



# MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



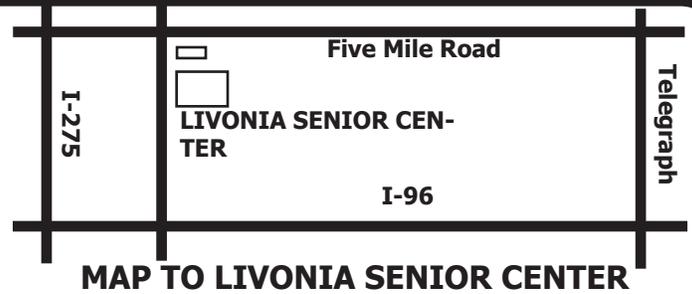
Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) December 2018 Vol. 39 No. 11

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

At the Livonia Senior Center from 2:00 to 4:30 pm  
The raffle and other activities from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

This is our annual "bring the spouses" meeting and includes a light buffet. **Al Eicher** will return with a program remembering **OLD TIME RADIO**.

The December luncheon will be at the Senate Coney Island on the 20th at 1:16 pm (see map on page 7)



**MWG THEATER--"MASTER YOUR BANDSAW"** by Marc Duginske. Starts at 12:30. Marc shows you how to precisely tune and accurately use your bandsaw to achieve optimum performance.



## THE HANDS OF CRAFTSMEN

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The **January 13** meeting will be at the **Livonia Senior Center**. **Jim Kudej** will demonstrate **Shaker Box Making**.

The **February 10** meeting will be at the **Livonia Senior Center**. Join **Tec Jig Demo**. **Bill Rigstad** and **Clay Bolduc**.

The **March 10** meeting will be at the **Livonia Senior Center**. Our **Annual Showcase of Skills**

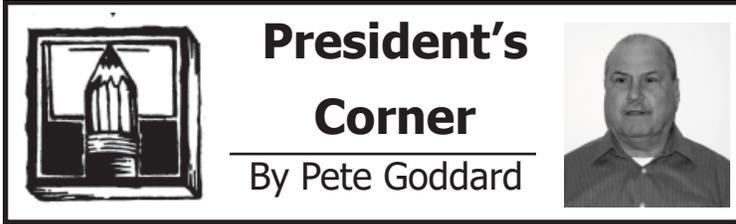
The **April 14** meeting will be at the **Royal Oak Senior Center**. Program to be determined

The **January** luncheon will be at Georges Coney Island on the **24th** at 1:16 pm

The **February** luncheon will be at Georges Coney Island on the **28th** at 1:16 pm

The **March** luncheon will be at Georges Coney Island on the **28th** at 1:16 pm

The **April** luncheon will be at Georges Coney Island on the **25th** at 1:16 pm



## President's Corner

By Pete Goddard



Thanksgiving is now over. I hope that each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, full of family and friends. The 'silly' season is upon us. Hopefully, each of us has the patience to deal with what that does to so many people.

The annual December meeting and Christmas season luncheon includes a presentation on "Old Time Radio" by Al Eicher, a professional speaker. This should be an interesting presentation. Previous presentations by Al Eicher have been well received by Guild attendees. I hope to see everyone there.

The November meeting went well. The round robin of speakers did a good job of keeping the audience interest. I was a little surprised at the level of interest in the scroll saw part of the presentation. While surprisingly useful, many woodworkers relegate the scroll saw to a secondary status when compared to other shop tools. The audience seemed to appreciate its usefulness. Clay Bolduc did an excellent job in his box presentation. Clay is well known in the Guild for some of the outstanding boxes he has brought to various 'Showcase Of Skills' meetings over the years. Tony Gigliotti's overview of shop maintenance was also well received. A lot of interest was also evident in Bill Gayde's presentation on the hobby shop he runs for Fox Run retirement community, where he lives.

