



MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



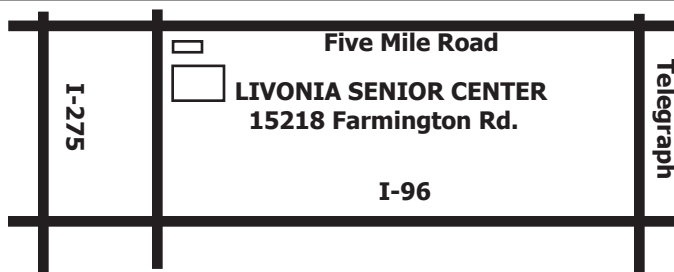
Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) April 2018 Vol. 39 No. 4

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

At the Livonia Senior Center from 2:00 to 4:30 pm.
The raffle and other activities from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

This is our annual **Showcase of Skills**. Come and see the wide variety of skills and talents of your fellow members. This is a new format this year and will be presented more like a regular meeting with members giving presentations on their projects as well as displaying them.

The West side luncheon will be at the Senate Coney Island on the 26th at 1:16 pm (see map on page 9)



MAP TO LIVONIA SENIOR CENTER

The East side luncheon will be at The Golden Basket on the 19th at 1:14 pm (see map on page 9)

The South side luncheon will be at Ramsey's on the 19th at 1:16 pm (see map on page 9)



Pete Goddard



Clay Bolduc

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The **May 20** meeting will be at the **Livonia Senior Center** and will feature **Clair Boussum** demonstrating **Intarsia techniques**.

June field trip to be announced.

NO MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED IN JULY

The annual picnic and swap meet will be on **Sunday, August 12** at the **Royal Oak VFW Park** from noon until.....

The monthly luncheons will be:
West side on the 24th at 1:16 pm
East side on the 17th at 1:14 pm
South side on the 17th at 1:16 pm

The monthly luncheons will be:
West side on the 28th at 1:16 pm
East side on the 21st at 1:14 pm
South side on the 21st at 1:16 pm

NO LUNCHEONS ARE SCHEDULED IN JULY.

The monthly luncheons will be:
West side on the 23rd at 1:16 pm
East side on the 16th at 1:14 pm
South side on the 16th at 1:16 pm



President's Corner

By Pete Goddard



Well, it's official, spring is right around the corner. I've begun to see robins hopping all over my back yard looking for insects and worms. Warmer weather cannot be too far behind. Soon, part of my allowable shop time must be sacrificed to giving the lawn a weekly haircut. Everything has its price, I suppose. I will load up my mower and take it to have its annual tune up and sharpening within the next two weeks.

I was glad to see lots of audience participation at the March meeting. In addition to the presentation of many useful jigs and fixtures, a safety discussion occurred and some project help to resolve paint bleed through provided.

The safety discussion involved a piece of wood that was being turned, coming off of the lathe at speed, and striking the turner. I mentioned to the audience that there was an article in American Woodturner by a professional who had a similar experience and found that normal face shields are inadequate protection against some instances of wood departing the lathe. The author/professional turner being referenced was Lynne Yamaguchi. The edition of American Woodturner is April of 2015. The author found that if the possible impact forces are considered, it may be necessary to use helmets/visors rated for police riot duty to provide adequate safety. For those that do not engage in woodturning, I assure you that having a piece being turned come off the lathe at speed is not too unusual.

Dale Ausherman has provided an excellent meeting summary in this newsletter. Those who did not attend the meeting should read through his coverage of the meeting.

The April meeting will be our annual "Showcase of Skills" meeting. This year, Ed Stuckey has decided to move to more of a meeting format. In previous years, Guild members would bring in some of their creations and be assigned a table. Attendees to the meeting would then wander among the tables and ask questions about items

that they found to be of interest. Unfortunately, that format required the Guild members displaying items to remain at their table for several hours, often during significant periods of inactivity. Ed's new format for this meeting includes some table displays, but moves some of the discussions to a presentation format. In addition to being faster paced, this new format will allow projects that are big enough to be a problem to bring to a meeting to be discussed. I'm looking forward to seeing how well this new format works.

