodworking - We have a great line up of classes for 2009! Not only will you get to work with Mike but also some fantastic visiting instructors like **Garrett Hack**, **Adam Cherubini**, **Mary May**, and **Tom Schrunk**. Classes are held in my shop on a quiet rural setting 35 miles north of the Twin Cities. The shop is air conditioned. Visit my website at www.schoolofwood.com for more information. Phone: 651-257-9166 e-mail: mike@schoolofwood.com

Advertising in The Classifieds is provided to members of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild free of charge. The ads placed herein should be for goods or services that are of general interest to the crafts people who make up the membership of the guild. Ads for services will run until cancelled. Ads for tools and materials for sale will run for one issue unless renewed. For submissions, renewals and to cancel an ad, please contact Jerry Beutel e-mail jebeutel@gmail.com or snail mail to 3485 Trading Post Trail, Afton, Mn 55001

Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
1950 Park Rd. Ct.
Chaska, MN 55318
MNWWG.org

www.minnesotawoodworkersguild.com

Guild Meetings

Mark Your Calendars

June 16th: Navy Island Plywood

Navy Island is a commercial producer of high quality veneers for architectural work. We have been trying to get a tour of this amazing facility for two years - you won't want to miss this opportunity.

Location: 275 Marie Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55118

Directions: Take I35E to Hwy 110, exit east. Go to Mendota Rd. turn left. Go east to Robert St. S. turn left. Go north to Marie Ave. turn right. Stay on Marie Ave to facility.

July 21st: Wood Turning with Jim Jacobs

Jim is a great wood turner who knows lots and lots of "how to" tricks!

Jim started "monkeying with wood" at age 12 on a farm in Rochester using wood from his Dad's snow fence.. and he's still at it! He has worked as a cabinetmaker the past 32 years. His first exposure to turning was in junior high, where it took a whole quarter to make a bowl(ouch!). He tried more turning in vocational school but it was not going well.. he was a "frustrated wanna be" for the next 15 years. He joined the Mn Woodturners Association in 1993 and his main spare time focus has been woodturning ever since.

Jim will cover the following: Buying a good beginning lathe and getting set up. What to look for when buying tools. Tool handling and sharpening. Basic wood science - wood is made of "straws". Turning a candlestick from start to finish. Simple finishing with spray lacquer.

Location: Industrial Electric, 660 Taft St. N.E. Minneapolis, MN

Directions: Take Broadway St. N. E. to Taft St. and go south 1/2 block to Industrial Electric.

Bring your own chair.

August 18th: The Youngblood Lumber Tour returns!

When we toured Youngblood Lumber a few years ago it was the most well attended meeting we ever had. Don't miss this extremely popular and educational event! Come out and see their facilities including racks of hardwoods, softwoods, veneers, laminates and sheet goods. Learn tips on selecting and buying lumber. Youngblood is an Employee Owned and Operated company serving the Twin Cities and surrounding area for over 100 years.

Location: 1335 Central Avenue NE Minneapolis, MN 55413
(612) 789-3521

For directions go to:

<http://www.youngbloodlumber.com/directions.html>

Starting time for these events:

Show & Tell at 7:00 p.m.; Program starts at 7:15 p.m.

Check the guild website www.minnesotawoodworkersguild.com for updates.