



MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) June 2021 Vol. 42 No. 6

When / Where:

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2021

(Tour Starts: 1:00 PM)

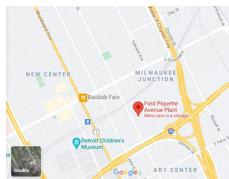
Ford Piquette Factory, 461 Piquette St. Detroit, MI

2021 Yearly Field Trip To: National Historic Landmark Ford Piquette Factory Tour

Tour Open To All Members And Guests

Coordinated by: Larry Last

TOUR MEETING TIME: 12:30 PM



IN-PERSON MEETING AT:
461 Piquette St. Detroit, MI
48202

JUNE:

A MWG personalized tour of the **Ford Piquette Plant**, coordinated by **Larry Last**, is scheduled for our yearly Field Trip on **Saturday, June 12, 2021**

July:

NO MEETING 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.

AUGUST:

Annual MWG Picnic- Aug. 15th, 2021

Where: Royal Oak VFW Park

Bring a dish to Pass, Guild to supply chicken, hotdogs, pop, water, horseshoes



Celebrate An Early 4TH of JULY

Join the Michigan Woodworker's Guild in a phenomenal tour of Ford's Model T Birthplace; **Historic Ford Piquette Factory**. View a Replica of an early Ford sales office. Enjoy a Special tour of the window and floor restoration work shop. Our tour is coordinated by: **Larry Last**





President's Corner

By Jerry Romito



June, 2021

June is going to be a breakthrough month for MWG, since we will be having our first live meeting in 15 months. It is our annual field trip, which this year is a tour of the Ford Piquette plant. Details of the plant and tour are covered in this month's newsletter.

A special feature of the plant for woodworkers is that it is made of wood and bricks. (The Ford Highland Park plant that was built just 7 years later is all concrete and steel). MWG member **Larry Last** is a volunteer there, who along with about a dozen other volunteers have been rebuilding the 255 wooden double hung windows, along with restoring the hard maple wood floors as well as repairing items and displays as needed. They do this work in their shop in the back of the building. The shop, which is not a part of the normal tour, will be included in ours. Woodworker Richard Kowalski will explain how they replace the rotted sections of the windows.

If you plan to take the tour (and guests are invited), please let me know with an email by June 5 to: GJRomito@aol.com. You can pay the \$10.00 per person fee at the door. At this time Covid masks and social distancing will be required.

On another note, one thing that has helped keep me busy lately is Tom McLaughlin's live course on building his modern desk/table. Six classes are completed, with two more to go. Some of the 23 students taking the class are building the table as they go, but I'm going to wait until the course is complete before starting it. The project is giving me an excuse to buy some hand tools that I will need (like I really needed an excuse).

As usual, there will be no meeting in July. The BOD has not as yet made a decision on whether or not

to hold the annual picnic in August. If you have an opinion on the picnic, please feel free to send me an email to: GJRomito@aol.com.

Our current plan is to still have Zoom meetings for the rest of this year, and they are all booked. So stay tuned to the newsletters and the website to see the schedule, which includes two more professional speakers.

Jerry Romito
MWG President

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

Saw & Specialty Corporation
Saw Service Centers
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

MARSH POWER TOOLS
SALES AND AUTHORIZED FACTORY SERVICE
20579 Middlebelt
Livonia, MI 48152
(248) 476-7744
7187 Grand River Ave.
Brighton, MI 48114
(810) 220-1122
Fax: (248) 476-1090

TREE-PURPOSED
CUSTOM WOODWORK & MILLING
Live Edge Slabs & Urban Lumber
Barn Wood & Salvaged Wood
Firewood
JASON COJAN
Office (734) 751-6746
Cell (734) 658-2840
TREEPURPOSED.COM

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



MEETING REVIEW



By Dale Ausherman

MWG Meeting Review

Ragnar Bergethon Craftsman Chair

16 May 2021

Due to the continuing Coronavirus restrictions on large in-person meetings, the Guild continues to hold its monthly meetings via online Zoom. For May, Board member Ragnar Bergethon (Berg) took us on a detailed and informative journey through his prototype construction of a classic Craftsman style chair, including layout, templates, joinery, jigs, use of hand and power tools, assembly and finish. By choice of chair back "splat" design, he offered Craftsman, Arts and Craft, and Mission style options.



