



# Michigan Woodworker

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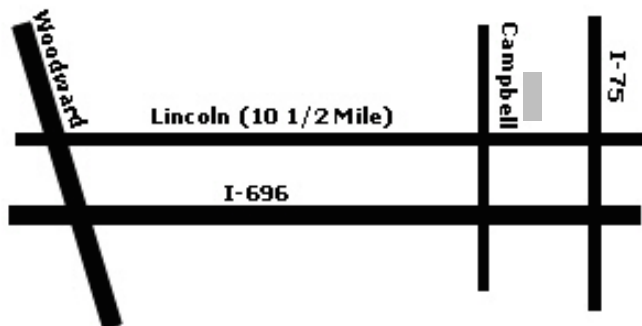


Michigan Woodworkers Guild (Est. 1981) August 2014 Vol. 35 No. 6

**August 10, 2014**

**Annual Picnic (Rain or Shine)  
At VFW Park in Royal Oak  
Swap meet starts and Noon  
Food at 1:00 Drawings at 2:00**

The August luncheon will be at Jimi's on the 28th at 1:16



## Calendar Of Events

The September meeting will be an all day meeting held at the TechShop on **Saturday, September 6th**. The meeting will be on Hand Tool Techniques presented by **Chris Schwartz**.

The September luncheon will be at 1:15 at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 26th,

The October meeting will be held on **Sunday, October 12th**, 2:00 - 4:30 PM at the TechShop in Allen Park. The meeting topic is the Housewright presented by **Ron Herman**

The October luncheon will be at 1:15 at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 23rd.

The November meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 9th** 2:00 - 4:30 PM at the TechShop in Allen Park. The meeting topic is Tuning Techniques presented by **Greg Smith**.

The November luncheon will be at 1:15 at Jimi's in Royal Oak **on the 21st**. (third Thursday due to Thanksgiving)

The December meeting will be held at the Livonia Senior Center on **December 14th** from 2:00 - 4:30 PM. The meeting topic is Photography Techniques presented by **Jerome Burns**.

The December luncheon will be at 1:15 at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 19th. (third Thursday due to Christmas holiday.)

## President's Corner by John Sanchez

I hope everyone had a great 4th of July weekend and are enjoying this summer after a very harsh winter.

I would like to thank the following members of the Guild who helped at the Makers Faire (Henry Ford Museum) on July 26 and 27. Special thanks go to Bill and Sally Rigstad for coordinating the children's tool box construction and to all the MWG members who donated their time in preparing the kits for the show. On Friday, our display booth was set up by Ken Wolf, Clay Bolduc, Bill Gayde, and Sally and Bill Rigstad. During the show demonstrations were given by Steve Vaertan, Ken Wolf, Mike Slupinski, and Will Stanford. This was the second year that the Guild has been asked to participate at Makers Faire.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 10th. Our annual picnic will take place at the VFW Park in Royal Oak. If you have tools to sell or trade bring them along. There will be plenty of food and fixings so come hungry.

On September the 6th, Chris Schwartz will be our guest speaker on the use of hand tool techniques.

See you at the meeting.

## A Special Thanks

The Michigan Woodworkers' Guild would like to acknowledge the generous donation of wood to our toy program by **Sterling Millwork of Farmington Hills**. The coordination of the donation by Jerry Schueler of Sterling Millwork provided numerous sizes and species of wood which has been distributed to toy coordinators Al Goldstein and Ken Wolf as well as Clay Bolduc for the box program. The donated wood will be utilized for toys and boxes for Children's Hospital during the remainder of 2014.

## The Editors Two Cents by Peter Goddard

It looks like the end of summer is not that far away. As always, the summer months seem to pass so quickly, unlike the winter months which seem to go on forever. The Guild did not have meetings or outings during June or July. The guild did participate in the Maker's Fair at the Henry Ford, but otherwise went on break for the summer. Our first get together since May will be the annual picnic on August 10 at VFW park in Royal Oak.

