Does Building Custom Furniture Mean Building Exquisite and Expensive Furniture?

Well, until yesterday, I thought so. I had a call from a man who asked me: "Do you build custom furniture?" I told him I did. Then he asked, "How much less would it cost me to have a bedroom set custom built over buying one from a furniture store?" My initial thought was, "are people really this dumb," but I gracefully told him I didn't think he would save any money buying it custom built. I explained to him the costs involved in making custom built furniture, the quality of the material used, and that the main reasons people buy custom built furniture are because they can't find furniture that meets their needs functionally and aesthetically. I never even considered the possibility that some people may have a need for furniture that's less expensive than what they can buy at a furniture store.

Now this isn't the first time I've been asked this question, which seems so ridiculous. But it is the first time I thought maybe there is a market for inexpensive custom furniture. So I contemplated what it might be. I took the idea right down to the most minimalistic approach. I thought of the old college dorm concrete block, particle board shelf bookcase. Sure, it's not aesthetic in any way, but it is functional and it is furniture. But would anyone actually pay me to make them a bookcase like this? Maybe, if they couldn't make it themselves, or couldn't get a friend to make it for them. And if so, how much would they pay, and could I make a living making super cheap furniture, and would I want to? Well, I quickly answered those questions with not much, no, and no way! But the thought had now entered my mind, maybe this calls for an increased focus on meeting a customer's financial needs, as well as their functional and aesthetic needs.

I've always considered price to be the greatest stumbling block for any customer. When's the last time someone told you "make it for me, price is no object." I've also realized that once you get past the price issue, you're pretty much assured you'll be doing the job. So for the past few years, when I get a call for a custom built piece, I ask the customer what their budget is first, before we ever talk about the specifics of the piece they want built. This gives me a quick feeling for if the customer is even in the ball park. If I feel they aren't being realistic, I'd tell them so, and pretty much end it there. But now I have to wonder, maybe I shouldn't be so quick to disregard those seemingly unrealistic customers. Maybe, instead I should think about what I could make for them that fits into their budgets as well.

If you don't know this about me already, for the last three years I've been working to develop a market for my Sculler® Trolling Paddle, a one hand paddle for fishing from a canoe. I've talked to many people about how I should approach the market, and what price the paddle should retail for. Although these may seem like easy questions, they have never the less caused me a great deal of anxiety. What I've realized is, there is some market for every product no matter what reasonable price it sells for. Successfully marketed products retail at a price that gives the manufacturer the greatest return. Products priced too low tend to have the stigma of "low perceived value," meaning the consumer doesn't buy it because they think it must be poorly made. Products priced too high lose buyers because consumers don't want to pay what they feel is too much for the product. So prices tend to fall in a range that captures that greatest market share for the product, and the greatest revenues. Sure, no matter what retail price is set for a product, there will be some resistance, it's just a matter of minimizing the resistance.

So what's all this mean to us woodworkers? Exactly what I've been trying to teach myself, I can build custom furniture to also meet the financial needs of a customer, within reason. I can work a little harder to convince a customer that they should consider paying just a bit more, to get superior furniture than what they could buy mass produced. At least I hope this is true, and if the customer's satisfied, I know it is. And I shouldn't be so quick to shrug off those potential customers that I feel have unrealistic expectations. Maybe I can do a better job maximizing my market for custom built furniture.

Bruce Kieffer

Northern Woods

Issue 36  Newsletter of the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild  Spring 1994
Well, my first test of randomly asking two members to write something for the newsletter failed. Neither John Drigot, or Gay Molm responded in any way to my request. I still wonder if the members actually are reading the newsletter? I hope so, so I’ll try again. Here are two more members I’ve randomly picked to make a contribution to the next newsletter:

**Malcolm Chatfield**  
**John Perzinski**

You can call me if you have any questions, just remember the deadline is May 20.

I have some ideas to jazz up the look of the newsletter, and need some help. I’m looking for a member who has artistic abilities for drawing line art. My thought is to do a series of tree limb and leaf drawings depicting the four seasons. Each issue of the newsletter would have different front page art that changed during the course of the year. Budding leaves for spring, full and lush leaves for summer, dying and falling leaves for fall, and no leaves for winter. I’d like the tree limb to appear at the top of the front page, and leaves, grass, or snow on the bottom. I think it would look cool, and add a lot to the newsletter. If you have other ideas, I’d like to hear them too. If you can help, please give me a call.

I hope you’re all thinking about this year’s Northern Woods show. The plan is to have it at Southdale again, and at about the same time in late October. Now’s the time to be making your piece. Remember not to get too caught up in the quest for an award. Although awards are nice to win, only a few do win them. It’s more important that we as a group have a strong showing of the work we do. Also, the pieces you show don’t have to be ones that you’ve spent thousands of hours making, they should be representative of the work you do. I’ve got a feeling that this year’s show will surpass last year’s, and that seems hard to imagine!

**Bruce Kieffer, Newsletter Editor**

You are one of nearly 240 Guild members reported Doug Perlick, our treasurer, as of mid-February, 1994. Membership increased after the Northern Woods show in October, and Doug often signs up new members at monthly meetings. This is very encouraging, since as The Guild grows it will be able to offer members more services.

What services do Guild members need? This question is asked frequently during Guild Board meetings and we try to suggest services which are both generally useful, and will fit within our modest budget. For example, the wood buy has been popular in the past, and you will see in this issue another chance to participate in getting fine woods for reasonable prices. The greater amount The Guild can buy, the more potential we have to negotiate the lowest price from the supplier. Of course this example is a service targeted more toward the non-professional woodworker, but the board is also interested in suggestions for services which could help the members who do woodworking as a business.

Occasionally members of the board are contacted for help in finding information for members’ benefit. We have had requests to locate sources of marketing assistance, and also whether there are any apprentice or other similar training opportunities in the area. I mention these specific requests only as examples of one service Guild members may want to develop namely, should The Guild be an information resource to its members?

Comments would help guide the direction the board takes when deciding what The Guild should be in the future. Board members will be happy to listen to discussion at monthly meetings, or send suggestions to the Guild address published in Northern Woods.

Planning for the 1994 Northern Woods show has begun. It takes an immense amount of work to make the show a reality, and the people who volunteer for the planning committee are a key to the success of the show. Two essential ingredients comprise the show, planning and exhibitors. Think of the pride you could take in the show if you had helped make it a success!

This last minute addition to my notes was prompted by the encouraging attendance at the Winter Party held on February 19. More than 40 members and guests attended the party this year for the best turnout in the four or so years I have been a Guild member. This year’s “create and display” project was to create an item no longer than one foot in any dimension made primarily of wood that had at least one movable or removable component. The winning object was a wood plane of persimmon and rosewood by Doug Perlick. Everyone at the party was encouraged to vote for the “best” object. Voting this year took quite a long time which I interpret as meaning picking the winner was not so easy. My thanks to all who participated. More participation makes this more fun.

**Richard Lagerstrom, President**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Phone 1</th>
<th>Phone 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Almquist</td>
<td>554 - 37th Ave. N.E.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>(612) 781-4637</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Graber</td>
<td>12855 Foliage Ave.</td>
<td>Apple Valley, MN</td>
<td>(612) 432-7540</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Hoffoss</td>
<td>7961 4TH Ave.</td>
<td>Lino Lakes, MN</td>
<td>(612) 783-8940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartley Huber</td>
<td>11100 West River Rd.</td>
<td>Champlin, MN</td>
<td>(612) 422-8958</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay H. Ingebritgsen</td>
<td>5811 W. Moore Lake Dr.</td>
<td>Fridley, MN</td>
<td>(612) 571-3326</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Johnston</td>
<td>900 North Shore Dr. W.</td>
<td>Orono, MN</td>
<td>(612) 472-8007</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Kleven</td>
<td>5835 Zenith Ave. N.</td>
<td>Brooklyn Center, MN</td>
<td>(612) 561-3495</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curt Larson</td>
<td>241 Mississippi Drive</td>
<td>Monticello, MN</td>
<td>(612) 295-8034</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Larson</td>
<td>786 Como Ave.</td>
<td>Saint Paul, MN</td>
<td>(612) 488-5382</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Nuckles</td>
<td>4116 Chowen Ave. S.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>(612) 929-8309</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Oelschlaeger</td>
<td>5100 Aldrich Ave. So.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>(612) 824-1181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James E. Randall</td>
<td>38 - 106th Ave. N.W.</td>
<td>Coon Rapids, MN</td>
<td>(612) 755-7353</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Sannerud</td>
<td>544 Madison St. #22</td>
<td>Anoka, MN</td>
<td>(612) 323-0455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Sappenfield</td>
<td>2527 Heaner Terrace</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>(612) 374-4769</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale Smiley</td>
<td>2730 Pheasant Road</td>
<td>Excelsior, MN</td>
<td>(612) 471-0498</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James D. Swenson</td>
<td>6233 Darcy Lane</td>
<td>Edina, MN</td>
<td>(612) 920-7203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Tracy</td>
<td>250 Rice Creek Terrace</td>
<td>Fridley, MN</td>
<td>(612) 571-3374</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Vondriska</td>
<td>Woodworking Unlimited Academy</td>
<td>Roseville, MN</td>
<td>(715) 386-3183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Wattenhofer</td>
<td>Design Wright</td>
<td>Fridley, MN</td>
<td>(612) 572-1045</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This directory is a supplement to one that was distributed in the winter quarter 1994 newsletter.

Every member should check their listing and any corrections should be brought to Bruce Kieffer's attention at 1406 Grand Ave., Suite 3 Paul MN 55105-2213
The second session of Working at the Bench is off and running and meeting with the same rave reviews as the first session. An advanced class is scheduled for fall for graduates of the first series. See previous newsletters (December and June) for a complete description and reviews or call Rick Berland for details or questions (925-9392).

There are two potential series per year for Working at the Bench. One series can run on Sundays during the winter and early spring with another on Thursday nights during the late spring and summer. A series of classes will be scheduled when enough members register.

Please complete the questionnaire indicating your interests and return to:

Rick Berland
2745 Natchez
St. Louis Park, 55416

Name:________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________
City:________________________State:________Zip Code:________
Day Phone #:________________Evening Phone #:________

Check which of the following sessions you're interested in:

☐ Winter Session
☐ Summer Session

Please check the minimum class size you would participate in. Please notice that fees increase for smaller classes.

☐ Eight ($125)
☐ Six ($150)
☐ Five ($180)
☐ Four ($225)
Northern Hardwood Lumber Purchase Planned

Because prior purchases have been so well received, our guild plans to make another group lumber purchase from Northern Hardwood of Cannon Falls. All lumber is FAS/SEL grade and rough sawn. You will be able to select from the species listed below on the order form below. The minimum order is 25 BF per species on 4/4 and 50 BF on 8/4.

We must receive your order and check by Saturday, April 30, 1994. Lumber will be delivered on Saturday, June 25, 1994. If you need a quote on a species not listed, please call Dave Boulay at (612) 866-8834.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Minimum Order</th>
<th>Order BF</th>
<th>Cost BF</th>
<th>Sub total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Ash</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Red Oak</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4 Red Oak</td>
<td>50 BF</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Hard Maple</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4 Hard Maple</td>
<td>50 BF</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Cherry</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4 Cherry</td>
<td>50 BF</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Walnut</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4 Walnut</td>
<td>50 BF</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Butternut</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4 Red Elm</td>
<td>25 BF</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return By: Saturday, April 30, 1994

Name ___________________________________________ Total ______

Address ________________________________________ Sales tax ______

Phone _________________________________________ (065)

Signature ________________________________________ Grand Total ______

THIS IS A FIRM ORDER.

Make check out to Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.
Mail to: Dave Boulay
6316 Grand Ave. S.
Richfield, MN 55423
Harlan Peterson #2. August 17, 1993

Harlan presented an interesting continuation of his November 11, 1992 presentation (See Issues 33 and 34). In addition to an informative presentation, we enjoyed a tour of the labs and kilns used to study wood properties.

Resources and help are available to woodworkers from the University and many other sources. The forest products department sponsors an information line staffed by graduate students, (612) 624-7712. Harlan is available at (612) 624-3407. You may contact him to subscribe to a free newsletter, Minnesota Forest Products Bulletin. There is also a forest products library at the University which is open during normal business hours. The USDA Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) in Madison, Wisconsin has many technical manuals available; single copies are generally free. Bruce Hoadley’s book, Understanding Wood, was again highly recommended.

Wood movement as it applies to panel construction was discussed. Material came largely from the book Delamination of Edge Glued Wood Panels, which is available from FPL.

While finishes vary in their moisture barrier effectiveness, it is not wise to change your shrinkage calculations very much for finished wood. A reference in this area is The Moisture Excluding Effectiveness of Finishes on Wood Surfaces, FPL #462.

