



MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) February 2024 Vol. 45 No. 2

When / Where:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

(Business meeting and Socializing Starts at 1:00 PM)

In-Person Meeting:

**Festool Demonstrations
by Jeff Covey**

Meeting Coordinated by: Ragnar Bergethon



IN-PERSON MEETING AT:
Livonia Senior Center

FEBRUARY:

MWG Officer at Large, **Ragnar Bergethon**, has coordinated a demonstration of various Festool tools for our **February 11th 2024** meeting at the Livonia Senior Center. Meeting starts at **1:00 PM**. Speaking is renowned Festool specialist, **Jeff Covey**.

MARCH:

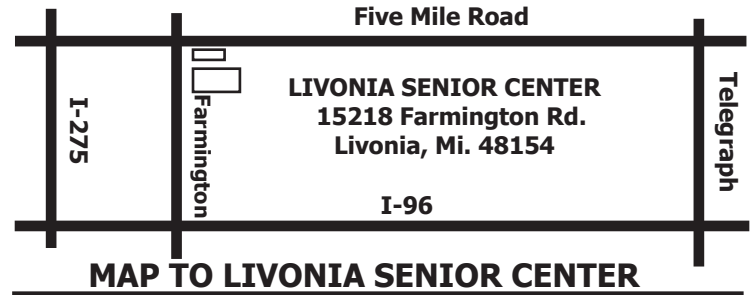
At our **March 10th 2024** meeting, fellow MWG member **Ragnar Bergethon** will demonstrate the design and build of nesting chairs. Coordinated by Berg himself, the meeting will start at **1:00 PM**. Note: the completed chair will be awarded to a meeting attendee.

APRIL:

Member Meeting – April 14th 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Jammie, from Rockler, Novi will discuss “Tool Design”. Coordinated by **Ron Ross**.

2024 MWG Seminar – April 27th 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM - Woodworking professional **Tom McLaughlin** will present “The Art of Chairmaking”. Coordinated by **Jerry Romito**



**Festool Demonstrations
by Jeff Covey of Festool**

February 11th

Coordinated by fellow member **Ragnar Bergethon**, Festool expert **Jeff Covey** will discuss and demonstrate various woodworking tools.

This will be a great chance to see how the very best tools from Festool perform before making a purchase.





President's Corner

By Jerry Romito



February 2024

There is a lot to read in this month's newsletter, so I will keep this short.

Superbowl Sunday

As of this writing we don't know if the Lions will be playing in the February 11 Superbowl or not. But in any case I suspect that many of you are planning some sort of Superbowl watch activity, and won't want to be hanging around too long at the guild meeting that afternoon. Therefore we are going to start the meeting earlier and run shorter. We will have a short social time from 1:00 – 1:30 pm, and then go right into the Festool presentation from 1:30 – 3:00 pm or earlier. We do want to give the Festool rep **Jeff Covey** plenty of time, since he is coming in from out-of-state, and will be demonstrating (6) sanders, (2) track saws, various cordless drills, a dust extractor, a multifunction table, and of course the Domino joinery.

Sign Up for Tom McLaughlin on April 27

We will be hosting in-person the nationally famous professional furniture craftsman and wood-working instructor **Tom McLaughlin** at an all-day seminar on **Saturday April 27, 2024**, from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at the Livonia Senior Center. His topic will be "*The Art of Chairmaking*". He will begin with the mortise and tenon Craftsman style chair, then move on to the more curvilinear Queen Anne style, and conclude with the round Hans Wegner Classic Chair.

Some of you may remember Tom from the Saturday Zoom presentation he did for us in November, 2020. He hosts "Shop Night Live" every Thursday night at 7:30 pm on YouTube, and you can see over 200 episodes archived at the Epic Woodworking YouTube

channel. He also hosts Classic Woodworking, and is a frequent contributor to Fine Woodworking Magazine. Please see the link at the end of this newsletter for the flyer with detailed information and the sign-up form.

