



Michigan Woodworker

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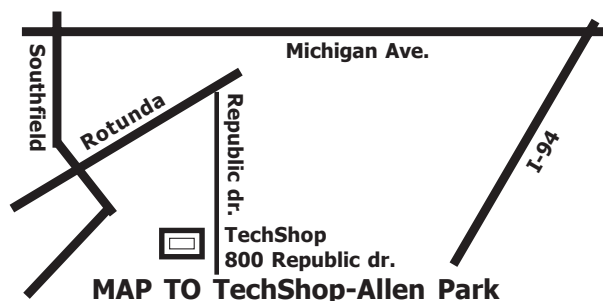


Michigan Woodworkers Guild (Est. 1981) April 2014 Vol. 35 No. 4

April Meeting Sunday, April 13

At the TechShop in Allen Park from 2 PM to 4:30 PM
Scroll Saw Techniques and Pen Turning presented by
Guild members Clay Bolduc and Steve Vaerten

The April luncheon is Thursday, the 24th, 1:16 PM,
at **Jimi's in Royal Oak**



Calendar Of Events

The May 18th meeting at the TechShop in Allen Park will be on **Jigs and Tools** made by or purchased by guild members.

The May luncheon will be at Jimi's on the 22nd at 1:16PM.

The June 8th meeting will be a field trip. The details of the trip are currently being planned.

The June luncheon will be at Jimi's on the 26th at 1:16PM.

There is no July meeting as this is the Guild's one month shut down.

There is no monthly luncheon in July.

The annual Guild picnic will be held Sunday, August 10 at VFW park in Royal Oak.

The August luncheon will be held at Jimi's on Thursday, the 28th at 1:16 PM.

President's Corner

by John Sanchez

The Showcase of Woodworking Skills provided by the MWG members was a great success. MWG members filled the rotunda room with woodworking projects galore. The attendance was also up from last year. I would like to thank the following people who made this show possible.

Ed Stuckey for coordinating the event. Tony Gigliotti who made signs and coordinated the four woodworking demonstrations which included Ken Wolf, Bill Rigstad, Clay Bolduc and Gary Assarian. Upon entering the Tech Shop facility waiver forms had to be signed. Thanks go to Jule Clough for taking on this task. What would a show be without lunch. It saved a lot of time from having to leave the building. Our master chef Sally Rigstad coordinated our makeshift kitchen along with Patty Boulard. Finally to all the MWG members who helped set up the tables in the rotunda room a job well done. As you can see it takes a number of people to get involved in order to pull off such an event. The Guild is always looking for volunteers to help. If you are interested in helping or presenting in any future events please contact one of the board members. If you have any ideas on how to improve or comments about this show or future events please contact me at (313) 268-8598 or sanchezart@aol.com.

With spring approaching Guild members can look forward to our April 13th meeting. The Tech Shop will host scroll saw techniques. Steve Vaerten and Clay Bolduc will be the presenters.

John Sanchez

The Editors Two Cents

by Peter Goddard

The Showcase of Skills meeting for this year was a remarkable success. Not only was the level of attendance up from the past few year's sessions, the quality of the projects being shown was really high. The Guild owes a thanks to those who brought their work for others to see. A thanks also goes out to all

those who worked so diligently to take care of the logistics for the show. A special thanks go to Sally Rigstad and Patty Boulard for managing the coffee, snacks, and lunch part of the show. The TechShop is located in an industrial area. Having to leave the facility for lunch would have been very inconvenient.

This issue of the newsletter is being printed in color to allow the many photos to show the attractiveness of the various items which were displayed. I tried, with limited success, to capture a large percentage of the displays at the showcase. I can only apologize to those whose creations did not get into the newsletter pictures. Please do not consider this a comment on the excellent work that was displayed by each and every participant. The reality of creating a newsletter is that things get missed by the photography and not all pictures come out as expected. Also, the space available is limited by having to come out with a full, even number of pages.

