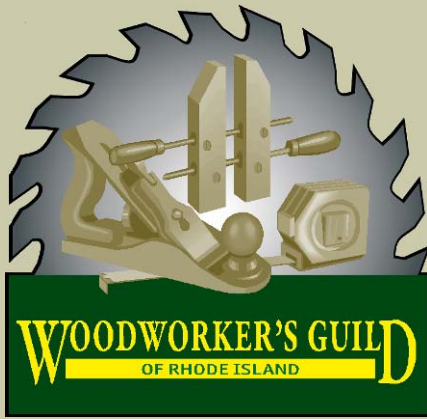


Shavings

By The
Woodworker's Guild of Rhode Island
Volume 14 Issue 6 June 2010



“Too many men work on parts of things. Doing a job to completion satisfies me.”

- Dick Proenneke

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Announcements

- ❖ 2010 Meeting Dates
 - ~ May 5th - Archery Bow Making
 - ~ June 2nd - 2nd Annual WWGRI Tool Auction
 - ~ July - No Meeting
 - ~ August 4th
 - ~ September 1st
 - ~ October 6th
 - ~ November 3rd
 - ~ December 1st

A Message from the Officers

Hi All,

This is my first pass as the editor of the newsletter. I'd like to take a moment to thank our Henry Allsworth for the work he has done on the newsletter. While it is a daunting task, it has been made far easier as a result of the preparatory work done by Henry in the past few years. I look forward to working with all of you as contributors. I'd ask each of you to share your projects, successes, goofs, and other thoughts. Your submissions do not have to be fancy, just a simple outline and I'll take it from there.

As a relatively new woodworker I'd enjoy it if we could share opinions of your recent purchases. I know in the past a number of members have reviewed recent acquisitions and it has removed any fear in purchasing that item for my own shop.

Thanks,
Jeff Arsenault

UPCOMING MEETINGS!

Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 PM, except for the month of July, and are located at the North Scituate Community House, West Greenville Rd, North Scituate, RI 02857

June 2010 –2nd Annual Tool Auction - Wed June 2nd, Registration at 6:30, Auction at 7:00 PM

There is still time to submit items for our upcoming auction. We will accept submissions as late as the night of auction. Get out your brooms and clean out your shops.

July 2010 – Summer Recess – No Meeting Scheduled

The WWGRI members do not hold a formal meeting in July but members should feel free to invite others to their shops and share techniques, tools and enjoy each other's company. It's always a good time to connect with others and learn something new, especially if their shop is air conditioned...

Guild Officers for 2010-2011			Guild Addresses
President	John Pietrella	johnpietrella@gmail.com	<i>Mailing Address:</i> Woodworker's Guild of RI PO BOX 520 No. Scituate, RI 02857 <i>Web Address:</i> http://www.wwgri.org <i>Meeting Address:</i> No. Scituate Community House W. Greenville Rd/RI-116 No. Scituate, RI 02857
Vice President	Jeff Arsenault	jeffreya223@gmail.com	
Secretary	Dave Wudyka	djwudyka@comcast.net	
Treasurer	Jack Keach	keach@cox.net	
Past President	Peter Silvestre	psilvestre@comcast.net	
Guild Committees and Programs			
Programs Director	Bob Fontenault	bfontenault1@cox.net	
Promotions Director	Paul Morrissey	pmjr30@verizon.net	
Hospitality	Lynn Hosford	tempsleve@cox.net	
	David Rinebolt	aquent@cox.net	
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WWGRI NEWS:

- ❖ **2nd Annual WWGRI Tool Auction** – In lieu of the regular meeting in June, the guild will hold a tool auction for members, friends and family. We will have refreshments, a 50/50 raffle and some surprise items. The auction will not be publicized but will be open to anyone wishing to attend. (Members of the Ocean Woodturners have been invited)

The general idea behind the auction is that most woodworkers have items in their shop that they wish to get rid of because they have upgraded, do not use them any longer would like to sell one tool to spend on another. This would give everyone an easy opportunity to sell these items and to purchase other items that they have been looking for.

