



BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

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THE GUILD PICNIC – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

The Annual Guild Picnic kicks off the coming season of programs, projects, and fellowship. We're looking forward to a great year and there's nothing like a picnic to get it rolling.

As in recent years, the picnic will be held at DeBroux Park in Bellevue. The date is Sunday, September 11. Things get started about noon. Rich Ward, Mark Brien, Jane Alesch and a few others will get there early to get the fire going and to start cooking.

This is a family event. Bring your spouse or significant other, the kids, grandchildren, and grandma. If you haven't yet told us that you'll be there and how many of you there will be, call Jane 468-0132 and let her know. Call, too, if you have questions. If no one answers, leave a message. She'll get it and get back to you.

The Guild provides roast corn, brats, burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, soft drinks, plates, and plastic ware. Everyone brings a dish to pass, a big appetite, and their own serving utensils.

The Guild also brings tomatoes, onions, and pickles, but, if anyone has an overflowing garden and would like to make one or more of these their "dish to pass," please call Jane so she doesn't spend money on them.

Bring along a project or some photos for show and tell.

A map to the park is included elsewhere in this issue of Benchtalk.

THE SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

The picnic is just the start of September doings in the Guild. The regular Guild meeting is Friday, September 16. Member Steve Danielson will talk with us about lumber. Steve, who has owned Bay Hardwoods with his wife Lisa since 1997, has more than 20 years experience in hardwood lumber.

Steve will be talking with us about calculating board footage, how to use a board foot scale rule, and lumber terms and their use. He'll show samples of different kinds of grain patterns, discuss the process from log to finished lumber, and have samples of exotic lumber for everyone to look at. This promises to be an informative meeting that will broaden our understanding of the wood we work with.

The meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. We meet in Room 109, Mary Ann Cofrin Hall. The Library will be there with our new librarians, Joe and Trudy Ferrier, eager to help you find just what you're looking for.

There is lots of construction on Highway 54. A new overpass and interchange is being built just east of the campus, so enter the University grounds from Nicolet Drive (on the west side of the campus along the shoreline of the Bay), using the Southwest entrance (That's the one with the statue of the doe and fawns). Drive around the inner loop until you come to the intersection leading to the Phoenix

sports center, the Ecumenical Center, and Mary Ann Cofrin. Take a left. Follow along just past the Sports Center on your right and turn left into the MAC parking lot. See you there!

OCTOBERFEST IN APPLETON IN SEPTEMBER

by Dan Alesch

The good times just keep rolling when you're part of the Northeast Wisconsin Wood Workers Guild. Thanks to the support of our friends at Woodcraft in Appleton, the Guild will have a presence again this year at Appleton's Octoberfest.

Our presences at Octoberfest provides the Guild an opportunity to publicize woodworking and the advantages of Guild membership. The event, held on the Lawrence University campus, is particularly well-attended, so, for those who participate, it affords an opportunity to offer their wares for sale just as people are beginning to think seriously about Christmas shopping.

If you haven't already talked with Jane about participating, our space is pretty well filled up with early responders. There is always a chance that someone who plans to be there might not be able to make it, so, if you think you would really like to be there, give her a call at 468-0132.

Jane will have maps and rules for each participant at the September 16 meeting. If you will not be there, let her know so she can mail it to you.

In response to the questions I got last year, I don't know why Octoberfest is held in September, but I do find it kind of amusing in a strange sort of way.

THE OLDE CARVER'S NOTES

by the Olde Carver

The carvers will continue to meet at Dan and Jane's house – usually on Wednesdays. Carving sessions are scheduled for September 8, 21, 28, and October 5. When they get together, the group gathers at 7 in the evening and usually has swept up and is gone before 10.

If you think you might like to sit in on a session of show and tell, carving, chit chat, praise and critiques, and sharing a delicious dessert, give Jane or Dan a call at 468-0132.

If you miss a session or if you are new to the group, it is best to call ahead to make sure when the group is meeting. Things sometimes get a little ragged depending on previous obligations of carvers or the Alesches. The group sometimes decides spontaneously to change the date of a get-together or to add an extra one. Those carvers – what a spontaneous lot!

MEMBERSHIP STATUS REPORT

By Fred Juengst

Please take a few seconds to see if your mailing label is marked with a pink marker. We have four new people due in September. Don't wait, mail in your dues today.

Three memberships up for renewal in August are now one month overdue. Please pay your dues today and continue to be an active member of the Guild.

Six memberships due in July are now overdue by two months. There was no **Bench Talk** in August, so this is a reminder for Walter Hey, Ron Liebergen, Ken Mortonson, Orville Raddandt, Greg and Pam Saulnier, and Chris Schoemaker. Please consider continuing being an active member of the Guild and pay your dues today.

Since postcards were not mailed out in July and we had no Bench Talk for August, we have 23 members who had their memberships expire in April, May, and June. These are now more than three to

five months overdue. As you know, members failing to renew their membership by more than three months have 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. The postcard confirms your intent. Please keep your nametag in the event you choose to rejoin the Guild at a later date. If you borrowed books from the Guild Library, please give Joe or Trudy Ferrier (920-438-8116) a call to arrange for the return of borrowed items.

If you wish to continue your membership, do not mark the post card in anyway just slip the post card and dues in an envelope and mail it to me. This will allow us to reuse the postcard.

We do on occasion make a mistake with your membership and I regret it. Please don't hesitate to point out any mistakes right away so they may be corrected promptly. My address is Fred Juengst, 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. If you have any questions about your membership, call me at 920-469-1919 or send me an e-mail at mdjuengst@aol.com. Thanks from the Guild.

FYI

Little tidbits of sometimes relevant, irrelevant, and irreverent news, observations, and assorted stuff from and about members and their pursuits.

by Dan Alesch

- Member Steve Danielson (Bay Hardwoods) reports that he has 8/4 Select and Better basswood in stock. This should be of interest to carvers and to other woodworkers as well.
- I would be remiss if I did not mention this. Some months ago, our Guild buddies from the Lakeshore gave the carvers a sign from a former hospital saying "Blood Draw Room." Well, the sign finally reflected reality. Unfortunately, Trudy Ferrier gave meaning to the sign at the last carving get together. Trudy, we've continued looking in the Studio, but we haven't found your thumb yet. We'll let you know if we find it.
- The Iron Mountain carving show is coming up early in October. Even for those of you who are not carvers, this is a worthwhile show. Good vendors, good carving, good fellowship.
- This is a short **Benchtalk**. Hurricane Katrina has caused some problems in a subject area in which I can provide some advice, so when you get this, I'll be in the Washington, D.C. area. The next **Benchtalk** will be longer and formatted a little differently.