A reference on glue and other adhesives by Brian Rivers was mentioned; sorry, I didn’t get the details.

Tom Caspar mentioned his observation that the propensity for shrinkage/swelling seems to damp down over time; also the tendency is toward shrinkage. While there don’t seem to be definitive studies of this phenomenon, Harlan theorized that space for water is lost to hydroxide bonds between cellulose molecules. Practically, allow enough protrusion of your panel into its frame to prevent gaps from opening many years hence.

This meeting was an interesting chance to think about wood properties and how to cope with them.

Machine Assisted Hand Cut Dovetails by Tom Caspar, September 21, 1993

Tom again showed his woodworking skill and organized teaching style with an excellent presentation. See issue 31 for a profile of Tom and notes from his previous Guild meeting.

Tom demonstrated a jig he developed for band sawn dovetails. He believes jigs should be as simple as possible to make and use; avoid complexity and time consumption as much as possible. Tom’s jig consists of a table with a miter slot runner and a fence on the right edge, various spacers, and two wedges which can be used singly to cut the tails or opposing to make fine adjustments for cutting the pins. Tom’s wedges are 1/6 (10°). To make the wedges, measure 6 inches along a straight edge and 1 inch down. Draw that line and tack a board with parallel sides along it. Run that board along your rip fence to make the wedges.

In this demonstration, Tom cut the through pins first. The wedges are used to set the table angles, assure a match with the pin angle. Cut purposely outside your lines for a short distance and use the opposing wedges to make fine adjustments up to the cut line.

Trace the pins on the tail board and use a cutting gauge to make the base line. Use the appropriate wedge and spacers; again cut outside your line and fine adjust to the cut line by sliding the wedge.

Lastly, pare into the knife line with a sharp chisel to make a shoulder and chop out the waste from both sides. Leaving the end of the waste at full thickness and angling into your chopping will help prevent tear out in the joint.

To cut half-blind pins, either hand saw well past the base line, or use a router to remove most of the waste before chopping. A micro adjustable fence is very handy for the router method; it prevents going beyond the base line while free handing the waste. Tom invented one which uses opposing wedges and a scale for easy precision setting. One wedge has a kerf which is pinched on a tongue on the opposing wedge.

Restoring Wooden Boats by Ray Ellis, November 16, 1993

Ray Ellis, a commercial roofing contractor, has an obvious passion for restoring historic wooden boats. He presented a fascinating, well attended meeting. Those with further interest can contact Ray regarding membership in his club and/or a show coming up next spring.

Boat restorers need many skills including rebuilding the motor, restoring the fuel tank, rewiring, hardware restoration, and woodworking. Ray got started in his hobby by taking a boat in partial payment for a bad debt. He began his presentation by sharing his “love of wood.” Surprisingly, Ray believes that a wooden boat in good condition is as easy to maintain as a fiberglass one.

Needless to say, a boat builder needs to cope with even more wood movement than most of us. The craft employs both modern and traditional materials. Modern epoxies and vinyl upholstery are used together with traditional materials such as white oak and Honduras mahogany. Ray takes great care to maintain the original shape of the craft. Wherever he can, he repairs the original materials; when that’s not possible, he painstakingly shapes new material to the original form. Hand joinery is featured as Ray works to join pieces featuring odd curved shapes. Many loving hours go into each boat. We saw a fully restored 1939 Chris Craft which may have 1500 hours of work in it. A Century, his current work in progress already has one winter season plus two additional months of work done; Ray hopes to finish it by next summer’s boating season. Another Chris Craft has more than 15 hand brushed coats of varnish in a quest for the perfect finish.

Ray’s skill as a woodworker and “love of wood” are clear in the beautiful boats he has completed as well as in the meticulous workmanship going on in his current projects. It was a great meeting!

Rick Berland

Want Ads

Want Ads (40 word maximum) are free to members and $5.00 per ad to non-members. To place a want ad, write or phone; Bruce Kieffer, 1406 Grand Ave. #3, St. Paul, MN 55105-2213, (612) 642-9615.

For Sale:
Black & Decker professional model belt sander, best offer. Call Jim Boles @ (612) 894-6776.

Wanted:
Disk sander, 12" diameter or larger. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.

Wanted:
Drill press, non-radial w/foot pedal and quick adjust depth stop. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.
April 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN; 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy. 280 on University Ave.

BRUSH-ON FINISHES: Tom Caspar will demonstrate brush-on shellac and varnish finishes: preparation, application, rub out and clean-up.

May 21, Saturday, 11:00 AM
Location: Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN; 870-3140. The Institute is just west of I 35W between Lake St. and Franklin Ave.

PERIOD FURNITURE: The Institute will give us a tour of their period furniture. This is a great opportunity to see and learn about beautiful old furniture.

June 21, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chanhassen, MN; 443-2460. The Arboretum is on Hwy. 5 ten miles west of I 494 and just west of Hwy. 41.

NAKASHIMA FURNITURE AND PICNIC: John Nesset will discuss the George Nakashima style of furniture and show us pieces at the Arboretum. Come as early as you care for a walk through the Arboretum grounds and a pot-luck picnic beginning at 6:30 PM. Please bring the following food for six people based upon the first letter of your last name:

A - H hot dish  I - L salad  M - Z dessert

The Guild will provide soft drinks, paper plates and napkins. Please bring your own silverware.

COST - This is a great opportunity to visit the Arboretum grounds and see an excellent display of Nakashima furniture. The cost is $4 per adult, and $1 per child between the ages of 6 and 16.
January 18, Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Location: Woodworking Unlimited, 1151 West Larpenteur Ave., Roseville, MN; 488-4177. The store is one block west of Lexington Ave. on Larpenteur Ave. (between I 94 and Hwy 36 and also between downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul).

**JOINT MEETING WITH THE WOODTURNERS GUILD:** Don Wattenhofer will demonstrate turning wood for furniture parts.

February 19, Saturday, 6:30 PM
Location: Jax Cafe, 1928 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN.

**WINTER PARTY:** Join us for a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 19, Saturday, 9:30 AM
Location: Woodcraft, 9741 Lyndale Ave. South, Bloomington, MN; 884-3634. The store is south of I 494 on Lyndale Ave.

**WOOD CARVING:** Charlie Eilers will discuss and demonstrate wood carving techniques.
New Membership Coupon

Annual membership dues are $25.00
Make checks payable to:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City  State  Zip code

Home Phone  Business Phone

Return To:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 120675
New Brighton, MN  55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you’re working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called “No Woods” that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
New Membership Coupon
Annual membership dues are $25.00
Make checks payable to:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City State Zip code

Home Phone Business Phone

Return To:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 120675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you’re working on frequently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called “Northern Woods” that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
January 18, Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Location: Woodworking Unlimited, 1151 West Larpenteur Ave., Roseville, MN; 488-4177. The store is one block west of Lexington Ave. on Larpenteur Ave. (between I 94 and Hwy 36 and also between downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul).

JOINT MEETING WITH THE WOODTURNERS GUILD: Don Wattenhofer will demonstrate turning wood for furniture parts.

February 19, Saturday, 6:30 PM
Location: Jax Cafe, 1928 University Ave., Minneapolis, MN.

WINTER PARTY: Join us for a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 19, Saturday, 9:30 AM
Location: Woodcraft, 9741 Lyndale Ave. South, Bloomington, MN; 884-3634. The store is south of I 494 on Lyndale Ave.

WOOD CARVING: Charlie Eilers will discuss and demonstrate wood carving techniques.
April 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN; 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy. 280 on University Ave.

BRUSH-ON FINISHES: Tom Caspar will demonstrate brush-on shellac and varnish finishes: preparation, application, rub out and clean-up.

May 21, Saturday, 11:00 AM
Location: Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN; 870-3140. The Institute is just west of I-35W between Lake St. and Franklin Ave.

PERIOD FURNITURE: The Institute will give us a tour of their period furniture. This is a great opportunity to see and learn about beautiful old furniture.

June 21, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chanhassen, MN; 443-2460. The Arboretum is on Hwy. 5 ten miles west of I 494 and just west of Hwy. 41.

NAKASHIMA FURNITURE AND PICNIC: John Nesset will discuss the George Nakashima style of furniture and show us pieces at the Arboretum. Come as early as you care for a walk through the Arboretum grounds and a pot-luck picnic beginning at 6:30 PM. Please bring the following food for six people based upon the first letter of your last name:

A - H/hot dish I - L/salad M - Z/dessert
The Guild will provide soft drinks, paper plates and napkins. Please bring your own silverware.

COST - This is a great opportunity to visit the Arboretum grounds and see an excellent display of Nakashima furniture. The cost is $4 per adult, and $1 per child between the ages of 6 and 16.
New Membership Coupon

Annual membership dues are $25.00
Make checks payable to:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City     State     Zip code

Home Phone     Business Phone

Return To:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 120675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you're working currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called "Northern Woods" that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
New Membership Coupon
Annual membership dues are $25.00
Make checks payable to:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City State Zip code

Home Phone Business Phone

Return To:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 120675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you're working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called "Northern Woods" that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
April 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN; 378-2605.
The shop is located west of Hwy. 280 on University Ave.

BRUSH-ON FINISHES: Tom Caspar will demonstrate brush-on shellac and varnish finishes: preparation, application, rub out and clean-up.

May 21, Saturday, 11:00 AM
Location: Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN; 870-3140. The Institute is just west of I 35W between Lake St. and Franklin Ave.

PERIOD FURNITURE: The Institute will give us a tour of their period furniture. This is a great opportunity to see and learn about beautiful old furniture.

June 21, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chanhassen, MN; 443-2460. The Arboretum is on Hwy. 5 ten miles west of I 494 and just west of Hwy. 41.

NAKASHIMA FURNITURE AND PICNIC: John Nesset will discuss the George Nakashima style of furniture and show us pieces at the Arboretum. Come as early as you care for a walk through the Arboretum grounds and a pot-luck picnic beginning at 6:30 PM. Please bring the following food for six people based upon the first letter of your last name:
A - H/hot dish I - L/salad M - Z/dessert
The Guild will provide soft drinks, paper plates and napkins. Please bring your own silverware.

COST - This is a great opportunity to visit the Arboretum grounds and see an excellent display of Nakashima furniture. The cost is $4 per adult, and $1 per child between the ages of 6 and 16.
Charlie presented a fascinating meeting. He was an excellent instructor and packed his presentation with useful information in a way that gave me confidence to try the techniques. I was impressed with the way he taught us to carve with very few tools. An $800 set of tools may make carving faster, but you can get started with a very basic set: 1 straight knife, 1 V-tool, 2 gouges, and one each straight and angled skew.

Charlie is a self-taught carver. He became fascinated with a carved pillar plant stand, which he saw as a young child, and began experimenting with carving at about age 8. He finds that many furniture makers are becoming anxious to decorate with carvings to find new challenges and differentiate their work.

Many woods are suitable for carving. Basswood and butternut are reasonably priced and quite suitable for beginners. Basswood is white with little grain and cuts cleanly. Butternut will stain to appear walnut. Walnut itself shows each cut clearly (including your mistakes!) and cuts very cleanly with sharp tools. Fir, by contrast, is very difficult due to the marked contrast in hardness between winter and summer wood.

Carving tools must be very sharp. Sharp tools and fine final cuts can eliminate tedious sanding. Charlie recommends having the tools professionally sharpened about once every five years. He hones his own tools regularly. Using a light touch and his knuckles as a guide, he drags the cutting edge across the stone.

Control and safety are important to carving. Charlie has not cut himself for many years. He recommends holding the tool loosely in the finger tips in a choked-up position. He keeps his arms comfortably at his sides or on the bench with his fingers out of the way. Knuckles and/or thumb are kept on the wood to control movement. The hand holding the tool steers and provides control while the thumb of the other hand pushes; thus the length of the cut is limited and good control is maintained.

For relief carving, start with a simple pattern showing the general shape, but without the fine detail you'll add later. Use colored numbers to indicate the final depth of each section. First stop cut around the main object and either create a frame or fade the background into the rest of the work. Waste large areas with a router or drill press. Next stop cut the deepest level and work your way up the levels. Last create interesting details.

Stop cutting can be done by holding the straight knife like a pencil and making repeated cuts until achieving the desired depth, then beveling into the cut line. The bevel and the stop cut should meet in a sharp point. You can also use a V-tool turned so one side is vertical or slightly undercuts.

One safety tip common to our craft: when you become tired, QUIT RIGHT NOW! Another handy tip: a gouge of the correct profile, turned upside down, creates excellent roundovers.

Charlie teaches carving classes at Woodcraft. He has a class at the end of May; this newsletter will arrive too late for that one. Watch the Woodcraft newsletter for announcements.

