



# BENCH TALK

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

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Visit us on the web at [www.newwg.org](http://www.newwg.org)

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- FEBRUARY MEETING THIS FRIDAY
  - DAVID MARKS PROGRAM AND CLASSES HERE IN MARCH
  - SPRING SHOW IN APRIL
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**MAKE A NOTE NOW. THE MARCH MEETING WILL BE ON MARCH 7, THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. IT WILL NOT BE ON MARCH 21. IF YOU GO TO THE CAMPUS ON MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>, YOU WILL BE THE ONLY WOODWORKER THERE.**

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## THE FEBRUARY MEETING IS THIS FRIDAY IN THE USUAL PLACE

The Guild has a lot going on in the next few months. We have a meeting this Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, David Marks is coming in from California in March for a program and for special classes for Guild members, and the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Show is in April. So gird yourself, get in the woodworking mode, and join in.

This month, the Guild Board decided to provide an opportunity for Guild members to share some of their interests and specialty information with the group. We've planned a series of very short presentations by Guild members to provide each of us with some insight as to what others are up to and how they are doing it.

The Board has identified several mini-presentations, but is counting on you for the rest. If you are willing to give a five or ten minute presentation on one of your projects, a weird injury you sustained, a jig that either worked or did not, if there is someone you would like to hear from on one of his or her specialties, let a Board member know in the next day or two. Call Ron Dauplaise at 866-9425, Steve Lockhart at 733-2347, or Dan and Jane at 468-0132. These Board members volunteered to take calls for this event. The others are busy with other stuff.

This one promises to be fun. We'll meet at the regular spot on the UW-Green Bay campus at the regular time. See you then.

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### THE DAVID MARKS EXTRAVAGANZA

David Marks, host of Wood Works, the popular television program on the DIY network, will be here in Northeastern Wisconsin at our invitation March 7 through March 9. **David will present a Guild Program on Friday, March 7 and will hold classes for Guild members at Woodcraft in Appleton on March 8 and 9.**

For some time now, Guild members have asked that we bring some "big name" woodworkers to talk with Guild members. These days, David Marks is one of the very biggest names in woodworking in the country. We have him for five activities over three days. He will present a free program to the Guild, he will offer three classes at Woodcraft for Guild members, and he

will be at Woodcraft for an entire Saturday afternoon to meet, greet, and talk woodworking.

The Guild Board and Chris and Mary Rowland at Woodcraft in Appleton have worked together to make this very special event possible and both have invested considerable money in having David fly here from northern California for the sole purpose of meeting with Guild members and to offer the specially-priced classes for us at Woodcraft. To make this effort financially feasible for the Guild, we need to sell 25 tickets to each of three classes. So far, only 18 percent of Guild member have indicated that they will be at the Friday meeting and only 15 percent have bought a spot for one or more of the classes. That leaves about 135 members we haven't heard from. The Guild is offering them to you at almost 40% off the price anyone else will pay. If we meet our goal of selling 75 tickets, we can invite other "big name" woodworkers here from time to time. If we do not, then we can't. It ain't all that complicated.

The Friday night program will be held at UW-Green Bay. As of now, only 65 people will be able to attend. If we hear more demand, we'll use the Rose Hall Theater, but, so far, we haven't heard much. We will essentially dispense with the business meeting, but Pete will be there with the Library for your convenience. David will present a special slide show and lecture program on design elements that go into great furniture.

The Friday night meeting will be **FREE** to Guild members, but each nonmember attending will be asked for a \$10 donation. If a person joins up before the meeting, he or she becomes a member immediately and can attend without making a donation.

Guild members will be able to take one, two, or three David Marks' classes at very low prices if they sign up through the Guild in advance. His classes typically range in price from \$55 to \$100 for a half-day session. The Guild has arranged for you, as a Guild member, to participate for only \$30 per class, if you sign up now through the Guild.

Tom and Lee Carlson are taking reservations for the classes, so if you are interested, sign

up now and send your check. You will never again be able to participate in classes like these at such a bargain price.

If you have cable television, you can get a preview of what you might learn in David's classes. David's cable television series, Wood Works, is shown on the DIY Network, every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Check your local cable provider for times. Or, you can go to his web site: [www.djmarks.com](http://www.djmarks.com).

The classes will be held in Woodcraft's shop classroom which is being reorganized for the classes. Here's a brief description of what will be offered.

**Session 1. Saturday, March 8. 9:00 a.m to 1 p.m. Demonstration of Veneering with a Vacuum Press or Bag.** Demonstrating the advantages of vacuum bag veneering and a "how to" on the newest methods. Woodcraft will have a quality veneer and veneering products at special prices, along with a factory rep to answer all your questions about the bags after the class.

**From 2:00 to 5:00, David will be at Woodcraft to meet and greet woodworkers.**

**Session 2. Sunday March 9: 9:00 a.m to 1 p.m. Finishing for the Craftsman.** David will cover a wide range of professional techniques, including how to use scrapers effectively, gilding, adding metallic patinas, and a host of other really impressive and useful techniques to add to your projects.

