



Michigan Woodworker

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Michigan Woodworkers Guild (Est. 1981) November 2014 Vol. 35 No. 9

Sunday, November 9, 2014

Making Durable Threads In Wood

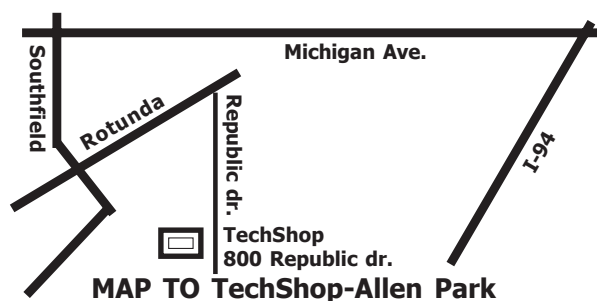
by Ken Wolf

Working With Plastics and

Preventing Rust

Both By: Al Goldstein

The November luncheon will be at Jimi's on the 20th at 1:15 PM.



Calendar Of Events

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 18th. (third Thursday due to Christmas holiday.)

The January 2015 meeting will be held on the 11th. The topic is Veneering Techniques and will be presented by Mike Belzowski.

The January 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 22nd.

There will be no formal meeting in February. The MWG will host an area at the Woodworking Show on February 13, 14, and 15th

The February 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 26th.

The March 2015 meeting will be our annual Showcase Of Skills. The meeting will be held at the TechShop on March 7th.

The March 2015 luncheon will be at 1:15 PM at Jimi's in Royal Oak on the 26th.

President's Corner **by John Sanchez**

Never have I known one person who owned so many chisels. Ron Herman brought in more chisels than the entire Guild combined. He had a chisel for every occasion. Ron also brought in an assortment of handsaws and hand planes that he uses in his job for renovating old historic homes. When renovating older homes in historic areas, Ron was required to use tools that were utilized during the construction of the home at the time when it was originally built.

At the last board meeting I had mentioned that I was getting my ink cartridges for my home computer from a place called 4 inkjets. Their website is www.4inkjets.com. Their prices are very reasonable.

Next February 13th - 15th we have been invited to the Woodworking Shows at the Suburban Collection Showplace. A sign up sheet was passed around at our October meeting. If you wish to participate please let me know if you were unable to attend and sign up. Either call me (313) 268-8598, email sanchezart@aol.com or sign up at the November meeting.

Our next meeting will have two speakers Al Goldstein and Ken Wolf. Al will talk about eliminating rust and working with plastic. Ken will talk about making wooden screws. Hope to see you there.

John Sanchez

The Editor's Two Cents **by Pete Goddard**

Our October meeting featured Ron Herman and focused on the use of hand tools. Ron is a Housewright, certified to be able to work on buildings registered in the National Trust as having historic significance. His presentation focused on hand tools and their use. When he works on houses registered with the National Trust, he is required to use period correct tools and techniques. See Bill Gayde's article for details of the meeting.

Is it interesting to me that our last two meetings (Christopher Schwartz and Ron Herman) have focused on hand tools and techniques. Two of the premier woodworking magazines - Fine Woodworking and Popular Woodworking now include more hand tool related projects and discussions than was true a few years ago. At the same time, we are all increasingly exposed to advertisements in magazines, email, and surface mail for ever improved and automated machinery. It seems to me that for the amateur woodworkers the hobby is moving in two very diverse directions. Obviously, for the professional making many copies of a given design and for factory type operations, automation, including CNC, is likely to be the most cost effective way to produce a product. For the non-professional, I cannot help but wonder whether or not using a computer to drive a CNC product is a sensible approach to woodworking. This is particularly true for anyone young and on a constrained budget.

This month's meeting features two guild members as presenters: Ken Wolf and Al Goldstein. Ken will present methods of threading wood and making those threads last during repeated use. Al will present two topics: Conquering Rust and Working With Plastics. See the meeting description in this newsletter.