A few of the entries were particularly noteworthy. The Low Boy period piece, the Sofa Table/Computer Desk, and the Queen Anne chair were particularly eye catching. Daly Aushman's bench and Ed Stuckey's period mirror were also beautifully done.

Having some (limited) knowledge of traditional wooden boat construction, I was really impressed by John Hansen's lapstrake construction row boat. It was constructed in the traditional manner using clenched nails to attach the strakes.

I had a chance this month to visit Clay Bolduc's shop to receive a 1 on 1 explanation of his method for producing boxes for Children's hospital. This is a workshop/presentation I would recommend to anyone interested in making boxes for the hospital. While there, I had a chance to look at some of Clay's boxes, notably the line and berry spice cabinet. The Guild includes some highly talented members. Clay is certainly among the most talented. woodworkers.

I was able to attend the presentations by Gary Assarian, Clay Bolduc, and Ken Wolf while at the showcase. Unfortunately, I had to miss Bill Rigstad's presentation. These presentations generated a lot of interest. Gary Assarian's presentation on inlays was particularly well received. At the end of his presentation, he allowed audience members to quickly try to make an inlay on a scrap piece of wood he brought. That opportunity had quite a few takers. The showcase was well done all the way around.

Meeting Review by Dale Auscherman

MWG Meeting Review
Showcase of Skills
8 March 2014

Many of us worried about the Guild's 2014 Spring Showcase of Skills being held at the TechShop location in Allen Park. We worried that the new "distant" location would result in greatly diminished attendance. Fortunately, we were wrong. The Showcase had really great attendance, some drawn by other coincident events at the TechShop. Attendees were rewarded with a showing of spectacular woodworking, ranging from small carvings and turned pens to complex high-end American Period furniture. As usual I came away with a much longer list of things I want to build. Thanks to those Guild members who worked hard to organize and set up the exhibit, and the exhibitors who brought their prize projects out into the frigid weather. Overall we had approximately 26 exhibits.

I started my tour at Ed Stuckey's "Mirror in the Chippendale Fashion." (Front Page) This wonderful period piece was constructed principally of Flame Mahogany reclaimed from logs accidentally sunk during harvesting via Belize rivers over 200 years ago. These logs are now raised from the river bottoms, milled, and kiln dried, making for an ecologically sound source of old growth, very dense, and highly figured Mahogany. Ed's mirror also contained crotch Mahogany veneer, Satinwood, and Ebony. Nearly coincident in history to the original harvesting of these logs, the famous 44-gun Frigate USS Constitution was sailing the waters of the Atlantic in defense of our new nation's interests. My next Showcase stop was at Guild President John Sanchez' evolving model of Old Ironsides herself. John has been working on the model for 10 years, and to date 16,715 pieces of wood have been used with over 1,209 man/hours of "fun labor." The 1/48 scale model is beginning to look much like the fighting lady that she represents, with the masts and

yard arms now in place. John also displayed "Pluto" cartoon and "Snowman" scene examples of Marquetry (Photo 1), well executed using techniques learned in part from the Guild's past Marc Adams workshop.

Next to John's display, past Guild President Ken Wolf had his usual display of the Guild's toy project (Photo 2). Each year Guild members build hundreds of wooden toy cars and children's memento boxes for the Detroit Children's Hospital of Michigan. Ken has coordinated this activity for what must seem to him as many years as Old Ironsides has been afloat! He is hopeful that other members will soon step up to assume this important responsibility so that he can devote more time to his own projects. He also displayed the latest of his projects, an expansion of the Marc Adams jig for routing of circles and ellipses. Ken's version exhibits higher set up precision, and finer finish and appearance. It also has an added registered measuring rule enabling faster set up of desired ellipse dimensions.

