Show in May anyone?

Recently I was contacted by L & L Exhibition Management and asked if the guild was interested in showing some pieces at an upcoming home improvement and remodeling show at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The show is scheduled for May 19, 20, and 21 and would be set up somewhat like our Northern Woods show.

As of the printing of this announcement we would be the focal point in an area, surrounded by woodworking tool (and associated paraphernalia) vendors. Though the clientele would be a bit different from that at Southdale Mall, the show manager said that the show goers are interested in buying and that we could probably expect crowds of 30 to 50,000 people for the three days.

I think this is a tremendous opportunity for woodworkers who want to start or build their businesses. It is also an event to advertise the guild itself. If you are interested in showing your pieces at this Home Show, please call Willis Bowman (612) 869-0140 by March 31st.

Willis Bowman

Thanks Bruce and Dennis

Bruce Kieffer has contributed to the Guild in many ways since I’ve been a member. He’s frequently let us use his facilities and has conducted several meetings which were of great help to me, and I’m sure many others. I appreciate his active participation.

This note is prompted by Bruce passing the newspaper editorship to Dennis West. Eight years of service is an awesome commitment. Bruce has produced professional and interesting newsletters. Thanks, Bruce.

Thanks also to Dennis West for his willingness to step forward and take on this daunting task.

Rick Berland
Jon Stumbras: Windsor Chairs
September 20, 1994

Jon gave an outstanding, thoughtful, well-prepared meeting. If you’ve ever had the good fortune to sit on one of Jon’s chairs, you know how comfortable they are. Those who attended this meeting also can appreciate the high level of unique skills that go into their design and construction. Jon spends 40 - 50 hours on each of his chairs.

Hand-made Windsor chairs originated in the eighteenth century. Today, they represent a great opportunity to use hand tools. The design is very good. Therefore the chairs are long lasting. In fact, some of the original chairs still exist.

Useful tools for Windsor chairmaking include angle charts and guides (Many complex angles are involved in making these chairs; there is nothing that is straight or square.), a hatchet for riving the stock, a gutter adz for shaping the seat surface, a hand brace or power drill with spoon bits and reamers, gimlets for depth holes, draw knives and spoke shaves for shaping, and a scratch stock for beading. Jon uses power tools when he can to increase efficiency.

Various woods are used on Jon’s chairs. Seats are frequently 8/4 sugar pine. Backs and spindles may be oak, ash, or hickory. The legs are often hard maple. All the wood except the seats is green. Jon paints his chairs both because each one is made from multiple species and to emphasize the chair’s form over the character of the wood.

One of the more difficult tasks on each chair is drilling the holes at their proper complex angles. For example, the legs are commonly splayed at 105 degrees with a rake of 95 - 98 degrees. Jon has made various jigs, but he finds that training his eye is much more effective. He makes a grid pattern on the seat to align the planes. Each hole is started near perpendicular, but is quickly leaned to the proper angles.

Leg and stretcher design are part of the secret of strength and longevity in Windsor chairs. The chair legs are turned. Gauge blocks help size the tapered tenons. These tapered tenons actually cause the joint to become stronger with each seating. The legs are assembled under pressure by making the stretchers intentionally too long. This pressure also helps keep the joints together.

Jon quickly shapes each seat with a skill that obviously comes from a great deal of practice. A large draw knife was used to shape the seat edges in his demonstration. He locks his elbows for safety, hopefully preventing auto-surgery. He is able to take large cuts and quickly rough in the edge form. Spoke shaves and smooth planes finish the edges. Gimlets are used to create final depth holes on the seat surface. Jon then uses a large gutter adz to scoop the seat. The seat slopes to the rear for comfort.

Jon uses only split green logs for the bentwood parts. He buys them at veneer mills, looking for uniform bark without defects. The logs must have straight grain end to end. Pieces for bending are riven from these logs. They are steamed for about 40 minutes. There are only about 40 seconds to finish the bends. They are left on the form 3 or 4 days. This is a particularly unpredictable process. Some of the pieces will inevitably split and become fire wood.

Perhaps you saw two of Jon’s chairs in this year’s Northern Woods show. They were very well done and had very difficult finishes. Seeing how they are made certainly helped me appreciate them more.

Rick Berland

The Guild

President
Pat Juettner
(612) 884-3634
Vice President
Willis Bowman
Treasurer
Douglas Perlick

Members at Large
Rick Berland, David Boulay,
R. W. Kurtenbach, Kim Rupprecht,
Richard Lagerstrom, Richard Gotz

Newsletter Editor
Dennis West (612-377-5985)

Next issue deadline is May 20
A Visit to Danish Woodworks With Hans Mouritzen
January 17, 1995

This meeting was held at Danish Woodworks, 2303 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis MN. The meeting highlighted the stroke sander and veneer press in action.

Veneering

Hans gave the group a very interesting and detailed tour of a veneer press of his own design. The press can handle at least a 4x8 foot panel and works with compressed air. Fire hoses, the canvas covered kind that roll flat, are laid out at the bottom of the press under a platen. The panel to be pressed slides between upper and lower steel platens. A number of cauls must be used to adjust the panel thickness since the press has only about an inch of travel. When the panel is in place compressed air is supplied regulated to 80 psi. Usually a panel remains in the press for an hour and 45 minutes to two hours.

The press is constructed of substantial steel members. A 4x8 foot panel under a pressure of 80 psi has a total pressure of about 368,000 pounds. The press has to be very well constructed to keep from coming apart. Hans did say that the first time he applied full applied pressure he was a bit anxious. A press of this kind eliminates any concern about pressure uniformity and magnitude. It is also very fast compared to screw presses taking only about a minute to apply or release pressure - an advantage when production work is done.

Hans invited questions about veneering from Guild Members. His answer to a question about dealing with badly wrinkled veneers should be instructive to any of us who do veneering.

If the veneer is not too badly wrinkled, water spray may be good enough but in worse cases a mixture of two ounces of glycerine in a quart of water will do the job. The diluted glycerine should be sprayed on both sides of the veneer. Place the veneer under low pressure (some weights should do) overnight. The veneer should be nicely flexible after this treatment. Glue up as soon as possible after removing the weights so the veneer does not dry.

The panels Hans was veneering had a particleboard core with maple edging. One of the members asked whether telegraphing of the edging joint was ever a problem.

A edging strip about 5/16 thick after finishing will help avoid telegraphing. Grain orientation should also be observed to position the grain so the least dimensional change will occur in its thickness as viewed from the edge of the panel.

There was also some discussion about substrate materials. Hans suggested a dense grade of particleboard since in his opinion MDF (Medium Density Fiberboard) is much more dusty to work with.

Stroke Sander

Hans uses the stroke sander for taking off veneer tape and general finishing. The machine has two belts of different grits so coarse and medium work can be done in sequence without moving the panel from the machine. The panel being sanded rides on a carrier that moves perpendicular to the belt. A pad on the back side of the belt can be moved forward and back with a lever so the entire panel is sanded with a coordinated motion. Hans invited guild members to try their hand with the machine. It takes some practice to smoothly coordinate the motion of the pad with one hand and carrier with the other, but the machine does a fast and good job once the panel is under control. This stroke sander is probably about ten or 12 feet long and appears to be made of lots of cast iron so it would be large for a basement shop. Hans said the newest machines are computer controlled so the operator does not need much more skill than the ability to put a panel on the carrier.

This meeting had great attendance and was very interesting and useful. The Guild thanks Hans Mouritzen for his time and his willingness to pass on some of his knowledge and skill to us.

Richard Lagerstrom
Fire Safety: Steve Bethke and Joe Renchin
15 November, 1994

This meeting was held at Kieffer Custom Furniture, the subject was shop fire safety and awareness of the hazards of chemicals used in woodworking.

Fire Safety
Steve Bethke of the Minneapolis Fire Department opened the program by pointing out that people are generally aware of the dangers of fire and the steps needed to prevent it but often just do not pay attention to the potential disastrous consequences of an act. The reason often is that the attitude “it can’t happen to me” rules out a common sense connection of one’s knowledge with one’s behavior.