Berg choose this project to fulfill requests from a daughter and a daughter-in-law to build some dining room chairs. He selected this Craftsman design to go stylistically well with an Amish table he has built for his daughter. They liked the Craftsman style chair designed by our Guild guest instructor Tom

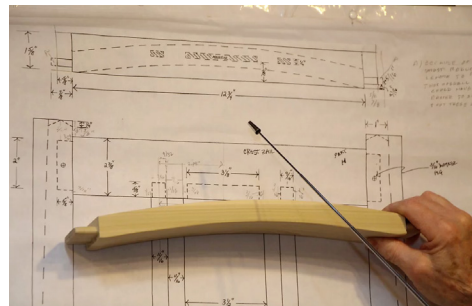
McLaughlin, as was featured in last June's issue of Fine Woodworking Magazine (# 282). Berg ordered full-sized plans from Tom.

While this is a specific design, the construction methods taught by Berg will apply to just about any chair, be it modern or period design. He notes that precision in making chair pieces is critical, and it begins with using accurate full-size drawings showing all dimensions, shapes, angles, and joinery.

To plan and document the presentation, Berg prepared a thirteen-page detailed script filled with background information as well as details of each and every step of the process. He often discusses optional

approaches to a step (e.g. hand vs. power tools), and gives rationale for his selected approach. Accompanying the script is a set of 80 photos, all referenced by number in the script. These materials are almost as good as having Berg in your shop as a live instructor. The script and photos will be available to members on the MWG website, and contain considerably more detail than I am able to include in this report.

To determine the minimal dimensions of the source wood required for a chair, Berg makes model-sized paper cutouts of all pieces and lays them out

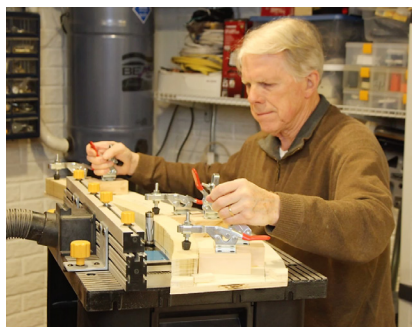


on graph paper. Long curved paired pieces such as the rear leg stiles should be nested to save wood. He recommends buying a safety factor of about 15% for unforeseen events such as wood defects, or God forbid, human errors. And be sure to include the tenons when determining component lengths and widths.

Berg makes templates for all pieces, most of 1/4 in. material, yet some with 1/2 in. material for parts used in making jigs and for parts which will be shaped directly with a router to ensure that router-bit guide bearings adequately engage the template. Templates are especially useful if one has to make multiple copies of a part, such as pairs of leg stiles, or if one plans on making multiple copies of the chair.

While he has tried three methods for transferring drawings to a template (including cutouts from full-size plan copies or tracing with a narrow point through tracing paper), he favors using a sharp awl to make punctures through the drawings onto the template board. He then connects the dots by free hand or French curves. When Berg traces the chair's curved parts onto the raw stock using the templates he uses a regular black magic marker, leaving a line about 1/16" wide. The 1/16" line imparts a perfect margin for band sawing, and also helps align the rough band sawn parts on the jigs. For straight cuts, he uses a sharp pencil or a thin point magic marker.