As part of the November meeting, an executive board meeting was held. We invited Jerry Romito to the meeting. (*Any member is welcome to attend these meetings.*) As part of the meeting we convinced Jerry to help us out by taking over the appointed position of programs chairman. He has also been nominated for one of the Director At Large positions. We still need a candidate for the Vice President office and for the Web Site. We will hold final nominations as part of the December meeting. Volunteers for either of the open positions (or any other position) are solicited. The VP position only has the duty of attending executive committee meetings and of running the monthly meeting if the President is not available. Overseeing the web site is a bit more involved.

As part of the November meeting, I asked for all Veterans of our armed forces to stand and be recognized for their contribution to all of us. I may have seemed a little uncomfortable during that part of the meeting. I am a Veteran, having served in the Air Force a half a century ago. While I never want to see us return to the days when those serving in our armed forces were disparaged, as they were during the years I served, I am also uncomfortable with the current (in my opinion) overdone focus on service performed, often long ago. I choose to share with you something I wrote a couple of years ago after having been thanked for my service by a customer at an AARP tax preparation site where I was a volunteer tax preparer.

### Thank You For Your Service

I was treated to this shopworn platitude again yesterday. Not the first time. Almost certainly not the last time. I served in the United States Air Force from April 1965 to April 1969. My service was not particularly exciting. I was stationed thousands of miles from any active combat. I simply dedicated four years of my life to the needs of a country that I love. As a veteran, I ask that you recognize my service in the only appropriate way – through service of your own. Please, do a tour of service in the military, join the Peace Corps, become a police officer, a fireman or other first responder, donate time to work with those less fortunate than you, volunteer for community service in your city, your county, or your state. Coach a youth league, do volunteer work for a charity, a museum, a library, or in a thousand other ways. Give back. None of the great things of this country are free. They are a result of people giving of themselves for the greater good. So please, the next time you run into a veteran, don't embarrass them with your platitudes. They served this country, not for you, but out of a love and respect for something greater than themselves. Think instead of how to really show appreciation for all that our veterans and others have given over the many years that have yielded the United States of America. Give of your time, your participation.

In the 1970s, I caught a ride with a young woman who had a small engraved plaque attached to her dashboard. It read simply: grass, gas, ass, nobody rides free. It's kind of like that. We all owe something. Certainly not all Veterans feel this way, but many do.

Having said my piece for the month, I wish you all the most wonderful of holiday seasons, full of family, friends, and enough good food to make sure your new year's resolution includes a diet. I'll see you at the December meeting.



## MEETING REVIEW

By Dale Aushman



The November Guild meeting in Livonia consisted of informative and entertaining member presentations. President Pete Goddard gave an overview of scroll saw uses, tradeoffs between available types and features, and advice on evaluating one's needs for such a tool. Clay Bolduc then demonstrated efficient making of a quality box on the router table. Tony Gigliotti followed with a presentation on shop maintenance to enhance efficiency and safety. Then Bill Gayde wrapped up the meeting with a video overview of the woodshop at the Fox Run retirement community. Time did not allow Ken Wolf to give his presentation on the Drill Doctor bit sharpening system, nor for Bill Rigstad to demonstrate half blind dovetails. I hope the Guild can schedule these for a future meeting.



Pete recommended Patrick Spielman's *The New Scroll Saw Handbook* as an excellent reference, available from Amazon in paperback for as low as \$4.50. Wikipedia defines a scroll saw as a small electric or pedal-operated saw used to cut intricate curves in wood, metal, or other materials. The fineness of its blade allows it to cut more delicately than a power jigsaw, and more easily than a hand coping saw or fretsaw.