I attended the annual Metro Carvers Association show in Madison Heights on March 16th. As usual, the show was well done, providing a venue for local carvers to show off their creations. I would recommend attendance at this show, held yearly, to any woodworker. The bird carvings, which are a combination of carving and woodburning, are startlingly realistic. The caricature carvings are always amusing. The chip carving has considerable potential as a decoration method for box work. The Guild may want to consider having a table at next year's show.

I am working on setting up the September meeting, which remains open. I am going to try and get a carving group speaker, particularly one that does chip carving. Chip carving has a lot of potential as decoration for small items, such as boxes. In any case, the September meeting will be a regular meeting, not an all day seminar. The Guild's results with September all day events have not been good. September is still too close to the summer break to allow adequate advertisement. Also, some members choose September for vacation and travel, as the children have returned to school allowing a bit quieter vacation. As a result, all day seminars tend to have less than desired levels of participation.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting.



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MEETING REVIEW



By Dale Aushman

MWG Meeting Review Annual Jigs and Tools Meeting 11 March 2018

They say that God himself does not have enough woodworking clamps. I feel the same line of thought can apply to jigs and tools, where jigs are those handy little devices which make our shop work safer, more accurate and repeatable, and usually more efficient. My recollection is that this annual meeting used to be called **jigs and fixtures**, but that sometimes got us into fun arguments with Bill Rigstad over what is a jig versus what is a fixture. Wikipedia says: “a **jig’s** primary purpose is to provide repeatability, accuracy, and interchangeability in the *manufacturing of products*. A **jig** is often confused with a **fixture**; a **fixture** holds the work in a fixed location. A device that does both functions (holding the work and guiding a tool) is called a **jig**.” So Bill always reminded us that we really had no fixtures to demo – if you can easily bring a “fixture” to the meeting then it must not really be a fixture because it isn’t really “fixed!” So apparently we dropped fixtures and added tools, recognizing that this is a good meeting to also talk about tools we have purchased and tried, and to report to members on the good or bad results. But I miss those lectures from Bill.

We had six members present an amazing number of jigs, tools and helpful tricks for woodworking: Pete Goddard, Clay Bolduc, Ken Wolf, Tom Fradeneck, Bill Rigstad and Al Goldstein. And we had a mixture of both shop-made and commercial jigs, with various degrees of complexity from simple to complex.

Pete started things off with a PowerPoint briefing listing and showing 43 jigs, *fixtures*, and tools. Yes, one can take a picture of a shop fixture and bring the fixture to the meeting. In a chart for each item Pete had ratings for cost to make, time to make, usage

(constant, high, occasional, rare, and never used). In addition to the slides, Pete brought 7-8 of the actual jigs to display. While Pete had a slide for all 43 items, space and time does not permit discussion of all, so I will highlight just a few.



Perhaps the simplest idea was a “sharps container” made of a plastic food tub with a slit in the lid for safely disposing of disposable knife blades or other sharp items. Putting such things in the trash is a recipe for injury to both family members and trash disposal personnel. Another was a shop-made table saw thin strip jig, modelled after a jig sold by Rockler (Rockler Thin Rip table saw Jig, Item #: 36833 \$29.99). A tool pretty much rejected by Pete was an Inkra table saw jig. Many of us likely have a version of this collecting dust in our shops, as they are tedious to use and are generally of limited value compared to other fence set up processes. He also showed a dust collection frame made up of an array of computer chassis fans behind a furnace filter. (To me this seems an expensive and complex way to go, as I simply buy a used 20 in window fan from a second-hand store and tape a 20 in x 20 in furnace filter to the front. I set the fan on the floor in an out-of-the-way location and run it continually while in the shop on low speed. Works like a charm.) Pete showed a band saw circle-cutting jig, several table saw attachments (blade capture, kick-back preventer, feather boards, crosscut sled, leg tapering jig, and box joint jig, amongst others). He showed a table

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saw feather board with an auxiliary attachment for checking blade alignment. Other jigs included a small item veneer press, planer thin wood sled, Moxon vise, lathe stabilizer, and 90 deg shooting board. Another great idea was painting rests made from short pieces of used band saw blades bent into a "V" shape. All of Pete's jigs were very well made.

