

Dan is in rainy California and I'm running out of time. Please imagine our beautiful logo in this spot and go on to the important stuff below!  
Thanks. Jane

# BENCH TALK

## The Monthly Newsletter of the Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

February 2007 Volume 24, Number 2  
Visit us on the web at [www.newwg.org](http://www.newwg.org)

### INSIDE!

- ! HERE COMES THE SPRING SHOW!
- ! BUILDING WITH LOGS: GET THE SCOOP AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING

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### The Next Meeting is February 16<sup>th</sup>. It Is about Building with Logs

This past summer, Guildie Tom Charlier who spends lots of time in the UP during the warmer months, ran into some folks who do really marvelous things with logs. According to Tom, they build extraordinary furniture and cabins from what the rest of us usually cut into slabs and turn into lumber. Tom talked to Ron Dauplaise, our VP for Programs, they talked to the Board members, and we all decided to bring these folks down from Republic, Michigan to teach us about what they do.

Jon Mykkanen is our guest on Friday, February 16. His company specializes in log construction of furniture and homes and cabins. He also builds and guides kayaks. He will address the construction techniques required to build a log cabin. He will demonstrate tool use. He will also bring logs with him to illustrate some techniques. He has joined the Guild and hoped to bring products to our March show, but the date doesn't work. The February Guild meeting will be an excellent time to learn "up close and personal" about the intriguing skill of log construction. We're really glad they are driving all the way down here to provide us with their insights. Sounds like a great program.

As Jane and I have been traveling around the country, we've seen furniture made from many things other than traditional lumber. Much of it is incredibly creative and artistic as well as being extremely functional. So, log furniture isn't just for your Northwoods retreat or hunting shack anymore. It's time to add to your repertoire of skills, so be sure to join us the 16<sup>th</sup>. Jon's son coined the phrase "odd wood hunting" for their Sunday activities. He has a "few storage barns."

The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, February 16. As usual, we'll meet in Room 111 of Mary Ann Cofrin Hall. The direct route is under construction, but you can reach the MAC Hall parking lot through the Sports Center parking lot. Or, another route is to continue north from the intersection where you would normally enter to go the Sports Center and MAC Hall. Take the first left on Walter Way and follow the signs to MAC and the Phoenix Sports Center. If you get lost, flag down a student for directions, drive around for an extended period getting frustrated, or call Jane on her cell phone (246-1553) for directions. If you find Jon and Marie in the parking lot, welcome them and help them unload! See you there.

**SPRING SHOW IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER and ON THE NEXT PAGE**  
**Please read it carefully. Thank you in advance. Jane Alesch**

Enclosed you should find 4 sheets (\$20 worth) of **raffle tickets**. Please buy or sell them, be sure the stubs (esp the name, phone & city/zip) are clearly filled out. If you sell to someone you will deliver to, please put your name (on the BACK.) Mail stubs & money to Jane along with your Volunteer Sheet, bring to February meeting or the show!(**NO MARCH MEETING**)

**VOLUNTEER SHEET**: Please fill this out and return it ASAP, Feb meeting or mail or e-mail or phone. Please confirm anything & everything you have already told me--these sheets are my layout bible--I need all the help at organizing you can give me. Thanks.

**DEMONSTRATORS**: Give me your needs, power, space etc. We can use whatever you want to do (I think.) Action in your area is a good sales tool. If you are selling try to bring a helper so you don't miss a sale.

**Raffle prizes**: Everything in caps on the tickets was either purchased by the guild with generous discounts by Woodworker's Depot and BOSCH, or at Woodcraft who weren't able to give us as great a discount but donated the Shaker Boxes and OTT-Lite. **Thanks to all our benefactors**. Show your support and thanks when you shop! I still need your wonderful things to add to the raffle. Thanks to those who spoke at the meeting **BUT do fill out the sheet with the details** so I can make out all the tags and sheets before midnight on Friday.

Trudy is making out sign up sheets for selling tickets at the show, relief, security etc. You put down your best times and we'll put you in--and **CLEAN UP & PRIZE DELIVERY**.

**SELLERS**: You set your own prices and have your own permits as necessary. I do not police. I do however suggest: nice displays, clear pricing (I rarely buy something untagged.), smiles and paying attention to your potential customer. For curiosity and historic purposes, I'd love to know your sale and special order totals.

**PUBLICITY**: SPREAD the word. Use the poster and 1/4 posters enclosed. Feel free to make copies or run copies off the internet or ask for more! We always have extras. Talk to people, even strangers, wherever you go. Any other ideas--do them yourself and share!