The swap meet which is a part of the picnic is scheduled to begin at 12:00 sharp. Based on personal experience, I would recommend that anyone interested in the swap meet (seller or buyer) be on time. The best "stuff" tends to go awfully quick. Following the swap meet, food is served at 1 PM give or take a few minutes.. Everyone is encouraged to bring a side dish or desert to share. This usually results in a lot of very good food and some overstuffed guild members. The drawing is held at 2 PM (again give or take a few minutes). The post card you received around the 20th of July is your entry in the drawing, so don't forget to bring the postcard with you. Plan on attending if you possibly can.

The newsletter is in need of an expanded range of woodworking related articles. Gould members should consider writing an article on any of the following: jigs and fixtures (invented, bought, copied), commercially bought products that exceeded or failed to achieve performance commensurate with their cost, inexpensive yet effective solutions to common woodworking problems, quick tips that save time or cost, and any training received. Recommendations for instruction or similar materials that are publicly available (youtube or similar) are of high value.

Any safety items of interest would be excellent for inclusion in the newsletter. These include personal experiences, articles in other publications, or new safety equipment. For example, the current issue of the American Woodturner includes an article by Lynne Yamaguchi on protective equipment that should be read by anyone using safety glasses or face shields. If you have an idea or an article, please pass it along to me at [plgoddard47@gmail.com](mailto:plgoddard47@gmail.com). I will edit all articles prior to publication, so don't worry about spelling, English usage and similar issues.

## Meeting Review by Dale Ausherman

It has only been since November 2013 when we last had a meeting dedicated to jigs and tools, yet our May meeting was fully booked with a fresh round of new jig ideas. Like clamps, a woodworker can never have too many jigs. This session, arranged and coordinated by **Gary Assarian**, enabled 11 member presenters to describe and demonstrate a wide variety of useful jig concepts'..

**John Sanchez** kicked off the session with a review of his thin ripping table saw sled. The sled is like a normal one, with the addition of a thickness setting MDF board with T-style knobs for locking at desired thickness, and a moveable MDF board with T-knob clamp for positioning and two toggle clamps for holding the stock from which the thin strips are ripped. This is a very safe means for John to cut the think planking strips for his Old Ironsides ship model. **Al Judge** followed with a display of his box finger joint cutting sled, which was inspired by the need to make replacement Model-T Ford wooden coil boxes. The sled has two T-track saw slot runners for stability, and replaceable joint slot/key back fence boards to accommodate different joint finger thickness and spacing.

Shop built saw horses than can be collapsed and hung on a wall were shown by **Gary Assarian**. The horses were designed based on several ideas from the internet, and are similar to the collapsible luggage racks in hotel rooms. The sawhorses, made from 2 X 4s which have been re-milled to get very square stock, are kept from collapsing by adjustable nylon straps, which also serve to keep them neatly folded when not in use. Following Gary, **Tony Gigliotti** demonstrated a shop built jig for routing mortises on table legs. Tony wanted a fixture which facilitates routing several mortises on one side of a long table leg without re-setting the leg, as in the case of apron and stretcher mortises. The jig is clamped to a workbench, and the leg to be mortised is clamped in place by hold-down clamps. The router is held stable on a wide portion of the jig, which also contains multiple adjustable stops for setting the lengths of the various mortises. The adjustable clamps and stops ride in T-track slots. Tony will provide design drawings of this jig for anyone who provides him with an email address.

**Mike Slupinski** shared a small jig with rare-earth magnetic hold downs for making controlled small adjustments to a saw rip fence. The approximate six inch jig is attached with the magnets parallel to the saw table fence, then a knobbed turn screw can be set to act as a finely adjustable stop for the fence. Small adjustments are then controlled by turning the screw a desired amount, then carefully moving the saw fence until it touches the set screw. **Al Goldstein** then demonstrated a shop-made jig to secure two precisely aligned parts for marking (transferring) of pins from already formed tails. The jig, made from Formica-faced particle board, leaves the user's hands free for precision knife-marking of the joint pins – no more incorrectly marked pins due to unwanted slippage of the two mating pieces.

