



# MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981) November 2024 Vol. 45 No. 11

## When / Where:

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024

(Socializing Starts at 1:00 PM , Business meeting Starts at 2:00 PM)  
Livonia Senior Center, Livonia, MI



MAP TO LIVONIA SENIOR CENTER

## In-Person Meeting:

### Jigs and Fixtures

by various MWG members

### Jigs and Fixtures

Meeting Coordinated by: **Jerry Romito**



**IN-PERSON MEETING AT:**  
**Livonia Senior Center**

## November 10<sup>th</sup>

This is our popular **Jigs and Fixtures** meeting coordinated by **Jerry Romito**. These fixtures are either purchased or shop made where the pros and cons of each are discussed by each demonstrator. There is always a good variety of jigs and fixtures which will inspire us to develop our own.

## November:

Our **2:00 PM November 10<sup>th</sup> 2024** In-Person meeting will feature various **Jigs & Fixtures** developed by many MWG members. Please contact **Jerry Romito** to showcase your special Jig or Fixture. Remember that November is toy day and also the election of officers.

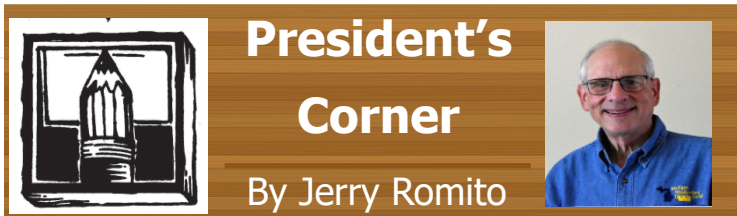
## DECEMBER:

Enjoy the Christmas season making extra sawdust for there is no meeting scheduled for December and no MWG luncheon scheduled for December

## JANUARY:

Long time MWG member, **Cliff Durand**, discusses *Antique Tools*; or "The original cordless tools". Coordinated by **Jerry Romito**, join us at the Livonia Senior Center on **January 12<sup>th</sup> 2025**. Meeting start time: 2:00 PM with socializing starting at 1:00 PM.





## President's Corner

By Jerry Romito

November 2024

### Looking Toward MWG's Future

For background I want to tell you a bit about our woodworkers guild. We are 43 years old and still going strong, with about 185 members, which includes 64 new members in the past year, less about an equal number not renewing in that time. We are administered by an elected 14 member volunteer Board of Directors, which includes 4 executive positions and 10 officers-at-large. The executive positions are the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The at-large members chair the various standing committees, along with the executives. The group as a whole plans, directs, and carries out all of the administration, activities, and programs of the guild. Our dues are \$25 per year, our bank balance is \$14,785, and we are considered a "social club" for MI and IRS tax-exempt purposes.

Our goal is to share a common interest in all things wooden and a desire to learn and network with other woodworkers. Virtually all aspects of the guild today reflect the structure, policies, procedures and activities established by the dedicated founders and early members of the guild, many of whom are still active on the board today. The majority of us are in our mid-seventies and eighties, along with a large portion of the membership as a whole. That brings me to my message for today.

I hope that you are enjoying the presentations, seminars, newsletters, website, social activities, networking, education, and the camaraderie in general. I hope that most of you would like to see the guild continue to thrive in the future in order to continue and even expand our mission and benefits for all. In order to do that, we need younger members to become ac-

tive in helping to take the guild going forward. I know that it is fun to share the guild experiences as a member, and I also know that it is rewarding to be part of making those experiences happen. **To put it simply, we would like to see younger members and new ideas added to the board to prepare for the guild's future.**

If you think that you might like to help with the guild it is actually very easy to start getting involved. You can sit in on our board meetings, which are held on Zoom on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. You can just listen, or you can chip in at any point. After a few board meetings you will begin to see what goes on in the background to run the guild, and you will see that there is plenty of room for new ideas and activities with the standing committees. **If you are interested, send me an email to: [GJRomito@aol.com](mailto:GJRomito@aol.com) and I will email you a notice and Zoom link for the next board meeting.** There will be no obligation whatsoever. If you have any questions call me at (248) 891-5331.

We are now accepting nominations for all 2025 positions, and I will be emailing the list of current board positions to all members. At the November 10 meeting members will be voting on the 2025 board positions. The current slate will be presented along with any emailed nominations and any nominations from the floor.