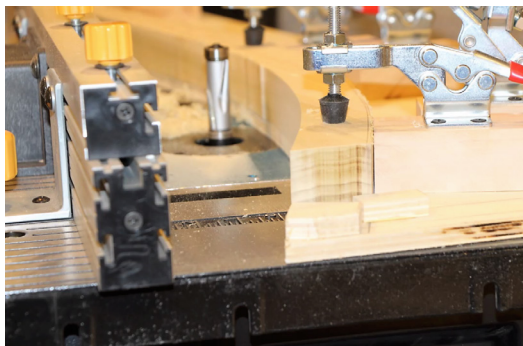
Berg wisely advises to make mortises, tenons, peg holes, etc. before shaping a curved or tapered piece of wood, so that there are flat reference surfaces to use in the cutting of such features. And he emphasizes being sure to correctly capture the flat segments on the curved legs where rails or stretchers will be attached. These straight edges are hard to see by eye and so should be carefully tracked. Without these flat edge segments getting a tight joint is impossible.



He instructs that only two special jigs are necessary to efficiently make these chairs; a jig for cutting the large curved rear legs, and a tapering jig. In his script and the

accompanying photos, Berg gives detailed instructions for making the two jigs. He also details the process of using the jigs to make the curved sides and the tapered sides

of the long legs. He gives key safety tips, and also advise on how to avoid tearout due to the changing grain direction for the curved legs, forcing "uphill" (against the grain) cuts in some instances. Berg's rough band sawn cutouts and jig instructions result in very little material being removed in the routing step, minimizing the risk of tearout or a "runaway" routing situation.



Also, the leg jigs are fairly long and so present a safety concern as they can easily tip as the jig ex-

tends past the router table edge. Berg solves this risk by using a roller stand near the outfeed side of the table. After cutting the leg blanks Berg carefully marks the locations of the joinery cut lines on the prepared parts.

The rear seat rail is a complex structure, with three mortises, two tenons, several tapered sides, and a curved bottom surface. Berg states that completion is easy IF one does the cuts in the right order, as described in his script. Similarly, the crest rail, while curved with end tenons and bottom mortises in its final form, is also straight forward if the M&Ts are cut while the blank is still rectilinear. The curved surfaces are then cut on the bandsaw.



the center support, they are called slats. By changing the splat design, he can change the baseline craftsman style chair (a wide splat with a narrow slat on



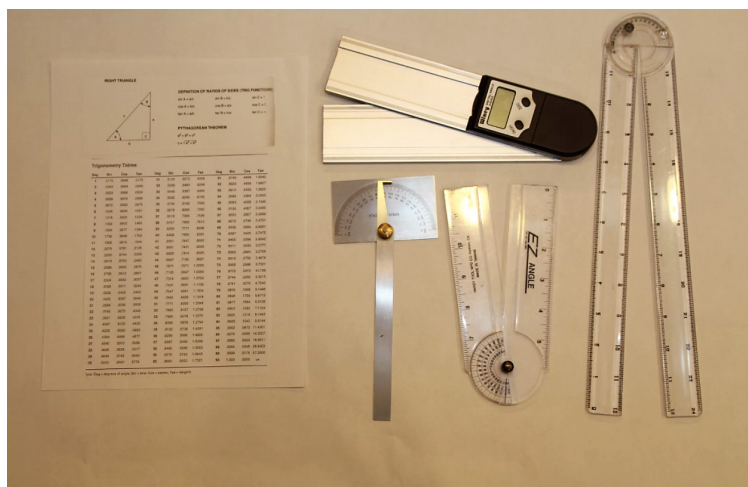
each side), to an arts & craft chair (with square cutouts near the top of slat), or a mission style chair (with the wide splat replaced with three individual slats). The splat's and any slat's top tenons for all three designs are all cut straight in line with the axis of the piece. The bottom tenons are all angled backward by 10 deg. For the holes in the top or the arts and crafts splat, Berg shows how to layout and scribe these, and gives options for how to cleanly remove the wood.