**FINALLY**, you guys are the greatest. I would love to see something from everyone. It does not have to be for sale, and you don't have to love it. Share your talent and inspire others to follow their dream and do something creative and satisfying. Let me know what I forgot and anything I can do to help you make your show the best it can be. Jane Alesch 920-246-1553

## **THE JANUARY MEETING**

**by Dan Alesch**

The January meeting on Rosemaling had a larger attendance than any old timers in the Guild can remember. One reason is that lots of Guild members brought their wives, but even without spouses, the turnout was amazing.

Dona Fischer, a talented painter and wood carver from Algoma, who specializes in rosemaling, gave us a brief history of the art and of the various styles within it. She discussed technique, reference sources, and places to take classes. She, herself, will be teaching in Door Country this spring and summer.

Dona has been rosemaling for 35 years and paints in several styles. She brought many examples of rosemaled plaques, bowls, plates, chests, and furniture. Each piece impressed the assembled group which got time to examine the pieces after Dona's talk and who also had ample opportunity to talk with Dona about specific areas of interest.

The session was both enjoyable and informative. Dona will be providing some additional information about classes and sources which we expect to include in a forthcoming newsletter.

Thanks, Tom Carlson, for putting us unto Dona and thanks, too, to Dona for a fine program.

## THE OLDE CARVER'S NOTES

*by the Olde Carver*

The carvers continue to carve. Dan and Jane have been unable to host the weekly gatherings recently, so the little cluster of carvers had to make other arrangements. Dan and Jane promise to be able to get it together sometime in March, so give them a jingle in late February to find out when that might be or call Rich Valenta.

## MEMBER UPDATES

Lyle Martens had good news recently. What doctors thought was a large malignant growth turned out to be large, but not malignant. Lyle's not over the hump yet, but this is really good news. He is hoping to be at the February meeting and the show. Wish him well but don't breath on him!

Bob Platten survived his umpteenth major surgery and is back home giving folks what for. Glad you made it again, Bob. Good work!

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

*By Fred Juengst*

Ten members have February renewal dates. Please check your mail label to see if it is marked with a magic marker. The date on the mailing label is the date your membership is up for renewal. Please pay your dues at the February meeting or send it by mail at the address below.

Four memberships are one month overdue. Please pay your dues as soon as possible. Three memberships are more than two months overdue. This is a friendly reminder for me (Fred Juengst), Lyle Kronberg, and John Mortonson. Please consider remaining a member of the Guild and pay your dues today.

Those who are more than three months overdue have a postcard attached as a reminder to pay your dues as soon as possible. If you choose not to renew your membership, please sign the card and slip it into the mail. This will let me know you intend not to renew. Please keep your nametag in the event you wish to join at a later date. If you don't respond, I simply drop your name from our active roster and e-mail list. This month we dropped one individual. **If you borrowed books from the Guild Library, please give Joe or Trudy Ferrier (920-438-8116) a call to arrange to return the borrowed items.**

For those getting a postcard but wishing to renew, just slip the UNMARKED postcard in an envelope with your membership dues and mail it to me at 846 Cornelius Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311 or bring it to a meeting. My address should be on the card as well but sometimes we miss.

For those new members and those who paid dues in May, please check your label to be sure your renewal date is in 2007 or later. If you feel I made a mistake with your dues, do not be shy, give me a call (920-469-1919) or e-mail (mdjuengst@aol.com) me with your complaint. I double-check all the roster entries but I do make mistakes and appreciate getting them corrected quickly.

## **FYI: Little tidbits of relevant, irrelevant, or irreverent news, observations, and assorted stuff from and about members and their pursuits. by Dan Alesch**

- From Curt Andersen: Pat Wojkiewicz (592-8695) wants a piece of furniture fixed--scratches, nicks, parts missing, sticky drawers--wants this done even if it takes 2 or more people. She will be donating the piece to charity.
- 2007 Chickenfest Saturday June 23. Contact member Milt Schmit 920-993-9664
- Liberty Grove-Ellison Bay--Juried show & sale--July 21 & 22--deadline May 1--Jane has one entry form
- **SPECIAL TOYS FOR SPECIAL TOTS:** Dale & Bev Kozicki (468-4092) will have a table at the show featuring the kids you have helped. He needs some pictures of you-all working in YOUR shop to complete the presentation (even if you haven't helped YET!) Now, is this not the least we can do to help them with their ever so incredible mission of helping children? Also, check out the table at the show, maybe you can do even more.