



MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) June 2020 Vol. 41 No. 6

When / Where:

SATURDAY JUNE 13, 2020

At HMI HARDWOODS from 12:00 to 2:00 pm

TOPIC: **REPLACED BY TOM McLAUGHLIN SEMINAR**
 OUR JUNE 2020 FIELD TRIP WILL BE TO:
 HMI HARDWOODS, LLC, 430 DIVISION ST.
 CLINTON, MI 49236

The Guild luncheon will be at the George's Senate Cony Island on **June 25th** at 1:16 pm (see map on page 11)



MAP TO Clinton, Mi.



Our June 2020 Field trip to HMI Woodworks in Clinton, Mi. has been postponed to perhaps 2021. In lieu of this year's field trip, we have scheduled an On-Line class presented by **Tommy McLaughlin**, host of TV's *Classic Woodworking* on PBS. See Page 9 for details to this free member's only event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NO MEETING OR LUNCHEON IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY

Due to the summer shutdown, there is no July member meeting. All are encouraged to enjoy the month with family and friends as well as making more sawdust.

Annual MWG Picnic-Aug. 9th
 Bring a dish to Pass, Guild to supply chicken, hotdogs, pop, water, horseshoes
Swap meet starts at 12:59 PM
 (Great chance to trade /buy woodworking STUFF)

This month's luncheon will be at George's Cony Island on **August 27th** at 1:16 pm

Local Artisan **Jim Eischeid** will demonstrate his Wooden Art at our **Sept. 13** meeting at the **ROYAL OAK SENIOR CENTER**.

The monthly luncheon will be at George's Cony Island on the **September 24th** at 1:16 pm

Professional Woodworker, **Will Stanford** will discuss the Ins and Outs of making Woodworking a career at our **Oct. 11** meeting at the Livonia Senior Center

The monthly luncheon will be at George's Cony Island on the **October 22nd** at 1:16 pm



President's Corner

By Jerry Romito



June, 2020

This article still finds us in the difficult and disruptive time with the Corona virus health crisis, and hopefully you have been following the many safety and shelter-in-place guidelines that we've been given. Please continue to do so and stay safe.

Since people haven't been able to get together in person, a technology has skyrocketed to the forefront that's allowed us to have mass remote visual communication - and that's Zoom. The MWG Board recently met remotely via a Zoom connection. We made several decisions that affect our near future programs.

The bad news is that since we feel that there are still be too many safety unknowns to ask our "at risk senior" member population to gather together, we made the decision to cancel the June 13 field trip to Michigan Hardwoods. Currently Michigan Hardwoods is not sure if they would accept public tours at that time. Of course there is no meeting scheduled for July, and we will wait to see about our August picnic. So sorry about all this.

But there is great news for June 13 ! Read on !

We are presenting a free remote live video seminar, conducted by the nationally renown woodworker, Tom McLaughlin of Epic Woodworking, on Saturday, June 13, from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.

You will view the live video event from your home, using whatever device you choose to make an internet connection. This will be a private seminar, available to paid MWG members only, which you will access with a web link that I will explain below.

Tom McLaughlin is a famous and respected fine furniture maker and woodworking instructor, living in

New Hampshire. (You can read a brief biography on Tom on page 9 in this newsletter). The project which Tom will be presenting is a walnut writing desk with a curly maple floating top. It will include the design, drawing, patterns, joinery, shaping, detailing, and assembly.

Tom, and his wife Kris, have made accessing the live video very user friendly. As I said, you do need an internet connection. You will access the video with a web link that I will send to you via email about a week before the seminar. All members will get the same link, and I ask that members not pass the link to the general public. This link will connect you to our custom Welcome page of Tom's website, shown here.



(Notice the MWG logo and the project desk). Clicking on this page will then take you to the live event hosted on the Epic Woodworking YouTube channel. The video will be in high definition (HD) with excellent sound quality. It will be live and you will be able to ask questions, but to do so you will need to type them in via chat format. I will provide that detail and repeat this info in the later email.

