



# MICHIGAN WOODWORKER

michiganwoodworkersguild.com



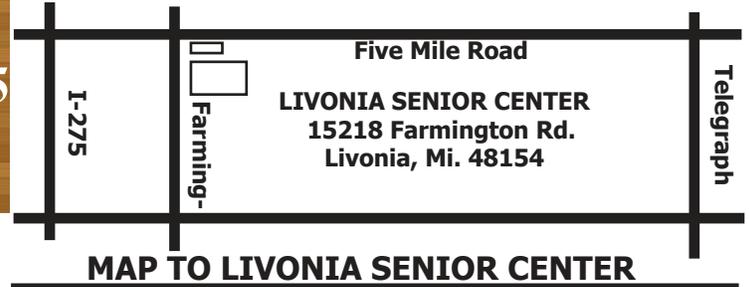
Michigan Woodworkers' Guild (est. 1981)    October 2025    Vol. 46 No. 10

## When / Where:

# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025

(Sign-in Starts at 8:30 AM , Seminar Starts at 9:00 AM)

Livonia Senior Center, Livonia, MI



MAP TO LIVONIA SENIOR CENTER

## In-Person Seminar:

### Furniture Refurbishing & Repair

by **Tim Puro**

Meeting Coordinated by: **Jerry Romito**



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

### October 2025:

#### Furniture Refurbishing & Repair

Coordinated by **Jerry Romito**, the MWG annual day long professional seminar features **Tim Puro** who will show us ways to save our heirloom furniture at the Livonia Senior Center on **October 11, 2025 9am-4pm** (Flyer on Pg. 8)

### November 2025:

Our **2:00 PM November 9<sup>th</sup> 2025** 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 2025:

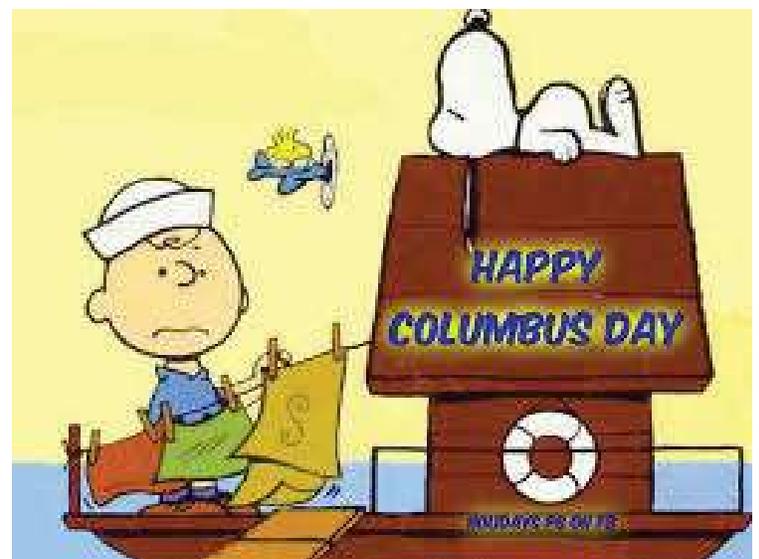
Enjoy the Christmas season making extra sawdust for there is no meeting scheduled for December and no MWG luncheon scheduled for December

## Furniture Refurbishing & Repair

# October 11<sup>th</sup>

Join us at the Livonia Senior Center on **October 11, 2025** from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm as Professional Woodworker **Tim Puro** teaches us ways to save our heirloom furniture.

Coordinated by **Jerry Romito**, this MWG annual day long professional seminar is a can't miss event.





## President's Corner

By Jerry Romito



October 2025

I spoke to you several times before the Johnson Lumber annual Wood Expo in Charlotte this September. Now I can tell you first-hand what a remarkable experience it was, having spent the two full days there myself. It was well worth the four hours round trip drive and the overnight stay. My time was fully packed with instructional seminars, lumber shopping, vendor shopping, eating, and talking with woodworkers. Everything was on sale with true 20 percent discounts. I walked away spending more on lumber and tool stuff than I had anticipated, but the deals were hard to pass up. But spending is relative. Yes I spent a several hundreds of dollars, but people were clearly spending several thousands of dollars as well.

They've held the event for decades, so it ran as a well-oiled machine. Seminars were scheduled non-stop throughout both days with overlapping programs, some repeating on the second day, so you had to plan out your days to catch the ones you wanted to see, yet leave plenty of time for the shopping. They had professional instructors from around the country, plus many volunteer instructors from the local Mid Michigan Woodworkers Guild (MMWG). Activities were in buildings, tents, and outdoors, so the perfect weather helped things along.

