

MICHIGAN WOODWORKER



michiganwoodworkersguild.com

Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) March 2022

Vol. 43 No. 3

When / Where:

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022

(Virtual Meeting Starts: 2:00 PM)

Real Time Virtual Meeting:

Project Building Highlights

Remote Zoom w/Email Invite to Members

Coordinated by: Jerry Romito

ZOOM MEETING START TIME: 2:00 PM



VIRTUAL MEETING CONNECTION DETAILS TO BE SENT BY JERRY ROMITO

MARCH:

MWG Board members Dan Holowicki, Larry Last, and Jerry Romito will highlight the build process of some of their favorite projects in our Project Building Highlights 2:00 PM March 13th virtual meeting.

APRIL:

Join us at our 2:00 PM April 10th 2022 In-Person meeting at the Livonia Senior Center as Vince Hellman demonstrates his phenomenally artistic Wood Turning expertise in his live demonstration "Making Art with a Wood Lathe"

MAY:

Pipe Organ Restoration is Dave Wigton's expertise. At our 2:00 PM May 22nd 2022 meeting he will showcase his skills with examples of his many successful refurbishments.



Project Building Highlights

March 13th

Dan Holowicki will show his version of The Anarchist's Tool Chest from a design by Chris Schwarz.

Larry Last will show how he copied his barn-builder grandfather's tool chest, as well as a child's toy chest.

Jerry Romito will show some build steps for his recently built curved-top jewelry boxes.







President's Corner

By Jerry Romito



March, 2022

We are still operating in Covid mode, with our March meeting on Zoom. This has been working, drawing about 50 members per meeting. The good news, however, is that the plan for April is to be inperson, with a turning demonstration at the Livonia Senior Center. Hopefully that will mark the end of our two-year live meeting hiatus.

A major behind the scenes activity during this time has been the improvement of our website by the Website Committee. The new Resource Center is just about to roll out, featuring a list of over 200 woodworking resources recommended by our members. Watch your email for the coming announcement.

Another activity has been the updating of the Guild's Bylaws by member Ragnar Bergethon. Since they had not been revised for about 10 years, we felt that it was time to bring them up to date. Although we are a simply a "social organization" of about 200 members who enjoy woodworking, it makes sense to have proper Bylaws to serve as an operating guideline for members today and in the future. Each member will be getting an email notification in a few weeks containing a copy of the Bylaws and asking for your vote of approval, which is required for them to be adopted.

I told you last month that I was taking several simple steps to improve my dust collection. I am happy to report that the results have been quite successful, as confirmed with the Dylos DC1100Pro air quality meter. The meter measures the number of particles over 0.5 um in size in a sample of air. For simplicity you can rank the results on a six range scale of excellent, very good, good, fair, poor, and very poor. After implementing the improvements, the readings in all the rooms of the house, including the

woodshop, plummeted from "very poor" to "excellent" in just several days. As a matter of fact, the woodshop is the cleanest room in the house. The improvements consisted of installing the MERV 11 furnace air filter, upgrading the shop vac with a HEPA filter and bag, and keeping the shop ceiling air cleaner running for several hours after finishing work. I did not make any changes to my main dust collector, which causes readings in the "fair" range when it is running, but those drop to "excellent" shortly after it's turned off. And of course I wear the 3M 7502 face mask at all times when working. Perhaps these ideas can help some of you.

By the way, we still have many members who have not renewed their annual dues. If you are one of those you will be getting a letter in the mail asking for your renewal. We hope that we will not be losing membership, so please respond promptly.

Jerry Romito MWG President



THANK YOU



It is with great appreciation that the Michigan Wood-Workers' Guild accepts a generous donation from the **John Bartz** family for the Toy Program. Ken Wolf assisted the family in the sale of tools John could no longer use following his move to an assisted living facility.

Ron Ross MWG Toy Committee

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MWG Meeting Review Zoom Showcase of Skills 13 February 2022

The Guild continues online virtual programs to educate and entertain members in the craft of woodworking. Our February Zoom was an online version of our annual Showcase of Skills, as was done last year as well. Nine members volunteered to present projects and submitted photos and other information to President Jerry, who made a PowerPoint presentation to serve as backdrop for the Zoom session. A pdf of that set of slides is available at the site shown on the bottom of this page. And the recording of the entire Zoom session may be found at the site shown on the bottom of this page.

