



Shavings

By The
Woodworker's Guild of Rhode Island
Volume 15 Issue 5 May 2011

<http://www.wwgri.org>



"The only trouble with designing and working in wood is that it has the advantage – or disadvantage, however you look at it – of being beautiful in itself."

Tage Frid

Announcements

- ❖ 2011 Meeting Dates
 - ~May 4th
 - ~June 1st
 - ~August 3rd
 - ~September 7th
 - ~October 5th
 - ~November 2nd
 - ~December 7th

Message from the Officers

Spring is here in full swing and those of us with unheated shops have finally warmed up. Our trip to Barrett's this month was a resounding success and our membership continues to creep upward. A reminder to all that the classified section of the web site is available for you to list items for sale or items wanted, so give it a try.

Anyone having any kind of problem with the web site is encouraged to get in touch by e-mail with the web site administrator Red Dog Studio by e-mail and they can help you out with any difficulties.

Still looking for anyone that would like to be involved with committees such as symposium planning, meeting presentation planning, editing of newsletter etc. If you have an interest we have a place for you!

From your New Assistant Editor: Greetings! This is Ned Quist, a new member of WWGRI. As Jeff Arsenault is out of town on business, I'm taking on this issue as my maiden voyage as the new assistant editor of *Shavings*. For my day job, I'm a librarian. But as I'm only a beginning woodworker, when I volunteered to help out with something this was my assignment: something a little closer to my world of words. I hope in future issues to offer a column on woodworking books – watch for it!

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

May 4, 2011

Mickey Callahan, current president of The Society of American Period Furniture Makers (SAPFM), and Brad Kaye along with the possibility of a couple additional members and their aircraft, will concentrate on talking about approaches and techniques used to build an R/C model airplane and the typical materials used such as balsa wood, lite ply, glues, etc. They will also talk about flight controls and related equipment used to fly, along with basics principals of flight. They will have a number of airplanes to show as part of our presentation.



WWGRI NEWS:

| Guild Officers for 2010-2011 | | | Guild Addresses | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| President | John Pietrella | johnpietrella@comcast.net | <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 | Rotating | | | |
| Newsletter/Website | | Reddogstudios.com | | |
| Club Photographer | Jim Horn | | | |
| Club Librarian | John Heaney | | | |

❖ **Keeseh Studio has Moved**

Keeseh Studio has completed their move to 42 Rice St. in Providence. The new studio is enormous, encompassing four large spaces, each of which is as large as their previous Pawtucket location. They hope to be fully up and running on Monday, May 2. John Pietrella will be meeting with Asher Dunn soon to discuss class offerings, so if you have a class that you would like to see offered, let John know.



Views of the new Keeseh Studio under construction. Photos: Ned Quist

❖ **May Business Agenda Items**

1. 63 members – Treasury balance \$2,687.43 as of April 11, 2011
2. Trip to Barrett's with lunch at Gordan Larson's took place on April 23.
3. Ned Quist now editing "Shavings" along with Jeff Arsenault and John Pietrella.
4. June Meeting presentation will be hands on table saw jigs and fixtures event.
5. Guild emblem mugs still available see Dave Olbrys at meeting this month.

APRIL MEETING RECAP:

Presentation Summary

<http://www.wwgri.org>

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Tom McLaughlin of McLaughlin Woods (Canterbury, NH) regaled the Guild members with some of his more humorous experiences teaching woodworking classes both in his own studio and for the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers. The bulk of his talk though included a slide show of some of his custom designed furniture, much of which depends on an extraordinary cache of Santa Domingan veneer which he uses to great advantage, and a brief demonstration of fitting drawers for a walnut dresser he is building for his wife.



Photos: Jim Horn

April Show and Tell

Photos by Jim Horn



Scooter
By Bob Fontenault



Pennsylvania Spice Box
By Julian Peters



Jewelry Boxes
By Barry Rubinstein

By Don Horn

WHAT A TOOL!

By Henry Allsworth – henry@allsworth.com

Last month I wrote about a Moving Fillister plane that I picked up from Patrick Leach and I'm still enjoying the sweet little shavings that it makes. Since then I've picked up a few Witherby chisels, a hewing adze and a gutter adze for real cheap. Thanks Craigslist. This month though I wanted to write about two special purpose planes, the small and large router planes that I bought from Lie-Nielsen over the winter to assist with a couple projects I was doing on the house.



Large Router Plane – Model #71



Small Router Plane – Model #271

Photos from Lie-Nielsen Website

I had originally purchased the Large Router plane to assist with the hanging of about eight small crawl space doors I built and was planning to use the router to recess all of the hinges. The LN #71 is based on the original Stanley #71 that went into production in the mid to late 1800's and is still in production today. While the Stanley mode is still available, the fit and finish of the Lie-Nielsen version far exceeds that of the Stanley and is only a few dollars more.