We will pre-register items to be sold so that we can identify how many items we will have in advance of the auction. In addition this will allow us to quickly handle these items on the night of the auction. A registration form is will be available in each month's newsletter (*On the last page*) in May, as well as on the guild web site. Registration forms can be done in paper format or e-mailed to John at johnpietrella@comcast.net.

Anyone listing an item to be auctioned will supply a minimum sale price. If this minimum price is not met the item will be returned. Large items such as lathes can be listed for sale and sold using a photograph and detailed description of the item. On the night of the auction all items will receive an item number which will be registered to the seller. All items will be put out for brief inspection prior to the auction.

Bidders will receive a bidder number and placard on the night of the auction. All items will be paid for at the end of the auction. Checks will be accepted from members only all others must transact in cash. Sellers will receive their payment for the items sold by mail within 2 weeks after the auction. The guild will retain a 10% fee from each sale to be added to the guild treasury.

Note: Auction form attached at the end of the newsletter or you can submit your items at the next two meetings, forms will be provided.

- ❖ **Guitar Building**

Dave Wudyka is assembling information and details to put together an acoustic guitar construction class. Let Dave know if you are interested and to share your ideas and preferences.

- ❖ **Woodworker's Symposium**

Paul Morrissey and Dave Wudyka are working to begin organization for a woodworker's symposium hosted by the guild and its business partners. Nationally known woodworkers will teach and lecture and manufacturers will demonstrate their tools and accessories. If you are interested in helping to organize please contact Paul or Dave.

- ❖ **Articles Wanted!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Please to take the time to tell us about a new or past project or woodworking story to publish in "Shavings". Our newsletter is a place to share stories, photos and information so take the time to submit an article.

May 2010 Meeting Recap:

By Bob Fontenault

The May presentation took a turn from conventional woodworking to explore a craft which has not changed much through the ages. The guild was thoroughly entertained and whit fully informed for about 1 1/2 hours, through the natural presentation skills of Tony Teolis and Mike Dmytryshyn, members of the Narragansett Bow Hunters Association. Gene White, President of the group, who also assisted with the presentation, and can be credited with this event taking place. Gene was my source for finding local builders of archery equipment.

The threesome told their varied stories of how they got into archery, bow making, and shared a wealth of historic information of how the bow and arrow helped shape the course of civilization. They also shared how battles were won and lost through the use of the bow and arrow. Mike was especially entertaining with his explanation of sinew, it's interaction with water (saliva), and the strengthening affects it had on the equipment.

Overall, this presentation was well received and enjoyed by the group. Personally, I have a renewed interest in a hobby that I enjoyed in my adolescent years, and hope to return to it soon!



Gene White



Mike Dmytryshyn



Tony Teolis

The Chair Challenge

My latest project stems from my desire to “try new things”. I had never built a chair before so I decided to take a chair design class at Keeseh Studio. After learning some of the parameters of designing a chair such as heights, depths, seat types etc. I considered styles and how I might put my own twist on some classic chair designs. The basis for my design is a Dutch modern chair. I decided that I would use this design as a reason to use methods of construction that I have read about and studied but not actually put to use. For starters I own a lathe but had not turned anything, so the legs would be turned round. I had taken an inlay class but had not built banding or performed inlay, so the aprons would be inlaid with a banding that I would make. I had never worked with European beech but have been told that it is a great material, consistent in texture and color, so I chose this as my material. The Dutch modern chair has a U shaped wrap around integral back and arms so this was a good opportunity to hand carve the back and arms, which I also have never done. In designing the chair I decided that I liked the look of the front legs being further apart than the rear legs and the seat being sloped back. This made for complex angles where the aprons meet the legs, and you guessed it I have never done joinery out of square. After looking at all of these decisions I decided that a floating tenon system may be best for the joinery, I accomplished this by use of a Festool Domino machine which I had never used.