Jerry Romito

**GLENN WING**  
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Jeff Wilmot



## MEETING REVIEW



By Dale Aushman

MWG Meeting Review  
Woodcraft's Brian Ostrander  
Sanding Technology and Techniques  
Livonia MI, 13 October 2024

For our October meeting **Brian Ostrander**, Manager of the Canton, MI Woodcraft store gave a special presentation on sanding technology and techniques. We also had a presentation by **Phil Dobbertin**, of Homestead Hardwood & Furniture Co. in Allen Park, a great local source of kiln dried domestic and exotic lumber.



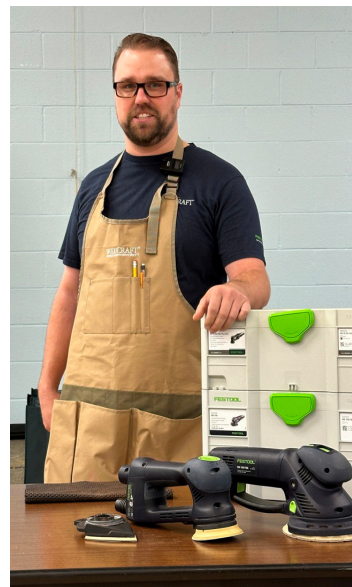
**Phil Dobbertin from  
Homestead Hardwood**

**Phil Dobbertin** started the day with a presentation of the multitude of wood which he brought from his store and offered, at a not-to-miss price, at the meeting. Phil told us that he purchases his wood from several furniture manufactures in the south then brings it his store in Allen Park, Mi. for sale. On a regular basis, he is continuously replenishing his stock with domestic and exotic material which would not meet the high cosmetic quality of the furniture manufactures yet is well suited for our

projects. It was great to see that many MWG members were successful in securing project wood at a wonderful price, leaving Phil with little stock to return to his Allen Park store. (For contact information, see

Phil's business card later in this newsletter.)

**Brian Ostrander**, with assistance from wife **Carolina**, gave a very knowledgeable overview of the wood sanding process using sanding-related products from his Woodcraft store. He first spoke to the Festool ROTEX line of sanders, which have both displaced eccentric/rotational motion for removal of large quantities of material, or alternatively just the eccentric (combines overlapping linear and circular motions) motion for intermediate and fine sanding, or polishing. He demonstrated the corded \$669 ROTEX RO 150 FEQ-Plus (6 inch) model with its quick removal of material in the rotary mode. (My price data comes from the Festool USA website.) He also showed the corded \$579 ROTEX RO 125 FEQ-Plus with its more compact form and a 5" pad. Further he had the corded \$525 ROTEX RO 90 DX FEQ-Plus with its 3.5 inch pad which can be easily converted from a circular pad to a triangular delta pad in seconds. The latter unit must use sanding pads from Festool because of their unique size.



**Brian Ostrander from  
WoodCraft of Canton**

He next showed a less expensive line of corded Festool sanders, including the \$249 ETS 125 REQ-Plus compact finish sander, and the similar \$475 ETS EC 125/3 EQ-Plus random orbital sander. The latter has an EC TEC brushless motor which accounts for the higher cost. Brian used the Festool CT MIDI I HEPA Dust Extractor (\$679) with all of the demo sanders, with no residual dust appearing from the demo. All of these Festool machines can be tried out at the Canton Woodcraft store.

The <https://www.festoolusa.com/> site has very de-





tailed information on all of these sander models, but I found them hard to find on the site. If one enters the first word or two of the model numbers above into the search line of the site, then you get directly to the subject product. But if you don't know what models you are looking for, you must search the categories "Gear-drive eccentric sander ROTEX" and/or "Random orbital sander."

The site also has great explanations and usage considerations for the five sanding motions offered across the Festool lines of sanders: *Pure linear motion* (DUPLEX LS 130); *Eccentric motion*, which combines overlapping linear and circular motions (DTS 400 delta sander); *Eccentric rotation motion*, Combined oscillating and rotary motion (ETS EC 150); *Forced eccentric rotation* as a result of connection to a gear unit (ROTEX RO 90 and 150); and *Pure rotary motion* (RAS 180). Brian did not show all of these models.



