



Bench Talk

The monthly newsletter for The Northeast Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Volume 27 Issue 5

May 2010

Points of Interest:

- Spring show results
- Spring show photo gallery
- New: Member of the Month
- Upcoming events
- Review: Bob Cosman

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The President's Corner

By Steve Lockhart

Elections will be held in June.

June is the guild's annual meeting. That means it's time to elect officers for the next year. The Board is required to present a slate of officers to the membership the month before the election, so here goes.

The proposed slate of officers includes:

- President: Steve Lockhart
- Vice President—Programs: Rob Martens
- Vice President—Public Information: Lyle Martens
- Librarian: Pete Schuh
- Secretary: Bob Wellhouse
- Treasurer: Lee Carlson
- Special Activities: Dan Alesch



Steve Lockhart's round table.

Proposed appointed positions include:

- Editor: Paula Martens
- Membership: Fred Juengst
- Spring Show: Jane Alesch
- Web-master: Mark Brien

Spring Show

By Paula Martens

The 2010 Spring show was a success, held this year at Southwest High School in Green Bay.

In addition to the usual show and demonstrations, the Guild invited members of the high school woodworking class to display their projects at the show. The three projects displayed included a bed frame, a wall clock and a patio table. Show visitors could

then vote for their favorite student project with the Guild donating prizes to the students. The winning student project was the bedframe.

For more on the show's success, refer to the Board of Directors Meeting minutes located on page 2.

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting held: April 28, 2010

Present: Steve Lockhart, Lyle Martens, Dan Alesch, Jane Alesch, Tom Carlson, Lee Carlson, Fred Juengst, Peter Schuh

Absent: Mark Brienon, Tom Charlier, Greg Puza, Don Kaster

- **Meeting Call to Order:** Steve Lockhart
- **Treasurer's Report:** Lee C.— Current assets are \$8,322.55. Last year assets were \$10,148.35. The treasurer's report included the spring show financial report. Profit was \$1,202.32, approx. \$1,000.00 less than last year due to increased rental fees for room and tables. Given the success of the show, we will return next year. Tom C. reported he gave out approximately \$106.00 in prizes at the last meeting.
- **Membership Report:** Fred J.—No changes from the previous month.
- **Public relations:** No report.
- **Programs:** Don K. —Absent. See "Upcoming Events" section for program schedules and "Next Guild Meeting" section for specific details.
- **Editor's Report:** Greg P. —Absent. Going forward, the

newsletter will be done by Paula Martens. Thanks to Greg for his past work on the news. Articles are due to Paula May 5th.

- **Special Activities:** Tom C—Absent. A report on the Bob Cosman workshop is in this May issue.
- **Web Report:** Mark B. —Absent.
- **Spring Show:** Jane A. — Due to the success of this show, next year's show will again be held at Southwest H.S. on March 26 & 27, 2011.
- **Other Business:** Student membership was discussed. Decision was made that Board & students will pay the same as others given the low fee amount. No changes will be made to the current membership fee in spite of increased costs for tables. No action taken, but the purchase of raffle tickets by all members was further discussed. A slate of officers for next year was discussed; the board is hopeful that more members will come forward to serve. A slate will be in the May new newsletter.
- **Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, May 26th at Fred Juengst home.

Member of the Month: Lyle Martens

With so many members of varying interests and specialties, this section is being added to provide a little fun. Our first Member of the Month: Lyle Martens

1. What is your specialty in woodworking? Bent wood laminating. Recent projects include a recurve bow, toboggans, tables and furniture.
2. How many years have you been woodworking? Sixty-five years, since my first birdhouse in 4-H.
3. What is your favorite wood to use and why? No real favorite, but I enjoy using cherry & walnut.
4. What project do you take the most pride in? Projects of personal design, such as a pedestal

"My best deals are thru research and construction..."

parlor kaleidoscope, a child's sleigh, recurve bow, and toboggan.

5. What is the best deal you have ever gotten on a woodworking tool? My best deals are thru research and construction, most times these are a better deal than purchased tools.

6. Do you have any tips you can give us? Good planning with good drawings. Plan your cuts using the best tool that safety allows.

7. Do you have any mentors? Probably high school instructors in woodworking and metal working.

8. What does membership in the Guild mean to you? Being in the guild puts me in contact with persons having different skills and ideas. I also have gained a number of friends with similar interests.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming program events include the following:

Guild Meetings:

- May 2010—The owner of Bay Ply wood.
- June 2010— Steve Lockhart to discuss design and construction of the 8 foot diameter, round inlay table which was on display at the spring show. Techniques used to build the inlaid top will be discussed

including the foam core top, unique adhesives, pattern cutting and finishing.