At the Guild Showcase last March **Neal Hoegemeyer** displayed a beautiful circular walnut table. As follow up at this subsequent meeting, Neal showed the jigs he used for the curved aprons and other curved parts in the table, including the bending form for the laminated aprons and a separate jig for cutting of the tenons on the ends of the curved aprons. The very solid bending form was glued up of stacks of ¾ inch quarter-circle plywood. He first made a single template to mark all the layers, then band sawed the rough curves and followed up with a router trim bit. Prior to glue up he drilled aligned holes in each layer to provide clamp access holes in the final thick jig. A second such quarter circle form with offset radius was made for cutting the apron tenons on a table saw. Neal also had a third jig to hold the curved parts on a router table, and a fourth template as an aid in joint clamping the two table halves together. Neal got the construction approach for this round table from the article *A Round Kitchen Classic* in Fine Woodworking Magazine Issue #145.

**Steve Vaerten** followed with discussion of parquetry templates for cutting veneer into repeatable geometric shapes. Steve obtained a set of templates for \$35 as part of a two-day Marc Adams parquetry class. The triangular template is small and a little hard to hold and register, so he prefers ¼ inch thick plastic triangles. Another tool needed for parquetry is a steel straight-edge for cutting straight edges. He uses a scalpel for cutting the thin veneer into desired shapes, rather than an ordinary utility knife. Steve buys his scalpels from Havel's of U.S./Canada (<http://www.havels.com/surgical-blades---scalpels-havel-s-surgical-blades---scalpels.html>). To get these online one has to state the intended use. Steve says "woodworking" is an accepted use.

**Ken Wolf** recently faced challenges with glue up of faired-side trays, i.e. joining of panels or sides which do not meet at a 90 deg angle. Clamping for glue-up of such pieces is a challenge. Ken explored several known solutions, but was not satisfied with any of them. Thus, he developed his own clever clamping aids. He first tried angular glue blocks with sandpaper glued to the work piece side. These blocks were not satisfactory, so Ken explored commercial aids. One such source is BLOKKZ - Universal Clamping Blocks (UCB) (<http://www.blokkz.com/2-universal-clamping-blocks-ucb-with-2-neoprene-pads-buy-2-pairs-and-save-10/>). These are flat metal tabs with a cylindrical piece affixed at one end (viewed side-on it has the shape of an elongated letter b. A pair of these is affixed one each to the pieces to be joined, by clamping the tabs, with sandpaper or neoprene on the tabs to prevent slipping. The tabs are clamped to the pieces to be joined, and a conventional clamp is then used to “squeeze” the two cylinders towards one another. (The website given above has good photos of many applications.) One can also make their own clamping blocks by gluing a section of dowel to a thin tab of wood. Ken found that these worked well for single-angle clamping, but did not work well with compound angles. So he modified the concept by affixing wooden hemispheres to wood tabs. These half spheres of wood allowed clamping of compound angles, the prime requirement being that the direction of force resulting from “squeezing” of the hemispheres towards one another must be through the center of the joint surfaces. Thus Ken added another feature by making the hemispheres moveable along the tab, with an adjustment slot and a screw into the hemisphere itself. He uses machine taps to make threads in the holes and then uses very slow set CA glue to strengthen the resulting hole threads. These clever clamping blocks work well in many challenging applications.

