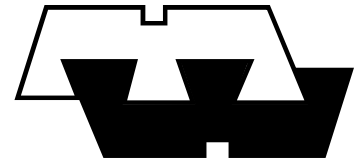




# MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

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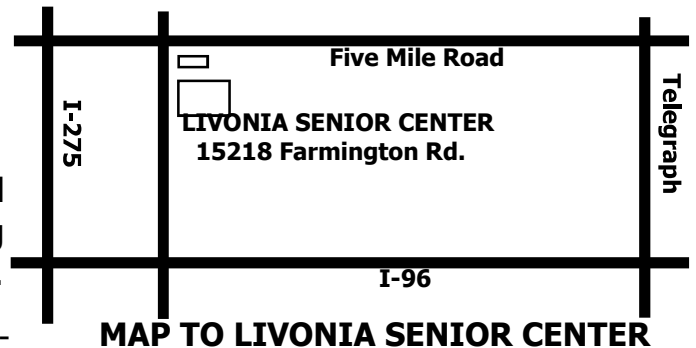
Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) December 2017 Vol. 38 No. 11

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

At the Livonia Senior Center from 2:00 to 4:00 pm -- See page 6 for more information

**Al Eicher** will return with a presentation on **WHEN THE BIG TREES FELL**. This is our annual "bring the spouses" meeting and includes a light buffet.

The December luncheon will be at the Senate Coney Island on the 21st at 1:16 pm (see map on page 7)



**Meanderings of an amateur (looked like a pro to me) woodworker -- Jozef Bouwhuis**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The **January 14, 2018** meeting will be at the **Royal Oak Senior Center** and will feature **Marco Terenzi** demonstrating how he makes **miniature tools**. Don't miss this one!!

The January lunch will be at the Senate on the **25th** at 1:16 pm

The **February 11, 2018** meeting will be at the **Royal Oak Senior Center** and will feature **Dale Ausherman** explaining what **SAPFM** is and what its members create. **Ed Stuckey** will demonstrate vacuum veneering techniques.

The February lunch will be at the Senate on the **22nd** at 1:16 pm

**March 11, 2018** will be our annual **Jigs and Fixtures** meeting at the **Livonia Senior Center** coordinated by **Pete Goddard**. Contact Pete if you have a favorite (or not so favorite) jig or fixture to share.

The March lunch will be at the Senate on the **22nd** at 1:16 pm

**April 14, 2018** will be our annual **Showcase of skills** meeting at the **Livonia Senior Center** coordinated by **Ed Stuckey**. Contact Ed if you need a large space.

The April lunch will be at the Senate on the **26th** at 1:16 pm



## President's Corner

By Pete Goddard



I hope all of you had a happy Thanksgiving. The end of year holidays loom with all the attendant shopping and decorating to do. Unfortunately, I'm always behind the curve where holiday preparations are concerned. I thought that I could approach the holidays in a more relaxed fashion once I retired. It hasn't helped.

November's meeting "Meanderings Of An Amateur Woodworker" presented by Jozef Bouwhuis went well and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone present. I'm not sure that the designation "Amateur" applies to Jozef as he does sell some of his work, particularly at craft shows. At the meeting, nominations for elective offices were opened for identification of interested individuals. Nominations will also be taken at the December meeting.

The Guild has been notified that the Tech Shop is closed and is undergoing bankruptcy proceedings. The executive board is moving those meetings for 2018 that had been scheduled for the Tech Shop to either the Royal Oak Senior Center or the Livonia Senior Center. The change in venues does not represent a problem for the Guild.

The Guild bought 10 folding tables some time ago. These were used for lunch seating when we held all day meetings such as Marc Adams. We originally considered retrieving these tables and storing them. I asked for members who could store the tables and was glad to receive an offer of help from several members. To each of you, thanks for being willing to help. However, after a little email discussion, the board concluded that it was more reasonable to give the tables to either the Royal Oak Senior Center or to the Livonia Senior Center.

Apparently, there will not be a Woodworking Show in the Detroit area this year. This is doubtless the result of having two Woodcraft and a Rockler store in the area. With good local supply opportunities, we are not as desirable a market for the show as we might otherwise be.

We will have a regular February meeting. The meeting topic will be period furniture techniques and vacuum veneering techniques. Guild members, especially Ed Stuckey, that are members of the Period Furniture Society will be giving the presentation.

The December meeting and luncheon topic is a presentation on "When The Big Trees Fell" by Al Eicher. Al is a professional speaker and storyteller, so the presentation should be special. Further nominations for Guild offices will be held at the December meeting. Elections will be held at the meeting immediately following any final nominations. I hope to see you there.