Look at your shop and think about the sources of fuel and what could ignite that fuel. Are there changes that could be made to better separate these essential components of a fire? The risks need to assessed and decisions made to manage the risks at an acceptable level. Changes both to the physical layout of the shop and work methods are often necessary.

Few people have first-hand experience with a major fire but many have seen these events in movies. Fire in movies seems realistic but usually is not. The needs of the plot always influence the degree of realism such portrayals deliver. Some facts: Fire grows very quickly, probably exponential growth or worse, and just a minute or two can turn a manageable fire into something that cannot be contained by methods at hand. The major dangers which increase dramatically as fire grows are smoke, heat, and toxic gasses. Smoke makes it impossible to see a way out, heat up to 1400 degrees is intolerable, and toxic gasses make the environment within a fire deadly.

The purpose of describing the environment of a fire is to create a realistic background in which to act if a real fire threat occurs. Recommended actions are to first contact the fire department and second apply the fire extinguisher in an attempt to put out the fire or slow its early growth. Steve emphasized to always have your back to the exit when using a fire extinguisher since smoke can quickly make visibility impossible and even the most familiar shop can become a trap in an instant.

The local fire department is a good source for information on fire dangers and prevention methods.

Chemical Safety
Joe Renchin from Star Finishing Products concluded the program with information on safety products and determining the hazards of chemicals using Material Safety Data Sheets.

Safe work habits and protective gear are paramount in protecting ourselves from the hazards of finishing, stripping, and cleaning chemicals. Safety glasses are essential and where splash hazards exist, goggles are needed. Breathing protection involves respirators of various types. The respirator must be selected by knowing what the breathing hazard is. Dust masks work only for dust and particulates in the air. Charcoal filters are effective for vapors and spray residue. Hearing protection is also available in many forms. While hearing protection is not strictly a chemical safety issue, proper hearing protection can make the environment less stressful allowing better concentration on the work being done — not to mention reducing long-term hearing loss.

Material Safety Data Sheets are available for all chemicals used in the workshop and users should get a copy for each product in order to be aware of the actual hazard involved. Manufacturers are required to provide these on request although only to actual purchasers of the product in some cases.

With respect to finishing materials, Steve noted that brushed and hand-applied finishes generally produce less volatile products than sprayed finishes.

A source of supply for safety products is Lab Safety Supply in Janesville, WI. The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) can be contacted for assessment of potential pollution issues without the requester becoming entangled with regulatory bodies.

Both Steve and Joe stressed that applied common sense usually results in reasonably safety. Stress and other factors sometimes make people do things that they know are dangerous and they would not do had they thought the act through.
Guild to Provide Wood Movement Charts to Members

Most of us know wood shrinks and expands as the seasons change. We need to allow for this movement as we fit drawers and doors, fasten table tops, design floating panels, etc. But once you know that you can ignore changes in length and that tangential movement is larger than radial, how do you know how much gap to leave around a panel so the frame doesn't get driven apart and how much overlap to design in the frame pieces so gaps don't develop?

To provide a handy reference for members, the Guild is producing a set of graphs depicting wood movement under average Minnesota conditions for sixteen commonly used species. Further information is also provided in text and pictures. The materials were authored by Tom Caspar with assistance from two other members. Development is nearly done and we hope to have packets available for distribution soon. We anticipate printing the graphs in two colors on heavy card stock and a booklet of text and pictures. You will be able to either use the charts as is or cut them into note cards for easy storage and comparison. You may want to laminate them.

In addition to predicting the movement in any board or panel, you will be able to tell at a glance which woods are the most stable and which the most uniform. We hope you will find them useful.

As soon as the project is finished, you will be able to pick up your copy at Guild meetings and events. If that's not convenient, watch the next newsletter for directions to receive yours by mail.

Rick Berland

EDITOR'S NOTES

I feel somewhat humble taking over the newsletter from Bruce Kieffer. If I can sustain the high editorial standards that he set, I will be very happy. He had a beautiful system set up; it was easy for me to step in.

I'm still learning this software and the newsletter business, so please have patience with me for the first issue or two. I want to thank all those who made my first attempt so enjoyable by submitting the articles in this edition.

I've given a little thought as to the purpose of this newsletter. A few things come to mind:

* Pass along news of activities and events of the Guild and other woodworking organizations.
* Pass along woodworking knowledge, tips, and ideas.
* Introduce readers to other woodworkers, both professional and amateur.
* Provide information about wood and tool sources.

I'd be interested in hearing the reader’s thoughts on the purpose of this newsletter. Some of my favorite articles have been profiles of Minnesota woodworkers. It's always so interesting and inspiring to find out what kind of woodworking others are involved in, how they got to where they are, what methods they use, and what they hope to accomplish.

To help attain these goals we need people willing to write articles. Please let me know if you would be willing to write a profile of another woodworker. Also, please share your favorite woodworking trick or shortcut. I'd prefer all articles on a disc along with a paper copy. However, if you don’t have access to a computer, I’ll take anything that is clearly written or typed. If you need to include a drawing or diagram, I’ll even take a shot at that. Help me continue this newsletter as an enjoyable and useful resource.

Dennis West
Northern Woods
Exhibition 1994
Retrospective - Plans for
1995

The Northern Woods Show committee has begun preparation for the upcoming you-know-what scheduled for October 19-22. A review of previous shows, considered with your feedback from last year indicates that we have made continuous progress towards our goals of making our show an enjoyable experience for both those who participate and those who attend. As usual the meeting resulted in some new ideas that we present for your perusal. Clearly, these are still half-baked and need thoughtful input and discussion. You are thoughtful. You can help us!

Items that could use fine tuning

• Setup night continues to be hectic and time consuming. To reduce the chaos and allow people to leave at a reasonable hour, we propose a “hands off” setup. Participants would drop their pieces off at the show, and all placement would be handled by the setup team.

• To lift the responsibility of running the show from the shoulders of one person, we propose daily show coordinators. These people would be responsible for overseeing the entire day’s activities.

• Judging. Each year the judges appear to have a slant on what they do and don’t “like”. To avoid this problem we are kicking around the idea of having the show self judged by the members of the Guild at large. We would still have guest judges. They would be asked to review pieces and write critiques.

• We could expand the concept of the show as a vehicle to educate the public about fine woodworking by emphasizing the design, quality, and “art” aspects of woodworking. We would like to increase the number and variety of demonstrations. In particular we could have sessions comparing hand made furniture side-by-side to factory made furniture.

• Last year’s sessions where participants discussed their pieces were well attended. We encourage more participation.

• We could expand the show by asking other groups (e.g. carvers, marquetry, etc.) to participate with us.

• Last year’s photo opportunities were very well received. A Guild portfolio of professional photos is very useful in our crusade to get published in magazines. It also builds a library of Guild work that can be displayed to the viewing public, advertisers, and sponsors. As such we want to encourage more people to take advantage of the show photo shoots.

• We need to change the format of the banquet. We feel the current format doesn’t encourage enough socialization.

• We would like to sponsor a VIP night for area architects and designers. This would help focus some of the marketing activities of the professional woodworkers.

Now is the time for you act. We are always looking for people to participate in the show committee. We meet one Wednesday a month at 7:00 PM over (many) beers at Pracna on Main in the St. Anthony complex on Main street. Although we do have a serious agenda, we look forward to the meetings for their camaraderie. Our next meeting is March 15th. Join us!

The Much Fun to be on Show Committee
**For Sale:**
Oldie but goodie Craftsman Shaper with solid cast iron top, reversible 1-HP motor, adjustable half fences, 1/2" arbor with 15 Kromedge bits, $225. Rich Gotz @ 544-7278

**For Sale:**
Sears 18" Scroll Saw, floor model with metal legs, $100.
Rich Gotz @ 544-7278

**For Sale:**
7-1/4" Sears Circular Saw, 2 HP with blade. $25. Rich Gotz @ 544-7278

**Wanted:**
A 1993 Northern Woods Exhibition poster displaying the workbench. Please call Rich Gotz @ 544-7278

**Bench Plane Re-Surfacing:**
I would like Guild members to know that I am interested in re-surfacing their steel bench planes. Planes get worn and some may never have been flat from day one. Prices vary from $10 to $14 depending on size of plane. So if you are interested call Chuck Pitschka - Machinist. 935-0660

**For Sale:**

**For Sale:**
2" Stay-Set Cap Iron. Virtually new. $15.
2" Hock bench plane iron. Back is lapped flat. $25.
Rick Berland. 925-9392.

