



Michigan Woodworker

www.miwoodguild.webs.com



Michigan Woodworker's Guild (Est. 1981)

Sunday, May 15, 2016
2:00 - 4:30 PM - At The TechShop
In Allen Park - Construction
Processes, Featuring Will Stanford

The May luncheon will be held at Jimi's
 in Royal Oak on Thursday the 26th beginning
 at 1:15 PM



Upcoming Events

Month	Meeting Date	Topic	Speaker	Location	Luncheon Date
June 2016	June is part of our annual summer shut down period.				
July 2016	July is part of our annual summer shut down period.				
August 2016	Sunday 14 th 12:00 – 3:00	Annual Picnic	n/a	Starr/Jaycee Park, Royal Oak	Thursday, 25th
Sept. 2016	Sunday 11 th 2:00 – 4:30	TBD	TBD	Royal Oak Senior Center	Thursday, 22nd
October 2016	Saturday 8 th	Woodworking Magazine	Jim Heavy	Tech Shop in Allen Park	Thursday, 27th
Nov. 2016	Sunday 13 th	Violin Woodmaking	Peter Psarianos	Royal Oak Senior Center	Thursday, 17 th If Facility Available
Dec. 2016	Sunday 11 th	Annual Christmas Meeting plus	TBD	Livonia Senior Center	Thursday, 15 th If Facility Available
January 2017	Saturday 14 th	TBD	Marc Adams	Tech Shop in Allen Park	Thursday 26th
Notes	All luncheons are held at Jimi's in Royal Oak at 1:15 PM				

The President's Corner**By Dr. Gary Assarian**

Our April program featured Kathy Wise who addressed the Guild in an introduction to the art form Intarsia. She is a renowned authority on intarsia. She offered great insight into the craft and had a delightful presentation which was enjoyed by all in attendance. All the participants were duly impressed with her skills, knowledge, and her ability to demonstrate this art form. She offered ample opportunity for questions and was forthright in sharing her knowledge. She was a wonderful guest speaker.

Our program May 15 held at the TechShop in Allen Park will feature a guest speaker, **Will Stanford, on Construction Processes**. This is a first for the guild and should be a program that'll appeal to a wide variety of members. We hope that you're able to participate.

In other board news, the construction of our website continues, although the pace is been rather slow due to the fact that its primary champion is been out of town for the winter months. He assures the board that the activities related to building a new website will be accelerated now that he is back for the summer. The foundation work has been done, but as you know the devil is in the details. We wish to make it a vehicle to communicate with and benefit members. Those were the primary objectives in accepting this new challenge to build a more user-friendly website. We're on our way and look forward to having a working application as soon as possible.

I'm also pleased to report that next year we will continue to divide the meeting sites. We will continue using the three current locations, Livonia, Royal Oak and the TechShop. We also we'll consider changing the day of some meetings from Sundays to Saturday mornings. Based upon our programming schedule we will offer Saturday sessions. We will have at least one such session to determine if we can generate more interest from members. The Board feels that Saturday morning from 10-12:30 would be less intrusive to member's time. We are all looking forward to 2017.

I would like to reiterate the announcement I made at the meeting regarding how we would communicate whether a program day has been cancelled. In the event of inclement weather or the cancellation of a scheduled speaker, the membership will be notified via email that a program has been cancelled. We will only communicate if the program has been cancelled. It's important that you check your emails before you leave for a meeting.

During the fall we will step up our activities to attract new members through a variety of venues. One of the ways in which you could help would be to invite your friends to a program. Any guest that accompanies a member is welcome without charge. We would like for all of our potential members understand that our goal is offer a venue to increase the knowledge base and aptitude of woodworkers. Think about it.

**April Meeting Review By
Peter Goddard**

On Sunday, April 10th, the Guild was privileged to hear a presentation by Kathy Wise, a well known Intarsia artist. Ms. Wise presented an overview of her own background and on her approach to making Intarsia pieces. She was able to provide numerous recommendations on how to approach creating Intarsia pieces and identified several ways to save time, increase accuracy, and improve the quality of any Intarsia pieces that members might want to create. Of particular interest were her ten 'rules' for intarsia.

Ms. Wise has been involved in artistic creations since childhood, starting with sculpture as early as six years old. She is currently one of the best known intarsia artists, sharing that designation with Judy Gale Roberts and Jerry Booher. She has published several books on intarsia, ranging from beginner material to more advanced techniques and approaches. One of her books, Intarsia Birds, was offered for purchase at the meeting. Additionally, she had kits for small intarsia roses available for purchase.