We will not have a meeting in February due to the Wood Working Show which will be in Novi on February 13, 14, and 15. The executive board decided that a meeting in addition to the work required to have a booth at the show was excessive. Normal meetings will resume in March following the show. The reappearance of the Wood Working Shows in the greater Detroit area is welcome news. They had a shortened show last year, but had been missing from the Detroit area for several years prior to that.

Discussions are still underway in the executive committee as to whether or not a June meeting is desirable. For many years, an outing type of event was scheduled in place of a meeting for June. Unfortunately, these events were not as well attended as originally hoped. Of course, this is Michigan, so all summer planning is at risk, attendance wise.

Additional executive committee discussion has been held on whether or not to have a presence at

Maker's Faire at the Henry Ford this July. A final decision is not expected to be made until after the February Wood Working Show. This year's Maker's Faire was considerable work for several of the guild members, yet only resulted in two new members.

Sadly, the guild received word notice that long time member Paul Scharfenburg was in a vehicle collision On October 3rd, losing his life the following day. Paul had many friends among the guild membership. His presence at the meetings and picnic will be missed. Our condolences go out to his family.

October Meeting Review by Bill Gayde

Wow! Talk about Shock and Awe! Ron Herman's seminar at our October meeting was all of that. The Awe part included Ron's knowledge of hand tools, how to use them, and his ability to make the subject interesting and up to date.

The Shock part included the price of \$2,000 to \$3,000 per square foot to replicate an early 19th century home using tools and materials that are authentic to the time. (I commissioned two of them).

As a "Master Housewright" he is also able to renovate, and/or restore homes using his extensive collection of tools that date as far back as the 1830's. These can be done for \$1.50 per square foot and up.

Ron gave us an overview of some of the topics he covers in his 8 to 13 hour classes. He covered Chisels, Spokeshaves, and Drawknives (he calls them "Implements of Bloodletting"), Hand Saws, Understanding Wood, and making and using Shooting Boards. All of that in under 2 hours!

Ron explained how and why hand saws are numbered, their uses, how different saws cut differently on different woods. He also covered how, when, and if saws should have a 'set' (the amount of offset on either side of the tooth line). According to Ron, the least amount of set that will still allow the blade to make a cut is desirable. Rake (the angle of the cutting face of the tooth) and fleam (the angle across the face of the tooth—the more fleam, the cleaner the cut but the

weaker the tooth) are other aspects of hand saw teeth that need to be considered. He also explained why and how and saws should be fitted to each individuals hand for comfort and accuracy. For an interesting, educational, non-commercial, and entertaining web site go to: www.disstonianinstitute.com

When he brought out his set of chisels he generated a lot of 'ohs' and 'ahs' in the audience. When he handed them out to pass around they were handled with much caution. They were large, heavy, and sharp. He explained the correct way of sharpening and using each tool. He explained that there only two states to any edged tool: Sharp and not sharp.

Ron's 'Shooting Boards' were received with mixed reactions. Most members were quite familiar with them but picked up some new insights to their use. Others of us were newbie's to them. A shooting board is basically flat, square board with a cleat attached at a right angle. As a piece is placed on the board and held against the cleat, a plane is run against the edge of the piece until it is flat and square. He demonstrated the construction, use, and tricks of the trade such as the use of a nickel to slant a piece that one is shooting to close a small gap (e.g. a picture frame that had to be slightly adjusted to get rid of small gaps at the corners.)

According to Ron, he can look at a piece of wood and tell if it was grown on the side of a hill or on flat ground, if the piece was a branch and which side is the bottom, and in what latitude it was grown. He explained how logs are cut into flat sawn (continuous cuts made without changing the position of the log) or quarter sawn (the log is first cut into quarters and then each quarter is tipped up on its point and cuts are made along its axis). This topic just barely scratched the surface of Ron's knowledge of the subject. He told us that he has prepared a 6 hour CD set on Understanding Wood that was edited down from the 37 hours it took to film.