At this point I knew that if I was going to screw this thing up it would be a “Big” screw up so I started in on figuring how this all would work. I first got photos of many chairs to look at and examine, took dimensions of chairs at work and at home and decided upon the measurements for the chair that I would build. My engineering background served me well when I drew plan and perspective drawings of my chair and figured out the angles, for the joinery, mathematically. I decided to skip building any kind of prototype or mock up in the interest of time and purchased the required lumber. After milling the lumber to size I started out building feeling my way through much of the process doing things that I had never done like cutting a large bridal joint using a dozuki saw to join the arms and back of the chair, creating a template to allow me to turn all the legs to identical profiles, cutting angled mortises and building floating tenons.

In the end the final details of my chair fell into place. I built an upholstered seat, applied a bush oil finish and branded my name underneath (the brand a Christmas gift from my son). Now the final product is far from perfect and many times I had to discard parts and rebuild but I am proud of the final result. What is more important is that during the process of designing and building this chair I left my comfort zone in woodworking, over and over again. The result of this is that I now have many new skills that I didn't have when this project started and a new confidence with many of my tools. I have learned that building a

model of the piece can save time in the end by bringing to light what angles might not work and allowing a glimpse at the geometry of the final piece before wasting valuable materials and time in revisions to the real item.

I highly recommend taking on a project that you are uncomfortable with and testing the limits of your woodworking knowledge. The benefits are many. I did not set a time line for myself on this project and decided to remove the stress of having to complete this piece in a prescribed time. I viewed this as a learning experience. This allowed me to try things one way and if this did not work well, to do it again another way, slowly developing my own methods and skills. I think like in other parts of our lives we have the tendency to seek our comfort zone and to avoid new territories. It is necessary to mess a few things up to allow you to seek the answers about how it is done correctly. So set your fears aside and take on something new!

John P. Pietrella

Woodworking Summer Employment Opportunity

This offer came to us through the Guild's e-mail:

Rhode Island Woodworkers,

My name is Jared Dubin and I am the Assistant Director of Camp Cobbossee, one of the most historic summer camps in the country. I'm writing to you in hopes of sharing an exciting employment opportunity with you and the members of your organization.

Camp Cobbossee is an all boys sports camp located in Monmouth, Maine. We have been a leader in the camping industry since our first summer in 1902 and are located on approximately 125 acres of pristine Maine wilderness, as well as on over ½ mile of Lake Cobbossee waterfront. We are more diverse than the average camp, representing over 20 different states and 10 countries. We are known for our extensive sports program, particularly our tennis, waterskiing/wakeboarding, basketball, and baseball. In addition, we also offer first class instruction in lacrosse, soccer, football, swimming, technical climbing, and golf. We are also very proud of our array of hobbies that allow our campers to enjoy a complete camping experience. The woodshop has become very popular in recent years, and has benefited from the 600 sq. ft. addition which was built in 2009. Campers are also able to participate in traditional camping activities like fishing, canoeing, archery, hiking, and camping.

As the only 4-week boys camp in Maine, we offer a unique opportunity for boys to come experience everything Maine camping has to offer in just 4 weeks. Regardless of which

session our boys attend, they are having the same beginning, middle, and end as those who attend the other. This ensures that we are giving the same quality program each session, and no boys feel like they “missed out” on anything.

Our woodshop has become arguably the most popular hobby at camp. We have every “toy” you would ever want or need in a shop, including table saws, drill presses, lathes, and compucarves. The most popular project the boys typically work on is baseball bats. For the older boys, we bring in blanks from Louisville Slugger and have them make full size MLB bats. In the past, boys have also put together some pretty impressive projects including poker tables, clocks, and mini-foosball tables. There really is no limit to what is possible in our woodshop and we are very proud to offer the experience to our boys as it is such an important life skill. Obviously, we’re a far cry from your typical “glue and popsicle sticks” shop that you find at a lot of other places.

We are more than happy to make arrangements for anyone with children or spouses. A number of our other staff bring their children to camp, some of whom are campers and others who are not quite old enough. Our sister camp, Camp Kippewa for girls, is approximately ½ mile down the road and we participate in various activities with them about every 4-5 days.