We had a very special "guest" display from a talented group of three from the Ortonville Woodworkers Club. (Photo 3) David Hockey, Doug Fox and George Fletcher had three and a half display tables full of really highly detailed wooden models, small clocks, and other items. There were models of construction equipment (back hoes, well digging truck, and others), Army tanks, tractors, trucks, cars and other assorted items. George, who is approaching his 90th birthday, had a very cute child's "Teddy Bear" rocker made of Cherry, in which he had embedded an encapsulated silver dollar held secure by a brass plate commemorating the maker, date of build, and name of the grandchild to receive the gift. One would never have guessed George's age, given his enthusiasm and healthy appearance! He had also made a beautiful mantle clock, complete with turned columns and reverse painted glass decoration on the door. Next to the Ortonville group Fred Ball took classy woodworking into yet another dimension with his exquisite turned and carved Christmas ornaments (Photo 4). These consisted in part of balls turned in beautiful exotic woods, with delicately turned spindles and top knobs. Some were turned with hollow sections in which turnings of contrasting

wood were captured. Other ornaments were carved Christmas-themed animals and shapes. The ornaments were imaginatively displayed as hanging from a simulated Christmas tree section.

Another of the American Period Furniture pieces on display was a Philadelphia Chippendale Low Boy (Back Cover), sometimes referred to as a “dressing table.” Built by John Fitzpatrick, this marvelous piece is constructed of solid Mahogany, with secondary woods of Poplar and Sugar Pine. The piece was finished with aniline dye and many coats of hand rubbed shellac. This piece also exhibits hand carved ornamentation, with acanthus leaves on the center drawer, apron and knees of the cabriole legs, as well as “Ball and Claw” feet. John also brought an end section of an in-progress workbench project. Nearby to John, Dan Reahard displayed another masterpiece of period furniture, a solid mahogany Queen Anne corner chair (Photo 5). This chair is a reproduction of a Philadelphia chair currently in the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. This unique chair is finished in Shellac, and has volutes and knuckles hand carved into the arms, as well as carved “Trifid” feet, a form popular in the Queen Anne furniture period. One of many period pieces Dan has built, this chair was undertaken as part of a class under the famous Eugene Landon (now deceased).

Neal Hoegemeyer showed his wide range of skills with a round walnut table demonstrating several construction challenges, including the use of veneered bendable plywood for the round aprons. All other parts are solid walnut. Neal had made a custom jig to cut the tenons on the curved aprons for attaching the curvilinear swept legs. He also displayed turned and pierced bird silhouettes wooden plates, and nativity scenes of both marquetry and intarsia. Close by Neal, Rich Herbert displayed the latest fruits from his pursuit of a Masters program at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking. This was a birds-eye Maple hanging cupboard with marquetry wrapping (Photo 6) around the sides and door. In line with Marc Adams’ proclamation of “The future of woodworking is in veneer!” the cupboard is almost all MDF with Maple veneer. Rick also showed an

impressive Cherry Sofa Table/Lap Top Computer desk (Back Cover), built in the period style, with curly Cherry veneer top embellished with handmade inlaid banding. He designed and built this piece in a prior Marc Adams class. Another piece he showed was a wonderful Holly, Lacewood and Walnut jewelry box made for a granddaughter. As a special treat for Showcase attendees, Rick brought his grandsons Zac and Nate to show their Long Boards (large skate boards) which they made with their dad and granddad in a Parent/Child weekend class at Marc Adams. The Boards were beautiful, with a plywood core sandwiched between inlaid laminates. These special classes at Marc Adams are an opportunity for encouraging youth to take up woodworking, as well as for great family bonding.