**For Sale:**

**For Sale:**
Arco Rotary 3-Phase Convertor Model A, convert 220 volt single phase to 220 volt 3-phase power to run any 3-phase motor up to 5 horse power, and a total of various 3-phase motors up to 15 horse power. Includes disconnect switch. $600, call Bruce Kieffer @ 642-9615.
Guild Meetings

MEETING CHANGE

There has been some interest expressed recently in devoting a portion of each meeting to discussing member's current projects and brainstorming problems. To accommodate this interest, the following meetings will begin 15 minutes earlier than shown for those members who wish to participate in these discussions. So bring your projects and questions to the next meeting—and come early.

April 18, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: Woodcraft Supply Store, 9741 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 884-3634. The store is south of I 494 on Lyndale Avenue.

MAINTENANCE OF STATIONARY POWER EQUIPMENT: George Vondriska will demonstrate periodic maintenance techniques on various power tools.

May 16, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: Meyer Violin Shop, 3300 West 44th Street, Minneapolis, MN 929-0523. The location is northeast of 50th Street and France Avenue in Edina. Go north on France Avenue six blocks and east on 44th Street to Zenith Avenue.

MAKING AND RESTORING STRINGED INSTRUMENTS: Finn Meyer will demonstrate the fine art of violin making. He has some very interesting tools.

June 20, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: 5733 Wentworth Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 869-0140. Take I 35W to the Diamond Lake Road exit, go west to Wentworth, turn left and go two blocks.

METAL AND PLASTIC WORKING: Willis Bowman will demonstrate metal and plastic works for woodworkers.
January 17, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: Danish Woodworks, 2303 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 378-0954. From downtown Minneapolis, take I-35W north to Hennepin Ave., then go east to Stinson Blvd., north one block to Kennedy St., and west on Kennedy St. Use the entrance at the back of the building.

STROKE SANDER AND VENEER PRESS: Hans Mouritzen will give a tour of his shop and demonstrate some interesting equipment.

February 25, 1995 Saturday 6:30 PM
MEETING PARTY: Members and their quests are invited to a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 21, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy 280. Take I-94 to Hwy 280, immediately take the University Ave. exit, go west on University Ave. to 27th Ave., take a right to 4th St. Enter the door at the left end of the building.

MORTISE AND TENON JOINTS: Paul Lee will demonstrate his method in making mortises and tenons.
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 Patrick Juettner (612) 884-3634, 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.
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STROKE SANDER AND VENEER PRESS: Hans Mouritzen will give a tour of his shop and demonstrate some interesting equipment.

February 25, 1995 Saturday 6:30 PM
WINTER PARTY: Members and their guests invited to a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 21, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy 280. Take I-94 to Hwy 280, immediately take the University Ave. exit, go west on University Ave. to 27th Ave., take a right to 4th St. Enter the door at the left end of the building.

MORTISE AND TENON JOINTS: Paul Lee will demonstrate his method in making mortises and tenons.
I have a favor to ask. Over the years that I have been in the Guild, our membership has grown from about 175 to 290. Everybody wants the Guild to grow and it is easy to focus on signing up new members. I think we have grown because of the quality of the Northern Woods show at Southdale, our group lumber purchases at Northern Hardwoods, and the friendly and informational monthly meetings. I believe that the more the Guild can offer its members, the better and the bigger we will grow. The favor I have to ask is that if you have any ideas that will make us a stronger Guild, please share them. Would you like us to bring in a guest speaker like Michael Dunbar, Bob Flexner, etc.? Do you have an idea for a monthly meeting we have not done? Would you like to rent a bus and visit Amana Iowa for a weekend? Please drop me a note or call me at Woodcraft Supply 884-3634.

The Northern Woods Show has finally gotten national recognition. In the June 1995 issue of Woodwork magazine, the Northern Woods Show received a full page layout. Pieces from Richard Gotz, Tim Johnson, Chuck Pitschka, and Ted Wong were displayed in the Gallery Section of the magazine. To be published says something about the talent of our members.

We were published through the efforts of Craig Jentz of the Northern Woods Show Committee. Thank you, Craig.

A few weeks later, Paul Lee had his writing desk in the June 1995, issue of American Woodworker Magazine. Congratulations to Paul for being recognized.

Back in March, our educational meeting was at the 4th St. Guild, and Paul Lee demonstrated how to cut mortises on the drill press. This meeting was videotaped and will go into our library. If you are thinking about buying a hollow chisel mortising attachment, you will want to borrow this video and study Paul’s techniques. I would also like to thank the person who shot this video, it turned out great.

Lastly, I would like to thank Kurt Kurtenbach for organizing the educational meetings. If it weren’t for him we would not be able to run as smoothly as we do. I have found the meetings interesting and well attended.

Patrick Juettner
President, Minnesota Woodworkers Guild
Woodworkers In Cyberspace

Several members of the Minnesota Woodworker's Guild Board have Internet accessibility at home or work and are freely exchanging ideas, tips, suggestions, etc. This is a great way to contact a great number of people with a minimum of effort and cost. If you are interested in exchanging information with other Guild members, we would like to include your Internet address in the Guild's directory that is distributed with the Newsletter. In addition, an electronic address book will be created and periodically sent to each member so that you can contact members individually or collectively. It is anticipated that meeting reminders, special woodworking events, woodworking shows, demonstrations, etc. would be broadcast on a regular basis. Perhaps even the newsletter could be distributed electronically resulting in lower costs for the Guild. Selling commercial products would be discouraged but exchanging woodworking ideas, tips, questions/answers, etc. would be very much encouraged. If you are interested, please call Rich Gotz at 544-7278 (evening) or 536-4198 (day) or E-mail me at rgotz@empros.com (the preferred way).
George Vondriska: Maintenance, Tuning, and Adjustment of Power Tools

This meeting was held at Woodcraft Supply, 9741 Lyndale Ave. So., Bloomington MN. George discussed and demonstrated maintenance, tuning and adjustment of some common power tools.

Table Saw

Work is easier and more accurate if the top is smooth and wood slides easily across it. If the top shows signs of rust or pitting, polishing with 400 grit automotive paper mounted on a fairly rigid block lubricated with 10 weight motor oil is the first step toward top restoration. It is not necessary to grind out all of the pits as long as the top is smooth and true. If the top is out of true, it will probably have to be machined flat. When the top is smooth the grinding lubricant must be removed. All surfaces the wood or moving parts will contact should be waxed with furniture paste wax or a dry lubricant spray (be sure there are no silicon additives). Dry lubricants are a good choice for complex surfaces. George emphasized covering all surfaces, not forgetting the bottom of the fence and miter gauge slides and slots. Re-lubrication should be done whenever friction seems to be increasing. Excessive lubricant buildup is not generally a problem on the table and other visible parts. Be very careful if WD40 or lacquer thinner is used for cleaning since if any gets into bearings, the lubricant is dissolved and eventually the bearing will fail.

The blades should be cleaned and sharpened as well as checked for warping or other damage. To the experienced eye a band of light reflected from the top of a tooth is an indicator of a dull blade. This may not be easy to see on all types of blades so if a blade seems to be dull, sharpening is probably indicated anyway. Pitch buildup is always a possibility but if wood such as pine is cut in quantity, it may be necessary to grind out all of the pits. The blades should be cleaned and checked for pitch and some workers suggest oven cleaner as a low cost alternative although corrosion or other problems could develop. When the blade is used an application of paraffin or dry lubricant can make a blade cut easier.