Jerry Romito
MWG President





MEETING OVERVIEW



By Larry Last & Ron Ross

Cancelled MWG Meeting Overview Box Making 14 January 2024

Due to our crazy Michigan weather, we had too much snow and cold weather to have our usual Guild meeting in January.

Since there was a lot of interest in the subject **Ron Ross** and I will try to give you some highlights of the presentation. We do hope to give a full presentation in the future.

I start out as follows showing boxes throughout history

A rich history of boxes



Egyptian 1300BC



Hutch chest 1300AD

Pine chest used by immigrants about 1800 AD



Simple Boxes & Embellishments

Repeating End with Pine Knots



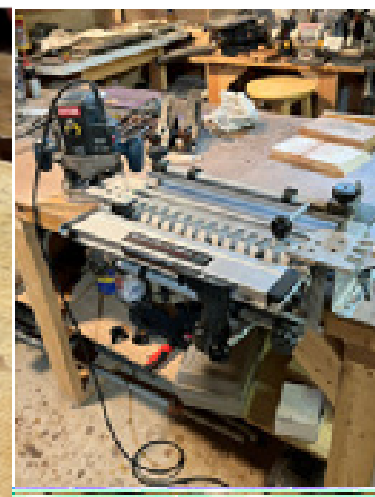
WOW !

4,000 years ago!

Cosmetic box of the Royal (Tutankhamun), 1814-1815 BC, Egypt, made with ebony and ivory

My boxes are not this fancy, like this one, see below I will discuss my steps for making boxes for the Children's Hospital in Detroit. Remember: quantity over elegance, with no metal fasteners.

Once I determine the size of the box, I cut wood for the sides to finished sizes on my miter saw and table saw. My corner joinery of choice is the dovetail. I place the sides in the order I want them in the finished boxes, hiding any imperfections toward the inside. On the top edge, I label each end A or B to correspond with the letter on the adjoining sides, as shown. I then use my Porter Cable half-blind dovetail jig to cut the dovetails. I use half blind ones since they are easier than full dovetails and the grooves for the top and bottom edges are concealed. This ensures the dados line up.

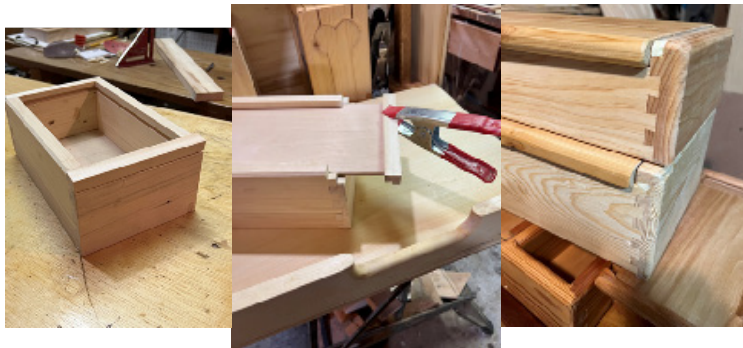




I use my Stanley hand plane to level the top and bottom edges of the sides. I then use my 1946? Bench-top table saw with a dado blade to cut the dados on the insides of the side walls to accept the plywood top and bottom.

After the top and bottom pieces are cut, I trim the top of one of the end pieces to the level of the bottom of the top groove so the lid can slide in and out. Glue the offcut piece to the sliding top as shown in middle illustration.

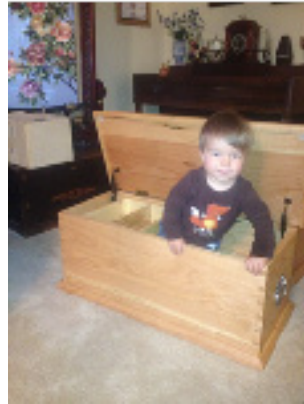
To assemble, glue one edge of dovetails, insert bottom plywood, then glue the remaining dovetails. Allow to dry before inserting the top to avoid its being glued in place.



After glue-up and sanding, I put on a topcoat of spray shellac or polyurethane. I sand between coats with 200-300 grit sandpaper and finish with 500 grit when totally dry. I usually end with wax for a nice feel.



