



# BENCH TALK

## The Monthly Newsletter of the Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

February 2005 Volume 22, Number 2

Visit us on the web at [www.newwg.org](http://www.newwg.org)

### THE MEETING IS FEBRUARY 18

### AN EVENING WITH THE FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

*by Dan Alesch*

Our January meeting focused on Wisconsin's logging days. For February, we move right up into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, but keep within Wisconsin's rich forest and wood heritage. Our speaker will be Charles R. Frihart from the national Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, where he is Supervisory Research Chemist and Project Leader for Wood Adhesives Science and Technology.

The Forest Products Lab is part of the Forest Service which, in turn, is part of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Some of you, I know, are familiar with the Lab. Those of you who are not have quite a treat in store. This is *the* national laboratory for wood and forest products. It has a long and distinguished history. We'll hear something of that during Mr. Frihart's talk, but, as you might expect because of his job, we'll also learn a lot about what's new in adhesives. Lyle Martens says that one of the very best adhesives is Gorilla Glue when it splashes on your shop glasses, but I think we'll get a little more insight at the February meeting.

This is going to be a good one, so be sure to be there. In the meantime, you might wish to try the Forest Products Lab website at [www.fpl.fs.fed.us](http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us).

**February 18, 2005 at 7:00 P.M.  
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Campus  
109 Mary Ann Cofrin Hall**

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#### **MORE ON THE SPRING SHOW. IT IS COMING UP FAST: APRIL 8, 9, 10**

Mark your calendar now. The Guild's Spring Show will be held April 8, 9, and 10 at Washington Commons in downtown Green Bay. We'll be setting up on Friday evening, April 8 and be in business on Saturday and Sunday. The giant raffle will take place at 4 o'clock on Sunday.

*The full scoop on the show will be in the March newsletter. That issue of Bench-talk will provide detailed instructions for participants, raffle tickets for you to sell or buy, and a flyer for you to put in a conspicuous place to attract visitors.*

Last year's show was a great success. Thousands of people came to Washington Commons just to visit the show and to watch

and talk with those who were demonstrating a wood skill or displaying their materials.

Like last year, members will be able to sell their products at the Show. Last year, one member grossed over \$1000 in sales, and he was selling his woodworking, not cookies or stuff made in China. You could be selling some goodies, too. Be prepared this year with some inventory of handmade wooden items.

This will be the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual spring show. The objectives for the show are to promote woodworking, attract new members, enjoy time with your fellow Guild members, display your work, and raise enough money from our annual raffle to support the Guild, the library, and our programs.

Each year, Guild members donate something they've made to the raffle and buy and sell raffle tickets. This is essential for the Guild's treasury. It enables us to keep the dues at \$15 a year. The dues barely cover the cost of mailing the 11 issues of *Bench Talk*.

We need for you to participate. Demonstrate one of your skills, like turning, carving, sharpening, scrolling, building the carcass of a cabinet, using the Kreg jig (or one of your own making), or something else. We're going to avoid using routers unless we can arrange for safety screening and please don't bring toxic finishes for demonstrations.

Display some of your projects, even it is only one. Sell raffle tickets. Donate a prize. Help with set up and take down. Talk with visitors. Help with security. Help with publicity.

Jane needs a list of specific prizes so she can use it for the publicity and to put on the raffle tickets. Please let her know as soon as you can what you will contribute. Call her at 920-468-0132 or at [jalesch@new.rr.com](mailto:jalesch@new.rr.com).

## GUILDWEAR UPDATE

Rich Ward will bring Guildwear to the February meeting. Your job is to bring some

cash or your checkbook and pick out some gear that identifies you as a member of the elite few – a Northeast Wisconsin Woodworking Guild member.

## MEMBERSHIP STATUS REPORT

*By Fred Juengst*

To pay your dues, send your check to me, Fred Juengst, 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. If you have any questions about your membership, please call me at 920-469-1919 or send me an e-mail: [mdjuengst@aol.com](mailto:mdjuengst@aol.com). Thanks from the Guild.

Welcome Bill Ciha and Bob Fritsch back to active membership.

Seven memberships are up for renewal in February. Your mailing label is highlighted in PINK. Please send in your dues or bring payment to the February meeting and save postage.

Five renewals due in January are one month overdue: Bob and Diane Froehlich, Carl Graf, Donald and Helen Lund, Bob Quella and Rory Reinhold. Please pay your dues today and continue in the Guild.

Three renewals due in December are now two months overdue. Here's a reminder for Jeff Benson, Steve and Darlene Enderby, and John Mortonson. 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 do not wish to continue your membership, just print your name on the postcard as shown and drop it in the mail. Please keep your name tag in the event you rejoin the Guild later. If you borrowed books from the Guild Library, please give Bob Fruzen (920-863-6819) a call to arrange for the return of borrowed 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.

## **STILL WORKING ON THE GUILD DIRECTORY AND NEED SOME HELP**

*by Dan Alesch*

I've been traveling a lot lately pursuing a never-ending string of natural disasters. Thus, I'm behind on some stuff. (*That's why this is a short Benchtalk.*) We've gotten many returns on the interest survey and directory sheets. I'm still traveling to distant places, so I could use some help to put the directory together on a spread sheet or data base so we can both print it and access it. Anybody up to it? If not, you won't be getting anything until May.

## **THE OLD CARVER'S CORNER**


The carvers will continue to meet at Dan and Jane's home. Sessions are currently scheduled for February 16 and 22, March 2, 9, and 16. Mark your calendars now.


The carvers continue working on a "friendship cane" to raffle off at the Spring Show. The cane, when completed, will comprise a dozen or more separate carvings on 2 x 2 blocks held together by a rod that runs up the center of them. So far, Dan Hemminger is in the lead with three really nice pieces. Are there any others who would like to contribute?


We're getting information on upcoming classes, including those in Davenport at the annual international competition and at Pam and Jim's in Gwinn, not to mention those being offered closer to home.


## **GENERALLY UNRELATED CHIPS, SPLINTERS, AND CUTOFFS FOR YOUR INTEREST, AMAZEMENT, OR AMUSEMENT.**

*by Dan Alesch*

 We're surprised! No one has yet volunteered to head up the Holiday Toy and Gift Project for the Guild in 2005. If it's on your mind and you simply haven't called us yet, give any officer a phone call. We really need you and it is fun and rewarding.

 The February Board meeting will be held at Terry Keegan's in West De Pere. This is an important meeting for all to attend because it involves laying out the timeline and duties for the Spring Show. The date is February 28, a Monday.

 Here's a message worth repeating. Frank Stilp from Neenah is interested in talking with some other Guild members about setting up a coop for selling their products. He has some commercial space, where else, but on North Commercial Street in Neenah. If you are interested in talking with him about it, give Frank a call at 920-722-7586.

 Before the snow melts and you're out gathering wood again, it's time to think about becoming a Guild officer for a year or two. Jane and I have decided to give up editing, at least for now and others have been officers in one capacity or another since the day they found Moses in the reeds. We need some new folks to step on in. The water is just fine.

**Be careful! The part you save may be your own.**