The meeting started with separate PowerPoint and



Furniture Phil Lowe Makers
Challenge Award Presented
to Ed Stuckey

Furniture (SAPFM) Phil
Lowe Makers Challenge
Award for 2021 in the In-

video presentations by **Ed Stuckey**, documenting his research, drawing, and construction of a John Chipman of Salem, MA block front chest of drawers. Before the start of Ed's planned presentation, President Jerry relayed the news that Ed had recently won the first annual Society of American Period Furniture (SAPFM) Phil Lowe Makers Challenge Award for 2021 in the In-

termediate class. The award was for a pair of incredible Federal-period Thomas Seymour Ladies Work Tables.

Ed's recreation of the Chipman blockfront chest joins a literal house full of incredible 18th and 19th century reproductions made by him over many years. The original chest is located in the U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Reception Rooms which can be toured by special advance request.

See: https://www.diplomaticrooms.state.gov/. On blockfront furniture the alternate raising and depressing of vertical façade panels, which has come

to be called "blocking," serves no functional purpose, but is a beautiful design feature popular in colonial American. Their principal centers of production were Boston and Newport Rhode Island, along with its stylistic satellite, Connecticut. Ed reviewed



Ed's Blockfront Chest

his methods of research and the making of the *SOL-ID EDGE* CAD drawings, including use of a 3-D rendering tool. (Full Size drawing pdfs and D-size templates for this piece and many others are available on the member side of the SAPFM website www.sapfm.org.) Ed's Zoom video shows many of the drawings, a



Ed's Blockfront Chest Claw Foot

rendering tool, and many construction pieces.

Ed's Chipman blockfront chest is of Mahogany with Poplar secondary. The sides and top are all single boards, and joined with large hand cut

Link to PDF Presentation:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sXi2tw2KosoEIM3ROWctjUaujTHPuGRi/view?usp=sharing. Link to Audio:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B6drqX16mPh3yc6SmdOpHOCcfArzTL9K/view?usp=sharing



dovetails. The piece has wonderful Ball & Claw feet, hand carved by Ed. The drawer heights are graduated, which gives the piece an appearance of verticality. All drawers have locks and Horton Brasses pulls. The drawer dividers have hand cut cockbeading. A noteworthy feature of the piece is the very large single dovetail attaching the large front base molding to the bottom of the chest case. Ed's PowerPoint slides, viewable as previously indicated, have details of his wonderful finishing technique, including wood surface preparation and the many coats of dyes and finishes.

Gary Assarian first discussed doll cradles he made for the third birthdays of his two granddaughters. The cradles were made of solid cherry panels, with



Gary Assarian's Doll Cradles

cabinet-on-stand inspired by those James Krenov who was famous for this design. This piece was reported in a Michael Pekovich article in the Jan/ Feb 2017 issue of Fine Woodworking Magazine (FWW). Both Michael's and Gary's versions of the cabinet are constructed of quartersawn ash, whereas



He next reviewed a project built in part while attending a March Adams class; a



Gary's Cabinet on Stand



Gary's Dinningroom Table & Chairs

Gary in Shop with Tabletop

the stand is made of riff-sawn oak. As one might expect for a Pekovich piece, the multi-paned glass door contains a Japanese Kumiko panel, a feature that Pekovich and others have made popular. The base has tapered legs and curved aprons. Gary also reviewed the now-finished 77" X 44" bungalow mission style dining table presented at last year's Showcase. It is made of Sapele from LL Johnson in Charlotte with the legs attached via Domino M&T joints. Finish is a Rubio Hard Wax. He then showed the wonderful six mission-style chairs he made to accompany the table.

Rich Herbert is the benefactor of many classes taken at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking (MASW), enabling achieving the Master's rank. For the Show-



Rich Herbert with 3D Cutting Boards

Neal

figure

ity piece is very

difficult due to

the many feath-





Rich Herbert's 3D Cutting Boards



Rich Herbert's Tabernacle

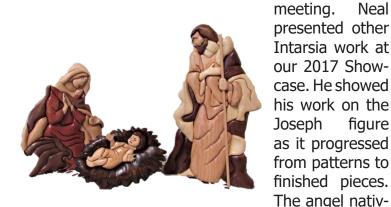
case he first shared making of three beautiful 3D end-grain cutting boards with wonderful geometric patterns resulting from multitudes of pieces cut largely on the bandsaw. This class was taught by Alex Snodgrass, who works for the Carter bandsaw accessory company and often appears at travelling woodworking shows.