Clay Bolduc not only brought jigs to show, but also informed us of an excellent online source of ideas for jigs and other shop projects. Once can sign up at the *Woodsmith Shop* website to receive free weekly emails containing Video tips from the *Woodsmith Shop* TV show, printable tips from Woodsmith magazine, featured plans from Woodsmith Plans, and a first look at Woodsmith books and DVDs. On the site one can also obtain free downloadable plans from the last three seasons of the Woodsmith show, with plans from earlier seasons available for purchase. Many of these plans are for jigs and fixtures. The link to the free plans is:

<http://www.woodsmithshop.com/episodes/downloads/>

There are also links to demonstration videos from many prior seasons of the show, many dealing with jigs.

Clay displayed six different jigs of varying complexity. The first was a simple wooden disc with two different drilled diameters which enabled insertion under



the plastic pull-up tip on Glue bottles (e.g. Titebond products) to make pulling up the tip much easier, even in the presence of dried glue within the tip. Next was a glue cup and brush keeper (Woodsmith) for holding brush and glue in disposable "dollar store" mini plastic condiment cups (available with lids). Then he showed a bolted stack of large tongue depressors (or fan handles, available on Amazon) which provides a quick means of preventing vise-racking for smaller stock. He also showed a 3-Sided Saddle Square (also Woodsmith) for transferring layout lines from one face or edge of a work piece to another edge. Next was a Threaded Insert Jig (also Woodsmith) for installing the inserts straight and square. Clay's final device was a small box-side mitering aid for use on the table saw. This was essentially a small table saw sled with a 45 deg tilted platform for holding box sides at correct angle for cutting the end miters with zero clearance slots. The jig was adjustable for various box side sizes and thicknesses. The tilted platform could also be removed, with the remaining t-bolt slot available for attachment of a hold-down for small parts. A similar jig is available from Rockler, or free plans can be had via *Wood* magazine site:

<https://www.woodmagazine.com/woodworking-plans/jigs/45-degree-miter-sled>

As usual Clay's jigs are made with great precision and wonderful workmanship.

Ken Wolf had a full table of jigs which he classified as "finger savers." He started his presentation with a wide variety of push sticks, inspired by designs he observed at Marc Adams School of Woodworking. Ken had various patterns for making several sizes and shapes of the simple Marc Adams push sticks. These are simple enough to be *sacrificial* push sticks; i.e. they are expected to cut or grooved by the saw in use and are simple enough to make that they are discarded when sufficiently chewed up. These work perfectly well, and are very easy to make, but Ken prefers push stick handles made in the form of a panel saw handle. Ken says these allow him to apply downward pressure on the stock all along the push stick while using only a single hand. Ken showed several designs with alternative handle shapes and differing means

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of forming the “heel” at the tail end against which the stock is pushed. Instead of these push sticks being totally sacrificial (due to the work involved in making the complex shaped handle) they are made with replaceable soles and heels. And most of Ken’s designs had adjustable depth heels to push various thickness of stock. Ken uses nylon attachment screws and bolts so that the saw blade is not damaged should the blade accidentally encounter the fasteners during operation. And most of Ken’s push sticks have a foam pad on the sole, materials for which is available at Lee Valley as high friction foam. For comparison to his shop-made versions Ken showed a couple of commercial push sticks/blocks, such as the Micro Jig GRR-Ripper sold at Rockler’s and other sources. This complex largely plastic device, with accessories, is advertised as giving 3-Directional control, with downward, forward, and lat-



eral pressure on the stock for maximum control. “Since it acts as a movable blade guard that travels with your hand, it provides an additional safety buffer between the blade and your hands.” This may be true but the costly \$80 device is complex to adjust and some feel its short length lacks effectiveness for longer stock. Ken made a longer version of this device out of wood with adjustable plastic fences. He also showed a simpler version made by *Woodline USA*. Lastly, Ken showed a 4 in. Red Rubber Concrete and Plaster Grout Float from Home Depot which works very well as a push pad. At about \$4 these are a real bargain. It is said that the red foam ones show the highest degree of grip

on wood surfaces. Ken also showed a specialized jig for routing wooden toy car bodies to final shape.

