Saturday, March 7th, 2015 12:00 - 4:00 PM
The MWG presents its annual Showcase Of Skills featuring displays by Guild members who will discuss the techniques used to create their projects

The March luncheon will be at Jimi’s on Thursday the 26th at 1:15 PM.

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Calendar Of Events

The April 2015 meeting will include a presentation on Windsor Chairs by Jim Crammond. The meeting will be held at the TechShop on April 12th.

The April 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi’s in Royal Oak on the 23rd.

The May 2015 meeting will feature a round robin of Guild members presenting topics where they have a noted skill and expertise. The meeting will be held held at the TechShop on May 17th.

The May 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi’s in Royal Oak on the 28th.

June 2015 will be taken as a month off. No meetings or other activities are scheduled. No newsletter will be published for June.

The June 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi’s in Royal Oak on the 25th.

July 2015 will be taken as a month off. No meetings or other activities are scheduled. No newsletter will be published for July.

There is no monthly luncheon scheduled for July.
The Guild this year did not have a general meeting for the month of February. Instead we participated at the Woodworking Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi for three days. The attendance was down on Saturday and Sunday due to bad weather conditions. We had not been to this location in almost six years. As usual our members showed up and did an excellent job representing the Guild. It was decided at the show that our old display booth had its day and it was given away to vendors who participated at the show. It took quite a bit of effort to transport our booth which weighed a lot. It would take two trucks to haul it from Warren to the next show. Therefore we are looking for some ideas from the Guild members on how to construct a new lightweight display booth. Let me know or any board members for any ideas that you may come up with. Let your creative juices flow. I would like to thank the following Guild members who helped set up and worked at the show. Ken Wolf, Sally and Bill Rigstad, Bill Gayde, Mike Suplinski, Gary Assarian, Dale Ausherman, Larry Balash, Erik Blom, Clay Bolduc, Vince Choraszewski, Jule Clough, John Dolinsky, Tony Gigliotti, Pete Goddard, Rich Hebert, Jim Kudej, Larry Last, Dave McCagg, Jim Morningstar, John Sanders, Steve Skowronski, Greg Smith, Ed Stuckey, Ed Thomas and Ben Zoffolo.

Saturday, March 7th we will have our annual Showcase of Woodworking Skills at the TechShop in Allen Park. The location is 800 Republic Drive, just east of Southfield and south of Rotunda. It is the first building behind the Detroit Lions practice facility. The time of the show is from 12 noon till 4:00 PM. Setups begin starting at 10:00 AM. This show is open to the general public for viewing. Because we have a limited number of tables the display area is for Michigan Woodworker Guild members only. This is the way it has always been done in the past. Last year we had people walking off the street and setting up shop who were not members of the Guild. This will not happen again. Last year I was on crutches from a severe knee injury and was not able to get around very well. That is not the case this year. I would like to see as many Guild members at the show as possible. Even if you do not bring anything to the show it would be nice to support your fellow woodworkers. I need 8 volunteers to work the front desk as people are arriving. This would be 4 one hour shifts. Please let me know if you could be of assistance. My phone number is (313) 268-8598 or email sanchezart@aol.com. Hope to see everyone at the show. Let's have better weather.

I mentioned in last month’s article that I was in the process of completing the construction of a vacuum chuck for my lathe. I was also setting up the vacuum system to support work with veneer. That task is now completed and turned out very well. Once a workpiece is attached to the chuck and the vacuum applied, I cannot pull the piece off. Obviously, a major catch could potentially dislodge the workpiece during aggressive turning, but it would be a truly major catch to cause the piece to be thrown from the lathe. When I applied the vacuum set up to veneering a curved piece, the vacuum immediately and forcefully pulled the veneer tight against the curve. Basically, it worked like a charm. I stand behind last month’s recommendation of considering the “Frugal Vacuum Chuck” as a way to get a vacuum set up going that won’t bruise the family budget too severely.

As part of my experimentation with veneering, I intend to try ‘Hammer Veneering’. This requires the use of hide glue. The hot hide glue is put on the substrate and the veneer and the hammer is then used to force the veneer in contact with the substrate. As the glue thins out due to pressure from the veneer hammer, immediate adhesion between the veneer and the substrate occurs. Unfortunately, using hide glue requires some form of glue pot. The local woodworking stores offer these at ~$140 - a little high for something you just want to try. I found a way around this. Your local beauty supply store sells wax heaters. Members may remember these from the last time they had a bikini wax? A nice wax heater runs about $30 and with some ingenuity can be repurposed to heating hide glue. I’ll let you know how this all works out in the next month or two.

The March meeting is the annual Showcase of Skills. I always consider this to be one of the most interesting meetings. The projects displayed run the gamut from fairly simple to detailed and difficult reproduction pieces. The maker is there with the piece, so questions can be asked and clever resolutions of difficult processes shared.
March 28-29, 2015

Saturday, March 28 10am-4pm
Sunday, March 29 10am-4pm

The Great Lakes Chapter has been invited back to the DIA to give another workshop. Our last event in March 2014 was extremely successful and the DIA was very happy with the outcome. Over 1100 visitors attended the 2 day sessions. We will be back in the Great Hall.