If you are a member who is missing our meetings, I believe your missing a lot! Since joining the guild, I haven’t missed many. Often I haven’t expected to enjoy some of the meetings (In fact this was one of those.), and I’ve always been pleasantly surprised. I’ve truly enjoyed and learned something at every one.

Rick Berland
Hear ye, hear ye! As will be harped at you in the rest of this newsletter I am asking you to participate in the upcoming Northern Woods show slated for October 20 - 23rd at Southdale mall. This request is not to build furniture and what-nots, but to volunteer to work the show.

The Northern Woods committee needs people to volunteer for parts of the show. These parts are Photography (moving pieces from the show site to a make shift studio and assisting the photographer), Set up/ tear down (helping unload and load pieces to the show site and arranging pieces) and, New Membership/Guild representative Booth (we’ve realized that the show is a fertile hotbed of new members so this year we will have a very obvious booth where prospective members may ask questions and purchase memberships. A guild representative and volunteers are needed).

So you don’t want to volunteer? How about showing off your skills by performing a demonstration? Can anyone show a sample of their turning, carving, planning, dovetailing, marquetry, sharpening, etc. to the crowds?

Although the show committee is committed to keeping the high quality and magical awe of the show, we want to add to the excitement with some new features. This will only happen if you help us out. Please contact anyone at the Northern Woods Show Headquarters, Fourth Street Guild 2625 4th St. S.E. Mpls., MN 54144, phone 378-2605, or show up at the next show meeting — August 17th, 7:00 pm Praca on Main Restaurant. Do I hear yea or nay?

Willis Bowman

Want Ads

Want Ads (40 word maximum) are free to members and $5.00 per ad to non-members. To place a want ad, write or phone: Bruce Kieffer, 1406 Grand Ave. #3, St. Paul, MN 55105-2213, (612) 642-9615.

For Sale:
Portalign Precision Drill Guide, $15. Call Rick Berland @ (612) 925-9392.

For Sale:
Porter Cable model 6931 plunge base and micro adjustable edge guide, $75. Call Rick Berland @ (612) 925-9392.

For Free:
Woodcraft triangular burnisher. Call Rick Berland @ (612) 925-9392.

Wanted:
Disk sander, 12" diameter or larger. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.

Wanted:
Drill press, non-radial with foot pedal and quick adjust depth stop. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.

Dave Boulay organized the recent wood buy and reports that Guild members ordered 2430 board feet of various species of wood. The wood buys have been increasingly successful and we intend to continue them as a service to Guild members. As always, suggestions and comments are invited.

Of course the Northern Woods Show is the largest event associated with the Guild and Willis Bowman, as the Guild Board member directly involved with the show’s organization, is constantly involved with the work that goes into making the show a success. A well organized event seems effortless and natural, but the amount of time spent by the volunteers on the show committees to make it happen that way is much greater than one would believe. More information on this year’s show appears elsewhere in Northern Woods and again I ask you to consider placing a piece in the show. Northern Woods is a unique opportunity to show off your skills to the community. There are many reasons why this is important to you personally and The Guild as well:

Even though you may not expect or want to sell your work, watching and listening to exhibit viewers and fellow entrants can be a great source of inspiration and satisfaction. And comparing other designs and techniques to your own, and talking with other workers can improve and broaden your skills. Woodworking is often a solitary endeavor but new inspirations can sometimes create exciting results. Perhaps you can give that crucial element to another worker and so enhance the craft.

Misconceptions abound as to the capabilities and economics of the individual worker or small business doing woodworking. The general public has almost no contact with anything other than mass marketed goods. I believe giving this opportunity to the public to see what is available has an overall benefit to individual workers and increases general awareness of possibilities beyond the warehouses full of identical products most people encounter.

Expanding on this, read and consider again the article “Does Building Custom Furniture Mean Building Exquisite and Expensive Furniture?” by Bruce Kieffer in the Spring 94 (Issue 36) of Northern Woods. There is much food for thought relating to how one could go about working with clients to mutual benefit. A client with limited resources but interesting ideas or problems can become a proud owner of a special piece. That client can inspire others to take the same route toward satisfying a special need and perhaps avoid the compromises necessary in dealing with standard offerings.

The Board is working to set up a lending library of woodworking and related materials. The general idea is to have the materials available to pick up and return at the monthly meetings. More information will appear as our plans develop.

At the May board meeting boxes of archived material saved since the beginning of The Guild were examined and discussed. Perhaps it will be possible to gather some of the material into an exhibit of the Guild’s history. Many original members are available for consultation and interviews but being a volunteer organization means resources for developing these ideas are scarce. I will keep you informed on progress as it develops.

Richard Lagerstrom, President
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
Twelfth Annual Northern Woods
Show Rules & Entry Form

Show Dates: October 20th - 23th, 1994
Location: Southdale Mall, Edina, Minnesota

Read, complete, enclose your check, and return by September 24th, 1994.

Show Overview

Dear Fellow Woodworker:

The Minnesota Woodworker's Guild, Davlins, and Southdale Mall will be sponsoring the Twelfth Annual Northern Woods Exhibition October 20st though the 23rd. The show will be held in the center atrium at Southdale.

The deadline for submissions is September 24th. Late entries will be accepted, although they will not be published in the show catalog or be eligible for judging. The entry fee for Guild members remains $25. Members in good standing of other area woodworking associations (e.g. 3M Woodworking Club, Minnesota Woodturners Association, Minnesota Woodcarvers Association) are eligible to participate in this year's show. The entry fee for fiscally participating associations is $25 (the fee for non-fiscally participating associations is $35 - check with your association to determine its participation level). The entry fee entitles the entrant to submit one or two pieces. Additional pieces can be entered at a charge of $10 per piece. Regardless of the number of pieces entered, only two pieces per entrant are eligible for judging.

We will be sending out press release packets to area newspapers, magazines, and journals as well as national arts and crafts publications (e.g. American Craft, Fine Woodworking).

The show catalog will be printed using off-set lithography and high quality paper. Several improvements are planned for this year's brochure. Only professional quality photos will be considered for publication. Although photos are not required, received photos may be published. Photos should be color prints, black and white prints, or slides. We received several favorable comments to some of last year's piece descriptions and biographies. While we do reserve the right to edit, we encourage entrants to lengthen and increase the "human interest factor" in their descriptions and biographies.

Plan now to volunteer some time at the show, especially if you exhibit.
Judging Overview

Again this year all entries will be judged in a pool rather than in separate categories for each form of furniture. The judging categories are designed to reward woodworkers who are good at creating new ideas or interpreting older ones, as well as those woodworkers who are skilled with machines and hand tools. The judges will score how well they like each piece and how well it is made. Judging sheets will be used which summarize the qualities the Guild is looking for in each category. There is also space for constructive written comments. You will receive these sheets, one from each judge, at the end of the show.

There are always some pieces that don't fit well into any category but do deserve some kind of recognition. We will continue this year with the Judge's Award. The Judge's Award may be awarded solely at the judge's discretion, for whatever qualities strike their fancy. They'll make up a name for it, so there may be something of a surprise at the awards ceremony.

We have also added awards this year for Best Carving and Best Turning. These prizes will be awarded if enough people enter in each category.

We've designed the judging categories to encourage you to enter a piece regardless of your status as a woodworker. Don't get hung up worrying about the prizes or the judge's written comments. We would like to present this show as a display of the state of the art of woodworking in Minnesota and a chance for guild members to see what their peers have been up to in the last year. It's more than a competition for prizes. You may decide to enter a piece but not have it judged.

This Year's Categories

Note that all categories are awarded at the judges' discretion. If they do not feel any one piece meets the winning criteria of a category, that category's award will not be given.

Best in Show $200 award
The winner's piece must excel in design and execution.

Peer Award $200 award
This is decided by balloting among all exhibitors. You will be given a chance to vote for your favorite piece (other than your own) and runners up.

Best Design
Whether traditional or modern, this award goes to the most artistic piece, regardless of how well it is built. This is an entirely subjective view by the judges.

Most Technically Accomplished
The piece that shows the best knowledge of craftsmanship and carries it off flawlessly wins this award. Here the judges score by entirely objective criteria.
A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

WORKING AT THE BENCH

by Tom Caspar

During this nine session hands-on class, you will design and build an end table with your choice of cabriole or tapered legs and a drawer. The class will concentrate on use of hand tools but will also include discussion of woodworking machines. There will be homework between classes which may involve machining to prepare for the next session.

**Topics will include:**

1. Designing furniture
2. Sharpening
3. Wood selection and making the top
4. Mortise and tenon joinery
5. Making cabriole or tapered legs
6. Making a drawer, including hand-cut dovetails

Each class is limited to eight students, so there should be ample opportunity for individual help and instruction. Tom has organized the class to include as many as possible of the skills an apprentice would learn. You will need your own tools; Tom will explain each week what should be brought to the next session.

Each series will be first-come, first-served for those who are first to make arrangements to pay their fees and pay in a timely manner. A waiting list will be kept for scheduling future classes. It is possible that a week may be skipped during a series of sessions to permit students to get their homework done.

Please contact Rick Berland at 925-9392 with questions or to register for the class.

---

**Working at the Bench Sign Up Sheet**

There are two potential series per year for *Working at the Bench*. One series can run on Sundays during the winter and early spring with another on Thursday nights during the late spring and summer. A series of classes will be scheduled when enough members register. Please complete the questionnaire indicating your interests and return to Rick Berland, 2745 Natchez, St. Louis Park, 55416.

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________
City, State, Zip: __________________________________
Day Phone: ____________________________
Evening Phone: ____________________________

Please check the session and the minimum class size you would participate in. Please notice that fees increase for smaller classes.

- Winter Session
- Summer Session

- Eight ($112.50)
- Six ($150.)
- Five ($180.)
- Four ($225.)
Northern Woods Exhibition 1994
Entry Form

Entrant's Name ____________________________________________
Business Address __________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________
Phone Number (H) __________________________________________ (W) __________________________________________

You must be a Guild member in good standing or a member in good standing of another recognized area woodworking association to enter the exhibition. Include $25 annual membership dues if you are a new Guild member, and any past dues if a current Guild member. The entry fee for Guild and fiscally participating association members is $25. The fee for non-fiscally participating association members is $35. There is also a $10 surcharge for additional piece if you enter more than two.

Please provide the following information for each piece on a separate piece of paper:

1. Piece description (state dimensions as depth X length X height), materials, price (optional). Include "human interest" description (e.g. piece history, why did you build it, what does it symbolize, etc.).

2. Biographical information.

3. Hand tool usage (optional) - see rule 10e.

4. Piece contributors - see rule 10f.

5. Is piece to be judged: ☐ Yes ☐ No

I have read the rules of entry and agree to the terms and conditions as stated:

Signed ____________________________ Date ____________

Return this form with your entry fee, and any dues you owe to:
Northern Woods Exhibition '94
2625 S.E. 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55414

please make checks payable to Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
Northern Woods Exhibition Rules for Entry

1. Entries are limited to objects made primarily of wood.
2. Each entrant may submit any number of pieces, but only two pieces are eligible for judging.
3. Previously judged pieces are not eligible for entry. Previously shown but not judged pieces can be entered and optionally judged.
4. The show committee reserves the right to reject a piece they deem unacceptable for any reason.
5. All pieces must remain on the floor for the duration of the show.
6. All pieces must be displayed on attractive white or black pedestals. Pedestals must have leg levelers. Small items may be displayed in entrant or Guild provided display cases. Please contact the show committee if you would like space in a Guild display case.
7. Advertising is limited to portfolios, business cards, and Guild sponsored publications. All advertising must remain next to the entrant's piece(s).
8. Although the Guild and Southdale will have people monitoring the show at all times, neither is responsible for damage to, or loss of, pieces on display.
9. Pieces submitted after September 24th are not eligible for judging nor inclusion in the show brochure.
10. Items required at time of entry:
   a. *Piece Description* - A description of the piece which will be published in the show brochure. Description should include dimensions, materials, and selling price if applicable.
   b. *Biographical Data* - Biography of entrant. Biographies will be published in the brochure.
   c. *Color Prints, Black and White Prints or Slides (optional)* - If received by September 24th, may be printed in brochure. If received early, may be included in press releases.
   d. *Entry Fee* - Fee is totally refundable if piece is deemed unacceptable for any reason.
   e. *Hand Tool Usage (optional)* - If piece is to be judged for hand tool use, a paragraph explaining the hand tool use is required.
   f. *Piece Contributors* - Entrant must state if any other individuals contributed directly to the piece (e.g. designers, finishers, etc.). Pieces constructed with second party contributors are welcomed, however, they will not be judged on the corresponding characteristics. (e.g. If piece was finished by a second party it is not eligible for the Best Finish Award, unless of course the piece is co-entered by both parties.)
   g. *Pieces to be Judged (optional)* - Indicate if you want the piece to be judged.
Most Daring
Once in awhile somebody comes up with a crazy idea that pushes the limits of material, design, or joinery. Whether offbeat, whimsical, or ambitious in scope, this idea deserves an award whether it worked or not. The award honors imagination.