Ron's presentation was almost non-stop and included many trips into the audience to demonstrate a point or give close ups. I think the consensus was that we need to have Ron back again and maybe again.

For more information about Ron and his classes, go to: www.woodworkingwithron.com

November Meeting

The November meeting will be held on Sunday the 9th at the TechShop in Allen Park. Due to illness of our originally scheduled speaker, two well known guild members will be presenting.

Ken Wolf

At the November meeting I will demo techniques to make durable machine threads in wood. This allows use of standard machine threaded fasteners in your jigs and fixtures so they can be used hundreds of times without failure (much longer life than wood screws). Techniques will include tapping threads (including selection of the proper tap), thread reinforcement with epoxy and some options on the machine screws to match the need. I will also demo some metal inserts for wood that provide even more durable thread options in wood. The techniques involve use of some Michael Fortune's methods used in his furniture jigs expanded to machine screws and and to metal insert options.

Al Goldstein

This presentation will cover two diverse topics. The first of these is prevention of rust. This is sure to be of interest to those of us with our workshops in basements and other damp areas. The second part of the presentation will be on working with plastics in a woodworking environment.

FYI by Bill Rigstad

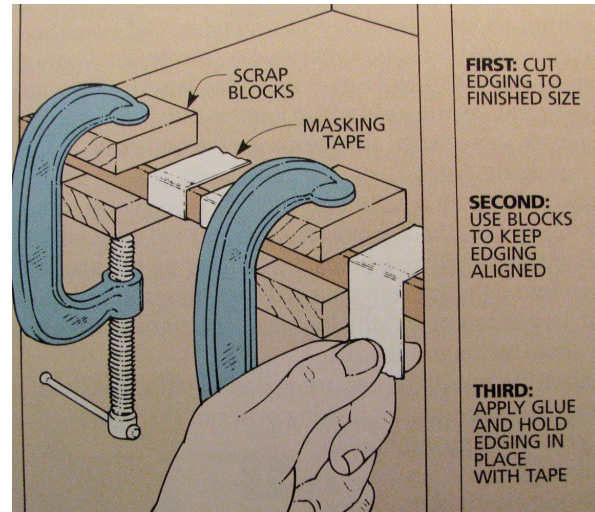
When I install edging onto a set of fixed shelves in a bookcase, I like to do things a little differently than normal. Instead of installing oversize pieces that get trimmed flush before the shelves are installed, I prefer to cut the edging to exact size and glue it in place.

The reason for doing things differently is the narrow edge on the shelf. It's too easy for the router and flush trim bit to tip and gouge the edging. By cutting the edging to an exact fit, only a little light sanding is needed.

But one problem you run into when applying edging this way is keeping it aligned with the edge of the plywood. After the glue is applied, the edging seems to want to slide out of place.

My solution to this problem is to use scrap blocks to help align the edging. First, I clamp the scrap blocks to both sides of the shelf (*see drawing*). The blocks form a slot for the edging to fit into.

To "clamp" the edging in place, I'll use masking tape to pull it tight against the shelf until the glue dries



Paul Scharfenberg

Paul Scharfenberg, a retired engineer and, a long time member of the Guild died on October 4th from injuries sustained in a traffic collision. He is survived by his son Tom and daughter Karen. His family had a private memorial service on October 15th. Those who knew him will remember the vintage Cadillac he used to bring to the guild picnics.



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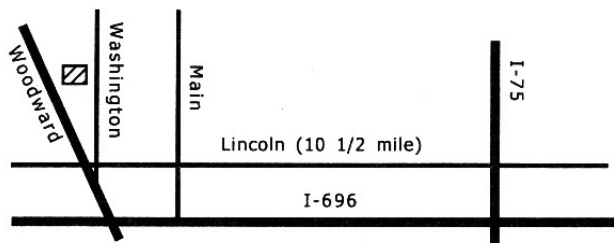
For name tags, sign up with Ed Stuckey at a regular meeting

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The Picture Gallery



Ron Herman Presenting To The MWG Membership (Bill Gayde assisting)