



BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

May 2005 Volume 22, Number 5

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Jigs and Turning

No, it's not class on Irish dancing. It's Ron Odegaard at the lathe.

Ron Odegaard, who lives in Appleton, started turning 50 years ago on a lathe that his father fabricated at work. After graduating from high school, he enrolled at Bemidji State University where he graduated with a degree in Technical Education. That major required that about half the classes be wood related. However, he had worked as a printer and typesetter for seven years before graduating from college, so, with this printing background, he came to Appleton in 1966 and taught Printing and Graphic Arts for 33 years.

Ron has six lathes and often turned them on in the evenings and when he could, fit them in while he was teaching. He still uses the lathes to create Christmas ornaments and to do production turnings, including architectural turnings and replacement turnings for furniture repair shops.

Ron has demonstrated for AAW in San Antonio and Tacoma, for IWCS International Meetings, and for regional meetings, including the local Woodturning Group in the Fox Cities, the Madison Group, and the Phoenix Woodturning Group. He also demonstrates for the local high schools in Appleton. A member of the International Wood Collectors Society, Ron has collected more than 1000 different species of wood each of which he has turned into a bell.

"At the meeting on May 20th," Ron says, "I'll turn an ornament and, if time permits, a whimsical pen." He'll bring some interesting turning jigs with him, too.

Ron is a very interesting and talented woodworker. I think you will enjoy learning from him. Remember, we meet in 109 MAC Hall at UWGB at 7 p.m. Friday, May 20. We are arranging to use video to project his activities onto a large screen so everyone can have a front row seat.

THE SPRING SHOW

This was one of our best shows ever, judging by the number of Guild members who showed their work, the number who demonstrated an amazing array of talents, and by the number of prizes donated by Guild members. During the show, Guild members produced a large number of gifts for the Make a Wish Foundation while demonstrating their art and craft at the show. And, while we didn't reach last year's unbelievable number of raffle ticket sales, we did sell the second highest number in history.

Everyone we talked with had a good time, Guild members chatted and exchanged ideas, and well over a thousand people passed through our exhibits. All in all, it was a great show, a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, and a good job of showing people what we're all about. Don't forget to search out the new members at the next meeting and make them feel welcome.

Helping Others

Dale Kozicki, who works all year in his spare time making things for Families of Chil-

dren With Cancer and for Make a Wish Foundation, reports a banner effort at the Show. During the show, Mary and Jim Haen scroll-sawed 151 items for hospitalized children to paint. And, young Amanda Ferrier, daughter of Joe and Trudy, contributed two pieces she scrolled during the Show.

New Members

We got some new members, but I don't know how many or who they are. Fred will report on that next time. He's good at that.

Treasurer's Report on the Show

Steve Lockhart tells us that raffle ticket sales this year were \$3523. This is down from last year's unbelievably high sales of \$5151, but a couple hundred more than in 2003 and the second highest sales in Guild history. Total show costs this were \$1,307 (prizes, table rental, ticket printing, publicity, etc.) and the net gain from show this year was \$2,215.

Thanks to the Woodworkers Depot

Woodworkers Depot really went all out this year, working with Makita to provide us with outstanding prizes at not-to-be-believed low prices. Many thanks to Merl and Char who made it possible for us to have the Makita 6-pack, the bike, and the Dremel kit at ridiculously low prices. Make sure you thank them next time you're at Woodworkers Depot.

Thanks to Woodcraft of Appleton

Chris and Mary, as always, were generous in making raffle prizes available to the Guild for the Spring Show. They donated the brad nailer and made sure the goodie bag was well-filled. We appreciate it! Stop in and say thanks to them and to Jeff.

Thanks to Our Media Stars

WLUK-TV turned Lyle Martens' glorious new shop into an impromptu tv studio the day before the Spring Show. For much of the morning, starting very, very early, Lyle, Steve Danielson, Bob Fruzen, Rich Ward, and Bill Wright kept tv viewers enraptured by demon-

strating their very considerable woodworking and entertainment skills.

Dale Kozicki and his wife, Beverly, are very modest about their many charitable contributions, but they relented, after lots of cajoling, to having the *News Chronicle* do a story about them. It was published just in time to really help attendance. It also gave recognition to a couple of folks doing some very good work.

Thanks to the Raffle Prize Makers

This year, Guild members contributed more prizes than ever before! We had 56 prizes to raffle off – about a dozen more than ever before. You people are fantastic!

Thanks to All of You

- Who hauled all your stuff to Washington Commons, displayed your talents, answered bunches of questions (Did you make that? How long did it take? What kind of wood? How long have you been doing this?) You were the show!

- Karen and her staff at Washington Commons who helped out so much and so efficiently.