Best Handwork
Skill in the use of hand tools deserves recognition. If you used hand tools to build your piece, include a paragraph in your entry form describing what you did. This will be passed on to the judges. Examples of good workmanship include carving, turning, dovetailed drawers, hand planed surfaces, and cabriole legs.

Best Finish
Whether it brings out the natural beauty of wood or alters its texture and color, a good finish is essential to every great piece. This award honors a skill that has often been overlooked.

Judges' Award
Judges have the option of awarding this prize to a piece that deserves recognition, but doesn't fit into one of the other categories.

Woodworking for Pleasure
This prize is awarded to the best piece exhibited by a person for whom woodworking is an avocation.

Best Turning
This prize is awarded to the best piece made primarily on a lathe. This award will only be given if there are at least five turning entrants.

Best Carving
This prize is awarded to the piece with the best design and execution of carving. This award will only be given if there are at least five carving entrants.

The People's Choice
Determined by balloting by the general public, this award recognizes the crowd's favorite piece in the show.
Judging Guidelines

Criteria
These award guidelines indicate what qualities the Guild values.

Best Design
A well-designed piece of furniture must be both useful and pleasing to the eye. Will it perform its intended job? Good design is in large part a subjective opinion. It's difficult to define what good design should look like, but we can agree on how it should affect a thoughtful critic. It invites a second, more intimate look, and asks to be touched by the hand and spirit.

Most Technically Accomplished
This is an objective assessment. The best work will exhibit a mastery of many woodworking techniques. It will respect the limitations of working in wood. Qualities to look for include flawless treatment of surfaces, precise joinery, and carefully controlled detail. The award will take into account the difficulty of the undertaking.

Most Daring
This is an award for the imagination. The winner should offer bold and innovative ideas. The design of a daring piece may not be totally satisfying, nor the technical ability of its builder be of the highest order. Daring work pushes the limits of material, design, and joinery. The judges will decide which entries to consider for this award. These selected pieces will receive a ranking as either interesting or daring.

Best Handwork
The use of hand tools is a long and rich tradition in woodworking. Successful handwork should not be judged by machine standards. It produces surfaces and shapes that are more varied and personal, free from the limitations machines impose.

Best Finish
A good finish may enhance the natural beauty of wood or alter its texture and color. Depth, luster, and clarity are characteristics of a good finish.

Judges' Award
Sometimes a piece worthy of recognition doesn't fall into any of the award categories. It may have something special about it that is hard to define. The judges may choose, at their own discretion, to name their own category. They may also use this award for recognizing a piece that ran a very close second to one of the other winners.

Woodworking for Pleasure
This prize is awarded to the best piece exhibited by a person for whom woodworking is an avocation.

Best Turning
This award honors the tradition of turning. This winning piece will exhibit quality of form as well as execution.

Best Carving
This prize is awarded to the piece with the best use and execution of carving. It is differentiated from the Best Handwork award in that the carving is the essence of the piece, not just an element.

Best of Show
The winning piece should exhibit the best qualities of most of the categories above.
Elvig Designs Shop Tour by Dave Elvig  
December 14, 1993

Dave, a former guild member, started Elvig Designs in the back of his garage in 1982. It has grown to a 45 employee shop utilizing 35,000 square feet, which specializes in design/build furniture and cabinets.

Elvig always participates in the design process. They have a resource center with material samples, including a large variety of woods and veneers. They find the center helpful in educating potential clients. Highly detailed shop drawings are very helpful in their business. They use and automated cabinet design program, Cabinet Vision, which downloads directly to their CNC equipment. Elvig has also developed some prototype designs, such as a proprietary motorized entertainment center.

Dave believes that the industry needs to automate to remain competitive. For example, European shops are highly automated. Elvig Designs has a diverse set of high quality, automated machines.

One of the tips we received on our tour: Elvig does lots of veneering on MDF board. They believe it’s necessary to use a backing veneer of the same characteristics as the face veneer for stability.

Elvig Designs specializes in high quality finishing. In their shop, the cost of finishing can equal the cost of the unfinished piece. Their process usually includes stain, two coats of polyester, and three or four coats of water-white lacquer.

Hand Brushed Finishes  
by Tom Caspar & Tim Johnson  
April 19, 1994

Do you think you can’t get a good finish without spray equipment? Well think again! You can get excellent, complex finishes with good quality brushes and traditional materials. Although it would be very difficult and time consuming to achieve a high gloss mirror finish, excellent matte finishes are quite achievable; and you’re not restricted to the many rub on products now available. Tom presented a small portion of the hands-on skills taught in the advanced series of Working at the Bench.

Perhaps the most important component of successful finishing is a willingness to experiment with various possibilities. Wood gets wonderful colors and characteristics over time; every species, indeed each piece of wood and project style deserves different finishing techniques. These attributes develop in layers and you must use layers of various materials to try to create them quickly. Take large samples of the wood in your project and try things. Start with a transparent ground coat such as linseed oil, wood bleach, or water dyes. Follow with a sealer such as a wash coat of shellac or a glue size (Sometimes this sealer coat must precede even the ground coat to prevent blotchiness.). A glaze can add another interesting layer.

Traditional varnish makes a durable, hard, attractive top coat.

Tom and Tim presented an information packed evening. I’ll try to summarize just a few of their tips.

- Raise your pieces and use good low angled light.
- Thoroughly remove dust with a vacuum or a tack cloth.
- Sand between coats with 220 or 240 paper folded in thirds. If you don’t get a fine white powder, let the finish dry more thoroughly before sanding. Don’t sand edges, moldings, or turnings until after the final coat as you are very likely to sand right through. A shoe brush can be used between coats on these if needed.

Use an expensive (e.g. $20) brush and clean it well. It will deliver superior results and last a long time. Large brushes (2.5-3 inches) are best. Your finest varnish brush should be a combination of China bristle and animal hair. Clean first with the solvent of your material; next use hot water with dish detergent for varnish or household ammonia for shellac. Rinse thoroughly with hot water. Spin dry, comb, and store in the original shaping box. Save your used solvents and reuse them as the sediments settle to the bottom.

Varnishes with heavy flating agents and oil-varnish mixtures are too soft for wear surfaces.

- Strain your varnish before use. Paint filters and paper containers are cheaply available at paint stores.
- Get the first varnish coat on as quickly and heavily as possible without running. Brush it out with light evening strokes. Don’t over brush. Quit before it starts curing (about 10 minutes in average conditions). Therefore, divide very large surfaces into smaller strips. The second coat is a lighter one. Two is usually adequate.

Do the end grain first. Work from near the top or near the end and spread back in opposite direction to help prevent sag lines where you start. Make sure you have complete coverage with a low, raking light source. On panels, lightly do the edges; use cross strokes to apply, starting near the top and working down; next even with full strokes from the bottom and back from the top.

Although some of his finishing theories are very different from Tom’s, Bob Flexner’s Understanding Wood Finishing is the best reference of any written to date.

Following are some recipes you can try. Tom encourages experimentation with proportions and materials. Use distilled water and glass containers. Especially avoid metal.

- Shellac wash coat: 1 part 3# cut shellac to 1 part denatured alcohol.
- Glue size: 1 glue to 3 water.
- Rubbing goo (rub hard with steel wool, 0000 for more gloss): 1 petroleum jelly, 1 mineral oil, 1/2 abrasive (rottenstone for higher gloss or pumice for satin), 1/2 liquid dish detergent.

This meeting was full of interesting and useful information. These notes can’t be complete. If you’re missing the meetings, you’re missing a lot!

Rick Berland

PS
July 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Location: Kuempel Chime Clock Works, 21195 Minnetonka Blvd., Excelsior, MN; 474-6177. Take I 494 to Hwy 7, go west five miles to Christmas Lake Road, turn right, then immediately turn left and go four blocks to Minnetonka Blvd., turn left and go one and one half miles.

TOUR: Enjoy a very interesting tour of a company that makes Grandfather clock kits.

August 16 Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Location: Youngblood Lumber Co., 1335 Central Ave., Minneapolis, MN; 789-3521. The office is north of downtown Minneapolis on Central Ave. one block north of Broadway. Follow the meeting signs once you’re in their yards.

TOUR: Employees will discuss wood identification and grading, and will give a tour of their yards.

September 20, Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Location: Woodcraft Supply Store, 9741 Lyndale Ave. S., Bloomington, MN; 884-3634. The store is south of I 494 on Lyndale Ave.

WINDSOR CHAIRS: Jon Stumbras will discuss the process to make Windsor chairs.

October 20th thru 23rd

Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
Post Office Box 102675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

Guild Meetings

July 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Kuempel Chime Clock Works, 21195 Minnetonka Blvd., Excelsior, MN: 474-6177. Take I 494 to Hwy 7, go west five miles to Christmas Lake Road, turn right, then immediately turn left and go four blocks to Minnetonka Blvd., turn left and go one and one half miles.

TOUR: Enjoy a very interesting tour of a company that makes Grandfather clock kits.

August 16 Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Youngblood Lumber Co., 1335 Central Ave., Minneapolis, MN: 789-3521. The office is north of downtown Minneapolis on Central Ave. one block north of Broadway. Follow the meeting signs once you're in their yards.

TOUR: Employees will discuss wood identification and grading, and will give a tour of their yards.

September 20, Tuesday, 7:30 PM

WINDSOR CHAIRS: Jon Stumbras will discuss the process to make Windsor chairs.

October 20th thru 23rd
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall
What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about various subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, maybe just discuss projects you're working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called "Northern Woods" that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
**July 19, Tuesday, 7:30 PM**
Location: Kuempel Chime Clock Works, 21195 Minnetonka Blvd., Excelsior, MN: 474-6177. Take I 494 to Hwy 7, go west five miles to Christmas Lake Road, turn right, then immediately turn left and go four blocks to Minnetonka Blvd., turn left and go one and one half miles.

**TOUR:** Enjoy a very interesting tour of a company that makes Grandfather clock kits.

---

**August 16 Tuesday, 7:30 PM**
Location: Youngblood Lumber Co., 1335 Central Ave., Minneapolis, MN: 789-3521. The office is north of downtown Minneapolis on Central Ave. one block north of Broadway. Follow the meeting signs once you're in their yards.

**TOUR:** Employees will discuss wood identification and grading, and will give a tour of their yards.

---

**September 20, Tuesday, 7:30 PM**

**WINDSOR CHAIRS:** Jon Stumbras will discuss the process to make Windsor chairs.

---

**October 20th thru 23rd**
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall
New Membership Coupon
Annual membership dues are $25.00
Make checks payable to:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City State Zip code

Home Phone Business Phone

Return To:
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 120675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, maybe just discuss projects you’re working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called “Northern Woods” that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
How to Store Rough or Dimensioned Lumber

How can the quality of rough or dimensioned parts be best maintained? Based on their physical attributes, most domestic woods have limited stability, and therefore, the quality of the product is somewhat perishable. Different species have different degrees of stability.

Distressed wood’s problem spots.

Why does this occur? There are natural stresses and pressures that can occur within wood because of the tree’s physical variations. Trees are round, vertical structures with limbs to be supported and gravity forces to be anchored to it. If you really stop to think about all the different anchors and densities of support that a tree must have to combat the earth’s forces, it is a major miracle that trees stand at all. Also, each and every tree must be unique to meet its own individual terrain and climate. Then we come along and slice through all of these complexities, and instead of round and tall, we make it square and flat, or any other shape we dream of. Yet despite all of this, if wood is properly dried, machined and maintained, it is amazingly stable.

The variables that will affect wood’s stability are humidity, temperature, and air flow.

Preventive measures begin with careful purchases.

Therefore, the best results will occur if two main rules are followed: buy properly manufactured and dried products, and do not expose the product to changes in humidity, temperature, or air velocity.

Source: Dimension Buyers Guide, George E. Carpenter
Hear ye, Hear ye! As will be harped at you in the rest of this newsletter I am asking you to participate in the upcoming Northern Woods show slated for October 20 - 23rd at Southdale mall. This request is not to build furniture and what-nots, but to volunteer to work the show.

The Northern Woods committee needs people to volunteer for parts of the show. These parts are Photography (moving pieces from the show site to a make shift studio and assisting the photographer), Set up/tear down (helping unload and load pieces to the show site and arranging pieces) and, New Membership/Guild representative Booth (we’ve realized that the show is a fertile hotbed of new members so this year we will have a very obvious booth where prospective members may ask questions and purchase memberships. A guild representative and volunteers are needed).