**Session 3. Sunday March 9: 2 p.m. to 6 p. m. Favorite Jigs and Fixtures.** This program includes a slide show and class discussion on .making and using fixtures for building furniture, including, specifically, jigs and fixtures for making furniture with curved surfaces.

Tom and Lee reported this weekend that many tickets are still available for Guild members. If you don't want to miss out, send a check to Lee Carlson, Guild Treasurer, 489 County D, P.O. Box 116, Forestville, WI 54213. The cost is \$30 per class. Be sure to identify which class or classes you want. It would be a good idea to call ahead to learn whether a spot is still available. You can reach the Carlsons at 920-856-6363. Or, bring the money to the meeting this Friday.

If you know a nonmember who wants to participate in the classes, have him or her contact Woodcraft in Appleton directly. All nonmembers pay \$55 per ticket. If the non-member joins the Guild before the class, he or she save the entire first year cost of membership in the ticket price saving.

## APRIL SHOW UPDATE

Our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Show will be held at East Towne Mall on April 12 and 13. Set up will take place on Friday, April 11. Make plans now to participate.

As of today, the big room in which we've held the show that last two years has not been leased out. We think it will be available to us for the show, but, in case it isn't, we still have a backup plan in the Mall.

Once again, here's how the show works. Each Guild member decides whether to display, demonstrate, provide support services, and/or sell their crafts on Saturday and Sunday. Some show up to provide breaks for demonstrators and displayers. Guild members bring their stuff in Friday afternoon and evening. We all help unload and set up and then we all help load up and clean up on Sunday.

The Guild supplies the space, tables, some fairly uncomfortable chairs, table covers, publicity, and, sometimes, coffee and doughnuts..

The Guild holds a raffle in connection with the show. The Guild buys a few deeply discounted prizes from Woodworkers Depot in Green Bay and Woodcraft in Appleton – both long-time, faithful supporters of the Guild. Guild members, please show your appreciation by shopping there instead of places like Harbor Freight which won't even allow us to put up signs there advertising the show.

Guild members donate items they have made as raffle prizes. Last year, we had a total of about 60 prizes. Guild members sell tickets like crazy both before and during the show. The proceeds keep the Guild going through the year and keep dues at the ridiculously low figure of \$15 per year.

Raffle tickets, an initial list of prizes, and full information will be sent out in the March

**Bench Talk.** If you have any questions or comments, call Jane at 920-468-0132

This year's prizes are off to an amazing start. Courtesy of Woodworkers Depot, Makita, and the Guild, we have *three* 18 volt, half inch cordless drill drivers with Lithium-ion batteries. Each kit includes a handy carrying case, a 15 minute rapid charger, a built in LED light on the drill itself, and two batteries. These babies have an all metal two-speed transmission, are compact at 8 inches, have great heft, and weigh only 3.5 pounds. That's three drill kits – three prizes. Check it out: BDF 452 HW.

Courtesy of Woodcraft of Appleton and the Guild, we have a set of Groz wood planes in a carrying case. They are beautiful and sharp. The kit includes an SP-4 smoothing plane #4 with two inch width and a SP-605 low angle adjustable mouth block plane. We also have an incredibly handsome set of steel blade, wood handled cabinet makers screw drivers in 4, 5, 6, and 8 inch lengths by Wood River. And, last but not least, from Woodcraft, a nifty-looking tool bag filled with "essentials, goodies, and treasures" for the woodworker worth at least \$75.

These are great prizes, but the best ones will come from you: bowls, pictures, boxes, carvings, a wall mirror, pens, and even a Santa whistle and, just maybe, a rose. The details of who made what will appear in a later *Benchtalk*, but you know Jane. She'll always take more. Please fill out the form that will be in the March *Benchtalk*. If you so so, all the raffle paperwork can be completed before Midnight, April 11. Thanks!

Let's make the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Show the best one yet.

## LOOKING BACK AT THE BEST OF BENTWOOD LAMINATION

*by Ron Dauplaise*

Guild president, Lyle Martens, was the presenter at our January meeting. He presented a program on bentwood laminating. Here's a summary.

Choosing what you want to make is the obvious first step, but you then must sketch your design and convert it to a form. Lyle usually

starts with heavy construction paper, but you can design with a computer or use freehand, but be sure to make a pattern.

Maple is the best bending wood. Bending works best on long-grained woods, so other woods to consider are hickory, white oak, red oak, and the birches. Lyle often uses 1/16th inch thick veneers, but the chair he displayed and explained was made of 1/8th inch. (His son, Bob, often uses 3/16th.) Be sure to practice bending by hand to see how your wood actually bends! The sharper you bend the wood, the less it will bend back.

