



# Newsletter

<http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org>

October 2013

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## President's Letter

Greetings Woodworkers,

I need to start off this month's Note with the saddest, but most important, news we have. We were tremendously saddened by the passing of MWA's Vice-President, Clyde Rea, on September 23, 2013 at the age of 74. Clyde was a wonderful man, a great helper to anyone in need, and he also shared our love of woodworking. Our surprise is perhaps heightened by the fact that many of us just saw him recently, when he presided over the MWA meeting in August. We will miss him greatly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Clyde's family.

Clyde's passing is a reminder to us that we never know when the end is coming. It is a reminder to never take our blessings, and the people in our lives, for granted. Although I do not personally find it easy to do, we really should seize each day and live it fully. Be good to the people in your life, and the people who cross your path. You never know when it will be your last chance.

On a lighter note, the Heritage Festival was very nice. We could not have asked for better weather. We had a steady stream of children making cars from 10:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Saturday. On Sunday, it started a little bit slower, but there was no let-up after about 10 or 10:30. Many children showed their pleasure at being able to make a car, and many parents exclaimed how much the youngsters liked this and how much they looked forward to it. Some were back to make their fourth annual car.

One young girl (maybe age 7?) came with her mother and grandmother. The child and mother told the story of how she had made her first car last year. She named it "Carry" (pronounced like car, with a y on the end). For Christmas she asked Santa for a sleeping bag for Carry! And she brought Carry, in sleeping bag, back to the Heritage Festival this year and made a friend for Carry. She said she is going to ask for another sleeping bag. She obviously got a tremendous amount of joy out of her car. The two festivals, with the opportunity to help so many children make and enjoy something so simple, really have become my favorite MWA activities of the year.

It was also fun at the Heritage Festival to watch MWA member Norm Anderson work his hooooee, and other magic. We might have to add him to a future short MWA program, as a filler or a warm-up act! Truly fascinating.

Thank you very much to everyone who came out to work at the booth during the festival. Special thanks go out to those who brought out a pedal powered scroll saw and lathes (Darren Laupp, Ernest Hilderbrand and Olin Hatfield), to show the festival goers, young and old, some of the fascinating ways of working wood. Some of us put in long hours, and were grateful to have the next day's Monday meeting night off! We took in a total of \$974.25 in donations over the course of the weekend. It was a good year for the Heritage Festival.

Our two fall festivals do come in quick succession, and the Pumpkin Festival in Hartsburg is here already this coming weekend, October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. I am even caught a little off guard myself. I will be in

Atlanta all week manning a vendor booth, and will be back early Friday. I will be trying to monitor my email from Atlanta.

If you can work the Pumpkin Festival please let me know which day. You can reach me by email at [JGorman@ptclabs.com](mailto:JGorman@ptclabs.com), or by phone at 573-356-7681. If you don't contact me, please show up anyway. We will be happy to have you.

Our October meeting is later in the month, on Monday October 28<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7:00 p.m. at Boone County Millworks. For our program at that meeting, we are happy to note that Ron Phillips will talk about the trials & tribulations of starting a furniture design lab at MU.

Doctor Phillips has a Doctorate of Architecture from the University of Michigan, and he is an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies at the University of Missouri. Ron established and is in charge of the Design Workshop (wood and metal) for students to use in building furniture and other items. We are looking forward to hearing about the lessons learned in starting and operating his furniture design lab. Please join us at our October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting to welcome and learn from Ron Phillips.

On another note, this is just a reminder that the Interpretations show at the Columbia Art League gallery at 207 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Columbia continues to run through November 1<sup>st</sup>, and the hours that the gallery is open to the public are Tuesday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday from 11 to 5.

Below is the picture from the show that was featured in the last MWA Newsletter.



*Nick Schnelle/Tribune Buy this photo*

From left, Shannon Hensky, Lisa LoPorto and Diane Coffman gaze at an artwork by Tom Stauder, Aug. 24, at Columbia Art League's Interpretations exhibit. The show paired up artists and writers to exchange and create interpretations of one another's work

On another subject, I hope you have all had opportunities to make sawdust. I have not, but I did have a kind of woodworker's experience. I let my son-in-law go down and use my bandsaw when I wasn't home, on his assurance that he knew how to use a bandsaw. He didn't know that in between uses it is recommended to take the tension off the blade. After he turned the bandsaw on, the ensuing noise caused him to turn it off, and then he couldn't get it to go back on (quite fortunate). So far, all I know for sure is that I am going to have to go back through the set-up procedures to center the blade on the top wheel. Then we can assess any further damage. Life is a learning experience.

On a side note, two of the teachers I mentioned from the MASW woodworking school, Marc Adams and Michael Fortune, each have a short article in the just-released issue of Fine Woodworking magazine. No good reason to mention that, except that I was just talking about them last time.

If you have not sent in your annual MWA dues, there is still time. The basic membership is still just \$20.00. We have twelve individuals who were signed up as dues paying members last year, who have not found their pen and checkbook yet this year (don't make me give out your names!!!) (of course you are hearing this from someone who grew up as the king of procrastination—but I am constantly making slow progress in getting better—honest!).

It finally dawned on me (I guess when Steve Massman mentioned it) that we missed our annual officer election in June this year. Presumably, since there is not a high demand for opportunities to fill those positions, and since none of the current officers were complaining, it simply slipped by unnoticed (or noticed but appreciated and unmentioned?!?!).

In any event, even though I am the busiest person I know, I kind of enjoy doing this. But I wouldn't mind grooming a successor to take a turn at the president's role for the next year starting in July. Any volunteers? One of the prior presidents, who is no longer an MWA member but is in the carver's group, suggested that lining someone up in advance and getting them psychologically prepared was the surest way to hand off the baton. Again, any volunteers? Don't make me collar you at a meeting!!! It would be ugly! (but I promise not to even bring it up at the Pumpkin Festival, so don't stay away anticipating pressure!).

I hope to see you at the Pumpkin Festival in Hartsburg this weekend, and then at our monthly meeting on the 28th.

Be safe in the shop, and have fun.

Joe Gorman

### **Pumpkin Festival Note from Terry**

The Hartsburg Pumpkin Fest is this weekend Oct12th and 13th. Hours are 9 to 5 both days. All vendors are to have their tents set and vehicles moved by 7AM Sat morning. Our tent numbers are 212 and 213, same area as in previous years. I will set up on Friday evening between 5:30 and 6. Will need 1 person to help. We could meet at Deer Park store and ride down together. Hope to see you this weekend.

### **Midwest Woodworkers' Association**

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