



Newsletter

<http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org>

August 2013

President's Letter

Greetings Woodworkers,

Our July meeting was very enjoyable, and very well attended.

Richard Petty gave an exciting program about recovering submerged wood from Belize (f/k/a British Honduras). Early in the presentation, he noted that the Mahogany was originally processed by the British (in the 1700s or earlier) to make dye. This was a nice connection to Ernest's presentation from the meeting before, discussing the use of epoxy and dyes to repair defects in wood (bet you hadn't thought of that connection!).

Rich showed many amazing pictures of the incredible logs, and the equally incredible procedures they follow to float the logs up from the bottom, get them out of the water, and get them home to the U.S. and Missouri. The entire process was fascinating, including the overall drying and preparation process. The history of the logging industry in Belize, the history of how Rich got into this business, as well as the politics that an international procurer of precious local resources must navigate, were fascinating too. Somehow I never got the impression from his stories that this was low hanging fruit that we should all rush out to try and pick.

On another topic, I unfortunately will miss the MWA meeting coming up this Monday, as I go to Indiana to the Marc Adams School of Woodworking to learn about embellishing my work (if I ever have any) using decorative wire, contrasting wood, etc., and also learning how to make a number of different wood joints. I am especially looking forward to making the trip with my brother Mark's son, Ben, and having this opportunity to visit and to bond. In my absence, I am leaving you in the capable hands of our Vice-President, Clyde Rea, whom I am quite confident will conduct the meeting and treat you all in the manner to which you would like to become accustomed.

Our speaker for the August meeting this Monday is our very own Mike Gentzsch. Mike will be demonstrating the use of a vacuum process to stabilize wood that is somewhat punky. It is not actually for green wood, but a process to help force hardener into pores of punky wood. You will be amazed at the common household items that you all own that Mike utilizes to make all of this happen. And his process can accommodate a number of different sized pieces of wood, depending upon the container used to hold vacuum.

Moving along, I hope you have all had opportunities to make some sawdust. I finally had the promised experience of tremendous sawdust in the process of taking down and taking apart the two aforementioned Cherry trees from my back yard. Ernest Hilderbrand, Tom Stauder and Steve Massman all came to partake of the fun. I learned a lot just watching how they went about recovering bowl blanks and other opportunities.

Tom took advantage of the pith being off center at the base of one trunk, so that he could cut out a large piece to use to make a Florence flask. Technically, that is a piece of glassware used in laboratories. A Florence flask has a large round globe of a base, with a flat bottom, and a long slender neck. It is used, for example, to heat, swirl and pour liquids. Tom needed the pith of the trunk to be off center so that the turning blank would be large enough at one end to fashion the large globe bottom of the flask. I hope that Tom's efforts are successful and that he will bring his Florence flask to show and tell when he completes it.

Ernest busily made a ton of bowl blanks. Steve Massman made some of those as well, and also showed me that the slab that is cut out of the middle of the trunk piece to make two bowl blanks with no pith can be used for making certain kitchenware such as spoons and spatulas. I hope to learn about doing that, as my biggest interest in woodworking (if I ever do any) is toward very practical items, including kitchenware. Steve also pointed out that Cherry is a good wood for kitchenware because the relatively tight pores make it more difficult for water to get inside the wood when you wash

it, and so it does not rot so easily. So all in all, a good learning experience. There is nothing like doing it (or watching it done?) as an experience to learn from!

It is not too soon to sign up for a shift or day or days to share some fun and good will (and fun food) at the MWA booth at the Heritage Festival (September 21st and 22nd) and the Pumpkin Festival (October 12th and 13th). If you can help out, please send me an email and state which days you can be there (again jgorman@PTClabs.com). It really is enjoyable, and a fun thing to do with and for the kids.

I hope you will all come Monday to learn from Mike Gentsch and enjoy his interesting lessons, and share each other's company and stories and advice. I am sorry I have to miss it.

Be safe in the shop, and have fun.

Joe Gorman

July 2013 MWA Meetings

Officers' Meeting

Meeting held on July 22nd.

Present: Terry Selby, Joe Gorman, Clyde Rea, Steve Massman, Harrold Ankeny and Karl Haak

We discussed programs

Dues are due

Business Meeting

Meeting held July 22, 2013

Meeting held at Boone County Millworks

7:00 PM

Joe Gorman president

20 members present; 1 guest

Minutes read

No treasurer's report

Ernest announced there would be a toy workshop on July 25th at the PET shop. We need volunteers as the Heritage Fest is coming up.

He also said there would be a turners' workshop on Aug. 1st at his house

Terry had wood to take and toy car stock

The door prize a watch, was won by Yvonne Robert

The raffle was a gift certificate and was won by Foes

The raffle bought in \$70.00

Joe Gorman is having some cherry trees cut and anyone wanting some wood contact him

Show and tell

Mike Gentsch showed two sewing tools he had turned.

The August program will be by Mike Gentsch on stabilizing wood.

Dues are due at this time

Richard Petty gave a very interesting program on how he retrieves logs from rivers in South America and showed some beautiful boards cut from them.

Tentative Schedule of Events Midwest Woodworkers' Association 2013

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
August 26, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	MWA Meeting	Boone County Millwork
September 21 & 22, 2013	Saturday and Sunday	10 AM to 5 PM	Heritage Festival	Nifong Park, Columbia
September 23, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	MWA Meeting	Boone County Millwork
October 12 & 13, 2013	Saturday and Sunday	9 Am to 5 PM	Pumpkin Festival	Hartsburg, MO
October 28, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	MWA Meeting	Boone County Millwork
November 25, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	MWA Meeting	Boone County Millwork
December 2013	TBA	TBA	Annual Holiday Dinner	TBA



Richard Petty of Mexico, Missouri gave the program at the July 2013 meeting and told the members about his business of retrieving sunken logs of hardwoods from rivers in South America and cutting them into lumber.



Renfro Valley, Kentucky: This guy wins the Hammer Division of the dying with the most tools contest.

Center for Furniture Craftsmanship

Twelve-week Turning Intensive; January 6 to March 28, 2014

Enrollment limited to 12; tuition \$7,090

Rockport, Maine

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