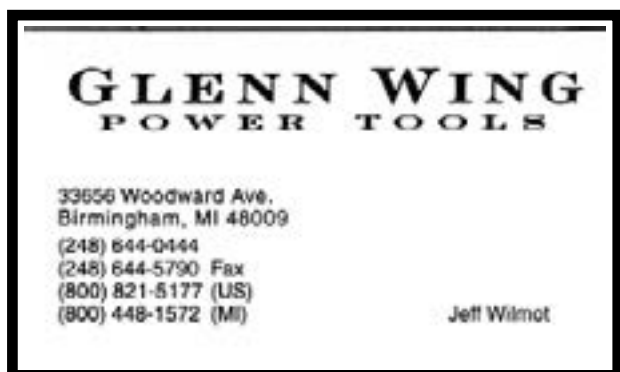
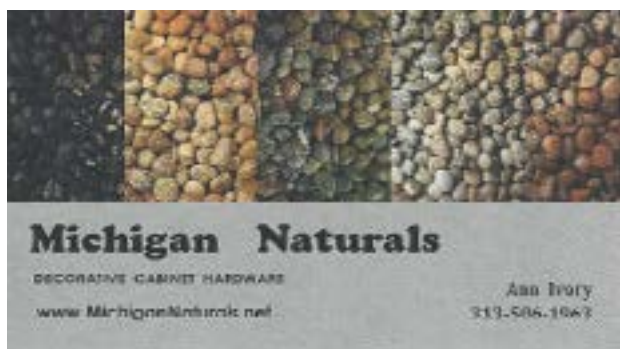
Tom is providing a special feature for us for future access to the video. That is that our page on their website and the associated video link will remain indefinitely, so we can all return to the video at will using our private link. (This might make Dale Ausherman's meeting review a bit easier.)

To get an early appreciation of Tom McLaughlin and his video presentations, I urge you to visit his website at www.epicwoodworking.com, and click on any of his many dozens of "Shop Night Live" presentations. You will see the same video and sound quality he will use for our seminar.

As you know, we normally charge members a fee for our Saturday professional seminars, but we are providing this seminar at no cost to our membership. We are doing this to encourage as many of you as possible to participate in the viewing. We would like to get a good feel for how this remote technology works, because we see that "remote meetings" may become a real possibility for expanded presentations, if not a necessity, for future meetings.

The video link email will be sent to all members whose dues are paid for the year 2020. If you are reading this newsletter but are not paid-up, this could be a good reason to get those dues in.

So again, please stay safe, spend time in the shop, and hopefully we'll be back in business together later this year.



PROJECT REVIEW

By MWG Members



As everyone knows, our May meeting had to be cancelled due to the closing of the Livonia Senior Center. This closing prevented Dale Ausherman from performing his magic of a detailed transcription of our monthly meeting. [No meeting – No Magic]

In the May newsletter, we asked everyone who has made sawdust during this "Stay Home, Stay Safe" timeframe to send us pictures and a brief description of these projects. We received input from several Guild members who made many diverse projects from Children's Hospital donation wood toys and memory boxes, to magnificent outdoor benches and heirloom snow sleds. In the next few pages, we will share these projects pictures and descriptions in the words of the woodworkers who made them.

Ragnar Bergethon was busy making donations for Children's Hospital and says the following:

"I built 30 vehicles and 4 memory boxes for the Children's Hospital this year.



1. Racing cars and tractor trailers with crayons. They are made of maple with mahogany accents and finished with shellac.



2. Memory boxes. Made of mahogany with maple keys and a 4" by 6" picture window built into the lid. The actual picture frame is 5" by 7" but only the center 4" by 6" shows through the lid. Finished with General Finishes poly satin."