- July 2010—Not determined yet.

Other: Several members of the guild have signed up to demonstrate at Heritage Hill.

Chips and Dip

By Dan Alesch

Bad news. I'm sad to report that Guild member and well known and acclaimed carver Dick Bajorek died unexpectedly of a heart attack. Dick was an outstanding carver, a fine friend, and a real gentleman. Our deepest and most sincere condolences go out to Dick's wife, Mary, and to his family. We will miss him greatly.

And, besides that, Rich and Carol Valenta's son has just had surgery for a serious problem. Our hopes and prayers are with them at this time.

I just want to add my two cents worth on the Rob Cosman extravaganza. Wow. Finally, a woodworker who is redesigning hand tools so they both make sense and work. I'm saving up my lunch

money to get one of those great dovetail saws and the sharpening stones. Now, to flatten the bottom of my ancient bench plane.

Spring Show: Prize Photo Gallery



Prize Drawing



Porter Cable



Ridgid Kreg



Makita

For Sale / Looking to Buy

How often have you bought a new tool and needed a forum to sell the old one? How often have you wished you could buy a good, used tool but didn't know of anyone selling? Perhaps you have some unneeded wood you would like to recycle and give to a new home?

Guild members will hopefully benefit from this

new section by including these items in the BenchTalk. (**Note:** This section will only appear when a guild member submits a request and if space allows.) Forward requests to Paula Martens at:

Email: RobertPaulaMart@Centurytel.net

Phone: 920-845-9395.

April Review: Rob Cosman

By Fred Juengst

Rob introduced himself as a hand tool coach. He presented a high energy, information packed talk about sharpening hand planes and hand cut dovetails. Rob studied hand tools, knows what makes them work, and is willing to teach others to enjoy the full power of hand tools. He is also a showman who has been demonstrating hand tools for some time and knows how to attract attention and spark interest.

On Friday night he demonstrated how he sharpens hand plane blades and the theory behind what is needed to cut fine shavings. He grinds a primary bevel at 25 degrees using a grinder. Next he forms a secondary bevel at 29 degrees with a 1000 grit stone. Finally he forms a tertiary bevel at 31 degrees using a 30,000 grit ceramic stone. About 10 seconds of free hand work on each of the stones and he is done. He stresses the importance of keeping the stone absolutely flat. For the back of the plane blade, Rob stressed that you only need the very edge to be flat,

rather than the whole back of the blade.



Rob Cosman

To sharpen the back of the plane blade, Rob placed a steel ruler at the edge of his stone to raise the blade slightly. He lays the blade back on the steel ruler with the sharp end near the opposite edge of the stone. He rubbed the blade on his 30,000 grit ceramic stone for about 10 seconds to form a micro bevel on the back of the plane blade. He took a couple of strokes on a hard maple board to show how thin a shaving he could make. The shavings were long and even in thickness across the width. Mark Brienens measured the shaving at 7 ten thousandth of an inch thick.

Continued on page 5.

Membership Report

By Fred Juengst

Two new people joined our Guild this past month, and we lost a few as well. We now have a total of 171 members. I do drop the names of members who do not respond to the dues reminder post card but the reminder postcard seems to work well and most respond with a check. Thanks to all who mailed in their dues and the unused postcard. I noted this month that some of the postcards have been used many times and have numerous stamps on them from increases in postal rates.

I mailed eight dues reminder cards this month. If you do not intend to renew, please place your name on the postcard and drop it in the mail. This way I know your intention is to resign. Please do not feel

you have to explain why you choose not to continue being a member. If you choose to send in your dues, do not mark the postcard in any way. Just slip the postcard and your check in an envelope and send it back to me at 846 Cornelius Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311.

If you have any questions or if you don't get your Bench Talk, let me know by sending me an e-mail at mdjuengst@aol.com or call me at 920-469-1919. I will do my best to correct any mistakes or answer your membership questions. If you change your address or e-mail address, please e-mail or call and I can enter the change on my master membership list.

BenchTalk: A new look

By Paula Martens

As mentioned in the Board of Directors meeting minutes, beginning with this May 2010 issue, editing of the BenchTalk Newsletter has transitioned to me. You will notice that some changes have been made. New sections and articles have been added which I hope you will enjoy.

- Is there anything you would like to see in the newsletter?

- Do you have any suggestions for newsletter articles?
- Are you willing to write a brief article for the newsletter?
- Do we have your current e-mail address?