I wish each of you a wonderful holiday season.

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## MEETING REVIEW

By Dale Ausherman



The original plan for our 12 November meeting was to feature Master Carver Alexander Grabovetskiy to demonstrate carving techniques, but the travel expenses from his Florida home were not justified for a two-hour meeting for our normal attendance count, so this topic was cancelled. Instead local woodworker **Jozef Bouwhuis** quickly prepared a lecture on the "Meanderings of an Amateur Woodworker," which reviewed his path to becoming an accomplished woodworker and shared his methodologies and tools for both "square work" and "round work" projects. Along the way Jozef shared a gallery of some of his work. Jozef is an accomplished speaker, as well as



experienced woodworker, so his presentation was both enjoyable and informative.

Jozef is actually an immigrant who came to this country as a young child with his Dutch parents. He did not speak a word of English until about the age of five. He has learned the English language very well as I

could not detect even a hint of a Dutch accent. He learned his initial woodworking skills at age 9, when his non-English-speaking Dutch Grandfather visited in America. His "Opa" was bored during the visit and undertook to teach Jozef some basic woodworking skills in their garage, such as how to measure and hold work in a vise, how to mark with a pencil and a square, how to cut a line with a hand saw, how to use a chisel and a hand drill, and how to drive a wood screw. These basic skills instilled an interest in woodworking for Jozef and have served him well over his several decades of woodworking. Jozef graduated from Flint's General Motors Institute, now Kettering University, and has a full career in automotive engineering.

He then reviewed the tools which he uses for his square work, when he acquired them, and in some cases how he acquired them. He got try squares and knife along with a back-saw and circular saw in 1982, followed by a table saw with carbide blades in 1985. A workbench with vises came in 1989 (he made his own), along with an orbital sander. He acquired a jig saw in 1990. He owns several refurbished hand planes, along with three shop vacuums. A drill press was added in 1999, and he built his own router table in 2000. A planer was added in 2003, dust collection in 2004, and finally a band saw in 2009.

Jozef shared with us what he has learned about tools; 1) Get the best tools (power or hand) you can afford; 2) take care of the tools and learn how to use them (he recommends not going into the shop if you are tired, as you will lose concentration, or if you are in a hurry, as you will make mistakes, or if you cannot spend at least one hour on something. He added to ALWAYS wear your protective equipment. He mentioned that one can get inexpensive (now about \$10) safety glasses with built in bifocal or full view reading glasses. (I have

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found these to be very useful.) And Jozef agreed with accomplished turner Al Goldstein that a full-face mask is important for wood turning

Jozef shared with us a list of the types of square work he has accomplished, including 6-7 bookcases, picture frames, three bedsteads (1<sup>st</sup> in college, 2<sup>nd</sup> after graduation, and his current bedstead), bathroom furniture



and fixtures, some small boxy furniture, and several tables. The bed he made in college had to be designed such that the parts could be transported in an old VW Rabbit. He has made and sold many laminated breadboards, several large work tables for restaurants and other businesses, and laminated food preparation counter tops for restaurants. He provided pictures of many of these projects. His favorite finish is walnut oil (warmed by a household laundry iron) followed by melted beeswax.

He indicated that much of the finer hardwood for several projects came from B&B Heartwoods, a custom milling and cabinet shop located on Whitmore Lake Road between Ann Arbor and North Territorial Road. This business, operating in a converted 1940's dairy barn, offers furniture-grade, kiln-dried hardwoods, rough-sawn or dimensioned to meet your requirements

in architectural millwork, residential and commercial furnishings, cabinetry and more. (<http://www.bandb-heartwoods.com>) Jozef shared the "secret" that B&B has some great air-dried inventory on an upper floor of the shop, and recommends that one bring a flashlight and tape measure. I have used B&B Heartwood to mill stock which is bigger than my own equipment can handle, at very reasonable prices and quick turnaround. You can bring your own wood, and they have a huge joiner and a very-wide drum sander, along with industrial molding machines.

Jozef then reviewed his experiences with "round work," his work on the lathe. He started into round work with a Delta bench-top lathe which he wore out in three years. He then replaced it with a bigger one with electronic speed control and a Nova chuck. He has accomplished many projects on the lathe, ranging from spindle-type turnings (porch rail spindles for an exterior restoration project, various shapes of cooking rolling pins which he makes and sells) to bowl turnings. He worked with B&B Heartwoods on a project requiring 35 identical porch spindles. He had estimated the job at ½ hour per spindle, but found that the first spindle took 1 ½ hours. He did eventually achieve the ½ hour/per rate at the end of the 35 spindle run, but he spent much more time on the job than originally envisioned. His advice for wood turners? Practice, practice, practice!