Neal Hoegemeyer constructed his very own "Corona Virus Project". He describes his project as follows:

**" Park Bench by Neal Hoegemeyer
My Corona Virus Project**

I needed a new park bench for my back yard to replace one that had deteriorated over the years. The design was started in February with a mock up of the seat and back profiles that my wife and I both felt comfortable with its back, lumbar and thigh support. Next came transferring the profiles to low tech paper mechanical finished drawings. The design is strictly my own.

The unique feature of the bench is the cantilevered arm rests.

The bench is made of cedar with Helmsmen Spar Urethane finish. The materials were purchased around the first of March before the lock down. After a short trip to Florida the machine work was started.



The first step was to make the bench sides shown on the first figure.



Next came the frame assembly, second figure and the final assembly, third figure.



The fourth figure shows the finished product in its backyard location. It was a fun project to execute from design concept, development, woodwork and completion. Now on to the next project.



Neal Hoegemeyer, May 2020"



Bob Mills submits his heirloom sled project which he constructed in Michigan as well as while enjoying his yearly winter retreat to Florida. [Editors note: building a sled while in Florida which is typically void of snow must have generated many unique comments from his neighbors. Maybe Bob will share these with us in the future.]

"I started the sled(s) project in late October to mentor Tim Kolosas in making two sleds for his daughters as Christmas presents. At about the same time three of our nieces presented the family with four new babies; two girls and



two boys. So the two sled project became a five (or six) sled project. This all took place by early December so no Corona virus was in the picture yet! Well, Tim's job pulled him to

the sidelines, I powered forward hoping to get at least one sled completed before we left for our annual three month sojourn to Florida.

As the clock ticked I worked furiously (slowly, that is) and finally realized that



I would have to pack a box of tools, sandpaper and various bits of hardware, along with the raw wood parts for the first sled and finish it in Naples, Florida after the first of

the year.

The Covid-19 virus activity became the news story of the winter and quickly began to cause constrictions on everyone's activities, including my woodworking efforts. I was frequently seen in the courtyard of our condo

complex, sanding the raw wood parts by hand, because of all the narrow slots in the design and my relatively poor technique in doing pattern routing on high sugar content



hardwoods (sugar maple and black cherry). However the many people that wandered by who stopped to meet me and chat about my

work were much more accepting of such issues. They always asked good questions and offered their support, although they looked at me as a skewhawed old man for building sleds in Florida. I simply retorted that you could never really tell that snow in Florida was so absurd and kept right on sanding (and sweating).



(To be continued) Next chapter comments on the project, the plans, the techniques, etc."

Dan Holowicki's contributions should make Ken Wolf (our Children's Hospital Contribution Coordinator) smile from ear to ear. Dan states:

"I'm sending you a few shots of the toy cars and trucks I've been working on while under the "stay at home" orders. I've got a total of 40 toys and as of right now





36 are complete. About half are made from hardwood with a natural finish, while the others are pine and fir that have been painted. I

did start working on these slowly after the first of the

year, hoping to have the bodies all shaped and finish sanded by this summer.

When the stay at home orders kicked in I

suddenly found myself with plenty of extra time.



To say the least, I'm way ahead of schedule for our Children's Hospital Toy project.

Stay Safe

Dan Holowicki"

Another one of our Michigan Woodworker's Guild board member, **Ron Ross** gave us a synopsis of his woodworking and "Honey Do" projects. He states:

"I'm working on toy cars and trucks for the hospital and I designed an articulating dachshund pull toy for the little kids. I'm finishing the first one and if I like it, I have enough wood to make 3 more. I'm currently replacing boards on our 32 year old cedar deck and just planted 9 evergreens to replace some of our landscaping. I have been busy."

We look forward to seeing Ron's articulating dachshund pull toy at a future meeting.

Besides working on various events for the Guild, **Jerry Romito** has found some time to spend in his shop making sawdust. Jerry contributes the following:

"I have done 7 small wood working projects during our stay-at-home. A little description of each is below.

1. Bandsaw boxes. Made of zebrawood, walnut, oak, and birch plywood, with a boiled linseed oil and rub-on oil poly finish. Tested out my new Rikon 14" band saw.