Rich next discussed a project he completed for a newly arrived

Priest at an area church. The Priest was changing the manner in which the church's tabernacle was displayed and he needed both a new wooden tabernacle and base, plus a new taller display pedestal (matching two existing pedestals) as part of the overall foyer configuration. (A tabernacle, or sacrament house, is a locked container in which the Eucharist is stored as part of the communion rite.) Rich made the new pedestal of Red Oak veneered plywood with sides joined with 45 deg. miter joints with biscuits. To help with the difficult glue up Rich made special glue fixtures. Rich's design for the new tabernacle cabinet included complex moldings and raised panel doors, the impetus for his new router table set up which he shared with us at the Guild November 2012 favorite tool program. The tabernacle inside surface was Birch

veneer to make for a light enhancing environment. For a base of the tabernacle Rich made a wonderful arts and craft table of his own design. The base has 36 mortise and tenon joints.

A twelve-piece Intarsia nativity scene was the subject of **Neal Hoegemeyer**'s presentation. The kit he is using is by Katy Wise (https://wiseintarsia.com/), an intarsia artist who presented at our April 2016



Neal Hoegemeyer's Intarsia Nativity

ers on the wings. reported Neal that the hands face parts and tend to be the most challenging. As he progresses through the kit going forward he will next tackle the angel and three wise men. There are several manger animals to complete as well. For finish Neal uses spray can lacquer. Necompleted al's pieces are very



Neal's Intarsia Angle

beautiful. Neal thanked members Gary Gates and Bill Vetter for loaning their scroll saws, as Neal's was undergoing a long pandemic-impacted repair.





Dan Holowicki's Keepsake Boxes

Christmas gifts for the family in the form of five Heirloom Keepsake Boxes were presented by

Dan Holowicki. The designs were inspired by a Tom McLaughlin design, a barrel lid box from Shop Nite Live episode #101. He made three different sizes from materials on hand. Lids are Walnut, while front and backs are Curly Cherry and Curly Maple. Sides are recycled first growth Pine and Curly Cherry. The interiors are lined with velour material with the finish being Minwax Tung Oil and paste wax. Hinges are by Horton Brasses. Dan's slides show the construction methods for each piece, as well as the hinge installation approach. He also covered the details of finishing, including the interiors. Family members were fortunate to receive these wonderful boxes as a gift.



Dan's Barrell Top Keepsake Box



Larry Last's Poker Table

Larry Last presented incredible octagonal poker tables he designed and made for his son and daughter. Son Greg's was made of Oak, and daughter Katy's of Walnut. They have a large eight-sided top with drink holders and recessed areas for game chips/parts. The base pedestals are octagonal with four hefty legs terminated in adjustable floor-leveling discs. The tops are 52 inches wide with felted center sections. Larry shared his construction techniques. Finish is polyurethane for durability. And in a photo, we were all



Larry's Poker Table With Son Greg & Sherbee

honored to meet Sherbee. A stuffed animal his now adult kids have argued for years over ownership, and who is often kidnapped by one or the other. And the last picture showed an interesting wooden Canadian Crokinole board game, also made by Larry. Construction of this game will be the subject of an upcoming Wood Magazine article.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crokinole



Dave Nordstrom does much Intarsia work on the scroll saw, but he also puts these skills to work in making memory boxes for our hospital "toy" program. He recently completed two memory boxes, each with



the top. Members have asked Dave how he made the flower so he shared the process for the Showcase. The approach and pattern are also given in

the summer 2021

a fabulous petaled

wooden flower on

Pemade first, and the resulting pieces are re-stacked to make the horizontal cuts. Then the individual petals are shaped with a Dremel tool, hand sanding, and drum sander on drill press. The parts are then assembled in two layers by cementing onto the box, and the store-bought flower stamens are glued into a small drilled central hole. The resulting memory boxes are truly special.

All Zoom attendees were very impressed with the breadth of the major projects Bill Rigstad pre-



sented. He exhibited many inspiring pieces, rather than dwelling on the construction methods of any single piece. After retiring from Ford his first project for a client was a large set of kitchen/computer workstation cabinets, a very complex project. Over several vears he made all the furniture for the bedroom, including a large arch-top armoire. This piece is so large that it had to be partially disassembled to move into their latest

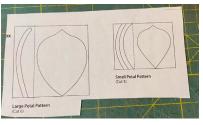
Dave Nordstrom's Memory Box

Issue 83 of Scroll Saw Woodworking and Crafts magazine.

