Ron’s Ramblings

Hello Everyone,

I hope Ron Zdroik sparked a new interest, for you, in a different direction or the possibility of trying something new in woodworking. I’ve seen Ron several times and I always walk away picking up something new. I’ve been interested in staining or dying different woods to see if I could come up with a newer look for a project. Between the piercing, staining, dyeing, and dipping, I should be able to come up with something. Not to mention, air brushing. I’ve never done air brushing, now I have to buy more equipment. That’s a shame! Thanks Ron, for a very interesting program.

If you missed the “Woodworker’ Show”, in Franklin, you missed a fairly decent show.

Being the first year in a new place, it was a little small, but it still had quite a bit of distributors to see. Woodpecker, right next to our booth was not a good thing for me. I controlled myself and only bought one item, this time. It was nice to see the other clubs there and I know the producer of that event wants more groups to come in. I’m hoping more vendors will show up next year, considering parking spots where at a premium and went half way down to Ryan Rd. We signed up 15 new members, looking forward to next year.

Work safe and share your hobby!

Ron Reuter

**Reflections & Surface Embellishments**

Submitted by Leila Crandall-Frink

We were pleased to have Ron Zdroik as our speaker at the March meeting. He showed his art pieces with embellishments like metal leaf, paints, and wood dyes. His work is amazing.

Ron is a Graphic Artist, a Graphic Designer and a Technical Illustrator. During his life he has done lots of wood turning and even built a house. He has been woodturning for 5 years and is now Embellishing the surface of his woodworking projects. Using paints, metal leaf, wood dyes, acrylic materials and adding patinas.

Ron talked about Gold leaf which is pure gold pounded into a flat sheet. That process has been around for 1000’s of years. Gold leaf is pounded down to the thinness of a micron, which Ron said is thinner than a hair which is about 50 microns. He said 1 ounce of gold would give you about a 10 in by 10 in sheet. Not knowing how much an oz of gold costs that doesn’t help, but he said it is very expensive.

Now metal composition leaf is available and is much more cost effective. The metal leaf is mostly made of copper and chemicals are added to make it change colors. He said they make metal leaf in different colors and it can even have a pattern in it. Some metal leaf has a different hue within one sheet. They are sold for $25 per package and there are 25 sheets in a package. Each sheet is thinner than a piece of paper.

To apply metal leaf to a surface you need to put adhesive on the surface and allow it to sit until a slight tack has developed. Ron uses an adhesive called Mona Lisa that he buys at Blick Art Supply. He thought it might be available at Michael’s also. You brush it on a sealed surface being careful not to leave a puddle of adhesive. Your aim is to have it very smooth. It doesn’t take long to dry to a tack.

Then you apply the metal leaf to the surface. He said you can tear it and gently put it down or you can cut it with a very sharp knife. (Continued on page 3)
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Rockler Class Schedule - Tuition assessed

April 4th, 2018 at 1:00 PM, Build your Own Custom Knife
April 6th or 8th, 2018 at 1:00 PM, Build Your Own Custom Turned Handle
April 11th, 2018 at 1:00 PM, Build Your Own Custom Wireless Speaker
April 18th, 2018 at 1:00 PM, Build Your Own Custom Sign

Rockler Demonstrations

4/7/2018 Table Saw Techniques - 11AM
4/14/2018 Moto Saw form Bosch Tools Demo - 11AM
4/21/2018 Template Routing - 11AM

All Rockler classes and demos are held at Rockler Woodworking & Hardware, 1725 S 108th St., West Allis. For further details, call them at 414-774-1882.