He had slides which showed the steps in turning a wooden bowl with the bark still on the upper lip of the finished bowl. Bowls are mainly turned with the wood grain running perpendicular to the lathe axis (side grain) but they can also be turned with the grain running parallel to the lathe axis (end grain or parallel grain) so the grain orientation is the same as would be used for spindle turning. To get live edge tree bark on an upper edge requires mounting with the blank

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mounted with grain perpendicular to the axis. (Bowls turned side grain from wet timber will distort and become oval as the moisture content reduces. For this reason, bowls are usually turned in two stages, but Jozef did not think this was an issue.)

The major steps in turning the simple bowl: 1) Cut to length the branch or trunk resulting in a cylinder (the length will be the maximum diameter of the intended bowl); 2) cut off one edge of the cylinder to make a flat surface to accommodate a sandpaper-faced driving “puck.” The puck is driven by the drive stock, with the bowl stock held on its opposing end by the tailstock with a live center (this end eventually becomes the inside of the bowl. In this position, the outside shape of the bowl is turned, and a round tenon (Jozef called it a “spigot”) is turned. This tenon becomes the drive



tenon to drive the blank when leveling the bottom and turning another tenon on the bottom; 3) the bowl is turned end-for-end (flipped), and fastened into the drive stock by gripping the newly cut tenon, with the eventual bottom of the bowl now on the live center, then the bottom is shaped to final shape, a new tenon is turned, and any ornamental rings are turned (at this

point also the outside shape is sanded and prepared for finish); 4) the blank is now flipped again, to be driven by the bottom tenon for hollowing; 5) the original tenon is now prepared to be pressed by the tailstock to enable the cutting out of an internal cone, which can be used to make a second smaller bowl (the cone is released by striking with a mallet); 6) the bowl now being held and driven only by the second tenon, can now be hollowed out with a sharp bowl gouge, and the bottom scraped smooth using a cold chisel or similar tool; 7) while so mounted the final sanding and finish of both inside and outside can now be accomplished. Richard Raffan, an Australian, has published many good books on wood turning, and provides a website article with a more thorough review of the steps in turning a bowl. (<http://www.startwoodworking.com/sites/default/files/bowl-turning-basics.pdf>)

Jozef pointed out the importance of sharp tools for quality and non-frustrating making of both square and round work. Non-sharp tools are frustrating and dangerous. Sharp tools work very well. It doesn't take long to sharpen anything properly.

In conclusion, Jozef added some words of wisdom on marketing one's work: 1) be proud of your work . . . leave inferior pieces at home (“it's your reputation – stupid”); 2) make sure it's presented in a favorable manner- clean, dry, no water-spots, shiny . . . ; 3) be able to tell the story of the piece, what it is made of, how it is to be used or enjoyed, and how to care for it; 4) ask enough money to keep it interesting, and price it to allow you to be proud of selling it.

We thank the program committee for arranging such an informative and entertaining program on such short notice, and for the responsiveness and energy of Jozef for quickly pulling it together. We are grateful for his sharing of his life's woodworking experience.

**FYI**

By Ken Wolf



## MWG Certified Finishes For Toys and Boxes

April 2016

All finishes used for our toy and box donations to Children's Hospital must comply with federal toy finish requirements (which means the toy or box builder must supply a copy of the manufacturer's CPSIA Certificate of Compliance with the donated toys or boxes). These certificates are typically available from the finish manufacturer or their website. If you choose one of the following finish products, their CPSIA certificates are on file with our guild and with the hospital and no CPSIA certificate is needed from the toy/box builder (just please indicate which of these finishes you used with your donation).

Rustoleum Painter's Touch (2X) Spray Paint (all colors)

Watco Spray Lacquer (all types)

Zinsser BIN primer and all shellacs

Minwax Wood Finish, Wood Finish (250 VOC), PolyShades, PolyShades (275 VOC)

Minwax Fast Drying Polyurethane (550 VOC & 450 VOC), Water Based Oil-Modified Poly, Wipe-On Poly, Express Clear Polycrylic Protective Finish –manufactured after 8/7/12

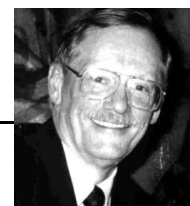
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**FYI**

By Ken Wolf



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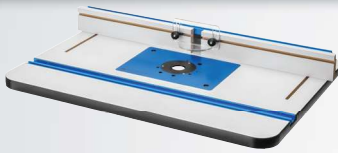
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For name tags, sign up with Ed Stuckey  
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## **The Picture Gallery**



**A bowl from inside a bowl - clever**



**Got a question? - Get a candy - cool**