



Newsletter

<http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org>
August 2015

President's Letter

Greetings Woodworkers,

Our July Meeting -- Harlan Palm gave an excellent presentation on timber improvement. In fact, he walked us through a very wide assortment of information about timber, and especially about walnut. He started with showing us that you can identify walnut and butternut by shaving off part of a small new branch and noting that the pith is hollow. It's called a chambered pith.

He brought charts showing the location of walnut trees on his farm, as part of the discussion of good locations and practices for growing walnut.

Harlan discussed in depth the growth cycle for walnut, the dual annual growth rings, keeping the younger trees growing straight, and how to prune. He noted that silt loam is ideal soil, but that any environment where the walnut stays in standing water is bad (they don't tolerate wet feet). He discussed good sizes for harvesting, and the fact that walnut and butternut have alternating leaves, as opposed to maple, ash and dogwood which have opposing leaves.

He also discussed tree diseases, and passed out a brochure about Thousand Cankers Disease in black walnut. Harlan also brought a couple of samples of walnut to demonstrate. It was a wonderful and very thorough presentation. We truly appreciate Harlan's work in putting the presentation together and taking the time to enlighten us.

Our August Meeting -- Our August meeting is coming right up this Monday, August 24th at Boone County Millworks on Vandiver. Because no live human was interested in instructing us on this occasion, we are showing instructional woodworking videos to give you ideas and to sharpen your skills.

Terry Selby notes that we just received season 7 of Woodsmith cds. It has 3 shows that would of interest to all woodworkers they are:

- Small shop solutions
- Drill press upgrades
- Router extravaganza

These should be good videos for all of us. If someone can bring the popcorn we should be set.

Our September Meeting -- Mike and Nancy Gentsch have generously offered to have MWA members and friends out to their farm on Saturday, September 26, 2015 for some sawing and log handling demonstrations.

Mike notes that they can do a demo with their sawmill. It's a manual mill called EZ-Boardwalk 40. It will saw a 16 foot log 40" in diameter. It's made by Amish Mennonites in Emden, MO. Nice well built mill for the money. We have a

tractor mounted log winch which we can also demo. We can discuss our tree farm philosophy and what our goals are. We could do a cookout with burgers and hotdogs if we could get a head count.

You can see the barn we built and how we store cut lumber and handle logs. We also have a tractor mounted hitch to move logs, the log arch for the 4 wheeler and the log winch. We also have a homemade hydraulic wood splitter that we use to get our winter wood in. We heat the house with wood and have for 37 years. We can discuss the best woods for heat and the ones easy to split.

Mike also wants to clarify that he and Nancy do not want to be in the business of sawing logs for people. This is not an invitation to send them business. It is simply a demonstration of how these things are done. We really appreciate Mike and Nancy's willingness to do this for us. Please help me remember to ask for a head count at the upcoming meeting.

Time and directions will follow in the next MWA newsletter.

ERRATA -- We have to make a correction to our July MWA Newsletter. Several members who attended the June meeting have pointed out that I must have dreamt about the officer elections. Some dreams are just so real. They reminded me that at the June meeting there was a conspicuous absence of any nominations for officers of the MWA for the coming year. When the question was asked, an eerie silence fell upon the room. Then a motion to continue existing officers for the coming year was made, and passed unanimously. I retract my congratulations to the new officers, and my thank you to the past officers (you will get your thanks when you really are past!).

Membership Dues Reminder -- For those who have not yet had a chance to pay their membership dues, the bargain basement rates are:

- \$20 for MWA annual membership for an individual
- \$25 for MWA annual membership for two from the same family unit
- \$35 for joint annual membership in the MWA and MTA (the turners)

You can bring cash or a check to the next meeting and hand it to Tom Stauder, if he is back from Europe, or to Terry Selby. In the alternative, it may be more convenient to simply mail Tom a check, made payable to MWA, at 4779 East Turkey Trail Drive, Columbia, MO 65201.

Program Ideas -- All future program ideas are welcome.

2016 MWA Picnic -- Those of you who are already marking your 2016 calendars can make a note. The MWA Annual Picnic for next year has been set for Saturday, May 21st. It will again be held at the Happy Hollow shelter in Stephens Park. That Saturday falls a week before the Memorial Day weekend, and the week after the Mizzou (and I assume other) graduations.

Felling Seattle's Largest Urban Hardwood -- The link that is included in this paragraph takes you to a twelve minute video of the process of felling Seattle's largest urban hardwood, in the middle of the city, without damaging the surrounding property. You should be able to go to the video either by holding down the Ctrl button of your computer while clicking on the link, or by copying the link and pasting it into your web browser. <https://vimeo.com/81240461>

Other Matters -- I hope you all have had chances to make sawdust recently. Sadly, once again I have had little time in the shop, and have no other wood related matters to report.

I hope to see you all this Monday, August 24th at Boone County Millworks for our regular June meeting. Both the videos and the company promise to be worth the trip. Until then, be safe in the shop and have fun.

Joe Gorman

July 2015 MWA Meetings

Officers' Meeting; July 26, 2015

Present: Terry Selby, Ernest Hilderbrand, Harrold Ankeney, Joe Gorman, Karl Haak

We discussed programs

Business Meeting

Meeting held at Boone County Millworks; 7:00 PM; July 26, 2015

Joe Gorman, president

13 members and 1 guest present

Minutes were read

No treasurer's report

A toy car workshop will be held on July 30 at the PET shop and a turners workshop will be held on August 6 at Ernest's house.

Dues are due

Harlan Palm gave a program on managing walnut trees and showed how to identify walnut by the pith in a branch. He also talked about cankers disease in walnut trees and how serious it is.

Show and Tell:

1. Dale Andrews showed 3 pens he turned
2. Norm Anderson showed a boot jack he made
3. Don Bristow told how we need to keep a journal of our work

The door prize was a tape measure and was won by Harrold Ankeney.

The raffle was a \$40 gift certificate from Lowe's and was won by Don Bristow. The raffle brought in \$51.00.



Norm's boot jack.



Dale's pens.

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