



# THE R.I.P.S.A.W. REVUE

wiscwoodworkersguild.org

Rendering Informative Programs Serving Area Woodworkers

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March 2009

## John's Jaunt

Welcome to the May R.I.P.S.A.W. and John's Jaunt! It has been a busy month in the Johnson household since I last wrote. At the end of March we took our first spring break trip to Florida. In addition to visiting The Mouse, we also took a side trip over to Cape Canaveral to see a rocket launch and tour the Kennedy Space Center. My daughters were really impressed by the launch as well as the complexity and ingenuity that have gone into the space program. If you are in the area I highly recommend a visit.

I may have been a bit premature in my last John's Jaunt commenting on springs' arrival. We of course got to drive back from Florida through snow and arrived to find 8 new inches. Fortunately my neighbor was kind enough to dig us out!



Our April meeting featured Edward Wohl. He does some amazing work. I was particularly intrigued by the shaping that he goes through for the collection cases that he has made. I also enjoyed his discussion of the various aspects of his business from the cutting boards to his custom furniture and how they complement each other within his business.

As I mentioned it has been a busy month, so there hasn't been much progress on the many partially completed projects I have under way. But, the table saw hasn't been quiet. It was put to use to make some (very accurate) wood blocks of cherry, maple and pine for my daughter to burn up in her science fair project. Of course it was another example of spring not quite being here as we huddled in the 40 degree weather to burn them!

Don't forget, the May meeting is being shifted to Friday, May 8th, to accommodate our speaker and the Saturday workshop. Happy woodworking! -John

## Program Notes

Tom Schuppe calling May Day, May Day!!!

**Jeff Miller is coming to our Guild meeting on Friday, May 8th** to introduce us to the art of chair making. On Saturday, he will present a day long seminar actually showing us his art. I've been told if you learn how to design and then make a chair, you can improve your woodworking skills ten fold. We have a few openings left for the 9:00am

Saturday seminar. The cost is \$40.00.

**Our June meeting will start promptly at 6:30pm outdoors at the Tommy Thompson Youth Center's Parking lot.**

The reason: Gerry Schieffer, President of the United

Chainsaw & Carvers Group will demonstrate his chainsaw cutting skills. He will carve an animal out of a log 40" tall 15 inches in diameter. After the demo he will also show us how to properly sharpen the chain and answer any questions. Gerry offered to donate his carving to our Guild. We will auction it off and the proceeds will be used to update our library. Gerry travels all over the United States and the world demonstrating his art. We are excited to have him at our Guild. Do not miss this.

**July is membership month.** Each member is asked to bring a project for show and tell. Please bring in your best piece and your worst so we can all learn and have some fun comparing notes. Also at our July meeting, we are having a **tool rummage sale**. Bring your machines and tools to sell or trade. The tool rummage sale begins at 6:30pm.

**2009 Woodfest.** We purchased 4,300 board feet of mostly **Select, Kiln Dried, Edged lumber**. Guild members will be able to purchase this lumber at prices well below the Milwaukee area rates. Details will be available soon. Hopefully, you can get your orders in and pick up

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 your lumber some time near the end of July/August. Some of the lumber is being cut now, and needs to be kiln dried. . . . The Hard Maple is already kiln dried and waiting to be shipped.

Types:

- 4/4, 550 BF, Hickory, #1 & better, kiln dried
- 4/4, 1000 BF, Cherry, Select, kiln dried
- 5/4, 300 BF, Walnut, Select, kiln dried
- 8/4, 250 BF, Walnut, Select, Air dried
- 4/4, 1000 BF, Red Oak, Select, kiln dried
- 4/4, 1000 BF, Hard Maple, Select, Kiln dried

Bill Smeaton took Bill Godfrey, Ed Cessna, and Jerry Tackes & Tom Schuppe to Ontario Wisconsin in March to experience maple syrup farming in the Amish community. It went something like this:

We drove into an Amish farmyard, walked down a wooded hill/cow pasture, about ¼ mile to a 30' x 60' metal building in a gully. As we reached the building the sky was filled with steam pouring out of a stack projecting above the roof of the building. Inside three quarters of the building was full of logs stacked to the ceiling. An Amish farmer was feeding a boiler situated below a 10 ft x 4ft x 4ft high stainless steel kettle that boiled hundreds of gallons of sap at a time. As the sap moved through the tank it was filtered, finally boiling off the maple syrup into a bucket. It takes about 40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of maple syrup. The syrup is like gold, one gallon sells between \$40.00 and \$60.00; and the farming of the syrup is all over in less than one month.