(See link below) The two sizes of petals are cut in layers on the scroll saw, with vertical side cuts

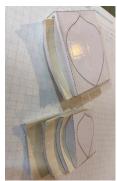


Dave's Wood Flower









Pedal Construction Process



house. Bill also made a four-poster bed and an accompanying dresser. For a local church made a large wooden cross (7 ft. tall), especially designed to either sit on a removable base or hand on a wall. Bill also had a business for nearly 15 building Sound vears Walls for museums. These are large thematic wall displays built around



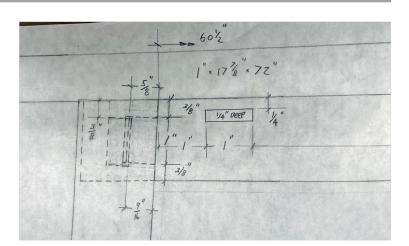
Bill's Cross

Link to 2021 Issue 83 of Scroll Saw Woodworking and Crafts magazine: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sXi2tw2KosoEIM3ROWctjUaujTHPuGRi/view?usp=sharing.



Bill's Sound Wall

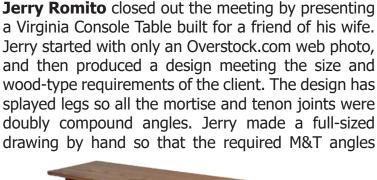
a decorative mosaic of colorful shaped plywood tiles. If the sound board is approached by a patron it will begin to make sounds. Other specific sounds are made by a patron pushing on one or another of the colorful tiles. Using AutoCAD, business associate Ed Wise designed many of these sound boards for installation all over the country, and installed hidden the electronics inside. As far as Bill knows all are still working today. The final project Bill showed was a large Oak bar built for his son's basement. Bill has certainly created a large body of work residing all over the country.



Jerry's Hand Made Drawing

could be measured or computed. He then made a 26 inch angled shim for use in set up of the mortise machine. This long shim was later cut up to be used as correctly-angled glue up blocks. Jerry purchased the Oak from Armstrong Millworks and made a three-piece joined top. This enabled good use of Jerry's prized Jet 16/32 Drum Sander for flattening the top. Thank you to Jerry for organizing the Showcase and making the PowerPoint. And super thanks to the presenters for volunteering their time and talent.

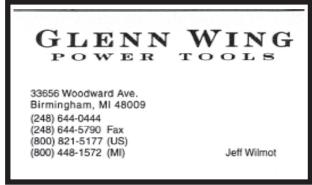
- Dale Ausherman





Jerry Romito's Virginia Console Table









Your Michigan Woodworker's Guild yearly dues are now payable without expiration through February 2022.

Feel free to get ahead of the renewal process by paying your \$25 dues **Early** and **Often**.

The Membership renewal process is easily completed via the website or by mail. Use the following steps to complete the process.

Step 1: Goto the MWG website:

https://michiganwoodworkersquild.com/

(Note: Member website login NOT required)

Step 2: Curser select Join / Renew option under the Membership tab



Step 3: The Membership Application page appears

PAY BY CHECK

PA

Step 4: Complete an application using either option shown below:

Option 1: "Pay by Check"

- Curser select Application form image
- Download the form
- Complete the form typing in the data or by hand

(PENMANSHIP COUNTS!)

- Print a hardcopy of the form
- Mail the completed form to the Membership Chair using the address shown on it.

Option 2: "Pay Online"

- Scroll down to "Pay Online" section
- Curser select "New Membership" or "Renew Membership" radio box
- Complete the fields in the online application form (spelling counts)
- Select the "Continue to Payment" box

Continue to Payment

- Follow electronic payment instructions
- Upon electronic payment confirmation, an email is automatically sent to the Membership Chair indicating a membership renewal has been receive by the Guild website.

Step 5: Upon receiving either the email message or the mailed hardcopy form with a check, money order or some other type of payment (**NOTE**: First Born Male Offspring is **NOT** a valid payment option), the membership chair will process the application and mail your Membership Card to the address shown on the application. At the same time, the Membership chair will update or add your application data to the MWG website to support your login credentials.

The Guild looks forward to receiving your 2022 Membership Dues prior to **28FEB2022**.

Did you forget to renew for 2022? No issue, just use the above process as soon as possible to renew.

Pat yourself on the back if you are among those who have already made your 2022 dues payments.





Calling All Toymakers!

