

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

(GMM), October 13, 2011 (By D. Scrivens)

I. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Prez Andy Borland called us to order and once again discussed boxes he has been making and discussing each month. In September, he showed and discussed a box with splined miters. This month, his box used dovetail-splines both to decorate and to strengthen the corners of a box. He gave credit to **George Swisher** for guiding him through the procedure for making the joint. **Andy** felt that this greatly improved the appearance of his box. It is a handsome and useful joint to have in your tool box. Check with **Andy** for details.



Bernie Lammers explained and

demonstrated the use of the clip-on microphone for our p.a. system. It is necessary for anyone speaking to the group to use to be heard by old ears in the back of the room. He also pointed out that the speaker should stand behind the two loudspeakers on either side of the front to avoid feedback noise.

There were five guests in attendance. **Frank Piazza** from Arnold, here for the first time, admitted that he had putzed around with wood for thirty years. He heard about the Guild and thought he'd check us out.

Chris McDonald brought in and sold a load of clean, kiln dried, wide board ash lumber. He has a great deal more for sale at \$1.50 pbf. He is a member and can be located in the Guild Directory and can be contacted at 410 326-1685. He stated that he has several hundred board feet of this ash at his place in Ohio.

Vicki Kunde passed along her thanks for all the members who donated old jeans which will be used to make scarecrows for the Kinder Farm Park.

Harlan Ray announced that they are putting together a prototype display case for the Benson-Hammond House. The next step will call the teams together to assemble and finish the cases. There are three teams the leaders of which are **Don Ames, Andy Borland**

and **Jim Francis**. The three leaders have large shops and the appropriate knowledge to support the project.

Jerry Lacey asked for a show of interest by anyone who is up for making small cars for donation to children at Sarah's House at Christmas time.

Remember, **YOUR NAME** could/should be listed here on the next project! **Be a mensch, VOLUNTEER!**

II. SAFETY :

JIM FRANCIS, 1ST Vice President and Safety Officer underscored the need for safe practices when using the jointer. He had a brief DVD to show on the subject, but the DVD player refused to cooperate. He will try again at our next meeting.

III. QUESTION BOX/WHAT'S NEW:

The first question asked, "What is the best wood for making a whistle"? The one answer claimed that a piece of **Willow** branch, especially in the Spring, can be carefully worked out from its covering bark; carved to make an air-way and sound chamber; then carefully worked back into the bark to be finished by opening a notch in the bark over the sound chamber to allow the sound out.

The second question asked if it was possible to tape meetings for those who missed them. The answer is that our meetings are presently being recorded by **Pat Applegate**. For details contact **Pat**.

Third question wanted to know, what is the best glue for making archery bows? The consensus answer was, **contact cement** because it retains its flexibility and strength.

The last question asked if anyone was sawing lumber now that **Jerry Lacey** no longer has his mill. The answer is "yes" but you must bring your logs to the mill. For details contact **Tom Lahdelma**.

IV. DOOR PRIZE:



Fred Oaks won the set of screw drivers,

Hugh Houghton selected the Lowe's \$50 gift certificate,

Lloyd Gleeson lugged away a large box of Klingspor mixed sand papers,

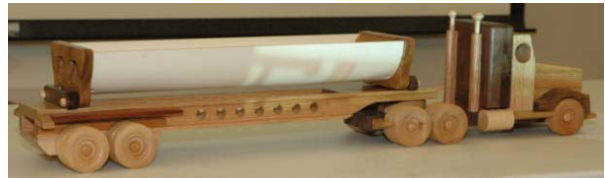
Leo Bessenhoffer took the scroll note pad.



but at the width of your saw kerf. Additional info can be obtained from **Denny**.



Dennis Harvey showed a very interesting pair of toy trucks made largely of scrap wood. One was a semi with flat bed trailer used to haul heavy equipment and the other was a semi with a side-dump trailer such as used to haul grain to the mill. The toys are really too nice for kids.



V. SHOW AND TELL:

(Presidents note: "Show & Tell is one of the best parts of our meetings. Bring in your projects: large, small, simple, complex, spectacular, or even something that didn't turned out like you wanted it to. All can be displayed and instructional")

Jack Herrlinger introduced the following members: He reminded the members not to pass around objects during the show and tell as this can be distracting for the speaker.



Lee Bryton displayed a really slick taper jig. He went further by showing two tables (one a prototype, the other cherry) the legs of which were made on the jig. It appears to be an excellent tool and the tables were good as well. Additional info and plans can be had from Lee.

Ed Stone showed a number of "bracket feet" and described in detail how they were made. Bracket feet lend a touch of class to case pieces large or small and learning how to make them is well worth the effort. **Ed** passed out a set of plans and specs for those who were interested. Learn, baby, learn!



Roy Leverone also found a neat way to use his wood scraps. **Roy** showed a handsome bread board, napkin holder, tissue boxes, and bud vase. Each piece was neatly done and ready to be wrapped for Christmas, besides there is now more room in his shop.