So you don’t want to volunteer? How about showing off your skills by performing a demonstration? Can anyone show a sample of their turning, carving, planning, dovetail cutting, marquetry, sharpening, etc. to the crowds?

Although the show committee is committed to keeping the high quality and magical awe of the show, we want to add to the excitement with some new features. This will only happen if you help us out. Please contact anyone at the Northern Woods Show Headquarters, Fourth Street Guild 2625 4th St. S.E. Mpls., MN 54144, phone 378-2605, or show up at the next show meeting — August 17th, 7:00 pm Pracna on Main Restaurant. Do I hear yea or nay?

Willis Bowman

Want Ads (40 word maximum) are free to members and $5.00 per ad to non-members. To place a want ad, write or phone; Bruce Kieffer, 1406 Grand Ave. #3, St. Paul, MN 55105-2213, (612) 642-9615.

For Sale:
Inca combination 10" jointer and 10" x 6" thickness planer with stand and 2HP Grainger motor, $1200. Call John Sumner @ (612) 471-7855.

For Sale: or Trade:
Craftsman dado set, “Kromedge” steel, barely used. Make offer or trade for turning/carving tools. Call Mel Turcanik @ (507) 634-7570-W, or (507) 634-4986-H.

Wanted:
Disk sander, 12" diameter or larger. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.

Wanted:
Drill press, non-radial with foot pedal and quick adjust depth stop. Call Bruce Kieffer @ (612) 642-9615.

This note is being written in July because of newsletter production deadlines so I can only report that preparations for the Northern Woods show to be held October 20 through 23 are progressing as planned. The Guild board hopes that everyone’s projects are ready for the show and your dream made it to reality intact.

The Guild board thanks those who purchased wood for their patience during the two-week delay Northern Hardwood imposed on delivery. On July 16 and we distributed over $5500.00 worth of Red Oak, Cherry, Walnut, Hard Maple, Butternut, Red Elm, and Ash. The Guild sponsors a group purchase about once a year in the summer and the board welcomes suggestions on the frequency and timing of this activity.

Volunteers make the wood buy possible. I want to thank Dave Boulay for collecting orders and handling the purchase and delivery details, Pat Juettner for his able assistance in this and earlier deliveries in connecting the wood with the buyer, organizing the delivery site, and helping unload and load the wood. Thank you Bruce Kieffer for the use of the loading dock.

Those of us with a large collection of Fine Woodworking magazines often spend much time looking for some remembered article, idea for a jig or something and it always seems to be far removed from where we thought it was. I bought the index of issues 1 through 100 when it first came out even though I thought its price was too high. Time passes and now that index is missing about eight new issues. I have no idea how often Taunton Press will update the index but I’m not interested in buying a new one every so often and dealing with the yearly index is a pain.

About two months ago I discovered an index to FWW issues 1 through 106 on the Internet in rec.woodworking. Bob Wilson of the University of Wisconsin distributed it and I have been using it recently. I have not verified it with the printed index but it is much easier to search for key words and get lists of possibilities than with the paper index. There is no search software, just the data, so you have to come up with search mechanisms on your own. I use the search capability of my ascii text editor and grep, a pattern matching tool from UNIX, that is also available in some MS-DOS tool kits. The index has 2220 entries and is about 121kb long. The format is simple and can be extended to cover more recent issues by just adding new information to the end of the file. The file is available on Internet but I would be willing to make a copy free of charge for any Guild Member who sends or gives me a disk. I can make only MS-DOS, 5.25" or 3.5" copies.

Those who attend Guild meetings know we are an informal group and don’t growl or bite. We are looking for meeting ideas. If you know someone you think could offer an interesting program, let a board member know and we will try to make it happen. (We won’t even mention your name if you ask us not to.) You can also offer your services, too. Don’t be shy, just let us all benefit from your special skill!

Richard Lagerstrom, President
Woodturning will always mesmerize me. I’m fascinated with the results from spinning a chunk of wood in a lathe. Last January 18 when the weather was a sunny 60 below zero, I hesitated going to the meeting. I’m glad that I braved the weather to witness a master at the lathe.

Don Wattenhofer gave the demonstration on how to turn a finial. This was a joint meeting with the Minnesota Woodturners Association. Don is president of the woodturners and started turning in high school. Today, Don earns his living outside of woodworking, but he sells some of his turnings through Davlins. The satisfaction of taking a piece of wood and turning it into something of value is Dons motivation for turning.

To make a Finial (pronounced fin-e-el) start by chucking your wood in the lathe and have it supported with the head stock and tail stock. Because the wood is supported at both ends, chatter will be reduced and the wood will be less likely to fall off the lathe. Using a gouge, bring the wood down to a cylinder. The cylinder’s diameter should be the largest part of your plan.

The next step is to transfer the finial’s dimensions to the wood cylinder. With the wood spinning in the lathe, take a pencil and layout the key points for the different depths. Using a parting tool and a vernier caliper, bring the wood down to the desired depth.

Now it’s time to shape the finial. The best way to accomplish this is to use a shearing cut rather than a scraping cut. With a shearing cut there will be less sanding and a reduced chance of tearout.

I also learned a new technique from Don. Don uses skew chisels with a burr turned on the tip. These are made in a pair, right and left. The advantage of these is that they work like a scraper that is skewed and you don’t have to hold the tool at an awkward angle.

The Minnesota Woodturners Association offers educational meeting to their members. These range from information for beginners to international professional demonstrations. If you would like more information on the Minnesota Woodturners Association, please call Don Wattenhofer at (612) 572-1045 and he will be glad to tell you about upcoming meetings.

W

We were very fortunate to receive a wonderful tour of the museum’s period furniture from Ginny. It was clear that she had prepared her presentation and tour with furniture makers in mind. She was able to show us things which we couldn’t see otherwise, as she could touch the pieces, open drawers, etc. She contributed great knowledge to her tour presentation. Tom Caspar was also a knowledgeable contributor.

This meeting was very fascinating; it’s the kind of experience which can enhance one’s library of design possibilities. Unfortunately, I can’t do it justice in an article; you had to be there!

The evening began with a delicious dinner in a splendid setting with absolutely perfect weather. Thanks to Rita and Dave Boulay and Curt Kurtenbach for the planning!

John gave an outstanding presentation about the furniture of George Nakashima (1905-1992) in the Anderson Library, which has a substantial collection. John shared both a great knowledge of Nakashima’s work and thought provoking opinions. Members added lively discussion and questions.

Nakashima studied architecture at the University of Washington, MIT, and in France. He also studied informally in Japan and was quite influenced by his experiences there.

Nakashima admired the Japanese tradition in which the architect is also the builder. Blue prints were not used. The master builder marked joints. Because Japan is a rain forest, roofs were particularly important. Thirteen hundred year old wooden building remain and are still square and true. Nakashima was interred during World War II in the US. While confined he met a master builder.
and learned fine woodworking techniques.

Nakashima tried to create reasonably priced original furniture. Walnut was a favored material. He was very successful in his Pennsylvania shop, using primarily power tools and production techniques. John believes he had an excellent eye and created superior designs with outstanding detail.

John has two primary quarrels with Nakashima. He believes his work is not congruent with the presentation in *Soul of a Tree*, which implies hand work. Basically, his shop was a very good mass production operation. John feels he creates an unrealistic expectation among potential customers by selling mass-produced, lower priced furniture as if it were hand made.

Nakashima implemented the traditions of Japan, Scandinavia, and the Shakers. He used simple designs and used wood grain as decoration. His furniture works; it is sturdy, of correct height and shape, remains flat and stable, etc. The work uses natural materials which are left somewhat unaltered. He often used tapers in two dimensions to lighten appearance.

**Kuempel Clock Works**  
**July 19, 1994**

We were given an interesting presentation with both showroom and shop tours. Kuempel Clock is known for employing “second stream workers,” those who have already retired from a previous career. They were featured in the *Wall Street Journal* for this practice.

They work in walnut, oak, and cherry, selling fully finished clocks, clock kits, clock parts, and plans. While they purchase high quality movements, almost all of the other work is done at their Shorewood location including etching their own clock faces.

A full complement of Guild members particularly enjoyed the shop tour by the long-time Foreman. He has created a number of interesting jigs and techniques and clearly has a real feel for his work. For example, many of his jigs have built in 1/32” slop. Pieces fit new clocks and replace parts for thirty year old heirlooms, while allowing some fine adjustment for each particular situation.
Leigh Jig Makes Top-Notch Dovetailing Tool

One of my favorite woodworking toys (since woodworking is a hobby, I guess all the tools qualify as toys) is my Leigh 24" dovetail jig. It took some time to learn just how to set it, but now that I have the knack of it, it's really quite simple to use.

The Leigh jig allows you to set a variety of dovetail sizes on a particular project. For example, you can set it to make uniform or random dovetails on the same project. I recently completed a card table out of cherry that featured a top with random length dovetailing end-to-end.

For me, one of the joys of woodworking is sharing my work and I've made several friends happy with unique gifts I created using the jig.

Dave Boulay

Making Picture Frame Miter Joints Without Hassle

Recently I had the need to make a dozen picture frames on a close deadline. I've done one or two frames at a time in the past and always had to fiddle with getting the miter joints to fit well. This job had to be done quickly and well so I developed a simple jig for my radial arm saw to get close fitting joints. This jig should also work on a chop saw as long as the frame stock is not too wide.

I set the radial saw arm to 45 degrees right, using the arm detent to get an almost-correct miter angle. Then, using an accurate, large framing square, I clamped a board with a straight edge 90 degrees to the fence at a point where frame stock placed against the back fence would go between the end of the board and the fence, and where the blade would make a 45 degree angle cut in stock placed against the right side of the board perpendicular to the fence. This arrangement compensates for a minor error in the angle of the arm by making a complementary error in the mating joint.

To cut a frame member take a piece of stock and place it perpendicular to the back fence of the saw against the right side of the temporary board fence, and cut the miter. Then clamp a stop block to the back fence, left of the path of the blade, to establish the correct length. Place the stock against the back fence with the just cut end of the stock touching the stop block and cut the other end. Do this for all four frame sides and your joints are done. If your frame is a rectangle, just set the stop block to index the longer side and make a filler block to compensate for the length difference between the sides. When you cut the short sides just place the filler block against the clamped stop block to register them.

This was successful for me, but there is one possible danger. Since the cutoff from the perpendicular fence is not backed up the blade will throw the small cutoff with some force. The pieces always flew backwards and fell behind the saw when I did this, but be prepared for it, and wear a safety face shield.

It is also tricky to fit a hidden spline or some other type of reinforcement in narrow frame stock so I used visible splines of a contrasting wood. I had seen this done attractively on museum frames using maple stock with walnut splines. I thought about how to cut the slot with the equipment I had and decided to use the table saw to cut 1/8 inch slots. To make this fast and easy I just glued up the frames with band clamps without the splines and when the glue dried cut the slots. The frames are strong enough without the splines to work with as long as you are gentle. I made a vertical jig to ride against the fence of the table saw that had two wood pieces at 90 degrees on its face to register and hold the frame with spring clamps perpendicular to the table top with a frame corner riding on the table. Set the fence so the blade cuts the slot in the correct place across the corner of the frame and adjust the blade to cut the desired depth. Clamp the frame to the jig and cut a slot. Rotate the frame to the next corner, clamp it on and make the next slot and so on. If you want two splines in each joint, just adjust the fence and go around the frame again. Glue in the splines and when dry sand or plane off the excess.

Richard Lagerstrom
Jigsaws, Sawdust, and Safety

Keeping all my fingers is something I think about every time I turn on my table saw. Sawing rough cut wood on a table saw can be dangerous to put it mildly. Over the last year, I've been building a workbench out of 8/4 maple. Since my jointer and planner are not big enough to handle these big timbers, I have to saw them up into more manageable sizes before I can machine the wood. Rather than jostle these maple giants through the table saw, I decided to chop them up with my jigsaw.

The jigsaw is a safe, fast way to dimension rough cut wood. You don't have to worry about a kickback. Another advantage is that a jigsaw eliminates that burning smell of twisted wood being pushed through the saw blade (this has set off my smoke detector more than once).

When buying a jigsaw, there are a few key features of importance. The first one is power, power, power. I'm using my jigsaw to rip and crosscut 8/4 maple. You are going to need a lot of power to rip maple this thick. The second key feature you want is a blade guide shaped like the wheel of a train. The benefit of the blade being supported on three sides is that it will cut true and wander less. Another nice feature to look for is a blade guide that oscillates along with a variable speed jigsaw. A blade guide that oscillates will allow you to vary the quality and time it takes to saw the wood. It will also grant the ability to cut other material like metal. I use a Bosch 1581, and I'm happy with the way it preforms.