-Who cleaned up the place Friday morning and afternoon; put up signs; helped members unload and set up Friday evening; sold raffle tickets and talked with people; visited, even though you didn't display; invited someone to come to the show; put up posters, and; bought or sold raffle tickets.

- Who helped members pack up and load on Sunday and helped clean up, and who did all that stuff we didn't notice but that helped make the show such a success.

-Who helped deliver prizes Sunday (Jane only had to deliver one prize this year!)

Jane was excited. She says, "Hurrah! If you promise to be so great again next year, I'm willing to be your Show chair again."

OH MY! TIME FOR THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Here it is – time for the annual election of Guild officers. Our constitution says that, every June, we'll hold an annual meeting and, at that

meeting, elect officers for the coming year. Well, June is close at hand, and, like every other year, the whole Board is working as a nominating committee and, like every other year, it's tough sledding.

"We ought to have Bill Dishmaker helping us with getting members to run for office," suggested one Board member. "Why?" asked another. "Because Bill's a dentist and getting Guild members to run for office is like pulling teeth," quipped the first.

Well, to some extent, it is just like that every year. The idea is to bring one or two new folks onto the Board every year; that way, the Board has some continuity, but adds fresh ideas and views, and gives everyone a chance to participate as an officer. It is, however, never easy to find that one or two people.

We know that some folks just simply do not want to hold office, but they do a ton of other stuff for the Guild, including making incredible raffle prizes for the Annual Show, helping with the picnic, making things for less fortunate people, and so on. And, sometimes, folks just have too much on their plate to take on another job. We understand and it isn't a problem.

But, if you can help out, this would be a good year to do it. We're losing some Board members for a variety of reasons and we need help.

Bob Fruzen, our librarian, has done a very fine job, but cannot continue. Steve Carroll, our VP for publicity, has some added work load and has asked to be replaced. Rich Ward, our president, is having some health problems and would like to step down. Terry Keegan has served in various capacities for more than four years and would like to take a break.

We have some folks who will stay on in one or another capacity. Thank goodness, Mark Brienon will stay on as our web master and Fred Juengst, who has been an officer in one capacity or another since Moses was found behind some reeds in a basket, will stay on. We're also grateful to Steve Lockhart who will stay on for another year. Jane Alesch will, bless her heart, continue to chair the Annual Show. Lyle Mar-

tens will take on some job, now that he is recovered from his bout with Leukemia. Who could ask more from him? And, even Dan Alesch, the old geezer who has been editor or president since the last woolly mammoth died in Wisconsin, might be induced to give it another year as editor, particularly because Jane is such a big help with *Benchtalk*.

So, what we need is three more Guild members willing to take on one or another job on the Board. Job assignments are negotiable. Help is available; we usually work as a team. If you can help out, talk with a Board member to say you'll help or to get more information. The proposed slate of officers will go out in the June newsletter, so we'll need to know by the end of May. Jane will be home (468-0132) so call her to volunteer and keep the Guild alive!

SPECIAL TOYS FOR SPECIAL TOTS

Dale Kozicki is taking the lead on a Guild Project called Special Toys for Special Tots. The idea is to create wooden items for kids who are hospitalized with serious illnesses that put them in the hospital often and keep them there for some time, and have the kids paint the items while they are in the hospital. It provides a diversion and an outlet. Local high school kids are required to do community service, and some of them will be helping Guild members by scroll sawing pieces, woodburning borders, and doing other things to keep the project rolling. Dale can provide wood and contacts with students who want to help. Give him a call or talk with him at the next meeting to see how you can help out.

THE OLDE CARVER'S NOTES

by the Olde Carver

The carvers will meet at Dan and Jane's Studio A the following dates: May 25, June 1, June 9 (a Thursday) and, then, probably not until July 13. (*Those for whom a month away from Group will be a strain should seek medication in advance.*)

The Olde Carver is pleased to note that no blood has been drawn among the carvers for quite some time. Rumor has it that some kind of award may be in the offing from a group concerned with tool safety and there is some talk that the urgent care center at the local hospital has built up a surplus of suture materials; they keep getting it in and it isn't being used. Well, someone is bound to get overconfident soon . . .

The Olde Carver notes, too, that the deserts being brought to Group are continually improving, despite the fact that no one really thought they could get any better than they had been. Blessed be the dessert makers, for theirs is truly a wonderful calling.

If you think you might like to join the group, call Jane at 468-0132 and tell her you are interested. It might be the beginning of something grand.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS REPORT

By Fred Juengst

Lots of memberships are due in May because so many join the Guild during the Spring Show. Your mailing label is highlighted in PINK. Please send in your dues or bring payment to the May Meeting

We also have a large number of memberships due in April as well. Please pay your dues today and continue to be an active member of the Guild.