The router plane is an interesting tool to learn how to use and I was surprised that as straight-forward as it would appear to be with its push and pull motion it still required some practice to get a clean cut. The model #71 is actually a large tool and provides a massive reference surface to guarantee that when being used for dado and inlay work that you are getting an extremely accurate recess with the recessed surface perfectly parallel to the plane of original surface. Cutting with the grain produces excellent results and nice little groves and recesses. However stopped cuts and cross grain work require a chisel or

knife cut to terminate the cutting action. Additionally, I learned that cross grain and larger area recess cuts benefited from a slight angle in the direction of the tool to produce a shearing cut.

The shortcoming with the original Stanley design is that the throat is very large which effectively eliminates the reference area that the base provides when working with small or narrow pieces. Stanley models eventually included an additional foot that could be used to increase the reference area in front of the cutter, but it was hard to use and was not included in Lie Nielsen's interpretation. Because of this, I also purchased the LN #271. The #271 is a great little unit, is also still in production by Stanley and is fun to use. The Stanley model's casting is a little rougher in appearance and has a lightweight nickel finish while the LN model is a little more solid and appears to be powder coated.

After using the #271 I found there is something about its size, portability and simplicity that I have grown to love. While I like the #71, I have found that I gravitate to the #271 first. The one drawback that I have found from the LN #271 is that they have created a curved toe on the plane, deviating from the Stanley model which is straight across. At face value, I like the look of the Lie Nielsen more, but when I was recently trying to deepen a groove on concave surface I struggled with the toe as it did not provide a square reference point to the work. I was able to get by with a small square piece of dense plastic taped to the bottom, but it made me quickly realize that the Stanley model still has some definite power in its refined and simple design.

In summary, both planes are excellent tools and feel fantastic in your hand. They are good tools for quick recesses and more complex work as well. While I find the #271 a great little tool, the #71 has some excellent capabilities and together they provide a large assortment of capabilities in two handy packages. Check out the Lie-Nielsen YouTube Channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/LieNielsen>) to see a video on how to use the #71, you'll be impressed to see it cutting tenons!

WHAT A TRIP!

By Dave Wudyka

<http://www.wwgri.org>



p. Scituate, RI 02857

No, really, what a trip! Eighteen Guild members were treated to a special experience and field trip to Barrette's Quality Hardwoods in Thompson, Connecticut, on Saturday, April 23rd. We toured an impressive collection of woodworking operations, vintage milling equipment and facilities designed to produce and store an incredible array of milled and planed wood species that are "project ready"! Just the way we like them!



On the third floor of a former dairy barn, which also houses his milling operation and a two-story kiln, Ben has assembled a vast and unique system of organizing wood dimensionally, regardless of the species, in order to maximize the use of his storage space. The advantage is that customers can go immediately to the sizes that they need, and then quickly scan the available wood species.



But that was just the beginning! We then made our way a quarter mile away to be graciously received by Gordon Larsen, a Guild member and cello maker, in his beautiful home. Gordon and his wife supplied an impressive buffet to the tour members, who were awestruck by their hospitality.

Gordon then took his appreciative visitors to his “cabana workshop” where he not only creates his high quality cellos, but in which he also created a stunning collection of furniture on display in his home.

If anyone who is a serious woodworker has *not* been to Ben Barrett’s before, you’ll find yourself in “woodworker’s heaven” not to mention Thompson, CT, which comes in a close second!. Our members could be heard saying that this field trip was “one of the best ever.” (Oh, by the way, pick up some homemade honey and maple syrup sold in the “office” while you’re there!) Ben’s sons will also share their incredible knowledge of wood and entertaining stories about local history and “bee keeping”, one of their hobbies!

For more information about Barrette’s Quality Hardwoods, see their web site at www.barretteshardwood.com. To visit Barrette’s Quality Hardwoods, you’ll find them on 129 Robbins Road in Thompson, CT.



Off-Cuts:

❖ **Woodworking Classes Available at Keeseh Studio – 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 42 Rice St., Providence, RI -
<http://www.keesehstudio.com> , email: info@keesehstudio.com.

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

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

CURRENT COURSES

Furniture Design

Mondays Apr 4, 11, 18, May 2, 9 / 7-930pm / \$215+25 Material Fee / Instructor Asher Dunn

Jump Start Woodworking

Spring - Sat May 28 / 1-5pm / \$75 / Instructor Asher Dunn

Small Table Design & Construction

Tuesdays Apr 5, 12, 19, May 3, 10, 17, 24 / 7-930pm / \$285+60 Material Fee / Instructor John Pietrella

Constructing From Technical Drawings

Sundays May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 / 2-5pm / \$245+40 Material Fee / Instructor John Pietrella

Photos of Barretts and Larsen Home by Dave Wudyka

