



Shavings

By The
Woodworker's Guild of Rhode Island
Volume 13 Issue 8 September 2009
<http://www.wwgri.org>



"We must guard our enthusiasm as we would our life".

- James Krenov

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Announcements

- ❖ September 2nd Meeting – Jerry Kelley – Tunnels and Trains
- ❖ October 7th Meeting – Turning Presentation
- ❖ November 4th Meeting – TBD
- ❖ December 2nd Meeting – 2009 Holiday Party

A Message from the Officers

Well, summer is quickly coming to a close our shops are cooling down and fall events are approaching. The Guild will soon participate in the Scituate Arts Fest which has been, historically, one of the best vehicles for public exposure and membership. Anyone who hasn't yet participated is missing a great time so get your name on the sign up list and come join us.

The Guild has had an especially fruitful year with increase in membership, a healthy treasury and interesting speakers and events. We encourage all members to think about stepping forward for a short time and participate in running the Guild as an officer or committee member.

The Library is in process of being overhauled and that Committee will soon present its recommendations for changes which would be instituted in 2010. Hopefully these recommendations will improve access and content as well as providing for continual improvement. The Library is an underutilized resource which hopefully will become more of an asset as time goes on.

Our partners at Keesh Studio have been offering many interesting classes at a discount to members. If you haven't taken a look yet, you should. See you on September 2nd at the monthly meeting and don't forget to bring your show and tell items.

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 No. Scituate Community House, W. Greenville Rd, No. Scituate, RI 02857

September 2009 –Tunnels and Trains - Wednesday September 2nd, 7:00 PM

Presented by Jerry Kelley

Septembers presentation will be a little out of the ordinary in that it will be of interest both to wood workers interested in modeling and also people interested in local railroad construction history. Jerry will be giving a short talk on the Hoosac Lining Towers and the survey that contributed to the successful completion of the railroad tunnel in Western Massachusetts over a century ago. He will also discuss his model building, specifically his work on “scratch-building” and construction using wooden “craftsman” kits. Several samples of his work on diorama, boat and train models will be exhibited from his store of completed models.

Jerry Kelley is an avid rail fan and Hoosac Tunnel historian whose life-long interest prompted him to create the website, *Hoosac Tunnel Then and Now*. His work has been showcased in *Railfan & Railroad* magazine and National Public Radio’s “Engines of Our Ingenuity” series. He also assisted the History Channel with Hoosac lore for the popular *Modern Marvels* show “Drilling.” He has recently authored an article on the Hoosac Lining Towers for the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Societies’ *Bulletin* Magazine. Jerry lives outside of Boston with his wife Gayle and works for NSTAR Electric and Gas as a Licensed Electrician.

Guild Officers for 2008-2009

President	John Pietrella	johnpietrella@gmail.com
Vice President	Dave Wudyka	djwudyka@comcast.net
Secretary	Barry Rubenstein	barry@barrysboxes.com
Treasurer	Jack Keach	keach@cox.net

Guild Committees and Programs

Programs Director	Bob Fontenault	bfontenault1@cox.net
Promotions Director	Paul Morrissey	pmjr30@verizon.net
Hospitality	John Heaney	heaney@solidobject.com
Newsletter/Website	Henry Allsworth	henry@allsworth.com

Guild Addresses

Mailing Address:

Woodworker’s Guild of RI
PO BOX 520
No. Scituate, RI 02857

Web Address:

<http://www.wwgri.org>

Meeting Address:

No. Scituate Community House
W. Greenville Rd/RI-116
No. Scituate, RI 02857

WWGRI NEWS:

- ❖ **2010/2011 Election of Officers** - At the September meeting we will discuss upcoming election of officers for 2010/2011. There are basically four elected positions including President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. These positions are now held by John Pietrella, Dave Wudyka, Jack Keach and Barry Rubenstein. All positions are for a two year term.

This year we will take nominations by e-mail from September 3 through September 30. Nominations will be sent directly to the Secretary (Barry Rubenstein at barry@barrysboxes.com) Members can nominate new candidates, existing officers or themselves. At the October meeting additional nominations can also be offered up. We will ask prospective candidates at the meeting if they will accept the nomination and a vote will be held.

This will allow the existing officers to meet with new officers in November for a smooth transition in January of 2010.

- ❖ **Scituate Art Fest – October, Columbus Day Weekend** - Once again the Guild will be participating in the Annual Scituate Art Fest. You are missing a real treat if you have never attended. There are many booths with items for sale, music, and food. The Guild sets up a booth displaying member's work and has demos including turning, scroll saw, and carving.

Ed Charpentier will once again be the chairman and will be taking sign-ups for members wishing to do demos, show their work or be good will ambassadors. Their will be information and sign up sheets available at the September meeting.

August Meeting Recap:

In August we met off site in the shop of Bill Bovina who is one of the owners of “Hardwood Design” (<http://www.hardwooddesign.com/>). Bill’s company designs, manufactures and installs spiral staircases and make specialty parts for stair construction.