Festool Sanding Components

Brian next demonstrated a couple of the sanders. He started with the RO 150 FEQ-Plus model to show its ability to remove material quickly. He recommended using only a moderate speed setting (4 ½ versus 6 max), to move the sander slowly across the surface, and to use very little additional downward pressure. He draws light squiggly pencil lines all over the board as an aid to determine when the board is sanded flat.

Residual lines on the board indicate remaining low spots. He uses 80 grit to get a board quickly flat, then uses increasing smaller grits from 120 up to 220 max to remove the scratch marks from the first phase 80 grit abrasive.



Abranet Sanding Screen

He started with conventional silica-based sandpaper, but then discussed the advantages of the newer netted screen abrasives such as **Abranet**, a unique patented sanding material with an open mesh that contains thousands of small holes. It comes in grits from 60 to 5,000. It is an aluminum oxide grain resin bonded to a polyamide fabric which is durable and long lasting. It will clean easily by blowing it out with air, tapping it on a hard surface or by washing. It produces a very uniform sanding pattern and a perfectly smooth surface. It is supposed to speed sanding by 20% and stays sharp 30% longer. It is also readily available, including at Woodcraft.

An even higher performing option is **3M™ Cubitron II**, which features a unique proprietary multi-hole pattern on a paper backing that allows for virtually dust-free sanding, with legendary 3M Precision-Shaped Grain technology. The geometry of the shaped grain helps it act like a miniature cutting tool. The multi-hole pattern means that one does not have to align the paper discs to the hole pattern of the sander pad. I believe the same applies to the netted sanding abrasives.



*Woodcraft* does not currently stock 3M Cubitron II, but one can buy it on Amazon or at Taylor Toolworks, <https://taytools.com>, and also auto parts stores.

When using netted abrasives such as Abranet Brian recommends using pad protector discs positioned between the sander backing pad and the sanding disc to protect the base plate of the sanding machine from wear and tear when sanding aggressively and continuously with Abranet. The protector discs are sold in pairs under the Mirka brand at Woodcraft for about \$30, product code 147518.

When sanding Brian places the workpieces on *Slipstick Universal Bench Grippers*, sold in 8 packs by Woodcraft. These include painter points for painting projects. Another option is rubberized shelf liner from hardware stores or The Dollar Store. These may need to be gently washed to remove oily manufacturing residue before use to avoid getting stains on project wood.



Contoured Sanding Blocks

Following Brian's demonstration of powered sanding, he covered some aspects of hand sanding. A primary point he made was that one should not sand by holding the abrasive paper in one's hand, because the

pressure of individual fingers will transfer through the paper and cause uneven pressure to the wood, resulting in uneven surfaces. Instead we should use sandpaper mounted on sanding blocks, or foam sanding blocks with abrasive adhered to their surfaces. He demonstrated use of the SandPlane profile sanding kit by *Milescraft*, sold at **Woodcraft** (\$10) and elsewhere. The handle on this system has a hook and loop system to prevent standard 5 inch sanding discs from shifting or slipping. There are four interchangeable inserts for sanding most common profiles and shapes.

(I also note that Taylor Toolworks has modernized the concept of sanding blocks by offering an *Ergonomic "Mouse" Hand Sanding Block for 5" Hook and Loop Discs* (\$5 ea.) These hand sanding blocks are constructed from durable, medium-density polyurethane foam. The pad's hook-and-loop backing accepts 5" sanding discs and allows for quick and secure attachment and removal of sandpaper, ensuring efficient disc changes and extending the life of sanding discs.)

In closing, Brian covered products for use in rubbing out finishes. Rubbing out can polish a surface to add more gloss, or can reduce gloss to more pleasing sheen. One means of rubbing out can be with use of 3M™ Scotch-Brite™ Abrasive Non-Woven Hand Buffing/Polishing Pads. These pads come in four color-coded grades, with the white grade being comparable to 0000 steel wool. They are durable, washable and won't breakdown and leave particles everywhere like steel wool, so they won't leave rust specks in water-borne finishes. They are great for removing rust, scuffing a finish, using as an applicator pad for applying wipe on finishes and for polishing metal.

(The late John Wilson, founder of *The Home Shop* in Charlotte, MI, and who taught thousands of us the art of making Shaker Oval Boxes and supplied us with the requisite materials, introduced the use of brown paper bag paper as an excellent substance for rubbing out the varnish finishes of the resulting boxes. This produces a failsafe beautiful sheen on the boxes.)