As I write this, it is early February and we just got over the largest single day snowfall in recent memory. I can't easily do my daily 2 ½ mile walk, nor do I really have much interest in skiing or skating anymore, so what is left to do? How about building toys for the Children's Hospital Snowpile program! I'm getting a head start on this year's production. In fact I am in the process of finishing up a run of 40 cars.

Fellow Members, this program is still in need of your support. We have set a goal of delivering 400 toys to Children's Hospital for many more years than I have been a member. We also deliver plain boxes and somewhat fancier memory boxes. The plain boxes are used by the children for different activities during their stay. The sad truth is that some of these children do not survive their treatment and stay at the hospital. That is where the memory boxes are used. Typically, they are the size of a shoebox, made of hardwoods with more elaborate joinery and usually with a picture frame on the top to hold a picture of the child (that detail is well liked by the staff). As an option to the picture frame, you can use inlays, laser etching, a fancy handle or a three-dimensional figure



on the top like a flower. Our goal is to make these boxes something special for the family. That child's personal effects are contained within the box and given to the family members as a remembrance.

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 distrib-

uted 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.

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 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. The Guild also has an inventory of non-standard wheels and other toy parts that have been recently categorized. While we do have a limited supply and do not plan to stock these once the current supply runs out, we currently have:

- 1 ¾", 2", 2 ¼", 2 ½", 2 ¾" and 3" diameter standard style wheels
- 1", 1 ¼", 1 ½", 2 ¼", 2 ½" and 2 ¾" diameter grooved 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 smoke stacks
- Various small pieces of poplar, suitable for glue-up



If you need these items, they can be obtained by contacting Ron or Dan. 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. Dan Holowicki & Ron Ross

For further information or to arrange to drop off toys, please contact

Ron - 734-812-5531 - rross1508@gmail.com Dan - 313-702-5836 - dan56laura@att.net



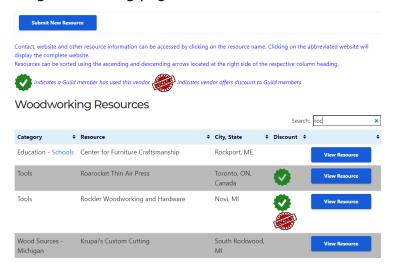
Coming soon to the Michigan Woodworkers' Guild website, will be a tab featuring Guild members favorite woodworking resources.

These sources which have been compiled over the past several months feature both local as well as nationally recognized companies that our members have used in the past or recommend. They range from a fantastic local company to buy new band saw blades (**Saw and Specialty**) to nationally recognized firms to purchase many different woodworking tools and accessories (**Rockler**). Included in this list are companies which provide Wood, Tools, Education, Supplies, Hardware, and Related Services. We've also identified some MWG Members who are happy to help other Guild people with CAD/Design/3D Printing, and Project Finishing support.

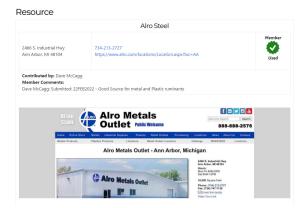
Once the site goes live, it will be available to MWG Guild members only, thus providing additional advantages to being an active member.

Upon selecting the Resource tab pull-down from the

Guild's main page, the first screen you encounter is the general listing page.



Selecting the View Resource button, will provide you with detailed information about that source all in one location so that you need not scour the website to find out the company address, telephone number, or web address. In some instances, the submitter has provided the name of the person in the company with whom they have positively interacted and recommend. When appropriate, we have shown the first page of the company's website below the listing which if curser selected with automatically take you to that website.



The Website committee has also provided a method for our members to add their favorite source should it not be listed. We welcome new and highly recommended resources with which you have developed a wonderful relationship.

After some additional updates, we hope to have the site rolled out before the cows come home.





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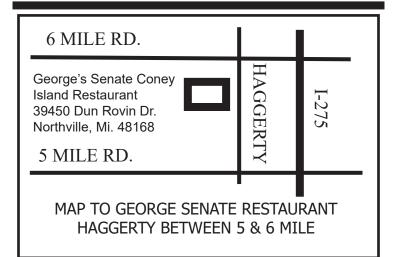
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For membership information contact Dave McCagg at: d2mccagg@provide.net For name tags, sign up with Ed Stuckey at a regular meeting.



Next MWG Luncheon: (Coordinated by Bill Rigstad) Thursday, 24 MAR 2022 at 10:16 AM

Executive Board Members / Committee Chairs Dracidant 248-475-5976

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