



# BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers  
Guild

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### GUILD SPRING SHOW JUST AROUND THE CORNER

by Jane Alesch

Don't forget we will be holding our Spring Show at the East Town Mall in Green Bay. **The Show will be held on March 25 and 26, with set-up on Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendar now.**

#### Where?

East Town Mall is at 2350 East Mason Street in Green Bay. If you are on Interstate 43, take Exit 183 (Mason Street) to the West. East Town is a mile or so west of the exit on the south side. There is a very good chance that we will be in a large store, about to become vacant, that is right at the Mall's main entrance. It is large and "lockable." We'll very likely know exactly where we will be by the time we send out the March *Bench Talk*. Free parking. Go in the main entrance.

#### The Raffle

You will notice that, as in past years, we've enclosed four pages of raffle tickets (that's \$20 worth) and poster sheets. Please sell or buy those raffle tickets and put the big poster where people likely to come to the Show will see it. Cut up the sheet with four little posters on it and hand them out to friends, coworkers, or strangers. Return the money and the filled-out stubs to me (Jane) at 909 Forest Hill Drive, Green Bay, 54311, or bring them to the February meeting (920-468-0132). **You can always get more tickets and posters** from me, so put your selling and poster shoes on.



The raffle prizes this year are dynamite. From Woodworkers Depot, we were able to purchase a 10 inch Makita sliding compound miter saw and a cordless impact driver. **(Thanks, Merl, Char, and your friends at Makita).** Cordless drivers are going to replace a lot of cordless drills and that Makita saw is great (we've got one), so you'll want to buy some tickets, too, as well as sell them. From Woodcraft in Appleton, we got an oscillating spindle sander by Delta and a DeWalt random orbit sander. **(Thanks Chris, Mary, and your friends at DeWalt.)** Lyle Martens who demonstrated the Kreg K3 at the Depot, got a donation of a Kreg K3 Master system from the folks at Kreg. **(Thanks to Lyle and Kreg.)** We also got a 7" Skil Saw from Tom Carlson as a donation. It's new and its nice! **(Thanks, Carlson crew.)** **We got seriously great discounts on all the things that we purchased.**

Already this year, Guild members have been generous with their donations to the raffle. The list of magnificent stuff is growing. Thanks to those of you who let me know in time to get it on tickets and posters. There were enough of you that I had to use categories instead of just specifics. **We need you to**

**sell tickets now and we need volunteers to hawk tickets at the Spring Show. We need people. Please fill out the enclosed volunteer form and return it.**



### **Displayers and Demonstrators**

Don't get nervous. We're talking about members who will display their work at the show and members who will demonstrate their woodworking talents. We need volunteers to demonstrate scroll sawing, carving, turning, sharpening, finishing, intarsia, and whatever. The demonstrations should not be real dangerous for onlookers, but can be a little noisy so as to attract observers. (Dan says it is like tapping on the lake bottom with a big sinker to attract perch. And to further the fishing analogy, Lyle Martens will be Kreg jigging.)

As to Displace, everyone in the Guild is asked to, welcome to, beseeched to display their work. A central purpose for the Spring Show is to show others how much fun woodworking can be and that we want people of all skill levels to join us. Besides, we know that your work is a lot better than you think it is. We're looking for single items like **Marge Charlier's** turned potato masher to **Joe Martin's** full corner.

This is your job: fill out the enclosed form, telling me how much space you need (how many tables, how much floor space, whether you need power, etc.), what you will display and/or demonstrate, and when you plan to be there. Then get it to me. We set up Friday. Some chairs will be available – first reserved gets first choice. Bring your own chair to be comfortable.

### **Publicity**

Publicity is always the hardest part. It is more than one person can do. Here's what we have to do: put up posters, put ads in papers across NE Wisconsin and the Valley, talk about it with friends, put it on the website, get free notices in papers and on the radio, arrange for television coverage during the week before the show, get signs up at the East Town Mall, and make sure we've got posters in critical stores: Woodworkers Depot, Woodcraft, and Bay Hardwoods for sure, but places like Krueger's in Neenah, other hardware stores, lumber yards, grocery stores, restaurants, and the like. Let me know what you will do to boost show attendance. Ask for permission before you post. Quarter sheet size posters are available to put at check out counters at shops.

### **Sales**

We'll be able to sell stuff at this show! Use your own permit and pay your own sales tax, etc. If you have casual sales of a few hundred dollars a year, intermittently and sporadically, then you might be able to do without a business permit and related stuff. Forms and answers are available from Wisconsin Dept of Revenue (downtown Green Bay) and on the Internet.

I don't presume to tell you how to sell your stuff, but when I shop shows, I look for clearly stated prices, nice displays, friendly artisans, and an occasional bargain. People who are demonstrating usually attract lots of people and may actually attract customers. It seems to work for Joe Martin and Bob Decker. Demonstrators like carvers don't have any problem stopping work to talk with potential customers. People who are turning or scrolling may have more trouble doing that and talking with customers at the same time. They may want to have someone with them to take care of the selling part.

