



# Newsletter

<http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org>

October 2014

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## President's Letter

Greetings Woodworkers,

Our September Meeting --- I regret being unable to attend our September meeting. Several members spoke up to say that the presentation by Bill Lamberson on making a variety of bamboo fly rods was great.

Don Bristow told the story to me. Bill had a special jig that cut the bamboo into equilateral triangles of various sizes. He would then bundle six such triangles to make a segment of the bamboo rod. Bill noted that the bamboo he uses only grows in a small region of China. The speculation is that the high prevailing winds in that region contribute to a strengthening of the cellular structure of the bamboo. Bill can adjust the tapers of the bamboo in order to customize a particular rod for the type of fishing the buyer will be using it for. In other words, he can design the pole to be more or less flexible.

The equilateral triangle jig may be a commercial product. But many of the jigs and techniques that Bill uses in construction are of his own design. Even with all that work and expertise invested in his work product, Bill said that he gives away about half of the rods that he makes. The other half he sells for just about twice his cost of construction, so that overall he breaks even. He must really like doing this. And our members really enjoyed hearing about it.

The Pumpkin Festival --- The Pumpkin Festival in Hartsburg was wonderful. The weather was a little overcast and cool, with occasional spits of rain, but overall it was actually quite pleasant. It does seem that the weather kept some folks away, especially on Sunday.

We generated a lot of big smiles from a lot of small children. Just watching their excitement is a huge reward and reinforcement for the dedicated core group of MWA members who once again made the MWA booth possible. Terry Selby (a quiet, understated hero of the Pumpkin Festival) advises that we collected \$1,314.84 in donations from happy parents of the minor beneficiaries. This will allow us to buy more wheels and axle pegs for the cars. Did I mention that our booths at the fall festivals make me very happy?

Our October Meeting --- Our October meeting is coming right up this Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Boone County Millworks at 7:00. The agenda for this meeting is a secret. But I can give you some hints. It will involve improvements in manual dexterity skills, along with exercises in building. Importantly, it will also include even more opportunity than usual for camaraderie and sharing with your fellow woodworkers. You should not miss this opportunity.

Other Stuff --- I hope you have all had opportunities to work wood. I have had a few opportunities myself. Those centered around installing two base cabinets and two wall cabinets, that were salvaged from work, into my basement shop. I also did the initial planning for wiring around the cabinets, including under-cabinet lights, shallow outlets that will be set flush with the pegboard that will go at the back of the cabinets,

and I installed a couple of electrical boxes into the two fake drawer fronts where the two wash basins from these Exam Room sink bases formerly lived. It was a really pleasant opportunity to figure out some adaptations, and play with a lot of different tools. A weekend in the shop is a wonderful, relaxing and revitalizing experience.

That's all for now. I hope to see you this Monday at Boone County Millworks for a learning and sharing experience. Please be safe in the shop, and have a lot of fun working wood.

Joe Gorman

### **September MWA Meetings**

Officers' meeting

Meeting held Sept 22, 2014

Present: Ernest Hildebrand, Terry Selby, Don Bristow, Dale Andrews and Karl Haak

1. We discussed programs
2. We discussed the pumpkin fest
3. We discussed the need to get more members involved in the toy car program

Business meeting, Sept 22, 2014; held at Boone County Millworks; 7:00 pm

Don Bristow, vice president

14 members present

1 new member: Mark Volkmann

Minutes were read.

Treasurer's report showed that woodworkers had a balance of \$3730 and the turners had a balance of \$1534.

Dale Andrews passed out new membership cards

The Pumpkin Fest is Oct 11th and 12 th; we need as many volunteers as possible

Ernest said there would be a toy car workshop on Sept 25th at the PET shop and a woodturners' workshop at his house on Oct 2nd.

Terry had scrap wood.

Dues are due.

Show and tell

1. Tom Stauder showed a hackberry donut he turned.

2. Darren Laupp showed wood dog biscuits he made and an intarsia wine bottle and grapes he made.

Ernest told about a huge pecan tree he helped cut up. He had bowl blanks to give away.

Bill Lamberson gave a very interesting program on making bamboo fly rods. He answered many questions and showed some of the tools he uses.

The door prize was a bottle of glue and I did not get the winner

There was no raffle.

### **From WOOD Magazine**

A big shout out to all the woodworking clubs and guilds across North America!

You are a key resource to engaging more people in woodworking. We appreciate all you do.

Here's some timely information to share with members at your next chapter meeting. Feel free to edit this as you wish for your next newsletter.

At WOOD magazine, we're putting together our fifth issue of "America's Best Home Workshops," which will feature more than a dozen shops from across the US and Canada—maybe even yours! Which is why I'm sending this note: We'd like to see your shop. Or perhaps you'd like to nominate the shop of one of your club members.

Before you dismiss the idea, you should know that in the past, we've featured shops located in basements, garages, and outbuildings—from 8x14' sheds to 26x36' standalone shops. What they have in common is each is packed with ideas to share with other woodworkers. In particular, we're looking for interesting solutions for storage, tool modifications and jigs, efficient uses of space, dust-collection ideas, and more. In short, the type of things you like to point out when you show others around your shop.

Just send us a few digital photos that show your overall shop plus custom details you designed. Your initial images don't have to be fancy—don't worry about white-glove clean at this point! Send those photos and a brief description of your shop to [homeworkshops@meredith.com](mailto:homeworkshops@meredith.com)

We are reviewing submissions for the next issue right now, so don't delay. You may hear back from Carl Voss, who is managing this issue for us, if he has more questions for you.

Thanks, and I look forward to seeing your shop.

Dave Campbell

Editorial Content Chief

WOOD Magazine

Norm, how about your box fan/furnace filter dust collection system?

Don, how about your efficiently designed shop?

Others?