Woodcraft Class Schedule - Tuition assessed

Basic Router Techniques, Thur, April 5, 6-9 PM, Instructor: Dan McClanahan
Introduction To The Scroll Saw, Fri, April 13, 5 - 7 PM, Instructor: Dave Hansen
Table Saw Fundamentals, Thursday, April 19, 6 PM - 9 PM, Instructor: Dan McClanahan
Basics Of Spraying With An HVLP, Thursday, April 26, 6 PM - 9 PM, Instructor: Chris Kraemer

Woodcraft Demonstrations

Router Basics, Saturday, April 14, 1 PM
Making a Cutting Board, Saturday, April 21, 1 PM

All Woodcraft classes and demos are held at Woodcraft of Milwaukee: 14115 W. Greenfield Ave., New Berlin. For further details, call them at 262-765-6770.

Friends of the Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild

Homestead Finishing Products, Cleveland, OH (216) 631-5309 www.homesteadfinishing.com
Rockler’s (The Woodworker’s Store) 1725 S 108th St, West Allis, (414) 774-1882
Neu’s Hardware Tools Paint, N95W16915 Falls Parkway, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051, Phone: 262-251-6550

Woodcraft, 14115 W. Greenfield Ave., New Berlin, WI 53151, Phone: (262) 785-6770
Woodline USA (800) 472-6950
MEMBER BENEFIT: Show your Guild Membership Card and enjoy a 10% discount on many items at Rockler’s, Woodcraft and Woodline. Contact stores for details.
Wisconsin Woodworkers' Guild
Board Meeting Briefs

February 22, 2018

Guild Meeting Room, Woodcraft Basement, 6:30 pm start.

ATTENDEES: Ron Reuter, Andy Wagner, Greg Waldo, Ron Pederson, Jay Pilling, Don Doss, Jerry Anson, Jim Schlarb, Jack Zbiegien, Sr.

TREASURY: $8,624.45 balance as of 02-22-18.

MEMBERSHIP: Current paid membership is 97 for 2018. There were 48 members present at the 02-01-18 meeting.

NOTES: Neu’s Woodworkers’ Day participation was confirmed. Summer meeting schedule was reviewed and finalized. Representation and focus of participation in the Woodworking Shows – Milwaukee was reviewed and discussed. Workbench Workshop plans and timing was reviewed and confirmed. Annual dues for new and renewing members was reviewed and will be adjusted.

A reminder that all items for publication in R.I.P.S.A.W. should be sent to both Leila Crandall-Frink (leila.frink@gmail.com) and Don Doss (FourPartHarmony@att.net).

Respectfully Submitted, Jack Zbiegien, Sr.

(Continued from page 1)

sharp knife. He handles it with white gloves. He puts a piece of wax paper over it and burnishes it with a burnishing tool. Any loose pieces of metal leaf will come off or can be brushed off. He cleans the edges with a sharp exacto knife. If there are holes in where the leaf was applied, he said you could add a bit of adhesive and apply the leaf over it. He showed how easily the leaf floats off and can get lost. It is best to brush off the loose leaf over some paper so you can keep it and use it later.

After the piece looks the way you want it you need to put some kind of finish on it. It will protect the leaf from accidentally coming off when people handle it and help it maintain its color. He says Polyurethane is not a good finish because it can take the leaf off.

Ron continued by showing how he applies leaf to an inside curve. He said it helps to go quickly, that there would be overlapping and cracking. If air pockets develop he said to poke them with an exacto knife to let the air out. If need be you can add more adhesive to fill a hole. You can sand off or put adhesive down and add more leaf over it. You need to try to match the color if you do that.

After the break Ron did a quick demo of how he applies wood dye using an air brush. He said you get more control for intensity of color and blending colors by using an air brush. He uses water based dyes that come in a powdered form. He likes a dye called Transtint Dye.

He rotates and spins the item being dyed as he air brushes it. If the item is larger, he does it on the lathe as its slowest speed. When he changes colors in the airbrush he rinses with water first. He said you can put a topcoat on with the airbrush. He uses varnish mixed 1 to 1 with an airbrush medium. His airbrush is ca a Wata Air Brush and he has been using it for 40 years.

Ron said you can use paint with the airbrush, but he wants to show the grain of the wood, so he does not. He did show how you can make a marbling effect by using enamel paint dropped on water, then using a needle too twirled around to make a pattern.