Over the years, we have had very little pilfering, but it makes sense to have someone watching your stuff when you need to leave your booth. If you don't plan to display at the show, volunteer to give demonstrators and Displace a break.

### **Attracting New Members and Having Fun**

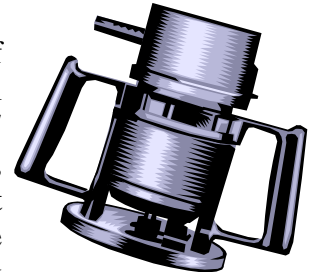
Our founder, **Bob Platten**, always reminds us that the Spring Show has to do with fellowship, spreading the good word about woodworking, and bringing people into the Guild fold. These three things usually require oral communication. We need some talkers at the Show – members who will gladly talk about how much fun they have turning trees into *objets d'art*, our magnificent library and great programs, how much the Guild has helped them become competent artisans, and what a golden group of good people we are. If you are up to that, come on down and hang out. Even if you aren't, come on down and hang out.

## FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> – JEFF ALARIE ON THE ROUTER

Jeff, a fixture at Woodcraft in Appleton, will join us to talk about Decorative Design and Inlay Techniques with the Router. If you are like me, you were intrigued by Marv Buelow's router work when he showed it to us in January. As it turns out, I don't know how to use my router to follow patterns or to do inlay. The good news is that Lyle Martens was able to talk Jeff into joining us Friday, February 17 and showing us how. I'll try for the front row, even though we hope to have our new microphone and cameras by then.

Jeff will show us how to add a distinctive flair to our woodworking projects using a plunge router together with commercially available patterns and inlay kits. His demonstration will showcase some of the products and techniques used to create design and inlay accents, including the "Turnlock" Router In-Lay Kit, the "Spirocrafter" and the CMT "3D Router Carving System". The "Turnlock" Router In-Lay Kit is an "everything in the box" system for doing inlay work such as adding "Dutchman's Patches" or butterfly keys. The "Spirocrafter" looks like the "Spirograph" you used as a kid and can be used to create patterns such as rosettes and starbursts. The CMT "3D Router Carving System" allows you to create carved patterns using your plunge router and the kit's templates. He'll bring samples created with each product and will demonstrate the operation of each kit. It's surprisingly easy to add a custom made design or inlay to your project. Come, see how it's done.

As usual, we'll meet in Mary Ann Cofrin Hall on the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay campus in room 109 at 7:00 P.M. Parking is free. Call Jane (468-0132) if you don't know how to get there. Remember, Highway 54-57 has been improved. There is an exit for Bay Settlement Road from Hwy 54-57, about a mile east of the Nicolet Drive exit. Exit 54-57 north at Bay Settlement and take the first left (it comes up fast!) down the hill to the stop sign. Continue straight from there to Mary Ann Cofrin Hall, on the left, just past the Phoenix Sports Center (which will be on your right).



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### FEBRUARY WOOD SHOW: CANCELLED

The February Wood Show scheduled to be at Shopko Hall in the Green Bay sports and entertainment complex near Lambeau was cancelled. In fact, the last three shows of the season were cancelled. The show's website says that the producer had to have eye surgery and that's the reason for the cancellations. Thanks, Lyle Martens, for all your work on this would-be show.

### REVIEW: THE JANUARY MEETING

All of **Marv Beulow's** jewelry and music boxes are from his original designs. Many of his smaller boxes feature "through" inlays done on a scroll saw, including angels, hummingbirds, light-houses, and even a Pegasus. Some inlays are done with a router. His jewelry boxes are

exceptional, not only for their exquisite design, but also for his near flawless joinery and finishes.

Marv talked with us about designing and making boxes, making scroll saw inlays, and marketing on the internet. He's had good experience in each of those subjects. You can see his work on the website he designed at [www.beyondthetree.com](http://www.beyondthetree.com). He also displayed lots of boxes and answered lots of questions during his talk. He brought visual aids to show how to cuts his inlays. It was a very informative presentation.

By the way, it was standing room only as we had one of the largest turnouts ever, meaning we had well over 70 attendees. Thanks, Marv.

**HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAVE \$1000?**

**Jim Haen** told me that another club he belongs to doesn't mail out newsletters. They all go out by e-mail. Some other clubs mail to members only by request – mostly to folks who don't use e-mail. It costs us about \$.90 for every newsletter we mail, counting postage, paper, labels, and copying, plus all the free hours it takes the Editor to print, fold, staple, labels, and stamp the 150 or so newsletters we send out very month. We could outsource that part, but the total cost would then be substantially over a dollar a copy. The upshot is that almost all of your annual dues go to mailing out ten newsletters to almost everyone during the year. The speakers, library, and special events have are paid for from our raffles.

If two-thirds of our members would be content to receive *Bench Talk* by e-mail only and not get a mailed copy, we could save \$1000 a year that we could spend on programs, books, videos, and the like.

This month, everyone will get a mailed newsletter because we include raffle tickets and a poster. However, if you would be happy to get nine *Bench Talk* issues a year in PDF format by e-mail, please let us know. See the next article – the one by Fred Juengst.