The joy of our Showcase is to see a woodworking-related display of an entirely different nature. Bob Wheelock supplied that in his display of timber framing tools. Bob used these and similar tools to build his own timber-framed house in 1985. These tools are similar to normal tools, only much larger. Tools included a slick (chisel), marking gauge, and a 10 inch Makita circular saw! In researching timber framing Bob discovered that his great great grandfather was a timber framer right after the Civil War. He built many of the barns in Cheboygan County Michigan. Close by Bob, Loel Gnadt then took us back into the world of small turned wooden objects such as bowls, platters and the like. These beautiful pieces (Photo 7) result from Loel’s over 10 years of turning experience. Ann Ivory added spice to the Showcase by sharing her artwork of combined wood/stone/ceramic objects (Photo 8), including naturally shaped mirrors with frames of natural stones, and glass and wood trinket boxes. Ann’s work can be seen at www.etsy.com/shop/AnnIvoryStudios. Then to add further dimension to the Showcase, John Hansen exhibited his Rangeley Lake Boat (Photo 9), a wooden fishing boat built entirely by hand of White Cedar, green White Oak (strakes), Douglas Fir, and White Pine, with Sitka Spruce oars. The Rangeley is a unique American sporting boat that has been used on the Rangeley Lakes of Maine for over 100 years. John had photos of the building process and showed key tools used in the construction, including a tool to

help clinch the copper nails. Unfortunately the boat and trailer would not fit through the doors of the main exhibit hall, so John was set up in the hallway just outside.

Father and son Bob and Steven Vaerten joined us again this year, with Bob demonstrating inlaying with a small routing plane, and Steven showing turned pens, along with marquetry and parquetry. It was really good to see Bob back in action after a couple years absence. Close by the Vaerten's, Mike Holden presented his Chester County spice box made of Cherry with Poplar as secondary. The spice box is truly an American period furniture item, quite common in colonial America. Mike shared that "Spice Boxes" were not meant to hold only spices, but rather the name is considered a contraction of "Special Piece" and was used to hold valuables that could be picked up and moved quickly in the event of a house fires, a common occurrence in colonial times. Sharing the "center court" with Mike was Jack Reitsma, a former MWG member and retired pattern maker who displayed a number of skillfully executed pieces including a Greenfield Village tool box, shaker oval boxes, jewelry box, bowls, and some humorous little carved figures (Photo 10).

With his time spent organizing Guild programs I am surprised Gary Assarian has any time in the shop build things. Nevertheless he exhibited a beautiful "candle" box, veneered jewelry box, and very nice wooden framed ceramic and metal work tiles (Photo 11). Close by, Mike Slupinski showed a large marquetry world map, made with 10 species of wood and large enough to serve as a card table cover. It then doubles as a board for playing the game of *Risk*, including small wooden game pieces. When not in use the table top is hung and displayed as wall art. Mike also had a bowl carved from reclaimed Sequoia wood. It was surprisingly lightweight and exhibited a large stripe "curly" reflection of light. Mike also brought nice examples of intarsia of various natural critters. Nestled at a table next to Mike, Patrick Allen returned with his highly detailed wooden toy models (Photo 12), with new versions developed since his prior showing. He also has a new "train engine" toy storage box design underway, as an encore to his

twin locomotive toy storage box from a prior Showcase. Next on my rounds was Jim Morningstar's detailed models of a train, car, boat, and airplane models (Photo 13), all superbly finished. He also had two wonderful carved Walnut ducks, of of which one was actually a box. But his favorite model was of a red Corvette, made as his first carved project in Middle School shop class. I next visited a new Guild member, Kevin Strand, who had a great first Showcase with a wonderful African Padauk and Walnut box, outfitted with a little LED internal light activated by a lid switch. Being a retired electrical engineer, I liked like the mixing of woodworking with electronics. The box was assembled with hand-cut double dovetails. Kevin also displayed a Cocobolo iPad stand.

As one of the Guild's professional members, Will Stanford can be counted on to display beautiful and innovative wood art. For the Showcase he showed wonderful exotic wood boxes standing high with legs (Photos 14a through d), along with two of his stylish wood slab tables. Then as a special treat, I saved Clay Boldoc's display for my last stop, as I always admire the extremely fine craftsmanship exhibited by his pieces. His display was labeled "Boxology," so fittingly he had a period spice box (Photo 17), several really cool scroll saw boxes, a padoga box, and several chip-carved boxes (Photo 16). He also showed a clock with wooden gears, and a very fine shop-made string inlay thicknessing tool.