Here are some examples. Sometimes I use a solid top or put embellishments on the top to personalize or identify the objects inside.



Looks like another satisfied customer!

Certainly, a bigger box than my hospital boxes but it is still just a box.

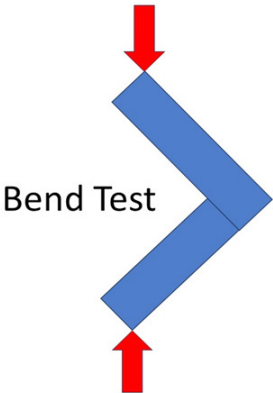
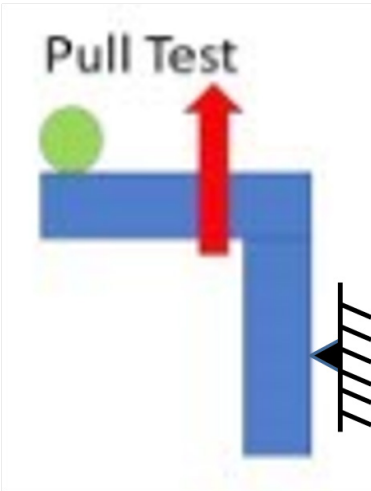
I find these a lot of fun to make and my grandchildren and others find them useful in storing our treasures. Ron and I will give a more detailed presentation on this at a future date- Larry Last : January 2024

Ron here to talk about what type of joint to use on your next box. If you have made boxes, you probably have a favorite joint depending on what the box will be used for.

If you are going to make your first box, you may wonder what type of joint should I use? There are many, the Box joint, Miter with or without splines, Dovetail either full or half blind, Mortise either through or blind, Loose tenon, Tongue and Groove, Pocket hole, Rabbet, Biscuit, Butt, and Dowel either through or blind. Depending on the joint, they can be cut by hand, on a table saw, a router or other power hand tools.

You may pick a specific joint type based on its appearance like the miter which will provide a clean smooth look or the dovetail or box joints which provide a more intricate appearance. Another consideration is the strength of the joint. Many woodworkers believe the miter is not as strong as many of the other joints but thanks to our good friend, Jim Kudej who was searching YouTube, found a couple of woodworkers who performed strength test on various joints. The drawings below show a pull test with the vertical board secured to the fixture and the horizontal board restrained where the green dot is to prevent applying leverage on the joint and the red arrow is where the joint was pulled up. The second test is a bend test

where pressure is placed on each board to bend the joint inward. These tests are of a single joint which is interesting, however in my opinion a box with three additional joints will provide significantly different results.



making some plain boxes for the kids to use while they are in the hospital or memory boxes which are given to the parents with the child’s belongings when the child does not go home.

As an inspiration for your plans to make some Memory boxes, below are samples of boxes our members have provided in the past. You can use inlays, wood artwork attached to the top, a picture frame on the top for a child’s picture are just a few ways to make a memory something special for the grieving family.

Testing of box joints – thanks Jim

• Pull on joint

Style	Force in Lbs
Miter w/visible spline	2757
Miter	2646
Rabbet	2118
Dovetail	1808
Miter w/internal spline	1662
Butt	1303
Box	754

• Bend joint

Style	Force in Lbs
Miter w/visible spline	400
Box	370
Miter	346
Dovetail w/spline	293
Dovetail	267
Loose tenon -Domino	253
Tongue and Groove	225
Pocket hole	155
Mortise-blind	152
Dowel -through	148
Mortise-through	143
Rabbet	138
Biscuit	127
Butt	120



Suprise, surprise, the miter is a strong joint, however as Ken Wolf reminded me from his experience when making memory boxes with our dear friend Bill Rigstad, if the 45-degree miters are not accurate there will be less contact for the glue to hold onto, and the joint can fail. Ken can tell how he fixed the problem.