A special thanks to the members who renewed their memberships due March. We have no one overdue by a month. I think that's the first time for this in the two years I have been your membership chairman.

We will need a new membership chairperson for the next two years. Please give me a call if you would like to explore this position on the Guild Board.

Members who are overdue by at least three months in renewing their membership received a postcard attached to this *Bench Talk*. This will be your last *Bench Talk* unless you pay your dues promptly. If you do not wish to con-

tinue 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 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. If you do not mark the postcard, we will be able to reuse it.

Reach me at 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, 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.

AN UNEXPECTED HONOR

by Dan Alesch

Jane went to the last Board meeting without me; I was up to my ears in some stuff and just could not get away. When she got home, she told me that the Board, responding to a request by one or more persistent members, voted to make us Life Members of the Guild for services rendered over the years.

Well, I was stunned. Thought she was kidding. But she wasn't. Frankly, neither of us ever expected or even thought about anything like that; we're really just happy to be a part of the Guild.

In any event, we feel greatly honored and humbled at the same time. Many thanks to those who had a part in making this happen. It means a lot to both of us – more than we can say.

FYI

by Dan Alesch

- Steve Danielson, a new member who owns Bay Hardwoods in De Pere, has an interesting opportunity for Guild members. He has a few maple butcher block tops that are 1 ½ inches thick and 27 inches wide. The eight foot ones are

\$125 and the ten foot ones are \$175 These would make great tops for work benches. Give him a call.

- The 2005 Midwest Scroll Saw Trade Show is Saturday, August 6, in Richland Center at the High School on U.S.14 just west of town. For more info: 608 647-2591 or clhacker@mhtc.net.

- Member Milton Schmit wants you to know that a big show is coming up in Darboy this June. It will be held Saturday, June 25 at the Darboy USA Community Park. More than 3,000 visitors give woodworkers a great opportunity to sell their products. Booth space costs only \$20 for our members (a very serious discount!) Call Milton at 920-993-9664 or send him an e-mail at mcmaschmit@aol.com. Thanks, Milt.

- There is a person who is interested in having someone build him a medium-sized roll top desk. His name is Paul Schmidt. His phone is 920-721-4657. He would like it made from cherry or hickory, similar to, but smaller than, the one shown in *Woodsmith*, Issue 103. He wants it to be 36" wide by 24" deep; the one in the article is 42" wide. If anyone needs a copy of that article, I will be happy to copy it and mail it or fax it to them, but I do not have a scanner to send it via email. Frank Stilp (You can reach Frank by phone in Neenah.)

- FOR SALE. Jane and I have a couple of first class items for sale. First, we have an extremely comfortable grey leather sofa in excellent condition. It's almost 8 feet long and fits well in either a traditional or modern decor. We'll consider any decent offer. We love it, but we're making some decorating changes.

Second, Jane wants to sell her loom. It is a very good eight harness loom and is in excellent condition. If brand new, it would go for well over \$2500. If you know a weaver who might be interested in a serious loom for serious weavers, let her know. 468-0132

- My 11-year old grand-daughter, Amanda, asked me which bird was the most common in

the world. I pondered and guessed for a long time before she had to tell me it was the chicken.

- The folks at Woodcraft have come up with a "Club Night" concept. The idea is that members of the Guild and the Turners club would be invited to a special discount night, (Thursday May 26th, from 6 to 9 pm.) For May's upcoming meeting, Woodcraft would prepare a special discount coupon for distribution to members attending. Members would bring the coupon to Woodcraft on "Club Night" and enjoy a 15% discount on all merchandise except, of course, power tools. They would presumably serve refreshments to make the evening extra special.

I told Jeff at Woodcraft that it sounded like a great idea, so it is likely that he or someone else from Woodcraft will be at the May meeting to make a brief announcement and to hand out the discount coupons. Yet another benefit of membership.

2005 Raffle Prize Donors, Prizes and Winners

Last year we had an unprecedented 44 raffle items. There is no adjective for this year! 56

I wish to thank each and every member who pitched in. Every contribution, big and small, made this, I believe, our "best show ever." We did not beat the earnings of the last two years, but returned to high normal. The weather was a little too nice and the show a little too late. Let me know any other suggestions you have...the sooner the better...I'll take notes..and save them. If you or your friends did not win the item you wanted, remember, many of these items are for sale. Contact your fellow member and remember to shop and thank our sponsors. THANK YOU...JANE

Below, I've listed the donor, the item, and the lucky winner for each prize.