After spending about three hours photographing displays and interviewing Showcase participants, I pulled my own Solid Walnut/Upholstered period-influenced bench off (Front Page) of a display table and rested on it awhile to savor all that I had witnessed. That is when I realized I had totally missed the four live demonstrations conducted by Guild members. Ken Wolf presented a Marc Adams style circle jig, Gary Assarian worked inlay techniques, Clay Boldoc spoke on wood box making (Photo 15), and Bill Rigstad demonstrated making cove molding using his hand made horizontal router table. Thanks to these guys for the extra effort in sharing their knowledge and skills. - DAA

Mentoring News **by Bob Mills and Tony** **Giglotti**

The mentoring offered by the Guild occurs at the annual showcase of skills and as scheduled due to demand from Guild members. The recent showcase of skills included four presentations, which are described below. In addition to a brief description of these presentations, an announcement for a hand tools based workshop on building a shaker nightstand is provided. Any Guild member is welcome to sign up for this or any of the other workshops provided by the Guild. Part of the mission for the Guild is to provide access to advanced woodworkers for new or less skilled members. [ed.]

Mentoring Program Workshops **at the 2014 Showcase of Woodworking Skills** **By Tony Gigliotti**

Box Building: Presented by Clay **Bolduc**

Clay presented an overview of box construction and his production methods. He explained to the audience how to get the most from a small amount of material by laminating leftovers from re-sawing into additional panels which results in very little waste. Using Clay's method, all joints were cut with one router bit and a two router setup. Clay also discussed a fixture for assembly, enabling accurate and consistent results.

Making Crown Molding: Presented **by Bill Rigstad**

Bill brought in his hand made horizontal router and talked about its benefits when making crown moulding. He used a single router bit to produce both crown and fascia moulding. Installation suggestions included the advantage of using mounting blocks for a firm foundation and scarfing for smooth section joints. He explained when to use instant glue versus ordinary wood glue. Bill used a work positioning device called *cutncrown* when cutting miters.

Inlay Techniques: Gary Assarian

Gary presented and then demonstrated string and berry inlay techniques. He likes to use Holly over other woods for consistent color and to prevent

breakage and for dry bends of curved inlays. Gary explained tools that are unique to inlay and where to get them. He is mostly self-taught and said that books and DVD's got him started but you must practice. Experience is the best teacher. Gary included a well-received "hands-on board" for members to try. Several Guild members were able to use Gary's inlay tools to get a 'feel' for the process necessary to produce line inlays.

Circle Cutting Jig: Presented by Ken **Wolf**

Ken showed his versions of the Marc Adams' designed circle and oval cutting jig. He built two sizes, the larger being for ten inch or larger diameters and the smaller version for circles as small as a four inch diameter. Ken used a combination of Lexan, UHMW, steel pins and Melamine or Formica covered MDF in jig construction. His method of layout was well thought through. He gave several helpful hints for accurately marking and drilling the jig, techniques which can be applied to many projects in your shop.

Hands-On Mentoring Workshop **Announcement** **By Bob Mills & Dan Reahard**

Building a Shaker Night Stand Using Hand **Tools**

Dan Reahard is offering several workshops based on the "Getting Started in Woodworking" workshops numbers 8, 9 and 10 (Building a Night Stand) in April and May this spring. However, his workshops will differ from the original workshops in two major ways. 1); Mortise and tenon joinery rather than doweling will be used for the table aprons and legs, and 2); Traditional hand tools will be used for preparing the table components. The first series will be starting on April 8th at Bob Mills' shop in Beverley Hills, but is filled to capacity. Each workshop can handle a maximum of two attendees. However, additional offerings will be scheduled as demand warrants.

If you are interested in attending a future session, contact Dan Reahard at 734-453-6459 to register and get additional details.