The blade, rip fence and miter slot must be parallel for safe and accurate work. There are many ways to check blade alignment. George demonstrated one: With the blade fully raised clamp a dowel touching a tooth at the front of the blade to the miter gauge, then turn the blade so the same tooth is at the back of the blade and slide the miter gauge with the dowel attached to contact the same tooth at the back of the table. There should be the same degree of contact as when the tooth was at the front. If the blade and the miter slot are not parallel, the saw must be adjusted. Saws have a variety of adjustment methods; some have an adjustable table while others have adjustable trunnions. When the miter slot and blade are parallel the fence should be made parallel to the miter slot used to check the blade. If there is a miter slot on each side of the blade, each slot must be checked. Not much can be done if the miter slots are not parallel other than avoiding the one that is not parallel to the blade.

It is also important to adjust the splitter to the center line of the blade. A saw without a splitter can be dangerous if the material pinches the rear of the blade since the work can be thrown up and back at the operator.

On the underside of the saw remove dust from the bearings and trunnion with compressed air or vacuum. Watch for oil-soaked sawdust since it will build up into a compressed mass that can damage the adjustment mechanism or migrate into bearings. A brass brush is useful to clean the trunnion gears although it may be necessary to remove compressed sawdust with some kind of pick soft enough to not scratch the teeth.

Lubricate parts on the underside of the saw with dry lubricant since any oil will attract sawdust and cause future problems. Blowing out the motor and checking the centrifugal starting switch for accumulated dust and grease helps the motor run cooler and start better.

Band Saw

The table of a band saw can be restored and maintained in the same way as the table saw. The blade should track smoothly. If a blade seems to be tracking poorly, clumps of sawdust on the tires might be the cause. Tires can be cleaned with mineral spirits. A member suggested ink roller cleaner to help restore the tire. Be cautious with abrasives so the crown of the tire is not removed since the crown helps the blade stay on the wheel. If cleaning the tires does not seem to help, it may be necessary to replace the tires. A toothbrush or a soft brass brush can be mounted to clean the tire on the lower wheel when the saw is running, helping to prevent a buildup of sawdust.

Routers and other portable tools

Time was running out but George managed to get in a few words on routers and portable tools.

Generally it is difficult and time consuming to fix portable tools. Many are built so that when taken apart they disassemble themselves and can be very hard to put back together and align without assembly jigs. Brushes are about the only maintenance item and these are usually accessible from the outside. Brushes should be replaced when 3/16 to 1/4 inch remains.

Some tips: Free running a router is bad for its bearings. Don’t overtighten the collet; the ends of the collet can wear and not clamp the bit well. When this happens the bit can move while cutting. A new collet is inexpensive and can keep a router from being placed in the retired closet. Clean the tapered collet socket once in a while to keep the collet working correctly. Waxing the router base and checking it for burrs makes the machine easier to use and prevents marring the surface of the work.

To avoid liability issues a manufacturer will usually be unwilling to provide more maintenance information than that printed in the owner’s manual.

The Guild thanks George Vondriska for taking the time to pass on some of his knowledge and experience to help Guild members get their power tools performing to the accuracy they were engineered to deliver.

Richard Lagerstrom
Your Wood Movement Charts Are Finally Here!

The much anticipated wood movement charts and accompanying booklet are done. They will be distributed at meetings beginning in May. Each member is entitled to one set. Directions for receiving a set by mail are at the end of this article.

Both the charts and booklet are by Tom Caspar. The Guild thanks Tom for sharing his expertise with us as he has so frequently been willing to do.

I'm sure you'll find many uses for both the charts and the booklet. The booklet contains a great deal of useful general information about wood and its movements. The charts provide a tool for estimating wood movement under typical, climate-controlled Minnesota conditions. The information in both is available in a variety of sources and formats. I believe, however, that you'll find the clean visual presentation tailored to local conditions to be very convenient.

The charts are printed on heavy card stock. Each one is approximately the size of a 3 x 5 index card. The set is designed as a handy reference tool for your shop. I have cut mine into individual cards and laminated them. They fit easily in a drawer and can be laid out to spot the species with the least movement or those least likely to cup (see booklet). For those who want an easy lamination method, the Current Catalogue sells plastic sleeves which fit nicely; I'm sure they're available from other sources as well.

While we were unable to print the charts in color as originally hoped, they remain quite easy to read. The legends were separated from the charts to make them larger. Just remember that plain sawn wood will always move more than quarter sawn wood of the same species; therefore the upper line on each chart represents movement in plain sawn wood and the lower line quarter sawn. As you view the sixteen species, lines closer together imply wood less likely to cup and lines with less rise show wood with less seasonal movement.

Use the appropriate charts when planning your next project. Do you need to select a species with relatively little movement? Do you wonder how much shrinkage/expansion to allow in the frame around a panel? How long should the slots be in the screw blocks attaching your table top? The charts will help you do all this and more! Perhaps a few examples would be helpful.

Examples for Using the Charts

Perhaps you're making drawer sides that are 9 inches wide. Scanning your charts you notice that sugar pine has relatively little movement and select it. Since sugar pine is quite soft, you decide to laminate a 1 inch strip of hard maple to the bottom of the sides. Therefore the pine widths will be 8 inches. Your pine is plain sawn. Hold a straight edge perpendicular to the Width axis, intersecting at the eight inch mark and note where it crosses the upper movement line. Again using your straight edge to extend that point to the Movement axis and you will see that the value is approximately 1/16 inch.

There's no need to get too precise; as Tom's booklet tells you, any given board can easily differ +/-15% from this average value. Therefore, towards the end of a dry winter, you might allow just over 1/16 inch for the pine to expand. As you can see from the hard maple chart, you should add an additional 1/64 inch for the maple piece.

Next suppose you're designing the fastening system for the 24 inch wide top of the above desk. You had selected plain sawn cherry boards with beautiful figure in making the top and want to fix them at the front. How much movement should you allow at the rear? First notice that all the movement lines are straight. The relationship between width and movement is linear. Since the charts only extend to 10 inches, you could use the fact that $24 = 3 \times 8$ or $4 \times 6$ or $48 \times 1/2$ or? Notice that an 8 inch plain sawn cherry board moves approximately 3/32 inch, so a 24 inch board will move approximately 3 times as much or 9/32 inch.

I hope you enjoy your charts and booklet. I'm sure each of you will arrive at many interesting uses.

To receive your set by mail, please send me a large (10" x 13"), self-addressed envelope with $.78 postage applied.

Rick Berland
2745 Natchez
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
Paul Lee: Mortises and Tenons

This meeting was held at the Fourth Street Guild, 2625 SE 4th St., Minneapolis MN where Paul demonstrated his method of making mortises and tenons.

With a frame and panel example Paul showed how a dado blade in the table saw and a hollow chisel mortiser can be used to create fast, easy and accurate joinery. The technique can also be adapted to leg and rail joints.

Rather than try to include the wealth of useful information we were fortunate to learn, this note will be brief because for the first time we had the opportunity to make a videotape recording of the presentation. The tape may be checked out by contacting a Guild Board member. We hope this service proves useful to our members and we intend to continue this practice with selected future meetings. Let us know what you think about this service.

The Guild thanks Paul Lee for a very informative and energetic demonstration of his skills in woodworking and communications.

Richard Lagerstrom

Message from Pat

Planning for the Northern Woods Show is well under way. We need more entrants for the show. If you have never taken part in the Northern Woods show I would invite you to consider it this year. I enter the show because I like to be a part of a strong woodworking team. It is also nice to get some recognition from friends and family. If you are a new member or guild member who has not entered the show before, please stop in Woodcraft Supply and ask me about the show.

The 1995 Northern Woods show will be in October at Southdale. Now is the time to start planning your project. I am going to exhibit a table I built in Thomas Casper's class. Sharpen your pencils and get the dust off your tablesaw and enter the 1995 northern woods show.

The Northern Woods show committee is looking for new blood. We need help planning the 1995 show. We get together one night a month (over a beer) at Pracna and work on the show. It is fun to take part in the behind the scenes activities of putting a show together. Give me, Pat J, a call at 884-3634, and I will tell you when the next meeting is.

The winter party was a success this year again thanks to the efforts of Kim Rupprecht. Thank you Kim! The winter party was held at Jax and the food was wonderful. It was nice to see people out of the woodworking environment and in fancy attire. At the winter party, two notable events took place: the Bruce Kieffer Award and the donation of ballot boxes.

