

# Shavings

By The  
Woodworker's Guild of Rhode Island  
Volume 15 Issue 6 June 2011

<http://www.wwgri.org>



“You may be making puppets, wooden toys, salad spoons; you need not be a cabinetmaker. Whatever our expression, interest in wood is our meeting point”

James Krenov *The Fine Art of Cabinetmaking*

### **Announcements**

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

## **Message from the Officers**

We have to say that our “Show and Tell” segment of meetings recently has been especially good. Thank you to all members for sharing your completed projects at the meetings. This is a great way to develop new ideas for your projects.

Hopefully this month’s **Table Saw and Router Jigs and Fixtures** hands-on meeting will be something new and different for the members to enjoy. If you have an idea for a trip or meeting presentation, let one of the officers know, especially if you are willing to jump in and help plan the event.

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 Assistant Editor:**Hi! This is Ned Quist, as your assistant editor. I’m looking for new articles. So even if you don’t feel like you’re a great writer, don’t be shy about sending along something that you think would be of interest to your fellow Guild members. My e-mail address is [Edwin.Quist@brown.edu](mailto:Edwin.Quist@brown.edu). In this issue I’m including reviews of two interesting books I discovered about the furniture making and design of the British “Cotswold School.”Reviews, comments, news, all are welcome.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS!

Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7 PM, except for the month of July (when there is no meeting), and are located at the North Scituate Community House, West Greenville Rd, North Scituate, RI 02857

### June 1, 2011

The June meeting presentation will be a hands-on Table saw and Router Jigs demonstration. Members who have created jigs will bring them (with scrap wood) to demonstrate. Members are encouraged to bring a sketchpad, tape measure and pencil to get sketches and dimensions of jigs they would like to build for their shop. A digital camera would not be a bad idea if you want to take photos of the jigs.

If you have a jig to show please bring it to the meeting to share.

## WWGRI NEWS:

- ❖ **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. 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.
- ❖ Bill Spicer's next **Antique Tool Auction** is Saturday June 11, 2011 at the Masonic Temple #5, 1515 Ten Rod Rd., North Kingstown, RI. The preview is on Friday, June 10 from 1 to 6 PM and Saturday morning, and Saturday, 7-10 AM

Guild Officers for 2010-2011			Guild Addresses
President	John Pietrella	<a href="mailto:johnpietrella@comcast.net">johnpietrella@comcast.net</a>	<p><i>Mailing Address:</i>                      Woodworker's Guild of RI                      PO BOX 520                      No. Scituate, RI 02857</p> <p><i>Web Address:</i>  <a href="http://www.wwgri.org">http://www.wwgri.org</a></p> <p><i>Meeting Address:</i>                      No. Scituate Community House</p>
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Secretary	Dave Wudyka	<a href="mailto:djwudyka@comcast.net">djwudyka@comcast.net</a>	
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Programs Director	Bob Fontenault	<a href="mailto:bfontenault1@cox.net">bfontenault1@cox.net</a>	
Promotions	Paul Morrissey	<a href="mailto:pmjr30@verizon.net">pmjr30@verizon.net</a>	
Director			
Hospitality	Rotating		
Newsletter/Website		<a href="http://Reddogstudios.com">Reddogstudios.com</a>	
Club Photographer	Jim Hovey		

### ❖ JuneBusiness Agenda Items

1. 65 members – Treasury balance \$2865.43 as of May 10,2011
2. Pre-planning for Scituate Art Fest in October to begin.
3. No regular meeting in July
4. Guild emblem mugs still available see Dave Olbrys at meeting this month.

## MAY MEETING RECAP:

### Presentation Summary

The May presentation took an interesting look at the sport and hobby of remote control airplane building and flying. Mickey Callahan, member of the Millis Model Aircraft Club, along with Brad Kaye, club president, entertained the membership with a thorough look at the hobby of building model airplanes, and the acquired skills required to successfully fly the models.

They spoke about a variety of topics from stick building and kit building to wooden models. They also discussed the different type of adhesives, coverings, and electronic components that go into a model.

The current gas price crunch that we find ourselves in has also affected the sport. With the introduction of lightweight lithium batteries, electric motors have taken over as the preferred choice for propulsion.

All in all, the visit by Mickey and Brad was well received and we hope to get them back soon.

Mickey is also the past-president of the Society of American Period Furniture Makers (sapfm.org) and had promised to return to speak to us on this topic.





Photos: Jim Horn

## May Show and Tell

Photos by Jim Horn



Maple Table  
with Granite with  
granite insert by  
Ed Charpentier



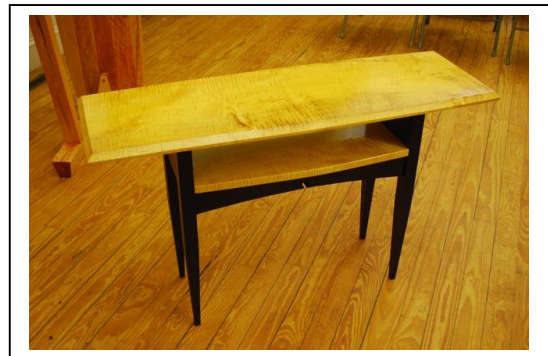
Bird Houses  
By Paul Barnum



Pizza Peel  
byChris Horn

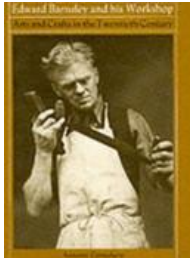
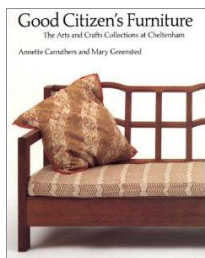