Now that you know there any many strong joints to use and tools you probably have to build boxes with, go for it. Keep in mind the toy/box program that supports Detroit Childrens Hospital program, think about





GLENN WING POWER TOOLS

33656 Woodward Ave.
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 644-0444
(248) 644-5790 Fax
(800) 821-5177 (US)
(800) 448-1572 (MI)

Jeff Wilmot

ODETTE FERGUSON
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
E-mail: odette@sawspec.com



10555 Shook Rd. P.O. Box 74438
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0438
www.sawspec.com

Your single source for all
your sawing needs...from
coolants to machinery

Voice
800-SAW-SPEC
800-729-7732
734-941-2824
Cell
734-740-1691
Fax
734-941-2883

Member of
Industrial Distributors Association
International Saw & Knife Association

Michigan Naturals
DECORATIVE CABINET HARDWARE
www.MichiganNaturals.net

Ann Ivory
313-506-1963

CUSTOM WOODWORK & MILLING
Live Edge Slabs & Urban Lumber
Barn Wood & Salvaged Wood
Firewood

JASON COHAN
Office (734) 751-6746
Cell (734) 658-2840
TREEPURPOSED.COM

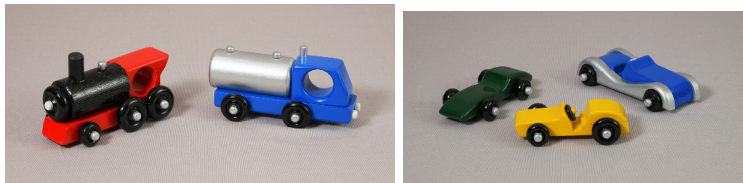


News from the Toy and Box Committee

Living With Wood

One of the woodworking resources that I keep tabs on mentioned a book named “Living With Wood” by Dr. Seri Robinson. What intrigued me about this book is that it calls itself a guide for toymakers, hobbyists, crafters and parents. Well needless to say that got my attention. Many of us are past the age of being concerned with wood products for young children, however we still may be active making items for around the house, grandchildren and in support of our toy and box program. Furthermore, there was mention of many photomicrographs of wood structures contained within the book. As a former optical and electron microscopist for a large international chemical corporation, this really got me interested. I ordered a copy and have been reading with great interest recently.

This book is easy to read, but does contain some technical terms for the various structures within wood cells. We all know that wood contains lignum, pores and rays. We also may be aware of wood structure differences in the radial, tangential and transverse



Vic Bonara's Trucks, Locomotives, and Cars

planes. However I have never heard the terms parenchyma cells or fusiform rays or tracheids, all explained within this book. This book does detail extractives within various species of wood and its effect

on toxicity. You may remember that I wrote about extractives and toxicity in my August 2023 newsletter which also contained information from a Fine Woodworking article done by Dr. Robinson.

Dr. Robinson goes on to speak about woods used in the kitchen for utensils, bowls, and cutting boards, as well as the best types of finishes to use or not use. A list of woods not to be used for food contact is also included. Many of the exotics and woods that we consider insect and rot resistant are on that list.

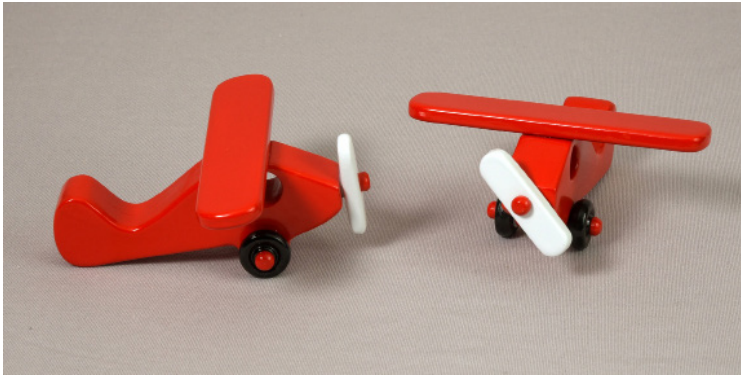


Dave Nordstrom's Tractor and Model T

Surprisingly, a soap and water wash followed immediately by drying is sufficient for most wood products to reduce the growth of bacteria. I also found it interesting that oil finishes on kitchen utensils is really not necessary. Also there is a fair amount of discussion about different types of bacteria and how they spread on different species of wood. Waxes and oils as finishes are discussed as well as the pros and cons of each. Linseed oil tends to promote bacterial growth



2023 MWG Toys Car



Lou Minna's Airplanes
more than mineral oil.