Please feel free to share this e-mail with anyone you think might be interested in the position. We would need someone who could commit to work at camp from roughly mid-June through mid-August. The **salary** package varies slightly based on experience but will certainly include **travel expenses, room + board**, etc.

The opportunity to escape to Maine for the summer is obviously very special. Additionally, I can tell you that our kids are pretty incredible as well. They’re great kids and are very eager to spend time in the woodshop to learn, build, and explore. Most of them have never had the opportunity to spend time working in a shop and they are ready and willing to learn from someone. We’re hoping someone who reads this e-mail can provide the experience our boys are looking for!

My contact information is listed below and I am available anytime. Please contact me with any questions!

Best Wishes,

Jared

jared@cobbossee.com

Grampa's Woodworking Wisdom

If you're like me, you probably enjoy bumping around the internet looking at woodworking sites. Personally, I enjoy it because I always find inspiration or ideas for projects that I'd not considered before. I'll pick up a little bit here, a little bit there, and so on.

For instance, one site that I recently ran across is by a man named Don Firth from Toronto, Ontario, appropriately named [Grampa's Workshop](#). It's not a slick site overloaded with a bunch of "free woodworking plans" or excessive links to tool suppliers like you see so many other places; it's merely a site where a proud woodworker has posted pictures and little nuggets about his woodworking experiences and projects he has built for his family. One such nugget Don mentions, in his Safety First section, is one we should all be wise to remember:

"If it feels a little dangerous, it probably is. Find another safer way to accomplish the task."

I couldn't have said it better myself. We all have that "sixth sense" in the back of our minds that tells us when we might be doing something that we should reconsider. Learning to listen and adhere to the advice of that sixth sense can be the difficult part. However, if we learn to pay attention to those little feelings when they occur, we may be able to avoid potential problems before they occur.

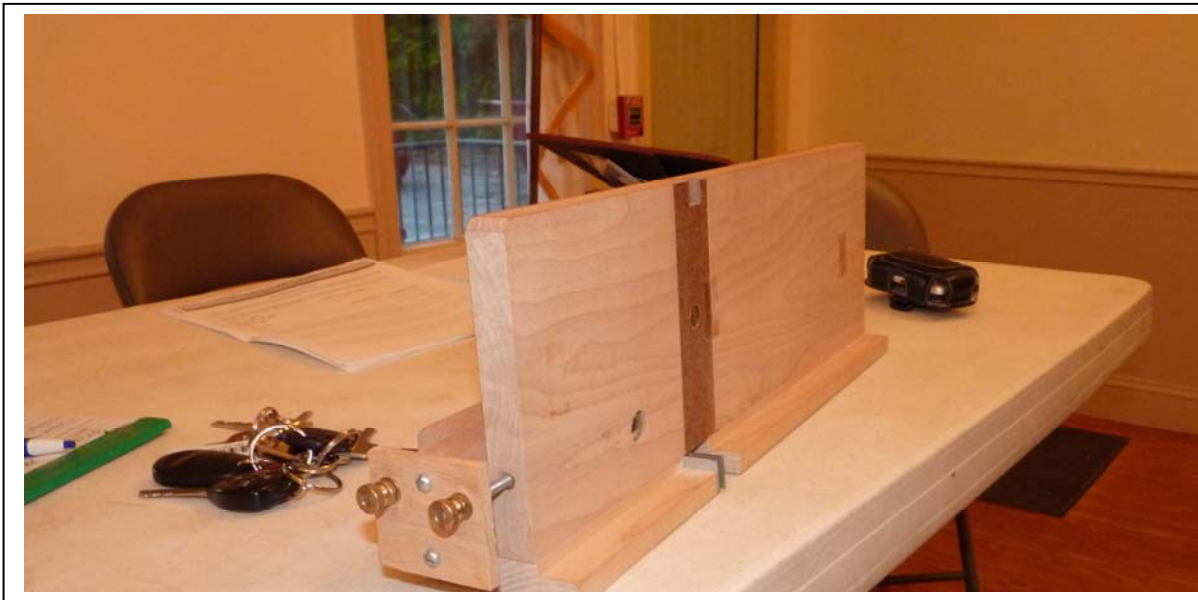
Send your favorite piece of "woodworking wisdom" to us so we can publish it here in shavings for other members to enjoy.