2. End-grain cutting boards. Made of maple, walnut, and cherry, with a mineral oil/beeswax finish. Tested out my new Jet 16/32 drum sander.



3. Flag boxes for a friend from church, made of oak recycled from an old church pew.



4. Ostrich egg stand. Made of cherry, finished with shellac and water-based poly. Real ostrich egg, hand painted by a friend from church for my wife.





5. Tea candle holders. Made of maple and cherry, finished with shellac and water-based poly. For gifts.

6. Wall shelf unit. Made of all solid oak, again recycled from an old church pew. Crown molding made on the table saw, angling it across the blade. 1/4" thick back made from resawn boards, another test for the new band saw. Finished with water-based poly.



7. Wine glass racks. Made from knotty pine to match the woodwork in our daughter's new home. Designed from a Wayfair ad picture she sent me."



mally conducted in the Spring at Michigan International Speedway (MIS). This year's event was cancelled due to the closure of MIS.

Earlier this year, I was approached by SAE corporate staff to construct a plaque to commemorate one of the event's original founders who, after 40 years, is "hanging up his slide rule" from his university position.

Hopefully this gift will help Dr. Ron Matthews remember his outstanding contribution to Formula SAE."



We know that everyone has been building all sorts of projects during this extended downtime. Please let us know what sawdust you have made as well as a brief description. We will happily showcase your projects in future newsletters.

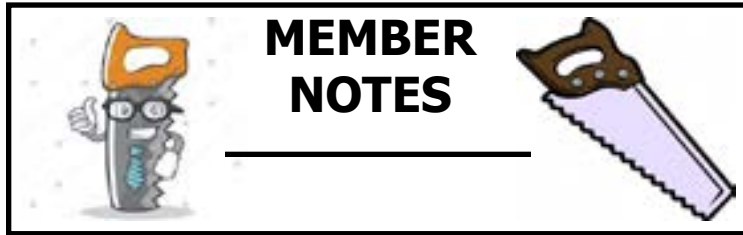
The transition newsletter editor, *identified below*, has also been busy making sawdust. He writes:

"Much of what I do since exiting from the day to day work life is volunteering. One of the programs with which I have been adamantly volunteering during the past 25 years is sponsored by SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers). The particular program is known as Formula SAE.

Formula SAE is collegiate motorcar competition which brings together about 120 different colleges from North and South America as well as Europe and Asia. The teams build from ground up an open wheeled, 600cc max.. motorcar each year. The vehicle is similar to a Formula One race car, yet is restricted to a max. wheel base of 60". The competition employs both static events (Cost, Presentation, and Design) as well as dynamic events (Tilt Table, Brake & Noise, Acceleration, Skid Pad, Autocross, and Endurance racing.) The event is nor-

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From Gene Diggs:

I have reached an age where I can no longer use my woodworking equipment.

I've sold off some of it but still have a few things to sell. Among them is a 3-hp Jet cabinet saw with an attached 2.5-hp router station with a router riser. Plus, numerous other tools.

Please feel free to give my contact information to anyone who may be interested.

Thank you,
Gene Diggs
248-931-0656

From Bill Rigstad:

Sally and I have been staying home ...but a big part of our lives has been going to the gym three days a week for the last 20+ years. To try to get a little exercise we bought three dumbbells and turned our dining room into a gym. Now we can work out seven days a week, but we are waiting for the gym to open.



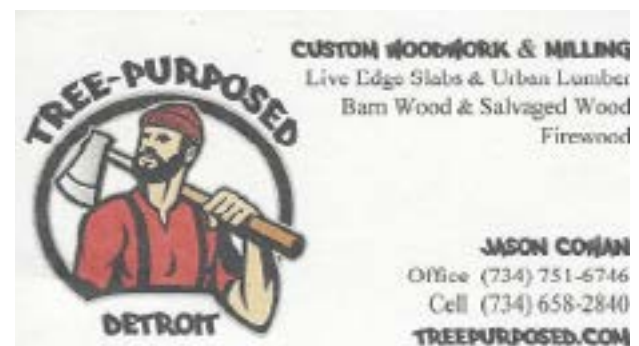
From John Geddie:

I have a friend that is looking for someone to repair/restore a sentiment family rocking chair.