There are two types of cuts to use for cutting wood; a crosscut and a rip cut. The crosscut is simple; layout the cut with a square and let the saw do the work. A rip cut is harder to lay out. I use a chalk line to get a straight line. This helps to get the most out of your wood as it gives a better edge to run through your jointer. I would not recommend using a fence with your jigsaw unless the board has a straight side.

The quality of your cut is not as clean as a cut from your table saw, but at this stage it won't matter. The bottom line is that even though it may take you a little longer to cut wood this way, the results will be good and they'll be done safely.

Patrick Juettner

Book Review

“Understanding Wood Finishing - How to Select and Apply the Right Finish” by Bob Flexner

In the last issue, Rick Berland reported on the meeting by Tom Caspar and Tim Johnson regarding finishing. What was left out was, at the end of the meeting Tom recommended reading the book by Bob Flexner and I briefly glanced at it. I already have an extensive woodworking library, that I'm not eager to add to since most books, disappointingly, repeat the same legends, myths, and fables along with a lot of rules which don't necessarily apply to what I want to do. What caught my eye about this book was the highlighted areas throughout titled “Myth...Fact.” I bought the book and it has already been worth the price (around $30 with shipping from Rodale Press). Flexner goes beyond the “how to” to explain what's in the can and why you should choose one product over another for various circumstances and why you should do things, and most importantly, why some things just aren't necessary but are the result of habits passed along like old wives tales.

Covered in the book are the reasons for applying a finish, different types of finishes, how to choose between them, preparing the surface, how to strip finishes, how different woods react to different finishes, staining, applying finish products, how to care for finishes once they are applied, and repairing finishes.

Unfortunately, Flexner is only human and passes along a few myths himself. One, involving spray guns, is that droplets are formed by a stream of fluid being broken up by jets of air coming from the "horns" of the gun (close off the “horns” and there is still a mist. See medical literature for research on atomization and nebulization for further quantitative data).

In spite of its few faults, I feel that any woodworker will find much value in this volume. It's logically organized, amply illustrated, and it contains good color photography showing stained wood. Most importantly, Flexner names brands and doesn't keep any secrets. Since it only costs about as much as a gallon of good finish, I can't imagine being without it.

Mel Turcanick
Tips

Here are a few of my favorite tips:

1) Sometimes when using a router it will seem as though it’s hard to push as you’re making a cut. Try applying a little paraffin wax to the router’s base to make it slide easier over the wood surface. Use a candle or a small block of paraffin wax you can buy at a hardware store.

2) I always keep an old worn out 120 grit or finer sanding belt handy for belt sanding a delicate surface. When I need to sand say a solid wood edge that I’ve glued to a piece of plywood so they’re flush to each other, I use the worn out belt. It will take longer to do because the worn out belt will remove much less wood, but you’ll have a lot more control at the same time.

3) I hate a messy shop, especially blobs of dried glue on the floor. I keep a large piece of cardboard handy to set under any gluing operations I do. All the oozed out glue drips out lands on the cardboard, not the floor. When I’m done, I remove the cardboard and my floor is as clean as when I started.

4) I use a belt sander to sand the surfaces of edge glued together boards flat. But I don’t want to sand away any more wood than is necessary. To keep from sanding too much, I make a squiggly pencil line over each joint, then I sand over the joint until the pencil line disappears.

Bruce Kieffer

Editor’s Notes

WOW!, issue #38, the 31st newsletter I’ve produced for the Guild. That’s eight years worth, think about it. I’m proud to say that every one of those 31 issues has been mailed on time to our members. This due partly to my efforts and mostly to the fact that contributors have followed my deadlines. Now I feel it’s time to turn over the newsletter to someone else. So I ask for a volunteer to take over. If you’re interested, call me and we’ll talk about what’s involved. It’s actually pretty easy the way I have it set up.

As you’ve noticed, this is an eight pager, the first one since issue 34. It’s tough to get enough material together to make an eight page newsletter. Doing this one consumed everything I had in the hopper, and then some. I want to thank everyone who has contributed, and once again urge the rest of you to submit something, anything!

Here’s the order of preferred formatting for newsletter submissions:

(3.5” diskettes only, always include a printed hardcopy)

Best - Microsoft Word, Macintosh format.
Good - Any other Macintosh format.
Good - Microsoft Word for Windows.
Fair - DOS text file.
Poor - Typewritten hardcopy.
Bad - Handwritten hardcopy.
Not acceptable - Scribble.
Just being dumb - Carved in stone.

Also, I had a thought that a column called “Past Presidents” might be of interest. I envision it to be an interview format with a standard set of questions asked. I think it would be a great way for Guild members to learn more about the Guild’s history as well as document that history for eternity (or there abouts). Anyone interested?

Bruce Kieffer, Newsletter Editor

A Great Opportunity

Woodworker, a national bimonthly magazine for beginning to intermediate level woodworkers, is seeking entries for ideas for The Idea File. This column includes a diagram, color photo and brief explanatory paragraph of a project to give readers a quick and easy idea they can customize and design on their own. If you have any ideas for this column, Woodworker will pay $50 upon publication. So send your submissions to The Idea File, Woodworker, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45207.
October 20th thru 23rd
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall

November 15, Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Location: Kieffer Custom Furniture, Inc., 2242 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN, 642-9615. Take I 94 to the Cretin/Vandalia Ave exit, go north to University Ave., then left to the next stop light which is Hampden. Park in the lot behind the building and enter the rear door and go to the basement.

SHOP SAFETY: Steve Bethke, Minneapolis Fire Department, and Joe Renchin, technical service representative for Star Finishing Products, Inc., will discuss fire and chemical safety and will answer your questions.

December 13, Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Location: Creative Process, 10550 County Road 81 Suite 202, Maple Grove, MN, 425-4968. Take I 694 west to County Road 81, then north to the Maple II Business Center.

WOOD FINISHING: Tammy Wold will demonstrate the application of lacquer finishes.
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
Post Office Box 102675
New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

Guild Meetings

October 20th thru 23rd
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall

November 15, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Kieffer Custom Furniture, Inc., 2242 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN, 642-9615. Take I 94 to the Cretin/Vandalia Ave exit, go north to University Ave., then left to the next stop light which is Hampden. Park in the lot behind the building and enter the rear door and go to the basement.

SHOP SAFETY: Steve Bethke, Minneapolis Fire Department, and Joe Renchin, technical service representative for Star Finishing Products, Inc., will discuss fire and chemical safety and will answer your questions.

December 13, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Creative Process, 10550 County Road 81 Suite 202, Maple Grove, MN, 425-4968. Take I 694 west to County Road 81, then north to the Maple II Business Center.

WOODFINISHING: Tammy Wold will demonstrate the application of lacquer finishes.
**New Membership Coupon**

Annual membership dues are $25.00

Make checks payable to:

Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name (If any)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Phone</th>
<th>Business Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return To:

Minnesota Woodworkers Guild

P.O. Box 120675

New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

---

**What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?**

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you're working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called "Northern Woods" that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, or profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
October 20th thru 23rd
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall

November 15, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Kieffer Custom Furniture, Inc., 2242 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN, 642-9615. Take I 94 to the Cretin/Vandalia Ave exit, go north to University Ave., then left to the next stop light which is Hampden. Park in the lot behind the building and enter the rear door and go to the basement.

SHOP SAFETY: Steve Bethke, Minneapolis Fire Department, and Joe Renchin, technical service representative for Star Finishing Products, Inc., will discuss fire and chemical safety and will answer your questions.

December 13, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: Creative Process, 10550 County Road 81 Suite 202, Maple Grove, MN, 425-4968. Take I 694 west to County Road 81, then north to the Maple II Business Center.

WOOD FINISHING: Tammy Wold will demonstrate the application of lacquer finishes.
**New Membership Coupon**

Annual membership dues are $25.00

Make checks payable to: Minnesota Woodworkers Guild.

Name

Business Name (If any)

Address

City  State  Zip code

Home Phone  Business Phone

Return To: Minnesota Woodworkers Guild P.O. Box 120675 New Brighton, MN 55112-0022

What is the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild?

We are a group of professional and amateur woodworkers, bound together by three goals: to educate ourselves and the public about woodworking, to meet new friends and talk about woodworking, and to advocate high standards in our craft.

Our monthly meetings teach us about varied subjects. Occasionally we sponsor master classes by nationally known experts, and during the year we have guild social events. Meetings are a chance to socialize, pick up tips from other members, or maybe just discuss projects you’re working on currently. Each fall we sponsor an exhibition called “Northern Woods” that displays the best woodworking that our area has to offer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter with articles of particular interest to Minnesota woodworkers, plus news of meetings and events.

We welcome membership by all woodworkers, regardless of what they build, their level of skill, style of work, their profession. Our goal is to encourage the highest standards in woodworking, while allowing each of our members to grow at their own pace, from whatever level of skill and accomplishment they begin with. Simply put, we want each of our members to become the best woodworker they are capable of, and to enjoy telling their Guild friends about it along the way.

You are welcome to attend a meeting if you want to get to know us, or you can call Richard Lagerstrom (612) 724-4429, or Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 for more information about the Guild. To become a member, fill out the attached form and mail it to us with your $25.00 check, or just bring it to a meeting.
1993 "Northern Woods" Exhibit is Better Than Ever!

Strolling through this year’s Northern Woods show was a sensual feast. Beauty, surprise and inspiration kept taking turns inside me as I became acquainted with the creations gathered at Southdale. When you bring an idea to life, suffer with it in its birth, fret about its development and then finally let it go, it begins to take on a life of its own.

To me, so called ‘objects’ made of wood have personalities. I never knew that before, until one morning during the final phase of building my Queen Anne desk, I spontaneously greeted it with a warm “hello.” It had become itself, and just like a chisel tells you how to use it, my desk began requiring this or that to complete itself.

The personalities at the show were beautifully diverse: Joe Gosnell’s El Pedrigal Buffet was happy and flamboyant; Joel Simon’s Gothic Revival Bed was overwhelming, almost demanding that you walk around it and then timidly touch it; Tom Caspar’s Small French Desk was gentle, graceful and flowing—a warm friend; Caprice Glaser’s Wizard of Oz was so complex—at once kind of scary, then goofy, then serious; Bruce Kieffer’s Cartopper sailboat was excited, seeming to anticipate the future with his friends on a lake or river; Tim Johnson’s Wardrobe was stately, a proper gentleman—both attractive and polished; John Nesset’s Wall Cabinet in Black Walnut and Basswood with Lightning Scar was at once rough, real and beautiful, but graceful too, considering the unusual amount of pain he went through; Stephen Samways’ Armoire/Entertainment Center was elegant and sophisticated, pleased with herself and her beautiful colors; James Tracy’s Thorn Series repelled and attracted, a little dangerous to be around but home for the little people—safely protecting them; and Mel Turcanik’s Struggle with Perfection Chest was grateful just to be alive, teaching us that dumpsters hold untold treasures. And on and on—so many personalities.

The show was wonderful, and marks the beginning of a whole new chapter in the woodworking book of Minnesota. For those in the guild who did not participate, I wonder where you are and what ideas in you are wanting to make themselves exist in three dimensions. I wonder if you can see what’s happening here...this mini-Renaissance. Next year’s personalities will be even more varied and intriguing. From 1988 to 1992 I watched it happen in Boston. Woodworkers, inspired by other woodworkers and artists began to stretch the limits without sacrificing craftsmanship, balance or design. Our craftsmanship as a group is well and improving: witness the Wide Brimmed Hat of Don Wattenhofer; the gorgeous and exquisite English Arts & Crafts Reproduction Chair by Richard Helgeson; the Caspar/Johnson Roubo Desk which is a perfect example of the Renaissance ideal—using existing ideas in new ways with superb craftsmanship; Tony Kubalak’s joyful and playful 1930 Model A Ford and Cab-Over-Engine Truck; Merrimon Hipp’s Fly-tying Cabinet for Layton James—beautifully crafted and what a personality! and of course Jim Borden’s Large Clock and Small Clock, those clock/sculptures are a simple idea gone wild. The sky’s the limit.

If you think I’m talking through my hat, just wait until next year’s show. But wait—don’t. Do this instead: go to the art museum, go to the library and look at furniture books. Pay special attention to those ‘crazy’ little ideas that crop up when you least expect them. There aren’t any rules here other than design carefully and if you can’t find a good way to put something together, for heaven’s sake, go ask someone. Give me a call. Go buy a how-to woodworking book. Find a way to bring into the world that idea that you’ve had for a long time, and enter it in next year’s show.

Paul Lee
The Minnesota Woodworkers Guild annual winter dinner party is scheduled for Saturday evening, February 19, at Jax Cafe on University Avenue in Minneapolis. Guild members will receive personal invitations and reservation response cards in January. Attendees are also encouraged to participate in our traditional "create and display" project. This is an opportunity to exhibit your work in a casual atmosphere. The criteria for this year's project is that the item(s) be no longer than one foot in any single dimension, that it be made primarily of wood, and that it have at least one movable or removable component.