All really interesting and inspiring information Ron. Thank you for your presentation.

Just Some Thoughts

Submitted by Jay Pilling

April: LAST CALL FOR OSKHOSH TOUR! April 18 Tour of Oshkosh Design

June: We need 5-6 talented people for June Round Table Meeting, some new ideas and people are needed, those who have been looking on for many years, please offer us your talents.

July: SHOW N’ TELL start rounding up your jigs & fixtures, great projects & the not so projects, problems- you solved or problems you need some answers too. All ideas, solutions and TRICKS, you know will be of help to us as a guild.

About Tours!!! As I look back on the tours, they have all had a profound effect on me and others. The upshot of going on these tours has brought many new ideas that we share as a guild. The Amish tours, keeps coming up all the time, so I just want to share how much this part of being in the guild is worth. The ideas one sees on these tours is wonderful, not only the experience, but the knowledge one gains. So lets have some FUN and get smart at the same time.
Building Workbenches
A group of members are meeting at Woodcraft to make workbenches for the guild. The objective of this part of the workshop was to prepare and glue up the solid top laminations for two of the benches. The group was very successful. The rough glue-ups now move to thickness and dimensioning steps off-site, and then return for final trimming. The next phase of the workshop will be to prepare the stock and construct the bases. Below are pictures of the milling operations. The participants included Mike Prebish, Gary Shadley, Eric Novak, Tom Masnica, Ron Reuter, Andy Wagner, Ron Pederson, and Jack Zbiegien. Our Guild gives special thanks to Chris Kraemer and Woodcraft for the use of space and equipment to do this project!!

SILENT AUCTION
Be sure to check out all the new treasures Jim has put out for January. Going, going, GONE!!

Items in the auction are donated by members and friends of the Guild. Smaller items can be brought in; items too large to bring in will have a picture and detailed description.

Bidding is open to members and non-members. Items will be awarded to the highest bidder. Any donated item that doesn’t receive bids by break-time of the second meeting will either be moved to the monthly raffle program or returned to the donor.

Proceeds from the auction go directly to the Guild to help cover the cost of educational activities such as workshops, seminars, lectures and exhibits.

LOCAL WORKSHOP TOURS CONTINUING
Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild is continuing to tour member’s woodworking shops. Thanks to Jim Matthew for stepping up to do the video recording and to Jay Pilling for organizing everything. Currently, Jay has five of our members who have already had their shops toured.

Recordings of the tours will be shown at upcoming WWG meeting. The first recording to be shown will be of Jim Schlarb’s shop which will happen at our January meeting. This presentation will be using a format that will allow questions from the audience during the playback. If necessary, the playback will be stopped to address questions.

For security reasons, recordings will NOT be made part of anything that goes outside the Guild. That limitation is specifically directed at any possibility of it going on the Internet. It won’t!!

Touring of club-member workshops have been suggested by many members. Thanks to the number of members who have volunteered their shops for touring, it is conceivable that this may be an ongoing project. Tours of a few workshops might take place each year during the spring through fall timeframe and then shown at a January, February or March meeting. Although seeing a shop that is impeccably appointed will likely be of interest, the primary goal is to provide insight so that our members who may have limited space and/or limited resources can discover ways they can enjoy this wonderful hobby within their limitations. If you have any suggestions, please talk to Jay.