Pete said the blade drive types of powered scroll saws

include strainer, constant tension, c-arm, parallel arm, and parallel link. He showed the mechanical design and example models of each type. It seems the most prevalent in shops today are the parallel link type, with the characteristics of near-zero blade front to back movement, near constant tension drive to minimize blade breakage, and reduced vibration. At least one model allows for tilting head instead of tilting table, which is important for inlay and marquetry where angled cutting is required. Two saws of this type are on the market, the DeWalt DW788 (about \$500) and the Excalibur (about \$800 - \$1,000). The more costly Excalibur has a tilting cutting head and a lifting top arm, which better facilitates the insertion of the blade in the multiple pilot holes associated with fretwork and marquetry. Pete listed the scroll saw features/accessories to consider are; blade drive type (listed above), blade type (pin vs. plain end) and size/TPI, stroke length, throat depth, blade replacement ease, variable speed, vibration, tension adjustment, upper arm lift (Excalibur), power switch location, cut-line blower for dust, lighting, magnification, stand, and dust collection provisions.

Pete summarized by stating that if you do any small, detailed work then you will want to have a scroll saw. They always seem to make themselves useful in unexpected ways. But he warns that inexpensive high-vibration scroll saws are not particularly useful.





Clay Bolduc has always impressed the Guild with the neatness and precision of his woodworking as evidenced in the pieces he shares in our meetings and the annual Showcase of Skills. He continued in this tradition with his demonstration of making a small precision box using only a router table and a few readily available bits. Apparently this project is a classic, sometimes called "Making a One Piece Box on the Router Table." There is a good description of the process at WoodWorkWeb.com

(<https://www.woodworkweb.com/woodwork-topics/furniture-making/380-making-a-one-piece-box-on-the-router-table29.html>).

There is an accompanying YouTube Video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyj7iklFLRA&t=19s>.

The "one piece" in these previous references refer to the fact that the box can be made from a single piece of wood. With care, the pieces can be selected such that the grain runs continuously around three of the four vertical joints of the box. Clay did not emphasize the one-piece aspect but did suggest an efficient way of getting the six required 3/8 in. thick pieces from standard 3/4 in. thick stock (Clay used white pine). One resaws enough 3/4 in stock to 7/16 in. rough sawn (one side) to get four of the six box sides. These are sanded or milled to 3/8 in. The cutoffs are approximately 1/4 in rough cut (one side), which can be milled to 3/16 in. Two of the latter are glued (laminated) to make a 3/8 board to supply the remaining two sides of the box!

The box is constructed using rabbeted lap joints, which are strong and nice looking. Rabbet depth is 3/16 in. on all the 3/8 in. parts. The top and bottom are rabbeted on all four edges, the sides on two end edges, and the ends are not rabbeted at all. The rabbets are all cut on the router table using a rabbet bit with a 3/8 bearing installed. To prevent tear-out, route the end-grain rabbets first. All six of these pieces can be assembled to make a box, but before assembly and gluing, a 3/8 in. dado is cut on the inside of all four

sides, these dados being part of the cuts which allow removal of the top after glue up of the assembly. Placement of this dado is what later determines the height of the box top. The dados are cut on the router table using a 3/8 in. up-cut spiral bit. Once these interior dados are cut, the box may be assembled with glue (after external marking the location of the interior dado described below). One can use blue painters tape to "clamp" the box for drying.

To remove the top after the glued assembly is dried, one cuts another 3/8 in. dado around all four sides of the assembled box, but with the dado lowered relative to the interior dado by nominally 1/2 the dado width. This clever cut results not only in separating the top, but also leaves a lip and matching rabbet for alignment and seating of the lid! (The height of the lip is set by how far down from the interior dado you cut the exterior dado, but 1/2 of the dado (3/16 in.) is a good number.) The depth of the exterior dado is cut a tiny bit more than 3/16 in. to allow some play in how the lid seats on the lip. The amount of excess depth determines the "play" in the lid, with 1/64 in. to 1/32 in. being a good range. Since this depth cuts completely into the interior dado it also completely frees the top from the bottom. Thus to keep the box assembled while these dados are completed, insert and tape a pre-cut 3/8 in. shim into each dado after cutting before moving to the next side dado. Also, before cutting off the top, use a round-over bit to round all edges of the box. This is easier to do before cutting off the top. I believe that Clay uses a 3/16 in. round-over for this box design, which nicely matches the 3/16 in. un-rabbeted ends of the edges. After a little sanding the box is ready for finishing. This is a really cute and efficient way to make great little boxes for our Children's hospital box donations.