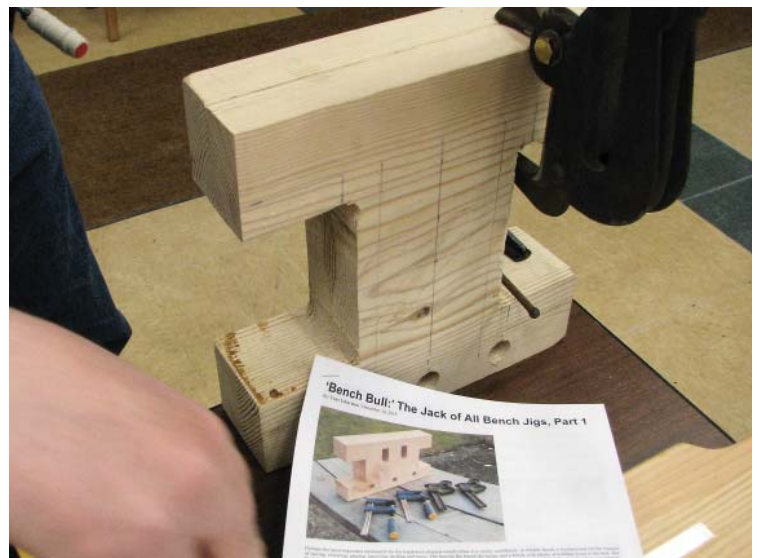
Ken also discussed a new router base product he first encounter from an instructor at Marc Adams. This Ultimate Router Base, designed by Scott Grove, is sold online (currently \$147 plus shipping). The Ultimate Router Base System is advertised as giving you more control and increasing safety and stability on any handheld routing operation. It appears to be superbly designed and manufactured, and come with many clever accessories, including for cutting circles and large arcs. Scott designs and makes art furniture and multi-media sculpture, and he designed this router base to make up for limitations in other available bases. Descriptions and demonstration videos may be found at:

<https://imaginewoodworking.com/>

New member Tim Fradeneck demonstrated a concept known as the “Bench Bull,” which was reported by Yoav Liberman in the Popular Woodworking Shop Blog, 14 December, 2015:

<https://www.popularwoodworking.com/woodworking-blogs/editors-blog/bench-bull-the-jack-of-all-bench-jigs-part-1> and

<https://www.popularwoodworking.com/woodworking-blogs/editors-blog/bench-bull-the-jack-of-all-bench-jigs-part-2>



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The advantages of this jig are: 1. It can be clamped onto any flat surface such as a tabletop or a countertop, or you can put it in a bench vise to serve as a platform to work on other objects; 2. It allows you to comfortably clamp small work pieces for planing, ripping and crosscutting in a vertical or horizontal configuration; and 3. It allows you to clamp narrow pieces by positioning two clamps from the jig's inner face to facilitate grooving, dadoing and rabbeting. This is particularly important in cases where your bench does not have holdfast holes drilled into it.

Tim also reported on his use of augmenting the grips of F clamps by the use of Hockey tapes to improve gripping and tightening. This is shown on the Rob Cosman website:

<https://robcosman.com/products/hockey-tape> Rob Cosman, woodworker and tool maker sells the tape and wrapping instructional video for \$9.95 at this site.

At the May 2017 Guild meeting in Allen Park, Bill Rigstad demonstrated the setup of his Leigh D-4 Dovetail jig. The advantage of the Leigh jigs over many others are variable spacing, ability to do both through and half-blind dovetails, as well as box joints and sliding dovetail joints (often used to join drawer dividers to side stiles on fine cabinetry). Bill says the 1/2 in thick manual is intimidating, but should be read thoroughly before use. At the time Bill said his D4 required two passes to make half blind dovetails, but that an accessory was available to enable single-pass half-blind dovetails, and that the Pro model includes the capability. But it seems this limitation has changed with Leigh's current line of jigs. They now have the *D4 Pro* (24 in only) or the 12 in, 18 in, or 24 in *Super Jigs*. Variably spaced single-pass through and half-blind dovetails are standard on all Super Jigs. But if one has an older D model, then an accessory or modification is required to enable single pass half blind dovetails with a single router bit. At this March 2018 meeting Bill showed the modification required and how he and his son had implemented it. It required precise machining of a metal spacer block, then drilling precision aligned

holes through all of the jig fingers such that a little rod could be inserted, the rod then acting as a stop on the depth of the router bit. Bill now has single pass half blind dovetail capability! We can now expect some spectacular new pieces coming out of Bill's shop.

