



Newsletter

<http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org>

May 2017

President's Letter

Greetings Woodworkers,

Our April Meeting -- For our April meeting Tom Hutchinson gave a presentation on exotic local woods, and his friend Lillian gave a presentation on design in woodworking.

Tom's elaborate and detailed outline of his presentation, published in last month's Newsletter, did a much better job than I could of describing what he talked about. He brought numerous samples of various local woods, and discussed a number of local woods of surprising beauty. He also mentioned places that you might not normally think of finding nice wood, including fire wood stacks, storm damage, etc.

As a follow-up, Tom also identified a great website that shows excellent pictures and contains discussions of a couple thousand species of wood. That reference was sent out to the Newsletter email list after the last meeting.

Tom's presentation reflected a lot of time in preparation, and we appreciate all of the knowledge that he imparted. Thank you very much Tom for your presentation.

Lillian Sung, a Taiwanese American, retired art professor, and friend of Tom Hutchinson, gave a presentation on design. Despite her express trepidation, her presentation was very interesting. She spoke of design in ways that as woodworkers we perhaps are unfamiliar.

Reflecting on the Book of Tao, she spoke of design in terms of negative space and positive space. In thinking of a vessel, the void within the vessel is the negative space and the vessel itself represents positive space. The functionality of the vessel is reflected in the negative space, and a designer must understand and focus on the negative space in order to accomplish good design. While this discussion was new to some, it was a very interesting perspective on wood project design.

Lillian also discussed the fact that designs are hidden everywhere, as well as the principle of keeping it simple. We very much appreciate Lillian making this presentation and giving us food for thought. And as her ending and wonderful bedtime story reinforces: Everything is the best arrangement. Thank you Lillian.

Our May Meeting -- Our May meeting is our annual picnic. It will be held on Saturday, May 20th in the Happy Hollow Shelter in Stephens Park. We try to eat around 11:30, so arrive before that, and we should have it wrapped up by 2:00 or so. You will enter Stephens Park off of Broadway. Immediately after entering the

park, make a left turn going up the hill, and proceed to the last shelter. If you are interested, maps and more information about the park are available at the Columbia Parks and Recreation web site.

The MWA provides, and Terry Selby and helpers grill, meat (usually hamburgers and hotdogs). Please bring a side dish (vegetable, dessert, salad etc.) and please bring enough to feed your party and an equal number of guests from Coyote Hill. If you are able to bring your dish in a disposable container, then the Coyote Hill staff can take home any leftovers (I also use a Dollar Store serving spoon for the same reason—but they presumably have serving utensils).

Come as early as you like to enjoy the park and each other. There is a playground close by. There are plenty of tables with bench seats, but you can also bring folding chairs if you want alternative comfortable seating for part of your visit.

You are also welcome to bring Show n' Tell items so that our guests can learn a little about woodworking.

Our June Meeting -- We continue to seek a program for June. Please let us know if you have ideas.

That's all for this month. I encourage you to make it to the picnic on Saturday. It's a lot of fun for the children, and a very pleasant outing for the rest of us.

Until then, be safe in the shop, and have fun.

Joe Gorman

April MWA Meetings

Officers' Meeting

Meeting held April 24, 2017

Present were: Terry Selby, Ernest Hildebrand, Joe Gorman, Don Bristow, Karl Haak

We discussed program ideas and made plans for the annual picnic.

The picnic will be May 20th at the Happy Hollow Shelter in Stephens Park. The club will furnish tableware, meat, bread, and drinks. Members are asked to bring covered dishes and desserts. We have invited Coyote Hills residents and house parents to join us so members are asked to bring plenty of food. We will eat about 11:30. Bring family and guests who are interested in woodworking.

Business Meeting

The MWA business meeting was held on April 24, 2017 at 6:30 PM the Boone County Millwork Shop. Joe Gorman presided.

24 members and 3 guests were present

The minutes were read; no treasurer's report was given.

Joe announced that there would not be a toy workshop this month but Ernest would have a woodworking workshop on May 4th at his house.

Terry had scrap wood and toy car stock available.

The program was given by Tom Hutchinson on local woods and where to find them. He had samples of many of them. After Tom's presentation, his friend Lillian told about design to enhance our work.

Show and Tell:

1. Darren Laupp showed a humming bird intarsia and a birdhouse intarsia.
2. Ernest Hildebrand showed two bowls he turned
3. Norm Anderson showed rolling pins he turned.

The door prize was a set of screwdrivers and was won by Norm Anderson.

The raffle was a Home Depot \$40.00 gift card and was won by Ernest Hildebrand. The raffle brought in \$62.00.

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