

BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

September 2004 Volume 21, Number 8 Visit us on the web at www.newwg.org

STAINED GLASS AND WOOD - REALLY GOOD

The Guild's October meeting will feature combining stained glass and wood. It's a combination that can give a very special touch to many projects. The program features two highly skilled craftsmen – one who works with stained glass and one who uses stained glass in his woodworking to create wonderful and classy effects.

Erv Kufhal will join us for the meeting. He is an accomplished stained glass artist who will tell us about working with stained glass and about his special kind of projects. The glass-using woodworker is our very own Steve Lockhart. Those of you who have been to Steve's home know how well he integrates glass and wood into lighting fixtures and cabinets. He'll show us how to integrate glass into wooden projects. He'll have pictures and projects so you can learn how to integrate glass and wood on your own.

It sounds like a great program. We'll meet in the usual place, Room 111 in Mary Ann Cofrin Hall, at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. We'll start on October 15 at 7:00 p.m.

THE GUILD WAS AT OCTOBERFEST WITH WOODCRAFT

Starting as early as 5 a.m. on a chilly Saturday morning in late September, Guild members began to assemble on the campus of Lawrence University in Appleton. They joined about 300 other people, many holding steaming mugs of coffee in cupped hands, that were setting up tents and displays for the Arts and Crafts portion of Appleton's Octoberfest.

Woodcraft supplied a big tent, tables, and chairs and set it all up and took it all down. Guild members talked with visitors while, turners, scrollers, and carvers demonstrated their skills and selling their products.

Sales were mixed, with some Guild members selling lots more than others. Inexpensive items were particularly popular, probably because most of the 300 vendors were crafters, selling lower-cost items.

Those who were there agreed that it was a good experience. For starters, it was fun and most got a chance to get out of the tent and see what other folks were doing. Lots of people stopped to look and to ask questions. Everyone got lots of compliments on their work and we got a chance to visit with one another. A few other woodworkers were there and at least one of them signed up as a new Guild member, so the effort was a success. And, it turned out to be a pleasant, sunny day.

Many thanks to Chris and Mary Rowland, Jeff Allaire, and the staff at Woodcraft for thinking of us, providing the lathe and scroll saw, contributing to the success of Octoberfest, and supporting the Guild.

WE WERE AT THE WOODWORKERS DEPOT GRAND OPENING, TOO

Merl and Char Stengle from Woodworkers Depot invited the Guild to join in the giant grand opening of their new store (pretty close to next door to the old one.) So, the Guild was there. Bob Fruzen demonstrated his special intarsia skills. Rich Ward, Fred Juengst, and Bob Decker handed out Guild materials and to talk wood working with eager shoppers.

Congratulations to the Depot on its new digs. If you haven't been there yet, make it a point to stop in and see the place. It's very nice, very roomy, and has the same friendly faces.

AT WASHINGTON COMMONS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

The folks at Washington Commons are extending Green Bay's downtown Farmer's Market through the first two weeks of December by bringing it inside the Commons.

The Guild has paid the cost of a large booth for each of the six weeks. This means that we have 30 lineal feet of booth for six weeks starting the first Saturday in November. We can sell things we have made, take orders, and promote the Guild.

You could be there, at no cost to you personally, selling during the peak Christmas shopping period.

This affords us an opportunity to promote the Guild and its programs, including our Holiday Season program of making gifts for the less fortunate. We could even do a little demonstrating if we want to.

Think about whether and when you want to participate. You can come once, twice, every weekend, or not at all, but you can't sell if you are not there. Tom Charlier and Rich Ward will be signing people up at the October meeting or call Jane at 468-0132 and leave a message.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Board members have been talking about creating a membership directory. Activities Chair, Tom Charlier, took the task on and created a page for inclusion in this month's newsletter. Your job is to complete the form, fold it, put a stamp on it, and mail it to the editors or bring it to the October meeting. We'll assemble the data and ship out a directory to all the members. The sooner you send it back, the quicker we can get it out.

MEMBER NEWS by Dan Alesch We learned recently that Nora Allen passed away in May. Nora was Clif Allen's loving wife for more than 60 years. We knew Nora as a wonderful, charming person. Clif is a kind and gentle man who has extraordinary turning skills, with the eye of an artist and the hand of a master craftsman. Clif, we all feel your loss and extend our deepest condolences to you and your family.

