



WOODWORDS ON THE BRANDYWINE

Woodworkers Guild of Delaware

Volume 19, No. 1

September, 2007

www.delawarewoodworkers.org

May 16, 2007 Meeting Highlights

The Guild elected its 2007-08 Board at this meeting: President, John Dunbar. Vice President, Jim Stevens. Treasurer, Richard Libera. Second Treasurer, John Baker. Newsletter Editor, Pell Sherman. Librarian, Tim Sabo. Hardware Librarian, Jerry Sheeran. Raffle Manager, Chuck Skelley. Membership Chairman, Pell Sherman. Webmaster, Bill Wuhrman. Program Committee: Tony Albano, Pell Sherman, Charles Given and Roger Earley.

The featured speakers were two downstate woodworkers active in the Mason-Dixon Woodworkers Club. After an introduction by Mason-Dixon Past President Pat Lemley, Karson Morrison presented his award winning cradle/glider and Don Conners presented several distinctive wooden toys which that club traditionally produces by the hundreds for charities -- a program that Don chairs.

Karson Morrison's cradle/glider is an astonishing concept, handsomely executed --he has invented and engineered a previously unknown furniture form. The piece was featured in the March 2007 Woodcraft magazine and is pictured at www.flickr.com/photos/karson. Asked by a family member to build a cradle, he examined traditional cradles with rockers, found them wanting, and proceeded to create something different and better. Suspended like a porch glider at a much higher level, his cradle/glider allows mother to lower a drop-down side and put the baby (or two) aboard without having to bend down -- it's far easier on her back. It rocks more quietly with a gentler, more pleasing motion, and when baby outgrows the cradle the side is removed, the movable part is lowered to seat level by substituting longer suspension rods, and the piece becomes a gliding chair, elegantly veneered in waterfall bubinga. Karson explained in detail how he designed and built it, and provided many useful woodworking tips. He also presented and explained two attractive tables that he built -- a small one done in holly with unusual markings and a Greene & Greene style black poplar side table.

Many thanks to Karson, Don and Pat for a first-rate presentation. Their group, the Mason-Dixon Woodworkers Club, meets on the third Thursday of alternate months (September 20 is next) at the VFW hall in Delmar.

There was discussion about the membership drive (see below) and members presented the holders they have made to display our recruiting brochure on store counters. Special thanks to Rich Libera, Hans Francke and Jerry Sheeran, each whom designed and built brochure holders. Also, the Guild presented a Craftsman drill/driver set to retiring Editor Paul Welsh, in appreciation of his three years' service in producing this newsletter.

At show and tell Bill Walters presented an impressive bow front table that he built based on plans from the October 2006 Wood magazine. The top is

leopardwood, with maple legs and a curved apron of kerfed birch plywood. Bill explained several of the steps in building it, showed us the ingenious method he used to lay out the ellipse, and explained the jig used to cut the many evenly spaced kerfs needed to make the gracefully curved front. Congratulations to Bill on a fine project, and thanks for sharing it with us.

Harry Coulsting won the raffle prize, a 14.5 volt Craftsman drill-driver and light set.

2007-08 Meeting Schedule Dates

Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month of the school year, September through May. This year's meeting dates are as follows:

- September 19, 2007
- October 17, 2007
- November 14, 2007*
- December 19, 2007
- January 16, 2008
- February 20, 2008
- March 19, 2008
- April 16, 2008
- May 21, 2008

* Meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of November due to school closing for Thanksgiving holiday

Place & Time

We meet in the Carpenter Shop at Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Glasgow, DE from 7:00 pm to about 9:00 pm. The shop is open to us around 6:00 pm. The school entrance is on old 896 (Glasgow Avenue) 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.

Board Meetings

The Board of the Guild ordinarily meets one week after Guild meetings, on the following Wednesday. Other Guild members who care to attend are welcome.

September 2007 Meeting Agenda

Our guest speaker will be Eric Bostic, a local luthier. For those that are not familiar with luthier, it is a title that guitar makers prefer. This should be a very interesting presentation. Thanks to Eric and hope to see you there.

This month's raffle prize will be a \$50.00 gift certificate from Woodcraft. As always please bring "show and tell" items; those who do will receive two FREE raffle tickets.

Annual Picnic

This year (2007) our annual picnic will be held Saturday, October 13. As in years past, it will be held at the Chestnut Run Plaza recreation area of the DuPont Company, located in the southeast corner of routes 141 and 48. Our reservation is from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Workers usually arrive at 9:00 am or before, and partying members and guests usually arrive about 10:30-11:00 am.

Val Di Emedio and his brother Dominick have once again volunteered to run the operation and to the cooking (however, Val may need more help than in the past as he will have surgery in September).

Please plan to attend. Bring your partner, children, grandchildren, and guests. As in recent years, we will have raffle prizes for children, guests, and members.

There will be a sign-up sheet at our September meeting for expected attendees to aid in planning for food, gifts, and so on, and a sheet for members who will volunteer to bring dishes, desserts, salads, etc.

Treasurer's Report

Balance forward at 4/30/2007	\$187.70
Gift certificate and raffle prizes	89.99
May newsletter	101.95
Stamps and postage items	67.60
School-use fee	30
Lie-Nielsen gift items	247.50
Ending balance at 8/29/2007	1328.66

Richard Libera, Treasurer

Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are \$35.00 per member or \$40.00 for a family and include ONE mailing of our newsletter. Dues are payable before 12/31/07, preferably by check (that minimizes errors). Many members pay at earlier meetings, including September and October. This promptness is appreciated, because it simplifies Board planning and the work of the Treasurer.

