

May 18, 2005 Meeting Highlights:

The Guild elected its 2005-06 Board: President: John Dunbar, Vice President: Don Ransom, Treasurer: Richard Libera, Second Treasurer: John Baker, Newsletter Editor: Paul Welsh, Hardware Librarian: Jerry Sheehan, Library Committee: David Sokolowski, Jim Sabo and Pell Sherman, Raffle Manager: Chuck Skelley, Program Committee: Tony Albano, Roger Earley, Vincent Passalacqua, Mike Reese and David Sokolowski.

The theme of the meeting was sharpening methods; with demonstrations of sharpening tools and jigs. Larry Beers presented and demonstrated a precise and impressive sharpening jig for jointer and planer blades, which he designed and built (see drawing on page 4). Also, Roger Earley showed us an imaginative way of sharpening such blades using a radial arm saw. First he crosscuts a groove in a board at the desired angle, with the radial saw. Then he affixes the blade to be sharpened in that groove, replaces the radial saw's blade with a grinding wheel, makes any appropriate height & angle adjustments to the saw, and uses the radial arm to move the grinding wheel in and out, precisely along the blade to be sharpened. Sharpening guru David Webber (who has taught courses on the subject) showed us various sharpening jigs and tools that he favors, including a Veritas grinder toolrest.

The Guild's contest for the best shop-built tool chest or cabinet drew a number of entries, differing widely in style. Paul Steel's handsome walnut machinist's chest with box joints, brass hardware and a tung oil finish took first prize. Don Ransom won second prize with his small three drawer curly maple chest with sliding dovetail top and shellac finish. Roger Earley took third place with a dovetailed cedar chest with silver maple detail, finished in tung oil and wax. Other worthy entries included Dave Sokoloski's case for his Stanley 55 combination plane – a box done in Baltic birch plywood with walnut and cherry accents, finished with Danish oil – and Jim Kirkbride's laminated plywood "castle of the church key" bottle, and Jeremy Noblett's large pine tool cabinet with shelves and brass hardware.

At show and tell Paul Welsh presented crude but versatile "Irish tool bins" -- stackable carriers that not only combine tool carrying and storage but serve well as jobsite benches, tables, desks, sawhorses and low scaffolding. Chuck Paris showed us his improvements on an inexpensive Chinese violin. He improved its tonal quality by replacing the wooden sound post with a spring, and by replacing the factory polyurethane finish with a mixed varnish of his own formulation (20 parts glossy polyurethane, 20 parts McCloskey spar varnish, 2 parts boiled linseed oil and 1 part Japan drier).

Tom Henke won the raffle prize, a four piece Starrett combination square set.

June 15, 2005 Meeting Highlights:

Our thanks to Woodcraft and Manager Mike Okner for hosting the Guild at the impressively stocked Woodcraft store on Route 13, and for the 10% discount offered to members that evening. Mike and his colleagues explained and demonstrated for us a goodly number of the latest precision tools and equipment available from Woodcraft.

Guild President John Dunbar proposed a volunteer Guild project. The plan is to build together an impressive piece of reproduction furniture such as a Baltimore Card table, to be auctioned in support of a worthy charity. This will be discussed further at meetings this fall.

The raffle winners were Bob Cooke and Tim Sabo, each of whom received a \$20.00 Woodcraft gift certificate.

September 21, 2005 Meeting Agenda:

The theme of the meeting will be inlay work. Gary Hayes will describe and demonstrate inlay techniques. Also, John Dunbar will demonstrate the new Veritas Honing Guide.

As always, please bring "show and tell" items. Those who do will receive two FREE raffle tickets. This month's raffle prize will be a Veritas Medium Shoulder Plane – the one chosen as Best in Class by Fine Woodworking magazine.

Annual Picnic:

The picnic will be held Saturday, October 1 from 10:30 to 1:00 at the picnic area of DuPont's Chestnut Run Plaza (off Rte. 48 near its intersection with Rte. 141). There will be fun, fellowship, food and raffle prizes for members, guests and children. So bring out the whole family, including children and grandchildren, and friends too, for a good time. Please sign up at the September meeting, so we can plan the number of prizes and the amount of food. Also, we need volunteers to organize and work at the picnic. The Board will meet 7:00 pm Wednesday September 28 at Rich Libera's house to finalize arrangements as to the picnic.

Benefactors of the Guild:

Several merchants, suppliers and restaurants have been generous in supporting the Guild; please keep these friends in mind when you make purchases: Woodcraft, Highland Hardware, Lee Valley and Veritas, Café Gelato, Fair Hill Inn, Eagle Diner and Giordano's of Kennett Square.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance forward at 4/26/05		2221.49
Raffle Earnings, May and June Meetings	55.00+	
May and June Newsletters	158.16-	
To Veterans Cemetery in Memory of Joe Costello	40.00-	
Hodgson School shop "rent"	30.00-	
Gift Certificates and Other Prizes]	157.95-	
Refund (to member who overpaid dues)	5.00-	
Ending Balance at 8/17/05		1885.38

By: Richard Libera, Treasurer

About Dues:

Dues are \$35.00 per calendar year, and the dues for calendar 2006 are to be paid before December 31, 2005. By custom most members pay at the September or October meeting. This promptness is much appreciated; it helps in planning and eases the work of the Treasurer.

2005–06 Meeting Schedule:

Dates: Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month of the school year, September through May. This year's dates (except for April) follow that pattern; the dates are: September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 12 and May 17. April's meeting is on the second Wednesday because our usual meeting place is unavailable on the third Wednesday. The Guild often has a June meeting, and normally does not meet in July and August.

Place & Time: During the school year we normally meet in the Carpenter Shop at Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Glasgow, DE; June meetings are elsewhere. At Hodgson we meet from 7:00 pm to about 9:00 pm. Some arrive earlier, which is fine -- the shop is open to us around 6:00 pm. The school entrance is on **business** 896 (Glasgow Avenue, old 896) south of Rte. 40, and the shop is in the rear by the dust collection system. Park in the side lot near the shop; **violators of parking rules may be towed.** Whenever the school is closed due to weather, that evening's meeting is cancelled. Closings are broadcast by local radio stations; and WDEL reports them online at www.wdel.com, News Center, SnoWatch.

Board Meetings: The Board ordinarily meets immediately after each Guild meeting. Board Meetings are open to all Guild members. The Board will meet 7:00 pm Wednesday September 28 at Rich Libera's house, to finalize arrangements as to the October 1 Annual Picnic.

**Win a Free Raffle Ticket – Just Fill out this
Survey and turn it in at the September Meeting**

1. What type of woodworking do you do? _____

2. What would you like more information about? _____

3. What types of demonstrations and presentations would you like to see?

4. What would you be interested in demonstrating or showing to the group?

5. Do you know of anyone else who might be interested in demonstrating a skill or method to the group?

Your Name (Please print)

Woodwords on the Brandywine
September, 2005

Woodworkers Guild of Delaware
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Newark, DE 19711

WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS FOR 2005-06

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