Al Goldstein wrapped up the meeting with eight useful shop tricks and jigs. He first educated us on the great utility of using a 7 1/4 inch Diablo 60-tooth finish circular saw blade in a 10 inch table saw. The blades are inexpensive (now about \$20), have a narrow kerf, and provide an excellent cut. When dull one can get a new blade for the cost of sharpening a more conventional blade. The only limitation is giving up about



1 1/2 inches of cutting depth, which is not a constraint for much of what we do.

Al then showed a hand held board he made which replaces the need for a finger board on the table saw or router. It has some definite advantages over a finger board. He also had a jig for the sometimes maddening task of replacing a Velcro-backed multi-hole sanding disc. It was simply a board with three wooden pegs spaced such that it positioned a fresh disc, where the pegs then acted to properly position the disc in relation to the holes in the sander plate, thereby aligning the new pad correctly with the holes provided for the vacuum extraction of sanding dust. He then highlighted the value of inexpensive plastic condiment cups (e.g.

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from Gordon Food Service) as glue containers and a means of mixing epoxy glues. Once used they can be disposed of with no clean up. Al also showed the advantage of putting a double layer of plastic grocery bag material under the lid of metal solvent cans to aid in lid removal. With such a trick the lids are less likely to bind up during removal. Next he recommended use of Stabilo 8008 All Surface graphite pencils for marking wood in the shop. They are inexpensive, write even on the smoothest surfaces, and erases easily from smooth surfaces with a damp cloth.

Al also pointed out the utility of carpet samples in the shop. Available for about \$1 from carpet stores, these can act as pads on top of a bench for placing of assembled furniture or parts with lower fear of dings, or for floor pads when kneeling to work on projects. And finally, he pointed out the utility of using an old brace (auger) for rapid turning of emergency car jack cranks, whereas cranks which come with cars often have awkward attachment points and sometimes support only one-half turns at a time.




All in all in was another great day for jigs, fixtures and tools at the Guild. We thank our Guild Board for arranging the meeting, Pete Goddard for organizing the session, and presenters Pete Goddard, Clay Bolduc, Ken Wolf, Tom Fradeneck, Bill Rigstad and Al Goldstein for the hard work preparing and giving the presentations.



FYI

By Bill Rigstad



MWG DVD Library

We have been working to update the Guild's DVD library and found several titles that are missing. Please look around your shop or where ever you watch DVDs and see if you have them. The titles are:

- 10 Woodworking Topics
- Unlocking the Secrets of Traditional Design Intro
- Exercises in Woodworking Lessons 1-8
- Exercises in Woodworking Lessons 9-12
- Mastering Your Band Saw
- Installing Trim
- Essential Woodworking Techniques
- Mastering Hand Tools: Basic Skills for Balanced Woodworking
- Hand Tools: Tuning and Using Chisels, Planes and Saws

Marc Adams DVDs

- Finishing
 - Wood Bending
 - Cabinets
 - Laminating
 - Routing
 - The Originals of Furniture part 1 & 2
- If you can't return them to a meeting they can be mailed to:
 Bill Rigstad
 9299 Hackberry
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 Please remember when you check out DVDs, return them within a month or two so others may borrow them.



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Wood Types

By Ed Stuckey



April Meeting Details

Showcase of Skills, Sunday April 15, 2PM-4:30PM This is the 3rd Sunday of the month. We have changed the event to be more like our Jigs and Fixtures program. Members can bring items they have built now or in the past. We allow each member, if they wish, to speak about their project. Why they built it, materials used, and what type of finish, etc. Some members who do not wish to get up in front of the group can have their project on display for members to view. Bill Rigstad has asked members to submit pictures of larger projects that are too big to transport. They will be displayed on the screen so members will be able to talk about them. This will be a good way for members to see what other members are building. We will encourage the audience members to ask questions. We already have a number of members signed up, if you would like to participate please call Ed Stuckey at 313-45-3671.