During the Q&A after Brian's presentation, a member noted the high cost of the Festool sanders and asked for a recommendation on the next lower cost brand with acceptable quality. Brian responded that he felt the Festool sanders were the best, followed by the Mirka line of sanders, followed by the Bosch line. However, I see that the Mirka line is also very expensive. Both of the other lines are included in the Woodcraft website as offerings, with included features and prices.

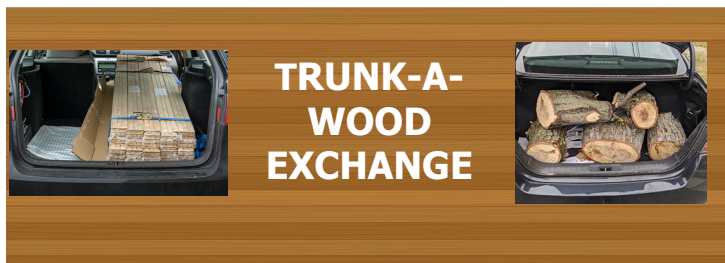
We thank Brian Ostrander for his presentation and introduction to relevant products at the Canton Woodcraft store. Please visit the store to explore your woodworking needs. We also thank **Larry Last** for coordinating Brian's visit to our meeting. And we note appreciation to **Dan Holowicki** for providing the photos from the meeting.

- Dale Ausherman



- **He who dies with the most tools wins**
- **You can never have enough clamps.**
- **There are no mistakes in woodworking until you run out of wood.**

These phrases are provided purely for your humorous enjoyment. Feel free to send your favorite woodworking pun to the MWG Newsletter Editor for possible future publication.



**Do you have some wood that hasn't seen the light of day in decades?**

**Do you have cut-offs from your last project which are just too good for the burn pile?**

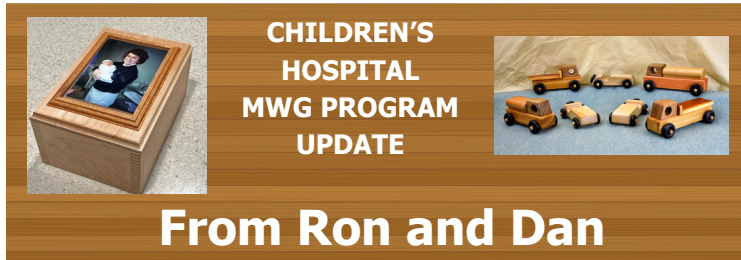
**Do you have pieces that you would like to donate to the MWG Toy Program?**

Starting at our September Member meeting in Livonia, we invite everyone to bring their pieces for sale, exchange, or give-away.

Just open your trunk in the parking lot to let everyone see the treasures you have **(Please keep these pieces outside).**

Who knows, you probably will go home with nothing more than what you came with or some extra "got-to-have, never been seen before" samples of your own.





## News from the Toy and Box Committee

### Toy and Box Drop-off

Since we no longer have a December meeting, our November meeting is when we collect most of the toys and boxes for Children's Hospital Snowpile Program. November 10th is our meeting date and both Ron and Dan will be at the meeting to collect your donated toys and boxes. Please remember to package them up securely (cardboard boxes work best as opposed to paper or plastic bags). Please label the packages with the contents (toy type, plain or memory boxes and how many). Labels are available on our website to print off and affix to your package. Go to the Toys/Resources tab, click on Toy Project and under the heading Toy Designs you will see a link to MWG Donation Labels pdf file. You can click on the link and print off the labels. We greatly appreciate your support for the Snowpile program.

Some of you may not have your toys finished by the November meeting (including myself, I am hard at work on my bulldozers, they will be impressive) so we have a couple other ways to drop off items for the Snowpile program. Ron and Dan will be available on Sunday December 1st to pick up. We will be at the Livonia Senior Centers parking lot from 1 to 2

pm that day if you wish to drop off items to us. Please remember to call one of us ahead of time to indicate that you wish to drop items off that day. Should no one call us ahead of time we will not be there. As a final resort, you can call either Ron or Dan and arrange for another time and convenient location to hand over the items to us. We anticipate dropping off all the donated items to Children's Hospital the week of December 9th.