The Bruce Kieffer Award is something new for the guild. The board of directors wanted to thank Bruce Kieffer for his past leadership as president of the guild and for his many years as newsletter editor. The Bruce Kieffer Award will be presented every year at the winter party. The award recognizes individuals who have helped the guild and promoted woodworking.

Two members built and donated ballot boxes to be used for the People's Choice Award at the Northern woods show. Thank you Mel Turcanik and Charles Weise for the Ballot boxes.

A few months ago, a salesman for Metro Hardwood told me he was having a sale to clear out lumber. I gave him our membership list because it sounded like a good deal. My work schedule prevented me from attending the sale. If you attended the sale, please give me your feedback on the quality and price of the goods offered.

Patrick Juettner
President Minnesota woodworkers guild

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; Dennis West 1925 2nd Ave No., MPLS, MN 55405 (612) 377-5985

For sale:

Porter Cable biscuit joiner with metal tool box. Excellent condition. $100. Rick Berland. 925-9392.

For sale:

Sears 12 Inch dovetail jig - Works great for half blind dovetails, includes owners manual. $20.00 Call Pat Juettner at 884-3634 or 452-8674
Saber Saws, Sawdust, and Safety

To keep 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. 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 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 am 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 is that you want a blade guide shaped like the wheel of a train. The benefit to the blade of a guide 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 am happy with the way it performs.

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 and 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 tablesaw but, at this stage it will not matter. The bottom line is that it might take you a little longer to cut wood this way but you can get good results safely.

Jointing Jig

Over the last few years, I’ve been cutting, stacking and drying my own wood. In 1992 a friend of mine and I had cut about 4,000 board feet of Ash and Black Walnut. This year I had about 600 board feet of White and Red Oak cut, which has been stacked and is now drying. The advantage of doing it this way, is my cost is about $.25 per board foot, plus my time. The disadvantage is the long drying time and the labor involved. One of the most time consuming parts of the process is getting straight edges on the boards after they have been surface planed. I originally used the jointer, but that required multiple passes. I ran across a handy jig called a Joint’R Clamp that’s used on the table saw to create a perfectly straight edge, even on the roughest lumber. The jig consists of two (2) pieces of extruded aluminum that are attached to a straight edge that you provide. The rough board is clamped to the straight edge jig and is run through the table saw using the rip fence. Since the board has one (1) straight edge, the jig can be removed and the board can be re-run through the table saw with the straight edge against the rip fence. There may be a slight bevel on the first cut, due to the jig so I will run that edge through the jointer to make it square. The cost for the jig is about $12 and is available through most woodworking catalogs such as Grizzly, The Woodworker’s Store and Trendlines. If you work with rough lumber as I do, you will appreciate the speed and time-savings this jig provides.

Jim Christian

Pat Juetner
Wood Turning For Furniture Making

Wood Turning 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 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 Wood Turners Association. Don is president of the wood turners 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 Don's 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 Wood Turners Association offers educational meetings to their members. These range from information for beginners to international professional demonstrations. If you would like more information on the Minnesota Wood Turners Association, please call Don Wattenhofer at (612) 572-1045 and he will be glad to tell you about upcoming meetings.

Pat Juettner

Guild Plans Another Group Lumber Purchase

Because prior purchases have so well received, our guild plans to make another group lumber purchase from Northern Hardwood. All lumber is FAS/SEL grade and rough sawn. You will be able to select from the species listed on the order form on the yellow insert in this newsletter. 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 Monday, July 10, 1995. You must pick up your order on Saturday, Sept. 9, 1995 between 9:30 AM and noon at 2245 University Ave. in St. Paul. Those ordering lumber will be sent a notice and a map.

Dave Boulay
Guild Meetings

July 18, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM

Location 1500 jackson St. NE, MPLS, MN. The shop is north of downtown MPLS near Central and Broadway Avenues (by Youngblood). Turn left at 14th Ave. NE and then right on Van Buren Ave. to 15th St. The shop is on the third floor. We will meet at the loading dock at the south end of the building.

FINISHES: Ted Wong, last year's winner of the Best Finish at the Northern Woods Show.

August 15, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM

Location: Fourth St. Guild, 2625 SE 4th St., MPLS, MN 378-2605. The location is west of Hwy. 280 and one block north of University Ave.

QUICK TIPS: John Hoppe and Thomas Caspar will lead a discussion of ideas and tips to use in woodworking. So bring your questions and your own tips to share.

September 19, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM

Location: All American Recreation, 1290 73rd Ave., NE, Fridley, MN 572-8000. The office is two miles north of I 494 on Hwy 65 (Central Ave.). Turn right at 73rd St. and go two blocks.

QUALITY POOL TABLES: Roger Schlitz will discuss making pool tables.

October 19th thru 22nd

Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall
President's Notes

We have been published again!!! John Nesset, Tim Johnson, Ross Peterson, Ted Wong and Richard Helgeson were featured in the Gallery section of the August Woodwork Magazine. Unfortunately, Richard Helgeson did not get the credit for his jewelry box. When I was just starting to work wood, I paged through the magazines and developed a real reverence for the people who were good enough to get published. Congratulations!

Special recognition goes to John Nesset for writing an article in Home Furniture, Fall 1995. John has a three page article with many pictures of his writing boxes. John Nesset was the speaker at last year's summer picnic and he also took Best of Show at the Northern Woods Show.

We have a new publication in town called "Your Home & Woodshop News" which is distributed free at many retail establishments (Builders Square, Woodcraft etc.). The cover story was about former president Jon Strunbras. Richard Lagerstrom and Thomas Caspar also had articles in the first publication.

What Can I Do To Get in a Woodworking magazine ?? The answer is simple, participate in the Northern Woods show. The last day of the show, the winning pieces of furniture are shot by a professional photographer. Also, anyone who enters the show can have their piece photographed for around $60. The Northern Woods committee send all these photos out to different magazines to see if there is any interest. Last year's show was a great success.

I hope to see many of you at this year's Northern Woods Show. From the responses, it looks like we are going to have a big show. Everyone is invited to see the free demonstrations and fine furniture.

The guild will have a booth at the show to answer questions about the guild and the furniture on display. If you would like to help out at the booth for a few hours, give me a call at work 884-3634 or home 452-8674.

Our last wood purchase was bigger then ever. We purchased about 5,000 BD valued at $11,000. We ask for quotes from several local lumber companies. The one with the best prices gets our business.

Northern Hardwoods has always given us the best deal. If you feel we could do better somewhere else, let me know.

Thank you for the great response I received from the last issue. Your letters gave the Board of Directors something to think about.

Patrick Juettner
The Art of Cleaning and Refinishing Antique Furniture

[Ed.'s Note: The following article is being reprinted with the kind permission of the St. Louis (Missouri) Woodworker’s Guild. My thanks to Doug Perlick for forwarding this article to me.]

Guild member Art Schmidt gave us a taste of his chemistry knowledge and how he applied that to the art of cleaning and refinishing antique furniture. Art, a long time woodworker with a growing fear of power tools and his ability to keep his fingers out of the way of the blade, had turned to a less threatening aspect of wood working, that being refinishing antiques. Even in this hobby, Art avoids things that are bad for you, such as strippers which usually contain methylene fluoride (on the current bad for the environment list).

Many people that deal in antiques feel that part of the value of an ancient piece of furniture is its original finish. However, most of the items that Art deals with are often damaged and the finish is very dark, unattractive, and difficult to match after the repair. For these reasons Art usually refinishes. He has discovered that old finishes come off easily and the harsh chemicals in strippers aren’t really needed. Art uses trisodium and water. This chemical is marketed under the name of “Peroxygen.” He also mixes it with water and spreads it on the wood. The by-product from this reaction is only oxygen — not quite so bad on the atmosphere, unless you happen to have a lot of fire nearby. Art actually experimented with this condition as well. The amount of oxygen produced was so minor he had a hard time getting any effect on fire held really close to the reaction. Peroxygen thickens when mixed, therefore, is easy to apply — just paint it on. It will slowly bleach the wood, so now is a good time to work on other activities. The timing (several hours usually) is a matter of trial and error. When ready wash it off with the garden hose.