Before launching into the making of the chair "back rest" Berg reviews the aforementioned design options in some detail, then proceeds to describe the making of each option. The wide center vertical back support is called a splat. Since the side vertical pieces are not attached to



As can be seen from Berg's photos of the McLaughlin full-size drawings, the chair design contains many mortise and tenon joints, some of which are simple straight mortise and tenons, and others which are angled. There are even a couple which have compound angles and tilts. Basically, the side seat rails and side stretchers have some sort of angled tenons, and some of these angled tenons require angled mortises as well. So one must take care in copying the angles from the plans, and in transferring those angles to the chair parts. Then there is the issue of cutting compound-angled tenons and corresponding mortises. Berg reviews all of this in great detail in his script, and shows photos of his methodology and tools.

The McLaughlin plans give most of the required angles numerically, but Berg prefers to verify the drawings by making measurements off of the plans and then using trigonometry to calculate the required angles. He tried various mechanical and electronic "protractors" to measure angles off of the plans, and used the math with measured distances to confirm.



To assist in this he made an Excel spreadsheet table to look up angles. Once the angles were determined he used a steel protractor (General Tools Mfg. Co. locking protractor) to transfer to the workpieces, and in some instances to a machine set up.

Berg said that the required angled M&Ts could all be made, if necessary, using hand tools. Or the tenons could be made using a table saw tenoning jig with



appropriate spacer wedges. And the mortises could be made with an appropriately augmented mortising machine, again using spacer wedges. But to satisfy his daughter's request to make 8-10 chairs Berg took advantage of the Leigh FMT Pro Mortise and Tenon Jig (About \$1,200 at Woodcraft) which is used with a plunge router.

After executing all the M&Ts he drills the M&T peg holes before beveling the front legs prior to assembly. He then bevels the outside of the front chair legs on the table saw.



He also outlines the process of "softening" the tops of the rear legs by adding a well-executed classical Arts and Craft "pyramid."

Having then completed preparation of all the chair parts, Berg reviewed the assembly process, starting with easing all edges and doing a complete dry fit. He likes to use Titebond II Extend Wood Glue for multi-part projects like this, due to its almost 30 minute open time. (This is a different formulation than regular Titebond II or Titebond III.) When ready for glue up he assembles in stages starting with the splats and slats into the crest and rear seat rails to form the back panel. He follows with assembly of the left and right sides, then adds these to the back panel along



with the front seat rail. He then squares up the chair, making sure that all legs sit firmly on the floor or work table, and then clamps using cauls or pads to avoid marring the wood.



The final steps are to build the seat, attach seat support blocks to the rails, and add the strengthening corner blocks between the front legs and seat side rails. Berg makes the seat out of Baltic Birch plywood, with a leather or fabric material stapled over a foam pad.

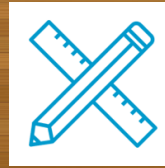
Berg closed the presentation with a discussion of finishing. He says to consider staining the chair parts before assembly, but if so to be sure to tape the tenons first. Berg says that the purist will use a dye, glaze, shellac and a wax finish, but that many of us would prefer a pre-conditioner, a stain, and a durable top coat such as varnish.

We admire Berg's skill in building this chair and thank him for his tremendous work in preparing and delivering this extraordinary and enjoyable program. His script and photos will be invaluable to any of us desiring to make this or a similar chair. And we thank President Jerry for the set-up and coordination of the Zoom meeting. As they say in the movies, "we have to stop meeting like this!" The Zooms are becoming addictive!