Guild member, Tom Berger, died October 5 following a long illness. Tom had severe health problems, but he was an enthusiastic participant in Guild meetings and made it to everyone he could, even in his wheelchair. He was a fine and brave man. We extend our deepest condolences to his very special friend, Shirley Vandermus. Shirley is also a Guild member.

THE HOLIDAY PARTY IS COMING UP

Mark your calendar for December 11. The Guild's annual event will be held that evening at Dan and Jane's house in Green Bay. As always, the event will feature great conversation and outstanding food. Plan to bring your spouse or significant other and enjoy yourself. Details will be in the November *Benchtalk*.

SEPTEMBER MEETING REVIEW *by Fred Juengst*

Curt Andersen presented his "20 steps to heaven" or how to use the layout rod to greatly reduce mistakes. His humor and stories about the (now-defunct) Green Bay Planning Mill added spice to the topic. He demonstrated how the layout rod would work for constructing a basic TV and electronics cabinet.

Curt simply drew a rough sketch of what he intended to build including a partition and couple of shelves. He showed us how he transfers locations of shelves and partition onto a long ripping of particle board. All locations are full size. One side of the layout rod indicated height, the other side showed width and depth for each part. Once the rod is marked out, you can now use it to find all the measurements of each part needed for the cabinet.

Andersen then generated the Cutting

Bill for each piece. You can use the layout rod to mark pieces for cutting. It's easy to check a cut piece against the layout rod whenever you wish since all measurements are full scale. All you need is a rough drawing to allow accurate construction of a piece. Provided the layout rod is accurate, the parts of the project should all be accurate. If not, it is called "rod error". Be careful to double check all measurements on the rod before you compile a Cutting Bill.

Curt admitted it took him a while to understand and effectively use the layout rod. To help you understand it better, Curt's presentation will be on our web site (<u>www.newwg.org</u>) for all to download and look over more carefully. I have been making and using my own modifications of the layout rod for various items and find it not only increases accuracy but also cuts layout time. Thanks, Curt, for an enjoyable and informative presentation.

MEMBERSHIP

By Fred Juengst

We are pleased to have two new members, Jerry Mader and Dan Motz . Welcome!

If you're like most of us, it is hard to remember just when your dues are due. One purpose for this column is to provide a friendly reminder to those who may have forgotten.

Nine memberships are up for renewal in October. If you are one of them, your mailing label is highlighted in PINK. Send in your dues or bring payment to the October meeting.

Two membership renewals due in September are now one month overdue. This is a reminder for Dave Anderson and Hung Nguyen. Please pay your dues and continue to be an active member of the Guild.

Two membership renewals due in August are now two months overdue. This is a reminder for David Plamann and Paul Thoppil. This is your next to last *Bench Talk*. Please consider paying your dues today.

Members failing to renew their membership and are overdue by at least three months received a postcard attached to their *Bench Talk*. This will be your last *Bench Talk* unless you pay your dues promptly. If you don't wish to continue your membership, just print your name on the postcard as shown and drop it in the mail. The postcard confirms your intent. You get to keep your name tag, just in case, but you do not get to keep any library books! Please call Bob Fruzen (863-6819) to arrange for returning the items.

To continue your membership, slip the post card and dues in an envelope and mail it to me. Provided you do not mark the postcard, we will be able to reuse it.

My address is Fred Juengst, 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. If you have any questions, call me at 920-469-1919 or send me an e-mail at <u>mdjuengst@aol.com</u>. Thanks from the Guild.

THE OLD CARVER'S CORNER

The Old Carver, whose identity remains clouded in mystery, received a gift from Bill Dishmaker and Tom Charlier, Guild members from the Lakeshore. It seems they came upon an Blood Donor Room sign from a closed area hospital. They thought it would be amusing to have it hang in Studio A where the carvers meet. It now hangs there, but, so far, no blood doning.

The Iron Mountain show is October 9th and 10th. It is always a good one. This year, Dan Hemminger and Bob Decker will be taking classes from national carving icons in conjunction with the show. There will be some dandy vendors there, too.

Scheduled carving dates: October 27, November 3, November 10, and November 17. Mark your calendar and call Dan and Jane to remind them of the dates every once it a while. It's time for those of you who took the summer off to start carving again. Call Dan or Jane for information. 468-0132.