The section of this book about toys contains information about toddlers and teething. Once again, woods with a fair amount of extractives should be avoided. Toys that are intended mostly for toddlers that are teething should not have any finish whatsoever. There are some nice pictures of simple toys that can be made as well as a list of sellers of wooden toys. I have not reviewed this list as of yet. There is some discussion on woods used for indoor toys and outdoor toys. Cedar works well for outdoor toys but is not recommended for indoor use. My takeaway about the toys and boxes that we make for Children's Hospital is that they are fine with the approved finishes we use.

A few more chapters round out the book with discussions on cleaning furniture, outdoor wood structures, easy wood repair, finishing and coloring wood. As I stated previously, this is not an in-depth, college level textbook but does have some very useful information. For one who is interested in the structure of differing species of wood, this book is a treasure with all of its quality photomicrographs.

As has always been the policy, the Guild will provide standard wheels (1", 1 1/4" or 1 1/2" dia) along with the new treaded wheels, 1/2" OD nylon washers and 1/4" dia. wheel pegs free of charge to any member who wishes to make toys for this program. We do have a fair supply of the treaded wheels at this time and should they be a big hit, we will arrange to have more in the years to come. Any of these items can be obtained by contacting Ron or Dan.

The Guild still has an inventory of non-standard wheels and other toy parts that have been recently categorized. There has been a good response to these non-standard items and once they are gone, they will not be replaced.

- 1 3/4", 2", 2 1/4", 2 1/2", 2 3/4" and 3" diameter standard style wheels
- 2", 2 1/4", 2 1/2" and 2 3/4" diameter treaded tire style wheels
- 2" and 2 3/4" diameter wagon style wheels
- 1 1/4", 1 1/2" and 2 1/4" diameter flanged style train wheels
- Wood shapes such as acorns, beads, balls, caps and discs
- Large and small shaker style pegs
- Three sizes of wood peg people
- Steam engine/steam train parts and smokestacks

We do bring a small amount of select items from this stockpile to Guild meetings on a regular basis. However, if you have a specific need, please contact **Ron** or **Dan** for the amount and to arrange delivery.



Chuck Reavis's (with help from Seniors) Ford Coups

Once again, a great big thank-you to those who contributed to last year's success.

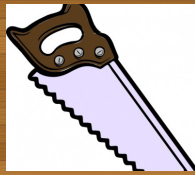
For further information on our toy/box program or request wheels and axels, please contact

Ron - (734) 812-5531 - ross1508@gmail.com

Dan - (313) 702-5836 - dan56laura@att.net



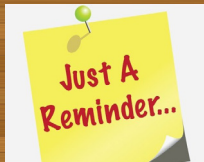
MWG 2024 Seminar



Nationally known woodworker, **Tom McLaughlin** will present *The Art of Chairmaking* for our **April 27th 2024** guild daylong (8:30 am - 4:00 PM) seminar.

Tom will introduce and attempt to simplify the art of fine chairmaking which is considered by most to be the most challenging of woodworking projects. While he will include inspirational examples from the great designs of the past through slide discussions, there will be plenty of practical examples and demonstrations of the approach and process to making great chairs.

More information and sign-up by filling out the MWG flier found on our website with the link shown below.



MWG MEMBERSHIP



Michigan Woodworker's Guild yearly dues are now payable.

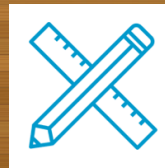
Feel free to get on-top of the renewal process by paying your \$25 yearly dues Early and Often.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the email message and made payments through the MWG website as well as by sending your dues payment to the membership chair.