As always, should you need wheels, axles and plastic washers for toy making, the Guild provides 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 also have a fair supply of treaded wheels in the same diameters at this time. Any of these items can be obtained by contacting Ron or Dan Aside from a well done finish, the wheels and axles really enhance the look and quality of rolling toys. Don't be afraid to take part in this opportunity. Did I mention they were free???

Once again, when it comes time to building toys or boxes, please, please, please follow our guidelines found in the website. With so many government regulations coming forward we have to be very careful that toys and boxes conform to the appropriate standards. It is imperative that we follow these guidelines so that Children's Hospital will continue to trust that the toys and boxes we create and donate will be safe for children to use and enjoy. Within the Toy Project section under the Programs/Resources tab, click on the link "Toy Guidelines for Children's Hospital" for more



specific requirements.

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
- Various small pieces of poplar, suitable for glue-up

We will continue to set a goal of delivering 400 toys to Children's Hospital for the Christmas Snowpile program. This program is only a part of the toy distribution. 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. The hospital also has a need for boxes, both plain ones, which the children can use for activities during their hospital stay and



Ken Wolf Natural Finish Toys

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.

Once again, thanking all of you toy and box makers for your support along with the Guild's board for allowing funding to purchase wheels to distribute free of charge to all the makers. Happy Toy and Box making.

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

**Ron** - 734- 812-5531 - [rross1508@gmail.com](mailto:rross1508@gmail.com)

**Dan** - 313-702-5836 - [dan56laura@att.net](mailto:dan56laura@att.net)





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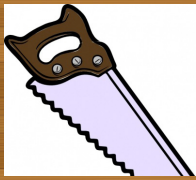
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Ann Ivory  
313-506-1963



## WOODWORK NOTES



### MWG Apparel Availability

After a hiatus following Covid, we are again offering Michigan Woodworkers' Guild clothing apparel including different types of shirts and a baseball cap. The items include the embroidered MWG logo and a map of the state.

Available are Denim long sleeve shirts in either light or dark blue. We also have Poplin shirts in long or short sleeves in various colors and we can get polo type shirts.

The cost of a shirt is \$30 and includes the logo, you can also include your name on a shirt for an extra cost of \$5. Baseball style caps as shown in the picture are \$16 which includes the MWG logo.

There are benefits to having a MWG shirt such as showing your pride in being part of a wonderful group of woodworkers and if you have your name on the shirt, you still get 2 raffle tickets per dollar even if you forget your official MWG name tag.

For more information, please see **Ron Ross** at any meeting or at: [ross1508@gmail.com](mailto:ross1508@gmail.com).



MWG Cap





**Donate "Any Tool, Any Condition"**

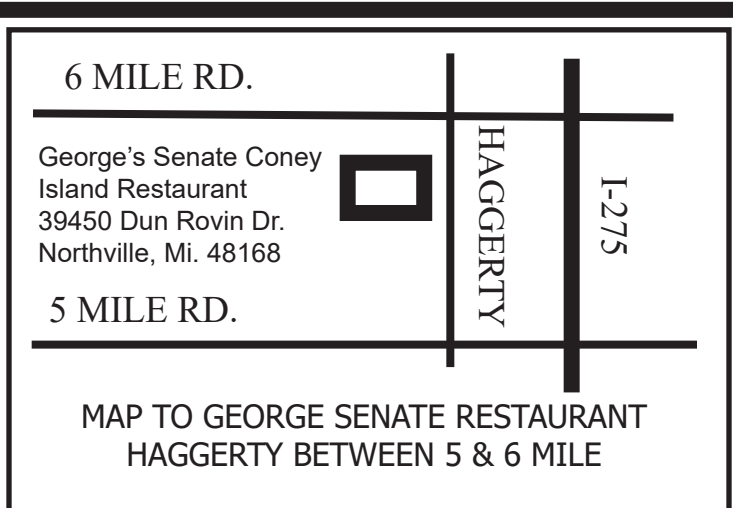
**For membership information contact**

**Dave McCagg at: [d2mccagg@provide.net](mailto:d2mccagg@provide.net)**

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

**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
Ron Ross.....	Food Coordinator.....	734-812-5531



Next MWG Luncheon: (Coordinated by TBD)  
**Thursday, 21 NOVEMBER 2024 at 10:16 AM**  
 (Advanced by a week due to Thanksgiving)