Bill put on a slide demonstration to demonstrate some recent fabrications and installations. We then were treated to a demonstration of a fully functional CNC router and custom vacuum table. The machine was computer controlled and self changed bits in the process. We saw a stair tread fabrication as well as other 3 dimensional parts of the stairway being produced. The shop is located in Exeter Rhode Island and is an old mill building. The main office has an outstanding waterfall view.





Resources:

In this column, we will feature either a project, source of lumber, or source of reference each month. Any wishing to contribute to this column is more than welcome. Please forward any writings to: wwguildri@yahoo.com

Wax Eloquent: Make Your Own Wax

Highland Hardware's Home Brew Wax Recipe

by Chris Black

Over the counter paste wax is perfectly acceptable, but cooking your own furniture wax makes you appear privy to the jealously guarded secrets of historic guilds. Your friends will beg you for the mysterious recipe and you can act aloof (then share it with them).

The Basic Recipe

- 1/4 Lb [1/4 Lb. Carnauba Wax](#) (flakes or granules)
- 1 Lb [Beeswax](#) (flakes or granules)
- 1 Metal Soup Can
- 1 Qt Turpentine
- 1 Lb [Rottenstone](#) (Optional)
- 1 Tube [Universal Tinting Color](#) (Optional)

Start by putting 1 part carnauba wax in the soup can, then place the wax filled can in a pot of hot water and slowly heat until the wax is melted (approximately 185° F.) Once the carnauba wax has melted, remove the can from the heat (it's hot, use some pliers) and add 4 parts beeswax and enough turpentine to cover the mixture. Mix thoroughly, move into an appropriate storage container and let cool.

Optional Extras

Wax is a versatile finish and you can modify the basic recipe in many ways. Here are a few we've used.

1. To make a thinner wax, add more turpentine during the mixing step.
2. To make a thicker wax, add more beeswax during the mixing step. (Don't thicken with carnauba wax—it takes too long to dissolve.)
3. To make a harder wax, use a larger proportion of carnauba wax from the beginning.
4. To make a softer wax, use a larger proportion of beeswax from the beginning.
5. Add universal tinting color after mixing to get any color wax you desire.
6. Add a little rottenstone to make a fine polish for buffing out scratches and dull finishes.

OFF-CUTS:

❖ Woodworking Classes Available at Keeseh Studio

The following classes are available at Keeseh Studio. They are located at 999 Main Street, Suite 701 Pawtucket, RI (248) 877-4425 - <http://www.keesehstudio.com> , email: info@keesehstudio.com.

Classic Membership **NEW**

Want to make a table? Chair? Shelving? This membership is geared towards those who have had some instruction in woodworking or may currently be in one of Keeseh's courses. This membership provides an opportunity for individuals to learn from experienced woodworkers, have an opportunity to gain assistance in developing projects, and/or simply gain access to machinery or tools that you may not own at home. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month from 6-9pm. \$45 per month

Course Updates

- Intro to Woodshop Hand Tools – 8 Classes, 2 Hrs ea, Sundays Oct 4th – Nov 22nd, \$925
- Intro to Woodshop Machinery – 8 Classes, 2.5 Hrs ea, Sundays Sep 20th – Nov 8th, \$295
- Bent Lamination – 8 Classes, 2 Hrs ea, Sundays Oct 4th – Nov 22nd, \$315
- Woodworking for your Kitchen – 9 Classes, 2 Hrs ea, Oct 7th – Dec 9th, \$315
- Advanced Woodshop Experience – 8 Classes, 2 Hrs ea, Sep 30th – Nov 18th, \$295

❖ Oktoberfest Party – Woodcraft, East Greenwich, RI – October 24th, 2009

Woodcraft will be holding their annual Oktoberfest party on October 24th, 2008. There will be demonstrations by various woodworkers and clubs, finished projects on display, some vendor representatives, food and drinks. Volunteers are needed for WWGRI representations, if interested speak to John regarding details. It's a great way to give back to Woodcraft and strengthen our partnership. Aaron will be posting details to the Woodcraft store website shortly:

<http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=535>

❖ Upcoming Events in New England

- Vermont Fine Furniture and Woodworking Festival – September 26 & 27, 2009
<http://www.vermontwoodfestival.org/index.php>
- Fostering Arts – Open Artist Studios – November 7th, 2009
<http://fosteringarts.org>
- Furniture Masters at Work – Currier Museum of Art – September 18th – 20th, 2009
<http://www.furnituremasters.org>

❖ Barrette's Quality Hardwoods

Some member's of the club recently mentioned their success in finding lumber they needed in sizes that are a good match for their project. If you're in the Thompson, CT area, be sure to stop in at Barrette's for your project ready hardwood needs. Specializing in regional hardwoods. On the web at <http://www.barretteshardwood.com> or visit in person at 129 Robbins Road, Thompson, CT 06277. Telephone is 866.928.9373.