Now this was my first time to visit Johnson Lumber, so even their normal operations were exciting to me. Their yards have the largest collection of select rough and surfaced hardwoods and softwoods, plywood, and live-edge slabs that I have ever seen. Plus their store has everything the woodworker can imagine. So admittedly I was spell-bound.

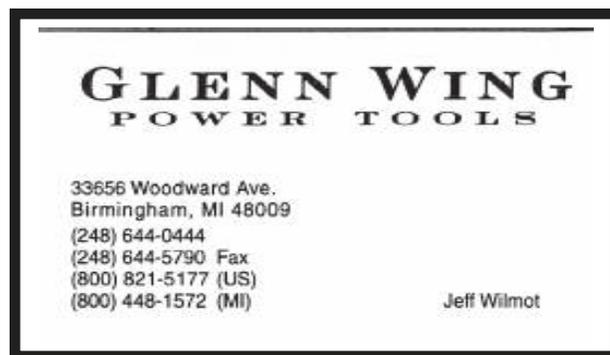
The most interesting lumber sale was the pre-packaged six-foot long bundles of perfect S4S 13/16"

hardwoods of a wide variety of species, typically 30-35 board feet total. They made them easy to buy. You simply walked through the display and identified your desired bundle. They marked your bundle "sold" with your name on it and gave you a tag to pay at the checkout. They stored the sold bundles at their loading station where you loaded your vehicle whenever you left to head home. The six-foot length enabled them to fit even in my SUV.

Johnson has a special relationship with the MMWG, whose home base in DeWitt is relatively close to Charlotte. The MMWG had a large tent setup at the event, with a display similar to what our MWG had at the old Novi Wood Shows, including many hands-on demos and static displays. And as I said, many of the seminar instructors were from the MMWG. Interestingly, MMWG members enjoy the top level discount offered by Johnson, which in some cases even exceeded the 20 percent standard at the event. So yours-truly is now an MMWG member for the same \$25 dues as MWG. MMWG was very gracious to let me put our sign, flyers, and seminar applications on display throughout the event.

Let's just say that I hope to attend next year, and encourage others as well.

Jerry Romito





## MEETING REVIEW



By Jerry Romito

Showcase of Skills Review:

Fourteen members presented a wide variety of projects. Our regular supreme meeting reviewer, Dale Ausherman, was not able to be at the meeting, so I will substitute, providing at least a basic list of the beautiful presentations, along with Dan Holowicki photographs. A range of skill levels was shown, including five stunning period furniture pieces. The good news is that you can watch a recording of the entire meeting at this Youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9Xp9TLKLp8&t=5312s>



Dan Holowicki's Bedside Table

**Dan Holowicki** – Bedside table of mahogany veneer to match his bedroom set, with three curved-face drawers with hand-cut dovetails.



Tom Duke's Storage Chest

**Tom Duke** – Two storage chests made with hand tools. One of curly cherry with ogee feet, and the other featuring repurposed Spanish colonial hardware refurbished by his custom blacksmith.



Phil Mueller's Round Side Table

**Phil Mueller** – Round side table, inspired by period furniture style, completely veneered over mdf and poplar substrate.



**Steve Lash's Side Table**

**Steve Lash** – Bouillotte round table, an intricate reproduction of a period French table he saw at an antique shop in New Orleans, with complete intricate veneering. He also showed a PowerPoint of his build process.



**Rich Herbert Dressing Table**

**Rich Herbert** – Federal New Hampshire dressing table reproduction inspired by Steve Latta at MASW. Primary wood mahogany, intricate inlays, all home-made banding. Also a flag cutting board from a weekend class at MASW.



**Neal Hoegemeyer's Intarsia**

**Neal Hoegemeyer** – Intarsia nativity figures and many intricate scroll saw pieces, along with a wide range of boxes and gift-type items.



**Dennis Heyza's Federal English Tea Chest**

**Dennis Heyza** – Looking glass inspired by Chippendale period examples, and a memorial chest inspired by Federal English tea chests. He showed a PowerPoint of his all hand tool build process.



**Jim Kudej's Shaker Boxes**

**Jim Kudej** – Plain and decorative Shaker boxes, wood planes, multiple gift items that could be weekend projects.

**Gerald Schmidt** – Elaborate 1932 Buick Roadster toy car



**Larry Last's Live Edge Table**

**Larry Last** – Small live edge side table made from walnut and pine scraps.



**Paul Thoma with Gibson Stick Chair**

**Paul Thoma** – Classic Irish Gibson stick chair inspired by Chris Schwarz, made entirely with hand tools.



**Kevin Goulet's Candle Sconces**

**Kevin Goulet** – Candle sconces that he made in seventh grade, his first woodworking project.



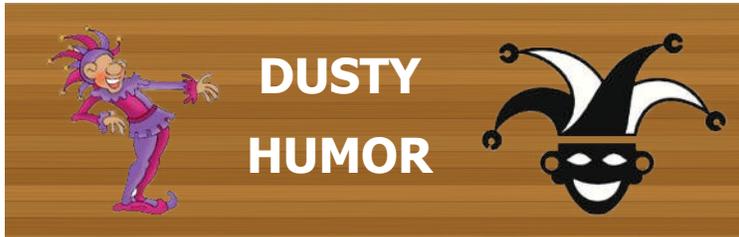
**Ormond MacDougald with his Chess Board**