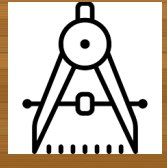
- Dale Ausherman

Website for Axle Coating Jig:

https://michiganwoodworkersguild.com/wp-content/uploads/designs/Ken_Wolfs_Axle_Coating_Fixture_2-17-21.pdf



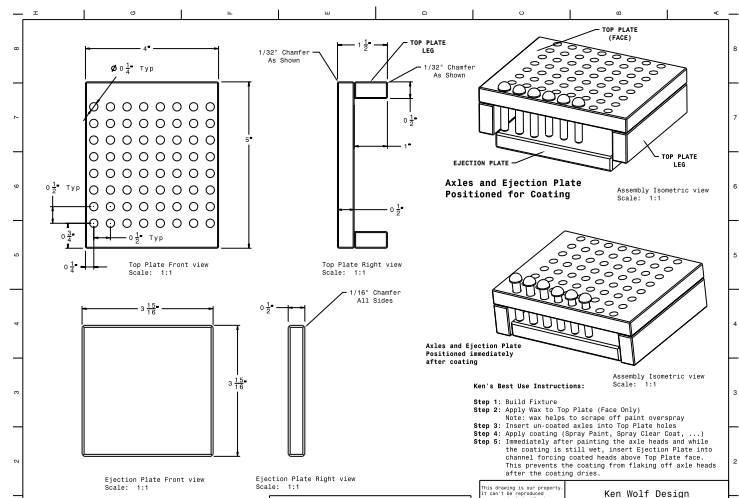
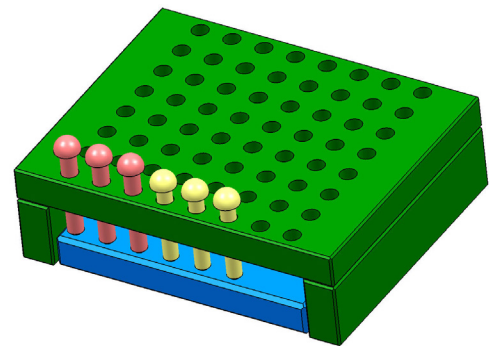
**MWG
DESIGN
CENTER**



From the Editor

In support of the MWG Toy Program, Ken Wolf has developed several jigs and fixtures to help in the easy construction of multiple toys. Primarily, Ken has constructed jigs to coat both axle heads as well as wheels.

Below is Ken's jig to coat axle heads. It has been initially designed in CAD from which detailed drawings were made followed by a physical sample. For a detailed drawing of this jig please see the MWG website at the bottom of this page.





CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MWG PROGRAM UPDATE



From Ron, Ken, and Dan:

Attention All Toymakers!

Fellow Members, we have set a goal of delivering 400 toys to Children's Hospital for the Christmas Snowpile program. The Christmas Snowpile program is only a part of the toy distribution throughout the year, with



the larger, more complex toys given out at that time. Throughout the year a fair amount of simpler toys are distributed to all the clinics within the Children's Hospital

Complex. These toys are used by the children in the waiting rooms as they wait to see a specialist or treatment. Some toys are passed out to siblings of child patients when they come to visit. Other toys stay with the children when they are released from the hospital. As of this past April, all the 350+ toys we delivered in December of 2020 have been spoken for!



We have received commitments from several members to make toys this year, but we are still under our goal of 400. If you have made toys in the past and plan on doing so this year we thank you. If you have thought it might be an easy project to put together, yes it can. On our updated website, we have documents that give plenty of tips, techniques and guidelines for building the toys. There are also a number of simple drawings with plans for everything from sailboats, to pull-toy animals to some pretty neat race cars.

The hospital also has a need for boxes, both plain ones, which the children can use for activities during their hospital stay and somewhat fancier boxes, usually made with hardwoods and more intricate joinery, which are presented to family members of children who did not survive their afflictions. The hospital does like boxes that are about the size of a shoebox. Also the picture frames on top of the memory boxes are well liked by the hospital staff but not necessary. Last year we did exceed our quota for boxes, and as such there is currently a stockpile of boxes. With that being said, any amount that we can deliver is greatly appreciated. The hospital staff also requests that any toys donated have smooth rounded edges and a smooth finish whether painted or varnished. This helps to maintain the ease of cleanliness that is paramount throughout the hospital complex.