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|---|---|---|
| <p>Bill Wright Rustic Cedar Love Seat Brian Jordan, De Pere</p> | <p>Bob Fruzen "Wisconsin Cheese" Box Eugene Ninedorf, Chilton</p> | <p>Rich Valenta Carved Santa with Present Milton Schmit</p> |
| <p>Tom Carlson Rosemaled Three-legged Norwegian Chair Pat Pozarski</p> | <p>Bruce Kornely Scroll Sawn Scenic Saw Linda Suroweic</p> | <p>Fred Juengst Chip carved clock John Nowak</p> |
| <p>Tom Carlson Bird House Ornament Al Atkinson</p> | <p>DuWayne and Carolyn Radtke Marble Game F. Pietsch, Denmark</p> | <p>Fred Juengst Carved Swedish Hiker Jean Ferrier, GB</p> |
| <p>Tom Carlson One spalted maple bottle stopper w/stand-turned Bill Wright</p> | <p>Lyle Martens Bent Lamination Trout Net Brian Everson</p> | <p>Linda Surowiec Scrolled Locomotive Picture Mary Kasbohm</p> |
| <p>Tom Carlson Two spalted maple bottle stoppers w/stand-turned Marilyn Brienen</p> | <p>Dan and Jane Alesch Carved "Ho Ho Ho" Elf Dick Doughty, New London</p> | <p>Rich Valenta Carved Loving Bunny Dagmar Kammer, GB</p> |
| <p>Milton Schmitt Maple /Black Walnut Bowl A. Bartel, Chilton</p> | <p>Robere' Decker Gnome Woodcarving Allen Nienow, GB</p> | <p>Trudy & Joe Ferrier Scrolled Music Box Brazilian Cherry Frank Stilp</p> |
| <p>Jim Bergsbaken Chickadee Intarsia Jame Behnke, Brillion</p> | <p>Dan Hemminger Carved "Golf Ball Guy" Mary Beth Perry, GB</p> | <p>Dale Kozicki Cherry Lazy Susan Necklace Holder Steve Witcraft</p> |
| <p>Bruce Carlson Bethlehem Olive Fountain Pen Phyllis Decker</p> | <p>Rich Valenta Snowman Soldier Steve Van Fossen, Aplton</p> | <p>Steve Danielson Purple Heart and Yellow Heart Bowl Mark Hills, Manitowoc</p> |

Woodworkers Depot
Makita Six Pac
Ed Desotell

Woodworkers Depot
Dremel Rotary Kit
Anne Scholz

Woodcraft of Appleton
Porter Cable Brad Nailer
Luther Snyder

Ray Hansen
Inside Out Turned Maple Bud
Vase
Ron Beckman

Steve Danielsen
Flame Red Birch Plate
Frank Stilp

Len Yanda
Wine Bottle Holder
Trisha Ullman

Gerry Kronschnabel
"Baseball Sam" Intarsia
Ken Jankowski

Len Yanda
Scrolled Dinosaur Clock
Amy Baumgart

Richard Foley
Large Etched Mirror with
Rosette Inlayed Corners
J. Baslar, Cowling Bay

Richard Foley
Multi-Pot Plant Stand
Marilyn Brien

Joe Martin
Scrolled Christmas
Ornaments

Lyle Kronberg, Neenah

John Nowak
Turned Bowl
Dave Wigman

Don Carlson
Green/White Corian Candle
Holder Set
Bill Dishmaker

Don Carlson
Brown/White Corian Candle
Holder Set
Bill Martin, Whitelaw

Jim Bergsbaken
Snowman Intarsia
Phil Smedema, GB

Pat Pozarski
Box, Mahogany inside
Makore Veneer
Terry Keegan

Woodworkers Depot
Diamondback Bike
Dick Tepp, Oneida

Woodcraft of Appleton
Goodie Bag
M. Bourm

Frank Stilp
Blue Shaker Box
Luke Le Sage, GB

Joe Kalies
Cutting Board
Joe King

Carver's Group
Friendship Cane
Steve Renish, Nekosa

Dick Foley
Packer/Wisconsin Spinner
Sara Zohlke

Earl Beyer
2 Stools w/turned Spindle
Jamie Verser, Casco
AND
Linda Suroweic

Earl Beyer
Unfinished Stool
Peter Sorensen, De Pere

Earl Beyer
Quilt Rack
Tyler Buchholz, Bonduel

Earl Beyer
Doll Cradle
Michelle Parezick, GB

Mark Brien
Turned Walnut Bowl
D. Balza, Oconto Falls

Aaron Gesicki
Simple Turned Bowl
Karen Decker

Clif Allen
Cherry Bowl
Laverne Keegan

Darrell DeLain
Coopered Bucket
Tiggs, Cecil

Jules Clausing
Oak Wall Shelf
Don Berken

Larry Wohlwend
Butterfly Shelf
Rich Valenta

Thanks to everyone!