Intarsia is a very old art form. The formation of three dimensional pictures using wood and other materials dates from antiquity. Examples of this type of art have been found in materials from Ancient Egypt, Imperial Rome, Persia, and 8th century Japan. However, intarsia is usually associated with 13th, 14th, and 15th century Italy, where it's practice with multiple materials was quite advanced. Older intarsia art forms required exquisite care and patience. Materials were often precious and/or difficult to obtain. Exotic wood types had to be imported over great distances. Other precious materials were expensive and only available in small quantities. With the advent of modern tools and the wide availability of woods of all types, including exotic varieties, intarsia has become accessible to the amateur woodworker. With the use of scroll saws to cut the various pieces, what had once been a detailed and highly skilled hand tool effort, is now feasible in the home shop using a moderate level of skill with the scroll saw.

As part of her presentation, Ms. Wise discussed the tools she employs when creating her intarsia pieces. In addition to a high end scroll saw for cutting out the small individual pieces of an intarsia project, she uses machine based sanding. Sanding of the various individual pieces in an intarsia picture can require considerable time if done by hand. However, by using the appropriate sanding equipment, significant time savings is possible. Since, for most of us, sanding is not high on the list of reasons we enjoy woodworking, her tips on machinery are important. She uses a variable speed grinder with inflatable drum sander attachments for help with shaping pieces. When compared to a solid drum sander, an inflatable drum sander is easier to control and to use in forming contours on pieces. Variable speed is needed to prevent burning in some woods, particularly cherry. She also uses a variable speed arrangement to drive mop sanders, allowing her to achieve an acceptable finish on individual intarsia pieces quickly and effectively. A 'Sand Flee' sander was also recommended as it provides an excellent means of flattening the back of the intarsia picture when the pieces are assembled into their final form. All sanding is done to the front of the pieces, however, some surface irregularity always occurs to the back of the pieces as they are assembled. Having a flat back is crucial to being able to effectively adhere the picture to the backing board.

When cutting out the individual pieces of the intarsia picture, great care to closely follow the needed outline is always recommended. Even when great care is used, some pieces will show minor

gaps. Re-sawing the line between the two pieces with the two pieces held together can often be used to eliminate these gaps. When creating an intarsia picture, it is always necessary to proceed slowly across the picture, cutting and fitting each individual piece in sequence. Gapping between the pieces should be corrected as they occur. Sanding of the individual pieces as you progress, shaping each to their final shape is also recommended. As each piece is cut and shaped to its final configuration, it can be glued to its adjacent piece using a few drops of CA glue, allowing the picture to be created sequentially. Once the entire picture is complete with the individual pieces glued to each other, the back can be flattened and the picture attached to its backing board. Ms. Wise uses the technique of using a few drops of CA glue on the back of each piece, along with drops of standard woodworking glue between the CA drops. This allows her to progress using the CA glue as a clamp for the slower drying but stronger PVA glue.

Ms. Wise presented ten critical rules for effective intarsia project creation:

1. Use contact paper to mount patterns onto the wood pieces to be cut.
2. Cut slowly to prevent side flexing of the scroll saw blade.
3. Use re-cutting between pieces to tighten any gaps.
4. Use thick wood and risers whenever practical.
5. Use Pneumatic Drum Sanders and Mop Sanders to shape and finish pieces.
6. Use CA glue to allow sanding of multiple pieces.
7. Glue all intarsia pieces to each other before gluing to the backing board.
8. Use white stain to keep white wood light, and Danish Oil to keep dark wood dark.
9. Use gloss finish on eyes, satin finish on other wood.
10. Use varnish and use compressed air to remove excess finish from cracks between pieces.

Overall, Ms. Wise gave an excellent overview of her approach to intarsia artistry and provided many tips to ease the way for those new to the craft.



Kathy Wise Intarsia Pieces

SAVE 25%
\$29⁹⁹

**LED SHOP LIGHT WITH
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Reg. \$39.99 SKU: 50163



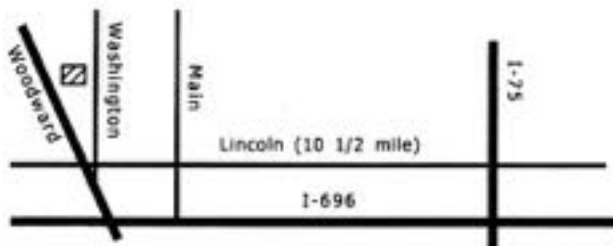
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Scenes From The April Meeting



Kathy Wise and Some Of Her Intarsia Pieces