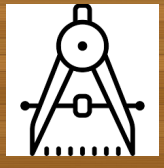
Note: A membership renewal form can be found on the website dropdown menu under "Membership - Payment/Renewals"

You can find the MWG **Tom McLaughlin** sign-up flier on the MWG website with the following link:
https://michiganwoodworkersguild.com/wp-content/uploads/Seminars/Tom-McLaughlin-Flyer-GJR-final_Rev5_2-3-24.pdf

You can find the **Bill Damico's** Tow Truck drawing on the MWG website with the following link:
https://michiganwoodworkersguild.com/wp-content/uploads/toys/Bill_Damicos_tow_Truck_1-12-24_PDF.pdf



MWG DESIGN CENTER



From the Editor

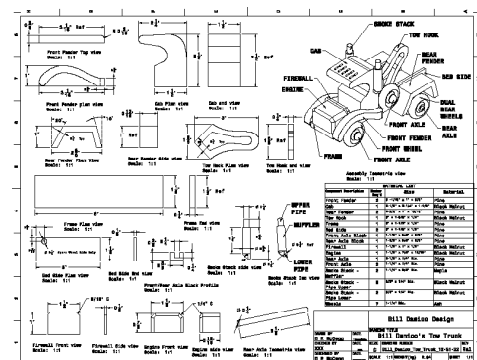
Long time member and master MWG toy maker, **Bill Damico** has developed a fantastic Toy Tow Truck.

Show below, this toy is made from contrasting Maple and Black walnut and is just calling your name to construct multiple copies for the MWG Children's Hospital toy program.

The MWG Design Staff has uploaded a drawing of Bill's tow truck to the website and can be found with the link shown below.



Bill Damico' Tow Truck



Bill Damico's Tow Truck drawing



The Michigan Woodworkers Guild

Proudly Presents

Tom McLaughlin

On Saturday, April 27, 2024

For An All-Day Seminar on



Tom McLaughlin will present *The Art of Chairmaking*. If you've yet to experience his teaching style, you are in for a treat as he clearly delivers concepts for those at various levels of expertise to understand, with professional skill and a disarming humor.

Tom will introduce and attempt to simplify the art of fine chairmaking which is considered by most to be the most challenging of woodworking projects. While he will include inspirational examples from the great designs of the past through slide discussions, there will be plenty of practical examples and demonstrations of the approach and process to making great chairs.

The presentation will begin with an explanation of the fundamentals, using as an example a classic mortise and tenon Craftsman style chair. Then Tom will show how the principles involved in building this chair extend to the more curvilinear Queen Anne style. Finally, he will explore chairmaking design and construction in the style of one of a modern-day masterpiece, the Hans Wegner Classic (round) Chair.

Tom can be seen on his *Epic Woodworking* website (epicwoodworking.com), on his free weekly livestream called *Shop Night Live* on YouTube, as a frequent contributor to *Fine Woodworking Magazine*, and as the host of *Classic Woodworking* on PBS TV.

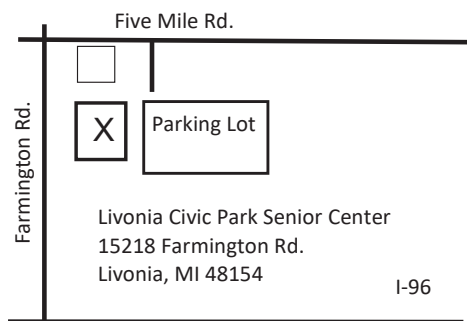
Date: Saturday, April 27, 2024

Time: 8:30 am -- 4:00 pm

Sign in: 8:30-9:00 - Coffee & snacks

Box lunch included: 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Location: Livonia Senior Center
15218 Farmington Road



Please prepay by mail to reserve your seat and lunch. Mail your check with this form to Jerry Romito at 1995 Wales Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48306. (Questions call: 248-891-5331)

Make the check payable to: Michigan Woodworkers Guild. **Deadline April 14, 2024**

Reserve soon, as seating is limited.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Cost

- ☐ Member: \$35
- ☐ Non-Member: \$45
(includes 1-yr. paid
\$25 membership)

You can find the MWG **Tom McLaughlin** sign-up flier on the MWG website with the following link:
https://michiganwoodworkersguild.com/wp-content/uploads/Seminars/Tom-McLaughlin-Flyer-GJR-final_Rev5_2-3-24.pdf



CELEBRATE OUR

70TH ANNIVERSARY
SINCE 1954

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 9 AM – 12 PM
At Rockler Retail Store Locations

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

DOOR PRIZES for the FIRST 70 CUSTOMERS!