Respectfully, Your Board of Directors
### Woodworking Clubs in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois

- **Badger Woodturners Club, Madison:** First Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm. [badgerwoodturners.org](http://badgerwoodturners.org)
- **Blackhawk Carving Club, Wednesdays:** 8:30 - 11am, Ken-Rock Community Center, 3218 11th St., Rockford, IL. [blackhawkcarving.com](http://blackhawkcarving.com)
- **Capital Area Carvers, Madison, WI:** Second Tuesday of each month, 7pm. [capitalareacarversofwisconsin.org](http://capitalareacarversofwisconsin.org)
- **DuPage Woodworkers, Glen Ellyn, IL:** Fourth Wednesday each month except July, 7pm. [dupagewoodworkers.com](http://dupagewoodworkers.com).
- **Fox Valley Woodworking Club, Batavia, IL:** First Tuesday of each month, 7:30pm; [fwwcc.org](http://fwwcc.org)
- **Kettle Karvers Club, Plymouth, WI:** First Wednesday each month, 6:30pm, Generations, 1500 Douglas Dr., in the Masters Gallery Foods room, Plymouth, WI. See website for other dates and times. [kettlekarvers.org](http://kettlekarvers.org)
- **Lake Country Carvers, Oconomowoc, WI:** monthly, second Thurs. 5:30pm; Ray Burow, 920-474-4075 [madwoodworkers@yahoogroup.com](mailto:madwoodworkers@yahoogroup.com)
- **Mid-Wisconsin Chippers, Neenah, WI:** First Sunday each month 1:30pm; [mwchippers@gmail.com](mailto:mwchippers@gmail.com)
- **Milwaukee Area Woodturners (MAWt), metro-Milwaukee, WI:** First Monday each month 6:30pm, Woodcraft of Milwaukee; [mawturners.com](http://mawturners.com)
- **Northeast Wisconsin Woodturners, Neenah, WI:** Second Saturday, Sept. thru June, 9am. [NEWWoodturners.org](http://NEWWoodturners.org)
- **Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild, Green Bay.** Third Wednesday each month, 7pm. [newwg.org](http://newwg.org)
- **River Bend Carving Club, Racine, WI:** First & third Saturdays of the month, 9:30 - 11:30 am. $3/student, 3600 N. Green Bay Rd., Racine. [www.riverbendracine.org](http://www.riverbendracine.org)
- **Rock River Valley Carvers, Janesville;** First Thursday of each month, 7pm; [rockrivervalleycarvers.com](http://rockrivervalleycarvers.com)
- **West Allis Woodworkers Club, West Allis, WI:** Art Kastner, President at 414-476-9902
- **International Association of Penturners (IAP), Wisconsin Chapter,** meets as needed at Woodcraft of Milwaukee, Lower Level; [penturners.org](http://penturners.org)
- **Wilson Park Woodcarvers & Woodburners, Milwaukee, Wednesdays:** 8:30am - Noon, Wilson Park Senior Center, 2601 W. Howard Ave., Ed Thomas, 414-427-8256
- **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers, Stevens Point, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month, 6pm - 9pm, The Lincoln Center, 1519 Water St.** [www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org](http://www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org)
- **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers, Wisconsin Rapids, Wednesdays, 6pm - 9pm, First Congregational Church, 311 2nd St. South** [www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org](http://www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org)
- **Wisconsin Valley Woodturners, Wausau, WI:** First Thursday of each month, 7pm. [wisconsinvalleywoodturners.org](http://wisconsinvalleywoodturners.org)
- **Wisconsin Wood Turners (WWT), AAW Member, Eric Meigs, President, wisconsinwoodturner.com,** First Saturday each month, 9am, Woodcraft of Milwaukee, Lower Level.

The accuracy of the above information is not guaranteed. If you would like to attend a meeting, be sure to use the contact information and get confirmation. Also, if you spot any errors or changes, please send corrections to Don Doss at FourPartHarmony@att.net. Thank you!
FROM THE LIBRARY

I’ve noticed some of our library books have been out for several months. If you are still reading them, just stop by and let me know you still want them. If you’re not sure you have one out, check with me. Keep in mind, someone else may be looking for that book.

Our cabinets are getting full and the extra weight is starting to cause them to sag. Ron hopes to present a new cabinet design to the board. Once approved, he’ll be looking for help to build them (hint, hint!).

Chris Reuter, Librarian

FREE LISTING!