As we left the building we ran into a State of Wisconsin food inspector who was on site to inspect the operation to insure that processing of maple syrup meets the State of Wisconsin's food handling requirements.

After our syrup experience, we watched an Amish woodworker make a dining room table. It was beautiful, made out of spalted wood. These trips are open to any of our curious members.



Ed Wohl our speaker from the April Meeting. His presentation of his work and journey was informative and fascinating. Go to page 5 for more details and pictures of some of his work.

## Officers

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On **Monday, May 18th** a representative of Robert Sorby will be at **Rockler Woodworking** to demonstrate their considerable line of standard turning tools. Additionally, they will demonstrate some new tools such as micro sandmaster, spiraling system, hallowing set and spindle set.

The demonstrations will run from 1 PM to 4 PM and 6 PM to closing on that day.

All Sorby tools sold that day will be discounted 25%.

## May Raffle Column:

The lucky winner of the WoodRiver jack plane last month was Ron Neuman.

The Friday May 8 raffle prizes will be a Furniture First Aid Kit and a set of carving knives.

Submitted by Alan Clapp

# Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

## Board Briefs April, 2009

**Attendees:** John Johnson, Ed Cessna, Bill Godfrey, Jay Pilling, Bill Smeaton, Tom Schuppe, Jerry Tackes

**Membership:** 133

**Treasurer:** Balance \$15,016.07. Guild member Edwin Goldman will conduct an audit of the Guild's 2008 financial records.

**Publicity:** The 2010 Woodworkers Show will be held February 5,6,7.

**Programs/Workshops:** April program presenter Ed Wohl has offered to host a breadboard making class in his shop. Details are being worked out. A joint making workshop is being planned for June.

**Other Business:** A large wood sale will be held at Bill Godfrey's shop on Saturday August 22, with a rain date of Sunday August 23. Details of the sale will be announced in the near future. It was decided that the Fine Woodworking magazines would be removed from the library and offered for sale. A quilt will not be auctioned at the Holiday Party. Instead we will auction the chain saw carving from our June meeting. Attendance at the Holiday was discussed. We will explore the idea of having some form of entertainment at the party.

Respectively Submitted

Ed Cessna

Ed made a dragon table and little dragon sitting on top of the table for his daughter. Ed took a book out of the library and found the project in the book.



Ed Cessna showed his two scroll sawn projects. Gone fishing and an iris. Nice work Ed.



## Chair Workshop is finally here!

**Workshop Name:** Chair making workshop with Jeff Miller

**Sponsor:** Kevin Seigworth

**Workshop Date:** Saturday, May 9, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Maximum enrollment:** 25 members

**Fee:** \$40

**Location:** Jerry Tackes Shop

**Presenter:** Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller is a furniture designer, craftsman, teacher, and author of woodworking books and articles (he's also a former classical musician and a dad). Jeff's furniture has been shown in galleries and shows nationwide, and has won numerous awards. His furniture is in the Decorative Arts Collection of the Chicago History Museum.



## Woodcraft Class Schedule

**Turning 101: Intro To Lathe Work,** w Hank Bardenhagen, Sat, May 2, 2009, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**Stain & Topcoat with General Finish,** w Jason Swanson, Sun May 03, 10 AM - 1 PM

**Turn a Travel Mug,** w Jeff Selchow, Sun, May 10, 10 AM - 4 PM

**Table Saw Fundamentals,** w Bob Dickey, Mon May 11, 6 PM - 9 PM

**Turn A Sedona Roller Ball Pen,** w Jeff Selchow, Sat, May 16, 10 AM - 1:30 PM

**Turning Threads,** w Jason Swanson, Sun, May 17, 10 AM - 12 PM, Sunday, May 17, 1 PM - 3 PM

**Advanced Router Part I Hand-Held Operation,** w Bob Dickey, Sat May 23, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

**Advanced Router Part 2 – The Router Table,** w Bob Dickey, Sat May 23, 1:30-4:30 PM

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## Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