Many SAPFM members are also members of the Michigan Woodworkers’ Guild.

As a group we want to demonstrate the techniques of 18th Century Period Furniture construction so the public will have a better understanding and hopefully an appreciation for period furniture. This includes recognition of its utilitarian function and its existence as an art form.

1. We will be giving ongoing demonstrations: How to construct mortise and tenon joints, dovetails, 6 panel chest construction, ball and claw feet, cabriole legs, shell carving, Pole Lathe turning, Hand plane construction and use, trifid foot carving, knuckle joint construction, shaving horse demo, plus more.

2. Member’s furniture will be on display, a great attraction last time.

3. DIA trained docents and our members will be giving guided tours of the DIA’s 18th century furniture collection located in the American Wing.

4. Admission is without charge for Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb county residents.

Hello, Fellow History Lovers,

In building the general store and repairing the various buildings in our village, I have noticed there were no standard board sizes and building methods. Many of our old buildings are “timber-framed”, like an old time barn, but some are more a hybrid of the modern 2”x4” “stick” or “platform” construction.

Today 2”x4” is the standard framing material so I studied the evolution of the lowly 2x4.

Until the middle of the 19th century, building lumber was usually produced in a locality close to the place where it was to be used. Sizes were not a problem. The needs of builders in the locality were well understood and carpenters were accustomed to much more hand fitting on the job than they are today. In about 1830 the saw mill was invented so standard sizes became a possibility, but the carpenters were used to making and using boards that fit right. So this explains why we see every size and actually type of wood. I have seen oak, pine, cedar and other types all right next to each other holding up walls and floors. The Northville saw mill was originally on Ambler Pond, which was in the area of 7 Mile Rd and First St. When that mill burned in the early 1880s, James Dubuar moved the operation to where the “Ford Plant” is now.

The standardization of lumber started as the forests were depleted in the local areas and lumber had to be cut in the forested areas and shipped to the cities. Once the lumber started to be shipped it became inconvenient to find out the local customs on thickness, length and width so
standards were developed by the American Lumberman Association. This was greatly accelerated after World War I with the housing boom of the 1920’s. It was in this time that it was found that lumber was shipped by weight so if it was dried then shipped it would lower shipping costs. And shipping costs were actually more than the product costs of the time.

After World War II the building boom was again a big driver in standardization, and the plywood panel was added to the carpenter’s list of materials.

So today we have “2-by” as the backbone of construction, even though it is about 1 5/8” thick. The 4’x8’ sheet of plywood has also driven a standard building practice in North America.

The 2x4 was initially a 2”x4” rough finish board, but that was in the green state; when it was dried, it shrunk and the finishing reduced it even more. You can see how the profit incentive would kick in and keep slightly reducing the thickness and width. In the 1950s or early ‘60s, the American Lumber Standards Committee stepped in and made standards which we have today.

Enjoy the variation of wood you see in our buildings, along with the diversity of board sizes, not to mention the untrimmed timbers exposed in the Cady ceiling and the Church basement. And if you see the Sawdust Guys repairing the buildings, ask them to point out the old-time construction. We try to keep the original boards and materials wherever we can.

Larry Last

Editors Note: The following short blurb on an industry law suit may be of interest to a few of the Guild members.

**SawStop Update**

*SawStop sues power tool makers because its patented technology was not adopted into UL safety standard*

By David Long on February 27, 2014

As a reminder that standard essential patent issues go beyond information technology, last week SawStop LLC sued manufacturers of table saws alleging that they conspired to convince Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (“UL”) to not adopt SawStop’s patented table saw safety technology into UL standard 987 (Stationary and Fixed Electric Tools) and to adopt a different technology that required SawStop to alter its design.

SawStop alleges that it patented a saw blade safety feature that places an electrical current on the blade to allow distinguishing between the blade cutting through wood or cutting through someone’s finger, stopping the blade if the latter is detected. SawStop alleges that it offered to license this technology to other saw manufacturers, but they did not want to adopt the technology given cost considerations. The UL standard 987 applicable to table saws is overseen by UL Standards Technical Panel 745 alleged to “consist primarily of manufacturers and individuals with connections to manufacturers.” SawStop alleges that the manufacturers convinced UL to not adopt SawStop’s patented technology, but to adopt a saw safety guard technology that required SawStop to incur expenses to redesign its saws. SawStop thus filed this lawsuit alleging various unfair competition claims.

Essential Patent Blog
Kelley Drye &Warren LLP
Smooth-swinging hinges start here

SMOOTH INSTALLATION, SMOOTH OPERATION
Getting concealed Euro hinges just right is easy with innovative Rockler jigs that help you drill perfectly placed hinge cups. The Deluxe Concealed Hinge Drilling System lets you do one setup to drill multiple doors quickly, easily and accurately. The single Concealed Hinge Drilling Guide works for individual cup holes or with the system for larger doors.

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For membership information, contact Bill Gayde at 25575 York, Royal Oak, Mi, 48067 or by phone at 248-543-3487 or by email at: williamgayde@comcast.net.

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

Woodworking Show Crowd

A Young Visitor To The MWG Booth