Laminating is not hard, Lyle notes, you just must figure out where you need clamps! Lyle cuts his strips on a bandsaw. He recommends using Wood Slicer blades from the Highlands catalog: 1/2" width with 3 teeth per inch. Cost is about \$28. His observation is that it is difficult to cut veneer with a blade 3/4 inch wide. He notes, though, that strips can be cut on a table saw, but you must have a zero tolerance throat plate, which is best made of Baltic birch plywood.

Lyle's approach does not use steam. Lamination is much stronger than steaming. His final shapes are created by bending strips around or, often, inside forms created specially for each project. He uses Gorilla glue, which requires moisture, so he wets the wood first. Only one surface needs to be wet. Other glues which can be used are white glue, urea resin, and polyurethane, as well as others. With Gorilla glue you must use gloves. And you must really be careful not to get any on your glasses! Wear an old pair or some cheapies because that stuff won't come off. This glue does not dull blades and machines well. Urea resin requires much time.

Forms: Make your own forms/jigs, out of the cheapest wood possible. Plywood or particle board are fine. Lyle's popular fishnets are made inside a form. He explained how he made many forms/jigs/molds. "Free bending" or "free forming" allows wood to take a shape by itself to fit a given space. This was illustrated via a sled which he displayed and explained.

To prepare the veneers you can use a jig in a planer. Lyle, though, says his most important tool is his drum sander. He uses a Performax

surface sander. While sanding, do **not** skip steps. For example, sand with 80 grit, then 100, 120, 150, 180, etc. Not 80, 120, 220.

NOTE: Wax all forms and wax everything! Edge clamps are invaluable and are available at Fleet Farm (\$4), or Harbor Freight (\$1.99). The latter are lighter, but will do the job. Veneer can be purchased at Woodcraft.

Lyle advised if you need any help, just contact him. (e-mail: [lc mart@worldnet.att.net](mailto:lc mart@worldnet.att.net).) This was a most enlightening program—highly educational and informative. Thank you, Lyle, for explaining to us what had been a somewhat unknown process and making it understandable.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

*By Fred Juengst*

We have 174 members. Pretty much a record. Twelve members are scheduled for renewal in February. Please check your mail label to see if the renewal date is marked with a magic marker. Two memberships are one month overdue and only one membership is overdue by more than two months. ***This month only, if you are paying dues and signing up for David Mark's classes send your dues check and your class check directly to Lee Carlson or bring it to the meeting this week.***

Those who are more than three months overdue have a postcard attached to their Bench-talk as a reminder to pay 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 do not intend to renew your membership. 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. If you want 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. I am pleased to report that many cards are returned with dues payment.

Some folks send in more than the amount required to renew their membership. Individual membership renewal is \$15 for the year. Family membership is \$20 and business membership is

\$35 per year. If you pay too much, I add extra months to your renewal date to cover the amount paid. If you join with a family membership, you do get two name tags for free.

I won't be able to be at the February meeting, so Jane agreed to take over for me there.

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES MUST BE UP TO DATE FOR YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SPECIAL RATES FOR THE DAVID MARKS CLASSES!**

**WITH 174 MEMBERS, IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING NOT TO BE ABLE TO SELL 75 CLASS SLOTS. SIGN UP SO WE CAN DO THIS AGAIN ANOTHER TIME.**

## FYI: CUT-OFFS, CHIPS, SPLINTERS, AND SAWDUST GLEANED FROM SECRET SOURCES

- Steve Lockhart needs another bandsaw "to cut junk wood and aluminum so I don't wreck my good blade". He admits to being too lazy to continually change blades. So, "wanted, cheap bandsaw. Call Steve at 920 733 2347 or email salockhart@gmail.com".
- It is time for you to take your turn as a Guild officer. We can't keep having the same people do this every year. Every year, we need a president, a person to take the lead on monthly programs, someone to come up with special events, a membership chairperson, a treasurer, a secretary, a web-master, an editor, a person in charge of publicity, a spring show chairperson, someone in charge of Guild merchandise, and team members for toys and gifts for kids. For most of these positions, you never have to speak before a group, you will get help from others, and there are not a lot of extra meetings.
- It is time to start making a raffle prize for the Guild Show in April.
- It is time to join Dale Kozicki's valiant troop of volunteers to make a small

wooden gift for children and teens who need them because they have a dire disease or live in abject poverty.

- It is time to identify one program you would like to see in the next 12 months and slip it to a Board member on a slip of paper.
- It is time to decide how many raffle tickets you will buy or sell for the Spring raffle. **If every member household sells the four books it will receive in the March mailing, we can just get by for the year. Any additional sales mean new books and videos in the library, continued low dues, and nice place to meet.**
- Now is the time to let us know if you will be at the March 7 meeting featuring David Marks. It is free, but we have to know how big a room to reserve. We don't want to end up with 30 people standing in the hallway unable to hear or a huge auditorium with 50 people in it. E-mail Jane at [jalesch@new.rr.com](mailto:jalesch@new.rr.com). Or, if you want, call her at 920-468-0132 or let her know at the February meeting this Friday.



Aah! The joy of winter, snow, ice, and cold.  
And the promise of Spring.