**Custom Service Hardware** 1170 Wauwatosa Rd,  
Cedarburg, 262/375-7960 or 800/882-0009

**Homestead Finishing Products**, Cleveland, OH  
216/631-5309 www.homesteadfinishing.com

**Neu's Building Center, Inc.** N95W16915  
Richfield Way, Menomonee Falls, WI 262/251-  
6550 (located near SW corner of Co. Q and  
Hwy 41/45)

**Rockler's (The Woodworker's Store)** 845 N.  
Mayfair Rd, Wauwatosa, 414/774-1882

**Woodcraft**, 1725 S. 108th St, West Allis, 414/607-  
6164

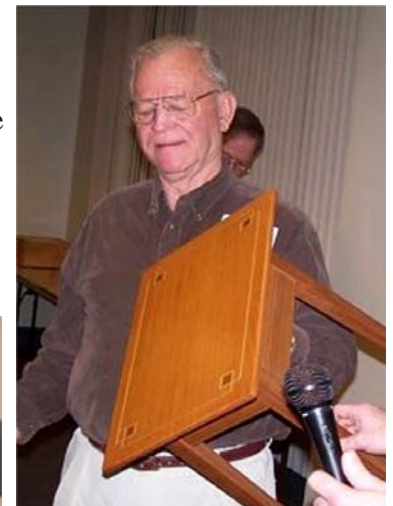
**Woodline USA** can be reached at 800-472-6950



New member Jerianne Feiten shows her box she made for her husband. His reward for helping her buy needed tools! He is one lucky guy to have such a handy wife. Nice work Jerianne!



Jerry Claussen shows his splay leg table with the inlay on the top. He made the table by taking the workshop held last fall. Nice job Jerry.



Guild members enjoy the Ed Wohl presentation.



Jerry Tackes displayed his inlay box (lower right) and a tool puzzle for part of the Christmas toy drive. Jerry is so versatile with his woodwork and generous with his time and talent.



## Program Reflections and Pictures

Ed Wohl joined us for the April meeting and showed slides and talked about his woodworking journey. He started woodworking while in high school and has continued ever since. He spent 2 years in the Peace Corp and when he returned he met Bill Stump of the Herman Miller Furniture company. It was here that he started making models of furniture.

His business has evolved into custom made furniture as well as cutting boards. His items can be found for sale in museums and art stores all over the world. He still does do some art shows, where he sells his work. Most of his furniture is made specifically for a person and incorporates that person's ideas in the design. Ed does the design, the cutting, joining and most of the construction. He has employees who help with the process. The employees do the sanding. Ed stated more than once that his motto is "Perfect is good enough!"

He brought 2 chairs that he made (below). He likes to use Gorilla glue for the joints, because it gives him time to fit the pieces together. The slats are bent and shaped. It takes about 40 hours for a chair. The chairs are exquisite.



Ed also makes prototypes of furniture pieces he is going to make. He believes this is key to making sure the design is going to work well. The desk and patio table (right) were both pieces he made for other people. He makes the prototype to show them also. One collector's cabinet he made sold for \$6000. The cabinet was 9X16X12 with 4 drawers and was made out of Ebony. Sorry no picture of that.



Above are pictures of some of the cutting boards Ed makes. Also, one curly maple tray and a jewelry box of bird's eye maple. The pieces are beautiful. Ed said the boards of maple come to him already glued and ready to cut. His provider gives him good service. Ed and his crew cut many different styles of cutting boards. They are found in museum shops in the US, England, France and Japan.

Ed has offered to do a workshop with our guild if we will travel to his shop in Spring Green. Thanks Ed for a very worthwhile program.



Klaus Zunker showed his two bowls and his carved fireplace panel. You sure do great work Klaus. Thanks for sharing your expertise with us.



# WISCONSIN WOODWORKERS GUILD

**Attention:  
May Meeting  
On FRIDAY  
May 8th**

## Regular Monthly Meeting

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

6:30 to 9:30 PM

Tommy Thompson Youth Center  
at State Fair Park

640 South 84th Street

## Chair Making with Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller is a furniture designer, craftsman, teacher, and author of woodworking books and articles (he's also a former classical musician and a dad). Jeff's furniture has been shown in galleries and shows nationwide, and has won numerous awards. His furniture is in the Decorative Arts Collection of the Chicago History Museum.

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