As has always been the policy, the Guild will provide wheels (1", 1 1/4" or 1 1/2" dia), nylon washers and wheel pegs free of charge to any member who wishes to make toys for this program. If you need these items, they can be obtained by contacting Ron or Dan. If you would like some ideas for toys, patterns are available on our guild website.

We all realize that last year has been especially difficult for all involved. We all suspect that at least a good portion of this year will also be a socially distant year with limited opportunities for in person gatherings. For those families with children being treated at the hospital imagine how much more difficult the pandemic situation has been for them. This is the one program MWG does annually to benefit those children who really, really need a reason to smile. Please make every effort to support this Guild program. Why not make use of your extra shop time this year to create a small gift that can bring a smile to a child who would love to have a moment and forget about their reason for being in the hospital.

Thank you for your support.

Ron Ross & Dan Holowicki

For further information on our toy program, request wheels and axles or to arrange to drop off toys, please contact

Ron - 734- 812-5531 - rross1508@gmail.com

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



MEMBER NOTES / ASKS



Free Canoe Jig

Long time MWG member **Charles Andrews**, an expert in making canoes, has an unbeatable offer. He writes:

"I have a jig I built to produce a 14-foot lap strake canoe I no longer need. I am willing to give it to someone who is interested. The jig is located in Orchard Lake, Michigan."

Charles has the following contact information:

Cell phone: **(248) 420-1937**

Email: cjandrews1@msn.com



MWG RESOURCES



Fellow MWG member, Tom Duke, has been busy like a beaver compiling as many woodworking resources as "Carter has Pills".

Below are further companies from Tom's expanding Resource list.

Feel free to send your favorite companies to the Newsletter Editor at: d2mccagg@provide.net

Websites & YouTube for learning

Stumpy Nubs

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=stumpy+nubs

Rob Cosman

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=rob+cosman

Wood Whisperer

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=wood+whisperer

Renaissance Woodworker

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=renaissance+woodworker

Wood by Wright

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=wood+by+wright

Paul Sellers

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=paul+sellers

Tom McLaughlin

<https://www.youtube.com/c/Epicwoodworking/videos>

William Ng

<https://www.youtube.com/user/wnwoodworks>




**MWG
MEMBERSHIP**

Membershi

Given the state's relaxation of various pandemic related closures, the Michigan Woodworker's Guild is **HAPPY** to announce the resumption of our monthly luncheons.

Occurring the fourth Thursday of each month with a meeting time of **1:16 PM**, come celebrate good fellowship, a wide variety of woodworking discussions, and eats with us at **George's Senate Coney Island** in Northville. This month, we get together on June 24th. (See Map and address to George's on Pg. 11)

Bill Rigstad and others got a head start. He sends the following message and picture:

"We had our first Lunch in over a year"




**PROJECT
REVIEW**

By MWG Members



Our Guild's President, Jerry Romito, has provided us with a great picture of his Hall Table.



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



"EXCLUSIVELY SAWS SINCE 1919"
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

LIVE JUNE 13
WITH



MICHIGAN WOODWORKERS' GUILD

CONSTRUCTING A
WALNUT & MAPLE
WRITING DESK

Special Shop Session
with TOM
MCLAUGHLIN



EPIC
WOODWORKERS' GUILD

Michigan Woodworkers Guild

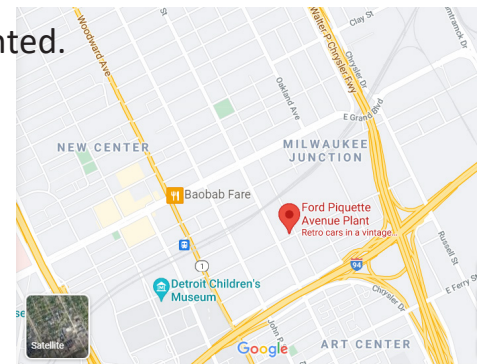
Ford Piquette Factory Tour (National Historic Landmark)

461 Piquette St. Detroit, MI 48202

Saturday June 12 , 2021 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Cost \$10 per person; Guests invited

- Henry Ford's first owned factory, he made 1903 model A at the rented Mack Ave. plant.
- Birthplace of the model T
- All the cars Ford made from the start to 1929 Model A
- Also, other vehicles from the early days.
- Replica of an early Ford sales office.
- Reproduction of Ford's office.
- Special tour of our window and floor restoration work shop.
- Replica of Ford's engineering center where the model T was invented.



