



The Newsletter of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild

V1-N6, June 2026

Editor's Note

-Ed Estlow

Summer must be almost here. We're enjoying cooler weather this week, a welcome relief from the heat of the past few weeks. As such, we've got a lighter than usual newsletter this month.

- President's Message from Paul Ehrlich,
- The latest Education Committee news from Khriisslyn Goodman
- And a long list of Guild supporters – specifically, retail hardwood suppliers – from George Lucas

President's Message

-Paul Ehrlich

Finally, we are into Summer. Still a great time to be in the shop, when there aren't other things to be doing outside! This has been a busy month for the Guild as we move forward with some long-planned changes and updates.

E-mail Provider Changes: We are making a change to how we send out e-mail to members. This is mostly "behind the scenes" but is shifting to use a new provider. Hopefully this will result in both better looking e-mail and more success in being able to successfully deliver messages. You will also see a new option at the bottom of all e-mails with an option to opt in or out from getting messages.

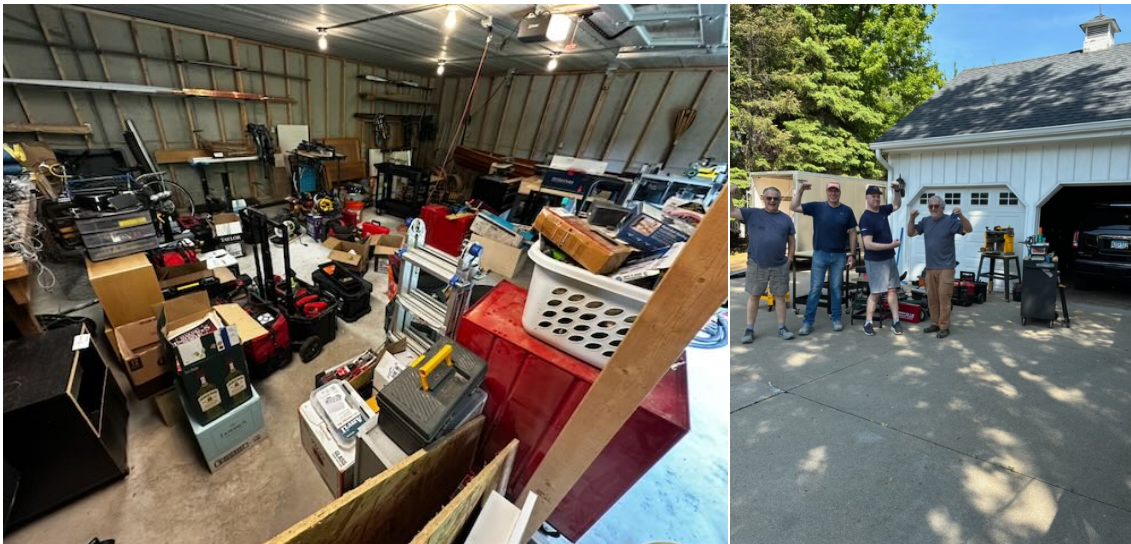
Programs: Our May program was focused on turning and making flutes and other instruments. Charlie Prokop (from the Minnesota Woodturners Association) did a great job, and it is now available on YouTube.

Annual Picnic: On July 14, 2026, we will have our annual Picnic in Roseville Central Park.

Shop Donation: A few weeks ago, we were contacted by a family that asked if we could accept a donation of tools from their woodshop. They wanted them to go to a not for profit, and this was timely as we need tools for our new education program. Stu Fox worked with the Education team (Mike Bieschield, John Madsen, George Thomas) as well as Angela Vargas to sort through a shop full of tools and other supplies.

The Guild will be keeping many of the tools for our new program and we donated the wood and other supplies to the Invisible Wounds Project (<https://iwproject.org>) in Forrest Lake. The remaining tools will be sold at auction and at the Guild Gala with the proceeds going to support our programs.

If you have tools that you would like to donate – or need help figuring out how to sell, please let me know and I can connect you with members who can help.



Donated Tools and Volunteers Hard at Work

Education: The Education team has completed five classes so far this year and has three that are coming up in the next few weeks. Please see <https://mnwwg.org/classes-guild-taught/> for updates. The exciting news in Education is that we are soon going to be having access to “A Makers Place” in Maplewood to use for teaching classes. This is going to be a great “transitional” space to use their facilities as we build out our education curriculum and prepare to have our own dedicated training studio.

Board Updates: We have added Chase Foreman to the board as our new Volunteer Coordinator. Chase will be working with members to help them find volunteer opportunities as we expand our programs and contact in the community. We will be having

an opening on our board to lead the Program Committee – if you are interested in serving, please contact me at President@MNWWG.ORG .

Woodworkers Expo and Guild Gala: The Expo will be back at the Progress Building on the State Fairgrounds in October. This year's Expo will start on the afternoon of Friday October 16 and continue through Saturday October 17, 2026. Friday night is going to be a special event for the Guild (The Guild Gala) with a cash bar, catered dinner, tool auction, and speakers. This will be a fun get together and fund raiser for the Guild. Details on the Expo are already on the website, and we will soon publish more about the Gala.