As your new president, let me briefly introduce myself. I have been involved with the Guild for about six years and have been a member of the board for about three of those years. I do not make my living at woodworking, but I do rely on it to offer challenges and rewards that help me keep my perspective in a world that is often stressful and discouraging. My current interests are in casework and furniture of all types after spending a number of years remodeling a house built in 1927.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to Jon Stumbras, the board, and the many volunteers for the fine work they have done. The recent Northern Woods Exhibition is the latest example of their success. I want to thank the many exhibitors as well for organizing an exhibition without them would be pointless. I felt that the quality of the work submitted to the show this year was outstanding and a credit to our Guild and its members.

You may know both major local newspapers previewed the show. This highly visible publicity was certainly responsible, along with its prime location in Southdale Center, for the large numbers of people who visited the exhibition. What you may not know is that the quality and amount of woodworking on display amazed and excited a large number of people and gave them a peek at what sort of work is being done in the basements and shops in this area. The comments I heard were very positive, and I hope our members who make a living from woodworking see additional business because of this show.

With this endorsement from the public please consider seriously a submission next year. We have seen the level of work displayed at the show and it certainly demands high standards of design, skill, and dedication, but I am convinced many more members could offer work to exhibit that also demonstrates the best of these qualities.

Along with deciding to do a piece for the Northern Woods show contact your woodworker friends and encourage them to join the Guild. Tell them about the discounts offered by many local suppliers and how they can save enough money on one purchase to cover the guild membership. There are no disadvantages to Guild membership and many potential benefits!

Bruce Kieffer, our Northern Woods newsletter editor, is perpetually hungry for articles. Nearly everyone who has been doing woodworking for any time at all has a story, tip, or other tale which could benefit or amuse us. You could help avert another nervous breakdown by some member who gets stuck with filling space at the last minute by sharing your stories with us.

The Guild has a meeting almost every month and someone has to come up with a program for each meeting. The board can pick subjects you would enjoy by sending suggestions to the address on this newsletter or by contacting one of the board members. Members with interesting ideas for a presentation could also offer their services to lead a meeting. Remember, the people who do the meeting presentations are just like you and me, woodworkers willing to share their knowledge with other woodworkers.

Richard Lagerstrom, President
Albert R. Abbott  
Star Route 3, Box 267  
Remer, MN 56672  
(612) 378-1342

David Adson  
1072 24th Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
(612) 636-7025

Gerald S. Allen  
7336 Blaisdell Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55423  
(612) 571-1914

James R. Anderson  
Brindledwood Arts & Crafts  
3710 Newton Ave. N.  
Minneapolis, MN 55412  
(612) 378-1342

Kleeve Anderson  
760 Ponderosa Dr.  
Chanhassen, MN 55317  
(612) 824-9346

Roger Anitzberger  
1949 Castle Ave.  
Maplewood, MN 55109  
(612) 777-0932

Steven M. Arnold  
3920 Minnehaha Curve  
Minnetonka, MN 55391  
(612) 695-4831

W. Bruce Arnold  
Arnold Tools  
3301 Barbara Lane  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
(612) 890-7166

Rande Aronson  
3551 Girard Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
(612) 824-9346

Steven Austing  
2219 Fernwood St.  
Roseville, MN 55113  
(612) 636-7025

Richard R. Bahm  
5375 Sunset Lane  
Loretto, MN 55357  
(612) 479-4303

Jacqueline Baker  
Route 2, Box 202  
Isanti, MN 55040  
(612) 444-7403

Jean M. Balfany  
Woodworking Specialties  
5500 France Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55429  
(612) 537-7755

Rick Berland  
2745 Natchez  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
(612) 927-8990

Robert Blomberg  
3695 Denmark Ave. S.  
Eagan, MN 55123  
(612) 454-3878

William Bluhm  
17811 Lake Cove Circle  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
(612) 688-0831

Keith Bogut  
117 12th Ave. N.W.  
New Brighton, MN 55112  
(612) 631-8903

Jim Boles  
4640 139th St. W  
Savage, MN 55377  
(612) 885-0547

Craig Borgmann  
5500 26th Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
(612) 724-0739

David L. Boulay  
6316 Grand Ave. S.  
Richfield, MN 55423  
(612) 866-8834

Willis D. Bowman  
5733 Wentworth Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55419  
(612) 869-0140

Loel Brown  
Hardwood & Furniture Inc  
591 Highorn Drive  
Chanhassen, MN 55317  
(612) 934-6236

Larry Bugbee  
736 Continental Dr.  
New Brighton, MN 55112  
(612) 633-7422

Kenneth J. Burke  
1412 West Co. Rd. E  
St. Paul, MN 55112  
(612) 631-3350

Thomas Burns  
3614 Steele St  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
(612) 930-9483

Mark A. Galabria  
6045 Dallas Lane No.  
Plymouth, MN 55446  
(612) 700-1064

W. Stephen Gandell  
Taylor Creek Woodworking  
W2966 Mitchell Road  
Fau Claire, WI 54701  
(715) 834-4502

Douglas Carey  
16344 - 232nd Ave.  
Big Lake, MN 55309  
(612) 263-7264

Wayne J. Casanova  
3100 Knoll Lane NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
(507) 282-9294

Thomas Caspar  
3420 - 20TH Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 722-3293

Malcolm Chatfield  
4252 Toledo Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55416  
(612) 927-8990

Bruce Church  
4598 Hwy 61  
White Bear, MN 55110  
(612) 426-1102

Ric Connell  
4713 School Road  
Edina, MN 55424  
(612) 920-2959

John Cooney  
15 Manitoba Road  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
(612) 743-7992

Mick Corbett  
21305 Ivarson Ave. N.  
Forest Lake, MN 55025  
(612) 464-8014

John Covington  
1217 S. Washington  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 359-4365

Conrad Dahlin  
1397 Ashland  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 647-9302
Tom David  
14613 Carriage Lane  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
(612) 435-7562

Dave DeHerder  
11540 Albavair Path  
Inver Grove Hghts, MN 55057  
(612) 451-3440

Leslie Desnick  
Metropolitan Picture Framing  
6959 Washington Ave. So.  
Edina, MN 55439  
(612) 377-3218

Wesley A. Dobe  
10000 Kearny Lane  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
(612) 829-0566

Jerry Domquist  
10525 Vessey Rd.  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
(612) 888-4637

Steve Dodsall  
6005 Crescent Drive  
Edina, MN 55436  
(512) 928-9960

Randall Dressen  
23124 Ivywood St.  
St. Francis, MN 55070  
(612) 782-7246

John Drigot  
2089 Juliet Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
(612) 698-5998

Bruce Ebner  
5070 Vine Hill Rd  
Shorewood, MN 55331  
(612) 470-1495

George Efrem  
Woodcarvers  
3056 Excelsior Blvd.  
Minneapolis, MN 55416  
(612) 927-7491

Clifford Erickson  
4820 Coventry Road West  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
(612) 932-9052

Denis Nagan  
Fine Woodworking Company  
3010 22nd Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 721-3480

William C. Flynn  
18202 Minnetonka Blvd.  
Wayzata, MN 55391  
(612) 448-6811

Ellen Foose  
2813 Crater Court  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
(612) 894-3989

Jon Frost  
Frost Cabinets  
261 Richmond St.  
Saint Paul, MN 55102  
(612) 224-3745

Ron Galberth  
Ron’s Custom Woodcraft  
2450 Coon Rapids Blvd.  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433  
(612) 421-6799

Warren E. Gammell  
Warren’s Sharpening Service  
3715 E. Minnehaha Pkwy  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
(612) 722-2029

Roger C. Geis  
520 Dover Street N.E.  
Fridley, MN 55432  
(612) 784-4612

Aaron Gesicki  
R5 Box 293  
Sparta, WI 54656  
(608) 269-7559

Caprice K. Glaser  
761 Stryker St.  
Saint Paul, MN 55107  
(612) 375-9216

Richard Goettl  
14020 White Rock Road  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
(612) 431-7725

Joe Gosnell  
1711 Knot Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
(612) 377-0478

Richard J. Gotz  
415 Wedgewood Lane N.  
Plymouth, MN 55441  
(612) 544-7278

Jeremy Gubbins  
1380 104th Lane N.W.  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433  
(612) 757-5408

Donald Halvorson  
8937 Knollwood Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

John Hanson  
4308 Drew Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55410  
(612) 922-9007

Dan Harms  
Distinct Impressions  
1178 Dayton Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 646-3213

Dwan Hart  
1412 SE 8th Ave.  
Rochester, MN 55904  
(507) 288-5729

Timothy Haviland  
1765 Carroll Ave. #3  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 645-8426

Sherwood Heggen  
13113 Parkwood Drive  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
(612) 432-4345

Richard E. Helgeson  
Box 11321  
Minneapolis, MN 55441  
(612) 521-1674

Patrick Helm  
11615 40TH Ave. No.  
Plymouth, MN 55441  
(612) 559-0903

Jeff Herring  
4716 Nord Drive  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
(612) 888-5835

Jeffrey T. Heyen  
4050 Thrushwood Lane  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
(612) 935-2472

Merrimon Hips, Jr.  
15512 Almond Lane  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
(612) 949-3889

Dean Holzman  
Holzman Wood Designs  
3129 James Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
(612) 824-0697

John Hoppe  
1500 Xenia Ave. No.  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
(612) 544-8431

Dennis Hubly  
4207 Hemlock Lane  
Plymouth, MN 55441  
(612) 550-1477

Christopher Inman  
961 Laurel Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 227-0366

Robert A. Iverson  
5977 Grotto Street  
Shoreview, MN 55126  
(612) 482-9565

Dr. Gary Jacobson  
7775 26TH Ave. S. Suite 190  
Minneapolis, MN 55450  
(612) 892-7100

Robert Jenkins  
829 Fifth Street S.W.  
Rochester, MN 55902  
(507) 281-4475

Craig R. Jentz  
313 W. 49TH St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55409  
(612) 822-4599

Richard Johnson  
18 Ash Ave. E.  
St. Michael, MN 55376

Dale Johnson  
5993 Ambassador Blvd.  
St. Francis, MN 55070  
(612) 753-3160

David P. Johnson  
512 Cedar Street  
Chaska, MN 55318  
(612) 448-4656

Kenneth S. Johnson  
37 Round Lake Trail  
Little Canada, MN 55117  
(612) 482-0366

Robert J. Johnson  
Big Bob’s Boats  
5171 St. Albans St. N.  
St. Paul, MN 55126  
(612) 291-1129

Scott Johnson  
Woodworking Unlimited  
1151 West Larpenteur  
Roseville, MN 55113  
(612) 488-4177

Timothy Johnson  
DBA Complements  
4941 Elliot Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
(612) 378-2605

Thomas Joyce  
2137 Juliet Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
(612) 690-3811

Patrick Juettner  
6004 Kaymar Drive  
Edina, MN 55436  
(612) 933-3451

Joe Kaeder  
6134 49 St. W.  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
(612) 779-7685
The following suppliers offer special discounts to guild members. In order to receive your discount you must prove you are a member in good standing by showing the vendor your membership card. Vendors wishing to be included in this program should contact Willis Bowman, (612) 869-0140.


Fred A. Anderson Paint & Wallpaper in St. Louis Park (612) 927-1800. All sales staff. Discounts from 20% to 50% to Guild members.

Gardner Hardware, (612) 355-3593. Mike. 20% discount on supplies, some hand tools. No discount on power tools. Call for information.

Lake Elmo Hardwood Lumber, (612) 777-8118. Joe Rogers. Discount depends on wood type and quantity, hardwood only. Call Joe for details before placing your order.


Shopsmith, (612) 638-6844. Scott. 10% discount on all tools and supplies.

Tool Crib of Minnesota, (612) 521-7657. Terry. Various discounts on cutters and tools, depending on item and quantity.

Warner Industrial Supply, (612) 378-7500. Dan Shea. 10% discount to Guild members.


Woodcarvers Supply, (612) 927-7491. George. 10% on all items. Additional discount on router bits.