You may contact me at: Phone: 920-845-9395

Email: RobertPaulaMart@Centurytel.net

April Review: Rob Cosman, *continued from page 4*

Next Rob demonstrated how he cuts a dovetail joint in hard wood. First, he does not use the normally available dovetail saws because their teeth are designed for cross cutting. Dovetail saws cut into end grain and so need rip teeth. No one makes a rip tooth dovetail saw so Rob designed his own. Rob's dovetail saw has a proper handle for improved control and all the teeth are for ripping. Rob designed his new saw to have a few inches of fine teeth at the end. Since starting the cut is critical for accuracy, the fine teeth make starting the cut easy and accurate. The rest of the saw has larger teeth to cut fast enough to allow you to keep the saw cutting on the line.

Rob maintains that the saw makes the biggest difference in accurate dovetails. He claimed that making a perfect dovetail is 70% in the saw, 20% in technique, and 10% in practice using the tool. He marked and cut the tails and pins rather quickly and used a fret saw to roughly remove the waste. He used a chisel to cut the bottom line of the dovetails and checked over the bottoms of the pins and tails looking for any bulges or imperfections in the cor-

ners. He does not trial fit the joints. He does not pare down the sides of the pins or tails. He put a little glue on the joint and banged it together. The joint was so perfect one Guild member examining it said it looked like it was "cut with a router". Rob took a step back and said, "You saw me cut it".

The meeting was long and covered a lot of information. I left about 10 PM and lots of folks were still there. If you missed this one, you missed a showman who knows a lot about tools, what makes them work and how to use them. I did attend all three classes by Rob on Saturday and enjoyed them. Contact Woodcraft if you are interested in any of the tools, videos or aids Rob talked about on Friday and Saturday.

Did you know...

By Paula Martens

During a random search of the internet, I stumbled upon the *finewoodworking.com* website which had an article on Table saw injuries. Quoting the Fine Woodworking article dated February 18, 2010, it indicated that according to a recent study published in the **Journal of Trauma**, roughly 31, 400 people are treated in emergency rooms every year for table saw injuries (based on reports compiled from 1990 to 2007).

"Roughly 31,400 people are treated in emergency rooms every year..."

The injuries are broken down as follows:

- Approx. 93% to the finger, thumb, hand
- Approx. 66% had lacerations
- Approx. 10% had amputations

Other injuries included trauma to the head, face and neck, often times the result of kickback.

Carving his own niche...

By Paula Martens

In a bi-weekly series, the Green Bay Press Gazette includes a section titled "Work Space", in which they profile local creative people or organizations and the *work spaces* in which they 'do their thing'.

One of our own, Dan Alesch, was recently profiled for this article. In it, Dan shares that his *work space* is in the lower level of his home and is a sanctuary for him to carve. Unlike 2-dimensional art (ie: painting), Dan's

love of 3-dimensional art comes thru in his carvings of the human form, something that seemed to come easy for him. Oftentimes, Dan shares his *work space* with other carvers who gather to share camaraderie and their love of carving.

The Press-Gazette article can be located in the May 5, 2010, edition.

NORTHEAST WISCONSIN WOODWORKERS GUILD

When: Every 3rd Friday of the month, unless specified otherwise.

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Maryann Cofrin Hall, UW-Green Bay



Visit us on the web at:
www.newwg.org

Guild Officers

President, Steve Lockhart

Vice President Programs, Don Kaster

Vice President, Publicity, Tim McVey

Treasurer, Lee Carlson

Secretary, Lyle Martens

Member at Large, Lyle Martens

Committee Chairpersons & Project Coordinators

Librarian, Pete Schuh

Membership, Fred Juengst

Special Events, Tom Charlier

Spring Show, Jane Alesch

Web Site, Mark Brienens

Newsletter, Paula Martens

Reminder- Overdue Library Materials: There are many books and video material past due. Please return any overdue items you may have at the next Guild meeting.

Next Guild Meeting: Friday, May 21, 2010 Topic: All About Plywood

Bay Ridge Building Supply is a family owned retail business serving the Green Bay Area for over 50 years. Bay Ridge Building has an extensive inventory of Hardwood Plywood, MDF, Baltic Birch and Paneling in many grades and thickness.

Damien Dufek, of Bay Ridge, has put together a program to help you in selecting the best material for your next project. The presentation will cover:

- What to look for when selecting sheet goods
- What type of plywood is best for your application
- What are the veneer cuts available
- What are the key terms to look for when selecting plywood or sheet goods

This is one program you will not want to miss. Bay Ridge Building Supply has some of the best selections of sheet goods at reasonable prices in the Green Bay area.

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of learning everything you need to know about plywood but were afraid to ask.

Meeting details:

Where: Room 107—MaryAnn Cofrin Hall, UWGB

When: Friday, May 21st

Time: 7 p.m.—9 p.m.