I followed Ken in the lineup, with an Angled Tenon Jig and “Pusher Board.” This is a technique demonstrated by Will Neptune at a Society of American Period Furniture Makers (SAPFM) meeting and later published in the Spring 2014 SAPFM Newsletter (See <http://www.sapfm.org/> for a link to get future e-Newsletters). Will is a furniture maker and master-carver in the Boston area, and was formerly an instructor for 15 years at the North Bennet Street School in Boston. He now teaches workshops around the country and does commission work for furniture and architectural elements. He also writes for Fine Woodworking magazine, publishing a series of articles explaining construction techniques used for typical furniture forms. This particular angled tenon jig was

developed to cut the angled tenons on the ends of period chair rear seat rails. It is basically an angled pusher block used on the table saw for both a normal saw blade and a dado blade set. The nifty thing about this simple concept is that it all starts with an angle block measured directly on full size plans to transfer the required angle. This is an angle-transfer mechanism equivalent to a length-transfer story stick. The angle block is first used in a saw sled to cut the overall length of the rear seat rail with appropriate angles on each end. Then it is used in the sled to cut an MDF or plywood “trapezoid” with the exact same angle (nominally a 12 in X 12 in X ¾ in block with a thumb hole for gripping the workpiece against the block). This pusher block is then used against the saw rip fence to push the trimmed rail past a dado blade set for cutting the tenon shoulders and cheeks. Both the trimmed seat rail and the pusher block are kept flat on the saw table, a very safe and easy method, with no miter gauge required. This concept of a pusher block is also useful on a router table, and even when cutting right angles.

**Keith Whitehouse** wrapped up the meeting with a means of turning wood blanks for pens without the use of a lathe. Basically he developed a simple tail stock fixture which is used with a radial arm saw mandrel acting as the head stock. A small wood block is then used as the tool rest. Keith cautions to turn off and unplug the saw before attaching the mandrel. He relates that Penn State Industries (<http://www.pennstateind.com/>) offers a jig which converts a drill press into a small vertical axis lathe for turning pens. Keith also described using an oversized Forstner bit to condition the ends of home-cut pen wood blanks (the hole spurs are beyond the width of the blank) and that the drill press can also serve as a pen parts press. Keith related that, having developed a means of economically exploring his interest in pen making, in the end he did buy a small lathe and now relishes the delight of using a tool made for the purpose.

Special thanks to Gary Assarian for arranging and coordinating the jigs and tools presentations, and thanks to the presenters for their preparation and sharing their great ideas with us.

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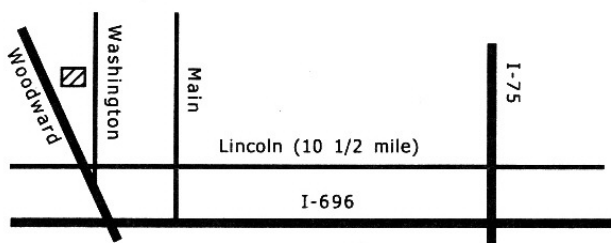
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For membership information, contact Bill Gayde at 25575 York, Royal Oak, Mi, 48067 or by phone at 248-543-3487 or by email at: [williamgayde@comcast.net](mailto:williamgayde@comcast.net).

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



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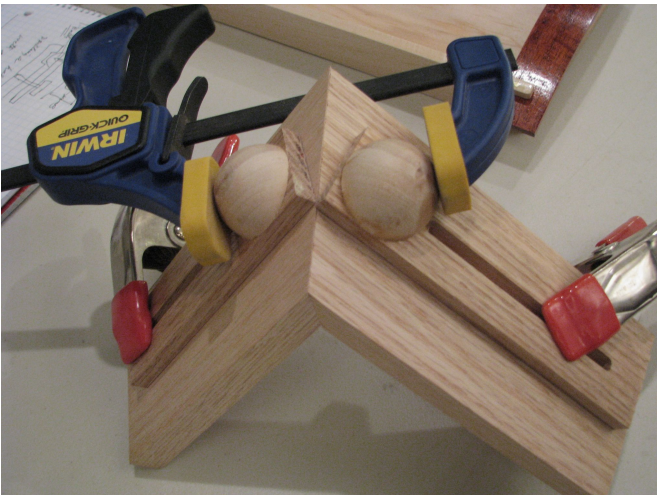
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Jeff Wilmot



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## **The Picture Gallery**



**Ken Wolf's Corner Compression Fixture  
For Glue Up**



**Neal Hoegemeyer's Bending and Holding  
Fixture For Curved Joinery**