If there's an interested guild member, please send me an email and I will put you in touch with them.

Thank you in advance!

John Geddie



A Look at Tom McLaughlin

By Jerry Romito

I met Tom McLaughlin in 2016 in Des Moines, Iowa, at a “Weekend With Wood” group of classes sponsored by “Wood Magazine.” Tom was one of the class instructors, talking about furniture design. I found him to be personable, knowledgeable, and well-spoken. When one of our MWG Board members, Ragnar Bergethon, noticed that Tom was the host on the PBS woodworking show, “Classic Woodworking,” we began comparing notes about Tom. It turns out that Tom and Ragnar are from the same neck of the woods out East, and they struck up a correspondence. Then with the recent emphasis on social distancing, Ragnar suggested that maybe Tom could do a remote seminar for us, and after we got BOD approval, he laid the groundwork with Tom and his wife Kris. Tom was extremely receptive, and we’re all set to go, and I thank Berg and Tom.

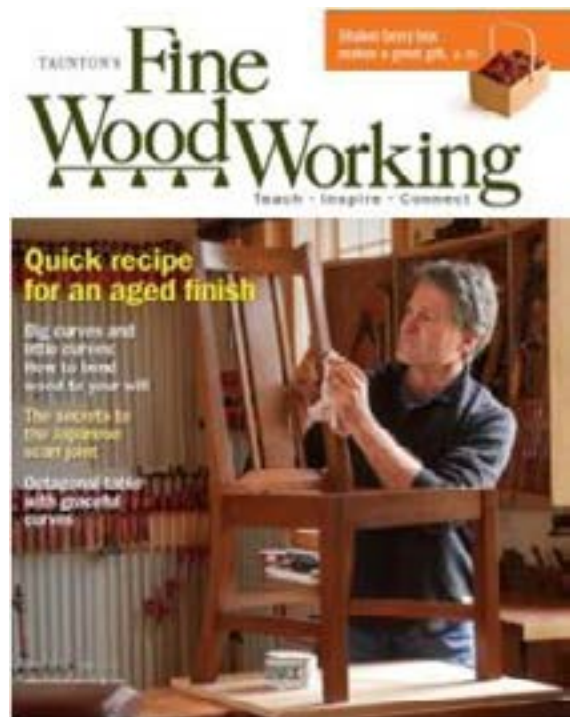
The following are some highlights of Tom’s biography, taken directly or paraphrased from his website: Tom has been making and designing commissioned custom furniture since 1990. After years of higher education in his twenties, he decided at 29 to pursue his love for fine furniture making full-time. His training launched forward when he entered a rare apprenticeship with master craftsman P.A. “Pug” Moore in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Tom remained close to Pug, even after branching out on his own, which included returning to his native New England roots where he’s been making furniture since 1997.



His credentials include:

- Host of public television’s Rough Cut with Fine Woodworking
- Offering instruction since 1998
- Member and former Chairman of the New Hampshire Furniture Masters since 1998
- Featured in articles in numerous newspapers, magazines, and woodworking journals, including recent articles in Fine Woodworking. See below:
 - In 2001 he began construction on a two-story 3600 sq ft shop on his property, with plans to continue building custom furniture and teaching in a larger, well equipped space.
 - His time is now devoted to designing pieces/plans, and constructing projects for the show, while live streaming woodworking classes and created video content during the off season, — with an occasional custom piece worked in there from time to time. He is also conducting demonstrations and visiting woodworking sites and events upon request.

You can read much more about Tom on his website: www.EpicWoodworking.com





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Dave McCagg at: d2mccagg@provide.net

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

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