The Education Committee Continues its Momentum into the Summer

- Khrisslyn Goodman

Many exciting announcements and events for the education committee report this month!

Volunteer Opportunity:

Second Annual Woodworking Demonstration Day at the Minnesota State Fair!

Did you stop by our booth in the creative activities building at the fair last year? Well, if you missed us, it was a truly amazing day with Guild members demonstrating every hour of the day! We were so well liked that we have been granted twice as much space for this year AND they have given us the prize day of FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th!

We need to staff the booth from 9am to 8pm. In addition to demonstrations, we need Guild members who will act as ambassadors for a few hours at a time, wearing Guild shop aprons (they are cool! Guild logo!) and engaging passersby about woodworking in general and the Guild specifically.

We also need help with set up (about 7 to 9 am) and tear down (things realistically start winding down by about 7pm) that day.

There are plenty of other tasks to help with, both large and small, such as making signs, getting name tags, markers, water & snacks for our volunteers, setting up the A/V equipment...

If you are interested in being part of a dynamic day, please sign up by following this link: <https://shorturl.at/QwmrJ>

Classes

1.) Below is a picture of the Woodworking 2 class at Millennium Studio with Steve McLoon over the weekend of June 13 and 14. Everyone learned a lot and has built some great skills!



2.) Starting on July 8 is a five-session (6-9 pm in St. Paul on Wednesdays and Mondays) hand tool series presented in collaboration with Sheer Craft. Learn to use and sharpen hand tools and take home a tool tote that you have built yourself! To find out more about this class and to register (there is just one spot left as this newsletter is published, but we also keep a wait list), please follow this link: https://members.mnwwg.org/site_event_detail.cfm?pk_association_event=36843

Future Classes – at our space in Maplewood!

That's right, other classes coming up in the future will be available at A Maker's Place in Maplewood! The details are being hammered out, but we expect to have our first classes offered at our space at A Maker's Place well before the summer's end! Stay tuned for more details as we have them!

The Education Committee also kept very busy the past month as it supported a shop clear-out donation which you have read about from earlier emails. The operation was a success, and the Education Committee was able to secure some tools for future use, thanks to the hard work of dedicated Guild volunteers!

As always, please reach out to us with questions or suggestions at education@mnwwg.org!

Sincerely,
Khrisslyn Goodman, Norbert Nielubowski, Paul Ehrlich, Dave Duddleston, Mike Bierscheid, Taliesin Nyala, George Thomas and John Madsen

Minnesota Woodworker's Guild Supporters (June 2026)

- George Lucas

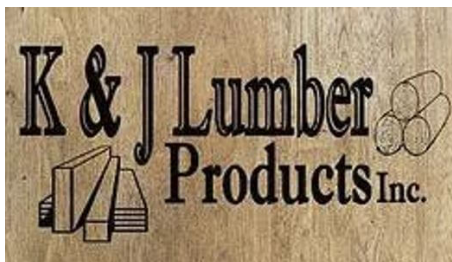
The Minnesota Woodworkers Guild currently has nearly 50 supporters. Each of the supporters offers guild members a special deal, usually a discount or wholesale pricing. These supporters offer nearly everything that the woodworker may need for their projects. See <https://mnwwg.org/supporters/> for a current list of supporters and details of what deals they offer to guild members.

We have numerous hardwood suppliers. Our retail suppliers all offer a discount to Guild members. Check on the above website for specific offers.

Our wholesale suppliers offer wholesale pricing to guild members using the Guild's account. The wholesale supplier sells to the Guild, but the Guild member is paying for it. If you are purchasing more than a few hundred dollars of dimensional hardwood, or furniture grade plywood, check out the wholesale suppliers, the price is often less than half what retail suppliers offer.

One of our Wholesale Supporters, **Industrial Lumber and Plywood**, recently donated 100BF of planed basswood that the Guild will use for the Kids Event at our upcoming Woodworkers Expo held at the State Fairgrounds in October. (Basswood because it is a softer hardwood that kids can pound nails in) If you stop by or purchase wood from Industrial Lumber and Plywood, please thank them for their generous donation.

Retail Hardwood Supporters:



1381 King Road, Mora MN 55051
Phone: 320-674-4917



3560 Marion Road SE, Rochester, MN 55904
Phone: (507) 288-0671



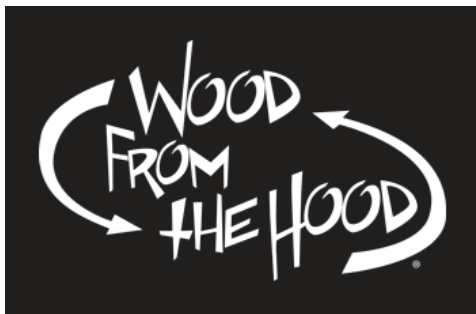
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