Tony Gigliotti followed Clay with a presentation of shop maintenance processes for a safe and efficient workplace. Tony recommends:

- Avoid wasted space – if you haven't used something in a couple of years, why keep it around?

- Food and drink consumables do not belong in the shop, ever.
- Keep eye glasses and safety glasses clean. Tony uses hot water with Dawn dish detergent. Do



not dry with paper towels as they can cause scratches.

- Wear hearing protection. Foam earplugs are a convenient solution.
- Wear dust mask. Tony recommends the Eclipse 100. Shake out and store in plastic bag after each use.
- Create a maintenance "wallet" – digital photos of ALL of your tools and machines for insurance purposes, with a second set stored off site.
- Clean shop at end of each day so you have a clean shop to which to return.
- Undertake spring cleaning each year, such as cleaning all light bulbs and tubes, and removing all glue clumps from clamps, resurface bench tops as needed, etc. (Also give LED lighting a try.)
- Keep tools well organized in regular storage spaces and containers, so that they can be quickly retrieved when needed.
- Check squareness of squares (mark, turn, mark and compare).
- Use a "file card" to clean files and rasps.
- Stick a note on tools which need sharpening. Have a regular periodic sharpening session.
- Use dry lubricant on machine and vise gears and sliding surfaces.
- Use a machine dial gauge and machinist's thickness

strips to check flatness and clearance of surfaces. (Tony uses a Oneway part No. 2289 - Multi-Gauge, \$95 at Oneway Manufacturing. [<https://oneway.ca/index.php?route=common/home>])



To wrap up the meeting Bill Gayde regaled us with a video tour of the Fox Run woodshop. Fox run is the premier retirement community near Novi MI where Bill and his wife reside. The woodshop is one of the world-class amenities at Fox Run, and since moving there Bill has made many improvements and contributions to the facility. (Fox Run knows an expert when they see it.) There is a small annual fee for the members of the facility, all of whom receive safety training on the machines and equipment. There are approximately 50 members of the group. The shop is an extensive, fully equipped facility with a tool room, paint room, and machine room. The machine room contains just about every woodworking machine one can imagine, all connected to dust collection systems. There is some lumber provided, but generally members of the woodshop provide their own lumber and materials. This shop certainly makes our past president feel right at home, and Bill is providing great expertise and services to his fellow woodworking residents.

We thank Pete, Clay and Tony for their educational and entertaining presentations, and Bill for sharing an important part of his new life in the retirement community.





## OPEN FORUM

**By Bill Rigstad**

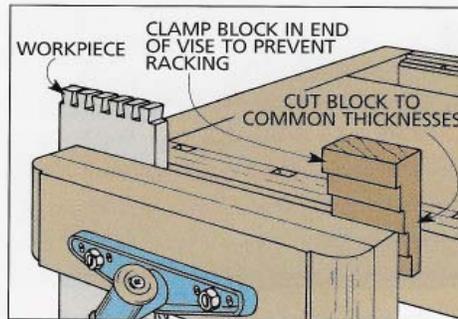


### *Preventing Vise Rack*

One of the problems with vises is that they can rack. If you tighten down a piece of wood in one end of the vise, the other end toes in.

This racking means pressure will be applied only to one edge of the workpiece, causing the assembly to pivot or spin as you work on it.

To prevent this, I made a stepped block. Then I choose the thickness on the block closest to my workpiece and slip it into the other end of the vise. Once it's tightened down, the workpiece is held tight.



▲ **Notched Block.** For workbenches that have a heavy bench vise with a wood face, I use this notched block to prevent vise rack.