**Ormond MacDougald** – Chess board with scroll-sawed chess pieces, small jewelry pieces, and a cherry beaver-tail canoe paddle



**13 - Jerry Romito's Jewelry Boxes**

**Jerry Romito** – A variety of jewelry boxes with veneers and inlays, using the Tarter Woodworking Multiple Layer Inlay System. Also a bandsaw box and a Kumiko tea box.



- This woodworking class is sure to be a cutting-edge topic.
- I like your work; it reminds me of when I was young and stupid.
- No one ever has the time to do it right, but everyone has the time to fix it.

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.

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News from the Toy and Box Committee

### Two Months to Delivery

I've finished my toys for the year, they are all packed up and awaiting delivery. I've even got several toys in various stages of build that will be set aside for next year's program. While I don't expect other toy and box builders to be as pro-active as I am, being a little ahead of schedule does cut down on the stress at crunch time. Next year, I am going to concentrate on building some boxes and a little less toys. I've started reading the book *'Build Better Boxes'* by **Matt Kenney** (Available on Amazon). Several good designs are in the book which can be adapted for our needs. There is a real nice article in the latest issue of Fine Woodworking on a beautiful box build that could be easily adapted to make a memory box for the Children's Hospital Snowpile program. More on that to come.

As we have done in the past, at our November membership meeting (Nov. 9th this year) we will be collecting toys and boxes. In early December, we will be delivering all the items to Children's Hospital. When dropping off toys and boxes, it is best to have them secured in cardboard boxes, with a label attached to the box indicating what type and how many toys and or boxes in each. The labels can be downloaded from our website and printed off as needed. Proper packaging and labeling makes them easier to transport and saves Ron and Dan considerable work. As always, if you do not have your items finished by the November meeting, arrangements can be made with Ron and Dan for individual drop-off.

I have heard from a number of you who have already started or are planning on making toys and or boxes for this year. At our September Showcase of Skills

meeting, a display of toys was present. I am happy to report that several members who have not built toys or boxes recently inquired about the program. Once again, thanks for your continuing support.

Remember, the Guild will provide standard and treaded wheels in 1", 1 1/4" or 1 1/2" diameters, 1/2" OD nylon washers and 1/4" diameter wheel pegs free of charge to any member who wishes to make toys for this program. The Guild still has an inventory of non-standard wheels and other toy parts that have been recently categorized. While there has been a good response to these non-standard items remember that once they are gone, they will not be replaced. We try to bring a few of these non standard items to our regular meetings. You can always contact Ron and Dan for additional information on these non standard parts.



MWG Toys

Guidelines for building and finishing of toys and boxes are readily available on our website. Please do your best to follow these guidelines. We need to be compliant with the hospital's rules and to some extent, government regulations.

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)



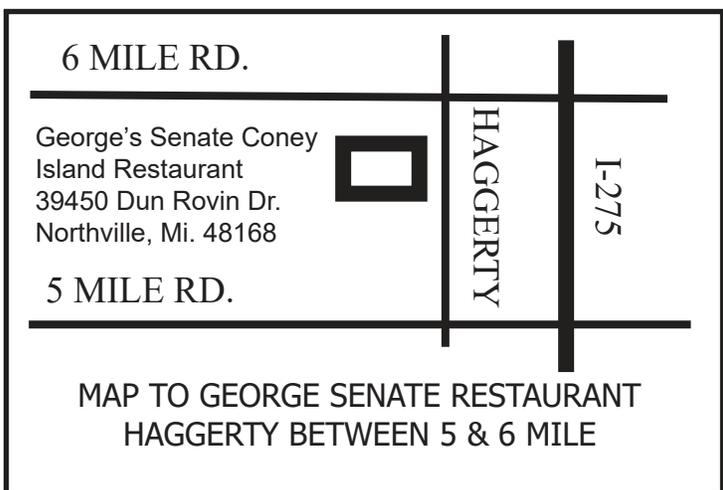
For membership information contact

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**

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Kevin Goulet.....	Officer at Large.....	248-672-5341
Ron Ross.....	Food Coordinator.....	734-812-5531



Next MWG Luncheon: (Coordinated by TBD)  
**Thursday, 23 OCT 2025 at 10:16 AM**