Ken Karpe  
5025 Winsdale Street  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
(612) 529-0493

Patrick Kartes  
Kartes Woodworking  
2519 California St. N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
(612) 788-2107

Robert T. Kendall  
421 - 14th Ave. N.  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
(612) 938-4525

Philip S. Kerber  
8800 Co. Rd. 26 W  
Maple Plain, MN 55359  
(612) 955-1611

Bruce Kieffer  
Kieffer Custom Furniture, Inc.  
1406 Grand Avenue #3  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
(612) 699-0023

David L. Kiehn  
808 2nd St. N.  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
(218) 752-0020

William King  
11990 Morgan Ave. So.  
Hastings, MN 55033  
(612) 437-8976

Bob Kinghorn  
Kinghorn Associates  
22785 Murray Street  
Excelsior, MN 55331

John Klemaseski  
1450 Thomas Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 644-0855

Dale Knudson  
3360 Calver Rd.  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
(612) 521-1183

Roger W. Knudson  
821 Lewis  
Shakopee, MN 55379

Mary Kohane  
2718 Fillmore St. N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
(612) 788-1841

Kevin R. Kolleth  
413 Cedar Ave. S. #8  
Minneapolis, MN 55454  
(612) 673-0278

Ross Krogh  
9285 Jon-View Lane  
Waconia, MN 55387  
(612) 522-3392

J. E. Kronlokken  
10291 Scarborough Rd.  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
(612) 831-8673

Thomas Krumboltz  
The Finished Touch Cabinetry  
226 Main St. Cochrane, WI 54622  
(608) 248-2080

Tony Kuhlak  
5821 Park Ave. South  
Minneapolis, MN 55417  
(612) 861-8813

Ed Kuehnel  
1509 Red Oaks Road  
Prior Lake, MN 55372  
(612) 484-9325

David Kulich  
1606 S Mississippi River Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55116  
(612) 699-3222

R.W. Kurtenbach  
4278 Abbott Ave. So.  
Mpls, MN 55410  
(612) 527-3007

Richard Lagerstrom  
4450 Longfellow Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 724-4429

Michael D. Lang  
6132 Xerxes Ave. S.  
Edina, MN 55410  
(612) 929-3274

Thomas W. Lanzatella  
186 Malcolm Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
(612) 378-2922

Jim Lasser  
1713 Deerwood Drive  
Eagan, MN 55122  
(612) 452-3951

Michael E. Lederle  
6017 Wooddale Avenue South  
Edina, MN 55424  
(612) 929-5373

Paul O. Lee  
2780 Xerxes Ave. S Apt 100A  
Minneapolis, MN 55416  
(612) 926-2714

Jodi Lew  
2328 Priscilla St.  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
(612) 646-4877

Eric A. Lillegard  
9406 West 14th Street  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
(612) 544-0671

David J. Little  
1888 Princeton Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55105

Dave Looney  
125 S.E. Main Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Skip J. Marek  
1520 S.W. Murray Blvd. #26  
Beaveron, OR 97005  
(612) 779-7331

Wayne L. Mariette  
Table Specialties  
3305 N.E. Garfield Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
(612) 789-9403

Hans Mauritzten  
Danish Woodworks  
2303 Kennedy St. N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(612) 450-0279

James May  
Harpsichords & Fine Furniture  
13755 Gates Avenue  
Northfield, MN 55057  
(507) 645-6965

McGlynn Woodworking  
501 - 1st Ave. N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(612) 331-1739

Harold McGregor  
645 Riverwood Dr.  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
(507) 451-4703

Paul Melchior  
1112 - 48 Village Rd.  
Chaska, MN 55318  
(612) 864-5472

Gregg Menning  
1010 S. Water St.  
Northfield, MN 55057  
(507) 645-5127

Don Metzger  
6418 Kyle Ave. N.  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429  
(612) 533-8421

Tom Midtbo  
6 Wishbone Lane  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
(612) 759-4666

Scott Olson  
1000 Whitney Dr.  
Apple Valley, MN 55124  
(612) 431-4360

Wade Parker  
2032 Juliet Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
(612) 690-3377

Douglas B. Perlick  
3974 North Fairview  
Ardmore, PA 19003  
(610) 666-4869

John R. Perzinski  
6 Wishbone Lane  
North Oaks, MN 55127  
(612) 484-5174

Jon Peterson  
1517 N.E. Northern Hghts Dr.  
Rochester, MN 55906  
(507) 288-2643

Ross S. Peterson  
12066 Whittall Ln.  
Rogers, MN 55374  
(612) 529-8733
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eugene Petroska</td>
<td>161 Highland Dr.</td>
<td>(612) 448-3051</td>
<td>Kim Rupprecht</td>
<td>P. O. Box 1208</td>
<td>(507) 356-8444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chaska, MN 55318</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pine Island, MN 55963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(602) 937-8444</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Clark Nepho</td>
<td>8272 Zenith Ave. S.</td>
<td>(612) 831-0014</td>
<td>Stephen Samways</td>
<td>137 - 3rd St. N.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bloomington, MN 55431</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Delano, MN 55328</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 927-3065</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Pitschka</td>
<td>12425 Pioneer Rd.</td>
<td>(612) 935-0660</td>
<td>Tom Schendel</td>
<td>9730 Yalta St.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minnetonka, MN 55343</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Circle Pines, MN 55014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 785-2976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Pocher</td>
<td>240 Grandview, #310</td>
<td></td>
<td>James Seelig</td>
<td>5945 Glenbrook Court S.E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roseville, MN 55113</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rochester, MN 55904</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(507) 289-5918</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph W. Plunkett</td>
<td>10773 Hopkins Circle</td>
<td>(612) 884-2701</td>
<td>Clarence Shannon</td>
<td>4225 Trenton Lane</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bloomington, MN 55420</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plymouth, MN 55441</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 559-5225</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Polacek</td>
<td>2909 Seminary Dr.</td>
<td>(612) 633-9253</td>
<td>David A. Shores</td>
<td>455 Ripley Ave.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Brighton, MN 55112</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maplewood, MN 55117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 774-7357</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Prinsen</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1044</td>
<td>(218) 387-1874</td>
<td>Len J. Siegler</td>
<td>Route #3, Box 23A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Marais, MN 55604</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vermilion, MN 56481</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 859-2040</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oakdale, MN 55128</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55406</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 722-4025</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Rider</td>
<td>M.V. Rider Pipe Organs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Skalko</td>
<td>1267 Minnehaha Ave. W.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6637 Colfax Ave. N.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brooklyn Center, MN 55430</td>
<td>(612) 561-4867</td>
<td>Douglas M. Skoglund</td>
<td>14766 Endicott Way</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Apple Valley, MN 55124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 423-3041</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Roles</td>
<td>1499 Sheldon St.</td>
<td>(612) 644-0396</td>
<td>Douglas Smith</td>
<td>919 W. Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55108</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55419</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 825-5583</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Rorem</td>
<td>8705 Yalta St. N.E.</td>
<td>(612) 780-8959</td>
<td>Steven R. Smith</td>
<td>7440 Kurt St.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Circle Pines, MN 55014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Loretto, MN 55357</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 477-5769</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas K. Rose</td>
<td>16925 13th Avenue North</td>
<td>(612) 473-4816</td>
<td>Robert C. Soderberg</td>
<td>5419 45 1/2 Avenue North</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plymouth, MN 55447</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Robbinsdale, MN 55422</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 537-1963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald J. Ross</td>
<td>7740 139th Court West</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bryan Soth</td>
<td>3235 Emerson Ave. S. #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apple Valley, MN 55124</td>
<td>(612) 432-6853</td>
<td></td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55408</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 825-6340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert A. Rowe</td>
<td>6541 170th St.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hugo, MN 55308</td>
<td>(612) 426-4183</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This directory will be published annually and distributed as a supplement to the winter quarter newsletter.

Any corrections should be brought to Bruce Kieffer's attention at the address listed within.
The first advanced class for *Working at the Bench* graduates was completed this fall. A review and complete description will follow in a future issue. Graduates who wish to arrange an advanced class should let Rick Berland know.

The third group of apprentices is now beginning their *Working at the Bench* training. Please complete the questionnaire in issue 34 to sign up for classes this summer or next winter. See issue 31 for a complete description of the course and issue 33 for a review. Don’t miss this unique opportunity to learn design and traditional hand joinery skills!

I am quite pleased that these classes continue to fill. The guild is providing an opportunity for us to learn skills and gain knowledge which are not readily available to us from any other source. Let’s keep this new tradition going. Let Rick know of any ideas for classes you’d like which are not readily available locally.

**Rick Berland**

**Tom Caspar’s Course**

Of course I speak for only myself when I say that Tom Caspar’s course on the use of hand tools showed me how little I understood even about the use of machines. The night course I took a number of years ago at Hennepin Tech on cabinet making taught me how to preserve life and limb in the use of saws, jointers, planers and other pieces of dangerous equipment. Their limitations came out better when I heard Tom describe how a table top should look and how joints are made by hand.

The finer points of joinery that are necessary for good pieces of furniture became highlighted when he told us how to prepare and use planes, scrapers, chisels, and drills. I was surprised to find how much the hand-planing of boards improves their surface and how much it reduces the need for sanding. Tom also taught us how to decide whether the joint we proposed to use would do the job, or whether, for example, we had short grain in one direction that would make the joint weak. But perhaps the most enlightening part of Tom’s teaching (at least it was for me) was his consideration of the proportions of a piece of furniture and the way the straight lines and curves must be looked at to see if they go well together.

We also learned a little about copying a piece of furniture from nothing more than a photograph. Until then I just followed a plan, or copied an existing piece. I wish to note too, that Tom has a way about him. He is a cheerful guy, that’s very helpful to a dummy like me. Also, when Tom does not know something, he says so, and that’s important in a teacher. Altogether I regard both of Tom’s courses highly, and it seems to me that many could profit from spending time with him.

**Ric Connell**

**Display Stand**

You may have noticed a new structure at this year’s Northern Woods show. Several months ago the MWG board decided that the guild needed to promote itself further than the wood matching box seen annually at local woodworking tool shows. The board offered me the opportunity to design a piece with the stipulations that it be appealing to the eye, encompass many different woodworking techniques, and challenge us as we made it. I decided upon a photo display stand to show off last year’s winners, since most people like to see what is being made locally and what are the current trends.

With lumber bought through the last guild lumber purchase, we did much of the machining and assembling at Rick Berland’s shop. For this, a “ten-gallon” hats-off to him for the generous use of his tools and a splendid supply of root beer.

My design called for four long sweeping curved legs which eventually brought us out of Rick’s basement to Gary Peterson’s (stairbuilder) shop. With Gary’s expertise (and patience with us) we fashioned thin slats for bending, and then we laid out a clamping form.

Though satisfied with executing successful bends and glue-ups, I think we were more “pie-eyed” to use Gary’s behemoth and sometimes antique tools. What a thrill to use a planer that can neatly skim off 1/2 inch of stock, or quickly slice 3 inch stock using Gary’s *gigantic* band saw. A 16/4 thank you to Gary Peterson.

Besides learning new techniques, I personally was able to subside my fears about working on a project with my peers. As you all know well, there are as many ways to approach a problem as there are wood species, and I became squeamish being the owner of the design and facing four or five opinions as how the project should turn out. Well, to my relief, we worked well as a team respecting each other’s opinions. I think our success was attributed to always keeping our options alive and carefully thinking ahead.

Guild members who supplied their expertise and tools are; Rick Berland, Dave Boulay, Willis Bowman, Pat Juettner, Kurt Kurtenbach, Richard Lagerstrom, Doug Perlick, Gary Peterson, and John Stumbras.

Will we do another project like this again? Oh, Heaven yes! (See “Help Build the Guild’s Reference Library” article below)

**Willis Bowman**

**Help Build the Guild’s Reference Library**

At a recent MWG board meeting, an idea was kicked around of establishing a Guild Library. The library would be a resource of books, plans, videos, brochures, catalogs, photos, etc. Our ultimate goal is to have a room chock full of this information open to all guild members. But realistically this may be unobtainable unless we find someone willing to donate a secure space that is accessible during normal waking hours located close to most of the guild.

In our quest of this goal, we’ve decided to build a travelling library box. Stored at a member’s house, this would be brought to each monthly meeting for members to peruse and check out materials for a month and return them the following meeting.

What to fill this box with? We would like use materials donated from the guild members. If you have doubles of books, videos, etc, or just want to slim your own library of dust collecting woodworking literature we would love to have them! As of this writing we don’t have a schedule when we will begin constructing the box but if you would like to participate please contact a board member. Get involved.

**Willis Bowman**
January 18, Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Location: Woodworking Unlimited, 1151 West Larpenteur Ave., Roseville, MN; 488-4177. The store is one block west of Lexington Ave. on Larpenteur Ave. (between I 94 and Hwy 36 and also between downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul).

JOINT MEETING WITH THE WOODTURNERS GUILD: Don Wattenhofer will demonstrate turning wood for furniture parts.

February 19, Saturday, 6:30 PM
Location: Jax Cafe, 1928 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN.

WINTER PARTY: Join us for a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 19, Saturday, 9:30 AM
Location: Woodcraft, 9741 Lyndale Ave. South, Bloomington, MN; 884-3634. The store is south of I 494 on Lyndale Ave.

WOOD CARVING: Charlie Eilers will discuss and demonstrate wood carving techniques.