Member Gallery:



Birdhouse by Chris Horn

Member Gallery continued:



Box Joint Making Jig and
Clock
By
Chris Horn



Off-Cuts:

❖ **Woodworking Classes Available at Keeseh Studio – Summer 2010 Courses Now Available**

The following classes are available at Keeseh Studio. For full class details go to

http://keeseh.com/?page_id=9 Keeseh Studio is located at 999 Main Street, Suite 701

Pawtucket, RI (248) 877-4425 - <http://www.keesehstudio.com> , email: info@keesehstudio.com.

Blog: www.keesh.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Keeseh-Studio/356389934172>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/keeseh>

Upcoming Open Studio times will be the first Tuesday of each month, 6-8pm.

SUMMER COURSES HAVE ARRIVED!

Intro to Woodshop Hand Tools - Length: 6 classes, 2.5 hours each, Price: \$225+\$30 Material Fee, Instructor: John Pietrella, Time: Tuesdays, 7pm – 930pm Dates: June 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13

Intro to Woodshop Machinery - Length: 8 classes, 2.5 hours each, Price: \$295+\$20 Material Fee, Instructor: Lauren Lake, Time: Sundays, 630pm – 9pm Dates: June 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15

We Build What We Eat - Length: 9 classes, 2.5 hours each, Price: \$295+\$30 Material Fee, Instructor: Steven Butler, Time: Wednesday, 7pm – 9pm Dates: June 16, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11, 18

Table Manners - Length: 9 classes, 2.5 hours each, Price: \$295+\$30 Material Fee, Instructor: Steven Butler, Time: Mondays, 7pm – 9pm Dates: June 17, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12, 19

Jump Start Woodworking - Length: 1 class, 4 hours, Price: \$75, Instructor: Asher Dunn, Session 1: Saturday, 1pm – 5pm Date: June 26, Session 2: Saturday, 1pm – 5pm Date: July 24

Electric Guitar Building - Length: 6 classes, 2.5 hours each, Price: \$225+\$160 Material Fee, Instructor: Nick Holcomb, Time: Mondays, 630pm – 9pm Dates: June 28, July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 9

Wood Turning - Students are required to take one of these beginner workshops before taking the next level Bowl Turning workshops in the fall.

Spinning Top - Time: Saturday, 10am – 1pm Dates: June 19 Price: \$75

Bottle Stopper - Time: Saturday, 10am – 1pm Dates: July 17 Price: \$75

Honey Dipper - Time: Tuesday, 6pm – 9pm Dates: July 20 Price: \$75

Spatula - Time: Monday, 6pm – 9pm Dates: August 23 Price: \$75

Digital Fabrication - Length: 7 classes, 2 hours each, Price:\$295+\$30 Material Fee, Instructor: Asher Dunn

Time: Fridays, 7pm – 9pm Dates: June 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6

In addition to our regular offerings, Keeseh has a few classes in the works for the Fall and we'd like your feedback...

Kayak Construction - Students will use the Stitch-n-glue method to construct their own Kayaks. Students will leave the class with fully completed kayaks ready for the water. 10 classes, 4 hours each, \$575+\$500 Material Fee.

Acoustic Guitar Building - Instructor demonstrations will guide students through the construction process. Students will leave the class with beautiful looking and sounding instruments. 10 classes, 3 hours each, \$425+\$500 Material Fee.

Iron Casting - In this class students will learn how to make wooden casting forms. Participants will work closely with a local foundry to have their forms molded and cast in iron. 8 classes, 3 hours each, \$325+\$500 Material Fee.