Open Guild Officer Positions

The Guild is currently seeking volunteers for the following positions:

Associate Treasurer—Authority to write checks and succeed current treasurer
Program Committee Member—Volunteers are needed for the Program Committee
Librarian—Volunteer to care for Guild books at our meetings (and elsewhere).

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, Giordano's of Kennet Square, and The Learning Station,

Membership Drive:

Brochures were distributed to Woodcraft in New Castle, Shones in Stanton, Brosius and Eliason in New Castle, 84 lumber in Newark and Home Depot in Stanton and Glasgow. Lowes, Harbor Freight and Home Depot have a no solicitation policy so they will not take the brochures. Some of Home Depot will take them but not all. Brochures are still being delivered to various stores and hopefully you will see them at your favorite store. If not ask them if they would allow the brochures. Brochures will be available at the meetings for any of you that would like to take some and distribute in your area.

Craft Fair at Woodcraft:

There will be a craft fair at the Woodcraft store in New Castle on Saturday, September 22, 2007 9:00am – 5:00pm (rain date: Sat., Sept. 29). You are invited to browse shop or even show and sell your stuff! Here's a great chance to see quality craft items made by local woodworkers. You're welcome to exhibit if you want to show off your stuff and maybe make a few bucks. Either way it's going to be a fun event for all! FREE SawStop and Freud DEMOS and DOORPRIZES Don't miss the amazing SawStop demo...see a hotdog narrowly avert disaster! SawStop is the world's only table saw that instantly stops the blade to save your fingers.

FREUD rep will be offering FREE DEMOS of the their new architectural moulding bits for crown mouldings. Free Freud door prizes to lucky attendees.

- No fee to attend or exhibit in the Craft Fair and demos.
- Bring your own table, chair or other props to display your items. (complete info below)

- Album of other sample projects.
- Handouts and business cards for interested prospects, especially if you do custom items.
- Have plenty of change for cash sales. Accept checks at your own risk.
- You keep the proceeds. The store is simply hosting this event for you to be the star.

Suggested wooden craft items (items made by you and/or family members.
(NO RESALES)

- Turned pens, Bottle Stoppers, Peppermills, and Bowls
- Cutting boards, Clocks, Musical instruments
- Scroll saw (decorative and functional items)
- Jewelry Boxes & Music Boxes
- Carvings, Walking Staff & Canes
- Small Furnishings & Accessories

If you'd like to exhibit at this outdoors fair, let Woodcraft know how much space they need to reserve for you. Call Woodcraft, 302 323-0400.

Ash baseball bats may be a thing of the past

Richard Libera forwarded an article about the emerald ash borer that may destroy the ash used in baseball bats. The article will be at the meeting for your review.

Proposal

We propose that guild members jointly build two Federal Style Baltimore Card Tables. The guild will supply the lumber and plans for the project and members will volunteer to build a portion of the project. When the tables are complete, we will auction them and the proceeds will be donated to a local charity.

The purpose of this project is:

Increase existing skills to the next level
Learn new skills
Contribute to the Community
Develop mentoring relationships in the guild
Solicit more membership volunteering
Encourage members to meet beyond the monthly meetings

Dedicate thirty minutes of each monthly meeting to this project
Demonstrate how when spectacular pieces are broken down into small manageable tasks, all of us are capable of making seemingly complicated furniture.

The project will be organized as follows:

The project will be broken down into eight activities; legs, apron, top, stringing, banding, inlays, veneering and finishing.

We need at least two volunteers for each activity, preferably one knowledgeable with the activity and one that desires to learn or improve their skills for that activity.

Starting with the legs, apron and top; we will supply each group with the plans and materials to build two sets of the activity they volunteered for. The group will get together and build their section of the table. If possible take as many photos as possible and we will publish them on our web site. The group will be given a schedule to complete their activity. At completion, the group will bring their work to the scheduled meeting and spend thirty minutes in the meeting demonstrating and talking about the piece they completed. If possible they can build one piece at home and the second piece in the meeting. They will then pass the completed piece to the next group for further incorporation into the project. By the end of the meeting year, we will have two completed tables.

Please sign up at the September meeting or contact John Dunbar to participate in this project. We will need to start the legs and apron immediately to begin the project.



Woodworkers Guild of Delaware
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WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS FOR 2006-07

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| President:
John Dunbar, 302-376-1927 | Raffle Manager:
Chuck Skelley, 302-737-2033 |
| Vice President:
Jim Stevens, 302-239-4713 | Membership Chairman:
Pell Sherman, 302-832-2872 |
| Treasurer:
Richard Libera, 302-368-8035 | Webmaster:
Bill Wuhrman, 610-869-0383 |
| Second Treasurer:
John Baker, 302-834-1548 | Library Committee:
David Sokolowski, 410-398-3564 |
| Newsletter Editor:
Paul Welsh, 302-235-2080 | Tim Sabo, 302-376-0382 |
| Second Editor:
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| Hardware Librarian:
Jerry Sheeran, 610-268-3467 | Program Committee:
Tony Albano, 610-268-3833 |
| | Roger Earley, 302-998-4855 |
| | Vincent Passalacqua, 302-378-3649 |
| | Charles Given, 302-292-2724 |
| | Jim Kirkbride, 302-999-8112 |