Please send pictures to Bill Rigstad. Wrigstad@aol.com

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FYI

By Bill Rigstad

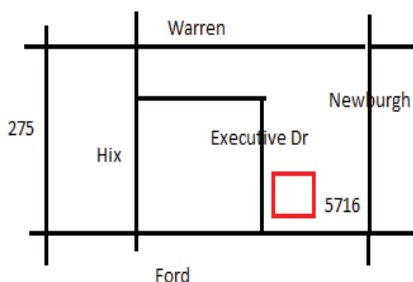


Tool Shop Field Trip

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018

Time: 10:30 AM

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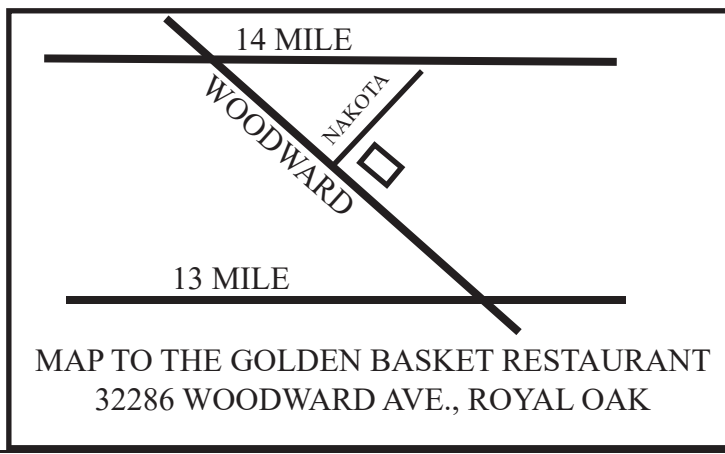
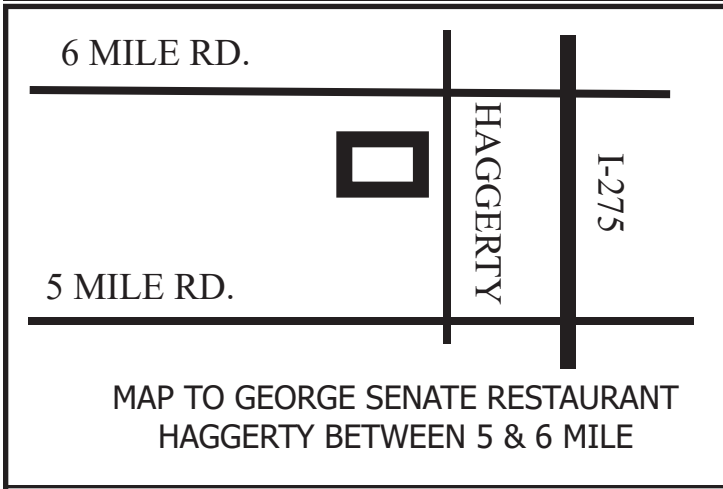
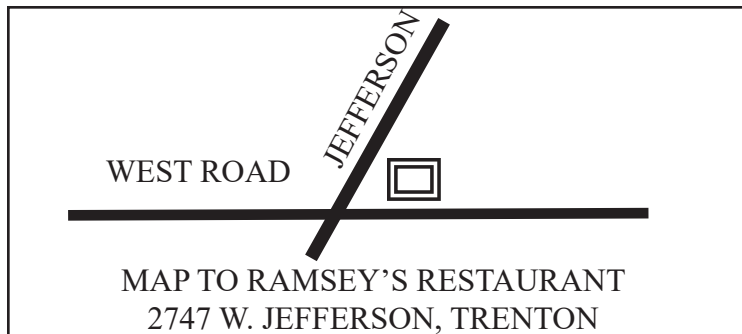
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For name tags, sign up with Ed

Stuckey at a regular meeting.





Michigan Woodworkers' Guild
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The Picture Gallery



Al Goldstien



Tom Fradeneck