Art usually finishes the wood in its natural colors. However, he will use stains when he is trying to match other items. For finishes he generally uses urethanes on table tops due to its durability. For other items he will varnish over a base coat of water based urethane. Art does pay close attention to gloss in the finish. He buys high gloss finishes and adjusts it downward to the desired effect using a flattening agent (silicon dioxide). This chemical, which is basically fine ground sand, can be mixed into the finish before applying and reduce the gloss to a matte or completely flat appearance according to how much of the flattening agent he mixes into the finish. This was also a trial and error method to arrive at the right amount. All three of chemicals mentioned above are completely safe and can be handled with the bare hands.

Want Ads

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Publications

We've had more Guild pieces published over the past couple of months. Northern Woods chairs by Jon Frost and Richard Helgesen were published in the May edition of Minnesota Monthly's Midwest Home & Design. Additionally, a chair by Guild member Mike McGlynn was also featured. Woodwork magazine published pieces by Jim Anderson, John Nesset, Richard Helgesen, Tim Johnson, Ross Peterson, and Ted Wong Jr. in their August issue. Unfortunately there was a mix up where Richard's jewelry box was credited to John. The first, of hopefully many to come, Guild members was published in the fall issue of Home Furniture. American Woodworker has confirmed that they will feature Northern Woods pieces in their October issue. We should be getting a proof sheet in August, which will let us know who is being published, as well as prevent any misprint problems.

Minnesota Monthly will be featuring Northern Woods in an upcoming calendar of events. Someone's photo (we don't know whos) will be published in the calendar.

The main reason our work is getting published is due to the photos that Popular Front studio is shooting the Sunday of the show. The Guild sends all photos, not just winners’, to the publications. We encourage everyone to have their pieces photographed.

General Show Update

We are starting to receive show entries, therefore you no longer have to be bashful about being the first person to enter. Please send in your entry form as soon as possible.

We are looking for people to do demonstrations at the show. You pick the topic - these can be hands on demonstrations (e.g. build something), or general education seminars (e.g. explain and compare different joinery techniques). Please contact Tom Caspar at 378-2605 if you are interested in helping.

This year’s posters are printed. We will be using two sizes, the “normal” size to be displayed within the mall, and a smaller version to be displayed at other businesses (we found out that not all businesses had room for the larger posters). If you would like to grab a few posters and proudly display them at your favorite hangouts, please contact Tim or Tom at 378-2605.

In general the committee feels that last year’s post awards ceremony banquet was a disappointment. Our major concern is that a restaurant setting is not a good format for mixing and socializing. This year instead of a restaurant setting, we will be serving hors d’oeuvres and drinks on the show floor. This will allow open socializing and discussion of the pieces. Because of mall alcohol rules, this reception will occur after the mall closes at 9:00. To accommodate this the awards ceremony will be moved back to 8:30. We need a volunteer(s) to make the awards (patterns, materials, and fixtures are provided). Please contact Craig Jentz at 922-0734 if you would like to handle this fun, yet not too time consuming, task.

The committee would like to thank Dave Boulay for his great work in taking care of show sponsorship, advertising, and show booths. People like Dave really make the show possible. Obviously we can use more Daves, please volunteer to help on the show committee. We meet one Wednesday a month at 7:00 PM over beers at Pracna on Main in the St. Anthony complex. Contact Craig Jentz (922-0734) or Tim Johnson (378-2605) for the next meeting date.

The Northern Woods Committee
October 19th thru 22nd
Northern Woods Exhibit @ Southdale Mall

November 21, 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.

WHEELWRIGHT: Michael Botts will demonstrate the making of wooden wheels.

December 12, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Location: McGowan Cabinet Co., 23804 Lake Blvd. N., Forest Lake, MN 464-2209. Take I35 to the Hwy 8 exit at Forest Lake, go east one mile. The shop is on the left side of the road next to McCarron Lumber Co.

WOODTURNING AND CARVING: Jack McGowan will show his extensive collection of turned bowls and carvings of cowboys and will demonstrate his carving techniques.
What struck you at once about the 12th Annual Northern Woods Exhibition held again this year at Southdale under the sponsorship of Davlins, was the remarkable absence of the flashy. You walked in and immediately noted the abundance of indigenous woods, which are substantially subdued compared with their tropical cousins. You also noted the abundance of reproductions and traditional forms, from the model ships with their faithfulness of detail through the Reinfeldt zig-zag chairs to the careful renderings of utilitarian country furniture. At first you were alarmed, wondering if Minnesota woodworking had lost its nerve. But the effect was to draw you in. And as you nit-picked from piece to piece, finding reasons to criticize, you were gradually overwhelmed with the recognition that an overall sensitivity of treatment ran through each item in the show, leaving detail problems rather secondary. Bob Fuller’s crib and changing bureau stand as an illustration. Those plywood drawers were a shock, punctuating an initial impression that this was a clumsy set of pieces. But I happened to be positioned nearby, and as the show proceeded, I grew to overlook the plywood and other “problems,” and see an essential rightness to these conceptions.

In the end you saw overall an essential rightness about the absence of the flashy throughout the show. Restraint is not easy. The tendency is always to over design. But understatement is the strongest statement, and it’s the most durable in the day to day living situation over the years. You were definitely not seeing a loss of nerve here, but maturity. The prevailing restraint was as evident in the wonderful original forms by Ted Wong as it was in the excellent rendering of traditional forms. It was evident too in the delicate turned entries. Even Craig Jentz’s playful entertainment center was grounded in recognizable form and a familiar era. And Joe Gosnell’s unapologetically wacky door showed clear-sighted design sense, and was exactly what it was — a door!

The public seemed delighted with the show (though as usual that delight didn’t always translate into flashing checkbooks). A number of people who had seen previous Northern Woods Exhibits remarked to me about the overall high quality of this one. I join those voices. I personally welcomed the model ships, which celebrate what over the ages is certainly a crowning achievement of woodcraft. I also welcomed the new turnings category which was so gracefully represented. For me the indigenous wood, too, was a definite plus. And I welcomed the reproductions, because they underscore what is the essence of all furnishings, and that is to do a job in the most direct way — and with grace. The technical and aesthetic competence those responsible showed in those pieces make me encourage them to carry those forms into renderings that speak yet more distinctly in their own voices. As to the judging, I can’t personally complain. But my guess is that in each category a whole lot of hair-splitting went on to arrive at a decision. I certainly applaud them for recognizing the workmanship of Jim Anderson’s lovely Norwegian bentwood carrier. I can only feel honored to be singled out in this exhibition for “Best in Show.”

John Nesset
William S. Stumbras is stepping down as president. Jon has served on the board as president for 2 years and the past year has offered his guidance in keeping the guild on track. The truth of the matter is that Jon is missed by his family and would like to spend some time with his kids while they are still young. I would like to thank Jon for his time on the Board of Directors.

For those of you that don’t know me, let me introduce myself and give you my background. I am a woodworker who likes to dabble in many facets: carving, turning, but primarily furniture. I like to wear the frustrated engineer’s hat, that is I like the process of building more than the end product. Last year, I took a new job that I thought would be the ideal job, I was a sales rep for Ryobi America Corp. Working for Ryobi, I received a company car and one of everything they manufactured, which is nice, but I was on the road 6 days a week and never did any woodworking. To make a long story short, I am now working for Woodcraft Supply and have found my smile again. Next time you are at Woodcraft, please say hello and introduce yourself.

The woodworkers guild is currently building a storage unit to hold a library of books. When finished, this library will be brought to the monthly meeting and guild members will be allowed to check out books. If there is anyone interested in donating books for the library, let me know (Pat 884-3634).

Lastly, For those of you brave enough to read this far with out falling asleep, there is a reward. It has come to my attention that members of the Minnesota woodworkers Guild are now receiving a discount a Hirshfields. I have found finishing supplies at good prices.

President
Pat Juettner
(612) 884-3634

Vice President
Willis Bowman

Treasurer
Douglas Perlick

Members at Large
Rick Berland, David Boulay,
R. W. Kurtenbach, Kim Rupprecht,
Richard Lagerstrom, Richard Gotz

Next issue deadline is February 20th.

