



BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

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MAKING SNOWSHOES: THE NOVEMBER PROGRAM IS JUST IN TIME FOR WINTER

John Hielsberg, an Oshkosh resident, will be with us this Friday, November 18th. John makes snowshoes. More precisely, he steam bends hardwood and, from the bent wood, makes different kinds of snow shoes.

Now, you may not be planning to do a lot of trekking through neck deep snow this winter, but even if you aren't planning to make your own snowshoes, John's presentation will provide you with information about how to steam bend hardwoods, which kinds of woods react in which ways, and where to buy supplies.

This is going to be an interesting program, and it will be the last program until January, since the Guild Holiday Party on December 10th replaces the December program.

Remember, the meeting is this Friday, November 18th at 7:00 P.M. on the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay campus. The Bay Settlement interchange is now apparently completed and makes getting to the meeting place a little bit easier. We meet, as usual, in Mary Ann Cofrin Hall, Room 109. The librarians will be there and books taken out at the meeting can be kept over the Holidays.

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Every year, the Guild holds a party during the Holiday season for its members and a spouse or guest. This year, the party will be Saturday, December 10 at Dan and Jane Alesch's house. It's at 909 Forest Hill Drive. 920-468-0132.

The Guild provides hot sandwiches, soft drinks, coffee, condiments, plates, napkins, and utensils. Members bring dishes to share. Everyone who comes to the party brings hors d'oeuvres, an entrees, or a dessert. Bring enough to go around. If everyone does like they've done in the past, we'll have a fabulous feast of wonderful foods.

Prepare yourself for lots of good conversation, great food, and door prizes. If you haven't joined us before, this would be a good time to start.

The party begins at 6 P.M. and ends when the last person leaves (or falls asleep under the Christmas tree).

We need to know if you are coming, who you are, and your guest's name. There will be a sign up sheet at the November meeting. Call

before December 4th, that's the day of a Packer-Bear game, so it won't be hard to remember.

If you don't know where Dan and Jane live, check the map in this issue or give them a call. There will be *no December newsletter*, to this is your last notice.

If any of you has made toys or gifts for the shelters or for other worthy charities, bring them to the November meeting or to the Holiday Party. We'll be glad to deliver them.

A NEW WOOD SHOW IS COMING TO GREEN BAY IN FEBRUARY

Woodworks will hold a woodworking show in Green Bay on February 10, 11, and 12 at the Brown County Veterans Memorial Complex in Shopko Hall. Learn more by going on line: www.woodworksevents.com.

The Guild will be participating in the Show in a couple of ways. We expect to have a booth, display work by our members, sell raffle tickets, and maybe do some demonstrations. Often, these show include a "make-a-memory"

booth in which kids use scroll saws to cut out simple patterns. We might participate in that.

We also expect to participate in their “Top-a-Thon” program. Clubs like ours that participate in their shows often make things for charity; we can probably work this into our regular program of creating things for children and teens who are needy or ill.

There are also opportunities for individuals to display some of their work in the Saw Dust Café and, in so doing, to compete for prizes.

Lyle Martens is organizing the Guild’s participation and there will be more news for you early in January. Save the dates so you can participate in the show with the Guild.

It sounds like it will be a pretty good affair, so be sure to plan to participate. More later.

This is important. If we are going to sell raffle tickets early in February, we need to have some prizes by then! Time to get to work on a donation or two.

ALL GOOD THINGS COME TO AN END, or, NOTHING LASTS FOREVER

Jane Alesch, our Spring Show coordinator, just got word that we will not be holding our 23rd annual spring show at Washington Commons in downtown Green Bay. The people we work with are no longer there and no arrangements are being made for activities.

The Spring Show provides lots of good memories and has been a mainstay for the organization for a long time.

Not all is lost, of course. We’ll use this as an opportunity to rethink what we’ve been doing and how we do it. If you would like to help in the search for a new location, call Jane at 468-0132 or let a Board member know. We can use the help.

BOARD MEETING

The Guild Board will meet Tuesday, November 15 at Joe and Trudy Ferrier’s home at 7 P.M.

THE OLDE CARVER’S NOTES

by the Olde Carver

The olde carver was watching Dan the other day as he inadvertently stuck a new knife into his thumb. Blood actually shot up into the air about eight inches. What a dope.

Not to be outdone, Fred Juengst, noted Guild chip carver, carved a beautiful plate for a young couple getting married. He’s now looking on E-Bay for a young couple named Dave and Jennifer that got married on August 26. Seems he was supposed to carve the plate for *Doug* and Jennifer. Fred, read twice, carve once.

The carvers will meet Wednesday, November 16 and Tuesday, November 29. They will also carve December 14. After that, they’ll take off some time until early January.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Fred Juengst

Please take a few seconds to see if your mailing label is marked with pink. Four members are due in November. Don’t wait, mail in your dues today.

Eleven memberships were due for renewal in October; these are now one month overdue. Three memberships were due in September; these are now overdue by 2 months. This is a reminder for **Bruce Carlson, Todd Fisher, and Tom Huycke**. Please continue being an active member of the Guild and pay your dues today.

One member is now overdue by more than three months. You have a postcard attached to your 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 name tag 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.

Please don't hesitate to point out any mistakes I may have made 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 relevant, irrelevant, or irreverent news, observations, and assorted stuff from and about members and their pursuits.

by Dan Alesch

- Happy Thanksgiving, everyone. Say a special prayer for all our people in service who are doing what they are called upon to do in dangerous places here and around the world. And, while you are at it, be grateful that you didn't suffer the consequences of the Gulf Coast hurricanes. I spent a week in the New Orleans area after the events and am glad I wasn't there for them.
- You may have noticed that there is no review of the meeting on guitar-making. That's because those of us who usually write those reviews were unable to be at the meeting. We still want a review, so if you want to take a crack at it, let me know. If you're worried about writing, just give me the guts of it and I'll clean it up. Thanks.
- Jane and I are really looking forward to the Holiday Party. We find it lots of fun and hope you do, too. If you have any ideas about how to make it even more fun, give us a call. Jane has been working extra hours at her part time job and would be thrilled to have a volunteer or two to gather door prizes, so she can spend her time cleaning, cooking and decorating. Anyone willing to take on the door prize job? 468-0132.
- Those of you reading this on-line don't get a map. If you don't remember where we are, look us up at www.mapquest.com. Thanks.