Pat Applegate first showed a golf trophy he made, complete with inside jokes, to memorialize a member of his golf buddies who had passed away. Second, he showed a humungous mail box that had been hand decorated by an artist friend. The mail box seems too nice to set out in the weather.



Denny Scrivens, supporting the box interest, brought in a small "compass" box that is joined together with box joints such as those found on antique cheese boxes. Box joints are made exactly like "finger joints"

Jim Francis discussed a piece of plum he had been given together with the advice that it was best turned when still green. He did as told but the

piece split in a matter of hours after being turned. **Jim** has set about finding the proper way to dry plum wood after it is turned. More later.

VI. SPEAKER:

Hugh Houghton introduced **Ron Liston** who spoke on band saw boxes as well as other types of furniture and cabinets (see his website “natural-woodworks.com”).



Mr. Liston begins to make a box, not surprisingly, by drawing plans which may include using a French rule to get the proper curves. He next tunes up his band saw seeing to it that he has the proper blade and tension. He emphasized the importance of having the band saw properly tuned. For all of his boxes, he prefers using a 3/16th blade with 10 teeth per inch. He noted that his experience is that a 1/8” blade develops resin build-up quickly.

His first cut is to remove what will be the back of the box. He prefers to glue a copy of his drawing to the front of the wood to be sawn. He “enters” the interior of the box by cutting in a discreet and nearly hidden place in the pattern or, alternatively, in a place that can be exaggerated and made a part of the design. In some cases he can glue the cut back together when he is finished cutting out the cavity. He likes to leave 3/8^{ths} of an inch of wood for the walls of the fronts, backs and sides. Note, the work will go more easily if you round the back edges of the blade by carefully holding a small file or sanding block to the back of the blade while the saw is running.

Following the design he saws the pattern using a 3/16th blade with 10 teeth per inch. Once the back is removed and the basic pattern cut, **Ron** cuts the sides off the cavity or cavities (drawers in effect). He then cuts out the cavity (s). He urges being creative and not to worry over small blemishes or knots in the wood. They add interest and character.

Next he reverses the steps he has taken to cut out the box. In some cases he might want to pre-finish the parts of the box before gluing. He glues up the fronts and backs of the cavity (s) and of the box itself. Great

care must be taken at the gluing stage in that the box frame is extremely fragile until the front and the back are actually glued in place. He uses ¼” rare earth magnets on the back of the drawers to keep them closed.

Mr. Liston’s step by step presentation was quite informative and interesting.



AWG MENTOR LIST:

We are still looking for members who are willing to be mentors in the following areas: Band Saw; Dust Collection; Finishing Methods; Sharpening; Reading and Understanding Plans; Equipment Maintenance. Or if you have a skill that is not listed please let us know.

The AWG Mentor list follows in this format:

Subject; Name/Phone/Email

Antique furniture restoration; Quinan, Johnstone/ 410-956-5428/ ;

Brushed Shellac ~ Hand planes; Applegate, Patrick /410-426-8287/ pappleg@jhmi.edu

Carving ~ Inlaying; Scrivens, Jay D. /410-544-3247/ jdscrivens@verizon.net;

Clock Making ~ Gilding; Stone, Ed / 301-464-8079 / edwhstone@comcast.net;

Finish repair ~ Furniture repair; Arndt, Michael/ 410-551-8588/ MarylandWoodPro@gmail.com;

Hand planes; Ames, Donald /410-268-0509/ dfames@verizon.net

Routing ~ Laminating; Houghton, Hugh/ 410
-263-8615 / hjhoughton@comcast.net;
Routing ~ Raised panels ~ Toys; Bodnar, Joseph A./
301- 390-0484/ joeblies@comcast.net;
Scrollsaw; Allred, Win /301- 587-3821 /
winallred@yahoo.com ;
Scrollsaw; Dodson, Paul/ 410 -760-5382/
pdwoodcrafts@verizon.net
Stains ~ Hand rubbed oil finish; Sparks, Roy A/ 302
-337-1016 /;
Tooling ~ Cabinet making; Ashby, Robert /410
-969-2910/ toolsrus58@comcast.net
Toys ~ Electrical Problems; Hirrlinger, Jack/
410-798-1339/ tjhirr@verizon.net

**REMINDER – if the AACO schools are closed due to
bad weather there is no Guild Meeting that evening.**

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

In Memoriam - Long time member, past president,
and good friend of the Guild, **Jess “J.J.” Smith** died
recently of neurological disease. On Thursday, Oct 20,
his ashes were placed in the columbarium on the
grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy which he loved so
much. Guild President Andy Borland supported by
members Don Ames, Doc Bohلمان, Harlan Ray,
Denny Scrivens, and Al Veiel represented the Guild at
the ceremony.
JJ was a splendid human being and a true gentleman.
He will be missed.