### **Michigan Naturals**

DECORATIVE CABINET HARDWARE  
www.MichiganNaturals.net

Ann Ivory  
313-506-1963



## GRACE WHITE GLASS

Art You Can Grasp

DECORATIVE CABINET HARDWARE

**Ann Ivory**

call (313) 506-1963

www.GraceWhiteHardware.com

Made by  in Michigan



**MARSH POWER TOOLS**

SALES AND AUTHORIZED FACTORY SERVICE

**20579 Middlebelt**  
Livonia, MI 48152  
**(248) 476-7744**

**7187 Grand River Ave.**  
Brighton, MI 48114  
**(810) 220-1122**

**Fax: (248) 476-1090**



# FREE \$25 GIFT CARD WHEN YOU BUY THE KREG K4 OR K5 JIG



**\$139<sup>00</sup>**

### KREG JIG® K4 MASTER POCKET HOLE JOINERY SYSTEM

- Includes Kreg Jig Master System, face clamp, portable base, drill guide spacer, flip-down stop, dust shroud, 3/8" stepped drill bit, 6" square driver, starter screw set, starter plug set and manual

SKU: 41410



**\$159<sup>00</sup>**

### KREG JIG® K5 POCKET HOLE MASTER SYSTEM

- Front-mounted clamp self-adjusts to match workpiece thickness
- Included 3" Automaxx clamp easily adjusts to fit boards up to 2 7/8" thick

SKU: 50424



Create with Confidence™

**HOLIDAY SALE PRICING VALID 11/23-12/24/18**

26160 Ingersol Drive • Novi, MI 48375

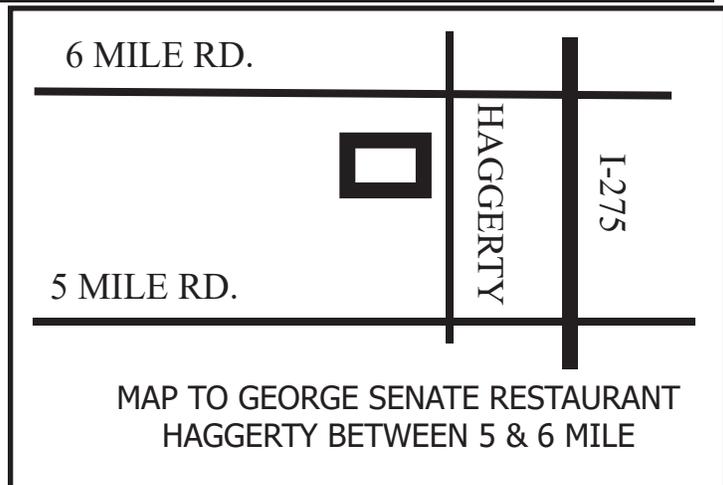
(248) 543-5110 • Rockler.com

Store Hours: M-F 9 am - 7 pm • Sat 9 am - 6 pm • Sun 11 am - 4 pm

For membership information contact Ed

Thomas at: [edwardthomas554@comcast.net](mailto:edwardthomas554@comcast.net).

For name tags, sign up with Ed Stuckey at a regular meeting.



**GLENN WING  
POWER TOOLS**

33656 Woodward Ave.  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 644-0444  
(248) 644-5790 Fax  
(800) 821-5177 (US)  
(800) 448-1572 (MI)

Jeff Wilmot

**TREE-PURPOSED**

**CUSTOM WOODWORK & MILL**  
Live Edge Slabs & Urban Lur  
Barn Wood & Salvaged W  
Firew

**JASON CO**  
Office (734) 751-6  
Cell (734) 658-2

DETROIT



**Michigan Woodworkers' Guild**  
**41110 Fox Run Rd. #208**  
**Novi, Michigan 48377**

## **The Picture Gallery**



**AN APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE**



**PETE GODDARD'S INTRICATE  
SCROLL WORK**