## **HELP! LOTS OF RETURNED MAIL AND E-MAIL!**

*by Fred Juengst*

We're working hard to keep the membership list up to date, but every month, at least a couple of *Bench Talks* are returned by the postman with cryptic notes stamped on them. We also get a host of returned e-mails because they were undeliverable. Apparently upper and lower case letters sometimes make a difference and we need you to update your e-mail address. This will allow you to receive *Bench Talk* and other notices by e-mail.

**Please just send me an e-mail with your current address.** The only message I need is your name. Your correct e-mail address will be on the e-mail. I will make the changes for next month. We are thinking about sending *Bench*

*Talk* by e-mail to all who have it. This would cut down on the editor's work and also save money for the Guild. Please take time now to send me the requested e-mail at [mdjuengst@aol.com](mailto:mdjuengst@aol.com).

## **BOARD MEETING**

The Guild Board met at Dan and Jane's house Monday, February 6. The focus was on the Spring Show in March. The Board will meet there again on Thursday, March 9, just to make sure everything is on target for the Show.

**The Board is identifying candidates for the June election. We need a Vice President for Programs for next year. The other members of the Board always help with this job, so it's not sink or swim. Volunteer today!**

If you have anything you would like to bring to the Board's attention, or if you just want to sit in, let any officer know.

## **THE OLDE CARVER'S NOTES**

Don't forget the carving show in Plover on Saturday, March 18 (9 to 4) and Sunday, March 19 (10 to 4). It is the annual show competition, and sale of the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers. It will be at the Elizabeth Inn and Convention Center at the corner of Highway 54 and I-39.

The carvers expect to meet regularly in February and March (at least so far), except for March 22. Right now, plan to be at Dan and Jane's carving studio every Wednesday through March 15. If it changes, word will get around.

There is a small group of regulars, but we always welcome newcomers. If you think you would like to sit in, call Dan at 468-0132.

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

*By Fred Juengst*

Eight members have membership renewal due this month. Your mailing label is highlight-ed. Our February meeting is an excellent time to renew your membership.

Six members had memberships due in January; you are now overdue by one month.

Please pay your dues as soon as possible to continue your membership in the Guild.

Two members are more than two months overdue. This is a friendly reminder for **Ron and Louise Anderson**, and **Jeff Benson**. Please consider remaining a member of the Guild and pay your dues today.

For those of you whose dues are more than three month overdue, we've attached a postcard as a reminder to pay your dues as soon as possible. If you choose not to renew your membership, please sign the card and slip it into the mail. This will let me know you intended not to renew. Please keep your nametag in the event you wish to join at a later date. If you don't respond, I drop your name from our active roster.

If you wish to renew, just slip the UNMARKED postcard in an envelope with your dues and mail it to me at 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. My address should be on the card as well but this has not always proved to be the case.

If you feel I made a mistake with your dues, don't be shy. Give me a call (920-469-1919) or e-mail me with your complaint. I do make mistakes and appreciate getting them corrected quickly. **If you borrowed books from the Guild Library, please give Joe or Trudy Ferrier (920-438-8116) a call to arrange to return the borrowed items.**

***FYI: Little tidbits of relevant, irrelevant, or irreverent news, observations, and assorted stuff from and about members and their pursuits. by Dan Alesch***

● **I was talking with Merl Stingle the other day. He told me that he plans to have a major sale at the Woodworkers Depot store here in Green Bay during the Milwaukee woodworking show February 24 and 25. The Depot will be in Milwaukee, too, but you will be able to get show prices right here in Green Bay. Sounds like a winner to me.**

● Merl also mentioned that some of his customers would like to have a woodworking

**project judging contest during the sale on February 24 and 25. That's before the next Benchtalk, but we may have news at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> and we'll send e-mails if it develops.**

● **Tom Carlson**, has the following items for sale.  
- a Grizzly combination belt sander (6" x 48") and 12" disk sander, low speed for \$300.  
- a 21" Woodtek scroll saw for \$200.  
You can reach Tom at the meetings (he sells raffle tickets) or call him at 920-856-6363.

● Don't forget that **Tom Charlier** is collecting used hand tools for Hurricane Katrina victims folks in Biloxi, Mississippi. Bring your excess hammers, squares, screw drivers, planes, and so forth to the February meeting. Tom has already shipped five boxes of tools South. Thanks, Tom. The Guild will pick up shipping costs for this charitable activity.

● If you're having a hard time getting to the meetings for want of a ride, let us know. We'll try to put you in contact with someone who can give you a lift. If you are someone who can give someone a lift, you might also let us know so we can perhaps match you up with someone who needs a lift or would like to car pool.

● **Noel Hansen** is looking for plans for a horizontal, wall-mounted gun rack. Call him at 920-682-4952 if you know where he can find one.

● Remember the Chicken Fest Craft and Garden Show? It's coming again to Darboy Saturday, June 24. Talk with Guild Member **Milton Schmidt** if you are interested in a booth. 920-993-9664 or [Mcmaschmidt@aol.com](mailto:Mcmaschmidt@aol.com).