Past President’s Notes

At the guild meeting on 15 November Pat Juettner was elected president and Willis Bowman vice president of the Guild. I want to use part of President’s Notes this issue for a few parting words and to introduce Pat. The remainder of these Notes will be from Pat.

Looking back over the year I must emphasize the excellent Guild meetings Kurt Kurtenbach has been able to schedule. Woodturning, carving, finishing, and chair building have been just some of the skills presented for the benefit of members of the Guild. On behalf of the Guild I want to thank Kurt for his good work in making the meetings both varied and interesting. I encourage each of you to make an effort to offer a program suggestion or volunteer to do a program yourself. We know there are a number of members who have skills or knowledge that would benefit the rest of us. Please step forward by talking with Kurt or another board member or mailing a note to the Guild.

There will be other articles in this newsletter about the Northern Woods show so I will not go into detail here but the Guild Board recognizes the large amount of effort that goes into organizing the show and we sincerely thank all the members of the Northern Woods Show Board for a successful show this year. One problem that the Show Board was helpless to resolve was a power failure at Southdale the night the exhibits were brought in. For a while it seemed that all the heavy stuff would need to be carried up some very inadequate stairs, but one elevator was eventually made available so all was well in the end.

Newly elected president Pat Juettner is, I am sure, familiar to all Guild members who attend our meetings. Pat has been a Board member for a number of years and has contributed much to the Guild. I wish Pat the best as president. His enthusiasm and leadership will benefit the Guild in the times to come.

Richard Lagerstrom, Past President

Editor’s Notes

Well this is it, the last Guild newsletter with me as editor. Guild member Dennis West has offered to take over as our next newsletter editor. He helped me put this issue together, and I’ll help him do the next one. I urge all of you to contribute articles, tips, techniques, ideas, etc. to help Dennis make our newsletter the best it can be. I’ve seen other newsletters published by other woodworking guilds, and I think our’s is the best by a long shot. With your help we can keep it that way.

I relinquish my editor duties with joy and a little sadness at the same time. I’ve always enjoyed the technical aspects of laying out, assembling, and producing the newsletter. And I’ve enjoyed working with those who have helped me and contributed to the newsletter. But after 8 years, it’s hard to stay enthusiastic. It’s like working at any one thing for too long, you just burn out. Plus, I’m sure Dennis will bring new ideas to the newsletter to help it grow into an even better publication.

Just because I won’t be the newsletter editor anymore, doesn’t mean I won’t be involved. I plan to write articles and other submissions to help fill the newsletter pages. I also hope to try my idea for the “Past Presidents” column. I think it’ll be a great way for members to learn about the Guild’s history. If you don’t know, the Guild is 13 years old, soon to be 14.

Bruce Kieffer, Newsletter Editor
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.

**American Tool Supply**, (612) 927-7491, George, Discounts varying with items. No sale discounts.

**Art Betterly Co.**, (612) 755-3425, Bob, "Special consideration to Guild members". Call for information.

**Derickson Co., Inc.**, (612) 332-6791, Dwight, Wholesale prices to Guild members.

**Fred G. Anderson Paint & Wallpaper in St. Louis Park** (612) 927-1800, All sales staff, Discounts from 20% to 30% to Guild members.

**Gardner Hardware**, (612) 333-3393, 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.

**Savitt Bros.**, (612) 871-1155, Burt Savitt, Discount to net price. Guild members receive contractor discount.

**Swanson Hardware**, (612) 925-4083, all sales staff, Wholesale prices to Guild members.

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

**Valspar Paint**, (612) 827-1787, Kevin, 20% discount to Guild members at all three locations.

**Warner Industrial Supply**, (612) 378-7300, Dan Shea, 10% discount to Guild members.

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

**Youngblood Lumber Co.**, (612) 789-3521, Randy, Wholesale prices to Guild members.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44 Scarlet Oak E.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oakdale, MN 55128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert R. Abbott</td>
<td>Star Route 3, Box 267</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remer, MN 56672</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Adson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald S. Allen</td>
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<td>Minneapolis, MN 55421</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis Almquist</td>
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<td>Boyd Amundson</td>
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<td>5500 France Avenue North</td>
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<td></td>
<td>481 Laurel</td>
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<th>City, State, Zip</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Philip Martin</td>
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Send your corrections to:
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New Brighton, MN 55112-0022


Tool Review

We all have information that may be useful to others. Trouble is we don’t know if everyone already knows. This review is written in the hope it may be of use to someone.

Sometimes I get a chance to try two different tools that are about the same price. Of course I can’t evaluate them with the expertise of a professional or as completely as a testing lab. If you read this with proper skepticism and regard for its limitations, however, it may help you select your first router or upgrade from an old, undesirable one.

I have both Porter Cable 690 series and Bosch 1613EVS routers. When the Porter Cable is outfitted with a plunge base, they are close to the same price. I particularly can’t comment on the longevity/durability of either tool; both are working fine so far. Since I had the Porter Cable first and it fits and adjusts easily on my router table, I haven’t tried the Bosch as a table mounted router and don’t know what it’s ease of use in that venue. Perhaps the Porter Cable is a better router if you will only have one for all uses. The Bosch, however, has many features that I find superior for hand held routing. I’ll list some of them below.

The differences start at plug in. The Bosch actually has a cord long enough to reach an outlet. It also has the switch in the handle; you don’t need to let go to start or stop it. The variable speed feature may be useful for some applications. The Bosch also has a “soft-start” which when combined with the ability to keep both hands on the router at all times adds to both the safety and enjoyment of use.

Bits and template bushings are easier to install and remove on the Bosch. It has a collet locking lever which allows one wrench loosening and tightening. It also has a self-releasing collet which forces the bit loose from its grip. Template bushings snap easily in and out.

Both plungers have similar depth stop rod setup. While the Porter Cable provides some stops with screw adjustments, the Bosch allows very easy, fine (+/- .004) depth adjustment with the turn of a calibrated micrometer screw. Once you get the hang of it, you can make very precise depth settings.

The Bosch base has a straight edge, eliminating eccentricity problems when following a fence. It also has a better, more precisely adjustable edge guide in my opinion.

Both routers seem well made and so far both can “get the job done.” However, I really appreciate the design and features of the Bosch for hand-held plunge routing. Perhaps this information can add a small measure to your own research next time you’re considering a new router.

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:

For Sale:
Porter Cable model 6931 plunge base and micro adjustable edge guide, $50. Rick Berland. 925-9392.

For Sale:

For Sale:

For Sale:

For Sale:
Makita 6093D Cordless Drill/Driver kit. Includes charger, 2 batteries, and metal case. Batteries work but don’t hold charge for very long. $50. Call Bruce Kieffer @ 642-9615.

For Sale:
AEG 505EZ Cordless Drill/Driver with charger and 1 battery. Battery works but doesn’t hold charge for very long. $25. Call Bruce Kieffer @ 642-9615.

For Sale:
3M Wipe On Poly Gloss Finish, 4 quarts. $10 for all 4 quarts. Call Bruce Kieffer @ 642-9615.

Veneer Sale January 14, 12 - 5 pm:
Lots of premium sequenced sheets available in Santos Rosewood, Carpathian Elm Burl, Danish Beech, Zebrawood and much, much more. Come see some of the finest Curly Maple ever sliced - and 4200 sq. ft. of it! Prices from 25¢ and up. Come to: Danish Woodworks, 2303 Kennedy Street NE, Minneapolis. Telephone: 378-0954. Park and enter at the rear of the building.

Classes in Fine Woodworking:
During the winter and spring I will give classes in Veneering, Furniture Making with KD (knock-down) hardware, and How to Make and Apply Solid, Curved Edges. Please contact Hans at Danish Woodworks, 378-0954, for more information.
MEETING CHANGE

There has been some interest expressed recently in devoting a portion of each meeting to discussing member's current projects and brainstorming problems. To accommodate this interest, the following meetings will begin 15 minutes earlier than shown for those members who wish to participate in these discussions. So bring your projects and questions to the next meeting—and come early.