Japanese table  
By Paul Morrissey



Spalted Maple TV Table  
By John Pietrella

## Books for Woodworker's Library:



*Good Citizen's Furniture: the Arts and Crafts at Cheltenham* by Annette Carruthers and Mary Greensted (Cheltenham: Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museums, 1994); *Edward Barnsley and his Workshop: Arts and Crafts in the Twentieth Century* by Annette Carruthers (Oxford: White Cockade, 1992 (pbk. 2002))

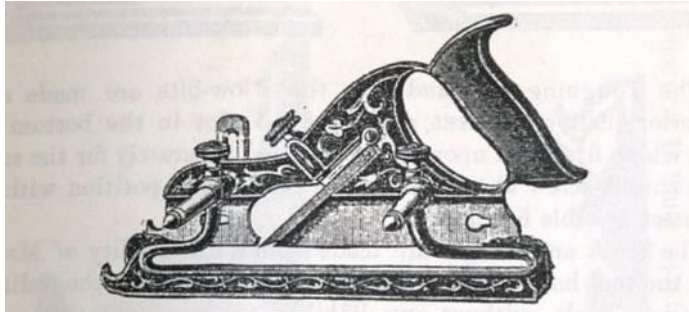
If you subscribe to *Fine Woodworking*, you probably get the periodic emails from Taunton Press offering books at reduced prices from their online bookstore. It was here I bought a copy of Kevin P. Rodel and Jonathan Binzen's *Arts and Crafts from Classic to Contemporary Furniture*. Most of the book deals with English Arts & Crafts furniture from the first "Morris" chair design designed by Philip Webb for Morris & Co. to the extreme modernism of the Scot, Charles Rennie MacKintosh. But what caught my eye and made me ignore most of the rest of the sumptuously illustrated book, was a chapter entitled "Arts and Crafts in the Country: Gimson, the Barnsleys and the Cotswold Vernacular." Here was a whole style of Arts and Crafts furniture I'd never laid eyes on! While I've been fascinated for some time with the work of the American Arts and Crafts furniture designers/makers Stickley, Roycroft and Greene & Greene, here was a muscular, rough-cut style that outdid all of what I liked about the American designers, with its proud dovetails, its hay rake style table stretchers and hand-carved drawer pulls. My favorites were all by an architect-turned-furniture-maker named Sidney Barnsley. Eager to learn more, I headed to the bibliography of the Rodel/Binzen book (I'm a librarian, remember?) where I found listed Annette Carruthers' biographical study *Edward Barnsley and his Workshop*. Looking on Amazon there were a couple of copies for \$120 or more, but my interest was not that great! So instead I settled for another book she'd written (an exhibit catalog really) entitled *Good Citizen's Furniture* which described the remarkable collection of furniture collected at the Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museums. The illustrated catalog includes color and black and white photos of the furniture and artisans (some in their workshops) from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the modern day craftsman who continue in this still recognizable Cotswold style. It

### **Books (cont.)**

also gives a highly documented and detailed history of this little Arts and Crafts subculture. Ernest Gimson, the Barnsley brothers, Ernst and Sidney, unlike Morris and his urban artist cronies, actually

moved to the country and made a go of it as honest craftsmen. Sidney Barnsley although trained as an architect, was self-taught as a woodworker and until his death in 1926 built most of his designs himself and completely by hand! After reading *Good Citizen's Furniture*, I tried again to get a copy of the Edward Barnsley book, this time trying to import a copy from England where I discovered it was still in print by its original publisher, White Cockade in Oxford. An email or two later I was in direct contact with the publisher and with the help of PayPal managed to get a copy for £41 plus shipping, or about \$65, half of what the pirates at Amazon demanded. This book also by Carruthers is a detailed account of Sydney Barnsley's son, Edward Barnsley, who began in the Barnsley workshop at his father's side as a very young boy. He later took over his father's business, continued to make his father's designs for a while and then became a designer of furniture in his own style but still very much in the distinctive Cotswold tradition begun by his father and uncle. His workshop became one of the treasures of English handcrafts of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, making furniture for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Oxford University and numerous private individuals wealthy enough to afford furniture that requiring hundreds of hours of handwork. Following Barnsley's death in 1987, the Barnsley Workshop continued as the Barnsley Educational Trust training numerous young craftsman in the tradition of the Cotswold tradition. There is still an Edward Barnsley Workshop making furniture on commission and training apprentices online at <http://www.barnsley-furniture.co.uk/superbasket/index> at Edward Barnsley's workshop in Froxfield, Hampshire.

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## 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](http://keeseh.com/?page_id=9) Keeseh Studio is located at 42 Rice St., Providence, RI - <http://www.keesehstudio.com> , email: [info@keesehstudio.com](mailto:info@keesehstudio.com).

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

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