Does your club have a special event coming up in Wisconsin or northern Illinois? If so, let us know! Send the announcement by e-mail to both Leila Crandall-Frink at leila.frink@gmail.com and Don Doss at fourpartharmony@att.net. Or give us a type-written or hand-written note with all the details at a meeting.

We reserve the right to edit what you provide but we’ll clear it with you before going to ‘press’ to be sure it includes all pertinent details.
**Robust Shop Tour**

On March 14th, several Milwaukee area woodworking and woodturning club members toured the Robust wood lathe factory in Barneveld, Wisconsin. The facility was founded and is owned by Brent English and his wife.

The tour started in the final assembly area where we saw several lathes being readied for shipment.

We then moved onto a laser engraving machine. It was engraving the Robust name onto some lathe chisel handles.

From the laser, we went to the welding shop. All units are hand welded. Once welded, the basic lathe bed is readied and sent out for power coating. After returning, the lathe bed receives its final machining. The headstock is received already machined.

Robust has several CNC (Computer Numerically Controlled) machines. We observed one of the machines in action machining a part for the Robust live center.

One unique feature of the Robust lathes is a lock out relay that will not allow the lathe to be turned on when the lathe spindle lock is engaged. All electrical motors receive a 100% inspection before going on a lathe.

The lathe featured in the picture is the Robust Scout. It is one of the newest models developed at Robust.

*Submitted by Tom Hipsak*

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**CALLING ALL WOULD-BE JOURNALISTS**

*Many thanks to Greg Wernisch for submitting the Reflections and Show ‘n Tell articles this month! If you have anything for publication in R.I.P.S.A.W., please send to both Leila Crandall-Frink (leila.frink@gmail.com) and Don Doss (FourPartHarmony@att.net). E-mail is preferred. However you can also submit your printed or handwritten copy to either of us at a meeting. And if you have Microsoft Publisher and you’d like to try your hand at publishing our newsletter for a month, please let us know!*

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**Maker Faire Milwaukee**

Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do. From engineers to artists to scientists to crafters, Maker Faire is a venue for these “makers” to show hobbies, experiments, projects. We call it the Greatest Show & Tell on Earth - a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness. Glimpse the future and get inspired!

Maker Faire showcases the “maker movement,” a growing global community of do-it-yourselfers that is pushing the boundaries of creativity, product development and manufacturing through technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Maker Faire Milwaukee will take place at State Fair Park’s Exposition Center on Saturday, September 29th, 10am-7pm and on Sunday, September 30th, 10am-5pm.
The pictures above are of Ron Zdroik preparing his wood and applying metal leaf to a flat piece and then a curved piece. Then of his demonstration of dyeing with an air brush. Below are examples he brought to show of his art work, including metal leaf, dye on projects, marbling and paint. All his work is beautiful! Thanks to Dave Drickhammer for the pictures.
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YOUR MILWAUKEE AREA WOODCRAFT STORE HAS BEEN FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1999
Upcoming Programs & Events. Regular meetings start at 6:30pm and end by 8:30pm. Please depart Woodcraft no later than 9:00pm.

Apr 5, 2018  Bob Dickey, an accomplished box maker, is doing the April presentation on boxes. He will include a demo of how he makes ring bars. A difficult but beautiful addition to a jewelry box. He will also demo how he uses AquaCoat waterbased filler. We have had Bob do a presentation in the past and always are awed by his work, and learn something new every time. Bob Dickeys’ websites are: www.woodnonline.com and www.artnabox.com

Apr 18, 2018  Tour of Oshkosh Designs 1:30 PM, in Winneconne, WI

May 3, 2018  Habitat for Humanity / ReStore - Walt Weiler & Nichali Ciaccio, Deconstruction Services

June 7, 2018  Annual Round Table of Demonstrations from Members, still looking for a few extra people to Demonstrate

July 5, 2018  Annual SHOW-N-TELL by Members, Jigs & Fixtures, Projects, Problems solved or Not. Always a favorite meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jay Pilling, Program Director