Photo 1. President John Sanchez with his marquetry.



Photo 2. Ken Wolf's Toy Project items



Photo 3. Ortonville woodworkers and projects.



Photo 4. Turned ornaments by Fred Ball



Photo 5. Queen Anne Corner Chair by Dan Reahard



Photo 6. Rich Herbert and veneered maple cabinet



Photo 9. John Hansen and his lapstrake row boat



Photo 7. Loel Gnadt's turned wood pieces.



Photo 10. Jack Reitsma and his boxes and carving.



Photo 8. Ann Ivory and her artistic creations.



Photo 11. Gary Assarian and his work



Photo 12. Patrick Allen and his toys



Photo 13: Jim Morningstar and his models



Photo 14a. Will Stanford and his table and boxes



Photo 14b. One of Will Stanford's Boxes with legs



Photo 14c. Another of Will Stanford's Boxes



Photo 14d. One of Will Stanford's boxes with legs.



Photo 17. Spice Cabinet by Clay Bolduc



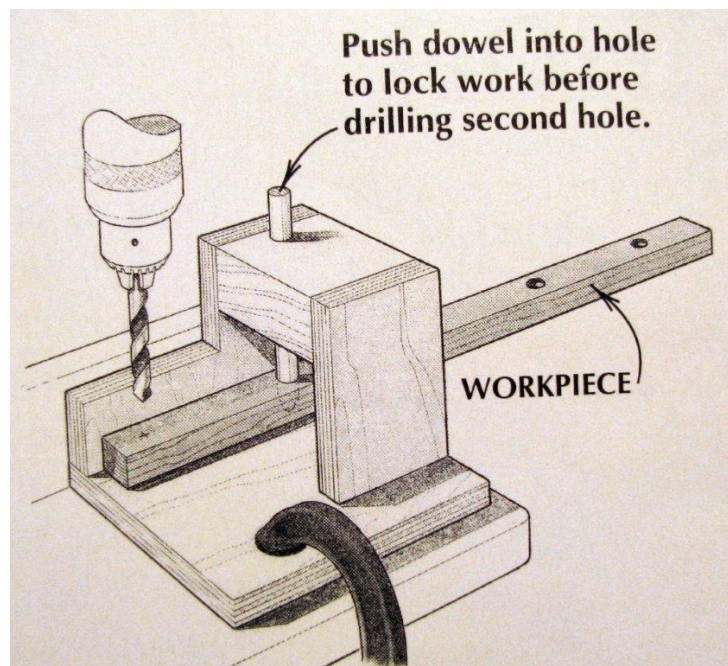
Photo 15. Clay Bolduc giving his presentation on building boxes.



Photo 16. Some of Clay Bolduc's boxes and bowls

FYI: Bill Rigstad. Hole-Spacing Drill Jig

With this simple jig you can drill equally spaced holes quickly and accurately. Place a slightly tapered, waxed dowel in a "bridge" spanning the work as shown. then bore the first hole, slide the work sideways, engage the plunger, drill the second hole and so on. American Woodworker 1997



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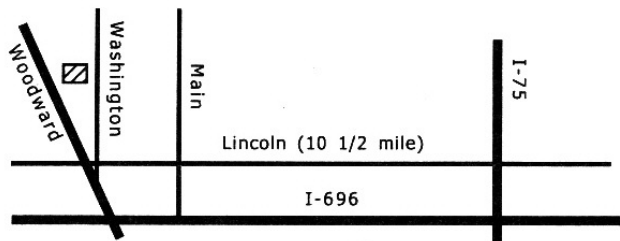
National Woodworking Month 3/29-4/25/2014
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Store Hours: M-F 9 am - 7 pm • Sat 9 am - 6 pm • Sun 11 am - 4 pm

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

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Jeff Wilmot



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The Picture Gallery



Showcase Of Skills

Low Boy by John Fitzpatrick

Sofa Table by Rich Herbert