**January 17, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM**

Location: Danish Woodworks, 2303 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 378-0954. From downtown Minneapolis, take I-35W north to Hennepin Ave., then go east to Stinson Blvd., north one block to Kennedy St., and west on Kennedy St. Use the entrance at the back of the building.

**STROKE SANDER AND VENEER PRESS:** Hans Mouritzen will give a tour of his shop and demonstrate some interesting equipment.

**February 25, 1995 Saturday 6:30 PM**

**WINTER PARTY:** Members and their quests are invited to a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

**March 21, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM**

Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy 280. Take I-94 to Hwy 280, immediately take the University Ave. exit, go west on University Ave. to 27th Ave., take a right to 4th St. Enter the door at the left end of the building.

**MORTISE AND TENON JOINTS:** Paul Lee will demonstrate his method in making mortises and tenons.
Restraint and Maturity Accent the 12th Annual Northern Woods Exhibition

What struck you at once about the 12th Annual Northern Woods Exhibition held again this year at Southdale under the sponsorship of Davlins, was the remarkable absence of the flashy. You walked in and immediately noted the abundance of indigenous woods, which are substantially subdued compared with their tropical cousins. You also noted the abundance of reproductions and traditional forms, from the model ships with their faithfulness of detail through the Reinfeldt zig-zag chairs to the careful renderings of utilitarian country furniture. At first you were alarmed, wondering if Minnesota woodworking had lost its nerve. But the effect was to draw you in. And as you nit-picked from piece to piece, finding reasons to criticize, you were gradually overwhelmed with the recognition that an overall sensitivity of treatment ran through each item in the show, leaving detail problems rather secondary. Bob Fuller's crib and changing bureau stand as an illustration. Those plywood drawers were a shock, punctuating an initial impression that this was a clumsy set of pieces. But I happened to be positioned nearby, and as the show proceeded, I grew to overlook the plywood and other "problems," and see an essential rightness to these conceptions.

In the end you saw overall an essential rightness about the absence of the flashy throughout the show. Restraint is not easy. The tendency is always to over design. But understatement is the strongest statement, and it’s the most durable in the day to day living situation over the years. You were definitely not seeing a loss of nerve here, but maturity. The prevailing restraint was as evident in the wonderful original forms by Ted Wong as it was in the excellent rendering of traditional forms. It was evident too in the delicate turned entries. Even Craig Jentz's playful entertainment center was grounded in recognizable form and a familiar era. And Joe Gosnell's unapologetically wacky door showed clear-sighted design sense, and was exactly what it was — a door!

The public seemed delighted with the show (though as usual that delight didn’t always translate into flashing checkbooks). A number of people who had seen previous Northern Woods Exhibits remarked to me about the overall high quality of this one. I join those voices. I personally welcomed the model ships, which celebrate what over the ages is certainly a crowning achievement of wood craft. I also welcomed the new turnings category which was so gracefully represented. For me the indigenous wood, too, was a definite plus. And I welcomed the reproductions, because they underscore what is the essence of all furnishings, and that is to do a job in the most direct way — and with grace. The technical and aesthetic competence those responsible showed in those pieces make me encourage them to carry those forms into renderings that speak yet more distinctly in their own voices. As to the judging, I can’t personally complain. But my guess is that in each category a whole lot of hair-splitting went on to arrive at a decision. I certainly applaud them for recognizing the workmanship of Jim Anderson's lovely Norwegian bentwood carrier. I can only feel honored to be singled out in this exhibition for "Best in Show."

John Nesset
With this issue of Northern Woods we have some new officers and board members. I would like to welcome Richard Gotz to the board of directors. Richard Gotz and I have just finished a class with Tom Caspar and I am looking forward to working with Richard. There is another change, Jon Stumbras is stepping down from the board. Jon has served on the board as president for 2 years and the past year has offered his guidance in keeping the guild on track. The truth of the matter is that Jon is missed by his family and would like to spend some time with his kids while they are still young. I would like to thank Jon for his time on the Board of Directors.

For those of you that don’t know me, let me introduce myself and give you my background. I am a woodworker who likes to dabble in many facets; carving, turning, but primarily furniture. I like to wear the frustrated engineer’s hat, that is I like the process of building more than the end product. Last year, I took a new job that I thought would be the ideal job, I was a sales rep for Ryobi America Corp. Working for Ryobi, I received a company car and one of everything they manufactured, which is nice, but I was on the road 6 days a week and never did any woodworking. To make a long story short, I am now working for Woodcraft Supply and have found my smile again. Next time you are at Woodcraft, please say hello and introduce yourself.

The woodworkers guild is currently building a storage unit to hold a library of books. When finished, this library will be brought to the monthly meeting and guild members will be allowed to check out books. If there is anyone interested in donating books for the library, let me know (Pat 884-3634).

Lastly, For those of you brave enough to read this far with out falling asleep, there is a reward. It has come to my attention that members of the Minnesota woodworkers Guild are now receiving a discount a Hirshfields. I have found finishing supplies at good prices.

Patrick Juettner, President
We all have information that may be useful to others. Trouble is we don’t know if everyone already knows. This review is written in the hope it may be of use to someone.

Sometimes I get a chance to try two different tools that are about the same price. Of course I can’t evaluate them with the expertise of a professional or as completely as a testing lab. If you read this with proper skepticism and regard for its limitations, however, it may help you select your first router or upgrade from an old, undesirable one.

I have both Porter Cable 690 series and Bosch 1613EVS routers. When the Porter Cable is outfitted with a plunge base, they are close to the same price. I particularly can’t comment on the longevity/durability of either tool; both are working fine so far. Since I had the Porter Cable first and it fits and adjusts easily on my router table, I haven’t tried the Bosch as a table mounted router and don’t know it’s ease of use in that venue. Perhaps the Porter Cable is a better router if you will only have one for all uses. The Bosch, however, has many features that I find superior for hand held routing. I’ll list some of them below.

The differences start at plug in. The Bosch actually has a cord long enough to reach an outlet. It also has the switch in the handle; you don’t need to let go to start or stop it. The variable speed feature may be useful for some applications. The Bosch also has a “soft-start” which when combined with the ability to keep both hands on the router at all times adds to both the safety and enjoyment of use.

Bits and template bushings are easier to install and remove on the Bosch. It has a collet locking lever which allows one wrench loosening and tightening. It also has a self-releasing collet which forces the bit loose from its grip. Template bushings snap easily in and out.

Both plunge routers have similar depth stop rod setup. While the Porter Cable provides some stops with screw adjustments, the Bosch allows very easy, fine (+/- .004) depth adjustment with the turn of a calibrated micrometer screw. Once you get the hang of it, you can make very precise depth settings.

The Bosch base has a straight edge, eliminating eccentricity problems when following a fence. It also has a better, more precisely adjustable edge guide in my opinion.

Both routers seem well made and so far both can “get the job done.” However, I really appreciate the design and features of the Bosch for hand-held plunge routing. Perhaps this information can add a small measure to your own research next time you’re considering a new router.

Rick Berland
MEETING CHANGE

There has been some interest expressed recently in devoting a portion of each meeting to discussing member’s current projects and brainstorming problems. To accommodate this interest, the following meetings will begin 15 minutes earlier than shown for those members who wish to participate in these discussions. So bring your projects and questions to the next meeting—and come early.

January 17, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: Danish Woodworks, 2303 Kennedy St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 378-0954. From downtown Minneapolis, take I-35W north to Hennepin Ave., then go east to Stinson Blvd., north one block to Kennedy St., and west on Kennedy St. Use the entrance at the back of the building.

STROKE SANDER AND VENEER PRESS: Hans Mouritzen will give a tour of his shop and demonstrate some interesting equipment.

February 25, 1995 Saturday 6:30 PM
WINTER PARTY: Members and their quests are invited to a fun and enjoyable social event. Invitations with more information will be mailed to all members.

March 21, 1995 Tuesday 7:30 PM
Location: 2625 SE 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 378-2605. The shop is located west of Hwy 280. Take I-94 to Hwy 280, immediately take the University Ave. exit, go west on University Ave. to 27th Ave., take a right to 4th St. Enter the door at the left end of the building.

MORTISE AND TENON JOINTS: Paul Lee will demonstrate his method in making mortises and tenons.