Thanks to the following members who renewed their
membership at the meeting: **Leo Bessenhoffer, Jack
Hirrlinger, Jerry Lacey, Rolf Muench, Johnstone
Quinan and Denny Scrivens.**

Please remember to wear your nametags at our General
Membership Meetings (GMM). If any of your
information has changed (email, phone number,
address, etc.) or you need a new name tag; contact
Harlan Ray Jr. (Membership Chair) or send your
changes to the Guild email address (info@awwg.org)
for updating of the membership database. To ensure
database integrity only the individual member can
request changes to their information.

You can renew your membership (pay your annual
dues) at a GMM, via US Postal System snail mail, **OR
NOW, ON-LINE** via the Guild’s web site calendar
page, using your credit card through the service of
PayPal (www.awwg.org/awg_calendar.htm) . If you
want to receive your copy of the newsletter via email
(exact same content as paper copy except the pictures
are color) or if you want to be added to the
informational emailing list, send your request to the
Guild’s email address and you will be added to the
appropriate list, likewise, if you want to be remove d
from one of the lists.

Toys for Sarah’s House Children

Some folks are in the giving mood all year long. Some
folks at certain holidays, other folks, well let’s just say
don’t for various reasons. We have been making
wooden toys for the children of Sarah’s house for over
17 years and it has been my pleasure to be the
coordinator for the past 4 years. Seeing the emotional
faces of the workers as the AWG Santa’s unloading the
treasures, is very heartwarming. There is no better
place to be the morning after our December party than
at Sarah’s House. Looking at past years pictures of all
the cradles, cars, trucks, pull toys, games, boxes and
puzzles the AWG members have been making is no
measure short of incredible.

Twice I have seen kids come in and wish I was allowed
to let them pick out what they wanted. These kids are
going thru some pretty big changes and while living at
Sarah’s House, are getting the necessary help to begin
new lives again. One place YOU can make a difference
is to make a toy and donate it. Are you making
something for a child in your family for Christmas?
Please consider making an additional one for a child at
Sarah’s house. The gift of a giving heart is **priceless.**

Mentor’s Thoughts HANDPLANES (by Don Ames)

As some of you may know, I am an advocate for the
use of handplanes in woodworking. I don’t use them
for everything, but I do use them in many instances.
For instance, if you need to level a glue joint in making
a panel you can do it quickly and easily with a well
tuned and SHARP handplane. You can clean up box
joints and dovetail joints that stand proud quickly and
easily for going the need to use a loud and dusty

sander, which usually leaves behind corners that are no longer sharp.

When gluing up a panel of numerous pieces I handplane the gluing edge which leaves behind a clear, clean edge which is most beneficial for a strong glue joint. Dull jointer knives hammer and glaze the edge which tends to make a weaker joint.

The above are just a few of the many beneficial uses of a well tuned and SHARP handplane. SHARP is a must.

It's been said that a tool with an electrical cord attached eventually winds up in the trash can. Not so with a well tuned SHARP handplane. They will last a lifetime, at least your or my lifetime, minus the dust and noise of an electric sander. Benefits all around. Try one sometime that has been tuned and sharpened, you just may like



Lie-Nielsen Hand Tool Event at Exotic Lumber, Annapolis, Friday, November 11, 10am – 6pm and Saturday, November 12, 10am to 5pm.



The Marc Adams classes being sponsored by AWG are on Friday 27 January 2012 from 1PM – 7PM FUNDAMENTAL WOODWORKING and Saturday 28 January 2012 from 8AM – 3PM JOINERY. The class descriptions follow:

FUNDAMENTAL WOODWORKING - This full day class will help you advance your woodworking skills by leaps and bounds and would be perfect for beginners as well as intermediates. Marc will cover several elements of woodworking including design, wood movement, joinery techniques, working with veneer and finishing. There will be demonstrations on truing boards, sharpening common edge tools, cutting several types of joints including dovetails, inlaying techniques, cutting simple veneer patterns, gluing techniques and understand which finishes work best for the results you desire. By the end of the day you will be on your way to a better understanding of fine woodworking craftsmanship.

JOINERY - Marc has had over 1500 people travel from around the world to attend his weeklong Joinery class at his school. He has decided to come and spend

a day showing some of his favorite joints. The day will start with a quick review of sharpening scrapers and chisels to razor edges. He will then discuss how to select a joint based on strength, grain direction, movement and the quality of fit. Demonstrations will include how to hand cut dovetails both through and half blind, mortise and tenons and the strongest joint in woodworking, the hip joint

AWG Member cost for the classes will be \$20.00 per class sign up for one or better yet both, by getting your money to the Guild Treasurer (**Doug Richardson**). Deadline to register is 12 January, 2012. Your class fee pays for the facility rental and snack/lunch each day so it is not refundable if you fail to attend. The speaker cost is being taken care of by the Guild's Endowment Fund.