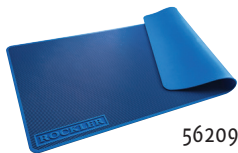
**GOOGLE MAP TO
FORD PIQUETTE
FACTORY**



**\$7⁹⁹****ROCKLER 8 OZ.
GLUE BOTTLE
WITH GLUE ROLLER**

Bottle is made of HDPE plastic,
which is easy-to-clean and
sheds dried glue

Reg. \$9.99 SKU: 59232



56209

**ROCKLER SILICONE
PROJECT MATS**

Made from silicone—wet glue rinses off
and dried glue peels off

15" X 30": Reg. \$29.99 SKU: 56209

23" X 30": Reg. \$44.99 SKU: 59282



XL version (59282) mats
can be joined together

**ROCKLER**

CREATE WITH CONFIDENCE

**\$79⁹⁹****ROCKLER BEADLOCK
JOINERY JIG WITH
3/8" DRILL GUIDE KIT AND CASE**

Drill specially-shaped mortises to accept
Beadlock loose tenons

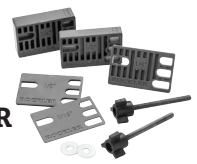
SKU: 54318

**ACCESSORIES FOR ROCKLER
BEADLOCK JOINERY JIG (#54318)****DRILL GUIDE
KITS FOR
ROCKLER
BEADLOCK
JOINERY JIG**

Includes drill guide, drill bit,
stop collar and hex wrench

1/4" Reg. \$34.99 SKU: 54637

1/2" Reg. \$49.99 SKU: 57429

\$19⁹⁹**SPACER KIT
FOR ROCKLER
BEADLOCK
JOINERY JIG**

Drill off-center mortises or
centered mortises on thick posts

SKU: 50917

JUNE SHOP FOR YOUR SHOP SALE VALID 5/28-7/1/21

26160 Ingersol Drive • Novi, MI 48375 • (248) 543-5110 • Rockler.com

Due to COVID-19, hours may vary. Please check Rockler.com for updated hours.

**For membership information contact
Dave McCagg at: d2mccagg@provide.net
For name tags, sign up with Ed Stuckey at a
regular meeting.**

Executive Board Members

Jerry Romito.....	President.....	248-475-5976
Will Wilson.....	Vice President.....	248-207-8883
Ed Stuckey.....	Treasurer.....	313-345-3671
Don Hess.....	Secretary.....	734-207-8427
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
Bill Rigstad.....	Officer at Large.....	734-459-3374
Ken Wolf.....	Officer at Large.....	734-981-3423

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Jule Ann Clough....	Library.....	248-977-4131
Dave McCagg.....	Newsletter Editor.....	734-482-6764
Dave McCagg.....	Membership.....	734-482-6764
Larry Last.....	Programs.....	248-207-9386
Bob Mills.....	Mentoring.....	248-535-6718
Ragnar Bergethon....	Web Site.....	248-608-8436
Fred Ball.....	Web Site Calendar.....	248-681-3108
Ron Ross.....	Toy Program.....	734-812-5531

6 MILE RD.

George's Senate Coney
Island Restaurant
39450 Dun Rovin Dr.
Northville, Mi. 48168

5 MILE RD.

HAGGERTY

I-275

MAP TO GEORGE SENATE RESTAURANT
HAGGERTY BETWEEN 5 & 6 MILE