Sign up for TOOL GIVEAWAYS!

See it in action DEMOS!

In store only SPECIAL DEALS!

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Learn more at Rockler.com/celebrate-70



SAVE \$20

\$69⁹⁹
TABLE SAW SMALL PARTS SLED
Reg. \$89.99 (55916)

SAVE OVER 40%

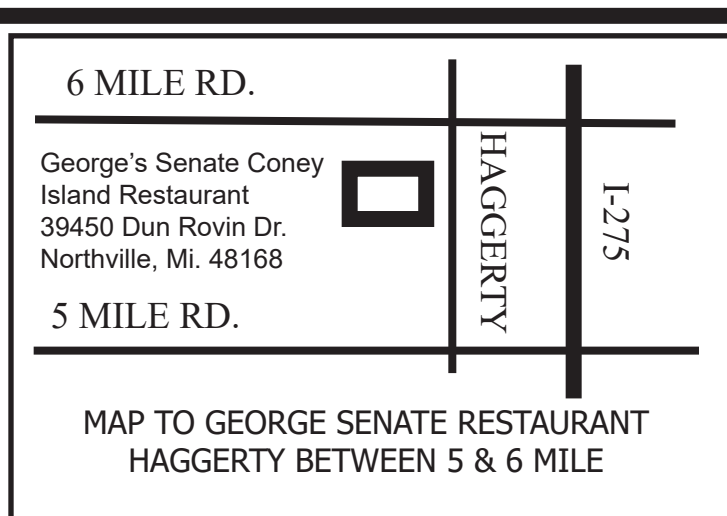
\$12⁹⁹
10" MEDIUM-DUTY SPRING-LOADED BAR CLAMP
Reg. \$22.99 (63901)

70TH ANNIVERSARY SAVINGS SALE PRICING VALID 1/25-2/28/2024
43291 Crescent Blvd. - Novi, MI 48375 - (248) 543-5110 - Rockler.com
Please see Rockler.com for updates.

For membership information contact

Dave McCagg at: d2mccagg@provide.net

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



Next MWG Luncheon: (Coordinated by TBD)
Thursday, 22 FEBRUARY 2024 at 10:16 AM

Executive Board Members / Committee Chairs

Jerry Romito.....	President.....	248-475-5976
Dan Holowicki.....	Vice President.....	734-283-9898
Ed Stuckey.....	Treasurer.....	313-345-3671
John Dolinsky.....	Secretary.....	734-945-6461
Dan Holowicki.....	Officer at Large.....	734-283-9898
Tony Gigliotti	Officer at Large	248-853-8349
Bill Gayde	Officer at Large	248-859-3949
Ron Ross.....	Officer at Large.....	734-812-5531
Rich Herbert.....	Officer at Large.....	248-628-0644
Ragnar Bergethon...	Officer at Large.....	248-608-8436
Ken Wolf.....	Officer at Large.....	734-981-3423
Dave McCagg.....	Officer at Large.....	734-482-6764
Ragnar Bergethon..	Website	248-608-8436
Dave McCagg.....	Newsletter Editor.....	734-482-6764
Dave McCagg.....	Membership.....	734-482-6764
Larry Last..	Programs/Website Calendar....	248-207-9386
Bob Mills.....	Mentoring.....	248-535-6718
Kevin Goulet	Camera Chair	248-672-5341
Fred Ball....	Web Site Calendar (Backup).....	248-681-3108
Ron Ross.....	Toy Program.....	734-812-5531
Kevin Goulet.....	Officer at Large.....	248-672-5341
Kevin Goulet.....	Food Coordinator.....	248-672-5341